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PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 115th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

SENATE—*Wednesday, April 26, 2017*

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

PRAYER

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

Eternal Lord, the fountain of wisdom, thank You for Your mighty love. Give our lawmakers the will and strength they need to meet the challenges of these times. May they bend their ear to Your Spirit's voice and follow Your leading. Lord, activate their conscience as You motivate them to live with honor. Keep them vigilant to look for redemptive possibilities in each of life's seasons, finding wisdom in Your precepts. May they hear the murmur of Your truth so they will not deviate from Your path.

Father of life, fill the precious hours of this day with Your presence.

We pray in Your majestic Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. PAUL). The majority leader is recognized.

NORTH KOREA

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, North Korea's determined effort to field a nuclear-armed intercontinental ballistic missile threatens the United States and our allies. By all appearances, Kim Jong Un has broken from a predictable cycle of escalation demonstrated by previous leaders by which the regime takes a provocative action, draws the United States into a negotiation, and extracts concessions. Instead, Kim appears willing to risk the disapproval of the U.N. and our regional allies by undertaking a breakneck testing program.

The President has made clear that a North Korea that is armed with a nuclear-armed missile—a capability they have yet to test—is unacceptable to us and threatens our vital national security interest. Thus, in order to allow the Senate to better understand this threat, I asked the administration to brief all Senators on the issue, and the President graciously offered to hold the meeting down at the White House. I encourage all of our colleagues to attend this afternoon's meeting on North Korea down at the White House.

NOMINATION OF ALEXANDER ACOSTA

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, on another matter, I am pleased that the Senate voted yesterday to confirm Rod Rosenstein to serve as Deputy Attorney General, despite the unnecessary delay, and I look forward to advancing another nominee today.

For the past 8 years, burdensome regulations put forth by the Obama administration have held back our economy and taken a toll on too many hard-working Americans. Fortunately, we now have an administration that has already proven its commitment to easing the regulatory burden on our economy and advancing policies that actually promote economic growth and job creation.

The Department of Labor nominee before us today, Alexander Acosta, shares that commitment, and he has just the right experience to address these issues. He was previously confirmed to three positions by voice votes here in the Senate, meaning not a single Senator of either party recorded a vote in opposition, so it is no surprise that he has earned a host of bipartisan support for his current nomination as well. We should confirm him without delay. The sooner we do, the sooner he can advance labor policies that put American workers, businesses, and our economy first.

GOVERNMENT SPENDING BILL

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, on one other important matter currently being discussed here in the Senate, conversations are ongoing about the way forward on a government spending bill. Our friends on the other side of the aisle sent me a letter that asked for this bill to reject poison pill riders. I would suggest that if they take their own advice, we can finish this negotiation and produce a good agreement that both sides can support.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN THE CONGRESS

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, with the media and others looking at the first 100 days or so of this new administration, and looking at this new Congress and the Republican majority, I think it bears reflecting on the last couple of months in the Congress under the new Trump administration and looking at some of the accomplishments that have been made on behalf of the American economy and the American people.

We are committed to helping job creators do what they do best; that is, innovate, create more jobs, and employ more people, and not force those same job creators to waste time dealing with onerous rules and regulations that bear no relationship to public safety. With a like-minded President, we have been able to deliver some real relief to the American people.

One of the ways we have been able to do that is through a mechanism known as the Congressional Review Act. The Congressional Review Act was created to give Congress an opportunity to do away with regulations with which it disagrees. It allows Congress to act as a real check.

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

The problem with regulations is, it is really a substitute for lawmaking. Of course, when Congress acts and passes laws, the President signs them, and then we are held accountable by the voters for the laws we pass. That is not so when it comes to the bureaucracy that writes regulations. Bureaucrats don't stand for election. Bureaucrats are not accountable to the people. So that is why it is really important for us to have a mechanism like the Congressional Review Act to act as a check on runaway regulation.

By using this mechanism, the Congressional Review Act, with an ally in the White House, we have started undoing some of the thousands of burdensome rules and regulations created by the Obama administration—rules and regulations that add up to a hefty pricetag for our country. By one estimate, the costs of these Obama-era regulations add up to more than $1 trillion. That is a tremendous wet blanket on the American economy. If the job creators have to pay somebody to help them comply with these onerous rules and regulations, they obviously are not paying somebody to grow their business and to be productive. By one estimate, the cost of these Obama regulations adds up to more than $1 trillion and more than 700 million hours of paperwork, but fortunately we have been able to chip away at them by working with the White House and focusing on bringing regulatory relief to the American people.

Here is the tally so far. So far, we have been able to save the American economy $636 billion worth of regulatory relief. That adds up to 52 million hours of compliance time. Again, when somebody is busy complying with busy work mandated by a micromanaging Federal bureaucracy, they are not doing productive work.

Now, some of these rules and regulations are things that we may not read or hear about in the headlines or the evening news—things like the stream buffer rule, the Bureau of Land Management planning rule, and the Securities and Exchange Commission resource extraction rule. These are not well-known rules and regulations, but they have a real cost on the American economy. There is a real reason why, after the great recession of 2008, our economy has been bouncing along at about 2 percent real growth. That is not enough growth to keep hiring people as they come of age and become eligible to work in the workforce. We need the economy to grow faster, and one of the ways to do that is to relieve businesses and the economy of those overly onerous regulations.

As I was thinking about it, I think what has happened to our economy is, it has died a death of 1,000 cuts. Each of these regulations, while they seem rather innocuous, in and of themselves, or people don't know about them, have actually accumulated to cause real damage to the American economy. So we have been able to help those small businesses that would like to hire more people to do productive work, to grow the economy, and to help pay their employees better wages. We have helped them by repealing these regulations to help our job creators and not hurt them.

This has always been, to me, the mystery of Washington, DC. Back home in Texas, we look at the job creator as a positive influence on our economy, as somebody who is going to be creating a real opportunity for someone to find productive work and to pursue their dreams, but here in Washington so often the opposite seems to be true. It almost seemed like the attitude, particularly of the previous administration, was, What other obstacles can we put in the way of businesses? What other burdens can we impose upon the economy in the name of trying to micromanage the economy from Washington, DC? Well, I think what we have seen—the evidence is pretty clear—is anemic growth, and that is something we need to roll back, along with these rules and regulations.

I am hopeful the President will be signing more of these Congressional Review Act initiatives soon. So far, he has signed 13 of them, and we have more in the queue.

As we look ahead to big-ticket items we all want to make progress on, I am committed to continuing to work with all of our colleagues and the administration in doing all we can to help small businesses, family farmers, and entrepreneurs spend more time doing productive work and less time doing busy work mandated by the bureaucrats here in Washington, DC.

One of those big-ticket items is tax reform. We have seen some big ideas floated out there by the House of Representatives and last night and today by the President and his Cabinet as well. I look forward to reviewing the proposal the President has made.

There is no question there is a lot of room for reforming our Tax Code. Our Tax Code is literally a self-inflicted wound which damages our economy. We have trillions of dollars earned by American-based businesses earned overseas that they will not bring back because they don't want to be taxed twice on that money. We know our Tax Code is way too complicated. It is riddled with loopholes, inconsistencies, and provisions that impede job creation. Pro-growth tax reform should be our goal. It is something that has united Republicans and Democrats in the past, and there is no reason we shouldn't be united again in accomplishing that tax reform.

So I look forward to hearing more about the President's proposal, and I applaud him for making a bold statement about the direction we ought to pursue. Now is finally the time to address it.

All of these efforts—tax reform, rolling back unnecessary regulations and rules, and providing a better environment for businesses to thrive—are vital to getting our economy back on track and away from years of stagnant growth we saw under President Obama.

I should note it is hard to argue with how business-friendly policies—and the promise of more—affect the economy and create an atmosphere conducive to building businesses and helping families get by.

I think what we have seen is a resurgence of public confidence in the American economy. One index by Gallup suggests that business owners are now more optimistic than they have been since the summer of 2007. That is the kind of confidence and optimism that helps them grow their business and create opportunity for the working man and woman in our country, and it is a testament to the sea change we have seen over the last few months since the new administration came into office and the American people chose to retain Republican majorities in the House and the Senate. More family-run businesses are expecting us to keep putting forward policies that empower job creators, not to get in their way.

I know we have only seen the first few months of the new Congress and we have only seen the first few months of a new Presidential administration, but I am proud of what we have been able to accomplish so far; frankly, without much help from our friends across the aisle who have done everything they can to slow-walk nominations and otherwise impede progress. I hope they realize that is bad politics, and it is not serving the interests of the American people very well. Sooner or later, enough Democrats are going to say: We came here not to just say no to every constructive proposal made but actually participate in the legislative process and work for the benefit of the American people.

I look forward to doing even more to help those who want to bring more jobs and more economic growth to our communities across this great land.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the Acosta nomination, which the clerk will report.

The bill clerk read the nomination of R. Alexander Acosta, of Florida, to be Secretary of Labor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the time until 11:30 a.m. will be equally divided in the usual form.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader is recognized.

GOVERNMENT SPENDING BILL

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, as Senators continue to negotiate the appropriations bills this week, I want to reiterate my hopes that we can reach an agreement by this Friday. So long as we try to operate within the parameters our parties have operated under for the last few spending bills, I am optimistic about the chances for a deal.

I am glad the President has taken the wall off the table in the negotiations. Democrats have always been for border security. In fact, we supported one of the toughest border security packages in comprehensive immigration reform in an amendment offered by two of my Republican colleagues, Senator HOEVEN and Senator CORKER. We may address border security in this bill as well, but it will not include any funding for a wall, plain and simple.

Now, we still have a few issues to work out, including the issue of cost sharing, Puerto Rico, and getting permanent healthcare for miners, which I was glad to hear the majority leader voice support for yesterday—permanent healthcare for miners. I want to salute Senator MANCHIN, who has worked so long and hard for these poor miners who have struggled and have had hard, hard, hard lives. They shouldn't have their health benefits taken away. But above all, in the bill we have to make sure there are no poison pill riders. That has been a watchword of our negotiations in the past and is what led to success, and I hope both sides of the aisle will pursue that now.

We Democrats remain committed to fighting President Trump's cutback on women's health, a rollback of financial protections in Wall Street reform, rollbacks of protections for clean air and clean water, and against a deportation force. Those are the kinds of poison pill riders that could hurt an agreement, and I hope we will just decide at the given time that we can debate them in regular order, but they shouldn't hold the government hostage and pass them without debate.

THE PRESIDENT'S TAX PLAN

Mr. President, today we will also be hearing some details—we don't know how many—about the President's tax plan. We will take a look at what they are proposing, but I can tell you this: If the President's plan is to give a massive tax break to the very wealthy in this country—a plan that will mostly benefit people and businesses like President Trump's—that will not pass muster with Democrats.

The very wealthy are doing pretty well in America. Their incomes keep going up. Their wealth keeps going up. God bless them. Let them do well. But they don't need another huge tax break while middle-class Americans and those struggling to get there need help just staying afloat. It is already the case that CEOs and other folks at the top of the corporate ladder can use deductions and loopholes to pay less in taxes than their secretaries. We don't need a plan that establishes the same principle in the basic rates by allowing wealthy businessmen, like President Trump, to use passthrough entities to pay 15 percent in taxes while everyone else pays in the twenties and thirties. We don't need a tax plan that allows the very rich to use passthroughs to reduce their rates to 15 percent while average Americans are paying much more. That is not tax reform. That is just a tax giveaway to the very, very wealthy that will explode the deficit.

So we will take a look at what the President proposes later today. If it is just another deficit-busting tax break for the very wealthy, I predict their proposal will land with a dud with the American people.

NORTH KOREA

Mr. President, later today, the Senate will be receiving a briefing by the administration on the situation in North Korea. I look forward to the opportunity to hear from the Secretary of State, who I understand drafted the administration's plan, and other senior administration officials about their views on North Korea and the posture of the United States in that region.

I think what many of my colleagues hope to hear articulated is a coherent, well-thought-out, strategic plan. So far, Congress and the American public have heard very little in the way of strategy with respect to North Korea. We have heard very little about strategy to combat ISIS. We have heard very little about a strategy on how to deal with Putin's Russia. We have heard very little about our strategy in Syria. Only a few weeks ago, the President authorized a strike in Syria. Is there a broader strategy? Does the administration support regime change or not? Do they plan further U.S. involvement?

These are difficult and important questions, and there are many more of them to be asked and answered about this administration's nascent national security policy for hotspots around the globe. I hope that later today, at least in relation to North Korea, we Senators are given a serious, well-considered outline of the administration's strategic goals in the Korean peninsula and their plans to achieve them.

THE PRESIDENT'S FIRST ONE HUNDRED DAYS

Mr. President, as we approach the 100-day mark of the Trump administration, we Democrats have been highlighting the litany of broken and unfulfilled promises that President Trump made to working families. It is our job as the minority party to hold the President accountable to the promises he made to voters, particularly the ones he made to working families who are struggling out there. Many of these folks voted for the President because they believed him when he promised to bring back their jobs or get tougher on trade or drain the swamp. So it is important to point out where the President has gone back on his word and where he has fallen short in these first 100 days.

On the crucial issues of jobs and the economy, this President has made little progress in 100 days. His party hasn't introduced a major job-creating piece of legislation to date, and he has actually backtracked on his promises to get tough on trade and outsourcing, two things which have cost our country millions of jobs. I was particularly upset to see the President consider repealing President Obama's law that prevented corporate inversions that allowed big corporations to locate overseas to lower their tax rates.

Instead of draining the swamp and making the government more accountable to the people, President Trump has filled his government with billionaires and bankers and folks ladened with conflicts of interest. Amazingly enough, he was going to clean up Washington and make it transparent. The White House has decided to keep the visitor log secret and, even worse, allowed waivers to lobbyists to come to work at the White House on the very same issues they were just lobbying on, and those waivers are kept secret. We will not even know about them.

These reversals aren't the normal adjustments that a President makes when transitioning from a campaign to the reality of government; these are stunning about-faces on core promises the President made to working Americans.

TRUMPCARE

Mr. President, I would like to focus now on one issue: the President's promises on healthcare. On the campaign trail, the President vowed to the American people that he would repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act with better healthcare that lowered costs, provided more generous coverage, and guaranteed insurance for everyone, with no changes to Medicare whatsoever. That is what he said. We are not saying this; he said that. Those are his words: I am going to cover everybody.

He said, ''We're going to have insurance for everybody . . . much less expensive and much better.''

''We're going to have insurance for everybody.'' But once in office, President Trump broke each and every one of these promises with the rollout of his healthcare bill, TrumpCare. Did TrumpCare lower costs, as he promised? No. The CBO said premiums would go up by as much as 20 percent in the first few years under TrumpCare.

His bill allowed insurance companies to charge older Americans a whopping five times the amount they could charge to younger folks, and it was estimated that senior citizens could have to pay as much as $14,000 or $15,000 more for healthcare, depending on their income and where they lived.

Did his bill provide for better coverage? No. In fact, the most recent version of the TrumpCare bill would allow States to decide whether to protect folks who have preexisting conditions. This was one of the most popular things in ObamaCare, even if people didn't like some other parts of it. If you are a parent and your child has cancer, the insurance companies said: We are cutting you off, and you have to watch your child suffer because you can't afford healthcare. ACA, the Affordable Care Act, ended that. They couldn't cut you off or not give you insurance because your child or you had a serious illness that would cost the insurance company a lot of money. But now, in the proposal they are making, it is up to the States. Tough luck if you live in a State without it.

Did his bill guarantee ''insurance for everyone''? That is what he said. No, far from it. The Congressional Budget Office said that TrumpCare would result in 24 million fewer Americans with health coverage after 10 years.

Despite an explicit pledge from Candidate Trump on the eve of the election that he would protect Medicare—because hard-working Americans ''made a deal a long time ago''—TrumpCare slashed more than $100 billion from the Medicare trust fund.

TrumpCare was the exact opposite of everything the President promised his healthcare bill would be. Americans should breathe a sigh of relief—a huge sigh of relief—that the bill didn't pass.

There is a lack of fundamental honesty here. If you believe that there shouldn't be government involvement in healthcare and the private sector should do it all, that is a fine belief. I don't agree with it. But that means higher costs and less coverage for most Americans, and the President and, frankly, many of our Republican colleagues are trying to have it both ways. They want to say to their right-wing friends: I am making government's involvement much less. But then they say to the American people: You are going to get better coverage, more coverage, at lower rates. The two are totally inconsistent. That is why they are having such trouble with TrumpCare over in the House, and there will be even worse trouble here in the Senate, if it ever gets here, which I hope it doesn't.

Healthcare is another example of why this President has so little to show for his first 100 days. Instead of reaching out to Democrats to find areas where we could compromise on improving our healthcare system—we Democrats have always said: Don't repeal ObamaCare; improve it. We know it needs to have some changes. But, instead, they started out on their own in a partisan way, the very same party that criticized President Obama for working just with Democrats on the issue, despite a yearlong effort to try. So it failed, and it is emblematic of the President's first 100 days. The President's ''my way or the highway'' approach is one of the main reasons he has so little to show on healthcare and so little to show for his first 100 days in office.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. COTTON). Without objection, it is so ordered.

(The remarks of Mr. FLAKE pertaining to the introduction of S. 946 are printed in today's RECORD under ''Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.'')

Mr. FLAKE. I yield back the remainder of my time.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. FLAKE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the time during the quorum call be equally divided.

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

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SULLIVAN). Without objection, it is so ordered.

REMEMBERING JAY DICKEY

Mr. COTTON. Mr. President, I come to the floor to honor the memory of former Congressman Jay Dickey, who passed on April 20. When Jay Dickey roamed the Halls of Congress, you knew there might be mischief afoot—and what merry mischief it was.

Jay was opinionated, colorful, and zany. Now that he has passed, the warm laughter of memories once again echoes in these cold, marble halls as we reflect on his life.

He died last Thursday after a battle with Parkinson's, a battle he fought like every other—with determination and gusto. I, for one, will miss his counsel and friendship, as will the people of Arkansas whom he loved so deeply.

Jay was an Arkansas original. He was born and bred and in the end breathed his last in his hometown of Pine Bluff. He shared a lot in common with the mighty pines of South Arkansas. He stood tall and proud of his community's heritage. He was a pillar of the community. A lawyer and a businessman, he left his mark as an entrepreneur, starting franchises throughout the State, as an advocate representing the city and later taking on such famous clients as coach Eddie Sutton.

Unlike the proverbial tree in the forest, now that Jay Dickey has fallen, the whole State has taken notice.

But, of course, a man's accomplishments are only a window into his character. You had to know Jay personally to get a sense of all the fun there was inside him. It was as if his feet had sunk deep into the soil and soaked up all of the Natural State's richness: its humor, its earnestness, and its strip-the-bark-off candor.

I got to know Jay in my first political campaign. We had never met, and I was a political newcomer, but Jay spent many hours getting to know me and ultimately supported my candidacy, which helped to put me on the map.

Of course, Jay shared a lot of candid advice too. After attending one of my early townhalls, Jay and I went to lunch down the road at Cracker Barrel. I asked him how I did. Jay replied:

> Ya did good. Ya did good. But you gotta cut it down some. Ya see that baked potato there? That's a fully loaded baked potato—it's got cheese, sour cream, bacon, onions. Your answers are like that fully loaded baked potato! Make em like a plain potato.

That is just one of the countless stories that added to his legend.

This was the man who offered a ninth grader a college-level internship because he thought the kid had potential; the man who answered any phone in his office that rang twice, just to keep his staff on their toes; the man whose dog once drove his truck into a radio station in Hampton because he left the truck running during an interview to keep the dog cool, and somehow that dog put it in gear; the man who kept a picture of Jesus on his wall, and who,

when meeting a new client, would point to the picture and say: ''Have you met my friend?''

Yes, the first great joy of his life was his faith, but the second great joy was politics. Jay was the first Republican elected to Congress from South Arkansas since Reconstruction. He won in 1992, the very same year Arkansas elected our Democratic Governor as President.

Despite being who the Democrats must have viewed as the most Republican incumbent in the country, he held onto that seat for almost a decade. Arkansans knew good stock when they saw it. He lost only by the narrowest of margins in 2000, with President Bill Clinton campaigning for his opponent, then-State Senator Mike Ross. True to form for Jay, he and Mike would become friends after that race, speaking regularly about issues and their faith.

Jay's time in office will not be remembered as a historical oddity, an anomaly, or a one-off because unconventional though it was, it was also a forerunner of things to come. It was an early sign of a coming political realignment, as the small towns that dotted rural America—towns where few people had ever even seen a Republican, never mind voted for one—were starting to cast their votes up and down the ballot for the Grand Old Party.

In other words, Jay Dickey was a trailblazer—or perhaps a bulldozer. He smashed through history and precedent and grooved a path in rough terrain for the rest of us to follow. For that, he has my thanks and the thanks of the people of Arkansas, and for his humorous, quirky, unparalleled example, he has the thanks of the U.S. Congress, which today is a little sadder for his passing but also a little brighter for his memory.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, on Monday morning I stood with workers and fellow public officials in Bridgeport, CT, to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the L'Ambiance Plaza disaster. Thirty years ago last Sunday, L'Ambiance Plaza collapsed, 28 families lost loved ones, and 22 others were seriously injured in the collapse. Their worlds collapsed as the lift-slab construction used as the device for building L'Ambiance Plaza, in effect, imploded.

The workers were constructing a 16-story apartment building when that disaster happened. The lift-slab construction method used at that site subsequently was banned. It was banned because it was unsafe.

That disaster was preventable, as so many workplace injuries and deaths are preventable. That was a tragedy in the modern American workplace 30 years ago—L'Ambiance Plaza. It is an urgent and great need for this Nation to confront. L'Ambiance Plaza collapsed, literally, within seconds, and when it was over, the 28 workers who woke up that day and left their homes never came back. Their families, who said good-bye, never saw them again alive. They were victims of workplace dangers that day, but so many others have followed them since.

Those families are still affected, still grieving. One of them spoke at that ceremony on Monday morning, and it provides for many of us the memories of that day when literally hundreds of workers from throughout Connecticut went to that site, digging, often by hand, through the wreckage, trying to find the living survivors. On that day, and every day since, I have sought to increase the safety of our workplaces and avoid those kinds of tragedies. That is why I am here today, because that pledge would be, in my view, inconsistent with voting for the nomination of Alexander Acosta to be Secretary of Labor.

I will state at the outset that I commend Mr. Acosta for his record of public service during the Presidency of George W. Bush, serving as a National Labor Relations Board member and holding two positions at the Department of Justice, as Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Rights Division and, later, as U.S. attorney for the Southern District of Florida. I want to thank him for his willingness to serve again. I say that in all seriousness, as a former U.S. attorney myself.

I believe that, as Secretary of Labor, he will have important responsibilities if he is confirmed in the area of enforcement, and I am constrained to oppose his nomination because I believe, No. 1, that this administration needs a champion, not simply a bystander, and Mr. Acosta has given me no reason at his hearings and in his record to assure me that he will overcome what I see as a bias against enforcement in this administration.

Last month President Trump proposed a budget that guts the Department of Labor. The budget admittedly is short on specifics and boasts little more than one page about the agency that is tasked with ensuring the safety of tens of millions of American workers. Let me make clear: It would slash resources at the Department of Labor by 21 percent. That is $2.5 billion. That means 21 percent fewer inspectors, 21 percent fewer investigators, 21 percent less enforcement. That is one-fifth less enforcement, when, in fact, five times more enforcement is appropriate. The budget, although short on details, singled out programs that helped to train workers and employers in ways to ensure avoidance of hazards on the job.

President Trump has proposed the elimination—the zeroing out—of that program. At his confirmation hearing last month, Mr. Acosta demonstrated neither a willingness nor an interest in challenging the budget or the President's priorities, stressing that his soon-to-be boss, President Trump, guides the ship. I find that view and perspective alarming. There is an old saying that budgets are ''moral documents.'' It is a saying frequently repeated, but it has a real meaning when it comes to enforcement of worker safety. It has a real meaning to real people in their lives or loss of lives. It is a matter of life or death. Where you put scarce dollars and resources reveals moral values and moral priorities.

President Trump has put his values on clear display in this budget. He believes in building a wall, a needless show project that he mentioned repeatedly in his budget, but he has given short shrift or no shrift to efforts that protect people who go every day to workplaces where they are in serious jeopardy, and where—as in L'Ambiance Plaza—they can lose their lives. Voting for Mr. Acosta would mean failing to keep that pledge that I believe I made to the families of L'Ambiance, to the workers who lost their lives there, and to countless other workers in danger every day in workplaces that must be made safer—and can be—through vigorous enforcement of rules and laws that exist now and improvement of those laws.

One of the greatest challenges facing our Nation today is fairness in the workplace, particularly fairness in pay for women, fairness concerning pay disparity between men and women, with women making a fraction of what men make for the same work. On this critical issue also, this nominee is silent. On other issues critical to the modern workplace—overtime pay, minimum wage, protecting workers' retirement, fighting discrimination, matters that affect women and minorities more than others—he has said little or nothing, certainly little to indicate that he will be an enforcer of laws that protect minorities and women and others who may be the victims of discrimination.

There is no question that this nominee is far better than the President's first proposed person to fill this job, Andy Puzder, who rightly and fortunately withdrew, but the standard we should use is not whether he is better than his predecessor, who was found wanting even before the vote was taken, but rather whether they can be trusted to protect workers, to enforce rules vigorously and fairly, and to fight for a budget and a set of priorities that are critical to the future of American

workers. On that score, unfortunately, I answer this question with a clear ''no,'' and I will vote against this nominee.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I wish to oppose the nomination of Alexander Acosta to be Secretary of Labor.

I did not come to this decision lightly, but, after closely examining Mr. Acosta's record, I cannot in good conscience vote for his confirmation to be Labor Secretary on behalf of the American people.

The most troubling part of Mr. Acosta's record is how he handled a 2007 sex trafficking case that he oversaw while serving as the U.S. attorney for the Southern District of Florida. In that case, which left many vulnerable victims devastated when it concluded, Mr. Acosta failed to protect underage crime victims who looked to his office to vindicate their rights against billionaire Jeffrey Epstein.

The case, led by Mr. Acosta's office and the FBI, involved an investigation of Mr. Epstein for his sexual abuse and exploitation of more than 30 underage girls.

It ended with an agreement, negotiated by Mr. Acosta's office, in which Mr. Acosta agreed not to bring Federal charges, including sex trafficking charges, against Mr. Epstein in exchange for his guilty plea to State charges and registration as a sex offender. Thanks to this agreement, Mr. Epstein served a mere 13 months of jail time and avoided serious Federal charges that would have exposed him to lengthy prison sentences.

What troubles me about this case is not just the leniency with which Mr. Epstein was treated, but how the victims themselves were treated.

In 2004, I authored the Crime Victims' Rights Act with then-Senator Kyl because we both saw that victims and their families were too frequently ''ignored, cast aside, and treated as nonparticipants in a critical event in their lives.'' I strongly believe victims have a right to be heard throughout criminal case proceedings.

My concern with how Mr. Acosta handled this case stems from his office's obligations under the Crime Victims' Rights Act. The victims have asserted that Mr. Acosta's office did not provide them with notice of the agreement before it was finalized, nor were they provided with timely notice of Mr. Epstein's guilty plea and sentencing hearings. Worse, throughout the process, the victims were denied the reasonable right to confer with the prosecutors; this flies in the face of the Crime Victims' Rights Act we authored.

I am very concerned that Mr. Acosta's office did not treat the victims ''with fairness and with respect for the victim's dignity and privacy'' as required by law. Rather, according to the victims, Mr. Acosta's office ''deliberately kept [them] 'in the dark' so that it could enter the deal'' without hearing objections. These allegations raise serious concerns.

From his position of immense power and responsibility, Mr. Acosta failed, and the consequences were devastating.

Another deeply troubling aspect of Mr. Acosta's record comes from his tenure when he led the Justice Department's Civil Rights Division from August 2003 to June 2005. According to the Justice Department's inspector general, that office repeatedly used political or ideological tests to hire career civil servants in violation of federal law.

During his confirmation hearing before the HELP Committee, Mr. Acosta himself admitted that discriminatory actions were taken under his supervision and that they should not have happened.

At a time when the public's faith in government institutions is eroding on a daily basis, Mr. Acosta's handling of these high-profile incidents lead me to question his ability to carry out the duties of Labor Secretary with fairness and impartiality.

This doubt is further compounded by statements that Mr. Acosta made during his hearing regarding whether he will exercise independence in upholding and enforcing certain rules and regulations, such as the fiduciary rule and overtime rule to protect workers.

In response to such questions, Mr. Acosta avoided making a commitment to uphold these rules as Secretary of Labor, and I am greatly concerned that he may not look out for the best interests of workers.

All of the issues I have outlined here simply do not allow me, in good faith, to vote in favor of Mr. Acosta's nomination.

Thank you.

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. I yield the floor. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that I be allowed to complete my remarks prior to the vote.

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

Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, I am honored to speak here today in support of Alex Acosta, and I wholeheartedly encourage my colleagues to support his nomination to be our next Secretary of Labor. I know this nominee well. As a fellow Floridian and as a native of Miami, I have been familiar with his work for many years. As I said when the President nominated him, I think he is an outstanding choice to lead the Department of Labor.

Alex has an impressive academic record. He has two degrees from Harvard—the first from Harvard College and then from Harvard Law School.

He also has a sterling record of public service in the State of Florida and in the United States of America. He was a member of the National Labor Relations Board. He was appointed by President George W. Bush and served from 2002 to 2003. From there, he was selected by President Bush to serve as Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice, where he also served as Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General in that office. He also served our Nation as the U.S. Attorney in one of the most challenging districts in our country—Florida's Southern District.

Most recently, Alex has served the State of Florida as the dean of Florida International University College of Law, where he has been instrumental in raising the still young school's profile and in its graduating young men and women who are now well prepared to excel in their legal careers.

With every challenge he has confronted throughout his distinguished career, he has demonstrated his ability to effectively tackle with ease the problems at hand. He is a brilliant legal mind, someone with a deep knowledge of labor issues, and he is a proven leader and a proven manager. It is for these reasons and many more that I am confident that Alex Acosta will serve this Nation admirably.

He was—listen to this—previously confirmed unanimously by the Senate for three different positions in the U.S. Government. This man is not even 50 years old, and he has already been confirmed unanimously by the Senate for three separate positions. I believe that in a few moments, he will be one step closer to being confirmed to his fourth. He is well qualified for this role, and I look forward to working with him to ensure that Americans are equipped with the skills they need to be successful in the 21st-century economy.

I yield the floor.

CLOTURE MOTION

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

The bill clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of R. Alexander Acosta, of Florida, to be Secretary of Labor.

John Barrasso, Susan M. Collins, Ron Johnson, Deb Fischer, Luther Strange, Bill Cassidy, Lindsey Graham, John Boozman, Mike Rounds, David Perdue, Lamar Alexander, Tom Cotton, Orrin G. Hatch, Todd Young, Mitch McConnell, Joni Ernst, Dan Sullivan.

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

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of R. Alexander Acosta, of Florida, to be Secretary of Labor shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk called the roll.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 61, nays 39, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 115 Ex.]

YEAS—61

Alexander	Graham	Paul
Barrasso	Grassley	Perdue
Blunt	Hatch	Portman
Boozman	Heitkamp	Risch
Burr	Heller	Roberts
Capito	Hoeven	Rounds
Cassidy	Inhofe	Rubio
Cochran	Isakson	Sasse
Collins	Johnson	Scott
Corker	Kennedy	Shelby
Cornyn	King	Strange
Cortez Masto	Lankford	Sullivan
Cotton	Lee	Tester
Crapo	Manchin	Thune
Cruz	McCain	Tillis
Daines	McCaskill	Toomey
Enzi	McConnell	Warner
Ernst	Menendez	Wicker
Fischer	Moran	Young
Flake	Murkowski	
Gardner	Nelson	

NAYS—39

Baldwin	Feinstein	Murray
Bennet	Franken	Peters
Blumenthal	Gillibrand	Reed
Booker	Harris	Sanders
Brown	Hassan	Schatz
Cantwell	Heinrich	Schumer
Cardin	Hirono	Shaheen
Carper	Kaine	Stabenow
Casey	Klobuchar	Udall
Coons	Leahy	Van Hollen
Donnelly	Markey	Warren
Duckworth	Merkley	Whitehouse
Durbin	Murphy	Wyden

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. ERNST). On this vote, the yeas are 61, the nays are 39.

The motion is agreed to.

The Senator from Washington.

Mrs. MURRAY. Madam President, when workers and families fought back against President Trump's first disastrous pick for Secretary of Labor, Andrew Puzder, they made it clear that they want a Secretary of Labor who will fight for their interests, especially as President Trump continues to break promise after promise he made to workers on the campaign trail. I couldn't agree with them more. As bad as Puzder would have been, our standard cannot be ''not Puzder.''

Never has it been so critical to have a Secretary of Labor who is committed to putting workers' protections and rights first, even if that means standing up to President Trump. It is with this in mind that I cannot support Alexander Acosta to run the Department of Labor.

Given Mr. Acosta's professional history, I have serious concerns about whether undue political pressure would impact decision making at the Department. My concerns were only heightened at his nomination hearing, when Mr. Acosta said he would defer to President Trump on the priorities of the Department of Labor. The Trump administration has already cemented a reputation for flouting ethics rules and attempting to exert political pressure over Federal employees. We need a Secretary of Labor who will prioritize workers and the mission of the Department of Labor over special interests and political pressure.

Unfortunately, Mr. Acosta's time leading the civil rights division at the Department of Justice suggests he will not be the mission-focused Secretary of Labor workers across the country have demanded. A formal investigation by the inspector general showed that, under Acosta's tenure, the civil rights division illegally considered applicants' political opinions in making hiring decisions, ignoring their professional qualifications. As Assistant Attorney General, Acosta chose to recuse himself from consideration of a Texas redistricting plan, instead, allowing political appointees to overrule career attorneys who believe the plan discriminated against Black and Latino voters.

Mr. Acosta's past raises questions about whether—instead of making workers' rights and protections the priorities of that Department—he will allow political pressure to influence his decision making.

Mr. Acosta's refusal to take a strong stand on many of the most pressing issues workers face today was equally concerning. We need a Secretary of Labor who is committed to expanding overtime pay to more workers, fighting for equal pay, and maintaining protections for our workers. But in responding to questions about those priorities, Mr. Acosta made it clear that he simply plans to defer to President Trump, who has already made it abundantly clear that he will not stand up for workers.

Mr. Acosta continued to evade addressing my concerns about how he would prioritize workers' interests at the Department of Labor in our followup questions. We need a Secretary of Labor who will remain committed to the core principles of the Department of Labor—someone who will prioritize the best interests of our workforce, who will enforce laws that protect workers' rights and safety and livelihoods, and who will seek to expand economic opportunities for workers and families across our country.

Unfortunately, Alexander Acosta has failed to show he will stand up to President Trump and prioritize those principles and help our workers get ahead. Therefore, I urge my colleagues to listen to the millions of workers who have made their voices heard about the need for a Secretary of Labor who is committed to building an economy that works for everyone, not just those at the top, and vote against this nomination.

Madam President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic whip.

(The remarks of Mr. DURBIN pertaining to the introduction of S. 948 are printed in today's RECORD under ''Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.'')

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. PERDUE). Without objection, it is so ordered.

GULF OF MEXICO OIL DRILLING MORATORIUM

Mr. NELSON. Mr. President, I want to address the Senate on the occasion of the solemn memorial of 7 years since the Deepwater Horizon explosion and the resulting oilspill, where 11 workmen were tragically killed.

The oilspill fouled the sensitive gulf ecosystem in ways that we still do not fully realize. Yet we are hearing today that the President is expected to issue an Executive order this week that ignores the implications of that tragedy, which was also the largest environmental disaster in U.S. history, by blindly encouraging more drilling in very sensitive areas.

I can tell you that drilling off the coast of Florida's neighboring States poses a real threat to our State's environment and our multibillion-dollar tourism industry, and that is because a spill off the coast of Louisiana can end up on the beaches of northwest Florida, just like a spill off the coast of Virginia or South Carolina can affect the entire Atlantic coast.

BP, as a result of Deepwater Horizon, agreed to pay more than $20 billion in penalties to clean up the 2010 oilspill and repay gulf residents for lost revenue. But, apparently, that wasn't enough, if BP's recent spill in Alaska is any indication.

So we shouldn't be surprised, since oil companies and their friends have fought against any new safety standards or requirements, that the President still wants to open up additional waters to drilling, despite the fact that we haven't applied the lessons learned from Deepwater Horizon. This is at a time when the United States has been able to find all new reserves of oil and gas onshore. So we are not in a time of a shortage of discovery or a shortage of oil reserves. Our domestic energy market is being affected by the low price of natural gas, since so much of the reserves are just tremendous here in the continental United States.

The most visible change since the Deepwater Horizon spill is the division of the Minerals Management Service into the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management and the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement. All of those changes were made as a result of trying to improve things after the BP spill, but it doesn't seem to have made any major improvements in oversight, according to a report issued by the GAO last month.

So I have come to the floor to try to alert other Senators about the importance of preserving the moratorium on drilling in the Gulf of Mexico. It makes no sense to put Florida's multibillion-dollar, tourism-driven economy at risk.

And there is something else at risk.

The Department of Defense has stated numerous times—I have two letters from two Republican Secretaries of Defense that say it—that drilling and oil-related activities are incompatible with our military training and weapons testing. That is the area known as the gulf training range. It is in the Gulf of Mexico off of Florida. It is the largest testing and training range for the United States military in the world.

Now, in that gulf training range is where the pilots of the F–22 are trained. That is at Tyndall Air Force Base. It is where the new F–35 pilots are trained, by the way, not only for the United States but also for the many foreign nations that have bought F–35s. Of course, that is essential to our national security.

That is just pilot training. That doesn't speak of the testing done on some of our most sophisticated weapons over hundreds and hundreds of miles of restricted airspace.

Oh, by the way, when the U.S. Navy Atlantic Fleet shut down our training in Puerto Rico and the island of Vieques, where do you think a lot of that training came to? The Navy still has to train. So they will send their squadrons down to Key West Naval Air Station at Boca Chica Key. When those pilots and their F–18 Hornets lift off the runway, within 2 minutes they are out over the Gulf of Mexico in restricted airspace. So they don't spend a lot of fuel and a lot of time to get there.

That is why a lot of our colleagues across the State of Florida on the other side of the aisle—in other words, this is bipartisan—have weighed in with this administration, urging continued protection for the largest military testing and training area in the world.

Opposition to drilling in the eastern Gulf of Mexico is bipartisan, bicameral—the Senate and House—but so is our opposition to drilling off the Atlantic coast.

Now, let me just distinguish between the two. Years ago, my then-Republican colleague Senator Mel Martinez and I both offered in law an exemption until the year 2022 of any oil drilling off of the coast of Florida. It is actually everything east of what is called the Military Mission Line. It is virtually the Gulf of Mexico off of Florida. Of course we did that for the reasons that I have already stated. That is in law up until 2022. But the administration will be coming forth with another plan for the 5-year period for oil drilling offshore for the years 2023 up through 2028.

It is my hope that the words of this Senator and the words of our bipartisan colleagues from the Florida delegation will convince the administration that it is not wise to impede the military's necessary training and testing area, not even to speak of the tremendous economic deprivation that will come as a result of an oilspill.

Just think back to the BP spill. Think back to the time when the beaches, the sugary-white sands of Pensacola Beach, were completely covered with oil. That picture—a very notable picture, a contrast of the black oil on top of the white sand—went around the world.

The winds started blowing the oil from the BP spill off the coast of Louisiana. The winds continued to blow it to the east, and so some of the oil got into Pensacola Bay, some of the oil started getting into Choctawhatchee Bay, and some oil got on the beautiful beaches of Destin and Fort Walton Beach. The winds took it as far east as the Panama City beaches. There they received basically tar balls on the beach. Then the winds reversed and started taking it back to the west, so none of the other beaches all the way down the coast of Florida—Clearwater, St. Petersburg, on down to the beaches off of Bradenton, Sarasota, Fort Myers, Naples, and all the way down to Marco Island—none of those beaches received the oil because the wind didn't keep blowing it that way. But the entire west coast of Florida lost an entire tourist season because our guests, our visitors, the tourists, didn't come because they had seen those pictures and they thought that oil was on all of our beaches.

Let me tell you how risky that was. In the Gulf of Mexico, there is something known as the Loop Current. It comes through the separation of the Yucatan Peninsula of Mexico and the western end of Cuba and goes up into the gulf, and then it loops and comes south in the gulf. It hugs the Florida Keys and becomes the Gulf Stream that hugs the east coast of Florida. And about midway down the peninsula, it starts to leave the coast, follows and parallels the east coast of the United States, and eventually goes to Northern Europe. That is the Gulf Stream.

Had that oilspill been blown south from Louisiana and had the Loop Current come enough north, that oilspill would have gotten in the Loop Current, and it would have taken it down past the very fragile coral reefs of the Florida Keys and right up the beaches of Southeast Florida, where there is a huge tourism business.

By the way, the Gulf Stream hugs the coast in some cases only a mile off of the beach.

That is the hard economic reality of what could happen to Florida's tourism industry, not only on the west coast, as it already did in that season of the BP oilspill, but what could happen on the east coast of Florida too.

Opposition to drilling in the eastern Gulf of Mexico is certainly bipartisan, but so is the opposition to drilling off the Atlantic coast. In the last Congress, Members from both parties joined together to file a House companion to the legislation this Senator had filed that would prohibit seismic testing in the Atlantic off of Florida. The type of seismic airgun testing companies wanted to use to search for oil and gas would threaten thousands of marine mammals and fish, including endangered species such as the North American right whale. The blast from seismic airguns can cause permanent hearing loss for whales and dolphins, which disrupts their feeding, calving, and breeding.

In addition to the environmental damage those surveys would cause, businesses up and down the Atlantic coast would also suffer from drilling activity. Over 35,000 businesses and over 500,000 commercial fishing families have registered their opposition to offshore drilling in the Atlantic. From fishermen, to hotel owners, to restaurateurs, coastal residents and business owners understand it is too dangerous to risk the environment and the economy on which they depend.

There is one unique industry that opposes drilling off the Florida east coast. We made the case way back in the 1980s when Secretary of the Interior James Watt decided he was going to drill from Cape Hatteras, NC, all the way south to Fort Pierce, FL. This Senator was a young Congressman then and took this case on and finally convinced the Appropriations Committee not to include any funds for the execution and offering of those leases. It was a simple fact that that was where we were launching our space shuttle then, as well as our military rockets from Cape Canaveral, and you simply can't have oil rigs out there and be dropping the first stages and the solid rocket boosters from the space shuttle.

As we know, the Cape has come alive with activity—a lot of commercial rocketry, as well as the mainstays for our military space program. In a year and a half, NASA will launch the largest rocket ever, one-third more powerful than the Saturn V, which was the rocket that took us to the Moon, and

that is the beginning of the Mars program, as we are going to Mars with humans. Because of that space industry—whether it is commercial or whether it is civilian NASA or whether it is military—you simply can't have oil rigs out there in the Atlantic where we are dropping the first stages of those rockets. That is common sense.

When President Obama took the Atlantic coast off the table from 2017 to 2022—that 5-year period planning in the offshore drilling plan—Floridians finally breathed a deep sigh of relief. They sighed happily too. If President Trump intends to open up those areas to drilling, his administration will receive and can expect to receive a flood of opposition from the folks who know what is going to happen.

It is this week—and here we are midweek—that we are expecting the Trump administration to move forward with an Executive order that would ignore the wishes of coastal communities. I want to say that the areas off of Florida in the east coast of the Atlantic are very sensitive, as I have just outlined, but there is nothing to say that if you have a spill off of Georgia or South Carolina, that it can't move south, and that starts the problem all over.

This announcement by the President will be like a big present for the oil companies, which, by the way, in areas in the Gulf of Mexico that are rich with oil—and there are, in fact, active leases that are not producing the oil. Why would they want to grant more leases in areas that are important to preserve the Nation's economy as well as our military preparedness?

I hope the President thinks twice before putting Florida's economy at such a risk. I hope he refrains from issuing this Executive order, but if he doesn't, this Senator and a bipartisan delegation from Florida will fight this order.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Ms. WARREN. Mr. President, I come to the floor today to urge my colleagues in the Senate to oppose the nomination of Alexander Acosta for Labor Secretary.

The test of whether a nominee is qualified to be Labor Secretary is a pretty simple one: Will that person stand up for 150 million American workers and their families? Mr. Acosta has had multiple opportunities in more than 2 months since he was nominated for this position to demonstrate that he would stand up for workers, and time after time, he has refused.

Americans deserve to know where a nominee like Mr. Acosta stands on key policy matters that will have a powerful impact on the lives of working people.

At Mr. Acosta's confirmation hearing, I asked him where he stood on three policy issues that are important to working Americans and their families.

First, will you promise not to delay a rule that will protect 2.3 million Americans from being poisoned by lethal cancer-causing silica on the job?

Second, will you appeal a Texas court's injunction that has halted implementation of a new overtime rule that would give 4.2 million Americans a $1.5 billion raise in a single year?

And third, will you promise not to delay a rule that will stop investment advisers from cheating retirees out of an estimated $17 billion a year?

Now, these are not tough questions. For most people, these would have been total softballs: Will you keep workers from being poisoned, will you make sure that employers pay for overtime, and will you make sure that investment advisers aren't cheating retirees? Come on. This is the very least that a Labor Secretary can do—the very least.

Mr. Acosta refused to answer a single one of these questions. Instead, he bobbed and weaved, stalled and repeated my questions; he even insisted that these topics were so complex that he needed more time to study them. And it wasn't just my questions that Mr. Acosta refused to answer. He spent more than 2 hours ducking, hand-waving, and dodging basic questions from committee members—both Democrats and Republicans—questions about whether he would commit to stand up for workers on issues that profoundly affect their health, their safety, and their economic security.

Mr. Acosta has been so evasive about his views that we still have virtually no idea what he will do to help or harm workers if he is confirmed for this job.

The fact that Mr. Acosta isn't willing to step up on easy questions and tell us that he will be on the side of workers tells us a lot about him—and none of it is good.

That is particularly troubling, since Mr. Acosta is President Trump's nominee, and we can see how President Trump treats workers. In less than 100 days on the job, President Trump has managed to kill, weaken, or undermine an unprecedented number of protections for working people.

He signed a bill to make it easier for government contractors to steal wages from their employees.

He signed a bill to make it easier for employers to hide injuries and deaths that their workers suffer on the job.

He signed a bill to keep cities from offering retirement accounts to more than 2 million employees who don't have access to a retirement plan on the job.

He delayed a rule protecting workers from lethal, cancer-causing beryllium.

He delayed a rule protecting construction workers from deadly silica.

And he delayed a rule preventing investment advisers from cheating retirees—a rule that will save hard-working Americans about $17 billion a year.

That is a pretty long list, and it doesn't even include the devastating impact to workers of the President's proposed 20-percent cut to the Labor Department funding, which means fewer cops on the beat when employers steal wages or force people into unsafe working conditions.

During his campaign, President Trump talked a big game about standing up for workers and creating good, high-paying jobs. But if his first 100 days are any indication, his real plan is to keep corporate profits soaring by gutting the rules that American workers depend on to keep money in their pockets, food on their tables, and to keep them safe in the workplace.

Unlike President Trump's first failed nominee for this job, Mr. Acosta is not openly contemptuous of people who work hard for a living, and I suppose we should be thankful for that. But that is not the test for Labor Secretary. The test for Labor Secretary is whether this person will stand up for American workers.

Mr. Acosta won't make that commitment, and he has made it perfectly clear that he sure won't stand up to President Trump. That is just not good enough. Because of this ongoing evasiveness, I have no confidence that Mr. Acosta is the right choice for this position, and I urge my colleagues to join me in opposing his confirmation.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the role.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. COTTON). Without objection, it is so ordered.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

NOMINATION OF ROD ROSENSTEIN

Mr. BOOKER. Mr. President, today I wish to speak about my vote yesterday

on the nomination of Rod Rosenstein to be Deputy Attorney General at the U.S. Department of Justice. I voted no on his nomination not because I think he is unqualified or because I think he is unfit for the job. He is neither of those things. Rather, I opposed his nomination because of the troubling actions the Justice Department is taking on criminal justice, civil rights, and immigration issues and because I firmly believe a special prosecutor is needed to investigate Russian interference in the 2016 Presidential election.

Since taking over as our Nation's top law enforcement official, Attorney General Sessions has indicated he wishes to roll back certain actions taken during the Obama administration. For instance, Attorney General Sessions is considering changes to existing Justice Department drug charging policies. I am concerned he will direct Federal prosecutors to increase the use of mandatory minimum penalties in low-level, nonviolent drug cases. Since 1980, our Federal prison population has increased by nearly 800 percent in large part because of the failed war on drugs and the use of mandatory minimums. Increasing the utilization of mandatory minimums will not make us safer or fix our broken criminal justice system. To the contrary, it will come at great cost—not only to American taxpayers, but to public safety, to families, and to confidence in our justice system. As Deputy Attorney General, Mr. Rosenstein will play a critical role in enacting those changes to existing charging policies.

Attorney General Sessions also recently indicated that the Justice Department may reverse its policy on the use of consent decrees to combat civil rights abuses by law enforcement when they occur. He has consistently criticized the use of consent decrees, and in his first major speech as Attorney General, he vowed to ''pull back'' on Federal suits against State and local police departments for civil rights abuses. There is no doubt that America's law enforcement community deserves our utmost respect and protection. These brave women and men have answered the call to serve and the vast majority of them serve with integrity. However, the Justice Department plays a critical role in assisting police departments struggling to combat systemic practices that unfairly target minorities. Scaling back on the use of consent decrees means civil rights violations may not be remedied. As Deputy Attorney General, Mr. Rosenstein will play a critical role in reversing course on the use of consent decrees.

Finally, the pending investigation into Russian interference in the 2016 Presidential election has caused deep concern and anxiety for many Americans. We owe it to the public to conduct an investigation that is beyond reproach and ensure that every person, regardless of their political affiliation, has confidence in the results no matter what they are. While Mr. Rosenstein is undoubtedly a man of integrity, such an investigation can only be conducted by an independent, special prosecutor. It concerns me that, in his confirmation hearing, Mr. Rosenstein would not commit to appointing such a person.

Mr. Rosenstein has served his country with honor and distinction. He is well respected on both sides of the aisle. In most circumstances, I believe I would have supported his nomination. However, the disturbing agenda on civil and human rights of the Trump administration and the actions Attorney General Sessions continues to advance at the Justice Department and Mr. Rosenstein's responses to questions regarding this agenda at his confirmation hearing leave me deeply troubled about the role he will play as the second highest ranking individual at the Department. For those reasons, I voted no on his nomination to be Deputy Attorney General.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, I supported Rod Rosenstein's nomination to become Deputy Attorney General. Throughout his 27-year career, Mr. Rosenstein has earned a reputation as a fair and focused administrator of justice. He has served in Maryland in both Republican and Democratic administrations and has earned the distinction of being the longest serving U.S. attorney in the country.

I had the honor to introduce Mr. Rosenstein to the Senate Judiciary Committee at his confirmation hearing. He has aggressively prosecuted not only dangerous gangs and criminals in Maryland but also elected officials who violated the people's trust. He has shown impartiality in these investigations, and his successful prosecutions have led to ethics reforms that increased transparency and public confidence in Maryland.

When Mr. Rosenstein and I met recently, I asked him if he supported the consent decree negotiated between the Obama administration and the city of Baltimore. He assured me that, if the court formally entered the consent decree, he would support its implementation. Attorney General Sessions, however, has frequently expressed skepticism about consent decrees. Baltimore is the only city to invite the Justice Department to conduct a thorough, methodical analysis of its police department in order to foster transparency and increase trust between police officers and Baltimore city residents. As the former U.S. attorney in Maryland, Mr. Rosenstein is well acquainted with the challenges that the city faces. He has prosecuted corruption charges against Baltimore city police officers and should recognize the importance of reform and effective community policing. I trust Mr. Rosenstein will keep his promise to support the consent decree.

In addition to being a top-notch lawyer, Mr. Rosenstein is known for the professional manner in which he runs his current office. In his letter of support, Maryland's Attorney General Brian Frosh notes that Mr. Rosenstein ''inherited an office in turmoil'' when he became Maryland's U.S. attorney, but with a ''steady hand and superb management,'' created a department that is now universally respected. Those skills will be put to the test immediately. Mr. Rosenstein will assume the office of Deputy Attorney General at a tumultuous time for the Justice Department. His job will be to serve justice, not political leaders.

As Mr. Rosenstein and I discussed, the question for him is the same that then-Senator Sessions posed to Sally Yates during her hearing to become Deputy Attorney General. Senator Sessions said: ''You have to watch out because people will be asking you to do things you just need to say no about.'' Senator Sessions then asked: ''Do you think the Attorney General has the responsibility to say no to the President if he asks for something that's improper?'' Like Sally Yates, Mr. Rosenstein said that he would be willing to put his job on the line to uphold the integrity of the Department of Justice.

I believe that any investigation into the ties between the Trump administration and Russian interference in our elections will require the appointment of an independent special counsel, and I have also joined my fellow Senators in calling for a nonpartisan commission.

I also made clear to Mr. Rosenstein that, if the FBI Director did, in fact, request that the Justice Department deny President Trump's unsubstantiated claims that the Obama administration wiretapped Trump Tower, then the Justice Department has a duty to immediately let the public know the truth.

It is vitally important that the American public have faith that our laws apply equally to all Americans, regardless of rank or position. Rod Rosenstein has applied that principle faithfully during his time as U.S. attorney in Maryland. It is essential that he apply the same principle at the Department of Justice.

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DAY

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, on April 26 of each year, we celebrate World Intellectual Property Day and recognize the important role of intellectual property rights in the fabric of our society. This year, we take time to recognize the innovators and creators who are making our lives healthier, safer, and more productive through their ingenuity and the robust system

of intellectual property protections enshrined in our laws.

The Founding Fathers recognized the value of intellectual property, empowering Congress ''to promote the progress of science and useful arts, by securing for limited times to authors and inventors the exclusive right to their respective writings and discoveries.''

Placing this authority within Congress's enumerated powers underscores the weight that our Founding Fathers placed on intellectual property's value to the budding Nation as a means of fostering economic development and growth. Our success as a nation in agriculture, manufacturing, technology, and medicine shares a common thread of intellectual property rights.

True to their predictions, our system of intellectual property has fostered innovation and ensured America's role as an economic engine of inventions that have made us healthier, safer, and more secure.

Our system of intellectual property rights has evolved since the ratification of the Constitution and the passage of the Copyright Act of 1790, but its core mission of promoting innovation has remained constant.

Our innovators and creators rely on IP protections such as patents, trademarks, copyrights, and trade secrets to help drive and recoup their investments of ingenuity.

Of course, the innovation that intellectual property helps encourage benefits society more broadly as well. It drives enormous economic activity and development, helping assure America's place as an economic and intellectual beacon to the world. As the U.S. Chamber's Global Intellectual Property Center recently pointed out, IP-intensive industries employ over 40 million Americans, accounting for 34.8 percent of total U.S. gross domestic product.

Iowans have long held intellectual property as an integral part of our economy. Our commitment to growth and innovation has led to $11.2 billion in annual IP-related exports from the State, more than 667,000 IP-related jobs, and 19.9 percent higher wages for direct IP workers than non-IP workers.

As a society, we depend on innovators to make our lives better and to solve the challenges we face. These innovators, in turn, depend on different forms of intellectual property.

The Judiciary Committee will continue to play an important role in protecting intellectual property and we will continue to work to advance innovation. This week, Senator LEAHY and I reintroduced the Patents for Humanity Program Improvement Act to encourage and reward companies that innovate and use patented technology to address humanitarian needs. This legislation improves the incentives for small businesses to participate in the program, by ensuring that the prize—a certificate for expedited processing of certain matters at the USPTO—can be transferable to third parties.

Yesterday, we held a hearing with witnesses from U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement and industry innovators who described the central role that intellectual property has played in allowing their businesses to grow and innovate. We also heard about some of the enforcement challenges that those in IP-intensive industries face as they seek to protect their intellectual property.

As a cochair of the Congressional Trademark Caucus, which we just relaunched this week, I recognize the value of trademarks and their impact on society and the economy, as well as how counterfeiting can seriously impact consumer health and safety. Counterfeiting of goods presents a worldwide problem with enormous health and economic impacts, costing the global economy over 2.5 million jobs per year, while draining tax revenue and hurting the ability of American companies to compete in foreign markets.

Similarly, trade secret theft is an increasingly serious problem. A report by the IP Commission found that annual losses due to trade secret theft are over $300 billion and is the cause of an estimated loss of 2.1 million American jobs. That is why we passed into law the Defend Trade Secrets Act of 2016. This important legislation brings needed uniformity to trade secret law and provides more certainty to the innovators who rely on trade secrets to develop novel solutions to important problems that face us as a nation.

Intellectual property is a key driver of innovation and fundamental building block of our modern economy. This World IP Day, as we recognize the positive impacts IP has on innovation, let us continue to find ways to work together to ensure its protection against infringement and maintain the United States enduring position as the most innovative and creative country in the world.

TRIBUTE TO MARK SCHLEFER

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, I would like to congratulate and honor a Vermont resident for his outstanding commitment to ensuring transparency between the Federal Government and the American public. Mark Schlefer of Putney, VT, played an integral role in the creation of the Freedom of Information Act, FOIA, that came into effect in 1967. Since its incorporation, FOIA has given the American people the right to request to access records from any Federal agency and has required agencies to post certain categories of information and frequently requested records online.

Mr. Schlefer was inspired to join the legal group that drafted FOIA after working with a shipping client, Pacific Far East Line, which was denied tariff documentation to stop at the Mariana Islands by the Federal Maritime Commission. Mr. Schlefer was upset to find that the Federal Maritime Commission was not required to provide an explanation of the justification behind the rejection.

Along with two other lawyers who came across similar situations with government agencies, Mr. Schlefer helped to draft the legislation for FOIA. After years of working on the bill and convincing both Members of the House and the Senate to support the legislation, it was signed into law by President Lyndon B. Johnson on July 4, 1966.

FOIA helped pave the way for greater government transparency. Increased transparency restores faith in governance by holding government officials accountable to the American people. A truly transparent government roots out systemic waste, fraud, and abuse. It is clear that we need to maintain the transparency and accountability of government to the people it is meant to represent. I strongly believe that, as a democracy, we must strive to make our government as transparent as possible and that citizens should be able to obtain information from the government in a reasonable fashion.

Without FOIA, much of the U.S. Government would still be closed off to the American people. This legislation has been an inspiration to other governments and has served as a model throughout the world for opening government information to the public. Since FOIA was enacted nearly 50 years ago, similar Freedom of Information laws have been passed in all 50 States and 93 other nations.

Mark Schlefer has demonstrated an extraordinary level of commitment to ensuring the American people had access to more information throughout the Federal Government. Since its initial enactment, all three branches of the Federal Government have recognized the FOIA as a vital part of our democracy. I heartily applaud Mr. Schlefer for leading the way to a more transparent government. I have no doubt that his outstanding life work has had a significant and positive impact on people and their governments throughout the world.

TRIBUTE TO STEVE STIVERS AND BRAD WENSTRUP

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I would like to recognize my friend and colleague, Congressman STEVE STIVERS, and congratulate him on his promotion to brigadier general in the Ohio National Guard.

STEVE has served our State and our Nation in uniform for more than three

decades. When his guard unit was called up in 2005, he served our country in Operation Iraqi Freedom. His leadership earned him the Bronze Star, and his service and sacrifice earned him the honor of a grateful nation.

But STEVE hasn't been content to only serve in uniform—he is working to support his fellow soldiers in Congress. He and I have worked together to make sure that servicemembers who suffer traumatic brain injuries have their medical records given from the DOD to the VA. We are working to designate the new Ohio veterans Museum in Columbus as the National Veterans Museum.

As persuasive as STEVE is, he is nothing compared to his mother. A few years ago, STEVE's mother, Carol, brought to my attention the need to preserve the Parker House—a way station on the Underground Railroad located in Ripley, OH. She wanted to incorporate it into the National Park System.

I worked with STEVE, who of course couldn't say no to his mother, and others in the Ohio delegation, including JOYCE BEATTY, to preserve this house where a freed slave worked and helped others find their way to freedom. This January, the National Park Service award $50,000 to the Ohio History Connection to help preserve the sites throughout Ohio that played critical roles in the civil rights movement, including the Parker House.

STEVE is not the only member of our delegation to carry on the proud tradition of Ohioans serving our Nation in uniform. I would also like to congratulate my friend BRAD WENSTRUP on his promotion to colonel in the U.S. Army Reserve.

BRAD also served a tour in Iraq as a combat surgeon. He was awarded a Bronze Star and a Combat Action Badge and earned the honor and gratitude of all Ohioans. It is not just overseas where BRAD serves our troops. He fulfills his Reserve duties, treating our wounded soldiers at Walter Reed, and fights to ensure our servicemembers and veterans have the support they deserve on the House Armed Services Committee and Veterans' Affairs Committee.

Whether it is supporting our State's civil rights heritage or supporting our troops, BRAD and STEVE have always been dedicated public servants for Ohio. They are both so deserving of these promotions. We thank them and their entire families—STEVE's wife, Karen, and children Sarah and Sam, and BRAD's wife, Monica, and son Brad, Jr.—for their sacrifice for our country.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING INA M. BOON

● Mrs. MCCASKILL. Mr. President, I ask the Senate to join me today in honoring the life of Ina Boon, a beloved member of the St. Louis community. With her passing, Ina has left a powerful legacy of public service that will always be cherished, and St. Louis will not be the same without her.

In addition to being a wife, a mother, and dear friend to so many, Ina was a fighter. Not the kind you see shuffling in rings on television; Ina was a special kind of warrior. Her weapons were her voice, her feet, and, as anyone who knew her would tell you, her tenacious nature. Her cause was one that is dear and relevant to every American—true freedom, equality, and justice for all. For decades, Ina fought on the front lines of the civil rights movement for justice and equality for all citizens in my home State of Missouri and in numerous other States throughout the country.

For more than 50 years, Ina was the fearless leader who served tirelessly at the helm of the St. Louis NAACP Region IV branch. Whether she was advocating for diversity and inclusion in hiring and housing practices, fighting for equal access and fair treatment in healthcare and education, or helping young people find jobs and urging them to register to vote, Ina's life reveals an inspiring commitment to social change and progress.

Her half-century record of service provides a clear example of how much good can be accomplished with a steadfast and caring spirit. At the same time, Ina's life shows the selfless and generous heart of a public servant. When times were lean at NAACP, Ina worked hard and faithfully while giving up her pay. Additionally, even though she was committed to large-scale, systemic social changes across the State and country, Ina was equally committed to her family and her neighbors. She nurtured her son, mentored young people, and remained active in her church, serving in various leadership positions.

Ina recently passed away at the age of 90. She was blessed to live a long life and bear witness to some incredible historic moments in our State's history and our country's history as well. I know that Ina was humbled to play a role in some of these moments. With Ina's passing, we have lost a prolific public servant and a dynamic individual. Ina is survived by her son Gentry, as well as nieces, nephews, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and a host of extended family members and friends.

It may come as small comfort to them, but Ina will forever be a part of St. Louis history. She will always be remembered for her leadership, passion, and activism. Right now, many of my fellow Missourians are justifiably saddened by the loss of one of our local champions, but my hope is that Ina's legacy will inspire current and future generations of leaders to continue the vitally important work of perfecting our vibrant, diverse Union.

I ask that the Senate join me in honoring the life and legacy of Mrs. Ina M. Boon.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:10 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 455. An act to designate the United States courthouse located at 501 East Court Street in Jackson, Mississippi, as the ''R. Jess Brown United States Courthouse''.

H.R. 534. An act to require the Secretary of State to take such actions as may be necessary for the United States to rejoin the Bureau of International Expositions, and for other purposes.

H.R. 876. An act to reform programs of the Transportation Security Administration, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1372. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to ensure that the needs of children are considered in homeland security planning, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolutions, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 35. Concurrent resolution authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the National Peace Officers Memorial Service and the National Honor Guard and Pipe Band Exhibition.

H. Con. Res 36. Concurrent resolution authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 455. An act to designate the United States courthouse located at 501 East Court Street in Jackson, Mississippi, as the ''R. Jess Brown United States Courthouse''; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

H.R. 534. An act to require the Secretary of State to take such actions as may be necessary for the United States to rejoin the Bureau of International Expositions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H.R. 876. An act to reform programs of the Transportation Security Administration, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 1372. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to ensure that the needs of children are considered in homeland security planning, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

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

EC–1386. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division,

Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Bacillus Thuringiensis (mCry51Aa2) Protein in or on Cotton; Temporary Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance'' (FRL No. 9957–23) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 11, 2017; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–1387. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Bacillus simplex strain BU288; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance'' (FRL No. 9960–61) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 19, 2017; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–1388. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Pyroxasulfone; Pesticide Tolerances'' (FRL No. 9959–25) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 17, 2017; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–1389. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Pyriofenone; Pesticide Tolerances'' (FRL No. 9953–96) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 17, 2017; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–1390. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Deltamethrin; Pesticide Tolerances'' (FRL No. 9959–54) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 17, 2017; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–1391. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Benzobicyclon; Pesticide Tolerances'' (FRL No. 9961–02) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2017; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–1392. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Tioxazafen; Pesticide Tolerances'' (FRL No. 9955–97) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2017; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–1393. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Robert S. Ferrell, United States Army, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–1394. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Michael E. Williamson, United States Army, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–1395. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Patrick J. Donahue II, United States Army, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–1396. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel, General Law, Ethics, and Regulation, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Under Secretary (Terrorism and Financial Intelligence), Department of the Treasury, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 19, 2017; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–1397. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel, General Law, Ethics, and Regulation, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary (International Markets and Development), Department of the Treasury, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 19, 2017; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–1398. A communication from the Deputy General Counsel for Operations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, three (3) reports relative to vacancies in the Department of Housing and Urban Development, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 19, 2017; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–1399. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the Central African Republic that was declared in Executive Order 13667 of May 12, 2014; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–1400. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Yemen that was originally declared in Executive Order 13611 on May 16, 2012; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–1401. A communication from the General Counsel of the National Credit Union Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Civil Monetary Penalty Inflation Adjustment'' (RIN3133–AE67) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 20, 2017; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–1402. A communication from the Minority Whip of the Puerto Rico House of Representatives, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Puerto Rico Oversight, Management and Economic Stability Act (PROMESA) and its expenditures; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC–1403. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Air Plan Approval; Connecticut; General Permit to Limit Potential to Emit from Major Stationary Sources of Air Pollution'' (FRL No. 9952–93–Region 1) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 19, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–1404. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Promulgation of State Implementation Plan Revisions; Infrastructure Requirements for the 2008 Lead, 2008 Ozone, 2010 NO2, 2010 SO2, and 2012 PM2.5 National Ambient Air Quality Standards; Wyoming'' (FRL No. 9958–35–Region 8) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 19, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–1405. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Air Plan Approval; CT; Approval of Single Source Orders'' (FRL No. 9958–37–Region 1) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–1406. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Air Plan Approval; ME; Emission Statement Reporting'' (FRL No. 9961–42–Region 1) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–1407. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Air Plan Approval; Rhode Island; Repeal of NOx Budget Trading Program'' (FRL No. 9961–57–Region 1) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–1408. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Air Plan Approval; TN: Non-interference Demonstration for Federal Low-Reid Vapor Pressure Requirement in Middle Tennessee'' (FRL No. 9961–48–Region 4) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–1409. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; District of Columbia; Revision of Regulations for Sulfur Content of Fuel Oil'' (FRL No. 9961–31–Region 3) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–1410. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Plans; State of Maryland; Control of Emissions from Existing Hospital/Medical/Infectious Waste Incineration Units'' (FRL No. 9961–37–Region 3) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–1411. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of State Air Quality Plans for Designated Facilities and Pollutants; State of Delaware, District of Columbia, and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, City of Philadelphia; Control of Emissions from Existing Commercial and Industrial Solid Waste Incinerator Units'' (FRL

No. 9961–23–Region 3) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–1412. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval of Arizona Air Plan Revisions, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality and Pinal County Air Quality Control District'' (FRL No. 9961–36–Region 9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–1413. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval of California Air Plan Revisions, Butte County Air Quality Management District'' (FRL No. 9957–15–Region 9) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 11, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–1414. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Determination of Housing Cost Amounts Eligible for Exclusion or Deduction for 2017'' (Notice 2017–21) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 24, 2017; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–1415. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Examination of Returns and Claims for Refund, Credit, or Abatement; Determination of Correct Tax Liability'' (Rev. Proc. 2017–26) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 24, 2017; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–1416. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Applicable Federal Rates—February 2017'' (Rev. Rul. 2017–4) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 19, 2017; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–1417. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Application of Modified Carryover Basis to General Basis Rules'' ((RIN1545–BK09) (TD 9811)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 19, 2017; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–1418. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Transfers of Certain Property by U.S. Persons to Partnerships with Related Foreign Partners'' ((RIN1545–BM95) (TD 9814)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 19, 2017; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–1419. A communication from the President of the United States to the President Pro Tempore of the United States Senate, transmitting, consistent with the War Powers Act, a report relative to targeted missile strikes on the Shayrat military airfield in Syria, received during adjournment of the Senate on April 8, 2017; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–1420. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Case-Zablocki Act, 1 U.S.C. 112b, as amended, the report of the texts and background statements of international agreements, other than treaties (List 2017-0069–2017–0076); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–1421. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Rules for Certain Reserves'' (Rev. Rul. 2017–3) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 19, 2017; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–1422. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Services, Office of General Counsel, Department of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Title I—Improving the Academic Achievement of the Disadvantaged (Subpart C—Migrant Education Program)'' (RIN1810–AA99) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 21, 2017; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–1423. A communication from the Secretary of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Adjustment of Civil Monetary Penalties for Inflation'' (RIN1810–AA16) received in the Office of the President pro tempore of the Senate; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–1424. A communication from the Director of Regulations and Policy Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Requirements to Submit Prior Notice of Imported Food; Technical Amendments'' (Docket No. FDA–2017–N–0011) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 31, 2017; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–1425. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; Market Stabilization'' ((RIN0938–AT14) (CMS–9929-F)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 18, 2017; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–1426. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Economic Impact and Diversity, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department's amended fiscal year 2016 report relative to the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act); to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–1427. A communication from the Associate General Counsel for General Law, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Deputy Secretary, Department of Homeland Security, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 19, 2017; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–1428. A communication from the Executive Director, Office of Equal Employment Opportunity, Central Intelligence Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Agency's fiscal year 2016 annual report relative to the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act); to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–1429. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department of Transportation's fiscal year 2016 annual report relative to the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act); to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–1430. A communication from the Census Bureau Federal Register Liaison Officer, Census Bureau, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Foreign Trade Regulations (FTR): Clarification on Filing Requirements'' (RIN0607–AA55) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 19, 2017; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–1431. A communication from the Acting Chief Privacy Officer, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''2016 Data Mining Report to Congress''; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–1432. A communication from the Acting Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, an annual report on the Department's activities during calendar year 2015 relative to prison rape abatement; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC–1433. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2017–0245)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 21, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1434. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2016–8851)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 21, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1435. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2017–0245)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 21, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1436. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2016–8184)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 21, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1437. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal

Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc. Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2016–9299)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 21, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1438. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc. Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2016–6897)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 21, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1439. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Gulfstream Aerospace Corporation Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2014–0651)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 21, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1440. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; M7 Aerospace LLC Models Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2016–9531)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 21, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1441. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; American Champion Aircraft Corp.'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2017–0283)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 21, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1442. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Embraer S.A. Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2014–0059)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 21, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1443. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Meggitt (Troy), Inc. Combustion Heaters'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2014–0603)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 21, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1444. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Amendment of Class C Airspace; Little Rock, AR'' ((RIN2120–AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2017–0233)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 21, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1445. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Establishment of Class E Airspace; Louisville, GA'' ((RIN2120–AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2015–0581)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 21, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1446. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Amendment of Class E Airspace; Monongahela, PA'' ((RIN2120–AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2016–9102)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 21, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1447. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Amendment of Class D and Class E Airspace; Savannah, GA'' ((RIN2120–AA66) (Docket No. FAA–2016–9101)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 21, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1448. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments (1); Amdt. No. 3740'' (RIN2120–AA65) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 21, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1449. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments (69); Amdt. No. 3739'' (RIN2120–AA65) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 21, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1450. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments (36); Amdt. No. 3741'' (RIN2120–AA65) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 21, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1451. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Gulfstream Aerospace Corporation Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2016–9385)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 25, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1452. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; General Electric Company Turbofan Engines'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2013–0879)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 21, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1453. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation Helicopters'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2015–7095)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 21, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1454. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Bell Helicopter Textron Canada Helicopters'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2017–0189)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 21, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1455. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters Deutschland GmbH'' ((RIN2120–AA64) (Docket No. FAA–2016–3257)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 21, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1456. A communication from the Deputy Under Secretary for Operations performing the duties of Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Chesapeake Bay Office Biennial Report to Congress; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1457. A communication from the Trial Attorney, Federal Railroad Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Implementation of the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act Improvements Act for a Violation of a Federal Railroad Safety Law, Federal Railroad Administration Safety Regulation or Order, or the Hazardous Material Transportation Laws or Regulations, Orders, Special Permits, and Approvals Issued Under Those Laws'' (RIN2130–AC59) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 21, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1458. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of

Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''2017 Revisions to the Civil Penalty Inflation Adjustment Tables'' ((RIN2120–AK90) (Docket No. FAA–2016–7004)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 21, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1459. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, Consumer Product Safety Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Standard for Infant Bath Tubs'' (CPSC Docket No. CPSC–2015–0019) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 19, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1460. A communication from the Deputy Chief Financial Officer, National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Schedule of Fees for Access to NOAA Environmental Data, Information, and Related Products and Services'' (RIN0648–BG39) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 24, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1461. A communication from the Acting Chief of Technology Transfer Office, John H. Glenn Research Center, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, transmitting, a report relative to the Center's Technology Transfer Office; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself and Mr. COONS):

S. 942. A bill to require a plan to combat international travel by terrorists and foreign fighters, accelerate the transfer of certain border security systems to foreign partner governments, establish minimum international border security standards, authorize the suspension of foreign assistance to countries not making significant efforts to comply with such minimum standards, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Ms. HEITKAMP (for herself, Mr. LANKFORD, and Mr. DAINES):

S. 943. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct an accurate comprehensive student count for the purposes of calculating formula allocations for programs under the Johnson-O'Malley Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. ROBERTS, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mrs. ERNST, Ms. HEITKAMP, Mr. THUNE, Mr. UDALL, Mr. HEINRICH, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. DONNELLY, and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. 944. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reform and extend the incentives for biodiesel; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Mr. PETERS):

S. 945. A bill to amend the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 to authorize funds to identify and eliminate excessive occupational licensure; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. FLAKE (for himself, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. HATCH, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. LEE, Mr. TILLIS, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. TESTER, and Mr. MANCHIN):

S. 946. A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to hire additional Veterans Justice Outreach Specialists to provide treatment court services to justice-involved veterans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. HASSAN (for herself, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. CASEY, and Mr. MENENDEZ):

S. 947. A bill to protect passengers on flights in air transportation from being denied boarding involuntarily, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. PETERS, Mr. REED, Mr. SCHATZ, Ms. STABENOW, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Mr. MENENDEZ):

S. 948. A bill to designate as wilderness certain Federal portions of the red rock canyons of the Colorado Plateau and the Great Basin Deserts in the State of Utah for the benefit of present and future generations of people in the United States; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. DAINES (for himself and Ms. CANTWELL):

S. 949. A bill to require the Director of the Office of Personnel Management to create a classification that more accurately reflects the vital role of wildland firefighters; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. DAINES (for himself and Ms. CANTWELL):

S. 950. A bill to correct problems pertaining to human resources for career and volunteer personnel engaged in wildland fire and structure fire; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. PORTMAN (for himself, Ms. HEITKAMP, Mr. HATCH, and Mr. MANCHIN):

S. 951. A bill to reform the process by which Federal agencies analyze and formulate new regulations and guidance documents, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. WARREN (for herself and Mr. RUBIO):

S. 952. A bill to increase the role of the financial industry in combating human trafficking; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. HEINRICH:

S. 953. A bill to require the United States Secret Service to make certain White House visitor logs available to the public, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. WICKER (for himself, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. RUBIO, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. GARDNER, and Mr. UDALL):

S. Con. Res. 13. A concurrent resolution calling upon the President to issue a proclamation recognizing the abiding importance of the Helsinki Final Act and its relevance to the national security of the United States; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 236

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 236, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reform taxation of alcoholic beverages.

S. 372

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 372, a bill to amend the Tariff Act of 1930 to ensure that merchandise arriving through the mail shall be subject to review by U.S. Customs and Border Protection and to require the provision of advance electronic information on shipments of mail to U.S. Customs and Border Protection and for other purposes.

S. 384

At the request of Mr. BLUNT, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) were added as cosponsors of S. 384, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the new markets tax credit, and for other purposes.

S. 445

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) and the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) were added as cosponsors of S. 445, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure more timely access to home health services for Medicare beneficiaries under the Medicare program.

S. 487

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 487, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for an exclusion for assistance provided to participants in certain veterinary student loan repayment or forgiveness programs.

S. 497

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 497, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for Medicare coverage of certain lymphedema compression treatment items as items of durable medical equipment.

S. 512

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Michigan

(Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 512, a bill to modernize the regulation of nuclear energy.

S. 534

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 534, a bill to prevent the sexual abuse of minors and amateur athletes by requiring the prompt reporting of sexual abuse to law enforcement authorities, and for other purposes.

S. 591

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 591, a bill to expand eligibility for the program of comprehensive assistance for family caregivers of the Department of Veterans Affairs, to expand benefits available to participants under such program, to enhance special compensation for members of the uniformed services who require assistance in everyday life, and for other purposes.

S. 678

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 678, a bill to declare English as the official language of the United States, to establish a uniform English language rule for naturalization, and to avoid misconstructions of the English language texts of the laws of the United States, pursuant to Congress' powers to provide for the general welfare of the United States and to establish a uniform rule of naturalization under article I, section 8, of the Constitution.

S. 720

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 720, a bill to amend the Export Administration Act of 1979 to include in the prohibitions on boycotts against allies of the United States boycotts fostered by international governmental organizations against Israel and to direct the Export-Import Bank of the United States to oppose boycotts against Israel, and for other purposes.

S. 722

At the request of Mr. CORKER, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was withdrawn as a cosponsor of S. 722, a bill to impose sanctions with respect to Iran in relation to Iran's ballistic missile program, support for acts of international terrorism, and violations of human rights, and for other purposes.

S. 819

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 819, a bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide more effective remedies to victims of discrimination in the payment of wages on the basis of sex, and for other purposes.

S. 842

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 842, a bill to prohibit Federal agencies and Federal contractors from requesting that an applicant for employment disclose criminal history record information before the applicant has received a conditional offer, and for other purposes.

S. 867

At the request of Mr. DONNELLY, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) and the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) were added as cosponsors of S. 867, a bill to provide support for law enforcement agency efforts to protect the mental health and well-being of law enforcement officers, and for other purposes.

S. 926

At the request of Mrs. ERNST, the names of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) and the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON) were added as cosponsors of S. 926, a bill to authorize the Global War on Terror Memorial Foundation to establish the National Global War on Terrorism Memorial as a commemorative work in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. ROBERTS, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mrs. ERNST, Ms. HEITKAMP, Mr. THUNE, Mr. UDALL, Mr. HEINRICH, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. DONNELLY, and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. 944. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reform and extend the incentives for biodiesel; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I have long been a champion of domestic biofuel production, including ethanol, biodiesel and cellulosic fuels. Domestic biodiesel production supports tens of thousands of jobs. Replacing traditional diesel with biodiesel reduces emissions and creates cleaner air. Homegrown biodiesel improves our energy security by diversifying our transportation fuels and reducing our dependence on foreign oil. Biodiesel itself is a very diverse fuel. It can be produced from a wide array of resources such as recycled cooking oil, soybean and other plant oils, and animal fats.

I am proud of the success of the American biodiesel industry, and I am glad to be introducing today the American Renewable Fuel and Job Creation Act of 2017, which will ensure the continued success. I appreciate Senator CANTWELL's leadership in joining this effort. I also appreciate the support of Senators ROBERTS, HIRONO, BLUNT, WHITEHOUSE, ERNST, HEITKAMP, THUNE, UDALL, HEINRICH, SHAHEEN, KLOBUCHAR, FRANKEN, DONNELLY, and MURRAY. This bill will modify the biodiesel fuel blender's credit to a domestic production credit starting this year and extend the credit through 2020.

Congress created the biodiesel tax incentive in 2005 when I was chairman of the Senate Finance Committee. As a result of this incentive and the Renewable Fuel Standard, biodiesel is providing significant benefits to the nation.

Senator CANTWELL and I have been advocating the mixture credit be modified to a producer credit since 2009. Converting to a producer credit improves the incentive in many ways. The blenders credit can be difficult to administer because the blending of the fuel can occur at many different stages of the fuel distribution. This can make it difficult to ensure that only fuel that qualifies for the credit claims the incentive. It has been susceptible to abuse because of this.

A credit for domestic production will also ensure that we are incentivizing the domestic industry and associated American jobs, rather than subsidizing imported biofuels. A credit for domestic production will also ensure that we are incentivizing the domestic industry and associated American jobs, rather than subsidizing imported biofuels. Since 2014, we have seen imports increase from 510 million gallons to about 1 billion gallons in 2016, and already in the first quarter of 2017 imports are 10 percent higher than they were last year at this time.

We should not provide a U.S. taxpayer benefit to imported biofuels. By restricting the credit to domestic production, we will also save taxpayer money. The nonpartisan Joint Committee on Taxation estimated a similar amendment adopted in the Finance Committee in 2015 would have reduced the cost of the extension by $90 million for 2016 alone.

Importantly, modifying the credit will have little to no impact on the consumer. Much of the credit will continue to be passed on to the blender and ultimately, the consumer. Additionally, the U.S. biodiesel industry is currently operating at approximately 65 percent of capacity, which does not even account for idled capacity. The fact is, the domestic biodiesel industry has the capacity and access to affordable feedstocks to meet the demand of U.S. consumers.

The current biodiesel credit expired at the end of 2016. Adoption of the American Renewable Fuel and Job Creation Act of 2017 should be strongly considered as part of tax reform efforts currently underway. Absent tax reform, Congress should include it as part of any tax legislation extending expired tax provisions.

Modifying the current blenders credit to a producers credit will ensure that the credit is doing what Congress intended—incentivizing investment in domestic biodiesel production and promoting American jobs. Surely we can agree that we should not be providing a U.S. taxpayer subsidy to already heavily subsidized foreign biodiesel imports. I therefore urge my colleagues to support the production of American biodiesel and this commonsense, cost reduction reform.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Mr. PETERS):

S. 945. A bill to amend the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 to authorize funds to identify and eliminate excessive occupational licensure; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

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

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

S. 945

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''New Hope and Opportunity through the Power of Employment Act'' or the ''New HOPE Act''.

SEC. 2. STATE LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES.

Section 124(c) of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2344(c)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (16)(B), by striking ''and'' after the semicolon;

(2) in paragraph (17), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(18) consulting and coordinating with other State agencies for the identification, consolidation, or elimination of licenses or certifications which pose an unnecessary barrier to entry for aspiring workers and provide limited consumer protection.''.

By Mr. FLAKE (for himself, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. HATCH, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. LEE, Mr. TILLIS, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. TESTER, and Mr. MANCHIN):

S. 946. A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to hire additional Veterans Justice Outreach Specialists to provide treatment court services to justice-involved veterans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Mr. FLAKE. Mr. President, Arizona is home to more than a half million veterans. They have served in every conflict from World War II to present-day operations in the Middle East. Nothing makes me prouder than to shake the hand of one of these veterans and to call them an Arizonan.

Fortunately, many of these veterans have the support of friends and family, as well as their fellow veterans with whom they served, but far too many who have served our country lack a support system that can help them successfully make the transition back to civilian life.

For those who have post-traumatic stress or traumatic brain injury, this could be particularly difficult. Studies have shown that veterans often do not seek out medical health treatment due to concerns about stigma, negative career prospects, lack of awareness, or logistical challenges in accessing care. For those who go without treatment, it can lead to substance abuse and, in some cases, run-ins with the law.

While there is no justification for criminal behavior, it is important to recognize when certain actions may be symptomatic of the harrowing experiences a veteran has endured during years of service. This is something the criminal justice system often fails to deal with. By not providing treatment that actually addresses a veteran's underlying service-connected issues, our criminal justice system sometimes creates a vicious cycle. It overcriminalizes service-connected mental illness, undertreats incarcerated veterans, and increases recidivism.

To address the problem, the VA created the Veterans Justice Outreach Program in 2009. The program was established to remove veterans from the regular criminal justice process and to provide specially tailored treatments to address many of these underlying issues. These veterans treatment courts have a proven record of preventing initial incarceration and reducing recidivism.

The lifeblood of the program is the veterans justice outreach specialists, VJO specialists, who link veterans to available court services. These outreach specialists identify veterans in jails and local courts, they assess their health status, and they help them develop the rehabilitation treatment program specific to each of their needs.

I recently had the opportunity to observe the veterans docket and meet with some of these dedicated specialists while visiting the Mesa Municipal Court earlier this month. Let me tell you, there is no substitute for seeing this firsthand. Even though it is a courtroom setting, there is a comradery and collaboration that you don't see in traditional courtroom proceedings. I was amazed at how many organizations there are to help these veterans—to help them successfully transition and help them with treatment.

The collaboration I am talking about comes from having a judge and hard-working staff who have served in the military themselves. They understand the hardship of multiple deployments for servicemembers and their families. They understand the mental and physical tolls of combat. They understand that the transition back to civilian life can mark the beginning of a new battle for veterans.

The program has experienced remarkable success. The unfortunate reality is that the VA doesn't have enough outreach specialists to ensure access to already available treatment for justice-involved veterans. Demand for VJO specialists is outpacing the program's ability to serve eligible veterans. This means future veterans treatment courts can't be established, existing courts will go understaffed, and veterans will go unserved. That is not right.

That is why today I am introducing the Veterans Treatment Court Improvement Act to ensure our veterans receive swift and appropriate access to justice. This legislation will provide 50 additional VJO specialists for veterans treatment courts nationwide. By increasing the number of dedicated specialists at these facilities, Congress can ensure that more veterans have access to the treatments they have earned with their service. This is bipartisan legislation. I will work to inform my colleagues about the need for this program and additional VJOs in the coming weeks and months.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. PETERS, Mr. REED, Mr. SCHATZ, Ms. STABENOW, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Mr. MENENDEZ):

S. 948. A bill to designate as wilderness certain Federal portions of the red rock canyons of the Colorado Plateau and the Great Basin Deserts in the State of Utah for the benefit of present and future generations of people in the United States; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

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

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

S. 948

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the ''America's Red Rock Wilderness Act of 2017''.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
Sec. 2. Definitions.
TITLE I—DESIGNATION OF WILDERNESS AREAS
Sec. 101. Great Basin Wilderness Areas.
Sec. 102. Grand Staircase-Escalante Wilderness Areas.
Sec. 103. Moab-La Sal Canyons Wilderness Areas.
Sec. 104. Henry Mountains Wilderness Areas.
Sec. 105. Glen Canyon Wilderness Areas.
Sec. 106. San Juan-Anasazi Wilderness Areas.

Sec. 107. Canyonlands Basin Wilderness Areas.
Sec. 108. San Rafael Swell Wilderness Areas.
Sec. 109. Book Cliffs and Uinta Basin Wilderness Areas.
TITLE II—ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS
Sec. 201. General provisions.
Sec. 202. Administration.
Sec. 203. State school trust land within wilderness areas.
Sec. 204. Water.
Sec. 205. Roads.
Sec. 206. Livestock.
Sec. 207. Fish and wildlife.
Sec. 208. Management of newly acquired land.
Sec. 209. Withdrawal.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) SECRETARY.—The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Bureau of Land Management.

(2) STATE.—The term ''State'' means the State of Utah.

TITLE I—DESIGNATION OF WILDERNESS AREAS

SEC. 101. GREAT BASIN WILDERNESS AREAS.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(1) the Great Basin region of western Utah is comprised of starkly beautiful mountain ranges that rise as islands from the desert floor;

(2) the Wah Wah Mountains in the Great Basin region are arid and austere, with massive cliff faces and leathery slopes speckled with piñon and juniper;

(3) the Pilot Range and Stansbury Mountains in the Great Basin region are high enough to draw moisture from passing clouds and support ecosystems found nowhere else on earth;

(4) from bristlecone pine, the world's oldest living organism, to newly flowered mountain meadows, mountains of the Great Basin region are islands of nature that—

(A) support remarkable biological diversity; and

(B) provide opportunities to experience the colossal silence of the Great Basin; and

(5) the Great Basin region of western Utah should be protected and managed to ensure the preservation of the natural conditions of the region.

(b) DESIGNATION.—In accordance with the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.), the following areas in the State are designated as wilderness areas and as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System:

(1) Antelope Range (approximately 17,000 acres).

(2) Barn Hills (approximately 20,000 acres).

(3) Black Hills (approximately 9,000 acres).

(4) Bullgrass Knoll (approximately 15,000 acres).

(5) Burbank Hills/Tunnel Spring (approximately 92,000 acres).

(6) Conger Mountains (approximately 21,000 acres).

(7) Crater Bench (approximately 35,000 acres).

(8) Crater and Silver Island Mountains (approximately 121,000 acres).

(9) Cricket Mountains Cluster (approximately 62,000 acres).

(10) Deep Creek Mountains (approximately 126,000 acres).

(11) Drum Mountains (approximately 39,000 acres).

(12) Dugway Mountains (approximately 24,000 acres).

(13) Essex Canyon (approximately 1,300 acres).

(14) Fish Springs Range (approximately 64,000 acres).

(15) Granite Peak (approximately 19,000 acres).

(16) Grassy Mountains (approximately 23,000 acres).

(17) Grouse Creek Mountains (approximately 15,000 acres).

(18) House Range (approximately 201,000 acres).

(19) Keg Mountains (approximately 38,000 acres).

(20) Kern Mountains (approximately 15,000 acres).

(21) King Top (approximately 110,000 acres).

(22) Ledger Canyon (approximately 9,000 acres).

(23) Little Goose Creek (approximately 1,200 acres).

(24) Middle/Granite Mountains (approximately 80,000 acres).

(25) Mount Escalante (approximately 18,000 acres).

(26) Mountain Home Range (approximately 90,000 acres).

(27) Newfoundland Mountains (approximately 22,000 acres).

(28) Ochre Mountain (approximately 13,000 acres).

(29) Oquirrh Mountains (approximately 9,000 acres).

(30) Painted Rock Mountain (approximately 26,000 acres).

(31) Paradise/Steamboat Mountains (approximately 144,000 acres).

(32) Pilot Range (approximately 45,000 acres).

(33) Red Tops (approximately 28,000 acres).

(34) Rockwell-Little Sahara (approximately 21,000 acres).

(35) San Francisco Mountains (approximately 39,000 acres).

(36) Sand Ridge (approximately 73,000 acres).

(37) Simpson Mountains (approximately 42,000 acres).

(38) Snake Valley (approximately 100,000 acres).

(39) Spring Creek Canyon (approximately 4,000 acres).

(40) Stansbury Island (approximately 10,000 acres).

(41) Stansbury Mountains (approximately 24,000 acres).

(42) Thomas Range (approximately 36,000 acres).

(43) Tule Valley (approximately 159,000 acres).

(44) Wah Wah Mountains (approximately 167,000 acres).

(45) Wasatch/Sevier Plateaus (approximately 29,000 acres).

(46) White Rock Range (approximately 5,200 acres).

SEC. 102. GRAND STAIRCASE-ESCALANTE WILDERNESS AREAS.

(a) GRAND STAIRCASE AREA.—

(1) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(A) the area known as the Grand Staircase rises more than 6,000 feet in a series of great cliffs and plateaus from the depths of the Grand Canyon to the forested rim of Bryce Canyon;

(B) the Grand Staircase—

(i) spans 6 major life zones, from the lower Sonoran Desert to the alpine forest; and

(ii) encompasses geologic formations that display 3,000,000,000 years of Earth's history;

(C) land managed by the Secretary lines the intricate canyon system of the Paria River and forms a vital natural corridor connection to the deserts and forests of those national parks;

(D) land described in paragraph (2) (other than East of Bryce, Upper Kanab Creek, Moquith Mountain, Bunting Point, and Vermillion Cliffs) is located within the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument; and

(E) the Grand Staircase in Utah should be protected and managed as a wilderness area.

(2) DESIGNATION.—In accordance with the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.), the following areas in the State are designated as wilderness areas and as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System:

(A) Bryce View (approximately 4,500 acres).

(B) Bunting Point (approximately 11,000 acres).

(C) Canaan Mountain (approximately 16,000 acres in Kane County).

(D) Canaan Peak Slopes (approximately 2,300 acres).

(E) East of Bryce (approximately 750 acres).

(F) Glass Eye Canyon (approximately 24,000 acres).

(G) Ladder Canyon (approximately 14,000 acres).

(H) Moquith Mountain (approximately 16,000 acres).

(I) Nephi Point (approximately 14,000 acres).

(J) Orderville Canyon (approximately 9,200 acres).

(K) Paria-Hackberry (approximately 188,000 acres).

(L) Paria Wilderness Expansion (approximately 3,300 acres).

(M) Parunuweap Canyon (approximately 43,000 acres).

(N) Pine Hollow (approximately 11,000 acres).

(O) Slopes of Bryce (approximately 2,600 acres).

(P) Timber Mountain (approximately 51,000 acres).

(Q) Upper Kanab Creek (approximately 49,000 acres).

(R) Vermillion Cliffs (approximately 26,000 acres).

(S) Willis Creek (approximately 21,000 acres).

(b) KAIPAROWITS PLATEAU.—

(1) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(A) the Kaiparowits Plateau east of the Paria River is one of the most rugged and isolated wilderness regions in the United States;

(B) the Kaiparowits Plateau, a windswept land of harsh beauty, contains distant vistas and a remarkable variety of plant and animal species;

(C) ancient forests, an abundance of big game animals, and 22 species of raptors thrive undisturbed on the grassland mesa tops of the Kaiparowits Plateau;

(D) each of the areas described in paragraph (2) (other than Heaps Canyon, Little Valley, and Wide Hollow) is located within the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument; and

(E) the Kaiparowits Plateau should be protected and managed as a wilderness area.

(2) DESIGNATION.—In accordance with the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.), the following areas in the State are designated as wilderness areas and as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System:

(A) Andalex Not (approximately 18,000 acres).

(B) The Blues (approximately 21,000 acres).

(C) Box Canyon (approximately 2,800 acres).

(D) Burning Hills (approximately 80,000 acres).

(E) Carcass Canyon (approximately 83,000 acres).

(F) The Cockscomb (approximately 11,000 acres).

(G) Fiftymile Bench (approximately 12,000 acres).
(H) Fiftymile Mountain (approximately 203,000 acres).
(I) Heaps Canyon (approximately 4,000 acres).
(J) Horse Spring Canyon (approximately 31,000 acres).
(K) Kodachrome Headlands (approximately 10,000 acres).
(L) Little Valley Canyon (approximately 4,000 acres).
(M) Mud Spring Canyon (approximately 65,000 acres).
(N) Nipple Bench (approximately 32,000 acres).
(O) Paradise Canyon-Wahweap (approximately 262,000 acres).
(P) Rock Cove (approximately 16,000 acres).
(Q) Warm Creek (approximately 23,000 acres).
(R) Wide Hollow (approximately 6,800 acres).

(c) ESCALANTE CANYONS.—

(1) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(A) glens and coves carved in massive sandstone cliffs, spring-watered hanging gardens, and the silence of ancient Anasazi ruins are examples of the unique features that entice hikers, campers, and sightseers from around the world to Escalante Canyon;

(B) Escalante Canyon links the spruce fir forests of the 11,000-foot Aquarius Plateau with winding slickrock canyons that flow into Glen Canyon;

(C) Escalante Canyon, one of Utah's most popular natural areas, contains critical habitat for deer, elk, and wild bighorn sheep that also enhances the scenic integrity of the area;

(D) each of the areas described in paragraph (2) is located within the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument; and

(E) Escalante Canyon should be protected and managed as a wilderness area.

(2) DESIGNATION.—In accordance with the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.), the following areas in the State are designated as wilderness areas and as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System:

(A) Brinkerhof Flats (approximately 3,000 acres).
(B) Colt Mesa (approximately 28,000 acres).
(C) Death Hollow (approximately 49,000 acres).
(D) Forty Mile Gulch (approximately 6,600 acres).
(E) Hurricane Wash (approximately 9,000 acres).
(F) Lampstand (approximately 7,900 acres).
(G) Muley Twist Flank (approximately 3,600 acres).
(H) North Escalante Canyons (approximately 176,000 acres).
(I) Pioneer Mesa (approximately 11,000 acres).
(J) Scorpion (approximately 53,000 acres).
(K) Sooner Bench (approximately 390 acres).
(L) Steep Creek (approximately 35,000 acres).
(M) Studhorse Peaks (approximately 24,000 acres).

SEC. 103. MOAB-LA SAL CANYONS WILDERNESS AREAS.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(1) the canyons surrounding the La Sal Mountains and the town of Moab offer a variety of extraordinary landscapes;

(2) outstanding examples of natural formations and landscapes in the Moab-La Sal area include the huge sandstone fins of Behind the Rocks, the mysterious Fisher Towers, and the whitewater rapids of Westwater Canyon; and

(3) the Moab-La Sal area should be protected and managed as a wilderness area.

(b) DESIGNATION.—In accordance with the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.), the following areas in the State are designated as wilderness areas and as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System:

(1) Arches Adjacent (approximately 12,000 acres).
(2) Beaver Creek (approximately 41,000 acres).
(3) Behind the Rocks and Hunters Canyon (approximately 22,000 acres).
(4) Big Triangle (approximately 20,000 acres).
(5) Coyote Wash (approximately 28,000 acres).
(6) Dome Plateau-Professor Valley (approximately 35,000 acres).
(7) Fisher Towers (approximately 18,000 acres).
(8) Goldbar Canyon (approximately 9,000 acres).
(9) Granite Creek (approximately 5,000 acres).
(10) Mary Jane Canyon (approximately 25,000 acres).
(11) Mill Creek (approximately 14,000 acres).
(12) Porcupine Rim and Morning Glory (approximately 20,000 acres).
(13) Renegade Point (approximately 6,600 acres).
(14) Westwater Canyon (approximately 37,000 acres).
(15) Yellow Bird (approximately 4,200 acres).

SEC. 104. HENRY MOUNTAINS WILDERNESS AREAS.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(1) the Henry Mountain Range, the last mountain range to be discovered and named by early explorers in the contiguous United States, still retains a wild and undiscovered quality;

(2) fluted badlands that surround the flanks of 11,000-foot Mounts Ellen and Pennell contain areas of critical habitat for mule deer and for the largest herd of free-roaming buffalo in the United States;

(3) despite their relative accessibility, the Henry Mountain Range remains one of the wildest, least-known ranges in the United States; and

(4) the Henry Mountain range should be protected and managed to ensure the preservation of the range as a wilderness area.

(b) DESIGNATION.—In accordance with the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.), the following areas in the State are designated as wilderness areas and as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System:

(1) Bull Mountain (approximately 16,000 acres).
(2) Bullfrog Creek (approximately 35,000 acres).
(3) Dogwater Creek (approximately 3,400 acres).
(4) Fremont Gorge (approximately 20,000 acres).
(5) Long Canyon (approximately 16,000 acres).
(6) Mount Ellen-Blue Hills (approximately 140,000 acres).
(7) Mount Hillers (approximately 21,000 acres).
(8) Mount Pennell (approximately 147,000 acres).
(9) Notom Bench (approximately 6,200 acres).
(10) Oak Creek (approximately 1,700 acres).
(11) Ragged Mountain (approximately 28,000 acres).

SEC. 105. GLEN CANYON WILDERNESS AREAS.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(1) the side canyons of Glen Canyon, including the Dirty Devil River and the Red, White and Blue Canyons, contain some of the most remote and outstanding landscapes in southern Utah;

(2) the Dirty Devil River, once the fortress hideout of outlaw Butch Cassidy's Wild Bunch, has sculpted a maze of slickrock canyons through an imposing landscape of monoliths and inaccessible mesas;

(3) the Red and Blue Canyons contain colorful Chinle/Moenkopi badlands found nowhere else in the region; and

(4) the canyons of Glen Canyon in the State should be protected and managed as wilderness areas.

(b) DESIGNATION.—In accordance with the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.), the following areas in the State are designated as wilderness areas and as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System:

(1) Cane Spring Desert (approximately 18,000 acres).
(2) Dark Canyon (approximately 134,000 acres).
(3) Dirty Devil (approximately 242,000 acres).
(4) Fiddler Butte (approximately 92,000 acres).
(5) Flat Tops (approximately 30,000 acres).
(6) Little Rockies (approximately 64,000 acres).
(7) The Needle (approximately 11,000 acres).
(8) Red Rock Plateau (approximately 213,000 acres).
(9) White Canyon (approximately 98,000 acres).

SEC. 106. SAN JUAN-ANASAZI WILDERNESS AREAS.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(1) more than 1,000 years ago, the Anasazi Indian culture flourished in the slickrock canyons and on the piñon-covered mesas of southeastern Utah;

(2) evidence of the ancient presence of the Anasazi pervades the Cedar Mesa area of the San Juan-Anasazi area where cliff dwellings, rock art, and ceremonial kivas embellish sandstone overhangs and isolated benchlands;

(3) the Cedar Mesa area is in need of protection from the vandalism and theft of its unique cultural resources;

(4) the Cedar Mesa wilderness areas should be created to protect both the archaeological heritage and the extraordinary wilderness, scenic, and ecological values of the United States; and

(5) the San Juan-Anasazi area should be protected and managed as a wilderness area to ensure the preservation of the unique and valuable resources of that area.

(b) DESIGNATION.—In accordance with the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.), the following areas in the State are designated as wilderness areas and as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System:

(1) Allen Canyon (approximately 5,900 acres).
(2) Arch Canyon (approximately 30,000 acres).
(3) Comb Ridge (approximately 15,000 acres).
(4) East Montezuma (approximately 45,000 acres).
(5) Fish and Owl Creek Canyons (approximately 73,000 acres).
(6) Grand Gulch (approximately 159,000 acres).
(7) Hammond Canyon (approximately 4,400 acres).
(8) Nokai Dome (approximately 93,000 acres).
(9) Road Canyon (approximately 63,000 acres).

(10) San Juan River (Sugarloaf) (approximately 15,000 acres).

(11) The Tabernacle (approximately 7,000 acres).

(12) Valley of the Gods (approximately 21,000 acres).

SEC. 107. CANYONLANDS BASIN WILDERNESS AREAS.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(1) Canyonlands National Park safeguards only a small portion of the extraordinary red-hued, cliff-walled canyonland region of the Colorado Plateau;

(2) areas near Arches National Park and Canyonlands National Park contain canyons with rushing perennial streams, natural arches, bridges, and towers;

(3) the gorges of the Green and Colorado Rivers lie on adjacent land managed by the Secretary;

(4) popular overlooks in Canyonlands Nations Park and Dead Horse Point State Park have views directly into adjacent areas, including Lockhart Basin and Indian Creek; and

(5) designation of those areas as wilderness would ensure the protection of this erosional masterpiece of nature and of the rich pockets of wildlife found within its expanded boundaries.

(b) DESIGNATION.—In accordance with the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.), the following areas in the State are designated as wilderness areas and as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System:

(1) Bridger Jack Mesa (approximately 33,000 acres).

(2) Butler Wash (approximately 27,000 acres).

(3) Dead Horse Cliffs (approximately 5,300 acres).

(4) Demon's Playground (approximately 3,700 acres).

(5) Duma Point (approximately 14,000 acres).

(6) Gooseneck (approximately 9,000 acres).

(7) Hatch Point Canyons/Lockhart Basin (approximately 149,000 acres).

(8) Horsethief Point (approximately 15,000 acres).

(9) Indian Creek (approximately 28,000 acres).

(10) Labyrinth Canyon (approximately 150,000 acres).

(11) San Rafael River (approximately 101,000 acres).

(12) Shay Mountain (approximately 14,000 acres).

(13) Sweetwater Reef (approximately 69,000 acres).

(14) Upper Horseshoe Canyon (approximately 60,000 acres).

SEC. 108. SAN RAFAEL SWELL WILDERNESS AREAS.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(1) the San Rafael Swell towers above the desert like a castle, ringed by 1,000-foot ramparts of Navajo Sandstone;

(2) the highlands of the San Rafael Swell have been fractured by uplift and rendered hollow by erosion over countless millennia, leaving a tremendous basin punctuated by mesas, buttes, and canyons and traversed by sediment-laden desert streams;

(3) among other places, the San Rafael wilderness offers exceptional back country opportunities in the colorful Wild Horse Badlands, the monoliths of North Caineville Mesa, the rock towers of Cliff Wash, and colorful cliffs of Humbug Canyon;

(4) the mountains within these areas are among Utah's most valuable habitat for desert bighorn sheep; and

(5) the San Rafael Swell area should be protected and managed to ensure its preservation as a wilderness area.

(b) DESIGNATION.—In accordance with the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.), the following areas in the State are designated as wilderness areas and as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System:

(1) Cedar Mountain (approximately 15,000 acres).

(2) Devils Canyon (approximately 23,000 acres).

(3) Eagle Canyon (approximately 38,000 acres).

(4) Factory Butte (approximately 22,000 acres).

(5) Hondu Country (approximately 20,000 acres).

(6) Jones Bench (approximately 2,800 acres).

(7) Limestone Cliffs (approximately 25,000 acres).

(8) Lost Spring Wash (approximately 37,000 acres).

(9) Mexican Mountain (approximately 100,000 acres).

(10) Molen Reef (approximately 33,000 acres).

(11) Muddy Creek (approximately 240,000 acres).

(12) Mussentuchit Badlands (approximately 25,000 acres).

(13) Pleasant Creek Bench (approximately 1,100 acres).

(14) Price River-Humbug (approximately 120,000 acres).

(15) Red Desert (approximately 40,000 acres).

(16) Rock Canyon (approximately 18,000 acres).

(17) San Rafael Knob (approximately 15,000 acres).

(18) San Rafael Reef (approximately 114,000 acres).

(19) Sids Mountain (approximately 107,000 acres).

(20) Upper Muddy Creek (approximately 19,000 acres).

(21) Wild Horse Mesa (approximately 92,000 acres).

SEC. 109. BOOK CLIFFS AND UINTA BASIN WILDERNESS AREAS.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(1) the Book Cliffs and Uinta Basin wilderness areas offer—

(A) unique big game hunting opportunities in verdant high-plateau forests;

(B) the opportunity for float trips of several days duration down the Green River in Desolation Canyon; and

(C) the opportunity for calm water canoe weekends on the White River;

(2) the long rampart of the Book Cliffs bounds the area on the south, while seldom-visited uplands, dissected by the rivers and streams, slope away to the north into the Uinta Basin;

(3) bears, Bighorn sheep, cougars, elk, and mule deer flourish in the back country of the Book Cliffs; and

(4) the Book Cliffs and Uinta Basin areas should be protected and managed to ensure the protection of the areas as wilderness.

(b) DESIGNATION.—In accordance with the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.), the following areas in the State are designated as wilderness areas and as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System:

(1) Bourdette Draw (approximately 15,000 acres).

(2) Bull Canyon (approximately 2,800 acres).

(3) Chipeta (approximately 95,000 acres).

(4) Dead Horse Pass (approximately 8,000 acres).

(5) Desbrough Canyon (approximately 13,000 acres).

(6) Desolation Canyon (approximately 555,000 acres).

(7) Diamond Breaks (approximately 9,000 acres).

(8) Diamond Canyon (approximately 166,000 acres).

(9) Diamond Mountain (also known as ''Wild Mountain'') (approximately 27,000 acres).

(10) Dinosaur Adjacent (approximately 10,000 acres).

(11) Goslin Mountain (approximately 4,900 acres).

(12) Hideout Canyon (approximately 12,000 acres).

(13) Lower Bitter Creek (approximately 14,000 acres).

(14) Lower Flaming Gorge (approximately 21,000 acres).

(15) Mexico Point (approximately 15,000 acres).

(16) Moonshine Draw (also known as ''Daniels Canyon'') (approximately 10,000 acres).

(17) Mountain Home (approximately 9,000 acres).

(18) O-Wi-Yu-Kuts (approximately 13,000 acres).

(19) Red Creek Badlands (approximately 3,600 acres).

(20) Seep Canyon (approximately 21,000 acres).

(21) Sunday School Canyon (approximately 18,000 acres).

(22) Survey Point (approximately 8,000 acres).

(23) Turtle Canyon (approximately 39,000 acres).

(24) White River (approximately 23,000 acres).

(25) Winter Ridge (approximately 38,000 acres).

(26) Wolf Point (approximately 15,000 acres).

TITLE II—ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

SEC. 201. GENERAL PROVISIONS.

(a) NAMES OF WILDERNESS AREAS.—Each wilderness area named in title I shall—

(1) consist of the quantity of land referenced with respect to that named area, as generally depicted on the map entitled ''Utah BLM Wilderness''; and

(2) be known by the name given to it in title I.

(b) MAP AND DESCRIPTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall file a map and a legal description of each wilderness area designated by this Act with—

(A) the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives; and

(B) the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate.

(2) FORCE OF LAW.—A map and legal description filed under paragraph (1) shall have the same force and effect as if included in this Act, except that the Secretary may correct clerical and typographical errors in the map and legal description.

(3) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—Each map and legal description filed under paragraph (1) shall be filed and made available for public inspection in the Office of the Director of the Bureau of Land Management.

SEC. 202. ADMINISTRATION.

Subject to valid rights in existence on the date of enactment of this Act, each wilderness area designated under this Act shall be administered by the Secretary in accordance with—

(1) the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.); and

(2) the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.).

SEC. 203. STATE SCHOOL TRUST LAND WITHIN WILDERNESS AREAS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (b), if State-owned land is included in an area designated by this Act as a wilderness area, the Secretary shall offer to exchange land owned by the United States in the State of approximately equal value in accordance with section 603(c) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1782(c)) and section 5(a) of the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1134(a)).

(b) MINERAL INTERESTS.—The Secretary shall not transfer any mineral interests under subsection (a) unless the State transfers to the Secretary any mineral interests in land designated by this Act as a wilderness area.

SEC. 204. WATER.

(a) RESERVATION.—

(1) WATER FOR WILDERNESS AREAS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—With respect to each wilderness area designated by this Act, Congress reserves a quantity of water determined by the Secretary to be sufficient for the wilderness area.

(B) PRIORITY DATE.—The priority date of a right reserved under subparagraph (A) shall be the date of enactment of this Act.

(2) PROTECTION OF RIGHTS.—The Secretary and other officers and employees of the United States shall take any steps necessary to protect the rights reserved by paragraph (1)(A), including the filing of a claim for the quantification of the rights in any present or future appropriate stream adjudication in the courts of the State—

(A) in which the United States is or may be joined; and

(B) that is conducted in accordance with section 208 of the Department of Justice Appropriation Act, 1953 (66 Stat. 560, chapter 651).

(b) PRIOR RIGHTS NOT AFFECTED.—Nothing in this Act relinquishes or reduces any water rights reserved or appropriated by the United States in the State on or before the date of enactment of this Act.

(c) ADMINISTRATION.—

(1) SPECIFICATION OF RIGHTS.—The Federal water rights reserved by this Act are specific to the wilderness areas designated by this Act.

(2) NO PRECEDENT ESTABLISHED.—Nothing in this Act related to reserved Federal water rights—

(A) shall establish a precedent with regard to any future designation of water rights; or

(B) shall affect the interpretation of any other Act or any designation made under any other Act.

SEC. 205. ROADS.

(a) SETBACKS.—

(1) MEASUREMENT IN GENERAL.—A setback under this section shall be measured from the center line of the road.

(2) WILDERNESS ON 1 SIDE OF ROADS.—Except as provided in subsection (b), a setback for a road with wilderness on only 1 side shall be set at—

(A) 300 feet from a paved Federal or State highway;

(B) 100 feet from any other paved road or high standard dirt or gravel road; and

(C) 30 feet from any other road.

(3) WILDERNESS ON BOTH SIDES OF ROADS.—Except as provided in subsection (b), a setback for a road with wilderness on both sides (including cherry-stems or roads separating 2 wilderness units) shall be set at—

(A) 200 feet from a paved Federal or State highway;

(B) 40 feet from any other paved road or high standard dirt or gravel road; and

(C) 10 feet from any other roads.

(b) SETBACK EXCEPTIONS.—

(1) WELL-DEFINED TOPOGRAPHICAL BARRIERS.—If, between the road and the boundary of a setback area described in paragraph (2) or (3) of subsection (a), there is a well-defined cliff edge, stream bank, or other topographical barrier, the Secretary shall use the barrier as the wilderness boundary.

(2) FENCES.—If, between the road and the boundary of a setback area specified in paragraph (2) or (3) of subsection (a), there is a fence running parallel to a road, the Secretary shall use the fence as the wilderness boundary if, in the opinion of the Secretary, doing so would result in a more manageable boundary.

(3) DEVIATIONS FROM SETBACK AREAS.—

(A) EXCLUSION OF DISTURBANCES FROM WILDERNESS BOUNDARIES.—In cases where there is an existing livestock development, dispersed camping area, borrow pit, or similar disturbance within 100 feet of a road that forms part of a wilderness boundary, the Secretary may delineate the boundary so as to exclude the disturbance from the wilderness area.

(B) LIMITATION ON EXCLUSION OF DISTURBANCES.—The Secretary shall make a boundary adjustment under subparagraph (A) only if the Secretary determines that doing so is consistent with wilderness management goals.

(C) DEVIATIONS RESTRICTED TO MINIMUM NECESSARY.—Any deviation under this paragraph from the setbacks required under in paragraph (2) or (3) of subsection (a) shall be the minimum necessary to exclude the disturbance.

(c) DELINEATION WITHIN SETBACK AREA.—The Secretary may delineate a wilderness boundary at a location within a setback under paragraph (2) or (3) of subsection (a) if, as determined by the Secretary, the delineation would enhance wilderness management goals.

SEC. 206. LIVESTOCK.

Within the wilderness areas designated under title I, the grazing of livestock authorized on the date of enactment of this Act shall be permitted to continue subject to such reasonable regulations and procedures as the Secretary considers necessary, as long as the regulations and procedures are consistent with—

(1) the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.); and

(2) section 101(f) of the Arizona Desert Wilderness Act of 1990 (Public Law 101–628; 104 Stat. 4469).

SEC. 207. FISH AND WILDLIFE.

Nothing in this Act affects the jurisdiction of the State with respect to wildlife and fish on the public land located in the State.

SEC. 208. MANAGEMENT OF NEWLY ACQUIRED LAND.

Any land within the boundaries of a wilderness area designated under this Act that is acquired by the Federal Government shall—

(1) become part of the wilderness area in which the land is located; and

(2) be managed in accordance with this Act and other laws applicable to wilderness areas.

SEC. 209. WITHDRAWAL.

Subject to valid rights existing on the date of enactment of this Act, the Federal land referred to in title I is withdrawn from all forms of—

(1) entry, appropriation, or disposal under public law;

(2) location, entry, and patent under mining law; and

(3) disposition under all laws pertaining to mineral and geothermal leasing or mineral materials.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, 20 years ago, when I was elected to the U.S. Senate, a group of people came to me and asked me to sponsor a bill. It was a bill that had been sponsored many times by Senator Bill Bradley of New Jersey. He retired shortly before I arrived.

The bill related to the Utah wilderness. I remember saying to those who approached me: This isn't my State. It is the State of Utah.

They said: This is a bill which we are having some controversy with when it comes to the Utah congressional delegation.

Secondly, I said: It is a wilderness bill about a part of the world that I have never seen. I don't feel right introducing it.

They said: Why don't you come out and look at it?

I did just a few weeks later. My wife and I went and took a look at the Red Rocks Wilderness area in Utah. I will tell you, initially, as a midwesterner, when I looked at the stark landscape, I looked around thinking, what are we trying to preserve here? I took a closer look, which everyone should, and found a unique part of America—a wilderness area which can't be found anywhere else and a wilderness area which boasts archeological and historic and environmental significance way beyond what many people in the rest of the lower 48 might appreciate.

Today, I am reintroducing the America's Red Rock Wilderness Act. It would safeguard 9.2 million acres of Park Bureau Land Management land in Utah as wilderness—some of the last great wild places in the lower 48.

Throughout my time in the Senate, I have worked with the committed volunteers of the Utah Wilderness Coalition to protect the stunning, fragile desert landscape. These unique lands are rich in archeological resources and provide a habitat for rare plants and species. They offer unparalleled research, educational, and recreational opportunities for scientists, teachers, outdoor enthusiasts, and families.

The Bureau of Land Management has confirmed that the vast majority of the majority of the lands meet the qualifications for a wilderness designation. However, despite their pristine condition and their historical significance, these lands are threatened by oil and gas development, as well as rampant off-road vehicle use.

Although these activities are appropriate in some places, they don't belong in such a fragile landscape. Designating these lands as wilderness would safeguard wildlife, protect ancestral lands, help mitigate climate change, and provide access to future generations of hunters, anglers, hikers, boaters, and lovers of the natural world.

Last December, President Obama took an important step in protecting some of Southern Utah's fragile lands by designating the Bears Ears National Monument, which contains some of the lands that would be protected by my Red Rocks bill.

The 1.35 million-acre swath of land covers forested mesas and red rock canyons, and the designation protected the region's abundant Native American cultural resources. The monument contains well over 100,000 cultural and archeological sites. Let me say that again. Over 100,000 cultural and archeological sites, including ancient cliff dwellings, granaries, burial sites, and kivas, as well as spectacular pictographs and petroglyphs strewn upon rock walls and boulders all across the region.

Artifacts range from 700 to 12,000 years old, providing tribes with an incredible insight into the shared history of their ancestral homeland, bolstering their deep spiritual connection to the land itself.

The Bears Ears National Monument, designated by President Obama, is the first monument of its kind to be proposed and advocated by a united coalition of five Tribes who sought its protection because of its importance in their respective culture. In total, 30 Native American tribes with ancestral, historical, and contemporary ties to the Bears Ears region supported the designation.

The Tribal coalition's original Bears Ears proposal was 1.9 million acres. You see them here. It is slightly larger than the 1.35 million-acre designation by President Obama.

Many in the Utah delegation, including one of my colleagues in the Senate, have raised concerns about President Obama's decision to protect this area and even the size of the designation. One of the critics of the size of the designation is the chairman of the House Natural Resources Committee, ROB BISHOP.

Last Congress, before President Obama designated the Bears Ears region a national monument, the same Chairman BISHOP introduced a bill that would have protected part of the Bears Ears region while opening other areas of land for oil and gas development.

Look at the two here in comparison. Chairman BISHOP's proposal protected 1.28 million acres—only 17,500 acres smaller than the area protected by President Obama.

As you can see from these maps, the areas protected by Chairman BISHOP's Public Lands Initiative are not that much different than the areas protected by the Bears Ears National Monument. To argue that the designation is so much larger than anyone anticipated is to ignore what the chairman submitted in his own legislation last year. Both are much smaller than what the Tribes originally requested, which is the third map here.

Despite that, Utah's congressional delegation has called the area ''well beyond the areas in need of protection'' and they pushed President Trump to consider shrinking or overturning this wilderness monument designation. Yet Utah's Salt Lake Tribune called Utah politicians' determination to rescind these designations ''blindness.''

Let me quote the Salt Lake Tribune:

> That blindness can be sourced to Utah's one-party political system that has given us leaders who are out of touch with their constituents.

They then continue and say:

> The Bears Ears monument may be with us forever, and there is no bucket of gold waiting if it does go away. The presidential proclamation bent far toward the same boundaries and shared management [Utah Rep. Rob] Bishop pursued with his public lands initiative.

They saw the same maps and said: Why is this acceptable and this objectionable?

Today, President Trump is planning to sign an Executive order. It is going to call on the Department of Interior to review previous national monument designations under the Antiquities Act.

While the President's Executive order will target the Bears Ears National Monument first, the order is going to go well beyond Utah and consider changes to all of the national monuments that have been designated since 1996—more than 50 different sites.

These are areas designated ''national monument protected areas'' by Republican and Democratic Presidents with bipartisan support. Yet President Trump is going to insist with his new order that he can review and change every single one of them.

Let me tell you the list of places and sites of great cultural significance that could be impacted: A portion of Sequoia National Forest in California, Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad National Historic Park in Maryland, African Burial Ground National Monument in New York, and in my home State of Illinois, the Pullman National Monument.

It is rare for any national monument designation to be changed by another President. It happened once. The last time a President used the Antiquities Act to adjust the borders of a national monument was over a century ago, in 1915. Then-President Woodrow Wilson shrunk Washington State's Mount Olympus National Monument so they could harvest more timber resources from this land.

A lot has changed since 1915, including our views on conservation. Attacks on conservation seem to have remained consistent. One of our greatest conservation Presidents, Teddy Roosevelt—a proud Republican, I might add—faced a great deal of opposition to his designation of a national monument that most of us are familiar with—the Grand Canyon.

Most Americans can't imagine our country without the iconic Grand Canyon because it is truly a national treasure. At the time of its 1908 designation by President Roosevelt, groups were opposed to protecting that area. For years after its designation, oil and gas miners fought additional protections for the Grand Canyon.

The attacks on the Bears Ears designation doesn't seem all that different from the attacks on the Grand Canyon, but the attacks on the Bears Ears National Monument also attack the Native people who have worked so hard to get this area protected.

Let's be very honest. When we look at how Native Americans were treated by our government and the settlers, we certainly look back with some shame and some embarrassment. What the Tribes are asking for here is a protection of areas that are of special significance to them and special significance to the environmental legacy, which we should be leaving to future generations.

The President's decision to review these national monuments puts the future of these resources in jeopardy and threatens our culture, history, and heritage. If President Donald Trump decides to use the Antiquities Act to reverse one of these monuments, he would treading in uncharted water. Never before has a President used the Antiquities Act to repeal a national monument. For what purpose? For oil and gas exploration? For off-the-road vehicle use?

These monuments themselves help promote tourism and outdoor recreation. Regions with national monuments saw increased employment and personal income growth—exactly the opposite of what the critics promised. Specifically, rural counties in the West, with protected lands, saw jobs increase by 345 percent over areas without protected lands—345 percent. Despite the opposition from Utah's elected officials, many in the State, including the Tribes, want to protect those areas, and I want to help them.

Teddy Roosevelt once said:

> It is also vandalism wantonly to destroy or to permit the destruction of what is beautiful in nature, whether it be a cliff, a forest, or a species of mammal or bird. Here in the United States we turn our rivers and streams into sewers and dumping-grounds, we pollute the air, we destroy forests, and exterminate fishes, birds, and mammals—not to speak of vulgarizing charming landscapes with hideous advertisements. But at last it looks as if our people were awakened.

That was said by that Republican President over a century ago. Since Teddy Roosevelt's time, we have made progress in protecting our lands and waters, but these recent attacks and this recent Executive order by President Donald Trump show that we still have a long way to go.

I urge this administration, this Republican administration, to heed the

words of Teddy Roosevelt. Carefully consider the legacy they will leave to future generations. It would be foolish not to protect Bears Ears and other monuments, just as it would have been foolish to listen to the critics and refuse to protect the Grand Canyon.

These monuments are for all of us, and we must ensure that they remain in their current natural condition for future generations to enjoy.

By Mr. DAINES (for himself and Ms. CANTWELL):

S. 949. A bill to require the Director of the Office of Personnel Management to create a classification that more accurately reflects the vital role of wildland firefighters; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

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

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

S. 949

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Wildland Firefighter Recognition Act''.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act—

(1) the term ''Director'' means the Director of the Office of Personnel Management;

(2) the term ''employee'' has the meaning given the term in section 2105 of title 5, United States Code;

(3) the term ''Federal land management agency'' means—

(A) within the Department of the Interior—

(i) the Bureau of Land Management;

(ii) the Bureau of Indian Affairs;

(iii) the National Park Service; and

(iv) the United States Fish and Wildlife Service; and

(B) within the Department of Agriculture, the Forest Service;

(4) the term ''wildland fire''—

(A) means any non-structure fire that occurs in vegetation or natural fuels; and

(B) includes prescribed fire and wildfire; and

(5) the term ''wildland firefighter'' means—

(A) an employee of a Federal land management agency, the duties of whose position are primarily to perform work directly related to the prevention, control, suppression, or management of wildland fires, including an employee of a Federal land management agency who is assigned to support wildland fire activities; and

(B) an employee of a Federal land management agency who is transferred to a supervisory or administrative position from a position described in subparagraph (A).

SEC. 3. CLASSIFICATION OF WILDLAND FIREFIGHTERS.

(a) REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director, in cooperation with the Federal land management agencies, shall commence development of a distinct wildland firefighter occupational series that more accurately reflects the variety of duties performed by wildland firefighters.

(2) DESIGNATION.—The official title assigned to any occupational series established under paragraph (1) shall include the designation of ''Wildland Firefighter''.

(3) POSITIONS DESCRIBED.—Paragraph (1) shall apply with respect to any class or other category of positions that consists primarily or exclusively of forestry technician positions, range technician positions, or any other positions the duties and responsibilities of which include—

(A) significant prevention, preparedness, control, suppression, or management activities for wildland fires; or

(B) activities necessary to meet any other emergency incident to which assigned.

(4) CONSULTATION.—It is the sense of Congress that the Director should consult with employee associations and any other groups that represent wildland firefighters in carrying out this subsection.

(5) IMPLEMENTATION.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act—

(A) the Director shall complete the development of the wildland firefighter occupational series required under paragraph (1); and

(B) the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture shall use the wildland firefighter occupational series developed under paragraph (1) in the advertising and hiring of a wildland firefighter.

(b) HAZARDOUS DUTY DIFFERENTIAL NOT AFFECTED.—Section 5545(d)(1) of title 5, United States Code, is amended by striking ''except'' and all that follows and inserting the following: ''except—

''(A) an employee in an occupational series covering positions for which the primary duties involve the prevention, control, suppression, or management of wildland fires, as determined by the Office; and

''(B) in such other circumstances as the Office may by regulation prescribe; and''.

(c) CURRENT EMPLOYEES.—Any individual employed as a wildland firefighter on the date on which the occupational series established under subsection (a) takes effect may elect to—

(1) remain in the occupational series in which the individual is working; or

(2) be included in the wildland firefighter occupational series established under subsection (a).

By Mr. DAINES (for himself and Ms. CANTWELL):

S. 950. A bill to correct problems pertaining to human resources for career and volunteer personnel engaged in wildland fire and structure fire; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

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

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

S. 950

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the ''Wildland Firefighter Fairness Act''.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
Sec. 2. Single qualification and certification system.
Sec. 3. Personnel flexibility relating to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act.
Sec. 4. Extension of service limits for seasonal hires.
Sec. 5. Civil service retention rights.
Sec. 6. Computation of pay.

SEC. 2. SINGLE QUALIFICATION AND CERTIFICATION SYSTEM.

(a) MERGING 2 SYSTEMS.—The Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture shall work with States and the Workforce Development Committee of the National Wildfire Coordinating Group to merge the Incident Qualification System and the Incident Qualification and Certification System into a single system by September 30, 2025.

(b) ELIMINATION OF BUREAU ADD-ON REQUIREMENTS.—On and after October 1, 2021, the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture may not require a person to demonstrate additional competencies to obtain, make use of, or maintain a qualification or certification for a fire position, regardless of which jurisdictional agency employs the person.

SEC. 3. PERSONNEL FLEXIBILITY RELATING TO THE ROBERT T. STAFFORD DISASTER RELIEF AND EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE ACT.

(a) DEFINITION OF TIME-LIMITED APPOINTMENT.—Section 9601 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

''(2) the term 'time-limited appointment' includes—

''(A) a temporary appointment and a term appointment, as defined by the Office of Personnel Management;

''(B) an appointment pursuant to section 306(b)(1) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5149(b)(1)); and

''(C) an appointment pursuant to subtitle E of title I of the National and Community Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12611 et seq.).''.

(b) COMPETITIVE SERVICE; TIME-LIMITED APPOINTMENTS.—Section 9602 of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (b) through (e) as subsections (d) through (g), respectively;

(2) in subsection (a), in the matter preceding paragraph (1)—

(A) by striking ''Notwithstanding'' and inserting ''APPOINTMENTS TO LAND MANAGEMENT AGENCIES.—Notwithstanding''; and

(B) by inserting ''described in section 9601(2)(A)'' after ''time-limited appointment'';

(3) by inserting after subsection (a) the following:

''(b) APPOINTMENTS UNDER THE ROBERT T. STAFFORD DISASTER RELIEF AND EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE ACT.—Notwithstanding chapter 33 or any other provision of law relating to the examination, certification, and appointment of individuals in the competitive service—

''(1) an employee appointed under the authority described in section 9601(2)(B) and serving under a full-time, time-limited appointment is eligible to compete for a permanent appointment in the competitive service at the Federal Emergency Management Agency or any other agency (as defined in section 101 of title 31) under the internal merit promotion procedures of the applicable agency if—

''(A) the employee has served under 1 or more time-limited appointments for at least 2 years without a break in service; and

''(B) the performance of the employee has been at an acceptable level of performance

throughout the 1 or more time-limited appointment periods referred to in subparagraph (A); and

''(2) an employee appointed under the authority described in section 9601(2)(B) and serving under an intermittent, time-limited appointment is eligible for a permanent appointment in the competitive service at the Federal Emergency Management Agency or any other agency (as defined in section 101 of title 31) under the internal merit promotion procedures of the applicable agency if—

''(A) the employee has served under 1 or more time-limited appointments;

''(B) the employee has been deployed at least 522 days;

''(C) the employee has not declined any deployments while in an 'available' status; and

''(D) the performance of the employee has been at an acceptable level of performance throughout the 1 or more time-limited appointments referred to in subparagraph (A).

''(c) APPOINTMENTS UNDER THE NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE ACT OF 1990.—

''(1) DEFINITION OF EMPLOYEE.—Notwithstanding section 160(a) of the National and Community Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12620(a)), in this subsection, the term 'employee' includes individuals appointed under subtitle E of title I of that Act (42 U.S.C. 16211 et seq.).

''(2) COMPETITION FOR PERMANENT APPOINTMENT.—Notwithstanding chapter 33 or any other provision of law relating to the examination, certification, and appointment of individuals in the competitive service, a member of the National Civilian Community Corps appointed under subtitle E of title I of the National and Community Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12611 et seq.) who serves 2 consecutive terms is eligible to compete for a permanent appointment in the competitive service at the Federal Emergency Management Agency or any other agency (as defined in section 101 of title 31) under the internal merit promotion procedures during the 2-year period beginning on the date of the expiration of the appointment under section 160(a) of the National and Community Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12620(a)), if the performance of the employee has been at an acceptable level of performance throughout the period.'';

(4) in subsection (d) (as redesignated by paragraph (1)), by striking ''In determining'' and inserting ''WAIVER OF AGE REQUIREMENTS.—In determining'';

(5) in subsection (e) (as redesignated by paragraph (1)), by striking ''An individual'' and inserting ''TENURE AND STATUS.—An individual'';

(6) in subsection (f) (as redesignated by paragraph (1)), in the matter preceding paragraph (1)—

(A) by striking ''A former'' and inserting ''FORMER EMPLOYEES.—A former''; and

(B) by inserting ''or the Federal Emergency Management Agency'' after ''management agency''; and

(7) in subsection (g) (as redesignated by paragraph (1)), by striking ''The Office'' and inserting ''REGULATIONS.—The Office''.

SEC. 4. EXTENSION OF SERVICE LIMITS FOR SEASONAL HIRES.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

(1) the term ''covered Secretary'' means—

(A) the Secretary of the Interior; and

(B) the Secretary of Agriculture;

(2) the term ''Director'' means the Director of the Office of Personnel Management; and

(3) the term ''pilot program'' means the pilot program established under subsection (b).

(b) PILOT PROGRAM.—The Director shall establish a pilot program for seasonal or temporary Federal employees, the duties of which primarily involve being a firefighter.

(c) EXPANSION OF SERVICE YEAR LIMITATIONS.—Under the pilot program, each covered Secretary may expand a service year limitation to enable a seasonal firefighter to be employed for a period that exceeds 1,040 hours in a given year if the covered Secretary determines the expansion to be necessary to stage fire crews earlier or later in a year to accommodate longer fire seasons.

(d) STANDARDS.—The Director, in cooperation with each covered Secretary, shall establish standards and guidelines for the pilot program.

(e) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date on which the pilot program is established, the Director shall submit a report that describes the use and impact of the pilot program to—

(1) the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate; and

(2) the Committee on Natural Resources and the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform of the House of Representatives.

(f) TERMINATION.—The pilot program shall terminate on the date that is 5 years after the date on which the pilot program is established.

SEC. 5. CIVIL SERVICE RETENTION RIGHTS.

Section 8151 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

''(b) REGULATIONS.—

''(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection—

''(A) the term 'covered employee' means an employee who—

''(i) served in a position in the Forest Service or the Department of the Interior as a wildland firefighter; and

''(ii) sustained an injury while in the performance of duty, as determined by the Director of the Office of Personnel Management, that prevents the employee from performing the physical duties of a firefighter;

''(B) the term 'equivalent position' includes a position for a covered employee that—

''(i) allows the covered employee to receive the same retirement benefits under subchapter III of chapter 83 or chapter 84 that the covered employee would have received in the former position had the covered employee not been injured or disabled; and

''(ii) does not require the covered employee to complete any more years of service than the covered employee would have been required to complete to receive the benefits described in clause (i) had the covered employee not been injured or disabled; and

''(C) the term 'firefighter' has the meaning given the term in section 8331.

''(2) REGULATIONS.—Under regulations issued by the Office of Personnel Management—

''(A) the department or agency that was the last employer shall immediately and unconditionally accord the employee, if the injury or disability has been overcome within 1 year after the date of commencement of compensation or from the time compensable disability recurs if the recurrence begins after the injured employee resumes regular full-time employment with the United States, the right to resume the former position of the employee or an equivalent position, as well as all other attendant rights that the employee would have had, or acquired, in the former position of the employee had the employee not been injured or disabled, including the rights to tenure, promotion, and safeguards in reductions-in-force procedures;

''(B) the department or agency that was the last employer shall, if the injury or disability is overcome within a period of more than 1 year after the date of commencement of compensation, make all reasonable efforts to place, and accord priority to placing, the employee in the former position of the employee or an equivalent position within the department or agency, or within any other department or agency; and

''(C) a covered employee who was injured during the 20-year period ending on the date of enactment of the Wildland Firefighter Fairness Act may not receive the same retirement benefits described in paragraph (1)(B)(ii) unless the covered employee first makes a payment to the Forest Service or the Department of the Interior, as applicable, equal to the amount that would have been deducted from pay under section 8334 or 8442, as applicable, had the covered employee not been injured or disabled.''.

SEC. 6. COMPUTATION OF PAY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 8114 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by striking subsection (e) and inserting the following:

''(e) OVERTIME.—

''(1) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the term 'covered overtime pay' means pay received by an employee who serves in a position in the Forest Service or the Department of the Interior as a wildland firefighter while engaged in wildland fire suppression activity.

''(2) OVERTIME.—The value of subsistence and quarters, and of any other form of remuneration in kind for services if its value can be estimated in money, and covered overtime pay and premium pay under section 5545(c)(1) of this title are included as part of the pay, but account is not taken of—

''(A) overtime pay;

''(B) additional pay or allowance authorized outside the United States because of differential in cost of living or other special circumstances; or

''(C) bonus or premium pay for extraordinary service including bonus or pay for particularly hazardous service in time of war.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect on October 1, 2019.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 13—CALLING UPON THE PRESIDENT TO ISSUE A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING THE ABIDING IMPORTANCE OF THE HELSINKI FINAL ACT AND ITS RELEVANCE TO THE NATIONAL SECURITY OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. WICKER (for himself, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. RUBIO, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. GARDNER, and Mr. UDALL) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. CON. RES. 13

Whereas the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) concluded on August 1, 1975 (in this joint resolution referred to as the ''Helsinki Final Act''), established a comprehensive

concept of security that encompasses political-military, environmental and economic, and human rights and humanitarian dimensions;

Whereas the Helsinki Final Act set out a declaration of ten fundamental Principles Guiding Relations Between States, which all participating States committed to respect and put into practice in their relations with each other, that have been the basis of the international order in the OSCE Region since its inception in 1975;

Whereas these Principles, adopted on the basis of consensus by all participating States and reaffirmed through the years, enshrine—

(1) sovereign equality, respect for the rights inherent in sovereignty;

(2) refraining from the threat or use of force;

(3) inviolability of frontiers;

(4) territorial integrity of States;

(5) peaceful settlement of disputes;

(6) non-intervention in internal affairs;

(7) respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief;

(8) equal rights and self-determination of peoples;

(9) cooperation among States; and

(10) fulfilment in good faith of obligations under international law;

Whereas the Helsinki Final Act, for the first time in the history of international agreements, recognized that respect for, and implementation of, commitments to human rights and fundamental freedoms are integral to stability and security within and among nations;

Whereas, in the 1990 Charter of Paris for a New Europe, the participating States declared, ''Human rights and fundamental freedoms are the birthright of all human beings, are inalienable and are guaranteed by law. Their protection and promotion is the first responsibility of government,'' and committed themselves ''to build, consolidate and strengthen democracy as the only system of government of our nations'';

Whereas, in 1991, participating States met in Moscow and unanimously agreed that ''issues relating to human rights, fundamental freedoms, democracy and the rule of law are of international concern, as respect for these rights and freedoms constitutes one of the foundations of international order;'' and declared ''categorically and irrevocably . . . that the commitments undertaken in the field of the human dimension of the CSCE are matters of direct and legitimate concern to all participating States and do not belong exclusively to the internal affairs of the State concerned'';

Whereas the CSCE was renamed the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) in January 1995, reaffirming the continued relevance and applicability of previously made principles and provisions in a Europe no longer divided between East and West and as the number of participating States increased from the original 35 to 57 today;

Whereas the Helsinki Final Act, by making respect for human rights and implementation of commitments by participating States a permanent priority in the relations between States, provided an international foundation for the democratic aspirations of peoples throughout Europe and contributed to the peaceful end to the Cold War;

Whereas the seventh Principle confirmed the right of the individual to know and act upon his or her rights, which inspired citizens from the participating States to associate and assemble for the purposes of monitoring and encouraging compliance with the principles and provisions of the Helsinki Final Act and subsequent documents of the CSCE and OSCE;

Whereas, during the Communist era, members of nongovernmental organizations, such as the Helsinki Monitoring Groups in Russia, Ukraine, Georgia, and Armenia as well as in Lithuania, and similar groups in Czechoslovakia and Poland, sacrificed their personal freedom and even their lives in their courageous and vocal support for the principles enshrined in the Helsinki Final Act;

Whereas members of nongovernmental organizations, civil society, and independent media across the region covered by the OSCE continue to risk their safety to advance the principles enshrined in the Helsinki Final Act, often in the face of harassment and threats from their own governments who are OSCE participating States;

Whereas the United States Congress contributed to advancing the aims of the Helsinki Final Act by creating the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe to monitor and encourage compliance with its principles and provisions;

Whereas many countries continue to fall significantly short of implementing their OSCE commitments, particularly in the Human Dimension;

Whereas the Russian Federation is responsible for the clear, gross, and uncorrected violation of all ten Principles of the Helsinki Final Act;

Whereas, for many years, the Russian Federation has ignored its OSCE commitments related to the Human Dimension of comprehensive security by cracking down on civil society and independent media through harassment, intimidation, burdensome legal constraints, and violence, undermining the ability of its citizens to freely choose their leaders;

Whereas Russia's internal repression is directly related to its external aggression, including in Ukraine, Georgia, and Syria;

Whereas the Government of the Russian Federation has interfered through information warfare and cyber-intrusions and otherwise engaged in deliberate and malicious efforts to undermine confidence in the democratic institutions and processes of other OSCE participating States;

Whereas the first Principle recognizes the right of each participating State ''to be or not to be a party to bilateral or multilateral treaties including the right to be or not to be a party to treaties of alliance; they also have the right to neutrality'';

Whereas the OSCE's participating States bear primary responsibility for raising violations of the Helsinki Final Act and other OSCE documents;

Whereas successive United States Administrations since the Helsinki Final Act was signed in 1975 have made the Act's Principles Guiding Relations Between States a basis for United States policy toward Europe and the OSCE region as a whole; and

Whereas Congress has strongly supported and encouraged the United States to encourage improved compliance with these Principles, including by raising its concerns about non-compliance in a direct and frank manner and continues to do so today: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress calls upon the President to—

(1) issue a proclamation—

(A) reaffirming the United States' commitment to the Guiding Principles of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe;

(B) reasserting the commitment of the United States to full implementation of the Helsinki Final Act, including respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, defense of the principles of liberty, and tolerance within societies, all of which are vital to the promotion of democracy;

(C) urging all participating States to fully implement their commitments under the Helsinki Final Act;

(D) calling upon all participating States to respect each other's sovereign right to join alliances;

(E) condemning the clear, gross, and uncorrected violation of all ten core OSCE principles enshrined in the Helsinki Final Act by the Russian Federation with respect to other OSCE participating States, including Georgia, Moldova, and Ukraine; and

(F) condemning all other violations of the Helsinki Final Act and its fundamental Guiding Principles; and

(2) conveying to all signatory states of the Helsinki Final Act that respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, democratic principles, economic liberty, and the implementation of related commitments continue to be vital elements in promoting a new and lasting era of democracy, peace, and unity in the region covered by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I have 8 requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority leaders.

Pursuant to Rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

The Committee on Environment and Public Works is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 26, 2017, at 10 a.m., in room 406 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled, ''A Review of the Technical, Scientific, and Legal Basis of the WOTUS Rule.''

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 26, 2017, at 1:30 p.m., to hold a hearing entitled ''Nominations.''

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is authorized to meet in executive session during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 26, in between votes in SD–430.

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 26, 2017, at 10 a.m., in order to conduct a hearing entitled ''Duplication, Waste, and Fraud in Federal Programs.''

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, on April 26, 2017, at 10 a.m., in room SD–226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS

The Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 26, 2017, at 10 a.m., in 428A Russell Senate Office Building to conduct a hearing entitled, ''The Challenges and Opportunities of Running a Small Business in Rural America.''

COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Senate Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the 115th Congress of the U.S. Senate on Wednesday, April 26, 2017 from 10 a.m. in room SD–106 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building to hold a hearing entitled, ''Nomination of Courtney Simmons Elwood to be General Counsel of the Central Intelligence Agency.''

SUBCOMMITTEE ON SPACE, SCIENCE, & COMPETITIVENESS

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to hold a meeting during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 26, 2017, at 10 a.m., in room 253 of the Russell Senate Office Building.

The Committee will hold Subcommittee Hearing on ''Reopening the American Frontier: Reducing Regulatory Barriers and Expanding American Free Enterprise in Space.''

KIDS TO PARKS DAY

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 123 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 123) designating May 20, 2017, as ''Kids to Parks Day.''

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I further ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 123) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of April 7, 2017, under ''Submitted Resolutions.'')

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 2017

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m., Thursday, April 27; further, that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; further, that following leader remarks, the Senate proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the Acosta nomination; finally, that all time during recess, adjournment, morning business, and leader remarks count postcloture on the Acosta nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 2:05 p.m., adjourned until Thursday, April 27, 2017, at 10 a.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—*Wednesday, April 26, 2017*

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

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
April 26, 2017.

I hereby appoint the Honorable ROB WOODALL to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

PAUL D. RYAN,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 3, 2017, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to 1 hour and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m.

TRUMPCARE FLEXIBILITY

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

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. Speaker, as my Republican colleagues debate TrumpCare amongst themselves, they speak so often of so-called flexibility. But let's be clear about what that wink and nod to insurance companies actually means.

For working families, flexibility is a cold euphemism for less choice; actually, for an impossible choice between caring for a new child or aging parent, between lifesaving treatment or your life savings, between an inpatient bed or monthly mortgage, desperately needed medication or food on your table, between life, and, yes, for some, death, because the moment essential health benefits become negotiable, they become dispensable.

And while insurance companies might enjoy that newfound flexibility, American families and our loved ones will pay that price.

PHILLIP AND PATRICIA FROST MUSEUM OF SCIENCE GRAND OPENING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) for 5 minutes.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the Phillip and Patricia Frost Museum of Science for the opening of its new location in downtown Miami in my congressional district on May 8. From its humble beginnings in 1950 as the Junior Museum of Miami, the Frost Museum has enjoyed tremendous success becoming the premier educational attraction for families and children across south Florida.

The nationally recognized afterschool programs and summer camps offered at the Frost Museum of Science have provided generations of students the firsthand opportunity to explore science, technology, marine life, and astronomy, undoubtedly contributing to south Florida students' immense interest in STEM careers.

The new location in downtown Miami will provide state-of-the-art facilities and expand the interactive exhibits and demonstrations that keep patrons of the Frost Museum of Science returning year after year.

I would like to invite all of south Florida to come out to the new Phillip and Patricia Frost Museum of Science on May 8 to celebrate the grand opening of this magnificent new facility.

RECOGNIZING OUR LADY OF LOURDES ACADEMY AND ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize two extraordinary schools from my district, Our Lady of Lourdes Academy and St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic School, which have been selected regional winners for the Toshiba 2017 ExploraVision competition.

Their award-winning projects included a unique system for detecting blood clots through the use of sonar, synthetic photosynthesis, and an app to assist individuals with food allergies.

These innovative projects not only demonstrate our students' interest in STEM careers but a greater dedication to create solutions to the problems of today and tomorrow.

Mr. Speaker, congratulations to the participants from Our Lady of Lourdes Academy and St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic School because this latest accomplishment further demonstrates the commitment that students in my district have toward making a better future for all.

Congratulations to the winners at Lourdes and St. Thomas for the Toshiba 2017 ExploraVision competition.

RECOGNIZING DMR CORPORATION

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize DMR Corporation, which is opening a new medical supply retail store this Friday in my congressional district.

Since its start in 1984, DMR has been working to meet the rising and challenging needs of the disabled community in south Florida and around the world. DMR counts with highly trained staff and with the tools necessary to build appropriate mobility and seating equipment, make accessible home and vehicle modifications, and install pool lifts for recreational activities.

It is thanks to the vision of the founder, Nella Pardo, and her commitment of service to others that DMR has thrived and has given nearly 12,000 clients the possibilities of better mobility that only a unique, custom-built wheelchair can offer.

DMR has contributed so many thousands of free wheelchairs to the needy disabled in south Florida, and it participates in many events to raise funds that will enable disabled individuals to have the mobility equipment they desperately need. Congrats to all.

CONGRATULATING WILLIAMSON AUTOMOTIVE

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Williamson Automotive on its significant milestone of 50 years of a highly successful and award-winning dealership.

Williamson Automotive does more than just create jobs and spur the economy of our community, as important as those are, but it has also engaged in various philanthropic ventures to best serve south Florida.

From their work contributing to Habitat for Humanity of Greater Miami to supporting a number of high school sports teams and sponsoring events for Relay For Life, Williamson Automotive never ceases to go above and beyond for south Florida.

Mr. Speaker, Williamson Automotive embodies what many homegrown businesses should, a passion for what you do and the ability to serve your community broadly, and they do just that.

I know that our community joins me in thanking Ed, Carol, and Trae Williamson and their staff for all that they have done and will continue to do to make our tropical paradise an even better place.

Once again, congratulations to Williamson Automotive on celebrating 50 years, and I wish you all the best and many more years of service to south Florida.

PRESIDENT TRUMP'S FIRST 100 DAYS

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

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, at the end of the week, President Trump will reach his 100th day in office. These first 100 days, unfortunately, have been defined by chaos, contradiction, and conflicts of interest, and he has broken campaign promise after campaign promise.

He claimed he would be the greatest jobs President God ever created, yet he has failed to put forward a single jobs bill and is taking credit for jobs that were created or announced long before he took office.

He said he would fight for working families, yet his budget would slash investments that create jobs and opportunities. He said he would drain the swamp, yet he refuses to release his taxes, which would shed light on his own conflict of interest.

Washington is now practically drowning in the swamp President Trump has rained down on our Capital. He promised to balance the budget in 9 years. It took him, unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, less than 30 days to abandon that pledge, and his most recent proposals—tax cuts—would plunge our Nation even more deeply into debt.

But perhaps most emblematic of the failure of this Presidency's first 100 days was his attempt to repeal the Affordable Care Act and purportedly to replace it.

The President has promised insurance for everybody—not access, insurance for everybody. He said that over and over again. But TrumpCare would do exactly the opposite, kicking 24 million people off their coverage and precluding millions more from being able to get health insurance.

The President promised coverage that is much less expensive and much better, but TrumpCare would force Americans to pay more for less. Not my observation—the Congressional Budget Office's.

The President promised he wouldn't cut Medicaid, but like so many other broken promises, TrumpCare cuts Medicaid deeply. As was true of the President's campaign, he brought no unity to his attack on America's health, and his plan was not even voted on. Indeed, that has been followed by Republican efforts to make their proposal even more draconian.

The second 100 days looms even worse as the Trump White House continues to be focused on kicking Americans off their coverage and making the rest pay more and getting less, saying it intends to bring an even more draconian version of its TrumpCare bill back.

Mr. Speaker, Republicans control both the House, the Senate, and the administration. They are now, theoretically, the governing party, and whatever happens to our healthcare system on their watch will be their responsibility.

So as this administration reaches its 100th day in office, it has a choice. It can continue to rack up the failures that it has amassed or it can turn the page to constructive cooperation.

The President can, contrary to his promises, keep trying to take health coverage away from the American people and make it more expensive, or he can set partisanship aside and work across the aisle to make sure the Affordable Care Act works for everyone.

We ought to be working together to accomplish that objective. He must start by ensuring that the promised cost-sharing reduction payments under the Affordable Care Act are made. If he does not, millions of people will be deeply hurt, the insurance system will be destabilized, and Americans across this country will find their policies more expensive.

On jobs, he can continue doing nothing or he can finally show the American people a plan to invest in jobs and infrastructure. Send us the legislation you promised, Mr. President. And he can keep hiding his tax returns from the American people and ducking and weaving when it comes to his ties to Russia, or finally draw the curtain back and show what he has been hiding and support a bipartisan, independent commission to seek the answers Americans deserve and America must have.

Mr. Speaker, in these first 100 days, if they are a prologue of that which is to come, I grieve for us all. America is a great and good nation, an exceptional nation and people. We must not, by demagoguery, irrationality, and negligence, on the wings of a tweet, allow it to be brought low.

THANKING OUR WORLD WAR II VETERANS

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

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, earlier this week, I had the honor of welcoming to Washington, D.C., more than 50 of our Southern Illinois veterans. The visit was put together by the Honor Flight of Southern Illinois, a nonprofit organization that transports veterans to Washington to visit the memorials honoring their service and sacrifice.

According to the VA, an estimated 640 World War II veterans leave us each day. It is time to express our thanks, and that time is running short.

We owe a debt of gratitude to those heroes and those who serve in defense of freedom and liberty. I will never forget the opportunity to welcome them to this Nation's Capital and thank them for all they have done for this country.

RECOGNIZING MCKENDREE UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S BOWLING TEAM

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, today I proudly also recognize the McKendree University women's bowling team for winning the 2017 NCAA Women's Bowling Championship. These young women made history by becoming the first NCAA Division II program to win that championship.

The Bearcats' 4–0 triumph was also the first sweep in the 14-year history of the event. I extend a heartfelt congratulations to the team members, coaching staff, school officials, and family and friends on this incredible journey. Southern Illinois is proud of you.

Go Bearcats.

□ 1015

POLICY TOWARDS NORTH KOREA NEEDS TO BE CAREFULLY CALIBRATED

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania). The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. MURPHY) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. MURPHY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, today I will introduce two bills to enhance our Nation's security and make the American people safer.

Of all the security challenges that the United States confronts, the most serious threat, arguably, stems from North Korea, under its dangerous and unpredictable dictator. North Korea, which has the fourth largest military in the world, continues to make progress on its nuclear and ballistic missiles programs in violation of international sanctions.

Since 2006, North Korea has tested a nuclear device five times. The main goal of North Korea's nuclear weapons program is to develop a warhead small enough to be mounted on a ballistic missile. Unfortunately, North Korea has also shown substantial, even startling, progress in its missile programs.

Since 2014, North Korea has conducted nearly 50 test launches of ballistic missiles. North Korea is an imminent threat to our allies South Korea and Japan and the nearly 80,000 U.S. troops serving those two countries. And as its nuclear weapons and ballistic missiles programs advance, North Korea poses a rising threat to the United States homeland itself.

The U.S. policy approach to North Korea must be comprehensive and carefully calibrated. Miscalculation could result in armed conflict, possibly involving the use of nuclear weapons, and cause catastrophic loss of life. To be effective, U.S. strategy must be informed by the best possible intelligence on

North Korea's intentions and capabilities.

North Korea is a difficult intelligence target. It is a secretive society where dissent is severely punished. This makes the recruitment of human resources inside the country very challenging, and moreover, high-level defectors from North Korea with intelligence about the regime are rare.

My first bill would require the Director of National Intelligence to create a North Korea-focused integration cell consisting of experts who would streamline, synthesize, and synchronize intelligence on North Korea so that U.S. policymakers have the best possible information upon which to base decisions.

The cell would seek to ensure that the U.S. Government is collecting intelligence on North Korea's nuclear weapons programs, missile programs, weapon sales, and other activities that violate U.N. sanctions. The cell would also work to make certain that this intelligence is efficiently disseminated to the appropriate national security policymakers so that it can inform decisionmaking.

While my first bill is specific to North Korea, my second bill seeks to safeguard Americans by promoting security and stability in the Asia Pacific region more broadly. This region encompasses about 40 countries containing over 60 percent of the world's population, including many of our top import and export partners. The region offers the United States economic opportunities, but also presents security challenges. Indeed, some senior American officials often describe the Asia Pacific as the most consequential region for the future of our country.

Historically, under Presidents of both parties, the U.S. has maintained a strong military and diplomatic presence in the region to reassure allies and deter adversaries. The core of U.S. strategy has been close cooperation with our regional partners. These partnerships are an essential component of our effort to confront aggression by North Korea, judiciously manage the rise of China, dismantle terrorist networks, ensure freedom of navigation in international waters, guarantee the free flow of commerce, respond to humanitarian emergencies, and promote respect for the rule of law.

These partnerships, built on mutual trust, are not self-sustaining. They require U.S. leadership, energy, and resources. To deepen cooperation, my bill would create a commission of U.S. security officials and their counterparts from willing regional partner nations. The commission would aim to increase military readiness, strengthen counterterrorism operations, enhance maritime security, bolster cybersecurity, and improve intelligence coordination.

The commission would send a clear signal to allies and adversaries alike that the U.S. commitment to the Asia Pacific region is intensive and enduring.

I hope my colleagues on both sides of the aisle will support these two bills, which are aimed at addressing the immediate threat posed by North Korea, and strengthening our security alliances with key regional partners.

PAKISTAN IS PLAYING THE UNITED STATES

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, when our forces invaded Afghanistan in 2001, the goal was simple: remove the Taliban government that sheltered the plotters of the 9/11 attacks on America, and destroy al-Qaida.

Nearly 16 years later, Afghanistan is still a haven for terrorists who seek to attack and kill Americans. Since then, the Taliban has waged an insurgency in Afghanistan, destabilizing the country, creating perfect conditions for terrorists to exploit.

The Taliban and al-Qaida have launched many of their attacks in Afghanistan from Pakistan. Taliban insurgency is stronger today than at any other point since 2001. Just last week, a Taliban sneak attack killed more than 160 Afghan soldiers, prompting the defense minister and army chief of staff to resign.

But the Taliban don't just stage attacks, they seize territory. The Special Inspector General for Afghan Reconstruction said in January that 172 Afghan districts are controlled, influenced, or contested by the Taliban. Al-Qaida has a long history of loyalty to the Taliban. Osama bin Laden swore his allegiance to the Taliban's leader, Mullah Omar, even before 9/11. When bin Laden was killed in Pakistan, Ayman al-Zawahiri renewed that oath and cemented ties between al-Qaida and the Taliban. Wherever the Taliban has influence, we can be sure that al-Qaida is not far behind.

Since 2010, U.S. officials have incorrectly claimed that al-Qaida had a small presence in the country limited only to 50 to 100 fighters. Then, in 2015, a shocking U.S. raid in Afghanistan uncovered a massive al-Qaida training camp, rounding up over 150 al-Qaida terrorists. This was more fighters found in one raid than the U.S. officials claimed existed in the entire country. And by the end of last year, U.S. officials announced that 250 al-Qaida terrorists were killed or captured in 2016 alone.

Along with al-Qaida in Afghanistan, we have the other terrorist group, the Haqqani Network. This group is directly linked to al-Qaida and the Taliban. The Haqqani Network is responsible for more American deaths in the region than any other terrorist group. The Haqqani Network attacks inside Afghanistan have been directly traced back to—you guessed it—Pakistan.

In fact, in 2011, Admiral Mike Mullen, then-chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, testified before the Senate: ''The Haqqani Network acts as a veritable arm of Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence Agency.''

The truth is that Pakistan has ties to about every terrorist group in Afghanistan. And we know that the Taliban is still based in Pakistan today. It came as no surprise that when the U.S. drone strike killed the leader of the Taliban in 2016, he was—that is right—in Pakistan.

The laundry list of evidence of Pakistan support for terrorists goes on an on. We all remember where al-Qaida leader and America's most wanted terrorist, Osama bin Laden, was found and killed: in Pakistan.

Afghanistan's representative to the U.N. recently told the Security Council that Pakistan maintains ties with more than 20 different terrorist groups.

Mr. Speaker, Pakistan is playing us. Pakistan turns a blind eye to the terrorist allies, the Afghan Taliban and the Haqqani Network fighters in the area. The Pakistan Taliban fighters ended up becoming the leaders of the ISIS affiliate in Afghanistan, known as ISIS Khorasan province. ISIS announced their Afghan affiliate in January 2015, and now has entrenched itself in the eastern part of the country.

For the first time ever, the military dropped its largest non-nuclear bomb, the Massive Ordnance Air Blast Bomb, earlier this month on ISIS targets in Afghanistan. It is no surprise that Afghanistan is a hotbed for terrorist mischief groups, all related to Pakistan. That is what Pakistan has always wanted: a weak and divided Afghanistan that threatens the United States.

Mr. Speaker, it is time we reassess our Pakistan policy so that it matches Pakistan's behavior in Afghanistan. We need to call Pakistan out. We must reduce aid to the two-faced Pakistan Government. We don't need to pay them to betray us. We must designate Pakistan as a state sponsor of terrorism, and we must remove their major non-NATO ally status. In the war on terror, it is crystal clear Pakistan is not on America's side.

And that is just the way it is.

HEALTH CARE ROUND TWO

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

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, what has changed since the last time the Republicans attempted to repeal or replace the Affordable Care Act?

Absolutely nothing. That is right. Nothing has changed.

Recent polls show that the Affordable Care Act is more popular than ever. Yet, the Republicans still want to get rid of a law that is helping to provide our most vulnerable Americans the affordable care they need and deserve.

In my district, Mr. Speaker, 369,000 people who receive health coverage from their employers could lose their consumer protection. 62,000 people covered by Medicare expansion could lose coverage if the ACA is repealed. These are the numbers of a few weeks back. It could be even worse now.

This Saturday marks President Trump's 100th day in the White House. And this week we have a stacked agenda with tax reform, to pass a spending bill, to prevent government shutdown, to talks of health care being back in the mix.

One may think that health care will get lost in the shuffle, but we have seen how this administration and the Republicans will not back down. They appear committed to getting rid of a law that provides quality, affordable health care to millions of Americans young and old.

The American people elected us to fight an agenda that supports the needs of everyday Americans, hardworking Americans. Instead of cutting programs like SNAP, Meals on Wheels, the Community Development Block Grant program, we should look for ways to grow programs that help build stronger neighborhoods block by block.

Over the weekend, I went to the health fair at Temple University in my district. Temple University Hospital has served the city of Philadelphia for the last 120 years. It is a job creator and a major employer in our community. We should be looking for ways to build up the engines that drive investment and grow our economy, not tear them down.

Let me remind you, Republicans want to vote on the healthcare bill that gets rid of essential health benefits—for example, coverage for emergency rooms, maternity care, and prescription drugs. But because of the people, because of you and all of your phone calls, all of your emails, all of your letters, their attempt to repeal the healthcare bill was stopped.

This just happened. Yes, they still want to vote on a bill that destroys protections for people with preexisting conditions.

I want to tell you a story of a small-business owner in my district named Andrea. Andrea owns a small pet shop, Spot's—The Place for Paws, in Narberth, Pennsylvania. Andrea left her Philadelphia law practice to pursue her dream of owning a small business. Andrea has type 1 diabetes. Without the ACA, she would not be able to get well-priced coverage that covers her health expenses and medication and allows her to keep her shop open.

Andrea's story is like that of so many Americans across the country. We cannot support legislation that makes life harder for those trying the hardest to get ahead.

Last week, I visited another wonderful resident in my district, Sister Mary Scullion. She is truly an inspirational individual who has made it her mission to help the most vulnerable citizens. Sister Scullion made a comment that stuck in my head: ''Public housing is the best way to cure and prevent homelessness for the future.''

In thinking about how we view our healthcare system, I am reminded of my conversation with Sister Scullion. We need to work together to lift our people out of tough situations. We need to work together to provide everyone in our neighborhoods with the tools and resources they need to succeed.

As I mentioned, this Saturday marks President Trump's 100th day in office. Interestingly enough, the President will be in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania—a place that I have worked for many years.

What do we have to lose under this administration? Well, don't we have to lose a lot?

Affordable housing, Meals on Wheels for our seniors, before- and afterschool programs for our kids, and the list goes on.

Well, we have a lot to lose, Mr. President. We will continue to make our voices heard. The resistance is alive, and the resistance is working.

□ 1030

RECOGNIZING NANCY BILLET

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. POE of Texas). The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Nancy Billet, the office manager and financial administrator of my Washington, D.C., office. After working for three Members of Congress over a span of 36 years, Nancy will retire on Friday, and she will be missed by all.

Nancy grew up on Maryland's Eastern Shore, and she never thought about working in politics. After graduating from Chesapeake College, she and a classmate moved to the D.C. suburbs, and Nancy found her way to Capitol Hill.

In 1981, shortly after Ronald Reagan was sworn in as President, Nancy began her career as a staff assistant with Congressman Phil Crane, a Republican from Illinois. She worked for Congressman Crane, a member of the Ways and Means Committee, for almost 14 years as a staff assistant, legislative assistant, and office manager.

She joined a softball team that played on The Mall after work hours, and that is where she would eventually meet her husband, Barry. They got married, had a baby boy, and Nancy continued working, but only part-time. She also continued her education with evening classes at Northern Virginia Community College and proceeded to receive a bachelor's degree from George Mason University.

After the birth of their second son, Nancy would return to the Hill full-time after the 1994 election. In January 1995, Nancy was hired as an office manager for Congressman Phil English, a Republican from Pennsylvania. Nancy worked with Congressman English until his retirement in January of 2009.

When he heard about her retirement, former Congressman Phil English said Nancy was a ''fabulous source of stability and good humor in an office where we were always a kite dancing in a hurricane. Your gracious manner and personal generosity made many difficult days tolerable and the cause possible to pursue. You brightened the lives of all you worked with, all you touched.''

Congressman English went on to say that Nancy's consistent patience with constituents, interns, and any individual who came through the door was legendary. I couldn't agree more.

Nancy came to work in my office in 2009, and we have been so blessed to have her on staff. I was able to hit the ground running as a freshman Member with such a knowledgeable veteran Hill staffer on my team. Nancy can master the most difficult tasks with ease, but it is her pleasant personality that I will miss most. I have been fortunate to have her on staff, and her shoes will not be easily filled.

Her institutional knowledge is remarkable. Nancy has had a front-row seat to so much change in the Capitol, from using an IBM typewriter with a correctable ribbon to floppy disc computers, to today's laptops, iPads, and smartphones; from busy phone booths in the Longworth Building outside of the Ways and Means Committee to everyone talking on their own personal cell phone in every hallway and every office; from easy access to the buildings to the barriers put in place after the September 11 attacks; and all the administrations to come and go. Nancy was employed for Presidents Ronald Reagan, George H.W. Bush, Bill Clinton, George W. Bush, Barack Obama, and now under Donald Trump.

Mr. Speaker, to say we will miss Nancy is an understatement, but I know she is looking forward to spending time with her husband, Barry, and her three sons—Brian, Will, and Robby—and the rest of the family.

Nancy, on behalf of Penny and me and all the staff, we wish you the best for a well-deserved retirement. On behalf of the Congress of the United States, thank you for your nearly four decades of service to the people's House. Thank you for all your dedication to serving the American people.

ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

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

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join the Armenian community in commemorating the 102nd anniversary of the Armenian genocide.

On April 24, 1915, the Ottoman Empire began committing atrocities that would result in the first genocide of the 20th century. Between 1915 and 1923, 1½ million Armenians were systematically deported from their homes and sent to their death on marches through the Syrian Desert. That is a fact.

My district, located in California's San Joaquin Valley, is the land of William Saroyan and the resting place of Soghomon Terlirian, a hero of the Armenian people. It is also home to the only Armenian genocide monument on a college campus in the Nation at Fresno State University, my alma mater. It is a campus that has a storied Armenian Studies program known throughout the country and is a sister university to the American University of Armenia.

The San Joaquin Valley of California is also one of the earliest settling places for thousands of survivors and their families as part of the diaspora as a result of the genocide. Many still live there today and call the valley their home.

I was honored to visit Armenia this past year to meet with its people and leaders. I was truly humbled to visit the Armenian genocide memorial in Yerevan. We have seen religious and civic leaders from all around the world recognize the Armenian genocide and ensure that this tragedy is never ever forgotten.

I am very disappointed and saddened that another year has passed without the President of the United States or the Congress recognizing the events of 1915 as genocide. We cannot move forward free of genocide without recognizing the first genocide of the 20th century. So I ask my colleagues to please join me in recognizing the lives of 1½ million victims and their families.

It is always said that now is not the right time because of our relationship with Turkey as they become, like this country, less democratic as a result of recent elections. I reject that view. If we do not recognize the genocide now, then when?

I stand with Armenians all over the world to say ''menk' ch'yenk' morranum.'' We will not forget.

RECOGNIZING PAUL JAMUSHIAN

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service and advocacy of Mr. Paul Jamushian, as the 16th Congressional District's Hero of the Month in California.

As a descendant of both martyrs and survivors of the Armenian genocide, Paul has been an advocate for the Armenian cause and for genocide recognition for over 50 years. As a member of the Armenian National Committee of America, he has led efforts throughout the country to advocate and educate residents and people of the atrocities of 1915.

I have been proud to call Paul a friend and a partner in what has been a mutual commitment to ensure that the Armenian genocide is never forgotten. His efforts have led to the Armenian genocide being formally recognized by numerous cities, counties, and State governing bodies.

While in my district, his efforts, along with those of numerous others in the Armenian community, have led to this beautiful Armenian genocide monument on the campus of Fresno State University as you see here.

Paul is the embodiment of the community of Armenian Americans throughout the country who have not only survived, but have gone on to thrive post-genocide and contribute time and time again to our country. It is my honor to recognize Paul as the Hero of the Month for the 16th Congressional District in California this month, especially during this week of remembrance for the 102nd anniversary of the Armenian genocide.

Let us never ever forget.

OPIOID EPIDEMIC FUNDING IN THE 21ST CENTURY CURES ACT

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

Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, last week, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced the first round of grant funding for the 21st Century Cures Act.

As a cosponsor and supporter of Cures and a Member who represents communities in Pennsylvania directly impacted by the opioid crisis, this was an encouraging and welcomed step toward combating this epidemic. This first round of funding will support prevention and treatment initiatives for those individuals in need.

In particular, these resources will assist our local health centers that serve the uninsured or underinsured and are leading the fight on the front lines against this epidemic. This is one of many steps that will need to take place to combat this crisis.

As the debate here in the House on efforts to improve health care continues, this announcement serves as a reminder of the positive and good we can do when we work together to deliver solutions that strengthen our communities. Moving forward, I will continue to work with my colleagues to advance and support policies to address addiction prevention and treatment.

CONGRATULATING WINNERS OF 2017 CONGRESSIONAL ART COMPETITION

Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate students in Pennsylvania's Sixth Congressional District.

Yesterday, my office was proud to announce the winners of the 2017 Congressional Art Competition. As a member of the STEAM Caucus and a strong supporter of funding for the arts and humanities, I always encourage students across my district to participate in the competition.

This year, Hannah from Conestoga High School, was awarded first place for her piece, entitled, ''Three Cranes''; second place went to Rachel from Henderson High School; third place was awarded to Elizabeth from Conestoga High School; and fourth place was awarded to Juliet from Phoenixville Area High School.

The creativity displayed this year and every year by students from our community shows the depth of hard work and talent of our region's students. I congratulate and thank each student who submitted their work to the competition.

NIH FUNDING

Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, during the recess period, I had the opportunity to host townhalls and meet with constituents to hear about the issues and concerns that matter to them.

One of the recurring topics of concern that I kept hearing was about potential cuts to Federal medical research funding, in particular, NIH cuts from the President's skinny budget.

We made great progress last Congress toward strengthening the NIH, most notably through passage of the 21st Century Cures Act. In addition to increasing funding, we have made positive structural changes to ensure that every dollar invested is being used effectively and efficiently.

The NIH and medical research represent our best hope to find cures, improve care, and solve the diseases and conditions that affect millions of Americans. We should not reduce one penny of NIH funding, not one penny. The work and research of the NIH is simply too valuable.

FENTANYL CRISIS

Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, because of the fentanyl crisis we are facing, I have cosponsored the Synthetic Trafficking and Overdose Prevention Act, also known as the STOP Act. The bill aims to prevent synthetic drugs, such as fentanyl, from being shipped to the United States by drug traffickers.

Illicitly produced synthetic opioids have strong associations with countries like China and India, where there is little to no regulation, and fentanyl and its analogues are manufactured in both small- and large-scale production laboratories.

The STOP Act would require foreign postal operators to send advanced electronic data to the USPS, the Postal Service, for packages imported into the United States. This would enable Customs and Border Protection and other agencies to target high-risk shipments for screening.

This bill also gives the Postal Service more authority to scan arriving mail from places that are currently exempt from CBP protocol, helping to stop these packages from reaching U.S. borders in the first place. It is a vigilant Federal response, including the STOP Act, which is crucial to reversing the tide of addiction, helping to save lives in our community and across the country.

BURN PITS

Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, burn pits, which are found on military bases, create substances that can be toxic. Tires, batteries, human waste, medical waste, and other garbage items are put into pits and set on fire, sometimes after being soaked with jet fuel. Burn pits were regularly used in Iraq and Afghanistan, so veterans of these wars are particularly at risk.

My colleagues and I have introduced legislation that says, if a veteran does not have visible wounds, it is often difficult to provide the proof that VA needs to process a claim—but it shouldn't be that burdensome for a veteran who has sacrificed so much for our country—to get the treatment they need when they come home. There are many reports of veterans who believe their illness was caused by their exposure to burn pits who have not been able to get the VA to provide them with coverage.

This epidemic is being compared to the major problem veterans who were exposed to Agent Orange had when they returned home from the Vietnam war, and we cannot let that happen again. So we have introduced legislation because veterans who are exposed to burn pits and subsequently have complications need to have the right diagnosis and treatment as soon as possible.

This bill would create a Center of Excellence at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, which would provide research to be able to properly address the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of these veterans. It is important the men and women who dedicate their lives to protecting our country can access the care they need when they return home.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 43 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

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

PRAYER

Reverend Michael D. Gutierrez, St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, Baldwin Park, California, offered the following prayer:

God, source of goodness and mercy, today we pray that You touch the minds and hearts of the Members of Congress.

Grant them wisdom and insight to make effective decisions that benefit the common good of our Nation, respecting all ethnicities, genders, and faith traditions.

We pray, Lord, that our Representatives may listen to one another so that they may seek what is good and true for all people. We ask You, Lord, to guide them and grant them courage to act in peace and justice so that other nations may see the goodness of our Nation and our leaders.

God, may this day be a continual exchange of ideas and prosperous debate, that people may see that our Representatives are being guided by You, God, and that Your wisdom be reflected in their decisions.

We lift up this prayer in Your holy name.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentlewoman from Ohio (Mrs. BEATTY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. BEATTY led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

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

WELCOMING FATHER MICHAEL D. GUTIERREZ

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. NAPOLITANO) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to introduce to the House and bid welcome to Father Mike Gutierrez today. He is the pastor at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church and school in the city of Baldwin Park in California. Thank you, Father, for coming from Baldwin Park and for the wonderful prayer.

Father Mike, as he is known—he doesn't use Gutierrez—leads a parish of 10,000 families with a focus on Filipino and Hispanic communities. He has increased participation in religious and educational programs, youth and family ministry, and allows the church to bring attention and encourage activism on issues impacting the area.

He is an integral part of the 32nd District's, my district, annual immigration clinic event and is known for his joviality and smiling consistently.

Since my move to the California 32nd, he has been helpful in many issues and events that I have put forth, recognized by the California State Legislature and the Archdiocese of Los Angeles for support of social issues.

Father, thank you. Thank you for today's blessing and for the work you do to spread and promote Gospel throughout the San Gabriel Valley.

May God continue to bless you and your ministry.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

AN ADMINISTRATION MARKED BY STRENGTH

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, this Saturday marks 100 days in office for President Donald Trump, an important milestone for Congress and this administration.

Since being sworn in, President Trump has stood strong, upholding his pledge to protect the American people in the face of world threats. He has stood up to the dangerous regime in North Korea by supporting our allies in the region and deploying the THAAD missile defense system. He took swift,

decisive action against the dictatorship in Syria by using military force and economic sanctions after the brutal dictatorship executed a chemical attack murdering innocent civilians.

Additionally, the President has taken strong action to win the global war on terrorism by destroying ISIL-controlled tunnels in Afghanistan.

I appreciate President Trump for being a strong President and a model of Ronald Reagan, promoting peace through strength. Congratulations to him on a remarkable first 100 days in office.

I look forward to continuing to work with the President to protect American families while successfully creating jobs.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

PRESIDENT TRUMP PROMISES

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

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, throughout the Presidential campaign, Donald Trump promised to create good-paying manufacturing jobs, but nearly 100 days into his administration, we are learning that this is just another broken promise.

Since taking office, President Trump has failed to use American steel for the Keystone pipeline, proposed $2.5 billion in cuts in the Labor Department, which will reduce funding for critical job training in advanced manufacturing, and proposed complete elimination of the Manufacturing Extension Partnership, a Federal initiative that provides critical matching grants to support regional manufacturing economies.

If President Trump were serious about putting working people first, he would work with Democrats to pass bills we have already introduced to strengthen manufacturing, bills like Make It In America Manufacturing Communities Act that I have introduced to revitalize manufacturing economies and legislation to modernize and strengthen Buy America provisions.

If Donald Trump wants to keep the promises he made to working people, then he needs to start working with Democrats to deliver results. We are ready to go. We have introduced bills to strengthen American manufacturing. All we need now is a real partner in the White House, a President who is more concerned with results than TV ratings.

CONGRATULATING CONGRESSMAN STEVE STIVERS ON HIS PROMOTION

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

Mr. WENSTRUP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, along with my colleagues in the Ohio delegation, to congratulate Congressman STEVE STIVERS on his promotion from colonel to brigadier general of the Ohio National Guard.

Ohio is a State rich in history and a long list of American leaders who call it home. STEVE's promotion marks another milestone in our great State's history.

STEVE STIVERS, a native of Ripley, Ohio, and proud Ohio State Buckeye, is the first brigadier general since Rutherford B. Hayes to represent Ohio in Congress.

Rutherford B. Hayes represented my district, the Second District of Ohio, from 1865 to 1867, before going on to serve as Governor of Ohio and then President of the United States.

On behalf of the Ohio delegation, we offer congratulations and our gratitude for STEVE's service.

Mr. Speaker, STEVE STIVERS' leadership adds to our State's storied legacy of servant leaders and citizen soldiers. Our State and our Nation are fortunate that STEVE STIVERS has dedicated his life to defending the cause of freedom both in the ranks of the National Guard and in the Halls of Congress.

CONGRATULATING CONGRESSMAN STEVE STIVERS ON HIS PROMOTION

(Mrs. BEATTY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my Ohio colleagues to congratulate Congressman STEVE STIVERS on his promotion from colonel to brigadier general of the Ohio Army National Guard.

His promotion comes after more than 30 years in the National Guard. He is now one of the highest ranking National Guard members to also serve as a Member of Congress. Congressman STIVERS served the United States overseas during Operation Iraqi Freedom in Kuwait, Iraq, and Djibouti where he was awarded the Bronze Star for leadership throughout the deployment.

We are proud to have him leading the National Guard soldiers who protect us at home and abroad.

Congressman STIVERS, on behalf of the Ohio delegation and the citizens we represent, congratulations on this distinguished honor. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to call STEVE a colleague and Ohioan and a friend.

CONGRATULATING CONGRESSMAN STEVE STIVERS ON HIS PROMOTION

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

Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I want to join my colleagues in congratulating STEVE STIVERS on his promotion to brigadier general. I served for 26½ years in the United States Air Force, and I can tell you that every officer who puts on the uniform, in the quiet moments of their own minds, they dream of the day that maybe someday they might aspire to become a flag officer or to attain the rank of general officer.

I can tell you that, from my perspective, it is a lot easier to get elected to the House of Representatives than it is to earn the rank of general—at least that is what my experience shows. I can tell you, I never served under STEVE STIVERS and his command, but if his military leadership and performance is anything like his performance here in the House, he is going to represent the State of Ohio and our Nation very well.

Congratulations to my colleague, STEVE STIVERS. God bless you, and thank you for your service to our country.

NATION'S INFRASTRUCTURE IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN AN EXPENSIVE WALL

(Mr. HIGGINS of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, while the President continues to drone on about his southern border wall, a wall that he told America Mexico would pay for—which, of course, they will not—a wall that the Massachusetts Institute of Technology reports will cost Americans $40 billion, there is no discussion of a promised $1 trillion infrastructure bill.

This week, a Reuters report named my hometown of Buffalo, New York, as among the most dangerous lead hotspots in America. The lead waterlines in places like Buffalo, New York, and Flint, Michigan, are more than 100 years old, and they need to be replaced. Forty percent of kids in lead hotspots could suffer from cognitive delays and other neurological problems.

Mr. Speaker, the President needs to stop talking about an expensive and ineffective wall and start taking action on removing the toxic levels of lead from our Nation's drinking water systems, particularly in places like Buffalo, New York, and Flint, Michigan.

CONGRATULATING CONGRESSMAN STEVE STIVERS ON HIS PROMOTION

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

Mr. RENACCI. Mr. Speaker, today I want to congratulate my colleague, my friend, and fellow Buckeye, Congressman STEVE STIVERS, on his promotion to brigadier general. I am thankful to

be joined by my colleagues in the House and our Senators, Senator BROWN and Senator PORTMAN, as we applaud our colleague.

He is the first Ohio National Guard officer in more than 100 years to concurrently serve as a Member of Congress and one of the few people in U.S. history to have held both positions simultaneously. Congressman STIVERS joined the National Guard in 1985, and has served for over 30 years.

I, and many other Ohioans, appreciate his years of service, both in the military and in the United States Congress.

Congratulations, Brigadier General STIVERS, and thank you for your service.

EXTEND CONRAD 30 WAIVER PROGRAM

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

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Conrad 30 Waiver program set to expire at the end of this week. This program helps match medically underserved communities, both rural and urban, with much-needed doctors. Currently, foreign medical students studying here using J–1 visas must return to their home country and wait 2 years before they can apply to work in the United States. This makes no sense.

The American medical education system attracts the best and the brightest and produces the best medical graduates in the world. When so many of our communities are struggling to attract medical professionals, we should be creating incentives for these newly trained doctors to stay.

Through the Conrad 30 program, a limited number of new physicians can stay if they can commit to work 3 years in underserved communities. Continuing the Conrad 30 Waiver program is a commonsense step towards helping underserved Americans. I am proud to introduce H.R. 2141 with Congressman ISSA of California to extend and expand this program.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to do the same.

□ 1215

CONGRATULATING CONGRESSMAN STIVERS ON HIS PROMOTION

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

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today along with my Ohio colleagues to congratulate our colleague STEVE STIVERS on this great momentous occasion of being promoted to brigadier general.

I have known my friend since our days in the Ohio General Assembly. I remember when he was deployed for his service that he so unselfishly gave to his Nation in uniform.

With STEVE, you can go back in history. It was 242 years ago last week, on April 18, 1775, that Paul Revere, Dawes, and Prescott rode across the countryside and said that the regulars were out.

It was on the morning of April 19 that men left their shops, left their plows, and went to that call. It was that citizen soldier that went out there to make sure that this Nation attained the freedom that we have today.

From the National Guard and all of our men and women that are serving in uniform across all the services, it is because of them that we have the right to stand here today.

I applaud Congressman STIVERS on his promotion to brigadier. And we, along with our colleagues in the Senate, congratulate him. Mr. Speaker, I thank him very much for his service.

RESOLUTION HONORING EARTH DAY

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

Mr. MCEACHIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as the proud sponsor of the resolution honoring Earth Day.

For more than 40 years, people have come together on Earth Day to support protections for our air, water, and land, and to increase appreciation for Mother Earth.

But every day, not just on Earth Day, we must renew our commitment to preserving our planet.

One way to do this is by continuing to build upon the Paris Agreement and other efforts. That is why countless Americans marched last week for science, and that is why even more will turn out for this weekend's Climate March.

It is also the reason why tomorrow I will co-announce the creation of the United for Climate Task Force, a voice in Congress for communities of color, low-income communities, and other marginalized groups disproportionately impacted by environmental injustice.

Alongside my colleagues Congresswoman JAYAPAL and Congresswoman BARRAGÁN, we will promote a Federal agenda that stands for environmental justice.

The task force will strive to protect the rights of all to clean air, safe water, healthy communities, equal protection from the environmental and health hazards, and guaranteed access to the decisionmaking process.

Like those who celebrated Earth Day in 1970, we have a shared responsibility to ensure that future generations inherit a livable, sustainable, and ecologically rich planet.

CONGRATULATING CONGRESSMAN STIVERS AND CONGRESSMAN WENSTRUP ON THEIR PROMOTIONS

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

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize two Members of our congressional delegation, and two of my friends, Congressman STEVE STIVERS and Congressman BRAD WENSTRUP, upon their military promotions.

Now Brigadier General STIVERS in the Ohio National Guard, and Colonel BRAD WENSTRUP in the United States Army Reserve, they both have served their country beyond the boundaries of their district.

Today I am humbled and honored to join my colleagues in congratulating them on their distinguished public and military careers.

Congressman STIVERS, 30 years ago as a young Buckeye, assumed the title—one very important to him and to us—as citizen soldier.

In 1998, Congressman WENSTRUP joined the U.S. Army Reserve after already establishing himself as a doctor in the Cincinnati area.

To Congressman STIVERS and Congressman WENSTRUP, as faithful Representatives to your constituents, as members of our military, and veterans of the Iraq war and recipients of the Bronze Star, you have always put service to our country first.

Thank you from a grateful Congress and a grateful nation. Congratulations on your respective promotions.

PRESIDENT TRUMP AND HEALTH CARE

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

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, well, here we are, 100 days into President Trump's Presidency, and all we have seen is this President break the promises that he made when he campaigned for President.

He promised, for example, that we would have ''everyone covered with health care.'' Everyone. Then as President, he broke that promise.

Last month we saw him put forth his failed and terrible healthcare bill, TrumpCare, which would kick 24 million people off their health care. And even for those who would receive health care, they would pay more for less coverage: higher deductibles, higher prescription costs, no guarantee of hospitalization coverage or other essential benefits.

He is not looking out for the middle class. TrumpCare 2.0 is even worse, taking away a guarantee that a person with a preexisting condition can get essential lifesaving health care.

President Trump, I just have one message: Stop it. Stop. Turn back from

this terrible path you are taking us on. Ensure that all Americans have health care. Work with Democrats and Republicans to fix the problems we see in the Affordable Care Act, but stop this terrible path that you are taking this country on.

IN MEMORY OF DAN COBORN

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

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember the life of Minnesota's very own Dan Coborn.

Dan Coborn, a native son of the St. Cloud community, recently passed, but his memory will live on.

Dan will be remembered as an executive who helped his family's business grow and succeed. He will be remembered as a loving husband and father whose wife and five children meant the world to him.

Perhaps most importantly, Dan Coborn will be remembered for his charity and generosity. Over the span of his life, Dan Coborn gave back to a number of charities that included the St. Cloud Area Family YMCA, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Minnesota, and the Boys and Girls Clubs of Central Minnesota.

In addition to financially giving back to these charities, he also gave his time by serving as a board member of the St. Cloud Hospital and the Sauk Rapids-Rice Schools, in addition to serving as a founding member of the United Way of Central Minnesota.

Dan Coborn was a hero in our community, and his passing is a massive loss to us all. I wish his family peace during this difficult time, and I promise his life's work will not be forgotten.

PRESIDENT TRUMP'S 100 DAYS AND HEALTH CARE

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

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, across the board, the President's first 100 days have been marked by nothing but broken promises.

Instead of creating jobs, he has made it a priority to repeatedly push for a TrumpCare bill that will increase costs for families and rip away care from more than 24 million people.

The American people have made it clear time and time again that TrumpCare is a bad bill, but the President refuses to listen.

He and congressional Republicans remain intent on pushing through legislation that undermines the care of people, like a social worker in my district in Sacramento who before the Affordable Care Act, went into debt in order to pay for a few routine medical tests.

The President should spend some time thinking about our country's future instead of taking reckless actions that put the health and well-being of American families on the line.

THE IRAN DEAL

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

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, after more than a year, the Obama administration's Iran nuclear deal remains deeply unpopular.

At the time of the agreement, the American people believed they had given up too much, and they were right. We already knew the administration had paid cash in exchange for American prisoners, but this week we learned from an investigation by Politico that the Obama administration was also not truthful about the Iranian prisoners we released.

These prisoners were not ''civilians accused of trade violations,'' as the administration had claimed. They were men who posed a threat to our national security, accused of supplying Iran with materials for their weapons program.

It had taken hundreds of hours for our law enforcement and intelligence services to track down and build cases against these men, and the Obama administration was willing to undo all of that to use these men as a bargaining chip.

Undermining our national security is not in the best interest of our country, nor is being dishonest with the American people.

As we move forward, we must be clear-eyed and vigilant with the Iranian regime and its intentions while supporting and strengthening our intelligence community. That is a path towards a nuclear-free Iran.

THE IMPACT OF STOPGAP SPENDING BILLS ON STATES AND LOCALITIES

(Mrs. TORRES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, it looks like Congress has avoided another government shutdown for now. We will probably pass another short-term spending bill or two before this latest stopgap bill runs out, threatening to bring us to the brink once again.

This is no way to govern. As a former mayor and State legislator, I know that our States and cities need to be able to plan ahead. They can't do that if Federal funding is up in the air and subject to the latest political tug of war.

If we expect 50 States to pass a budget every year, there is no reason Congress can't do the same. It is time for Congress and the White House to stop playing games and to do the job that we were sent to Washington to do.

RECOGNIZING WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DAY

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

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of World Intellectual Property Day.

Strong intellectual property protections are grounded in the Constitution and have never been more critical to our economic success and culture of innovation than they are today.

IP industries contribute more than $6 trillion to our economy annually and support more than 45 million American jobs.

In my home State of Georgia, there are an estimated 1.9 million IP-related jobs that contribute $30 billion per year in manufacturing exports.

IP protections undergird our economy by promoting competitiveness, ensuring good-paying jobs, and rewarding ideas that have value.

In Georgia, which is now the third largest State for film production in the Nation, as well as the home to software companies, ''payment processor alley,'' musicians, and video game designers, strong intellectual property rights mean that our State can continue to grow and thrive.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues today to join me in recognizing World IP Day and the importance of intellectual property protections at home and abroad.

PRESIDENT TRUMP'S FIRST 100 DAYS AND HEALTH CARE

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

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, for 7 years, Republicans have talked about repealing the Affordable Care Act and replacing it with something better.

And then in the first 100 days of the Trump administration, Republicans offered a plan that would have raised premiums, raised deductibles, and taken away health care from 24 million Americans.

The Trump-Republican proposal was a cowardly cynical effort to lower taxes on the richest Americans, strip away insurance protections from hard-working families, and to dismantle Medicare and Medicaid. Their plan would make Americans pay more to get much less.

When this horrible deal failed, President Trump did what he does best: he lashed out. He lashed out at the American people, threatening to stop critical cost-sharing health insurance subsidies that ensure the sickest and some of the poorest Americans can afford health care.

Health care, Mr. Speaker, is not a game. It is a matter of life and death

for millions of Americans. On health care and every other issue, President Trump's first 100 days have been nothing more than a string of broken promises, empty words, and extravagant lies.

PRESIDENT TRUMP AND THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

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

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, we are seeing President Trump attempt to repeal the Affordable Care Act, both breaking his own promises and making it worse for American families.

He promised to protect Americans with preexisting conditions, but any State could allow insurers to raise premiums for Americans with preexisting conditions and make their insurance too expensive to afford. Any State could jeopardize access to mental health, emergency, maternal, and prescription drug coverage. And any State could charge older workers an age tax that would devastate middle class families.

The proposals will steal $1 trillion from Medicare and Medicaid in exchange for giveaways to the very wealthy and corporations.

The President and Republicans are turning their backs both on their own rhetoric and the real needs and lives of American families.

□ 1230

BIG TALK AND BROKEN PROMISES

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

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, big talk and broken promises, that is what we have seen.

As Trump's first 100 days come to a close, we see desperate times are leading to desperate measures. First, there is a push to revive TrumpCare. Really? Twenty-four million Americans would be kicked off health insurance in the first year, and there would be 15 to 20 percent increases in premiums according to the Congressional Budget Office. The big change to get a compromise is taking away essential benefits and preexisting conditions, the foundation of making sure Americans have health care.

Second, we see Trump's threats to defund the subsidies. This is a blatant violation of law. Seven million Americans would lose health care immediately if that happened.

Third, we see Trump's threats to cut Medicaid and Medicare by $1 trillion. Block grants will mean cuts to senior's health care, cuts to children's health care.

With these 100 days coming to a close, we see Trump as the least popular, least productive President in modern history.

While Trump is breaking his promises, our constituents are depending on us to keep ours.

REJECT ATTEMPTS TO FEARMONGER

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

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, every day, we wake up and we have a choice of how we can look at the world: through the murkiness of fear or through the clarity of truth. I challenge you to choose clarity, choose a perspective that is grounded in truth and in love.

Today, President Trump announced the opening of the Victims of Immigration Crime Engagement Office, or VOICE, an office that will spew propaganda highlighting crimes committed by immigrants as opposed to equally harmful crimes committed by nonimmigrants. It is a waste of taxpayer money that will manipulate law enforcement data in an attempt to play on fears and anxieties.

I am countering the opening of VOICE with the Saved By American Immigrants National Task Force, SAINT. The SAINT task force will collect and share stories of the countless immigrants who have saved Americans lives through heroic acts.

I am calling for stories like the story of Maytham Alshadood, a Coloradan who grew up in Baghdad. He aspired to be veterinarian and began his studies, worked with the American Army as a translator, and had to leave because of the increase in violence. He came under a special immigrant visa. He started school in America. He is now a registered nurse, saving and transforming lives in America every day, including those of veterans.

Let us reject attempts to fearmonger and tear apart American families, families that are just like ours, families that are ours.

FIX THE HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, 53 percent of Americans disapprove of President Trump's service to this Nation in this first 100 days. I didn't say Members of Congress. I didn't say party. I said 53 percent of Americans disagree, and I understand why: a healthcare promise that did not come to fruition; families are now looking, with his potential bill, to higher healthcare costs for our working families; 24 million more Americans are off of insurance.

What about the age tax for hardworking Americans? Americans 50 to 64 years old will be paying upwards of $12,000 to $14,000 for their premium.

The last insult is to those hardworking Americans who now receive Medicare by deleting, depleting, taking away, and destroying $100 million from the Medicare trust fund.

There is no other answer. There is no other answer than disapproval, because why would anyone who leads this Nation destroy the very health care, the very arm of opportunity and rest that Americans have when they become sick?

I think the disapproval is probably too low. Let us fix the healthcare system. Let us not destroy it.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

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

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, April 26, 2017.

Hon. PAUL D. RYAN,
The Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on April 26, 2017, at 9:16 a.m.:

Appointments:

Alyce Spotted Bear and Walter Soboleff Commission on Native Children.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1695, REGISTER OF COPYRIGHTS SELECTION AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2017

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 275 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 275

Resolved, That at any time after adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1695) to amend title 17, United States Code, to provide additional responsibilities for the Register of Copyrights, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. In lieu of the amendment in the nature of a

substitute recommended by the Committee on the Judiciary now printed in the bill, it shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 115-13. That amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered as read. All points of order against that amendment in the nature of a substitute are waived. No amendment to that amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be in order except those printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution. Each such amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. All points of order against such amendments are waived. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. Any Member may demand a separate vote in the House on any amendment adopted in the Committee of the Whole to the bill or to the amendment in the nature of a substitute made in order as original text. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

SEC. 2. House Resolution 254 is laid on the table.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Georgia is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. POLIS), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on House Resolution 275, currently under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to bring forward this rule on behalf of the Rules Committee. The rule provides for consideration of H.R. 1695, the Register of Copyrights Selection and Accountability Act of 2017.

The rule provides for 1 hour of debate, equally divided between the chairman and ranking member of the Judiciary Committee. The rule also provides for a motion to recommit and makes in order amendments by Representatives DEUTCH and CHU.

Yesterday, the Rules Committee had the opportunity to hear from Judiciary Committee Chairman BOB GOODLATTE and Ranking Member JOHN CONYERS. Their testimony reflected the strong bipartisan support for this legislation and the work both Members have invested in moving it forward.

I personally thank Chairman GOODLATTE, Ranking Member CONYERS, and the Judiciary Committee staff on both the majority and minority side for their work on this legislation.

As a member of the Judiciary Committee, I had the opportunity to participate in the committee markup where we debated numerous amendments and enjoyed a thorough discussion of this bill. The Judiciary Committee ultimately adopted an amendment by my colleague from Texas, Congresswoman JACKSON LEE, to strengthen the bill. H.R. 1695 passed the Judiciary Committee in a show of overwhelming bipartisan support by a vote of 27–1.

The Register of Copyrights Selection and Accountability Act is supported by numerous outside groups, including the American Conservative Union, SAG-AFTRA, the AFL–CIO, the Council for Citizens Against Government Waste, CreativeFuture, the Motion Picture Association of America, the Gospel Music Association, the American Chemical Society, the Church Music Publishers Association, Oracle, and many, many others. These groups represent only a sampling of the broad support behind this bill.

Mr. Speaker, as you can tell, H.R. 1695 has brought together many groups of people who don't traditionally have similar interests. From creators to labor organizations to conservative groups, the diversity of support behind this legislation speaks to its significance in the copyright industry and to our economy as a whole.

H.R. 1695 also enjoys the public support of our two former Registers of Copyright, individuals who filled the very position this bill seeks to address. Former Registers Marybeth Peters and Ralph Oman have both made clear their belief in the importance of an ''independent copyright advice straight and true from the expert agency'' to Congress.

These former Registers correctly point out that this bill addresses a ''structural, not personal or political'' issue between the Library of Congress and the Copyright Office. Despite what some may say, this is what the bill simply does.

H.R. 1695 is a necessary first step toward any larger efforts toward modernizing the Copyright Office. It helps ensure that the Register can implement policy and advise Congress effectively, and this legislation will ultimately help strengthen our copyright system. This is particularly relevant today, as today is World Intellectual Property Day.

As I discussed earlier today in this Chamber, the importance of strong IP protections, including a strong copyright system, is clearer than ever. In fact, the copyright system in our country is so critical that our Nation's Founders sought to recognize it in the Constitution. Article I, section 8, clause 8 of the Constitution gives Congress the power ''to promote the progress of science and useful arts, by securing for limited times to authors and inventors the exclusive right to their respective writings and discoveries.''

While robust intellectual property protections have always been a foundational principle of our Nation, today such protections are also a major economic driver creating and fueling the American Dream. In fact, core copyright industries in the United States are now responsible for $1.2 trillion in GDP, representing nearly 7 percent of our economy and employing more than 5.5 million people. In my home State of Georgia alone, more than 19,000 copyrights are registered annually to State residents.

Yet the head of the Copyright Office, which oversees such a massive sector of our economy, is unilaterally selected by the Librarian of Congress. This is the case, despite the fact that the Copyright Office is statutorily designed as Congress' adviser and the massive role that copyright plays in our economy and our society.

I want to be clear. I think the role of the Library is a critical one, and the Librarian performs many important duties. Historically, however, the Librarian has not been an expert in copyright and isn't expected to be, Mr. Speaker.

Does it make sense, then, to make the Librarian—any Librarian—to be solely responsible for the selection of the person responsible for overseeing the Nation's copyright policy? I don't think it does. In fact, the current selection is more an accident of history than an example of carefully conceived policy.

By way of historical background, in 1870, the Library of Congress believed it would make sense for copyrighted works to be placed in the Library as a means to grow the collection. While this made sense at that point in history and while the collections are still an important function of the Library, this provision neither requires nor justifies the role of the Register of Copyrights to be subordinate to the Librarian.

Today, with the major role that the Copyright Office plays in our culture and our economy, we can no longer justify the head of the Copyright Office—and Congress' designated expert adviser—being hired under the umbrella of the Library of Congress. Currently, the Register is hired according to the same unilateral process as much more

junior positions are filled. Under today's system, the Register can serve for an unlimited duration without review or removal, despite the importance of this position.

And finally, the Register is not Presidentially appointed, and there have been questions in the courts regarding the authority of the Copyright Office to conduct rulemaking.

We need a copyright system for the 21st century. We need a system that will take us into the future by protecting and promoting innovation. Copyright is the foundation of innovation, and innovation is the force that drives our economy. A strong copyright system allows the millions of kids and young adults throughout our 50 States to make their dreams a reality, to build a career out of what they produce in their minds and imaginations. Today's rule provides for an underlying bill that will help ensure that our copyright system is equipped to rise to the challenges of the future and to support Americans as they strive to make their hopes, dreams, and ambitions into reality.

The underlying bill promotes American innovation by recognizing the importance of the Register of Copyrights position. This bill would create a selection committee composed by bipartisan, bicameral congressional leadership and the Librarian of Congress to recommend candidates to the President for nomination. The bill would establish a Senate confirmation process for the position and establish a 10-year term for the Register of Copyrights position.

This legislation represents the product of more than 4 years of bipartisan collaboration. It reflects the consensus view that the Copyright Office is better positioned to serve the public if the Register is no longer treated like a subordinate official within the Library, but as the seat of expertise and property protection that it is, regardless of who the Librarian or who the President may be.

To reiterate, this issue has been under discussion since before anyone knew the former Librarian would be leaving or a new Librarian would be taking over.

□ 1245

When these discussions began, there was a Democrat in the White House, and it was clear that our next President would be, possibly, a Democrat as well. Yet both Republicans and Democrats have supported the reality that undergirds this bill, and we have supported what is good for American innovation and our creators and our dreamers, rather than worry about what specific President may make the next appointment to this Office.

The legislation is the first step in the Judiciary Committee's work to modernize the Copyright Office, which is now needed more than ever. As the vice-chair of the Intellectual Property Subcommittee, I will continue to push that effort forward, to look at ways to promote better infrastructure and technology at the Copyright Office, and to work to update our music licensing laws.

H.R. 1695 is the beginning, rather than the end, and our commitment to copyright modernization and the support of these ideas underpinning it continue to receive broad support.

The rule provides for a bill that is, simply put, good policy. The opportunity before us is not about one individual but establishing the right process for selecting the Copyright Register and future Registers. The bill would increase accountability within the Copyright Office and take the first steps toward making sure our Copyright Office works for this century.

Mr. Speaker, I want to reiterate that I thank the chairman of the full Judiciary Committee, BOB GOODLATTE, and the ranking member, JOHN CONYERS, for their hard work on this; and also a special commendation to Ms. SHEILA JACKSON LEE of Texas, who sponsored an amendment that actually strengthened this bill and provided a process moving forward that will help and, I think, bring all parties some semblance of structure and form as we move forward in this process, a beginning, as I said, the first step in a modernization of our Copyright Office.

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

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

I want to begin by wishing my colleague from Georgia a happy International Copyright Day, right up there with Thanksgiving and Christmas as great American holidays.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the rule and the underlying bill. Look, first of all, 60 hours; we have less than 60 hours before the Federal Government of the United States will shut down, and here we are filling time with a bill. Of course, the concept deserves to be debated and fleshed out, but is it really what we should be talking about when we are 60 hours away from the shutdown of our Federal Government?

Now, it feels like we have been here before. Now, sometimes it is because, unfortunately, we have been brought to the brink of economic disaster, just as Republicans seem to do every time government funding or the debt ceiling is about to expire. We know it has happened before. We know it will happen again.

Maybe it is time for a short-term CR; maybe it is an omnibus, but, look, that is what we should be doing right now. There will be plenty of time, plenty of time to figure out the intricacies of copyright and the oversight of the Office after we make sure that the basic functions of government are able to continue after 60 hours.

And even if we do keep the government open, all we are doing is kicking the can down the road and not allowing American businesses or individuals to plan for the future.

Can you imagine if your family didn't know if you would have a job or what salary it would be at every few months?

Now, look, congressional salaries, they are exempt from government shutdowns, of course. If they weren't, perhaps we would be discussing the government shutdown with 60 hours to go until other Federal workers are prevented from coming to work.

Even at this moment, we don't have a full-year appropriations bill. We have a continuing resolution that expires midnight on Friday. Those are the priority issues that the American people want us to focus on. When we deal with what is urgent, that will allow us the time and the space for thoughtful consideration of Copyright Office oversight.

We need to get past this bitter partisanship and this brinksmanship. Even the rule we are considering today is problematic and partisan, which is why I am in staunch opposition. It doesn't allow all the amendments to come to the floor, including one from my colleague, Ms. LOFGREN, that I tried to amend the rule to allow, and it was turned down in Rules Committee by a partisan vote.

We don't have an open rule, as Speaker RYAN promised to provide as we got back to what was called regular order, allowing our Democratic and Republican colleagues to improve and enhance bills, offer their ideas up for consideration. If a majority adopt them, they can be included in the overall bill.

Instead, we are considering a rule that effectively stops debate on important amendments that were omitted and brings forward a politically motivated bill about the head of the Copyright Office.

Simply put, this bill would take the authority of hiring and firing the Copyright Register, who is the head of the Copyright Office, from the Librarian of Congress, and give it to the President, with Senate approval. It effectively politicizes the Office of the head of the Copyright Office.

Now, it sounds innocuous, but what it means is that special interests will be involved with picking the person to make decisions over who receives a copyright. Yet, again, through this bill, Congress is choosing the big, powerful interests over the consumers, over innovation, and over the little guy.

As the Electronic Frontier Foundation said: this bill is ''designed to . . . allow powerful incumbent interests to use their lobbying power to control this increasingly politicized Office. And while the Librarian of Congress still oversees the Copyright Office, the

Librarian of Congress would not be able to remove the Register no matter how poorly they perform their job.''

Under this bill, the position of Register of Copyrights will be yet another political position and will, frankly, stall one of the great projects they are embarking on, the modernization effort that is desperately needed at the Copyright Office. The last thing we need is political cronyism in the Copyright Office.

Let's talk a little bit about the history of the position of the head of the Copyright Office. Most of the first century of America, U.S. District Court clerks processed copyright applications themselves. Now, that was obviously inefficient to foist on the judicial branch, and, in 1870, Congress centralized the power of copyrights at the Library of Congress. Seven years later, the Copyright Office was created as a separate department within the Library, and the Register of Copyrights was established as the head of that Office.

Why depart from history so radically now? Why give in to increasing executive authority in a time when many of us are concerned about the growing powers of the Presidency? Frankly, some of this seems to be about the personal dislike of the Librarian, Dr. Carla Hayden, or the general situation with the most recent Register who departed last October, Maria Pallante.

It appears that some believe that Dr. Hayden should not have reassigned Ms. Pallante, so there is a micromanaging of particular personnel issues, but an inspector general's report stated that Ms. Pallante was clearly deficient in her duties, especially around those of modernization of the Office.

As just one example, the inspector general discovered that the Copyright Office wasted 6 years and nearly $12 million attempting to implement an Electronic Licensing System. Based on the IG report, it would seem that the Librarian had a valid reason to reassign the Copyright Register last October, and she definitely had every right to do so, as the head of the Library. The last thing we want is politically motivated decisionmaking in a personnel process around performance at the Library of Congress.

Since the Librarian of Congress, Dr. Carla Hayden, was appointed in 2015, she has been pulling the Library of Congress and the Copyright Office into the 21st century. And if we move the appointment into the hands of the President, we are taking away the ability for the Librarian to supervise the Office of Copyright and continue to do this work. We are going to stop progress dead in its tracks.

With hundreds of Presidential appointees who haven't even been nominated, no less approved, and the glacial pace of Congress, it could be years before a Librarian is confirmed under this new scheme.

Look, we all understand and agree that there are problems that we need to work on together with regard to the copyright process to bring it into the 21st century. Again, with 60 hours away from a government shutdown, now might be a time to focus on keeping government open and perhaps having a more thoughtful debate, removing the passions around the personnel involved after we continue to keep government open.

This bill, unfortunately, does not solve the problems with copyrights. It makes the situation worse because it slows down a desperately needed modernization indefinitely and would hurt the public and consumers.

The last thing we need is a more autonomous Copyright Office. After the obscene wasting of taxpayer dollars, do we really want to provide for more politically motivated decisionmaking within the Office of the Copyright? I think the answer is no; that is why I oppose the rule. I oppose the bill.

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

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I will have more time to discuss especially the IG report and what it may say here in just a moment. I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN), another strong advocate in our protections of copyright and others in this intellectual property debate.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1695, the Register of Copyrights Selection and Accountability Act.

I am an original cosponsor of this bipartisan legislation. It was introduced by Chairman GOODLATTE and Ranking Member CONYERS, making this Register of Copyrights a position nominated by the President and confirmed by the Senate. It was passed out of the House Judiciary Committee by a vote of 27–1. It is completely appropriate that we bring this provision to the floor.

As a co-chair of the Congressional Songwriters Caucus, and a Representative of middle Tennessee, which is the Nashville area, it is home to many content producers and creators, in particular, to songwriters. Creators deserve to know that they will have a Register who will do a couple of things really well: is accountable to the people through their elected Representatives, and will provide independent and expert advice to Congress.

According to a report prepared by the International Intellectual Property Alliance: the total copyright industries employed nearly 11.4 million workers in 2015, accounting for 7.95 percent of all U.S. employment, 9.39 percent of all private employment in the U.S. The average annual compensation paid to employees of the total copyright industries in 2015, per employee, $82,117, exceeds the average annual wage by about 21 percent.

Intellectual property must be protected. Copyrights must be protected. Congress has a role in making certain that these constitutional provisions are held and, also, making certain that the Office is responsible to Congress. I urge the House to move forward on this commonsense measure.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LOFGREN), the distinguished ranking member on the Judiciary Subcommittee on Immigration and Border Security.

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, this is a bill that should be opposed, and I agree with Mr. POLIS that it is unfortunate it is being rushed because this may be one of the more significant votes we will take about our economy in this Congress.

I have heard a lot of rhetoric that this isn't about the Librarian. I am sorry, it is about the Librarian. Dr. Carla Hayden is probably the most qualified Librarian of Congress who has ever served. She has done more in the last 6 months to advance modernization in the Library and the Copyright Office than her predecessor did in the prior 2 decades. If we prevent her from appointing a new Register, that effort will be stalled, and I think that would be tragic.

It has been mentioned that somehow, by making this a political position, it would be more accountable. I beg to differ. Mr. POLIS has mentioned the view of the Electronic Frontier Foundation that this would enhance special interests. What they have actually said, and I think it is very pertinent, is that the bill would allow powerful incumbent interests to use their lobbying power to control this increasingly politicized Office.

No President is going to select an appointee who will be shot down by the special interests. That is quite different than the Librarian who removed the prior Register because of, I believe, the inspector general's scathing report about the failure to computerize that office, essentially wasting $12 million, while misrepresenting that fact to the Librarian and to Congress.

The national library groups, including the national Copyright Alliance, the American Library Association, and the like, say this:

> It's difficult to understand how the public or Congress itself would benefit from politicization of the Register of Copyrights' position by making it subject to Presidential appointment and Senate confirmation as this legislation proposes. Such politicization of the position necessarily would result in a Register more actively engaged in policy development than in competent management and modernization.

That is what we want out of a Register. We don't want a partisan for one side of the issue. We want somebody who can run, in an efficient way, the Copyright Office.

Now, a word about the amendment that has been bandied about as somehow giving Congress a greater say. I value the friendship of my colleague, SHEILA JACKSON LEE, who I have served with for so long, but I fear her amendment does not accomplish what she said because the President's power to appoint is limited only by Senate confirmation.

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

Mr. POLIS. I yield the gentlewoman from California an additional 30 seconds.

Ms. LOFGREN. It is limited only by Senate confirmation. It cannot be limited by a list prepared by Congress.

□ 1300

I would just say, finally, that if there is a conflict of interest, as has been suggested, the Librarian cares only about the public interests. It is Donald Trump who has the 30 copyrights, and I don't think we should ask President Trump to take this position with that conflict of interest, something that all of us have been concerned about.

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, again, this is about policy. This is about moving forward in the modernization process. I believe that Ms. Hayden is fully qualified to be Librarian of Congress. I think the issue comes in the Copyright Register's Office, not the Librarian herself.

There are some issues also. It has been interesting because I have been involved in this now my whole time in Congress, and this issue of copyright protection and intellectual property, I have to say Electronic Frontier Foundation are good folks, but we disagree, many of us in the content community and also the intellectual property, with the views of a more open or less inhibited copyright protection, which we believe is the very heartbeat of the innovative system. It is protecting the copyright as we go forward.

So just simply to have somebody saying that they are looking out for the big guy, I am looking out for the single songwriter. I'm looking out for the person right now in their home pecking out their first novel, working on their first articles. These are the kinds of things that need protecting. This is the little guy we are talking about. This is making this modernization happen, and we are going to continue to move forward.

We have differences of opinion. That is fine. But I think in looking at this big picture, we are talking about a Register's Office that has so much work in our economy as a whole, we are just simply looking toward the first step of modernization.

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

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. DELBENE.)

Ms. DELBENE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the rule and the underlying legislation, and I urge my colleagues to take a step back and consider the unintended consequences of this legislation.

As a former member of the Judiciary Committee, I had the opportunity to hear firsthand from a very diverse range of stakeholders on their experiences in dealing with the Copyright Office, and one of the most common refrains I heard was the dire need for modernizing the Office and updating their IT systems to be more user-friendly. So I was very disturbed to learn recently that 6 years and nearly $12 million were wasted on yet another failed government IT project, this time at the Copyright Office. This waste of taxpayer dollars is unacceptable, and any legislation to reform the Office ought to have successful modernization as its primary goal. This legislation fails that test.

H.R. 1695 sets back the clock on considerable progress that has been made already under the leadership of the new Librarian of Congress, Dr. Carla Hayden. The bill puts the power to appoint the head of the Copyright Office in the hands of a President who, as of February, still had around 2,000 appointments sitting empty. This kind of delay will set back the Office when it is finally on the right track.

And to what end?

It seems that this bill is just another solution in search of a problem.

A vote for this bill is a vote to stop progress, a vote to continue to waste tax dollars, and a vote to add one more person to the list of positions that President Trump seems to have no interest in filling. I am very concerned that this is a misguided experiment without a clear purpose and that taxpayers will be the ones who foot the bill when it doesn't succeed.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote ''no.''

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

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from New York (Mr. NADLER), who is the ranking member on the Subcommittee of Courts, Intellectual Property, and the Internet on the Judiciary Committee.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the underlying legislation, which I view as a great step forward.

Mr. Speaker, we have heard about the misdeeds alleged of the prior Register of Copyrights, and we have heard what a wonderful Librarian Carla Hayden is; and I agree, she is a wonderful Librarian. But this bill is not about individuals. It is not about whether the last Register was a good or bad Register. It is not about whether she knew what she was doing on modernization or not. This bill is an institutional bill. This bill is against politicizing. This bill is for strengthening and enhancing the stature of the Office of Register of Copyrights.

The committee held 4 years of hearings on the Copyright Act. There are many contentious issues that we will be bringing to the floor over the next couple of years on that. This was not one of them. This issue had broad support.

Everybody agrees that the Office of Copyright must be modernized. What this bill does is to take it and give it a little more independence from the Library of Congress. The Librarian of Congress is an interested stakeholder. There are many stakeholders in Copyright. Librarians are stakeholders, tech people are stakeholders, content creators, movie studios, authors, and editors—there are lots of different stakeholders. No stakeholder should be in a controlling position.

The Librarian of Congress is in a controlling position, and there is a consensus that that ought to be reduced. I, personally, and a lot of other people think the Register's Office should be taken out of the Library entirely. But this bill is a compromise. It doesn't do that. It simply enhances the stature of the Copyright Office by making this a Presidentially appointed office for a 10-year term.

You talk about politicizing? Right now, President Trump could, if he wished, fire the Librarian tomorrow. The Librarian serves at his pleasure, and the Register of Copyrights serves at her pleasure. So the President totally controls the Librarian of Congress and the Register at any time.

This bill would say that the President, with the advice and consent of the Senate, would appoint the Register who would have a 10-year term. That gives her or him more independence, obviously, and it enables them to undertake the proper modernization.

One of the problems we saw was that the modernization requirements of the Library of Congress are very different from the modernization requirements of the Copyright Office, and one seemed to take precedence over the other, which is not surprising when one is subject to the other and part of it.

So this bill would increase the stature of the Copyright Office. It would make it less political by giving the incumbent a 10-year tenure during good behavior. There are powerful interests who have an interest, and they would be one step further removed because of the 10-year tenure.

This is a bill that has broad bipartisan support. Almost every interest group that deals with the Copyright Office is in favor of this, from the authors to the directors, to the songwriters, to the motion picture people, you name it.

Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the bill, but I am opposed to the rule.

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, thank goodness, hopefully, we will get this rule passed and we will get to this bill so the gentleman can be in support of it, that is as we move forward.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, today President Trump plans to unveil a tax cut proposal that would vastly reduce the business tax rate for international corporations and even for his own real estate empire. We have no way of knowing how many millions he personally might save through this so-called Trump loophole—no idea—unless he releases his tax returns. Democrats have been calling on the President to release his tax returns for this reason and so many others. We cannot allow the White House to be used as a tool to enrich the President and his family.

Up until now, every President since Gerald Ford has disclosed his tax return information. These returns have provided a basic level of transparency to help to ensure the public's interest is placed first. The American people deserve the same level of disclosure from this administration. If they continue to refuse to provide it, then we, as the people's elected Representatives, should hold the executive branch accountable.

If not us, who?

Mr. Speaker, when we defeat the previous question, I will offer an amendment to the rule to bring up Representative ESHOO's bill, which would require Presidents and major party nominees for the Presidency to simply release their tax returns.

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, to discuss our excellent proposal, I yield 4 minutes to the distinguished gentlewoman from California (Ms. ESHOO).

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague from Colorado for his leadership and for yielding me time.

Here I am again. I rise in opposition to the rule and the underlying bill, and I urge my colleagues to defeat the previous question so that my bipartisan—this is both Republicans and Democrats—this bipartisan legislation, the Presidential Tax Transparency Act, can be made in order for debate and a vote.

The Presidential Tax Transparency Act is very simple. It would require this President, all future Presidents, and Presidential nominees from both major parties to publicly disclose their tax returns. Until recently, most Americans thought this disclosure was required by law, but it actually has been a tradition. It has been a voluntary disclosure by every President of both parties since Watergate.

This long disclosure tradition exists because, A, the American people demand a baseline level of transparency from the highest officeholder in the land, and each one of the Presidents wanted the American people to know that their first and top priority was the American people's interest and not their own financial interests. This last Saturday, April 15, thousands of Americans in 125 cities across the country participated in tax marches calling for the President to release his tax returns.

Now, why did they do this on holy Saturday?

Because they care and they are deeply concerned about the President's conflicts of interests and his foreign business entanglements.

The President's refusal to release his tax returns is just one example of his administration's historic lack of transparency as we near the 100-day mark of the administration. As questions about his associates' ties to Russia continue to swirl, yesterday, the White House refused to provide information about General Flynn's Russia contacts to the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee. Just before the Easter holiday, the White House also announced that it will break with precedent and will not make its visitor logs public. This is added to the fact that the President's meetings and golf outings at his properties in Florida, New Jersey, and elsewhere—where he has so far spent one-third of his Presidency, according to The Washington Post—are also off the books.

Who is the President meeting with? Who does he listen to? Do his personal financial interests come first, or do the interests of the country come first?

The President's business empire makes him more susceptible to conflicts of interest than any President in our history, yet he has done less to address these conflicts than any President in modern history. Since 1978, every President has placed their assets in a real blind trust. Instead of following this tradition, the President has turned his business over to his sons in an arrangement that the nonpartisan Office of Government Ethics called ''meaningless from a conflict of interest perspective.'' It was later revealed that the President can draw profits from this trust at any time, and his son acknowledged that he will provide his father with periodic reports about the state of his family's businesses.

This is not right. This simply does not pass muster for anyone in the country. This is not Republican or Democratic. This is not partisan. The President should release his tax returns.

Now, as the gentleman said previously, this is, again, critically important because it is reported that the President is going to come out with a tax plan today and reportedly cut the tax rate on pass-through entities.

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

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentlewoman from California.

Ms. ESHOO. For all of these reasons, Mr. Speaker, and all of these conflicts of interest, it is why the President needs to reveal his tax returns, it is why we have bipartisan legislation.

We should defeat the previous question and sign on to the discharge petition so that this bipartisan legislation can come before the full House to ensure that the President provides transparency to the American people now and in the future.

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I have no other speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

What I really think this bill is about is President Trump wanting to put a Big Business friend in charge of an office that can do personal favors for him and his family. We know that the President and his family have, or are seeking, dozens of copyrights. Here is a great one—here is a copyright on his book, ''Trump: The Best Golf Advice I Ever Received.'' Now, don't get me wrong, he probably deserved a copyright. I am sure a ghostwriter wrote it for him and he had a strong contract with that ghostwriter. Since it seems that all the President spends his weekends and our taxpayer dollars doing is golf, the last thing we want is want him to put one of his golfing buddies in charge of the Copyright Office.

Who is to say the next copyright application from Donald Trump won't be disputed?

Placing his friends, business associates, and, yes, golfing partners in high places could help tip the scales in his favor, providing profits for him and his family at the expense of the American people.

I would like to take a moment to speak to a few of the defenses I have heard about the need for this bill. There is the one stating the President would pick the Register from a list of experts provided by a group, including the Librarian.

But guess what?

That list is nonbinding, so the President can easily ignore the recommendations and do whatever he wants, which is what this President usually does anyway.

□ 1315

I have also heard the argument that the Register will be more accountable and somehow transparent as a Presidential appointee. Hogwash. That is

the opposite of the truth. There is as much transparency for a non-Presidential appointee once in their position; and it is much less likely that a President is going to demand the resignation of the Register than the Librarian is going to reassign them, as the Librarian did last year when the Register was failing, as confirmed by the inspector general report.

Finally, there seems to be the argument that there were a large number of hearings in the committee on this issue and that somehow this is the work product of those hearings. Well, if you look at the record, there was not one hearing on this bill. There were hearings about general copyright reform. There was no hearing on how this bill might have a devastating impact on the need to modernize the Copyright Office, creating huge delays for important efforts. There was no hearing on whether this bill could profit the President and his family at the expense of the American people.

This is a problematic bill under a problematic rule that doesn't allow good ideas to come forward and be debated. We aren't even able to debate helpful amendments.

I know of at least one important amendment that isn't being allowed to be debated on the floor, which is Representative LOFGREN's amendment that would allow the current Librarian to fill the existing vacancy at the Copyright Office, and when that Register leaves, the new process would then apply. It seems like a commonsense transition process. Why can't we get a simple vote on that amendment?

I say again, this bill is a solution in search of a problem. Frankly, this bill makes the problem worse by giving the President the chance to put his business associate and golf buddies in charge of his own copyrights.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair would remind Members to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I am sure the President's personality is perfectly charming. I certainly wouldn't disparage his personality. What I am talking about is him putting a golf buddy or a business associate in charge of an office that he receives a direct profit from. That is called conflict of interest. That is what we are debating here today. It is not about the President's personality. Obviously, he is perfectly charming in person. I would be happy to have dinner with him. I am still waiting for the invitation.

The Copyright Office has an important function. In order to fulfill that function of registering copyrights, it needs to be a neutral arbiter. By making the head of the Copyright Office a political advocate, appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate, it will increasingly politicize copyrights, the basic protection Americans rely on regarding the tradeoff between payoffs for innovation and the right of consumers for dissemination. There is no chance a political appointee will be neutral, by nature of them being a political appointee.

A political appointee will likely be the puppet of big corporations and the administration in their decisions around registration of copyrights. That doesn't help the budding author, it doesn't help the budding musician in a dispute, and it certainly doesn't help anyone trying to navigate an outdated and archaic system that needs to be modernized. This bill will indefinitely delay the modernization process.

I strongly encourage my colleagues to vote ''no'' on this rule and ''no'' on the bill. The last thing we need is President Trump's golf buddies to be in charge of his own copyrights to further profit the President and the First Family, who have pleasant personalities.

Do we really want to give more power to the administration so they can do favors for themselves and their own business interests? I hope not. Let's vote ''no.''

We should be considering a funding bill to keep the government open instead of waiting until the absolute last second, hurting businesses and Americans with the huge amount of uncertainty created.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to vote ''no'' on this rule, ''no'' on this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Again, regardless of the last discussion, there are things about this bill that I have talked about when we first started, and doing this actually brings us into a position of modernizing the Copyright Office, which has been discussed a long time.

I do want to address, just briefly, that there has been some discussion about an IG report. There has been discussion about, especially, the former Register of Copyrights.

As I made clear in the conference, this has nothing to do with that being brought up. Implying things that were out of this IG report was basically attempting a character assassination of the former Register of Copyrights.

I think in doing so, it has to be understood that, even in that IG report that is discussed, one of the Library's own responses back to the concerns of the IG report was that, in 2015, the inspector general found that the Copyright Office was compliant with all library methodology. With respect to its primary software applications, the Electronic Copyright Office and Copyright Imaging System, which support registration and recordation functions and are managed by the CTO, were all in compliance. I think that is really interesting as we look at this.

But also what this IG report actually did say was that there were a lot of other problems. In fact, the GAO report in 2015 said the Library does not have the leadership to address IT management. That is why the Copyright Office was having to look at this because, also, in August 2015, of the Library's poor response and modernization, which are things that we are looking toward and how much this affects our economy. Because of the Library's problems, the electronic licensing system went down; and for 10 days, no one could register a copyright.

In fairness, you may not like this bill, you may not like the current structure, and that is fine; but when we discuss the Library, there are a lot of issues that I am sure will be addressed in the relevant committees in their oversight on this IG report. That is what they are designed to do.

What we are designed to do here is also not take and pick and choose and cherry-pick what parts of the report we want to talk about because we are trying to justify the current Librarian's decision last fall. When we understand this, we will begin to move forward on the Copyright Modernization Act.

Let's get back to the real functionality of what this is, not who we appoint or how they are appointed, but the fact that this matters to millions of people and also accounts for trillions of dollars in our industries across the world.

The Register of Copyrights Selection and Accountability Act is an important and bipartisan step. I repeat again, it came out with a vote of 27–1 in the Judiciary Committee. Mr. Speaker, I serve on that committee. That is not a usual vote on legislation that is making a positive, large, lasting impact that we are seeing on this. It is the first step rather than the last step in modernization.

As we look forward to this, I will simply say this is a good bill. It has been perfected by both Republicans and Democrats. As I have said before, SHEILA JACKSON LEE, the Congresswoman from Texas, was very helpful putting this package together, along with the chairman and ranking member on both sides of the aisle, as we come forward with this.

It is sort of a shame that, when we come to this bill, we diverge into rabbit trails away from the real issue. The real issue is let's help those folks who depend on the Copyright Office. Let's make modernize it. Let's make it the tool it is supposed to be, and that is the adviser of the expert in these issues for Congress. When we do so, at that point in time our economy continues to

flourish, we get aside from the theatrics, and we get back to the real importance of the bill.

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

AN AMENDMENT TO H. RES. 275 OFFERED BY MR. POLIS

At the end of the resolution, add the following new sections:

SEC. 3. Immediately upon adoption of this resolution the Speaker shall, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 305) to amend the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 to require the disclosure of certain tax returns by Presidents and certain candidates for the office of the President, and for other purposes. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided among and controlled by the respective chairs and ranking minority members of the Committees on Ways and Means and Oversight and Government Reform. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions. If the Committee of the Whole rises and reports that it has come to no resolution on the bill, then on the next legislative day the House shall, immediately after the third daily order of business under clause 1 of rule XIV, resolve into the Committee of the Whole for further consideration of the bill.

SEC. 4. Clause 1(c) of rule XIX shall not apply to the consideration of H.R. 305.

THE VOTE ON THE PREVIOUS QUESTION: WHAT IT REALLY MEANS

This vote, the vote on whether to order the previous question on a special rule, is not merely a procedural vote. A vote against ordering the previous question is a vote against the Republican majority agenda and a vote to allow the Democratic minority to offer an alternative plan. It is a vote about what the House should be debating.

Mr. Clarence Cannon's Precedents of the House of Representatives (VI, 308–311), describes the vote on the previous question on the rule as ''a motion to direct or control the consideration of the subject before the House being made by the Member in charge.'' To defeat the previous question is to give the opposition a chance to decide the subject before the House. Cannon cites the Speaker's ruling of January 13, 1920, to the effect that ''the refusal of the House to sustain the demand for the previous question passes the control of the resolution to the opposition'' in order to offer an amendment. On March 15, 1909, a member of the majority party offered a rule resolution. The House defeated the previous question and a member of the opposition rose to a parliamentary inquiry, asking who was entitled to recognition. Speaker Joseph G. Cannon (R-Illinois) said: ''The previous question having been refused, the gentleman from New York, Mr. Fitzgerald, who had asked the gentleman to yield to him for an amendment, is entitled to the first recognition.''

The Republican majority may say ''the vote on the previous question is simply a vote on whether to proceed to an immediate vote on adopting the resolution . . . [and] has no substantive legislative or policy implications whatsoever.'' But that is not what they have always said. Listen to the Republican Leadership Manual on the Legislative Process in the United States House of Representatives, (6th edition, page 135). Here's how the Republicans describe the previous question vote in their own manual: ''Although it is generally not possible to amend the rule because the majority Member controlling the time will not yield for the purpose of offering an amendment, the same result may be achieved by voting down the previous question on the rule. . . . When the motion for the previous question is defeated, control of the time passes to the Member who led the opposition to ordering the previous question. That Member, because he then controls the time, may offer an amendment to the rule, or yield for the purpose of amendment.''

In Deschler's Procedure in the U.S. House of Representatives, the subchapter titled ''Amending Special Rules'' states: ''a refusal to order the previous question on such a rule [a special rule reported from the Committee on Rules] opens the resolution to amendment and further debate.'' (Chapter 21, section 21.2) Section 21.3 continues: ''Upon rejection of the motion for the previous question on a resolution reported from the Committee on Rules, control shifts to the Member leading the opposition to the previous question, who may offer a proper amendment or motion and who controls the time for debate thereon.''

Clearly, the vote on the previous question on a rule does have substantive policy implications. It is one of the only available tools for those who oppose the Republican majority's agenda and allows those with alternative views the opportunity to offer an alternative plan.

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

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

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 234, nays 191, not voting 5, as follows:

[Roll No. 224]

YEAS—234

Abraham
Aderholt
Allen
Amash
Amodei
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Banks (IN)
Barletta
Barr
Barton
Bergman
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (MI)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Blum
Bost
Brady (TX)
Brat
Bridenstine
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burgess
Byrne
Calvert
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Chabot
Chaffetz
Cheney
Coffman
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Comer
Comstock
Conaway
Cook
Costello (PA)
Cramer
Crawford
Culberson
Curbelo (FL)
Davidson
Davis, Rodney
Denham
Dent
DeSantis
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Donovan
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Dunn
Emmer
Estes (KS)
Farenthold
Faso
Ferguson
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flores
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gaetz
Gallagher
Garrett
Gibbs
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Griffith
Grothman
Guthrie
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Hice, Jody B.
Higgins (LA)
Hill
Holding
Hollingsworth
Hudson
Huizenga
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurd
Issa
Jenkins (KS)
Jenkins (WV)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Katko
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kinzinger
Knight
Kustoff (TN)
Labrador
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Latta
Lewis (MN)
LoBiondo
Long
Loudermilk
Love
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
MacArthur
Marchant
Marshall
Massie
Mast
McCarthy
McCaul
McClintock
McHenry
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McSally
Meadows
Meehan
Messer
Mitchell
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Mullin
Murphy (PA)
Noem
Nunes
Olson
Palazzo
Palmer
Paulsen
Pearce
Perry
Pittenger
Poe (TX)
Poliquin
Posey
Ratcliffe
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Rice (SC)
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney, Francis
Rooney, Thomas J.
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Rouzer
Royce (CA)
Russell
Rutherford
Sanford
Scalise
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smucker
Stefanik
Stewart
Stivers
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Trott
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walker
Walorski
Walters, Mimi
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IA)
Zeldin

NAYS—191

Adams
Aguilar
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady (PA)
Brown (MD)
Brownley (CA)
Bustos
Butterfield
Capuano
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson (IN)
Cartwright
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Conyers
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Crist
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Demings
DeSaulnier
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle, Michael F.
Ellison
Engel
Eshoo
Espaillat
Esty (CT)
Evans
Foster
Frankel (FL)
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
Gonzalez (TX)
Gottheimer
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutiérrez
Hanabusa

Hastings
Heck
Higgins (NY)
Himes
Hoyer
Huffman
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kihuen
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lieu, Ted
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lujan Grisham, M.
Luján, Ben Ray
Lynch
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Matsui
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McNerney
Meeks
Meng
Moore
Moulton
Murphy (FL)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Nolan
Norcross
O'Halleran
O'Rourke
Pallone
Panetta
Pascrell
Payne
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters
Peterson
Pingree
Pocan
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Rice (NY)
Richmond
Rosen
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Sinema
Sires
Smith (WA)
Soto
Speier
Suozzi
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Torres
Tsongas
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters, Maxine
Watson Coleman
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Yarmuth

NOT VOTING—5

Cleaver
Marino
Newhouse
Slaughter
Tonko

□ 1345

Mses. JACKSON LEE, BASS, Mrs. BEATTY, Messrs. GOTTHEIMER, and COURTNEY changed their vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

So the previous question was ordered.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted ''yea'' on rollcall No. 225.

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

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

RECORDED VOTE

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

A recorded vote was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 237, noes 186, not voting 7, as follows:

[Roll No. 225]

AYES—237

Abraham
Aderholt
Allen
Amash
Amodei
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Banks (IN)
Barletta
Barr
Barton
Bergman
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (MI)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Blum
Bost
Brady (TX)
Brat
Bridenstine
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burgess
Byrne
Calvert
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Chabot
Chaffetz
Cheney
Coffman
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Comer
Comstock
Conaway
Cook
Costello (PA)
Cramer
Crawford
Crist
Culberson
Curbelo (FL)
Davidson
Davis, Rodney
Denham
Dent
DeSantis
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Donovan
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Dunn
Emmer
Estes (KS)
Farenthold
Faso
Ferguson
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flores
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gaetz
Gallagher
Garrett
Gibbs
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gottheimer
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Griffith
Grothman
Guthrie
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Hice, Jody B.
Higgins (LA)
Hill
Holding
Hollingsworth
Hudson
Huizenga
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurd
Issa
Jenkins (KS)
Jenkins (WV)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Katko
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kinzinger
Knight
Kuster (NH)
Kustoff (TN)
Labrador
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Latta
Lewis (MN)
LoBiondo
Long
Loudermilk
Love
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
MacArthur
Marshall
Massie
Mast
McCarthy
McCaul
McClintock
McHenry
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McSally
Meadows
Meehan
Messer
Mitchell
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Mullin
Murphy (PA)
Noem
Nunes
Olson
Palazzo
Palmer
Paulsen
Pearce
Perry
Pittenger
Poe (TX)
Poliquin
Posey
Ratcliffe
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Rice (SC)
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney, Francis
Rooney, Thomas J.
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Rouzer
Royce (CA)
Russell
Rutherford
Sanford
Scalise
Schneider
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smucker
Stefanik
Stewart
Stivers
Suozzi
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Trott
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walker
Walorski
Walters, Mimi
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IA)
Zeldin

NOES—186

Adams
Aguilar
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady (PA)
Brown (MD)
Brownley (CA)
Bustos
Butterfield
Capuano
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson (IN)
Cartwright
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Conyers
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Demings
DeSaulnier
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle, Michael F.
Ellison
Engel
Eshoo
Espaillat
Esty (CT)
Evans
Foster
Frankel (FL)
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
Gonzalez (TX)
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutiérrez
Hanabusa
Hastings
Heck
Higgins (NY)
Himes
Hoyer
Huffman
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kihuen
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
Krishnamoorthi
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lieu, Ted
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lujan Grisham, M.
Luján, Ben Ray
Lynch
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Matsui
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McNerney
Meeks
Meng
Moore
Moulton
Murphy (FL)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Nolan
Norcross
O'Halleran
O'Rourke
Pallone
Panetta
Pascrell
Payne
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters
Peterson
Pingree
Pocan
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Rice (NY)
Richmond
Rosen
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schrader
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Sinema
Sires
Smith (WA)
Soto
Speier
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Torres
Tsongas
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters, Maxine
Watson Coleman
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Yarmuth

NOT VOTING—7

Cole
Duncan (TN)
Marchant
Marino
Newhouse
Slaughter
Tonko

□ 1353

Mr. RUSH changed his vote from ''aye'' to ''no.''

So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

REGISTER OF COPYRIGHTS SELECTION AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2017

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on H.R. 1695.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WOODALL). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Virginia?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 275 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 1695.

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

□ 1356

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 1695) to

amend title 17, United States Code, to provide additional responsibilities for the Register of Copyrights, and for other purposes, with Mr. SIMPSON in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

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

The gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOODLATTE) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia.

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Intellectual property is a critical and growing part of our Nation's economy, and the Register of Copyrights has a crucial role in the numerous copyright policy issues that impact it.

Four years ago, the Judiciary Committee began considering how to modernize our Nation's copyright laws, including how the Copyright Office is structured. Making the Register position subject to the nomination and consent process with potential candidates identified by a congressional selection panel was among the many issues considered by the House Judiciary Committee.

Because the Director of the Patent and Trademark Office, who has an equally important voice on patent and trademark issues, is already subject to the nomination and consent process, it provided a precedent for this approach.

However, unlike the Patent and Trademark Office, the Copyright Office is part of the legislative branch. Thus, it is appropriate to also follow the precedent set for other legislative branch agencies, which gives Congress a greater say in selecting candidates for the heads of legislative branch entities to ensure those agencies are more accountable to Congress.

Because the Register position is now vacant, filled on an acting capacity by a well-regarded Acting Register, Ranking Member CONYERS and I introduced this bipartisan legislation to update the Register selection process. To mirror a recent change to the Librarian of Congress position that is now subject to a 10-year term limit, the legislation also makes the Register of Copyrights position subject to a 10-year term limit.

The selection panel would be bipartisan and would consist of leaders of the majorities and minorities of the House and Senate, and would also include the Librarian of Congress.

In the past, the authority of the Register of Copyrights to issue rulemakings has not been challenged in the courts because the Register is not subject to the nomination and consent process.

□ 1400

This legislation would remedy that question, once and for all. H.R. 1695 was reported by the House Judiciary Committee by a bipartisan vote of 27–1. In addition to strong support from traditional copyright groups, such as the Copyright Alliance, and the publishing, movie, music, and software industries, the bill has been supported by a wide range of diverse groups, such as the American Conservative Union; the AFL–CIO; Heritage Foundation scholars; the Directors Guild of America; the U.S. Chamber of Commerce; MANA, A National Latina Organization; Americans for Tax Reform; and the Council for Citizens Against Government Waste.

With such strong support from a wide range of over 70 groups and a vacancy at the Register of Copyrights that needs to be quickly filled under the new process created by this legislation, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1695.

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

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION,
Washington, DC, April 19, 2017.

Hon. BOB GOODLATTE,
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN GOODLATTE: I write to you concerning the jurisdictional interest of the Committee on House Administration in H.R. 1695, the Register of Copyrights Selection and Accountability Act of 2017. The bill, as reported from the Committee on the Judiciary on March 29, 2017, contains provisions that fall within the jurisdiction of the Committee on House Administration.

I recognize and appreciate your desire to bring this legislation before the House of Representatives in an expeditious manner, and accordingly, I will waive Committee consideration of provisions that fall within the Committee's jurisdiction. However, agreeing to waive jurisdiction over these provisions should not be construed as waiving, reducing, or affecting the jurisdiction of the Committee on House Administration.

Additionally, the Committee on House Administration expressly reserves its authority to seek conferees on any provision within its jurisdiction during any House-Senate conference that may be convened on this, or any similar legislation. I ask for your commitment to support any request by the Committee for conferees on H.R. 1695 for provisions within the Committee's jurisdiction.

I ask a copy of this letter and your response be placed in the Congressional Record during any floor consideration of H.R. 1695.

I look forward to working with you on matters of mutual concern.

Sincerely,

GREGG HARPER,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY,
Washington, DC, April 20, 2017.

Hon. GREGG HARPER,
Chairman, Committee on House Administration, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN HARPER: Thank you for consulting with the Committee on the Judiciary and agreeing to be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 1695, the ''Register of Copyrights Selection and Accountability Act,'' so that the bill may proceed expeditiously to the House floor.

I agree that your foregoing further action on this measure does not in any way diminish or alter the jurisdiction of your committee or prejudice its jurisdictional prerogatives on this bill or similar legislation in the future. I would support your effort to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees from your committee to any House-Senate conference on this legislation.

I will seek to place our letters on H.R. 1695 into the Congressional Record during floor consideration of the bill. I appreciate your cooperation regarding this legislation and look forward to continuing to work together as this measure moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

BOB GOODLATTE,
Chairman.

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

Mr. Chair, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1695, the Register of Copyrights Selection and Accountability Act. As lead Democratic cosponsor of this bipartisan, bicameral legislation, I am pleased that this bill passed out of our Judiciary Committee—thanks to Chairman GOODLATTE and many others—by a vote of 27–1.

This legislation represents sound public policy that will strengthen the copyright system. To begin with, it has evolved directly from the bipartisan copyright review process that Chairman GOODLATTE initiated way back in 2013. Over the course of that highly deliberative process, the Judiciary Committee held no less than 20 hearings and heard from over 100 witnesses on how to update the copyright laws for the 21st century.

H.R. 1695 is the product of more than 4 years of outreach efforts with a wide range of interested parties who very much want to see, like all of us, a Copyright Office that is responsible to all stakeholders in the copyright ecosystem.

This bill is also the product of bicameral collaboration with our Senate colleagues, including the Judiciary Committee Chairman GRASSLEY, the Ranking Member FEINSTEIN, and Senator LEAHY. As a result of this inclusive process, the strong bipartisan consensus emerged from the Copyright Office that needs to be more accountable to Congress, and that it should have greater independence.

That Office has a long and distinguished history of serving as an adviser to Congress on copyright measures, and it is only reasonable that Congress play a significant role in deciding who leads that important agency.

H.R. 1695 also elevates the stature of the Register and makes the position directly accountable to Congress, which will help ensure a strong and vibrant copyright system that fuels our economy, creates jobs, and promotes a diverse range of views.

Today, core copyright businesses annually contribute more than $1.2 trillion to our Nation's economy and generate foreign sales of almost $180 billion. These businesses are also tremendous job creators, creating more than 5 million workers.

That is why the bill is strongly supported by several unions, including the AFL–CIO, the Screen Actors Guild, the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists, as well as the Directors Guild of America.

H.R. 1695 is also supported by a broad range of other stakeholders, including: the American Intellectual Property Law Association; the Intellectual Property Owners Association; and various coalitions of creators, such as the Content Creators Coalition (c3), CreativeFuture, and the Copyright Alliance.

Individual creators like Jeff Friday, the founder and CEO of Film Life and the producer of the American Black Film Festival also are in strong support of the bill.

Finally, H.R. 1695 will enable Congress to ensure that the Copyright Office is led by a well-qualified individual by requiring the Register to be confirmed by the Senate. This individual must be responsive to the Congress and the public, as well as all the stakeholders in the copyright community.

In fact, an amendment offered by our distinguished colleague from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE), that was accepted during the Judiciary Committee markup of the bill, will further strengthen the selection process by establishing an even larger role for Congress in choosing candidates for the position.

Accordingly, I urge total support for H.R. 1695, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Chair, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. NADLER), a senior member of the committee who has done an amazing job.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Chair, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Chair, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1695. This legislation would strengthen the Copyright Office and make it more accountable to Congress by turning the Register of Copyrights into a Senate-confirmed position.

Since 2013, under the bipartisan leadership of Chairman GOODLATTE and Ranking Member CONYERS, the Judiciary Committee has undertaken a comprehensive review of the copyright laws and the Copyright Office. Over the course of 20 hearings with 100 witnesses, as well as listening sessions across the country, and individual meetings with a broad range of stakeholders, we have heard one consistent message: that the Copyright Office must be modernized to meet the needs of the public in the copyright community.

This bill is an important first step in that process, and it is appropriate that we consider it today on World Intellectual Property Day when we recognize the tremendous contribution that intellectual property laws, including copyright, make to our economy and to our creativity. But maintaining this vibrant copyright ecosystem depends on having an effective Copyright Office to oversee it. Throughout the copyright review process, it became evident that the current structure of the Office has hindered its ability to serve the public and the copyright community effectively.

For historical reasons, the Copyright Office is located in the Library of Congress, and the Register of Copyrights answers solely to the Librarian of Congress. As an institutional matter, this creates a conflict. Libraries are a key stakeholder in the copyright community, but they are one among many stakeholders, each with different priorities and interests. To place the Copyright Office in the hands of one interested party does a disservice to the copyright system it is charged with administering.

H.R. 1695 would remedy this problem by making the Register of Copyrights a Presidential appointment subject to Senate confirmation. It would establish an open and transparent process for publicly vetting a nominee for Register and would allow the broad range of copyright stakeholders to provide input through their elected Representatives.

It would also strengthen the ability of Congress to provide meaningful oversight of the Copyright Office, and, by establishing a 10-year term for the Register, it would insulate the Office from any improper political influence.

It is particularly important that Congress have the final say in who serves as Register because, by statute, the Copyright Office serves as an expert adviser to Congress on copyright matters. The Office has played an invaluable role throughout the Judiciary Committee's copyright review process, and this bill would ensure that we continue to rely on independent advice from the Register as we make further reforms to the copyright laws.

Under current law, the selection of the Register is left entirely to the Librarian. And since the Librarian serves at the pleasure of the President, it is really the President who can dictate the choice of Register if the Librarian wishes to keep her job. And the Register can be dismissed at any time by the Librarian, possibly at the direction of the President.

This bill serves as an important check on the President's power by removing his unfettered ability to name a Register, by requiring Senate confirmation of the position instead, and by giving the Register a fixed 10-year term.

The role of Congress is further solidified by an important amendment that was added during the committee's markup by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE). Under her amendment, which is now in the bill, a panel of congressional leaders, along with the Librarian of Congress, would develop a list of candidates from which the President would choose a nominee. This strengthens congressional input and preserves an important role in the process for the Librarian as well.

The Jackson Lee amendment strikes a good balance between respecting the roles of Congress, the President, and the Librarian in selecting the Register, and I appreciate the contribution she made to the bill.

The Copyright Office serves a vital function, but its current structure does not reflect the importance of the Office. H.R. 1695 elevates the status and the stature of the Register, and treats the position like other Federal officials with similarly significant responsibilities—like the Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. This would make the Copyright Office more responsive and accountable to Congress, and it is the first step to its providing the Office with the flexibility and independence it needs to serve all members of the copyright community effectively.

This legislation is independent of any evaluation of the fitness of the current Librarian—who is excellent in my opinion—of the fitness of the prior Register. This legislation has been developed over a period of years, and the importance is institutional, not reflecting the personalities of the current occupants.

This legislation is supported by a broad range of stakeholders, including the AFL–CIO and several other major unions, and it passed the Judiciary Committee by a nearly unanimous vote of 27–1.

It deserves similar support by the full House, and I urge all of my colleagues to support the bill.

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Chair, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRADY), ranking member of the House Administration Committee.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Chairman, I thank the ranking member for whom I have the utmost respect for. But unfortunately, I rise in opposition to this bill.

Dr. Carla Hayden, appointed by President Obama, has been on the job less than a year and deserves the opportunity to complete the IT modernization of the Copyright Office before this authority is taken away from her. As ranking member of the Committee on House Administration, I know that Dr. Hayden has made excellent process in reforming the Copyright

Office, knocking 2 years off the estimated time to complete its modernization. This bill is a solution in search of a problem.

This measure not only impedes the progress Dr. Hayden is currently making but will also undue the strides that have already been made. Simply put, this bill does nothing to improve the operations of the Copyright Office.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to stay with Dr. Hayden and vote ''no'' on this bill.

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LOFGREN), a senior member of the Judiciary Committee.

□ 1415

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Chair, despite all the rhetoric, this bill does really just one thing: it takes the appointment of the Register away from Dr. Carla Hayden, the most qualified Librarian we have ever had at the Library of Congress, and gives it to President Trump.

Now, the policy excuses for this are simply unpersuasive. Proponents say that this would give greater transparency to the Congress and the operation of the Copyright Office. I think this is a ridiculous statement.

Once a Presidential appointment is confirmed, there is no greater attention to the desires of Congress or transparency than for any other non-Presidential appointment. The conflicts that the Republican Congress had with President Obama's Environmental Protection Agency and IRS appointees are testimony to that truth.

There are vague claims of elevating the Register and modernizing the Office, but, in fact, the Library is finally making progress on modernizing the Office. This bill would actually disrupt that progress.

When you talk about conflicts, the Library doesn't have a conflict with this, but who does have a conflict is President Trump. He holds 30 copyrights. So I don't think the idea of President Trump being a superior selector of the Register because of his elevation or his expertise as a writer really holds any weight.

I would like to mention the amendment that our colleague SHEILA JACKSON LEE had offered. I am extremely fond of my friend SHEILA JACKSON LEE, but the amendment does nothing because you cannot limit Presidential appointment power through statute. The President is limited only by the advice and consent of the Senate.

Finally, I would like to say that the potential for empowering special interests in this bill is very high. We ought to say ''no'' to this bill.

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Chairman, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. CÁRDENAS).

Mr. CÁRDENAS. Mr. Chair, I appreciate all the great work that my colleague, Congressman CONYERS, has done not only on this issue, for the many years you have served distinguishably in this Congress, but thank you so much for yielding some time.

Mr. Chair, I rise in support of H.R. 1695, the Register of Copyrights Selection and Accountability Act of 2017.

I represent the San Fernando Valley, which is in the Los Angeles area. For my constituents, for the families in my district, copyright protections are not an abstract philosophical issue, ladies and gentlemen. The families in my district depend on strong copyright protections in order to earn a living, to feed their family. They work in film and television studios and in music publishing. They are artists, set designers, producers, union drivers; they work on lots, and they work in every aspect supporting this incredible industry.

There are 127,000 film and television production jobs in Los Angeles County. According to a recent report, the core copyright industries—film, television, music, video games, and publishing—make possible 5.5 million jobs and bring in $1.2 trillion of gross domestic product to the American economy.

Good copyright laws and regulations mean jobs and whether or not a family can put food on the table and a roof over their heads. We need to give the Copyright Office the respect and authority it deserves as the overseer of 5.5 million American jobs.

I have heard from my constituents for years about the need to empower the Copyright Office to keep up with the industry and the technology changes. This is not a new debate, ladies and gentlemen.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill and to continue to stand up for American copyright jobs.

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Chairman, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. JOHNSON), a distinguished member of the Judiciary Committee.

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Chair, I thank the ranking member, and I appreciate his work. I appreciate the chairman's work on this bill.

I believe that this proposal is illtimed, and that is why I rise in opposition to it.

Today, World Intellectual Property Day, the protection of our Nation's intellectual property and, specifically, our copyrights is too important to take lightly.

The system for the appointment of the Register of Copyrights has long been in place, and selection of the head of the Office of Copyrights has been within the purview of the Librarian of Congress, this Nation's top librarian.

The system is not broken, but the entire system, including the Library of Congress, is in need of congressional attention and upgrade. What is needed is modernization, which requires more funding. Our first order of business should be to fund adequately the operations of the Library of Congress as well as the Office of Copyrights. But in these days where we are trying to keep the government from closing, you see what we are dealing with in that regard. It is fitting that this decision remain with the Librarian, as she has an interest in protecting copyrighted materials as head librarian.

The nomination and consent process has been politicized, with the recent theft from President Obama of a United States Supreme Court appointment serving as Exhibit A.

The Library has been well underfunded for many years, and separating the Register's Office would not help with the comprehensive modernization of the Library or the Copyright Office. Instead, it would subject the newly independent Office to the appropriations process, which, as I stated, is already failing.

The Library of Congress is the premiere stakeholder in the smooth and efficient operations of the Office of Copyrights. The Librarian of Congress is in the best position to monitor the operations of the Copyright Office much more than the Office of the President.

Modernization of the Library has been discussed for the past 10 years. Let's do it comprehensively. Let's not start off with this proposal which, quite frankly, doesn't pass the smell test at this time.

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Chairman, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Chair, I am pleased to yield 4 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Florida (Mr. DEUTCH).

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Chair, I thank my friend, the ranking member from Michigan, for the time, and I appreciate the opportunity to join the majority of my committee colleagues as a cosponsor of this bill. It reflects the general consensus that Congress needs to step in to increase the autonomy of the Copyright Office, while still respecting its historic connection to the Library.

This bill is an important first step in reforming the Copyright Office, but it can't be the only step. Through the hearings this committee has held over the past few years, we have learned how truly behind the curve the Copyright Office is.

I have worked with colleagues to find a bipartisan and consensus-driven set of reforms for the Copyright Office that would go beyond just this step in the

process of selecting a Register, as have the chairman and Ranking Member CONYERS and others on the committee.

It should be obvious that, to bring the Office into the 21st century, we need to do more than just change the selection process for the Register of Copyrights. It requires a massive overhaul of the IT system of the Office to create both a smoother process for creators seeking to protect their work and a system to enable the public to search the broad catalog of American creativity.

It requires increased accountability and consultation with both the creative and the user communities so that we ensure that the improvements and investments meet the needs of all those who rely on the Copyright Office to do its job well.

Establishing the Register of Copyrights with authority outside of the Library of Congress is not a reflection on the Librarian of Congress. It is a recognition of the reality that the Library and the Copyright Office have two fundamentally different missions, and they deserve to be empowered to pursue those missions. It is a recognition that success for both of these important entities means allowing them to maintain their historic connection but operate on a day-to-day basis with greater autonomy.

I am glad that the chairman has taken up this first step, and I look forward to working with him and Ranking Member CONYERS and others on the next steps as well.

This piece of legislation supports strong copyright laws in our country. Having strong copyright means the ability for creators to be able to do their work. It means the creation of jobs.

The reason that this piece of legislation has such strong bipartisan support, the reason that it is supported by the thousands and thousands of people who earn their living every day as a result of the creativity that strong copyright laws protect, the reason they are supporting this legislation is because it is an important first step.

I am glad to participate in this debate, and I look forward to passing this bill, H.R. 1695, in order to take that first step to promote stronger copyright, to provide the kind of autonomy that the Copyright Office needs so that it can move forward rapidly with modernization, and, most importantly, at this moment in our Nation's history, to ensure that we have the strongest possible avenue to create even more good jobs, well-paying jobs. That is what this legislation is about.

Mr. Chair, I encourage all of my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Chair, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Chair, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentlewoman from California (Ms. JUDY CHU).

Ms. JUDY CHU of California. Mr. Chair, this is a bill that is critical for us to pass. It is the result of more than 3 years of hearings, listening tours, and dozens of conversations with a wide range of stakeholders.

Under the leadership of Chairman BOB GOODLATTE and Ranking Member JOHN CONYERS, the Judiciary Committee members sat through hours of hearings and even traveled to different cities around the country to hear from all the stakeholders that are impacted by our copyright policies.

It is clear that we need a change in the Copyright Office. We need to protect our Copyright Office. We can do that with a Presidential appointee of the Register. That is why this bill is supported by a wide range of stakeholders, including the AFL–CIO; the Screen Actors Guild-American Federation of Television and Radio Artists, SAG-AFTRA; the Directors Guild; the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees, or IATSE; the American Federation of Musicians; the Motion Picture Association of America; the Recording Industry Association of America; the GRAMMYs; the National Association of Broadcasters; Software and Information Industry Association; the American Intellectual Property Law Association; and the Intellectual Property Owners Association, amongst many.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues, for the sake of our future and the protection of copyright, to support this bill.

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Chairman, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Chair, it is my pleasure to yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE), one of the most influential members of the Judiciary Committee.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Chair, let me thank the gentleman from Michigan and all of my colleagues that have spoken on this job-creating legislation and recognition of how great America is with all of the creative talent that we have mustered, the music that you enjoy, the songwriters and others who created both the visual and musical arts. This is what this is about.

Now, I have listened to some of my colleagues from California. I am not from California. I am from Houston, Texas. But we know that creative artists and writers and those who invent and those who write wonderful stories are all part of the arena of what America is great about. They generate genius and they create jobs. The Copyright Office is that protector that ensures that those jobs will be protected.

We, over a series of years in the Judiciary Committee, have looked at reforming the copyright system. We have had hearings even with the former Copyright Register, who indicated that putting her position in a Senate confirmation would be the right thing to do. But it has taken 4 years.

So today we have come not to be out of order and not doing other major aspects of reform. In fact, I want to congratulate the Librarian of Congress who, now, is engaged in modernization. I applaud her. Her appointment has been significant. She is innovative and is already working to make sure that the Library and the creative arts and assets and property of those of great talent is protected.

□ 1430

Today we address an aspect of that work, and that is we want to continue to see the progress that our Librarian has made. We want to be able to make on an equal status that individual that is dealing with copyright just as the director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office status as a Presidential appointee does not compromise that person's ability to execute their duties as head of the USPTO, nor should it compromise or interfere with the responsibilities of cooperation, collaboration, jurisdictional compromise, and work between the Librarian of Congress and the Register of Copyrights.

To the Librarian of Congress, my view is keep working, keep doing the modernization work. I believe that as we move forward, regardless of who at this point is in the Office of President, that we can ensure that Congress has insight and oversight over this important position.

Let me also suggest to my colleagues that the Library of Congress is an important part of the work of Congress, and I think all of us should be interested stakeholders in the work that it does and should be supporters of that.

We encourage the Library of Congress to work with America's constituency by having programs and letting them know of the wonderful artifacts that are there, that are held, that tell the history of this great Nation. It is always important to be able to do research there and to see the storied history.

Now, we come to this bill that does nothing to undermine that storied history or the Librarian of Congress. What it does, as I have indicated, is it helps us create jobs.

Now, in order to recognize the importance of the Librarian of Congress, in this instance, Dr. Carla Hayden, I am very grateful that my colleagues accepted an amendment that I have that, in fact, does do something, and it does a very important action. It respects and recognizes the value of Congress' insight on putting forth nominees or names that will be selected from to become the Register of Copyrights, not to have limited input, but to actually produce the names.

Ultimately, I hope that an amendment going forward after this bill,

working with the Senate, can be that there is a limit to the names being put forward and that those names are the names that are put forward to the President of the United States. I think that is an element that should be included.

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. FORTENBERRY). The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Chair, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentlewoman from Texas.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. In the amendment, it has that the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President pro tempore of the Senate, the majority leader of the House of Representatives, the majority leader of the Senate, minority leader of the House of Representatives, and the Librarian of Congress will be, in fact, the deciders of who gets nominated to be the Register of Copyrights.

As we well know, the AFL–CIO has provided a letter of support, along with the American Federation of Musicians, the Authors Guild, the Directors Guild of America, the Graphic Artists Guild, the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees, and Screen Actors Guild. All of these create jobs and all of these unions have representatives all around the Nation.

Finally, I would say it is extremely important that the musicians and artists of color have indicated that they see no bias in this particular legislation against the present Librarian and have written a letter indicating that they believe that there is no bias.

The Acting CHAIR. The time of the gentlewoman has again expired.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Chair, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentlewoman from Texas.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. So I ask my colleagues to work together and to pass H.R. 1695 to continue the process of modernization of the Copyright Office and continue the collaborative work between the Librarian of Congress and the Register of Copyrights. There is no difference in the cooperation of decades before and, as well, there is no indication that that will not occur in the future. Both of them will have 10-year terms, and I believe that we will move forward on behalf of the American people.

Mr. Chair, I rise in support of the rule under consideration for H.R. 1695, the ''Register of Copyrights Selection and Accountability Act of 2017,'' as amended to include the Jackson Lee Amendment.

H.R. 1695, the ''Register of Copyrights Selection and Accountability Act of 2017,'' if enacted, would change the selection process for the Register of Copyrights, who is the Director of the United States Copyright Office, which is housed in the Library of Congress.

The Librarian of Congress, an appointed position subject to Senate confirmation since 1987, is currently tasked with modernizing the Library of Congress.

This legislation is not about taking power away from any individual.

In fact, Dr. Carla Hayden, the current Librarian of Congress, is by all accounts serving the various needs of the Library of Congress very well.

This legislation and the Jackson Lee Amendment only further the Library's efforts to effectively modernize its copyright selection and approval process.

Just as the Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's status as a Presidential appointee does not compromise her ability execute her duties as head of the USPTO, the Copyright Register will not be compromised by the fact he or she is a Presidential appointee.

Dr. Hayden is an exceptional administrator and the bill before us in no way reflects adversely upon her.

The Jackson Lee Amendment, accepted during markup with bipartisan support by the members of the Judiciary Committee to improve the bill, recognizes the dual role of the Library of Congress as both a legislative and a national institution, militating against giving President carte blanche in nominating the Register of Copyrights.

Specifically, the bill's amended provision establishes a 7-person panel to recommend a list of at least three (3) individuals to the President for appointment as the Register of Copyrights.

The amendment provides that the panel membership shall be as follows:

1. Speaker of the House of Representatives;
2. President pro tempore of the Senate;
3. Majority Leader of the House of Representatives;
4. Majority Leader of the Senate;
5. Minority Leader of the House of Representatives;
6. Minority Leader of the Senate; and the
7. Librarian of Congress.

This bill is the product of years of bipartisan deliberation, and reflects the collective and considered judgment of Members of Congress that the Copyright Office would be strengthened as an institution were the Register to be selected through the advise and consent process, regardless of which political party occupied the Oval Office or controlled majorities in Congress.

The essential role of government is to protect life, liberty and property.

That is why a fundamental bulwark of the core values demonstrated by our constitution is property rights—a notion understood by the Founders at the dawn of the Republic.

For precisely that reason, the Founding Fathers recognized the importance of IP in Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution: ''To promote the Progress of Science and useful Arts, by securing for limited times to Authors and Inventors the exclusive Right to their respective Writings and Discoveries.''

This clause, articulated by the Founders, is rooted in the notion that the best way to encourage creation and dissemination of new inventions and creative works to the benefit of both the public good and individual liberty is to recognize one's right to his or her intellectual property.

On November 12, 1975, at the investiture of Daniel J. Boorstin as the 12th Librarian of Congress, Congressman Lucien N. Nedzi of Michigan, the Chairman of the Joint Committee on the Library, stated:

> As its name reveals, the Library is the Library of Congress—a fact in which the Congress of the United States takes great pride—and, of equal importance, if not more so, it is a national library that serves all of the people of the United States.

H.R. 1695, balanced by the Jackson Lee Amendment, strikes the proper balance and harmonizes these dual interests.

The national interest and character of the institution is preserved by elevating the office of the Register of Copyrights and vesting in the President the authority to nominate the Register of Copyrights.

The legislative interest is protected by constraining the President to select for appointment 1 of 3 persons recommended by panel that represents the institutional interests of Congress in the Library and its subdivisions—the joint congressional leadership and the Librarian of Congress.

The panel only possesses the power to recommend candidates to the President; it cannot dictate the President's choice.

Moreover, this arrangement complies with Article II, Section 2, Clause 2 of the Constitution, which provides:

> [The President] shall . . . nominate, and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, shall appoint ambassadors, other public ministers and consuls, judges of the Supreme Court, and all other officers of the United States, whose appointments are not herein otherwise provided for, and which shall be established by law[.]

The Founder's wisdom is manifest in today's creative economy, which contributes more than $1.2 trillion to GDP and supports 5.5 million jobs.

Yet in a quirk of history, without this legislation, Congress has no role in the selection of the Register of Copyrights, even though the Register is Congress' statutorily designated expert advisor on copyright policy and the head of the Copyright Office.

What is no accident is that Congress can fix this problem by passing H.R. 1695, on World IP Day, Wednesday, April 26, 2017.

This would increase accountability to Congress as well as transparency by giving all Americans a voice in the selection of the Register through their elected representatives.

We can think of no better way to recognize the contributions of copyright to the economy than by finally ascribing to the position of Register an importance commensurate with the sector it oversees.

I urge my support for the rule, as well as the underlying legislation as amended.

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Chairman, I have no speakers remaining, and I am prepared to close when Ranking Member CONYERS concludes.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself the balance of my time to close.

Ladies and gentlemen, in closing, I want to point out that it is particularly appropriate that we are considering H.R. 1695 on World Intellectual Property Day, a day dedicated to acknowledging the critical role that intellectual property rights play in encouraging creativity and innovation.

First established in 2001, World Intellectual Property Day encourages engagement among governments, private industry, and the public about the importance of intellectual property promotion and protection.

H.R. 1695 goes a long way in achieving those goals. Accordingly, I thank my colleagues for their support, and I urge that this bill be passed.

Mr. Chairman, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE).

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Chair, I include in the RECORD a letter from the Content Creators Coalition, dated April 25, 2017, in support of this legislation.

APRIL 25, 2017.

CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS MEMBER: On behalf of the Content Creators Coalition, we write in support of H.R. 1695, the Register of Copyrights Selection and Accountability Act, which would modernize and provide greater transparency to the process of selecting the Register of the Copyright Office.

This is vital legislation that will strengthen the Copyright Office. We believe this selection process should be granted a similar import, rigor, and transparency as the processes of selecting other organizations, such as the U.S. Patent and Trademark office, that oversee large industries: Presidential nomination and Senate confirmation. In light of the specialized knowledge required to lead this office, we also support the appointment of an advisory group to suggest candidates for consideration.

This legislation would place the Copyright Office on equal footing as other economically and culturally vital agencies. It has wide bipartisan support and was passed out of the typically polarized House Judiciary Committee on a vote of 27–1.

As artists of color, we find it deeply offensive that opponents of this bill have attempted to recast their anti-creators' rights goals into a smear campaign against its sponsors and supporters, insinuating that the legislation is about the race and gender of the current Librarian of Congress. The Register of Copyrights Selection and Accountability Act is co-authored by the Dean of the House and the Congressional Black Caucus, Judiciary Ranking Member John Conyers, and supported by Congressman John Lewis. Their lifelong and unshakeable commitment to civil rights is a historical fact and should be honored and respected, not opportunistically and baselessly questioned just to score a few empty political points.

We would be the first to speak out against prejudice or bias anywhere—in business, culture, the arts, or politics. But here, we know these charges are false. The bill has nothing to do with the current Librarian at all—in fact, these reform proposals pre-date her appointment.

Nor does this bill have anything to do with the former Register of Copyrights. We are grateful for her tireless efforts and advocacy on behalf of working musicians and find it appalling that some have engaged in efforts to drag her record through the mud to defeat these reforms.

And certainly the bill has nothing to do with the current President—once again, these proposals to modernize the Copyright Office long pre-date his election. It is the height of cynicism for bill opponents to attempt to ride on the powerful coattails of the ''RESIST'' movement by falsely wrapping this bipartisan pro-artist, pro-creator legislation in the controversies surrounding the President, especially in light of his proposal for massive cuts to funding for the arts. In our view, misleading the President's critics by leveraging fear into opposition for a non-controversial proposal like this ultimately undermines and disrespects our movement.

The need for this legislation is plain. The current system in which the Librarian of Congress selects the Register is the result of a unique moment in history and outdated concerns: in 1870, the Librarian of Congress asked Congress to give him the authority to appoint the Register in order to deal with a massive influx of new works and the need to quickly grow the Library's collection.

Nearly 150 years later, the functions of the Copyright Office have changed. It is no mere registry of creative works, but has become the most trusted advisor on Copyright law and its interpretation for the United States Congress. The process of selecting a leader to this office should reflect the importance of copyright to the U.S. economy.

Congress is reviewing and revising copyright laws to ensure they continue to protect all music creators in a time of rapid transition online. It deserves the best advice it can get, and reform of the Register selection process is long overdue.

Thank you for consideration of our views,

MELVIN GIBBS.
NONA HENDRYX.
ERNIE ISLEY.
RAMSEY JONES.
DARRELL MCNEILL.
V JEFFERY SMITH.

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

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Chair, I yield myself the balance of my time to close.

I thank Ranking Member CONYERS and many other Members across the aisle, as well as the subcommittee chair and the subcommittee vice chair of the Judiciary Committee's Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property, and the Internet—Mr. ISSA and Mr. COLLINS—for their hard work in support of this legislation, which is urgently needed. It is very straightforward. It has very broad bipartisan support here in the House.

It is also strongly supported in a bipartisan fashion in the Senate. A wide array of outside organizations—virtually every copyright organization in the country—as well as a number of other organizations concerned about the importance of intellectual property protection and particularly copyright law want to see the status of the Register of Copyrights elevated by Presidential appointment with input from six leaders in the House and the Senate and the Librarian of Congress to select the next Register of Copyrights and have a 10-year term, which is compatible with terms of other important legislative branch positions.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Chair, today I voted against H.R. 1695, the Register of Copyrights Selection and Accountability Act. As the founder and co-chair of the Congressional Library of Congress Caucus, I care deeply about the services and the mission of the Library, including the U.S. Copyright Office. It's past time to bring the Library and the Copyright Office into the 21st Century, and I strongly support efforts to modernize and reform existing practices. H.R. 1695, however, might unnecessarily politicize the Copyright Office and the position of the Register and could make its work less transparent and less neutral to all parties. We should allow Dr. Carla Hayden to continue to guide the modernization process by selecting a Register, a decision enjoyed by all of her predecessors to hold the office of Librarian. While it is unclear that H.R. 1695 would do more good than harm, I look forward to working with my colleagues on both sides of aisle on future efforts to reform and modernize the Library of Congress the copyright system.

The Acting CHAIR. All time for general debate has expired.

Pursuant to the rule, the bill shall be considered for amendment under the 5-minute rule. In lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on the Judiciary, printed in the bill, it shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the 5-minute rule an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 115–13. That amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered as read.

The text of the amendment in the nature of a substitute is as follows:

H.R. 1695

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Register of Copyrights Selection and Accountability Act of 2017''.

SEC. 2. REGISTER OF COPYRIGHTS.

(a) AMENDMENTS.—Section 701 of title 17, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking ''(a) All administrative'' and inserting the following:

''(a) REGISTER AND DIRECTOR.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—All administrative'';

(B) by striking ''director'' and inserting ''Director'';

(C) by inserting after the first sentence the following: ''The Register of Copyrights shall be a citizen of the United States with a professional background and experience in copyright law and shall be appointed by the President from the individuals recommended under paragraph (6), by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.''; and

(D) in the last sentence, by striking ''shall be appointed'' and all that follows through ''and shall act'' and inserting ''shall act'';

(2) in subsection (b), by redesignating paragraphs (1) through (5) as subparagraphs (A) through (E), respectively, and adjusting the margins accordingly;

(3) by redesignating subsection (b) as paragraph (2), and adjusting the margins accordingly;

(4) in paragraph (2), as so redesignated, by inserting ''DUTIES.—'' before ''In addition'';

(5) by inserting after paragraph (2) the following:

''(3) OATH.—The Register of Copyrights shall, before taking office, take an oath to discharge

faithfully the duties of the Copyright Office described in paragraph (2).

''(4) REMOVAL.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Register of Copyrights may be removed from office by the President.

''(B) NOTIFICATION.—The President shall provide notification to both Houses of Congress of a removal under subparagraph (A).

''(5) TERM OF OFFICE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B), the Register of Copyrights—

''(i) shall be appointed for a term of 10 years; and

''(ii) may serve until a successor is appointed, confirmed, and taken the oath of office.

''(B) LIMITATION.—The Register of Copyrights may not continue to serve after the date on which Congress adjourns sine die after the date on which the 10-year period described in subparagraph (A)(i) ends.

''(C) REAPPOINTMENT.—An individual appointed to the position of Register of Copyrights, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, may be reappointed to that position in accordance with the requirements of this section.

''(6) PANEL FOR REGISTER OF COPYRIGHTS RECOMMENDATIONS.—There is established a panel to recommend a list of at least 3 individuals to the President for appointment as the Register of Copyrights. The panel shall be composed of the following:

''(A) The Speaker of the House of Representatives.

''(B) The President pro tempore of the Senate.

''(C) The majority and minority leaders of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

''(D) The Librarian of Congress.'';

(6) by redesignating subsections (c) through (f) as subsections (b) through (e), respectively;

(7) in subsection (b), as so redesignated, by inserting ''SEAL.—'' before ''The Register'';

(8) in subsection (c), as so redesignated, by inserting ''ANNUAL REPORT.—'' before ''The Register'';

(9) in subsection (d), as so redesignated, by inserting ''APPLICABILITY OF TITLE 5.—'' before ''Except as provided''; and

(10) in subsection (e), as so redesignated, by inserting ''COMPENSATION.—'' before ''The Register''.

(b) APPLICABILITY.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to any vacancy for the Register of Copyrights after January 1, 2017. If a Register of Copyrights is appointed during the period beginning on January 1, 2017 and ending on the day before the date of the enactment of this Act, that Register shall meet the requirements of the amendments made by this Act or shall be replaced in accordance with such amendments.

The Acting CHAIR. No amendment to that amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be in order except those printed in House Report 115–95. Each such amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report, equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question.

AMENDMENT NO. 1 OFFERED BY MR. DEUTCH

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 1 printed in House Report 115–95.

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 1, line 18, insert after ''law'' the following: '', shall be capable of identifying and supervising a Chief Information Officer or other similar official responsible for managing modern information technology systems,''.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 275, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DEUTCH) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Chairman, this amendment will place a much-needed priority on advancing the technological capabilities of the U.S. Copyright Office.

I support the underlying bill to make the selection of the Register of Copyrights more open and more transparent. I also support the additional congressional oversight that will be necessary to ensure that the Register is accountable to the American people.

I agree with Chairman GOODLATTE, Ranking Member CONYERS, and my other colleagues on the Judiciary Committee that it is important that this bill move forward now. Making this improvement to the selection process for the next Register is an important first step before the committee advances broader Copyright Office modernization.

Even as we take this initial modest step to improve the appointment process, we can do more to strengthen the Copyright Office for today's economy. The Copyright Office's mission is to administer our Nation's copyright laws for the public good.

Securing Americans' rights to their intellectual property fosters creativity and benefits all Americans by advancing the arts and the sciences. In recent decades, this mission has been undermined by comically outdated information technology systems at the Copyright Office.

My amendment makes a simple change to the underlying bill to ensure that technology is always a part of the equation when selecting a new Register of Copyrights. My amendment would require the Register of Copyrights to be capable of identifying and supervising a chief information officer.

The CIO or a similar official would be responsible for managing information technology systems to advance the Copyright Office's capabilities and keep pace with our 21st century economy. One would assume that any qualified candidate for the Register of Copyrights has the skills and experiences necessary to guide the Office's technology office.

Why leave this vital aspect of the Copyright Office to assumptions?

Requiring the head of the Copyright Office to be ready to make this vital selection is not an overly burdensome obligation. For practical purposes, this capability is a necessity, and that is why my amendment would make technology an explicit part of the selection process.

My amendment merely requires that the person who will serve as the Register be capable of supervising the Office's chief information officer. Whatever happens next as we move forward with modernization, IT systems of the Copyright Office must keep pace with new advancements in technology. If Congress expects real progress toward improving the Copyright Office's technology, we must ensure that the leaders we select are prepared for the job.

I thank my Judiciary Committee colleague, Ms. LOFGREN. She made this point in committee during the markup of this bill, and the language in this amendment takes her suggestion a step further. It is a small change to the underlying bill, but it sends a much-needed signal that the work of the Copyright Office must include a focus on improving its IT systems.

This is only the beginning of Congress' work to modernize the Copyright Office. H.R. 1695 is a good first step, and I strongly support the underlying bill, but any step forward toward modernization must have IT improvements at the front of mind. I hope my colleagues also support this change. I think it is a commonsense step.

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

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Chairman, I claim the time in opposition to the amendment, but I do not oppose the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. Without objection, the gentleman from Virginia is recognized for 5 minutes.

There was no objection.

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Chairman, I rise to speak in support of the amendment offered by Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. DEUTCH has been a strong supporter of intellectual property as well as the modernization of the Copyright Office during the House Judiciary Committee's copyright review.

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The needs of a modern copyright registration system require advanced information technology systems, so it is critical that all future Registers have a strong base of information technology knowledge within the Office to lead such efforts. By requiring all future Registers to have the skills necessary to identify and hire a chief information officer or other similar official to lead such efforts within the Office, the Deutch amendment ensures a strong Copyright Office. I want to thank the gentleman for making this important contribution to the legislation.

I neglected to mention earlier—I don't see him here now—but I also want to thank the ranking member of

the subcommittee, the gentleman from New York (Mr. NADLER), for the important contributions he has made to this legislation as well.

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

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Chairman, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS), the ranking member.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Chairman, I just want everyone to know that I rise in support of this amendment. As we discovered through the Judiciary Committee's comprehensive copyright review process, the Copyright Office needs significant upgrades to its technology; so the gentleman's amendment would ensure that the Register has someone on her staff with the knowledge and skills necessary to bring the Copyright Office information technology system into the 21st century.

It is a useful amendment. It will help modernize the Copyright Office, and I appreciate the gentleman from Florida for offering it. I urge total support for the amendment.

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Chairman, I thank my friend from Michigan. I appreciate the strong support from Chairman GOODLATTE, and I urge all of my colleagues to support this good amendment.

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

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DEUTCH).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Florida will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 2 OFFERED BY MS. JUDY CHU OF CALIFORNIA

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 2 printed in House Report 115–95.

Ms. JUDY CHU of California. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill, add the following new section:

SEC. 3. CONSTRUCTION.

Nothing in this Act may be construed to impact the mandatory deposit requirements in title 17, United States Code.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 275, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. JUDY CHU) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

Ms. JUDY CHU of California. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of H.R. 1695 and the amendment that I offer. This is a simple amendment that specifies that the mandatory deposit requirement of the Library of Congress will not be affected in any way by the underlying bill.

Currently, applicants for copyright registration are required to submit two deposit copies to the Copyright Office. After the Office reviews the material to determine whether it qualifies for copyright protection, it makes the copies available for the Library for its use in its permanent collection.

In fact, that is a large reason that the Copyright Office is located in the Library of Congress to begin with. In 1870, Librarian Ainsworth Rand Spofford convinced Congress that placing the Copyright Office in the Library would help build its collection through deposits of registered works, which it has done successfully.

In the digital age, many argue that the mandatory deposit requirement should be modified in some way to better balance the needs of creators and the Library. My amendment states that H.R. 1695 may not be construed to impact the mandatory deposit requirement, and it makes clear that this issue is for another day. Passing this amendment will allow us to focus instead on the many benefits in turning the Register into a Presidentially appointed, Senate-confirmed position.

The underlying bill is a result of more than 3 years of hearings, listening tours, and dozens of conversations with a wide range of stakeholders. The Judiciary Committee Members, led by Chairman GOODLATTE and Ranking Member JOHN CONYERS, all sat through hours of hearings, and even traveled to different cities around the country to hear from all of our stakeholders who are impacted by our copyright policies.

As the Judiciary Committee finished its thorough review of the Copyright Act, there was broad consensus that the Copyright Office should be modernized and restructured so that it is more accountable to Congress and to the public.

This is why I, along with Congressman TOM MARINO, introduced a bipartisan bill to carry out these changes. Our bill, the Copyright Office for the Digital Economy Act, the CODE Act, would also put in place a system similar to the one in H.R. 1695 to elevate the Register. We introduced this bill 2 years ago, before the new Librarian was sworn in and when President Obama was still in office. This has been a bipartisan issue grounded on sound policy considerations.

I believe the changes proposed in H.R. 1695 will help improve the functionality of the Copyright Office, which members of the public rely on to protect their works or properly use copyrighted works. The core copyright industries are now responsible for $1.2 trillion of our GDP, which represents 7 percent of the economy. These industries also employ 5.5 million people.

We need to make sure the Copyright Office can modernize to meet the demands of the growing industries in our country, and its leadership that is accountable to Congress, which will help it move toward that direction. I urge my colleagues to support the amendment and the underlying bill.

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

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Chairman, I claim the time in opposition to the amendment, but I do not oppose the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. Without objection, the gentleman from Virginia is recognized for 5 minutes.

There was no objection.

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of the amendment offered by Ms. JUDY CHU. She has been a strong advocate for the protection of intellectual property as well as the modernization of the Copyright Office during the House Judiciary Committee's copyright review, and we miss her on the committee.

One of the issues that has been raised while we have discussed updates to our Nation's copyright laws is the importance of preserving our mandatory deposit system. The mandatory deposit system that exists in our Nation's copyright law has resulted in numerous copyrighted works being added to the collections of the Library of Congress at no charge to taxpayers. Without the mandatory deposit system, the Library's collections would be vastly smaller, without a significant increase in taxpayer funding in order to buy these copyrighted works that are now provided free to the Library.

Ms. JUDY CHU's amendment ensures that this system is not disrupted as the Register position is made subject to the nomination and consent process, and I urge my colleagues to support the amendment.

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

Ms. JUDY CHU of California. Mr. Chairman, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS), the ranking member of the Judiciary Committee.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

This amendment makes clear that nothing in the bill would impact the Library of Congress' mandatory deposit requirement. For over 100 years, the Library has built its world-class collection, in large part, through the mandatory deposit requirement.

So H.R. 1695 is a very narrow bill that only changes how the Register of Copyrights is selected. I think it is helpful, and I congratulate the gentlewoman for this very creative amendment. I urge my colleagues to support it.

Ms. JUDY CHU of California. Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. JUDY CHU).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 1 OFFERED BY MR. DEUTCH

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, the unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DEUTCH) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 410, noes 14, not voting 6, as follows:

[Roll No. 226]

AYES—410

Abraham
Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Allen
Amodei
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Banks (IN)
Barletta
Barr
Barragán
Barton
Bass
Beatty
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (MI)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Blum
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bost
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady (TX)
Brat
Bridenstine
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Brown (MD)
Brownley (CA)
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burgess
Bustos
Butterfield
Byrne
Calvert
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chabot
Chaffetz
Cheney
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coffman
Cohen
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Comer
Comstock
Conaway
Connolly
Conyers
Cook
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Costello (PA)
Courtney
Cramer
Crawford
Crist
Crowley
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Curbelo (FL)
Davidson
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
Davis, Rodney
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Demings
Denham
Dent
DeSantis
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Donovan
Duffy
Duncan (TN)
Dunn
Ellison
Emmer
Engel
Eshoo
Espaillat
Estes (KS)
Esty (CT)
Evans
Farenthold
Faso
Ferguson
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flores
Fortenberry
Foster
Foxx
Frankel (FL)
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
Garrett
Gibbs
Gohmert
Gonzalez (TX)
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gottheimer
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffith
Grijalva
Guthrie
Gutiérrez
Hanabusa
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings
Heck
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Hice, Jody B.
Higgins (LA)
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes
Holding
Hollingsworth
Hoyer
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurd
Issa
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Jenkins (KS)
Jenkins (WV)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kihuen
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kinzinger
Knight
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
Kustoff (TN)
Labrador
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (MN)
Lieu, Ted
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Long
Loudermilk
Love
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lujan Grisham, M.
Luján, Ben Ray
Lynch
MacArthur
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Marchant
Marshall
Massie
Mast
Matsui
McCarthy
McCaul
McClintock
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
McSally
Meadows
Meehan
Meeks
Meng
Messer
Mitchell
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Moore
Moulton
Mullin
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (PA)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Noem
Nolan
Norcross
Nunes
O'Halleran
O'Rourke
Olson
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Paulsen
Payne
Pearce
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters
Peterson
Pingree
Pittenger
Pocan
Poe (TX)
Poliquin
Polis
Posey
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Ratcliffe
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rohrabacher
Rooney, Francis
Rooney, Thomas J.
Ros-Lehtinen
Rosen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Rouzer
Roybal-Allard
Royce (CA)
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Russell
Rutherford
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez
Sanford
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sinema
Sires
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Soto
Speier
Stefanik
Stewart
Stivers
Suozzi
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Titus
Tonko
Torres
Trott
Tsongas
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walker
Walorski
Walters, Mimi
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters, Maxine
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Yarmuth
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IA)
Zeldin

NOES—14

Amash
Brady (PA)
Capuano
Doyle, Michael F.
Duncan (SC)
Fudge
Gaetz
Gallagher
Grothman
Lofgren
Richmond
Rokita
Rush
Thompson (MS)

NOT VOTING—6

Carson (IN)
Jeffries
Marino
Newhouse
Pascrell
Slaughter

□ 1522

Ms. SANCHEZ, Messrs. GRAVES of Georgia, RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, SESSIONS, PALAZZO, AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, WILSON of South Carolina, and BUTTERFIELD changed their vote from ''no'' to ''aye.''

So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. CARTER of Georgia). The question is on the amendment in the nature of a substitute, as amended.

The amendment was agreed to.

The Acting CHAIR. Under the rule, the Committee rises.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. HULTGREN) having assumed the chair, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Acting Chair of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1695) to amend title 17, United States Code, to provide additional responsibilities for the Register of Copyrights, and for other purposes, and, pursuant to House Resolution 275, he reported the bill back to the House with an amendment adopted in the Committee of the Whole.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the rule, the previous question is ordered.

Is a separate vote demanded on any amendment to the amendment reported from the Committee of the Whole?

If not, the question is on the amendment in the nature of a substitute, as amended.

The amendment was agreed to.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the passage of the bill.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, this 5-minute vote on passage of the bill will be followed by a 5-minute vote on the Speaker's approval of the Journal, if ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 378, nays 48, not voting 4, as follows:

[Roll No. 227]

YEAS—378

Abraham
Aderholt
Aguilar
Allen
Amash
Amodei
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Banks (IN)
Barletta
Barr
Barragán
Barton
Bass
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (MI)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Blum
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bost
Brady (TX)
Brat
Bridenstine
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Brown (MD)
Brownley (CA)
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd

Burgess
Bustos
Byrne
Calvert
Cárdenas
Carson (IN)
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chabot
Chaffetz
Cheney
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Coffman
Cohen
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Comer
Comstock
Conaway
Conyers
Cook
Cooper
Costa
Costello (PA)
Courtney
Cramer
Crawford
Crist
Crowley
Cuellar
Culberson
Curbelo (FL)
Davidson
Davis, Danny
Davis, Rodney
Delaney
DeLauro
Demings
Denham
Dent
DeSantis
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Donovan
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Dunn
Ellison
Emmer
Engel
Espaillat
Estes (KS)
Esty (CT)
Evans
Farenthold
Faso
Ferguson
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flores
Fortenberry
Foster
Foxx
Frankel (FL)
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gabbard
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garrett
Gibbs
Gohmert
Gonzalez (TX)
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gottheimer
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffith
Grijalva
Grothman
Guthrie
Gutiérrez
Hanabusa
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings
Heck
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Hice, Jody B.
Higgins (LA)
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes
Holding
Hollingsworth
Hoyer
Hudson
Huizenga
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurd
Issa
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Jeffries
Jenkins (KS)
Jenkins (WV)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kihuen
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kinzinger
Knight
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
Kustoff (TN)
Labrador
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (MN)
Lieu, Ted
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Long
Loudermilk
Love
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lujan Grisham, M.
Luján, Ben Ray
Lynch
MacArthur
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Marchant
Marshall
Mast
McCarthy
McCaul
McClintock
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
McSally
Meadows
Meehan
Meeks
Meng
Messer
Mitchell
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Moore
Moulton
Mullin
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (PA)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Noem
Nolan
Nunes
O'Halleran
O'Rourke
Olson
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Paulsen
Pearce
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters
Peterson
Pingree
Pittenger
Pocan
Poe (TX)
Poliquin
Posey
Quigley
Raskin
Ratcliffe
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney, Francis
Rooney, Thomas J.
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Rouzer
Roybal-Allard
Royce (CA)
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Russell
Rutherford
Sánchez
Sanford
Scalise
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sewell (AL)
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sinema
Sires
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Soto
Stefanik
Stewart
Stivers
Suozzi
Swalwell (CA)
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Titus
Tonko
Torres
Trott
Tsongas
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walker
Walorski
Walters, Mimi
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters, Maxine
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Yarmuth
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IA)
Zeldin

NAYS—48

Adams
Beatty
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady (PA)
Butterfield
Capuano
Carbajal
Cartwright
Clyburn
Connolly
Correa
Cummings
Davis (CA)
DeFazio
DeGette
DelBene
DeSaulnier
Doyle, Michael F.
Eshoo
Fudge
Huffman
Johnson (GA)
Jones
Lofgren
Massie
Matsui
McCollum
McEachin
Norcross
Payne
Pelosi
Polis
Price (NC)
Richmond
Rosen
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Scott (VA)
Shea-Porter
Speier
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Watson Coleman

NOT VOTING—4

Marino
Newhouse
Pascrell
Slaughter

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1532

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal, which the Chair will put de novo.

The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 237, nays 161, answered ''present'' 2, not voting 30, as follows:

[Roll No. 228]

YEAS—237

Abraham
Adams
Aderholt
Allen
Amodei
Arrington
Bacon
Banks (IN)
Barletta
Barton
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Brady (TX)
Brat
Bridenstine
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Brown (MD)
Buchanan
Budd
Bustos
Butterfield
Byrne
Carson (IN)
Carter (TX)
Castro (TX)
Chabot
Chaffetz
Cheney
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clay
Cohen
Cole
Collins (NY)
Comstock
Conyers
Cook
Cooper
Correa
Courtney
Crawford
Crowley
Cuellar
Culberson
Curbelo (FL)
Davidson
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Dent
DesJarlais
Dingell
Doggett
Donovan
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Dunn
Engel
Eshoo
Espaillat
Estes (KS)
Esty (CT)
Farenthold
Ferguson
Fleischmann
Fortenberry
Foster
Frankel (FL)
Frelinghuysen
Garrett
Gonzalez (TX)
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Green, Al
Griffith
Grijalva
Guthrie
Hanabusa
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Heck
Higgins (LA)
Higgins (NY)
Himes
Hollingsworth
Huffman
Hultgren
Hunter
Issa
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Kaptur
Katko
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kildee
King (IA)
King (NY)
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
Kustoff (TN)
Labrador
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
Lawson (FL)
Lipinski
Long
Loudermilk
Love
Lowenthal
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lujan Grisham, M.
Luján, Ben Ray
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Marshall
Massie
McCarthy
McCaul
McClintock
McCollum
McHenry
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
Meadows
Meeks
Meng
Mitchell
Mooney (WV)
Moulton
Mullin
Murphy (FL)
Nadler
Napolitano
Noem
Nunes
O'Rourke
Olson
Palazzo
Palmer
Panetta
Payne
Perlmutter
Pingree
Pocan
Polis
Posey
Price (NC)
Richmond
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rokita
Rooney, Francis
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Royce (CA)
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rutherford
Sanford
Scalise
Schiff
Schneider
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Sinema
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Speier
Stefanik
Stewart
Suozzi
Takano
Taylor
Tenney
Thornberry
Titus
Torres
Trott
Tsongas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Wagner
Walden
Walker
Walters, Mimi
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters, Maxine
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yarmuth
Young (IA)
Zeldin

NAYS—161

Aguilar
Amash
Babin
Barr
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (MI)
Blum
Bost
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady (PA)
Brownley (CA)
Buck
Bucshon
Burgess
Capuano
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carter (GA)
Castor (FL)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Clyburn
Collins (GA)
Comer
Conaway
Connolly
Costa
Costello (PA)
Crist
Cummings
Davis, Rodney
DeFazio
Delaney
Denham
DeSantis
DeSaulnier
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Doyle, Michael F.
Duffy
Evans
Faso
Fitzpatrick
Flores
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Fudge
Gaetz
Gallagher

Gallego	Lewis (GA)	Rice (NY)
Gibbs	Lewis (MN)	Ros-Lehtinen
Gottheimer	Lieu, Ted	Rosen
Graves (GA)	LoBiondo	Rouzer
Graves (LA)	Loebsack	Roybal-Allard
Graves (MO)	Lofgren	Rush
Green, Gene	Lynch	Ryan (OH)
Grothman	MacArthur	Sánchez
Gutiérrez	Maloney, Sean	Sarbanes
Hastings	Mast	Schakowsky
Herrera Beutler	Matsui	Schrader
Hice, Jody B.	McEachin	Sewell (AL)
Hill	McGovern	Sires
Hoyer	McKinley	Smith (MO)
Hudson	McSally	Soto
Huizenga	Meehan	Stivers
Hurd	Moolenaar	Swalwell (CA)
Jackson Lee	Murphy (PA)	Thompson (CA)
Jayapal	Neal	Thompson (MS)
Jeffries	Norcross	Thompson (PA)
Jenkins (KS)	O'Halleran	Tiberi
Johnson (OH)	Pallone	Tipton
Jordan	Paulsen	Turner
Joyce (OH)	Pearce	Upton
Keating	Pelosi	Valadao
Kihuen	Perry	Vargas
Kilmer	Peters	Visclosky
Kind	Peterson	Walberg
Kinzinger	Pittenger	Watson Coleman
Knight	Poe (TX)	Weber (TX)
LaHood	Poliquin	Wilson (FL)
Lance	Raskin	Woodall
Langevin	Ratcliffe	Yoder
Lawrence	Reed	Young (AK)
Lee	Reichert	
Levin	Renacci	

ANSWERED ''PRESENT''—2

Rice (SC)	Tonko

NOT VOTING—30

Calvert	Holding	Rohrabacher
Cartwright	Jenkins (WV)	Rooney, Thomas J.
Coffman	Lowey	Russell
Cramer	Marchant	Simpson
Demings	Marino	Slaughter
Ellison	Messer	Walorski
Emmer	Moore	Webster (FL)
Gabbard	Newhouse	Yoho
Garamendi	Nolan	
Gohmert	Pascrell	
Hensarling	Quigley	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1540

Ms. SINEMA changed her vote from ''nay'' to ''yea.''

So the Journal was approved.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. MARINO. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to attend votes on April 25, 2017 and April 26, 2017 due to a family medical issue. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

''Yea'' for rollcall vote 222.
''Yea'' for rollcall vote 223.
''Yea'' for rollcall vote 224.
''Yea'' for rollcall vote 225.
''Yea'' for rollcall vote 226.
''Yea'' for rollcall vote 227.
''Yea'' for rollcall vote 228.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.J. RES. 50

Mr. DAVIDSON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that my name be removed as a cosponsor of H.J. Res. 50 in order to emphasize my support of term limits under H.J. Res. 6.

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

There was no objection.

MOMENT OF SILENCE HONORING FORMER REPRESENTATIVE JAY DICKEY

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

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember the life of former Congressman Jay Dickey, who represented the Fourth District of Arkansas for 8 years. In the days since Congressman Dickey's death last week at the age of 77, tributes have poured in, with many noting his sense of civic duty, his love of family, and, most of all, his faith in God.

If you spent much time with Jay, you likely reached a point in the conversation where he would pause and ask a pointed question: When you die, where will you spend eternity?

I remember Jay asking me that question, and when I quickly responded ''Heaven,'' he didn't let me off easy, as he followed up with: How do you know? After which, we had a long discussion sharing our common faith in Christ.

There are current Members of this House who served with Jay, the first Republican to represent Arkansas' Fourth Congressional District. Regardless of political party, he was a representative of all Arkansans, and he genuinely cared about people.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the Members of the House to join me and the Members of the Arkansas congressional delegation in observing a moment of silence in remembrance of Congressman Jay Dickey.

100 DAYS OF BROKEN PROMISES

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

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, this Saturday marks 100 days of broken promises made to the American worker by the Trump administration. On the campaign trail, he promised to fight for the American worker and create jobs right here at home. Since he has taken office, he has done the opposite.

During the first few weeks of his administration, the President signed an executive order to raise mortgage rates for new homeowners. The administration also killed worker protections for individual workers in this country, and then they also have done nothing, absolutely nothing to deal with Davis-Bacon and prevailing wages, which guarantees American workers the right to earn more money. Finally, the administration gutted another protection that would have made it harder for companies to secure Federal contracts if they have a history of labor law violations.

It is more than clear that this administration does not plan to fight for the American worker, the American man and woman out there making it every day in America. Instead, they are doing everything they can to help the President's billionaire buddies and to promote golf courses and other businesses that they own.

Mr. Speaker, that is why we will continue to stand up to the administration when it turns its back on working class Americans.

□ 1545

DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE

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

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the Days of Remembrance and pay tribute to all those who were affected by the enormity, the calamity, and the horrors of the Holocaust.

On April 11, 1945, at 3 p.m. in the afternoon, General Patton's Third Army liberated Buchenwald concentration camp, with the help of my father-in-law, Bill McKenzie, then a young 22-year-old U.S. Army officer, fresh from the corps at Texas A&M University.

Bill said of that day: ''I will not describe the horrible sight of our entry into Buchenwald, but I will tell you this—that the crematorium was still burning, dead were stacked like cordwood on large trailers, and the living dead were starving.''

Some 65 years later, I would deliver the eulogy at Bill's funeral and read a condolence letter sent to our family from the nephew of a survivor he rescued that day.

As a member of the Greatest Generation, Bill will always be remembered by us as a hero, and his role liberating innocent people from the Nazi Germany death camps is a proud distinction for our family. His story serves as a reminder that these atrocities have no place in our world.

NATIONAL DAY OF SILENCE

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

Mr. PANETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the National Day of Silence, which took place last Friday, April 21. That is a day when young people come together to raise awareness about the issues faced by lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender students. In fact, it is the only day that highlights issues affecting our LGBT youth. It is that type of day that will lead to more acceptance and inclusiveness in our society.

Isa Moreno is a student from my district, in the town of Watsonville. She remained silent on that day. After, she

said: ''Now, more than ever, we as a nation must understand the importance of unity and solidarity.''

I couldn't agree more. As a member of the LGBT Equality Caucus, we work to ensure inclusiveness in our country by fighting for policies that support our LGBT youth in our communities.

Many students like Isa took a vow of silence last Friday. So now we, as leaders, must take responsibility to speak out, to speak up, and to step up for all Americans living in fear because of who they love and who they are.

DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, this week we observe the Days of Remembrance, the Nation's annual commemoration of the Holocaust. The Holocaust was a systematic, government-sponsored persecution and murder of 6 million Jews by the Nazi regime and its collaborators.

Congress established the Days of Remembrance in 1980. Each year, State and local governments, military bases, workplaces, schools, religious organizations, and civic centers host remembrance activities for their communities.

The Holocaust is an unthinkable scar on humanity, and, for this reason, we gather annually to mourn the loss of so many lives and honor those who survived.

We also remember those who risked their lives to rescue and protect their friends and neighbors. We remember the American soldiers who fought in World War II to liberate many from concentration camps and to defend the defenseless.

And we remember, because, as Miriam Oster said so eloquently: ''Education and remembrance are the only cures for hatred and bigotry.''

We will not be silent. We cannot be indifferent to the suffering of others. May we always remember and always pledge: Never again.

PROTECTING SOCIAL SECURITY

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

Mr. CRIST. Mr. Speaker, as vice chair of the Seniors Task Force, I rise in strong defense of Social Security. Recent reports that the White House is considering defunding Social Security and cutting Social Security disability benefits are troubling, to say the least.

Nearly 61 million retirees, veterans, disabled workers, widows, and children rely on their Social Security, including over 186,000 in my district in Florida alone. On their behalf, I have a simple message: Hands off their Social Security.

President Trump promised the American people he would not cut Social Security. That is a promise we are going to help him keep.

Hands off Social Security.

SECURING THE BORDER AND THE HEROIN EPIDEMIC

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

Mr. ROTHFUS. Mr. Speaker, one of the big issues in last year's Presidential campaign was border security. As we mark 100 days of the Trump administration, we should acknowledge how President Trump has restored confidence and morale among our Border Patrol agents. They now know that our President will back them as they work to enforce our Nation's immigration laws.

The agents told me personally about their renewed ability to do their job during my recent trip to inspect the southern border. What was remarkable was that I heard the same thing from every agent, man or women, regardless of ethnic background.

President Trump understands that we have an urgent and solemn responsibility to stop the flood of heroin and other narcotics pouring across our southern border, poisoning our communities.

We must secure our border and end this scourge for the sake of mothers like the one in my district who lost her beloved son to a heroin overdose and asked God to ''damn heroin.'' I look forward to more action in the next 100 days as we continue to work to secure our border.

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH FUNDING

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

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, Rotary International recognized champions who have worked to eradicate polio around the world. Rotary International has done a great job, and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has, too.

But as one of two congressional Members who were purple hearts of the polio years, I wish to thank them, but also say how dreadful it is—and awful—that the budget that is being proposed will reduce funding by almost 20 percent to the National Institutes of Health and also to the CDC.

The CDC and the National Institutes of Health protect us from health scourges and look for cures and treatments that can protect people in the future. The National Institutes of Health needs to have more funding, not less, and so does the CDC.

CONVICTED CRIMINAL ALIENS KEEP COMING TO AMERICA

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, 40-year-old Mexican national Oscar Perez Rangel had already been deported twice. He left the United States with a host of felony convictions, including attempted robbery by firearms and illegal reentry. But holes in the U.S. border allowed the outlaw to sneak back into the U.S. a third time.

Here in the U.S., Rangel's girlfriend ran a daycare center. It was there that he set his sights on a next victim—an unsuspecting 12-year-old girl. For 3 months, he molested and raped her.

Finally, he was caught and charged. Eventually, he will be turned over to ICE and deported again.

Mr. Speaker, we must have the moral will to secure the border. Criminals who violently assault, rape, and pillage America are slipping back into the country under the radar. We must prevent criminal aliens like Rangel from reentering our country after they are legally deported.

Secure the southern border. Do it now, or there will be more 12-year-old victims.

And that is just the way it is.

WHAT COMES AROUND GOES AROUND

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

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I am glad we are talking about criminals, but I want to point out one that potentially has been in the White House. He was a general. He spoke at the national convention of the Republican Party. He said, ''Lock her up.''

But when he filled out his disclosure form to work in the White House, he conveniently left out that he received money from two foreign governments. A former general who defended this Nation did not fill out that he received this money. He sat next to Vladimir Putin for dinner, but did not fill this form out properly.

Mr. Speaker, we are very concerned about Mike Flynn. It is obvious that we in the House of Representatives do something to point out when we see something that is illegal going on.

Mr. Speaker, what comes around goes around. He said, ''Lock her up.'' Well, it looks like he might get locked up.

And that is the way it is gonna be.

REMEMBERING JAY DICKEY

(Mr. YOUNG of Alaska asked and was given permission to address the House

for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, we just had the Arkansas delegation. My colleagues may have noticed that I was with them. Alaska and Arkansas have a great deal of similarity, both starting with an A.

I served with Jay Dickey. I can tell you that he was my friend.

To his family, even the other day when I heard that he had passed away, I tried to call his cell phone hoping that they would answer it, and it was Jay's voice. Here is a gentleman in this body that was a great basketball player, a good coach, tennis player, and a fine athlete. But more than that, he was a friend to many Congressmen in these Halls.

As was mentioned, he tried to save us all. Some he succeeded with and some he did not. He worked with me for many years and finally accomplished his goal, and I thank him from the bottom of my heart.

I know the Lord is taking care of him because he was a true American. He was a person that cherished his job, served his district well, and was an ally and a friend for those that believed.

I want to thank Jay Dickey for his efforts to make this country better.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE DEMOCRATIC LEADER

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BERGMAN) laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable NANCY PELOSI, Democratic Leader:

APRIL 25, 2017.

Hon. PAUL D. RYAN,
Speaker of the House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER RYAN: Pursuant to section 4003(e) of the 21st Century Cures Act (Pub. L. 114–255), I am pleased to appoint Dr. Steven Lane of Palo Alto, California to the Health Information Technology Advisory Committee.

Thank you for your attention to this appointment.

Sincerely,

NANCY PELOSI,
Democratic Leader.

□ 1600

REMOVAL OF DAVID PULPHUS' PAINTING FROM THE CANNON TUNNEL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2017, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include any extraneous material on the subject of my special order.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, 10 months ago, I was pleased to welcome David Pulphus, a very talented young constituent of mine from St. Louis, to the U.S. Capitol complex, as we unveiled his painting entitled, Untitled #1, which you see here tonight.

David's work was a unanimous first-place winner in the annual Congressional Art Competition in Missouri's First Congressional District. I have been pleased to sponsor this competition in St. Louis for the last 16 years without interruption and incident.

For those of you who may not know, many other Members of Congress conduct this contest in their districts as well. In fact, this painting was one of more than 400 student entries from across the Nation that were reviewed, accepted, and approved last June for public display in the Cannon tunnel by the Architect of the Capitol. Members of Congress do not select the artists. We do not approve or disapprove of any of the artistic concepts, and we have no role in judging the competition.

We simply provide a public forum for the most talented young artists in our districts to display their winning artwork in the U.S. Capitol complex. Yet, without cause or reasonable process and after being viewed repeatedly by Members of Congress, congressional staffers, and thousands of visitors without incident or concern, my constituent's winning entry was removed in an act of politically motivated, unconstitutional, retroactive censorship.

That injustice was initiated by pressure from certain alternative-right bloggers and Mr. Eric Bolling, a host on FOX News channel, who created a mean-spirited and factually inaccurate media campaign to improve his ratings on the back of a young man, and to ultimately force the painting to be removed by the Architect of the Capitol.

After repeated acts of petty theft by renegade Members of Congress who removed the painting without any authorization and after a storm of right-wing media pressure, the Speaker of the House forced the Architect of the Capitol to trample on the rights of my constituent by ruling that this painting, which he had already approved 10 months ago, was retroactively disqualified.

This unwarranted, arbitrary, and unconstitutional act of censorship will not stand. Now, let me be clear: I do not approve or disapprove of this painting. I did not approve or disapprove the concept of the artwork. I did not judge the competition, but the Architect of the Capitol reviewed, approved, and accepted this student's artwork for public display without incident, comment, or concern, just like every other entry that is displayed in this public exhibition.

Only after the most hateful, intolerant, and reckless media campaign, combined with enormous political pressure from the Speaker and other Members, the Architect of the Capitol miraculously traveled back in time to disqualify the very same painting that he had approved 10 months ago.

Perhaps we should advise the National Academy of Sciences of the Architect of the Capitol's newfound ability to bend the space-time continuum in order to retroactively respond to the most extreme voices in the majority so that they could more easily suppress the rights of my young constituent. It did great harm to an innocent young man who tried to do the right thing.

Because of this outrageous act of censorship, David Pulphus has been subjected to the most vile, racist, and hateful attacks on social media and on talk radio. He has also been deprived of the honor of listing his first place victory in the Congressional Art Competition on his resume. He has even been attacked by the Speaker of the House who called his award winning work ''disgusting.''

So on top of depriving David of his First Amendment rights, the majority and the Architect of the Capitol have placed a terrible personal burden on this bright, talented young man. David does not deserve that. That is wrong. That is totally unacceptable, and the Speaker and the Architect of the Capitol should be ashamed of themselves.

This shameful decision also sent a chilling message to young Americans. It told young Americans that their views are not valued. Their voices are not respected. Their creativity and passions are not welcome, and that is, sadly, here, in the people's House, their First Amendment rights are no longer protected. That is a terrible precedent to set for future generations who look to us to defend their freedoms.

So my friends, this is really not about a student art competition anymore. It is about defending the Constitution. It is just pathetic that some Republican Members and rightwing media types who constantly refer to themselves as constitutional conservatives don't think that that same document protects the fundamental free speech rights of my young constituent.

You can be certain that I will fight to defend this young man's right to express himself because his artwork is true for him, and he is entitled to that protection under the law.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS).

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Mr. CLAY for his discussion here. I think it is courageous and necessary. To begin with, the painting's removal by the Architect of the Capitol was an infringement on the free speech rights of the artist and on the Congressman, yourself, Mr. CLAY, from Missouri.

The First Amendment of the United States Constitution provides that: ''Congress shall make no law . . . abridging the freedom of speech. . . . '' And it is undisputed that the First Amendment's free speech guarantee extends to artistic expression, including visual arts. This is true even when such expression may be offensive to many people or to some people.

While Members who removed the artist's painting may have acted based on their belief that the artwork's viewpoint was offensive, that belief cannot trump the free-speech rights of the artist and of you, yourself, Congressman CLAY. I congratulate you for putting this discussion into the RECORD.

Mr. Speaker. This past January within the very confines of the Capitol complex, we witnessed a direct assault against the First Amendment when several Republican Members of Congress unilaterally removed a painting by high school senior David Pulphus from the 2016. Congressional Art Competition display in the Cannon Tunnel.

The painting, sponsored by our colleague—Representative WILLIAM LACY CLAY—had been displayed in the Cannon Tunnel along with more than 400 winners of the Art Competition for nearly 7 months without incident or comment.

And, rather than upholding the artist's right to free expression and Representative CLAY's prerogative to sponsor student artwork from his district, the Architect of the Capitol capitulated to political pressure generated by the right-wing media outlets and ratified these Members' acts of vigilante censorship by having the painting permanently removed from the Congressional Art Competition display in the Cannon Tunnel.

This artwork, seemingly inspired by the events in Ferguson, Missouri in 2014 and other incidents that sparked tension between police and minority communities, depicts a protest, with two police officers and a young man facing each other in a standoff, all of three which have animalistic features.

In the background, protesters look on and a young man of color appears to be depicted in a crucifixion tableau.

Whatever message one draws from this painting, several things are quite clear.

To begin with, the painting's removal by the Architect of the Capitol was an infringement on the free speech rights of Mr. Pulphus and Representative CLAY.

The First Amendment of the United States Constitution provides that ''Congress shall make no law . . . abridging the freedom of speech.''

And, it is undisputed that the First Amendment's free speech guarantee extends to artistic expression, including visual art.

This is true even when such expression may be deeply offensive to many people.

As the Supreme Court recognized in F.C.C. v. Pacifica Foundation, the ''fact that society may find speech offensive is not a sufficient reason for suppressing it. Indeed, if it is the speaker's opinion that gives offense, that consequence is a reason for according it constitutional protection.''

While the Members who removed Mr. Pulphus's painting may have acted based on their belief that the artwork's viewpoint was offensive, that belief cannot trump the free speech rights of the artist and Representative CLAY.

Nor does it justify the Architect's removal of the painting in response to pressure from these and other Members who found the painting offensive.

Once the House established the Congressional Art Competition and opened the Cannon Tunnel to display artwork sponsored by each individual Member office, it created a limited public forum.

Having created such a forum, individual House Members and the Architect cannot then constitutionally discriminate against expression within that forum based on the viewpoint expressed.

Yet, that is precisely what happened here.

Unfortunately, the painting's removal was part of a broader pattern of behavior by the Majority to undermine the fundamental right of free expression in the House.

For instance, in January the House adopted an unconstitutional gag rule that would allow the imposition of fines of up to $2,500 on a Member for using an electronic device to record, post, or live-stream activity on the House floor.

This rule was a thinly-veiled response to the protest undertaken last year by Democratic Members on the House floor with regard to the Majority's failure to consider comprehensive gun reform.

The rule is a direct attack against the Minority's right to political expression and it is clearly intended to stifle the American public's ability to access that expression.

While it is easy to think that these matters concern only one young artist or a group of House Members, every American should be deeply concerned about such kinds of censorship.

Tyranny starts in small ways. Censor a painting here, a poem there. Ban photos in some instances, videos in others.

When such seemingly minor acts go unanswered, it invites more oppressive conduct in the future.

Ensuring freedom requires vigilance and a willingness to push back vigorously against every instance of censorship.

This is why I applaud the federal lawsuit filed by Mr. Pulphus and Representative CLAY seeking to vindicate their free speech rights though it is shameful that they were forced to go to court at all.

And, while the trial court incorrectly concluded that the First Amendment does not protect Mr. Pulphus and Representative CLAY, I am confident this conclusion will be overturned on appeal.

All Americans must be free to speak truth to power.

Therefore, it is imperative that we draw a line in the sand now, lest we encourage further and even more troubling acts of censorship in the future.

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from Michigan, the ranking member of the House Judiciary Committee.

At this time, I yield to the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. ADAMS), my friend, an art education Ph.D., a gallery owner and artist, and member of the Congressional Arts Caucus.

Ms. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, I want to, first of all, thank my colleague from Missouri, Representative CLAY, for his concern, for his courage, for standing up and speaking up to ensure that his constituents' and others' First Amendment rights are protected by this Congress, and for organizing this Special Order hour this evening.

I appreciate very much the opportunity to join Representative CLAY, and I proudly stand with him and my other colleagues to speak in defense of the First Amendment rights afforded to citizens of the Constitution of the United States.

As the 12th District Representative from North Carolina, as a practicing professional artist and art educator, as a curator, as a retired 40-year college arts professor, I am pleased to join with Representative CLAY in expressing my support for freedom of visual expression and creativity, especially when it comes to supporting talented young students.

I have learned through my professional arts education and management careers that, yes, the arts are nice, but, beyond being nice, they are absolutely necessary and essential in helping enrich our lives. The arts are unique to our being, and they are what make us human.

Artists connect the past to the present, they convey our unique experiences, and they are presented in many forms—sometimes familiar, other times unfamiliar. The arts are a universal language that speak to people everywhere to help them to understand diversity, cultures, and some of the most complicated of issues. Therefore, having the freedom to make art is essential to creative expression.

Freedom of expression is everyone's freedom. And our Founding Fathers enshrined the expressions of freedom of speech in all forms—in music, in written and spoken word, in theater, and through visual imagery and composition—in the Bill of Rights.

Under the First Amendment, all art forms and all artistic expressions are constitutionally protected. Our Founding Fathers who created our country and launched our Nation as the world's role model in democracy believed that freedom of speech and freedom of the press were important enough to guarantee protection in our country's founding documents. If our Founding Fathers, the brightest minds of that generation, thought that artistic expression was important enough to protect in our Bill of Rights, then what right do we have to take this away and censor the artistic community?

The ACLU said: ''. . . a free society is based on the principle that each and every individual has the right to decide what art or entertainment he or she

wants—or does not want—to receive or create. Once you allow the government to censor someone else, you cede to it the power to censor you, or something you like. Censorship is like poison gas: A powerful weapon that can harm you when the wind shifts.''

As a nation, we face many threats, both internally and externally. We are a Nation of diverse thought, diverse people, and strong diverse principles. However, when we stand by and allow our artistic community to be censored or allow threats to silence our press, we become our own greatest threat. And when we reject facts and censor artistic expression just because it makes us uncomfortable or because we don't like it, we are becoming the tyrants that our Founding Fathers risked their lives to protect and escape from.

So the question of what is appropriate art is not a new question. Since the beginning of our country, our citizens have wrestled with what to do when they are offended by a work or art in any form. Court case after court case has tested governmental censorship of artistic expression, and the Supreme Court has continued to uphold our founding principles of freedom of expression and speech.

In the 1931 case, Stromberg v. California, the Supreme Court ruled that symbolic speech is protected by the First Amendment. The ruling ensured that all art forms, music, paintings, plays, and other artistic expressions are protected by the First Amendment.

In the 1982 decision, the Board of Education v. Pico, the Supreme Court ruled that local school boards may not remove books from school library shelves simply because they disliked the ideas contained in those books. Like the removal of the books from libraries, the removal of Mr. Pulphus' painting was a blatant violation of his First Amendment rights.

The First Amendment guarantees that our government cannot make substantive decisions about the content of a work of art. Expression can only be limited if, and only if, that expression will cause direct and imminent harm such as yelling ''fire'' in a crowded theater.

□ 1615

Our government's role is not to censor but to ensure that artists are able to freely express themselves without fear of censorship. Our government did not protect this young man's First Amendment rights. Instead, it acted as a retroactive censor on his work.

Here is an example of our government making a decision based on content they disapproved of and preventing this work because of its subject and because some legislators weren't knowledgeable enough about it to understand it from being displayed in a public place.

Justice Louis Brandeis, in his defense of free speech, wrote:

It is hazardous to discourage thought and hope and imagination; that fear breeds repression, and that repression breeds hate, and that hate menaces stable government. The path to safety lies in the opportunity to discuss freely supposed grievances and proposed remedies.

Justice Brandeis' words were written in 1927, 90 years ago, almost a century, but they still echo true today. Censorship out of fear, out of misunderstanding or pain or dislike of a work is fundamentally anti-American and unconstitutional.

For more than 4 decades as a visual arts professor, I taught my students that you are going to see a lot of art throughout your lifetime. Some images you will like and some you won't especially like. And some will be disturbing and some confusing. But I reminded my students that their responsibility as viewers was to make every attempt to be able to say that you don't like it because you at least understand it.

Mr. Speaker, knowledge is power. Mr. Pulphus' work did not create direct or imminent harm, but his work did depict an uncomfortable reality that is pervasive across our country.

Unfortunately, violence is a way of life in many communities throughout America. As a matter of fact, it is too prevalent. But for this young man, violence in his community was a life that he knew most of his life. It was a life he was intrinsically as an artist compelled to visually talk about on his canvas.

As a matter of fact, he had a right to talk about it, and, in reality, he needed to talk about it. I admire him for his courage. As a teacher, I can tell you that, visually, his utilization of compositional elements and principles and forms showed an extraordinary talent.

In my estimation, we failed as viewers to do our part, and we didn't make an effort to really see, but we just merely looked at the work. But most especially, we didn't seize the opportunity to learn so that we could enhance our capacity to build and reinforce positive relationships in our community.

This painting offered us a chance to have a real conversation about race and police and community violence and institutional racism. But instead of seizing this opportunity, we have to continue to fight to protect this young artist's First Amendment rights.

Heated debate and discussion is the hallmark of our democracy. However, when arguments are censored, when the artists are told what they are able to produce, when expression is silenced, our democracy is then threatened.

And since this incident, as you have heard, the Congressional Institute has changed the rules for the Congressional Art Competition. Work submitted to the competition depicting contemporary political controversy or sensationalist or gruesome nature are not allowed.

But I am not here to criticize the work of the Congressional Institute, but as a professional artist myself, only to ask this question: What benefit can come from limiting our young artists from creating?

A democracy works when people stay engaged, when people participate. But by censoring what is in our public spaces, we are creating barriers for political discourse and we are creating fear of retaliation.

Artists are visual storytellers and we are entrusted with a unique responsibility to use the power of the arts to inform, to educate, and to empower our communities.

Noted African-American artist and scholar Dr. Samella Lewis of California said that ''African-American artists have a primary obligation to community, to understand, and to use the elements of their cultural heritage to produce an art that is diverse, reflecting our diverse interests, materials techniques, and to communicate those messages to the audiences we want to reach.''

Removing this young man's work was a degrading and insensitive action, which signaled to this young, aspiring, gifted student that his work is valueless, that his story is not worthy to be told. But most especially, it put into question the right and the responsibility that he has as an artist to express himself in visual imagery and symbolic competition.

It is not up to the government to decide what work has value or whose story should be told. The removal of Mr. Pulphus' work sets a dangerous precedent. Congress is now making content decisions on works displayed in the U.S. Capitol and is limiting what types of art will be exhibited. To some, this issue may not seem important, but the scope of the actions that have taken place in the U.S. Capitol is tremendous.

Just because somebody's sensibility is offended doesn't give that person the right to ban or censor a work. In fact, the First Amendment prevents that.

However, as this gross overreach of power in removing his work proves, just because the Constitution prevents something doesn't always mean that it won't happen. But it is our duty to hold our government responsible for protecting the sanctity of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights.

That is why I am honored, as a 40-year arts educator, as a member of the Congressional Art Caucus, and as a professional artist to join Representative CLAY and all of my colleagues in speaking today about the importance of the First Amendment as it relates to the creative and the professional obligations and rights of the visual artist.

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from North Carolina for her thoughts, her words, as well as her expertise in the field of art. She is

probably the only qualified art critic serving in Congress today. So thank I thank her so much.

Mr. Speaker, at this time I yield to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. COHEN), my friend, an attorney and former legal adviser to the Memphis Police Department.

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I, indeed, also enjoyed the remarks that just preceded me and that Mr. CONYERS made and Mr. CLAY made concerning this issue.

I rise today in support of art, freedom of expression, freedom of speech, but also Black Lives Matter and police officers who follow the rules, which 98 percent or more do, who treat citizens appropriately and risk their lives to keep us safe. And I mourn each officer that loses their life or is injured in protecting us and having ordered liberty.

But I rise in opposition to censorship, which is anathema to me, and police officers who go beyond the law—that percentage that do—and soil the badge they wear and use deadly force inappropriately, which has occurred too many times sometimes because they just don't react properly in the heat of battle, sometimes for other reasons, too often upon Black people, which does tend to indicate a prejudice that exists in certain people's minds. Black lives do matter, and people haven't recognized that, and we need to.

The removal of David Pulphus' painting from the Cannon tunnel is troubling on many levels. It raises serious questions about Congress' commitment to the First Amendment, which guarantees the freedom of expression. We take an oath to support the Constitution and should do so in our actions as well as our words, as well as in our oath.

Benjamin Franklin warned us that freedom of speech is a principal pillar of a free government. When this support is taken away, the constitution of a free society is dissolved.

Secondly, it raises serious questions about censorship. Unfortunately, in my hometown of Memphis, we have a history that is sometimes not so good on particular cases of race and free expression.

That long history of artistic censorship oftentimes related to race as well as sex, and for nearly 3 decades, in the early part of the 20th century, Memphis had a censor, a public censor, appointed by the government named Lloyd T. Binford. He served as the chairman of the Memphis Board of Censors. They banned movies. They banned movies like ''Curley'' in the 1940s because it showed White and Black children in school together.

He prevented Memphians from seeing major celebrities like Lena Horne, Duke Ellington, Nat King Cole, Cab Calloway in our local movie theaters. He was a racist. ''Binfordizing'' became a word. Artistic words that were wrong and Congress must be ever mindful of the slippery slope of censorship.

Thirdly, and perhaps most important, this painting raises serious questions about public policy. Congress should be debating questions of public policy, not banning expressions of them.

The events that took place in Ferguson, Missouri, which are well expressed by this painting, were a wake-up call to many in our Nation about police use of deadly force, injustice in our inner cities, and turmoil rising in our inner cities.

Sobering questions about the fairness of our criminal justice system and about race were raised. And a painting such as this that reflects those issues is most appropriate for display in the hallway where these paintings and artworks are shown because it is representative of a major slice of America in that year.

That, more than most other paintings and artworks there, show something that is relevant to what is happening today and has occupied the news in a major way.

For too long, justice has seemed too lacking, and we saw it in Ferguson. Mr. CLAY and I have worked together for display of this artwork. I questioned some professors on another issue, lawyers that specialize in First Amendment issues, speech issues in the Judiciary Committee, and to a one they said it appeared to be censorship and was wrong and was violative.

Of course there is some talk that, well, it is government speech and maybe that is different. But you know some of the same people that have opposed this painting are the same people that say the rules should apply to Congress. Whatever laws we pass should apply to Congressmen the same as they apply to other people, and we shouldn't have special privileges. But those people decided on their own to exempt a painting they found distasteful which wouldn't have been prohibited anyplace else because of free speech. They violated their own precepts; the same precepts they may be violating today in other rooms where they are discussing a health bill that will exempt them from the health bill sanctions or requirements and not require them, if they live in a State, to not have the essential benefits of the Affordable Care Act.

So I rise today to commend Congressman CLAY for his work, to thank him for his work with me and Senator DUCKWORTH on the Police Training and Independent Review Act, which the need for is expressed here in this artwork. That is why it is so important.

This communicates a story. Beauty is wonderful, and a lot of the artwork is photographs and beauty. Nice. Fine. Places, fine. Content and ideas are more important. It is always more important to have artwork that challenges your mind and makes you think: What is this about?

As I look at this painting and I think about it, sure, there are a couple of police officers—two police officers in particular—in a certain manner of being displayed. But there is a third police officer on the right that is not shown this same way. And if you look at this painting, you can see this painting says: not all police officers are the same. Some are questionable, some aren't. It revolved around a major incident in our city, St. Louis, Ferguson, but the arch is in there and expresses that well.

This painting should not have been removed. Congressman CLAY is right to stand up for the First Amendment and for his constituent.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to help restore this painting to its rightful place in the Cannon tunnel and to allow people to see it and make their own decisions.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you and appreciate being a part of this.

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, let me also thank my friend from Tennessee who happens to be a member of the House Judiciary Committee. As he stated, we are working together on police reform legislation. I appreciate his services.

Mr. COHEN. And I am an art critic.

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, he is an art critic.

Mr. Speaker, at this time I yield to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. RASKIN), my friend, a Constitutional scholar and professor.

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. CLAY for convening us this evening to discuss this very important matter.

Why is it so important?

Well, we live in a time of rampant official lawlessness and disrespect for the Constitution of the United States.

But I am not here to talk about the Emoluments Clause or the power of Congress to declare war, or about equal protection. I am here to join my colleagues in talking about an incident of artistic discrimination committed by this institution, an assault on the First Amendment.

Why is it so important?

I was thinking about a professor I had who wrote a book about broken windows. The thesis of the book basically was that if windows are broken in the neighborhood and nothing is done about it, it sends the message that you can go on to bigger and better things. In other words, petty crimes and misdemeanors unaddressed go on to become high crimes and misdemeanors.

When we started the 115th Congress, unfortunately, within the first week or two, we started with a broken Constitutional window, Mr. CLAY, because we allowed, we tolerated, and we countenanced an act of vigilante discrimination and censorship by certain Members against speech by the constituents of other Members.

So I want to tell the story to the people of America, especially the young people of America, who have open minds and open hearts, and I am delighted that so many young people are in the chamber tonight to hear about what happened here because this is a very important moment in the history of this institution.

□ 1630

Now, I am a professor of constitutional law by training. I did that for 25 years before I came to Congress, and I teach, also, the First Amendment.

There are six rights contained in the First Amendment, and I hope all of you learn the six rights. They are: the right to petition for a redress of grievances; the free exercise of religion; the right of assembly; the right of free press; the right of no establishment of religion; and then, last but certainly not least, the right of freedom of speech.

Here in Congress, since 1982, we have had a Congressional Arts Competition. It is a magnificent statement of American values. We invite Members from every district in America—there are 435 districts here, plus five Delegates who come from territories or the District of Columbia—so there are a total of 440 that are eligible.

Each one impanels a group of artists. They have a whole process, and the best artwork is adjudicated and then brought to Washington. You can find them in the tunnel connecting the Cannon House Office Building to the Capitol Building, to the Chamber where we are right now. There are hundreds of beautiful, extraordinary, interesting, vivacious, controversial paintings done by the young people of America.

So what is the issue? Well, we are living in a time of political correctness. Let's say it plain. Sometimes the political correctness comes from the left. It happened recently at Berkeley in California, where the college canceled a planned appearance by Ann Coulter, a rightwing commentator whose views are totally anathema to me, but they canceled her speech.

Now, in fairness to Berkeley, they said there had been violence there and they thought there might be violence again. But there was such a storm of outrage about this example of a kind of leftwing political correctness, they reversed the decision and they said she could come. They understood it was their responsibility to make sure that her speech could proceed without being disrupted and broken up, so they did the right thing.

What are we experiencing here right where you sit in the Congress of the United States, in the House of Representatives? We are experiencing an example of a rightwing political correctness run amok. It is rightwing political censorship because some people didn't like somebody else's expression. Instead of walking on to the next painting, they decided to take it down, remove it, and return it to the office of Congressman CLAY. Not once, not twice, not three times, not four times, but five times they took this painting down.

Congressman CLAY and I wrote a letter to Speaker RYAN protesting this act of vigilante censorship right here in the Congress of the United States. Speaker RYAN, instead of standing up for the First Amendment, instead of standing up for the Speech and Debate Clause, instead of standing up for artistic expression, instead of standing up for freedom and teaching a lesson to the young people of America, he called the painting disgusting and then initiated an official process whereby they censored it. For the first time in the history of this competition going back to 1982, 35 years, they censored a painting.

Now, luckily they have made this young artist one of the most famous artists in America now, and we can all wish him nothing but magnificent fortune as he goes ahead to develop his skills and his artistic voice. They were not able, I hope, to crush the spirit of this young man, but they did something really deeply injurious to the Republic of the United States. They engaged in an act of naked viewpoint discrimination against a work of art.

Now, what are the constitutional values here that need to be vindicated for artists like David Pulphus or the winner from my district last year, Alannah Van Horn, who did a self-portrait?

Let's just be clear about one thing: these paintings hung for 6 months before the vigilante censors in the House of Representatives decided to come and take them down. For 6 months, they didn't harm anybody, they didn't hurt anybody, they didn't cause a riot, they didn't cause a ruckus, nothing—until they decided somehow that this painting ran afoul of their political correctness litmus test for what is acceptable in Congress.

So what is really at stake here? Well, first of all, it is the rights of the Member who sponsored this painting.

I want to say I am so impressed by the courage and the strength and the determination of Representative CLAY to stand with his constituent and his constituency as well as with the Constitution here.

He brought a First Amendment lawsuit with Mr. Pulphus not for money, not for damages, but for a preliminary and permanent injunction against congressional censorship of this painting. So they went to court.

They had a very simple argument. The First Amendment says Congress shall make no law abridging the freedom of speech. That is it. That is one of the six rights that I referenced when I opened my speech. Congress can't sensor speech.

Congress just censored speech.

The judge in the case, Judge Bates of the United States District Court, rendered a fascinating opinion. He found that this was indeed a clear case of viewpoint discrimination. It was censorship based on the views or the perspective of the artist. There was little doubt, he said, the government was engaged in a blatant act of viewpoint discrimination.

There are lots of cases that make clear that viewpoint discrimination is unacceptable in the United States, like Rosenberger v. University of Virginia, which said that UVA could not set up a program for young journalists and newspapers and magazines at UVA and exclude those from a religious point of view. The Court said, if you are going to set up a forum for speech like that, you can't single out one point of view and then suppress it.

It was the same idea in Texas v. Johnson in 1995, when the Supreme Court said that the right to burn a flag as a political protest is constitutionally protected. You don't have to agree with it, but other people have the right to burn the flag if it is their flag. That is their property.

The Court pointed out also that, in America, flag burning is the proper mode of flag disposal. If you look at the flag treatment protocol, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts burn flags all the time. So, if you punish someone for burning a flag, you are punishing them for a thought crime; you are not punishing them for an action which is done all the time in the United States.

In any event, the Court says viewpoint discrimination is unacceptable. Nonetheless, Judge Bates said that Congressman CLAY doesn't win. Why? It is because of where it took place. He said that the hallway in the Cannon House Office Building leading to the Capitol is not a public forum of any kind. It is not a traditional public forum like a street or park. It is not a limited public forum, something that is set up for the expression of speech, which is precisely what you would think it is. It is not even a nonpublic forum, Judge Bates says. Judge Bates says that the 440 paintings down there are government speech.

Now, that doesn't make any sense. We have lots of people who are in the gallery tonight, and I assume you passed by these paintings on the way over. If you didn't, check them out.

I challenge anybody in America to go down to the tunnel and look at the paintings and regard the magnificent diversity of views and perspectives embodied in this one painting, for example, and say that it is government speech. In fact, the reason it was censored is because it wasn't government speech.

Yet, the court got it wrong. Now, I am not going to say really nasty things about him. I am not President of the

United States. I am not going to say that he is a nonjudge or a so-called judger. I think that he made a serious mistake. I think the D.C. Circuit will reverse it. I think the U.S. Supreme Court would reverse it.

You know what? It doesn't make any difference, because everyone who has the honor of serving in this Chamber takes an oath to the Constitution of the United States. We have got to uphold the First Amendment. That is a responsibility that we have got. And we can't just say, ''Oh, we will let a court deal with it.'' We have got to deal with the First Amendment.

And it is very clear—the court said it itself—this was viewpoint discrimination. That is unacceptable. And we should say that, yes, the Constitution applies in the Congress of the United States. We don't hold ourselves exempt from it. We don't say, if we set up a forum for young artists to bring their paintings in, that we are speaking. That doesn't make any sense. They are the ones speaking.

So where do we go from here?

Well, we are appealing to Speaker RYAN and to our friends in the majority to back off of the regime of right-wing political correctness. Just like it was wrong for Berkeley to try to sensor Ann Coulter, as much as many of us abhor everything she says and stands for, it is equally wrong for the Republican majority here to sensor Mr. Pulphus for your subjective interpretation of what his painting means.

One of the reasons why the Supreme Court has always said you can't sensor art is because art is polysemous. What does that mean? It means it is open to multiple possible significances. Who is to say what this painting means or what Guernica means?

Guernica, by the way, would certainly be censored under the principles that are being advanced here because it is sensationalistic or it deals with contemporary controversy. I mean, what art doesn't deal with contemporary controversy? I mean, it just doesn't make any sense what they are saying.

So I think that the majority should really rethink whether it wants to be in the business of censorship. This is not Russia. This is not Azerbaijan. This is not Saudi Arabia. This is not Iran. This is the United States of America.

People have a right to paint the painting that they want. If you don't like the painting, you go to the next painting. You don't take it down, especially in the Congress of the United States where we should be setting an example. Justice Brandeis said government is the omnipresent teacher to the people of the constitutional values of the whole society.

Now, we have got one other serious problem I want to mention before I go because, you see, before they engaged in this act of censorship against this young artist who was from St. Louis who was obviously upset about what happened in Ferguson, Missouri, and painted this painting which I think is actually a very interesting, captivating painting that reminds me of Picasso's Guernica and clearly evokes themes from George Orwell's ''Animal Farm,'' before they did that, you didn't have to agree with any particular painting or sculpture or artwork in the Capitol complex, right?

We have great champions of freedom and justice in the Republic who are portrayed all over the Capitol complex, like Abraham Lincoln, for example, like Rosa Parks, like Martin Luther King, like Lyndon Johnson, like Sojourner Truth.

You know what? We also have people who are traitors to the country, people who were Confederate conspirators against the United States, like John Breckinridge, a guy who served as a U.S. Senator and as Vice President of the United States and then defected from the Union, took up arms against the United States of America, and was declared a traitor and stripped of his titles as a former Vice President and a former Senator.

There is Jefferson Davis, the President of the Confederacy. There is a statue of him up. Robert E. Lee, obviously the general for the Confederacy during the Civil War. There is John C. Calhoun, who defected from the Union and took up arms against us.

So we have these portraits, statues, and busts of great Americans who stood for freedom, justice, and equality in America and the Constitution. And we have people who got themselves into trouble and, I think, brought disgrace to themselves with what they did. But they were all up together.

Now that we are entering into a new area of authoritarian thought control and censorship and political correctness in Congress, how can we have a statue of John Breckinridge up in the Capitol complex? How can we have Jefferson Davis up in the Capitol complex?

If this is government speech, now we are going to have to litigate each one of these artistic displays to see whether or not they are actually consistent with the values of the United States Congress and consistent with the values of the U.S. Constitution. Is that where we want to go?

I invite my colleagues—I beseech my colleagues—don't take us there. Reverse this act of censorship against this young man. Don't set out to crush his spirit. Don't step on the First Amendment. Show America that we believe in the Constitution. Otherwise, we are going to be engaged in some very interesting discussions about the kinds of artwork that are found all over the Capitol campus.

I just want to salute, again, Congressman CLAY for bringing us together and all of my colleagues who have come forward to stand up for the First Amendment tonight.

□ 1645

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, let me thank my friend from Maryland who, as we heard, his 25 years of knowledge on the U.S. Constitution bodes well for this entire body, and I appreciate his friendship and his support.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY), a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I was sitting in my office watching this debate, and I really appreciate the opportunity to come down. I ran down the stairs because I wanted to speak to this issue.

Now, it really doesn't matter what anybody in here thinks about what I think is a pretty amazing piece of art. Under the banner of artistic discovery—that is the competition that we have, artistic discovery—we are inviting young people, high school students, to express themselves, sometimes to find themselves in the artwork that they do, to clarify ideals for themselves and to challenge people. What is art about, if not that?

So, in my office right now, we are putting together the artwork that has been submitted from the high schools in our district. We take very great pride in our artistic discovery contests, and so we are collecting that artwork.

But as we looked at the instructions before we did it, we saw this new addition that just came up, first time. How long is this? Thirty-two years we have been doing this? This is the first year that it includes suitability guidelines, and it makes very clear that subjects of contemporary political controversy are not allowed.

Then we have to sign, each Member of Congress will be required to submit a letter of support for their work of art. This letter is to ensure that the Member has seen the artwork before it is submitted, has taken responsibility for the content, and has certified that the artwork, in the Member's opinion, adheres to the suitability guidelines.

Now, of course it says: ''While it is not the intent to censor any artwork, we do wish to avoid artwork that is potentially inappropriate for display in this highly traveled area leading to the Capitol.''

What the heck does that really mean? Does that mean that people are not—you know, we have to worry about is somebody going to take offense at something or say, ''Ooh, I don't like that picture''? They are entitled to do it, and the artist is entitled to put it out here.

Now, it so happens that none of the pieces that were submitted, I think, were unsuitable, but who the heck knows anymore? Who makes the decision about what is unsuitable? I don't know.

Some of the—if you look down the hall and look at some of them, some of

those self-portraits, I don't know, these kids look troubled to me. Is that something that ought to be taken down? No. Absolutely no.

This young person lived through a traumatic incident in his community and I think, quite artistically, decided to express his feelings about it. I think it is absolutely an outrage. We already heard about the violation of the Constitution, but each and every American should be offended by that and about these suitable guidelines. I am sorry. I object. I hope you do too.

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR), my friend and dean of the Ohio delegation.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman CLAY for organizing this Special Order, and the people of Ohio in my district stand with him and with the young artist I will discuss in a moment.

The United States of America and this Capitol stand as a symbol of American values and our freedoms. It just so happens I represent a district that contains 2 of the 10 finest museums in America, at Cleveland and Toledo. We know a little bit about artistic expression.

Here in the Capitol, we have created a place to gather and celebrate our Nation's highest ideals, and first and foremost among these is the right of every citizen to freely express themselves as equal citizens.

A recent act of censorship here at the Capitol placed this American right under threat, and it is important that all Americans think about this and know about it. I speak to say this action cannot be tolerated. I stand with my distinguished colleagues and with the American people to speak out against the removal of David Pulphus' award-winning painting from the United States Capitol.

There was a famous French artist named Edgar Degas, who said: ''Art is not what you see, but what you make others see.'' Surely, surely, David Pulphus' painting does this. And I support Mr. Pulphus' continued efforts to appeal a preliminary decision by the District of Columbia Federal Circuit Court that rejected his First Amendment legal claims, and that case will move forward.

In May 2016, his extraordinary acrylic painting that reveals deep meaning, which he named Untitled #1, was awarded the prestigious honor to represent Missouri's First Congressional District in the Congressional Arts Competition.

I have entered, for three decades, works from my district in this competition; and just like the other 434 pieces selected to represent a congressional district in the annual competition, Untitled #1 was approved and accepted by the Architect of the Capitol for public display inside our Capitol.

For over 26 weeks, Untitled #1 hung in the underground tunnel between the Capitol and the Cannon House Office Building. For over 180 days there was no controversy. And for more than half a year, citizens and Members of Congress, congressional staff, thousands and thousands of international and national visitors passed by and viewed it with no concern.

But that changed abruptly when, in fact, a Member from the Republican side of the aisle, I think, likely violated the law and pulled it off the wall in the Capitol of the United States. It didn't belong to him, but he did that. And, I dare say, that gentleman missed the deeper meaning of what this young man has portrayed.

There was an added twist of irony in that the censorship moment occurred 1 day after our national holiday honoring civil rights icon Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

The censorship sent a woeful and chilling message to our Nation and one that says that our young people's voices and their thoughts are not respected. I say that is un-American. Their views and experiences and perspectives must be valued.

When we look at what was done, his freedom of expression, even when expressed through a juried competition, is not protected in the top site of liberty's essence, the legislative branch inside the United States Capitol Building.

So Members of Congress have to take a stand. We must demand that the creative contributions of Americans, young and old, in the arts are embraced, including inside this Capitol. We cannot tolerate actions that directly and unjustly stifle or threaten an artist's artistic point of view. That is what America is all about.

David Pulphus' painting won the honor to represent Missouri's First Congressional District because it reflects an important, compelling message. His work reminds us of the value of the arts in a free society.

The painting was inspired by the civil unrest that occurred in Ferguson, Missouri, in 2014, and it depicts the racial confrontation that ensued with police after that fatal shooting of the unarmed teen, Michael Brown, Jr.

This is a complex work and it does not deserve anyone's rejection. It tells us about ourselves and our society so that we face it fully. And if you look at it, there are serious messages in here that say, ''Stop Killing,'' ''Racism Kills.'' It talks about ''History.''

And if you really look at it, you see that some of those involved in the killing, there is no right side. One of the perpetrators is portrayed as a wolf. It is very interesting to study the deeper meaning. This painting includes challenging images: a man being crucified, wearing a graduation cap, holding the scales of justice.

This is a young man, he is not even 20 years old, thinking about this.

There is a horned beast in a police uniform tangling with a devil with a pointed tail—looks like a wolf—and demonstration signs that read ''History'' and ''Stop Killing.''

Simply put, this commanding work of art from a teenager is a true testament to the power and immeasurable significance of our Nation's young artists who express us.

The debate sparked by its removal from the Capitol is about something larger than the artwork itself. It is about defending our fundamental First Amendment freedom. This right to artistic expression is considered objectionable by a few and applauded by the vast majority of Americans who understand what free expression in this society is about.

Neither the Architect of the Capitol nor a Member of Congress has the right to censor, self-censor citizens based on their political points of view, whether in the name of official decorum or because they find it offensive or because they fail to grasp its deep meaning.

In America, if you do not like a painting you see in a display, you simply move on to the next one. You don't take it down. It doesn't belong to you.

Nevertheless, as a painter myself and citizen who deeply reveres our constitutional rights, I am confident that in this case justice ultimately will prevail and Untitled #1 will soon resume its rightful place inside our Capitol because a young man with this depth of expression is proudly an American. If it doesn't come back, I fear for the slippery slope the Architect of the Capitol has begun, and it is not worthy of us as Americans.

I want to thank Congressman CLAY so very much for standing by this young American who is not even 18 years old yet, I don't think, and who managed to put this complex piece of art together. I am so proud of him; I am so proud of our country; and I just know that, working together, we are going to get it right for artistic expression here in the House of Representatives.

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Ohio. I certainly appreciate her support.

In closing, let me say that the student artist in question, my constituent, David Pulphus, is a great young man. He is academically gifted, artistically talented, and is now a freshman in college. He is doing everything that we encourage young Americans to do to become successful citizens.

His winning entry is a colorful, symbolic representation of the great anger, pain, frustration, and deep deficit in trust for local law enforcement that many young African Americans feel in their hearts. The painting also reflects generations of struggle, sacrifice,

abuse of power, and tenuous relationships between minorities and a system of justice that still provides equal justice for some, but not for all.

□ 1700

So the larger, much more fundamental question is: Why does this young American feel that way, and what can we do as leaders of a compassionate and just nation to finally remedy that?

I am so thankful for the remarkable public service of my exceptional pro bono legal team who are guiding this case, including Dr. Laurence Tribe of Harvard University School of Law, Dr. Erwin Chemerinsky of the University of California, Irvine School of Law, and others. As a Member of Congress who reveres the Constitution, I am confident that freedom and justice will prevail.

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

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank Rep. CLAY for hosting this important special order hour, and thank him for all his hard work on this very important issue over the past few months.

As co-chair of the Congressional Arts Caucus, I wanted to share my appreciation this evening for David Pulphus and his artwork "Untitled #1" which won the Congressional Art Competition in Missouri's 1st Congressional District, home to the city of St. Louis.

David's painting is a wonderful piece of artwork, a contribution that we will not soon forget, and should still be hanging in the Capitol.

As the great poet Langston Hughes once said "An artist must be free to choose what he does, certainly, but he must also never be afraid to do what he might choose."

David's artwork strikes at the core of our nation. He bravely chose his subject and expressed it in a beautiful and moving painting and it is my hope that he continue to express himself and his artwork without fear.

In February I sent David a letter expressing my apologies that his painting was unfairly taken down from the halls of the Capitol. It is my sincere hope that this experience does not deter him, or other aspiring young artists, from future endeavors in the arts.

Thank you Rep. CLAY for allowing me to speak tonight.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1694, FANNIE AND FREDDIE OPEN RECORDS ACT OF 2017; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF MOTIONS TO SUSPEND THE RULES; AND WAIVING A REQUIREMENT OF CLAUSE 6(A) OF RULE XIII WITH RESPECT TO CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN RESOLUTIONS REPORTED FROM THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Mr. WOODALL (during the Special Order of Mr. CLAY), from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 115–96) on the resolution (H. Res. 280) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1694) to require additional entities to be subject to the requirements of section 552 of title 5, United States Code (commonly referred to as the Freedom of Information Act), and for other purposes; providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules; and waiving a requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII with respect to consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

ISSUES OF THE DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2017, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, President Trump recently signed an executive order that made abundant sense for those who are in the world of common sense where good sense is common, which at least is not the case in the Federal courthouse in San Francisco.

Our friend, Andrew McCarthy, has written an op-ed for National Review regarding the decision of the oligarch masquerading in the Federal courthouse in San Francisco. Judge William H. Orrick III is amazing. In fact, his arrogance is only exceeded by his ignorance.

It is an excellent article. Normally I wouldn't read an entire article, it is not that long, but this is so well written by the prosecutor of The Blind Sheikh that it bears hearing the words from Andrew McCarthy.

He said: ''A showboating Federal judge in San Francisco has issued an injunction against President Trump's executive order cutting off Federal funds from so-called sanctuary cities. The ruling distorts the E.O. beyond recognition, accusing the President of usurping legislative authority despite the order's express adherence to 'existing law.' Moreover, undeterred by the inconvenience that the order has not been enforced, the activist court—better to say, the fantasist court—dreams up harms that might befall San Francisco and Santa Clara, the sanctuary jurisdictions behind the suit, if it were enforced. The court thus flouts the standing doctrine, which limits judicial authority to actual controversies involving concrete, nonspeculative harms.

''Although he vents for 49 pages, Judge William H. Orrick III gives away the game early, on page 4. There, the Obama appointee explains that his ruling is about . . . nothing.

''That is, Orrick acknowledges that he is adopting the construction of the E.O. urged by the Trump Justice Department, which maintains that the order does nothing more than call for the enforcement of already existing law. Although that construction is completely consistent with the E.O. as written, Judge Orrick implausibly describes it as 'implausible.' ''

I would interject at this point, Mr. Speaker, that upon hearing President Trump's executive order requiring sanctuary cities such as San Francisco, where their heart is so calloused on the side figuratively facing people like Kate Steinle, innocent people who are just trying to live freely their own lives, and is greatly softened on the side of those criminals who have come into the United States illegally who would tend to shoot lovely, law-abiding daughters like Kate.

So it seemed eminently reasonable what I had read was in the order. I didn't read the whole order originally, but it made eminent sense, of course, the President of the United States saying that he is authorized by the Constitution in carrying out enforcement and by Congress in carrying out enforcement, saying we are not sending Federal money to sanctuary cities—to any cities—that are refusing to use the money for the purpose for which it is intended. That makes eminent sense, because if you are not going to follow Federal law, if it is made clear to the whole world that you would rather see people like Kate Steinle shot and killed dead so that you can have criminals committing the worst kinds of violence on law-abiding citizens. That makes sense to these people who are ruling in San Francisco. One ruler is Judge Orrick who we reference here.

There was a time in America when people in power thought it was a good idea for everyone to follow the law. But we have devolved in some areas of the country where we are no longer a nation of laws, where at least at one time there was a goal of pursuing absolute fairness where everyone could live under the same laws following the same laws. There was that time.

Yet we have people who are educated far beyond their mental ability to absorb education since it has used up all the gigabytes that might have otherwise been used for wisdom for cluttered knowledge that has prevented this judge and others from being able to use common sense to follow the law to protect people who are counting on the courts and law enforcement officers to follow and enforce the law themselves.

There was that time when Manifest Destiny was being pursued, people were moving West. The areas West were not actual States within the United States. There was a lawlessness. People were yearning in those territories to be States so that they could count on the Federal Government to provide fairness—ultimate fairness—and provide a life that would be lived under the United States Constitution. They felt, in those days, if we could just get the

Federal Government to have a Federal marshal here and a Federal Court here, wow, life would be so much better. Now we have seen it has lived beyond the usefulness it once had and has become quite a burden to overcome in reaching fairness and constitutionality.

So, Mr. Speaker, before I continue with Andy McCarthy's piece, I want to point out we are in preparation of a bill that would eliminate any Federal district court or circuit court from having jurisdiction over matters regarding immigration. Certainly, we had that power. In fact, we have the power to eliminate the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals altogether. We have a bill that would, in fact, limit the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals to California, and all of the other States that comprise the Ninth Circuit would be part of a new 12th Circuit. In that new 12th Circuit, whoever the current President is when the law is passed would appoint the entire banc of judges for the 12th Circuit Court of Appeals.

Following the Reid rule in the Senate, if we were to get that passed through the House and Senate, I feel sure President Trump would sign it into law, and then President Trump would have an entire circuit where he appoints the judges, where people would know they would have judges of the quality of Judge Gorsuch—at least the quality he is supposed to represent—and people would know they weren't going to get oligarchs as judges, they were going to get people who at least maintain some semblance of trying to follow the Constitution and trying to live up to the oath that they took to defend the Constitution—just support the Constitution for goodness' sake.

McCarthy goes on. He says: ''Since Orrick ultimately agrees with the Trump Justice Department, and since no enforcement action has been taken based on the E.O., why not just dismiss the case? Why the judicial theatrics?

''There appear to be two reasons.

''The first is Orrick's patent desire to embarrass the White House, which rolled out the E.O. with great fanfare. The court wants it understood that Trump is a pretender: For all the hullaballoo, the E.O. effectively did nothing. Indeed, Orrick rationalizes his repeated misreadings of what the order actually says by feigning disbelief that what it says could possibly be what it means. Were that the case, he suggests, there would have been no reason to issue the order in the first place.

''Thus, taking a page from the activist leftwing judges who invalidated Trump's 'travel ban' orders, Orrick harps on stump speeches by Trump and other administration officials. One wonders how well Barack 'If you like your plan, you can keep your plan' Obama would have fared under the judiciary's new Trump doctrine: The extravagant political rhetoric by which the incumbent President customarily sells his policies relieves a court of the obligation to grapple with the inevitably more modest legal text of the directives that follow.

''Of course, the peer branches of government are supposed to presume each other's good faith in the absence of a patent violation of the law. But let's put aside the unseemliness of Orrick's barely concealed contempt for a moment, because he is also wrong. The proper purpose of an executive order is to direct the operations of the executive branch within the proper bounds of the law. There is, therefore, nothing untoward about an E.O. that directs the President's subordinates to take enforcement action within the confines of congressional statutes. In fact, it is welcome.

''It is the President's burden to set Federal law enforcement priorities. After years of Obama's lax enforcement of immigration law and apathy regarding sanctuary jurisdictions, an E.O. openly manifesting an intent to execute the laws vigorously can have a salutary effect. And indeed, indications are that the cumulative effect of Trump's more zealous approach to enforcement, of which the sanctuary-city E.O. is just one component, has been a significant reduction in the number of aliens seeking to enter the U.S. illegally.''

□ 1715

''In any event, 8 years of Obama's phone and pen have made it easy to forget that the President is not supposed to make the law, and thus that we should celebrate, not condemn, an E.O. that does not break new legal ground. Orrick, by contrast, proceeds from the flawed premise that if a President is issuing an E.O., it simply must be his purpose to usurp congressional authority. Then he censures Trump for a purported usurpation that is nothing more than a figment of his own very active imagination.''

He is talking about the judge here. What an imagination.

''Orrick's second reason for issuing his Ruling About Nothing is to rationalize what is essentially an advisory opinion. It holds—I know you'll be shocked to hear this—that if Trump ever did try to cut off funds from sanctuary cities, it would be an epic violation of the Constitution. Given that courts are supposed to refrain from issuing advisory opinions, the Constitution is actually more aggrieved by Orrick than by Trump.

''In a nutshell, the court claims that the E.O. is Presidential legislation, an unconstitutional violation of the separation of powers. Orrick insists that the E.O. directs the Attorney General and the Secretary of Homeland Security to cut off any Federal funds that would otherwise go to States and municipalities if they 'willfully refuse to comply' with Federal law that calls for State and local cooperation in enforcing immigration law.

''According to Judge Orrick, Trump's E.O. is heedless of whether Congress has approved any terminations of State funding from Federal programs it has enacted. In one of the opinion's most disingenuous passages, Orrick asserts that the E.O. 'directs the Attorney General and the Homeland Security Secretary to ensure that ''sanctuary jurisdictions'' are ''not eligible to receive'' Federal grants.'

''But this is just not true.''

In other words, Judge Orrick lied in his opinion.

''Orrick has omitted key context from the relevant passage, which actually states that 'the Attorney General and the Secretary, in their discretion and to the extent consistent with law, shall ensure that jurisdictions that willfully refuse to comply with 8 U.S.C. 1373 are not eligible to receive Federal grants.'

''In plain English, the President has expressly restricted his subordinates to the limits that Congress has enacted. Under Trump's order, there can be no suspension or denial of funding from a Federal program unless congressional statutes authorize it. The President is not engaged in an Obama-esque rewrite of Federal law; he explicitly ordered his subordinates to follow Federal law.

''It is not enough to say Orrick mulishly ignores the clear text of the executive order. Again and again, Justice Department lawyers emphasized to the court that Trump's order explicitly reaffirmed existing law. Orrick refused to listen because, well, what fun would that be? If the President is simply directing that the law be followed, there is no basis for a progressive judge''—like Orrick—''to accuse him of violating the law. Were he to concede that, how would Orrick then win this month's Social Justice Warrior in a Robe Award for Telling Donald Trump What for?

''Orrick can't confine himself to merely inventing a violation, either, because there is no basis for a lawsuit unless a violation results in real damages. So, the judge also has to fabricate some harm. This takes some doing since, in addition to merely directing that the law be enforced, the Trump administration has not actually taken any action against any sanctuary jurisdiction to this point.

''No problem: Orrick theorizes that because San Francisco and Santa Clara receive lots of government funding, Trump's order afflicts them with 'preenforcement' anxiety. They quake in fear that their safety-net and service budgets will be slashed.''

Mr. Speaker, I would inject that it appears that Judge Orrick and leaders in San Francisco must be deeply in need of a safe space where they can go sit in the dark, suck their thumbs, hold

their blankets, and feel comforted somehow because of the illusions that they have generated of all these bugaboos that are threatening in their wild imaginations.

Mr. McCarthy goes on:

''Sanctuary cities? Maybe we should call them snowflake cities.

''As noted above, there is a transparent agenda behind Orrick's sleight of hand. The judge is keen to warn the President that, if ever his administration were to deny funds to sanctuary cities, it would violate the Constitution. It is in connection with this advisory opinion that the judge makes the only point worthy of consideration—albeit not in the case before him.

''Here, it is useful to recall the Supreme Court's first ObamaCare ruling. While conservatives inveighed against Chief Justice Roberts' upholding of the individual mandate, the decision had a silver lining: The majority invalidated ObamaCare's Medicaid mandate, which required the States, as a condition of qualifying for Federal Medicaid funding, to enforce the Federal Government's generous new Medicaid qualifications.

''In our system, the States are sovereign—the Federal Government may not dictate to them in areas of traditional State regulation, nor may it conscript them to enforce Federal law. The Supremes, therefore, explained that State agreements to accept Federal funding in return for adopting Federal standards, e.g., to accept highway funding in exchange for adopting the Federally prescribed 55-mile-per-hour speed limit, are like contracts. The State must agree to the Federal Government's terms. Once such an agreement is reached, the Feds may not unilaterally make material changes in the terms, nor may they use their superior bargaining position to extort a State into acceding to onerous new terms in order to get the Federal money on which it has come to depend. Whether a particular case involves such an extortion, as opposed to a permissible nudge, depends on the facts. If the Feds are too heavy-handed, they run the risk of violating the 10th Amendment's Federalist division of powers.

''Who knew Federal judges in ur-statist San Francisco had become such Federalists?

''Orrick contends that if Trump were to cut off funds from sanctuary cities for failure to assist Federal immigration-enforcing officials, it would offend the 10th Amendment. This is highly unlikely. First, let's remember—though Orrick studiously forgets—that Trump's order endorses only such stripping of funds as Congress has already approved. Thus, sanctuary jurisdictions would be ill-suited to claim that they'd been sandbagged. Second, the money likely to be at issue would surely be nothing close to Medicaid funding. Finally, Trump would not be unilaterally rewriting an existing Federal-State contract; he'd be calling for the States to follow Federal laws that, A, were on the books when the States started taking Federal money and, B, pertain to immigration, a legal realm in which the courts have held the Federal Government is supreme and the States subordinate.

''Still, all that said, whether any Trump-administration effort to cut off funding would run afoul of the 10th Amendment would depend on such considerations as how much funding was actually cut; whether Congress had authorized the cut in designing the funding program; whether the funding was tightly related or unrelated to immigration enforcement; and how big a burden it would be for States to comply with Federal demands. Those matters will be impossible to evaluate unless and until the administration actually directs a slashing of funds to a sanctuary jurisdiction.

''If that happens, there will almost certainly be no legal infirmity as long as Trump's E.O. means what it says—namely, that any funding cuts must be consistent with existing Federal law. But it hasn't happened.''

And for our poor, miseducated Judge Orrick sitting on the bench with his head crammed full of mush, but none of it entangled with the U.S. Constitution, he fails to understand that Federal courts are not allowed to issue advisory opinions. There is no standing. There is no jurisdiction of the court. But don't let the Constitution nor Federal law get in the way of Judge Orrick's ego.

McCarthy points out:

''If that happens . . . any funding cuts must be consistent with Federal law. But it hasn't happened. And as long as it hasn't happened, there is no basis for a court to involve itself, much less issue an anticipatory ruling.

''Such niceties only matter if you are practicing law, though. Judge Orrick is practicing politics.''

Mr. Speaker, this is exactly the kind of judge that really should be removed from office. He is allowed to sit as long as he exhibits good conduct, but this is not the conduct that is good, when he takes an oath to be judicious, follow the law, and defend the Constitution. It is certainly unbecoming to a judge.

Yes, here in Congress we debate and go back and forth. Before the courts, lawyers go back and forth. But the judge is supposed to be judicious and follow the law.

It is time for us to take away all authority of any Federal district court, any Federal magistrate, any Federal judge of any kind other than the Supreme Court when it comes to issues such as this.

We have created immigration courts, but when it comes to appeals and to lawsuits filed regarding immigration and naturalization, I think, Mr. Speaker, we should restrict that to the one and only Federal court that, as Professor Gwen used to say in constitutional law at Baylor, only one court in the United States Federal system that owes its existence to the Constitution.

□ 1730

All other Federal courts of any kind owe their existence and their jurisdiction to the United States Congress. So the Congress giveth when it comes to courts, and the Congress can taketh away. It is time to start removing authority from some of these courts that Congress has created that have now created more problems than they have solved.

An article here by Stephen Dinan and Andrea Noble in The Washington Times basically says what so many of the news media did that a Federal judge, Judge Orrick, says Trump is wrong to tie Federal funding to sanctuary status and blocks the executive order. But really it turns out, when you get the actual order and you find out what really happened, there was no such order because there was no violation. There was no harm. The plaintiffs had no standing. The court had no jurisdiction. This is a zero in the effect in this country other than the politics that this Federal judge was playing.

Unfortunately, when a Federal judge acquires a lifetime appointment and he starts running for an office he already holds when there is no opponent, he is acting outside the realm of the Constitution, and we really should have debates over what good conduct means. It doesn't matter whether or not a judge voted Republican, Socialist, Libertarian, it doesn't matter. If he or she is not acting within the confines of their oath, they need to be removed from the bench.

I do hope, Mr. Speaker, we will take up—I know my friend DARRELL ISSA and others have filed bills about the Ninth Circuit Court that has more cases filed in it because lawyers know it is more likely to gut the U.S. Constitution and ignore the Constitution, so anybody who has a claim that is not particularly meritorious under the Constitution, as written, wants to be in the Ninth Circuit because there they have got a shot that the oligarchs out there will do what a judge basically is quoted as saying before, that, gee, we know we don't follow the Constitution or we don't care about precedent, don't care what the Supreme Court says, but that is why we come out with so many decisions. We know the Supreme Court can't reverse them all.

That is a court that really ought to be disbanded. When you have a court that is ignoring their oath, ignoring the Constitution, it is just really time to get rid of it.

We have a report, too, Mr. Speaker, after the great work of the two main

leaders—and I do mean that in every good sense of the term ''leaders''—MARK MEADOWS and JIM JORDAN, especially MARK MEADOWS, working in the last couple weeks, working to try to have a solution even though, apparently, according to one of my colleagues who is not a part of the Freedom Caucus, he was hoping that we would stay here until we got an agreement on a healthcare bill but was told, no, we want the Freedom Caucus to go home and let their constituents yell at them, and then they will be ready to sign or vote for whatever we put in front of them.

Actually, most of us, it sounds like from our discussions, have been reaffirmed and encouraged by our constituents. In my case, it certainly felt like, as I traveled throughout east Texas, apparently not being at the places where the Democrats who call themselves Indivisible were appearing, but going to veterans' groups, chambers of commerce, banquets, meeting with many constituents, but hearing about three-fourths of the time, which was my percentage, basically, with which I won the last general election, people are saying: Hang in there. Don't give up.

So with the encouragement of constituents that most of us in the Freedom Caucus have had, we came back still willing to negotiate, still trying to work. MARK MEADOWS has done some good work.

I still have trouble understanding why we didn't just go ahead and bring to the floor, bring out of committee—it has been through committee before—the bill 2 years ago. I mean, it had hearings, passed out of the House and Senate. It repealed most of ObamaCare, not all of it, but more than the current bill being taken up in this Congress. Why not just bring that to the floor? Then we pass that, and we could take other steps. One that is absolutely critical—and I do applaud Speaker RYAN for bringing it to the floor. It was a very critical step in getting competition in health insurance, not to be confused with health care.

For too long, going back to 1993 when Hillary Rodham Clinton was talking about everybody deserves health care, she was using ''health care'' and ''health insurance'' as if they were synonymous. Those terms are not synonymous. People can get health care without health insurance. I know because, after ObamaCare was passed, Congress was mandated to have ObamaCare, and then President Obama, Harry Reid, and John Boehner, as Speaker—come to think of it, all three people who are no longer in positions of power—came together, and they agreed to act as if the Affordable Care Act, ObamaCare, did not say that Members of Congress could no longer receive the subsidy that every Federal employee in America gets to help pay for healthcare insurance. So they just ignored the law, made very clear. Even though every other Federal employee gets that assistance—and with my wife and me paying off kids' student loans, because if I had never run for elected office, they had money set aside, that we had set aside, would have paid for every year of their college. We didn't think that they should have to have big student loan debt because their father felt the calling to be a public servant. So we are paying off student loans, and this will be the first year that I will be able to file a financial disclosure that doesn't have student loan debt listed because when it falls below $10,000, you don't have to list it. So we have made progress.

But because of that, we were not in a position to pay the massive amount that the insurance was going to cost, so I went without insurance up here in Congress. I know what it is to have health care and not have health insurance. I still don't have government-funded or healthcare insurance here. I have insurance now, but it is not through the Federal Government. So I understand the difference between insurance and health care.

I look forward to the day when we keep blurring that line because, when the line is totally blurred, then Americans are more easily duped into allowing the Federal Government to turn the best health care in the world's history into VA-styled problems of treating people. Most of us don't want that. Most Americans don't want that. They didn't want it in 2010. They don't want it now.

But the bill Speaker RYAN brought to the floor had over 400 votes, and it is an important bill. We are going to bring down the costs, have real competition in health care and in health insurance; and what that bill did was eliminate the exemption from antitrust laws that health insurance companies have had since the McCarran-Ferguson bill passed in 1945. Although people have talked more about buying insurance across State lines, the fact is, if we don't end the exemption from antitrust laws of health insurance companies and we do allow people to buy their insurance across State lines, then instead of having 30 to 50 monopolies as we may have now in the health insurance business, we will end up with one monopoly in the whole country; because, if you don't have to follow antitrust laws, if you don't have to avoid taking actions to create monopolies and to force others out of business using antitrust tactics, then you can become the monopoly, and you will become the monopoly.

If it is legal for an insurance company that is the biggest insurance company in a town, State, or country to go to a hospital or go to a healthcare network and say, you know, we have got most all of the health insurance business in the country and we want to put you in our network, but you are going to have to agree to let us pay you a fraction of what you normally would get, and if you ever allow any of these new entrepreneurial health insurance companies to have you in their network, then we will cut you out of our network.

Well, hospitals, networks in their right minds would say, we can't turn these people down, we will go out of business because they are the big company. If we are not in their network, then we will go out of business. But, unfortunately, that would also mean all these other brilliant entrepreneurial-type insurance ideas, whether it is Medi-Share, Christians coming together and sharing expenses, whatever it is, the big monopoly health insurance company can run them out of business, and that needs to be prevented.

I applaud the Republican leadership for bringing that bill to the floor. I applaud the leadership, people like PAUL GOSAR, Dr. GOSAR, and AUSTIN SCOTT. They have done a good job, and I would like to think I have been pretty vocal on that issue as well. We had a vote on that, and over 400 people voted to end the exemption from antitrust laws of health insurance companies.

I know good and well, if the Senate brings that same bill to the Senate floor, it will also have a huge—I don't know if it would be unanimous, but it would certainly be a huge victory. It would certainly be bipartisan to pass it. I think that is the kind of thing Americans are wanting to see.

But as I talk to people around east Texas, most people have never heard of that because the newspapers around east Texas are more interested usually in talking about this Democratic group that calls itself Indivisible, as if everybody doesn't know that they are basically Democrats.

□ 1745

I think a meeting that called itself a townhall over in Longview got all kinds of good press. It was sponsored, as I understand it, by Democratic Women of Gregg County and Stonewall, a Democratic group. It wasn't a local group, the Stonewall group. Anyway, I would be busy around the rest of the district at Chamber banquets, meetings, and things like that.

But it has been refreshing to talk to real Americans, people that are just trying to make a living, people that are just trying to pay their bills. I know some people talk in bold terms about how we are on vacation. But it is fantastic when Members of Congress go home and hear from their constituents. And I do. I hear those, Mr. Speaker, that are part of the 26 percent that want to keep ObamaCare. But I sure have my heart set on keeping our promises.

In my district, the 74 percent said: ''We need ObamaCare repealed. We need the Federal Government to get out of our private lives. We need better jobs. We need the economy going much stronger.''

I am excited about President Trump's proposal that he rolled out today. Having talked to my friend KEVIN BRADY, a good friend from Texas, the plan they are rolling out, I have come to have very grave concerns about the border adjustment tax.

But if we do as President Trump proposed, bring our corporate tax down to 15 percent, as the President proposed today, manufacturing jobs will come rushing back to America. They will.

I know there are the pseudointellectual elites that like to tell themselves that we have evolved somehow into this service society where we don't denigrate ourselves to the point that a lot of us have been throughout our lives, and so no problem, and that is doing hard labor, producing products, and manufacturing. It is a good thing.

America needs manufacturing jobs back. It is a good thing to have a job. I know there are those that are quite cynical, those who are atheist, agnostic, and other religions. But for those who believe the teaching in the Bible, when God created the world and there was a Garden of Eden, everything was perfect. And even in a perfect Garden of Eden, God felt like it was good for people to have a job. So he gave Adam and Eve a job. He said: Your job is tending the garden. And in some form or other, Mr. Speaker, that is the job we have—tending the magnificent garden.

We can use the resources, we can continue to make the world better—cleaner air and cleaner water. Nobody wants dirty water and dirty air. And it is continuing to be clean in Texas, whether there were a Federal EPA or not. Our agencies in Texas are doing a good job.

Our Federal Government needs to allow the brilliance, the creativeness, and the entrepreneurial spirit of Americans to bloom. If we drop the largest tariff that any nation in the industrialized world places on its own products, if we get rid of that, or at least drop that down to 15 percent, manufacturing jobs will return to America and our economy will explode for the better.

Some of these young people that have come out of school—high school, college, graduate studies—so many have no idea what it is to have countering offers for their employment. They don't know. They had to move home and live at home for awhile. But it is exciting when you are wanted by more than one employer, and money is offered, and it is good money. It makes you feel good about yourself. Mr. Speaker, I am ready, like most Americans, to see that happening in America again so our young people can have that feeling of self-worth because there are so many jobs.

One of the first steps was to repeal ObamaCare and allow health care that would be affordable—insurance that would be affordable. Well, the bill we are taking up is not going to do that. But I have advised the House leadership, Republican leadership, and the President and Vice President that I will vote for the bill in its current form. It is not what I wanted.

It is not a full repeal, but it does enough now that it will bring down premiums. And it won't be 10 years under the law the way it is written right now.

It protects those who have preexisting conditions.

It allows people 26 years of age and younger—I wouldn't mind it being 50, but it is 26—be on their parents' insurance as dependents. That is not being touched. That is there.

But some of the mandates are being repealed the way it sits now. I am not thrilled with it. But I have talked to enough people that have just got to have help on the premiums. The bill, the way it was, was not going to help them. We have got the bill to a point where it will help much more quickly with premium assistance.

I am looking forward to getting that behind us, moving on to dropping the corporate tax rate to 15 percent so we can return manufacturing jobs in droves, and seeing this economy explode.

There is reason to be optimistic. Not everybody is as mindless as Judge Orrick, so there is reason for optimism.

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

ISSUES OF THE DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2017, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. ROHRABACHER) for 30 minutes.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Mr. Speaker, let me just note that today I am paying close attention to the healthcare issue. I don't want anybody to think when they look at me giving this speech on the floor of the House that this is evidence that there is armtwisting going on here in the Capitol about trying to get people's vote on the healthcare issue. No, it is just humorous.

This is a shoulder replacement. I had this one replaced, actually, 4 or 5 months ago, and it is doing fine now. This one was a week ago. The cause of this, of course, has been excessive surfing. When I was older, I should have understood that you cannot surf as much as you can when you are younger without eliminating the cartilage that is there, then the cartilage is gone, and the bones grind on each other.

Well, that is just one example, however, of a healthcare issue that is going to be with us much more frequently now as the population of this country is growing older. The older people get, there will be other infirmities that really were not suffered on such a scale when we died off at a younger age.

So what we need to do is to make sure that we set down policies and a system that will provide the American people with the greatest and the most effective care that is possible within the budget that we have to deal with.

Today I thought I would talk about that, of course—health care. But there are a few other issues I would like to discuss.

Tax reform, of course, is something that is being focused on today as well—tax reform for fiscal year '17. And, of course, fiscal year '18, the appropriations bill. Border security, of course, has to be on this list.

These are issues that we are every day talking about here on Capitol Hill. The work is intense, people are serious, and there is a job for us to do. President Trump is in the White House, and he is working hard as well.

This is not the time for the other side to be politicizing every issue that comes up, but, instead, to admit that Republicans now have legitimately won the election for President and legitimately won a majority in both Houses of Congress.

Thus, we should put in place policies that are, yes, fair, honest, and effective. But, also, we have to realize that it is fair, honest, and effective based on what those people who are elected by the people to make the decision believe is fair and effective.

Unfortunately, what we have now, and we see this across the country, are people who—and I don't even know if they understand the system at all, but they are arrogantly trying to be engaged with disrupting the system because they did not win. That cannot be tolerated for long. I would hope that people have a change of heart and work with us. We are willing to work with Members of the other party, the Democratic Party, to make sure we come up with both health care and tax reform that the American people will accept and applaud.

First, let's take a look at health care. Tonight I would like to discuss with whoever is listening and whoever is reading the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD an idea that I am proposing for the healthcare industry. And for the bill that is being put together, as we speak, where people are negotiating and compromising out, I have thrown this idea into the mix. And that is that we are—and we have to recognize—making progress toward replacement of ObamaCare.

I am asking my colleagues to give serious consideration to this simple

amendment that I believe will revolutionize health care in America by protecting the formation and operation of healthcare cooperatives.

Now, let's get back to that. I am trying to suggest that a small change could actually bring about a revolution in the way health care is delivered to the American people today.

Let's first admit that our healthcare system today seems to be run by the insurance companies. Yes, insurance companies have almost more influence than doctors do on the policies that we have on health insurance. That is not something that we need to put up with much longer if there is an alternative.

What that should mean to Americans is that we need to open up the system of health care. We need to make sure that health care is being looked at as a target for a multiapproach that will come to grips with those challenges, both financial and technical, et cetera, and that we need to open it up, rather than just having such a major influence by those people who are the money changers—the insurance companies.

□ 1800

My amendment which I am proposing would go a long way towards opening up a whole new avenue. Now, when I say free enterprise—and I believe in free enterprise. When I say free enterprise, I don't just mean—and this is where, unfortunately, a lot of people have made a mistake in thinking that free enterprise approaches are simply the approaches that are based on greed and are based on profit motive. And instead of other things and motivations that are available, they believe that that is what free enterprise means, whether it is health care or whatever.

Well, I would submit that free enterprise means a lot more than just depending on the profit motive and competition and greed but instead, also, includes, and should include—but we have excluded this avenue—cooperation; cooperation among free people for their own benefit and the benefit of their families. We need it not only just in health care, but that is what we are discussing today, to make sure that Americans can cooperate together for their own benefits and the benefits of their family.

Now, how do I get this? How do I get this consciousness? My mom and dad were both born on very small farms in North Dakota. In North Dakota where we have homesteaders and others who are relatively poor, in North Dakota, the farmers may have been given the land—by a Republican President, I might add. Abraham Lincoln is the one who initiated the Homestead Act.

But they didn't have the money for the equipment, maybe even the money to buy seed. And what they did is, they formed farmers' collectives. What they called them, farmers' cooperatives. In Russia, they might have called them collectives, but they had the iron hand of evil in Russia, the iron hand of despotism, and a political control. But the cooperation in the United States was based on people gathering together, voluntarily working together to create a better situation. And you had cooperatives that would buy—farm cooperatives that would buy the machinery that was necessary for a small farm to succeed.

Well, that worked. I noticed that when I would go up to work on the farm when I was younger, and I noticed these farm cooperatives around. And that is totally consistent with free enterprise, the cooperation among people to share with each other the burden of buying that type of equipment.

Well, the amendment that I am proposing, in terms of our health care, falls right into that category. The amendment I am proposing stipulates that no provision in current law, or the underlying act, which we are amending, may restrict cooperative arrangements between individuals or organizations to jointly cover healthcare related expenses. The provision would further stipulate that such cooperative arrangements shall not be subject to any of the requirements, bureaucratic rules and regulations, that currently apply to healthcare industry companies.

In addition, my amendment would stipulate that participation in such a cooperative arrangement shall be deemed as the equivalent of being covered by health insurance. If I might describe what I am talking about so people will understand. We are talking about now, the reason why a lot of people won't buy health insurance is that if they put it in, and they are healthy, that insurance money then goes to the insurance company, even though they have not used it at all.

And so you are going to be hesitant to give that money and to buy that insurance, and the insurance companies, of course, are very happy to have that money available to speculate on the stock market, et cetera, in order to make a profit. I am not against profit, but I want to make sure that profit and greed are not the driving forces for what most people would hope for is they can cooperate together and not be subject to someone else's greed and profit motive.

So what I am talking about, if this would be put into the healthcare bill, this small provision that I just read to you, making sure that cooperative efforts are covered and are not going to be controlled by the Federal Government, that they are free to do so without the many restrictions that would be on another company providing health insurance, that these cooperative efforts could—for example, you could have a co-op among people who worked at a certain school, or an industry, or you could have the same as we have now.

I think that the pathway has been certainly explored when it comes to credit unions where, again, people in a nonprofit situation are working together in order to establish something that benefits all of those people.

We could have a cooperative effort for health care, even run by some of the credit unions if they wanted to do so. They could have an app on their telephone or something where people would then put their money forward. If they didn't get sick, that money would still be part of what they have as their pot of money, their account with whoever it is. It is either an account or whatever, but the account will be returned. Thus, people will then take money out of the account to handle their own small medical needs, but they will also know that if they have a catastrophic condition—that is why everybody is banding together in this cooperative program—that they will be taken care of in terms of some catastrophic illness that might become them.

So what we have in this proposal is an alternative, a very simple change in our healthcare law, which will permit people to work together and make it profitable for them to do so and take them away from the control of other corporations in the health insurance industry that may be thinking more profit than of what their interests are.

So with that said, I have asked my colleagues to consider that proposal, and those who are reading this tonight or tomorrow in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, I hope they would call their Congressman to say that they are really interested in seeing that the cooperative alternative to health care is permitted in the bill.

Now, the second piece of legislation that I would like to talk about tonight also deals with a vitally important issue, vitally important to the well-being of the American people, and that is border security. Let me just say, I have been aware that a massive influx of illegals into our country was a threat to the well-being of the American people, and I have known that in the almost 28 years that I have been a Member of Congress.

But it has been discouraging to me that we have, over and over again, made attempts to try to do something that would draw the line and say we are not going to have any more illegals coming into our country. Now, by the way, that is illegals. I didn't say immigration, immigrants. I am talking about people coming here illegally, a massive flow of illegal immigration.

In fact, the United States permits 1 million legal immigrants to come into our country every year. How big is that? That happens to be more than all of the other countries of the world combined. And we are supposed to

apologize about having that kind of an open system? But no, we have been attacked, over and over again, for trying to get control of this. And what happens when you get out-of-control illegal immigration? You get jobs for ordinary Americans; the value of their work is bid down. And if you want to know why some people can't get good jobs today, and those jobs actually paid a lot more in the past, is because we have flooded the market.

Basically, the Democratic Party has been deeply involved with opposing any of the efforts, and many Republicans have opposed the effort to get control of this flow of illegals. Why? Well, I guess we might be able to take a look at some motives and say: there are a lot of Republicans who could have done something on this, but they didn't want to stem the flow of illegal immigrants because Big Business wants—what do they want? Cheap labor.

That is a betrayal of the American people, just as much as it is a betrayal of the American people for the other party to try to keep the flow of illegal immigrants into our country, hoping they will give them a victory at the ballot box and, thus, give them political power that they wouldn't otherwise have.

Well, it is time to draw the line, and the American people did that in the last Presidential election. And I am very proud that the American people stood up to the most massive propaganda campaign against any Presidential candidate that I have seen in my lifetime, and that was against President Donald Trump.

I just heard the other night, even the bankers up in Massachusetts and New York overwhelmingly were giving money to Hillary's campaign. But Donald Trump got a pittance. The establishment was out to destroy Donald Trump, because Donald Trump said that he was going to stop the flow of illegals, he was going to be watching out for the benefit of America's working people, and that would be the top priority.

Well, one of the things we remember, he wanted to make it real. It wasn't just a bunch of rhetoric. He kept talking about how he would build a huge wall. Now, we all know that ''a huge'' wasn't around before Donald Trump. I don't remember people using that phraseology. And what we have got now is Donald Trump is moving forward. The President of the United States is moving forward to fulfill his promise.

We should not have a situation where politics get in the way by people who lost the election and are now trying to stop and interfere with those people who won the election. That is what the democratic process is all about. And the proposal that I am making when it comes to border security is that—and I was very honored to be asked into the Oval Office by President Trump and to give him some ideas that might be good ideas on how to handle some of these problems.

What I suggested to him is, any wall that he has suggested will be built along our southern border will cost tens of billions of dollars. Well, I had a proposal that I made to him, and I have made to the leadership here in the House, and I hope that they do not ignore this because it is vitally important if we are serious about stopping this massive flow of illegal immigrants into our country. We have to be building that wall, if nothing else, as symbolism that this is a sovereign country, and we demand that our border laws be respected.

Well, what I am proposing is a change from a currently existing immigration law. And that is, we bring in 1 million legal immigrants every year. But guess what? Of that 1 million legal immigrants that we permit in—which I applaud—but among that 1 million legal immigrants, there are 50,000 of them coming in who are selected. What?

They are not selected by a process where you study who is what, who we need here, what kind of skills we need. They are selected by a lottery. They are selected by a lottery, just pulling them out of nowhere. Yes, they are vetted all right, but they are not in any way rationally designed, them coming here, in a way that would help the American people.

Well, what I am suggesting is that 50,000 people—we do not want to decrease the number of legal immigration. We don't want to decrease legal immigration. So we have a 50,000 slot. If we eliminated that stupid lottery that we don't even decide who is coming in, that it is left up to chance, well, we eliminate that, and then we set up a special fund. And the fund is a dedicated fund that whoever puts in $1 million into that dedicated fund will do so in exchange for immediate residency and U.S. citizenship within 2 years.

□ 1815

In other words, foreign people who are successful in whatever they have done in order to accumulate wealth, and we are not going to bring in criminals, it is going to be vetted just like every other legal immigrant will be vetted to make sure they are not criminals or terrorists or anything, but people who are overseas who would love to become U.S. citizens, that they will be given guaranteed U.S. citizenship within 2 years.

Now, that would mean $1 million per person, and perhaps we might want to say that individuals could bring in their immediate family, minors, for $500,000. But whatever that is, the revenue raised from this program could be put into that special account managed by the Secretary of Homeland Security for the purpose of carrying out border security and immigration enforcement activities.

In other words, the President of the United States does not have to have the burden of raising taxes in order to pay for that Southern border wall. He does not have to pass it off on further generations by increasing the debt by that level.

We have a method in this to bring in a better quality of people who we need coming into our country rather than selecting at random and paying for a wall that will reestablish the security of the people of this country and will go a long way to establish a mindset around the world that no longer are our borders open. No longer, whoever can get over here, are we going to take in and then give them free education and free health care and let them commit crimes and not even be kicked out of the country for it. No. Those days are over, and this wall will symbolize that.

What I have suggested, having these foreign wealthy people pay for that wall, makes it a real possibility. If people would be interested in talking to their Member of Congress, they can call or write, but they should call and say the idea of letting rich foreigners build that wall is the answer. Let's get going on it. Let's not wait for 5 years. Build the wall and let the others pay for it. That is a plan that will work.

I would like to also discuss another issue that I have been involved in. But let me just note that, on the tax bill, I have also asked for an amendment that would increase the well-being. And, how do you say, right now our wealth is becoming so centralized in just a few hands.

What we have now in the United States is a vision that the poor are getting poorer and the rich are getting richer. There is a problem with this concentration of wealth.

Now, the reason we have that concentration of wealth is because there are a few people in our country that own capital, own the companies that produce the wealth. And over the years, that has been focused on fewer and fewer hands, and the working people are being shut out of a system that is something that they are essential players in.

So with that said, I am certainly not against profit motive and I am certainly not against competition. I am certainly for the private sector and not for big bureaucracy. But if we just passed an incentive into our system, that incentive would be this: I am proposing that when an employer provides stock for his employees, it has to be an equal distribution to all the employees. Those employees don't have to pay income tax on it. And if those employees keep that stock for over 10 years, the employees don't have to pay capital gains tax on it.

So what we have got—if a company is successful and we have got a large increase in the value of that company, it is being shared with the workers in the company. It is not being held up in the one percent of the elite management. What we need to do is to make sure that we deal with this concentration of wealth because the American people, that is what it was all about. It wasn't about having some elite. That was what the Homestead Act was all about that helped my grandparents. We need a Homestead Act for people who are working in the various industries in our country. And tweaking the system with a little tax incentive like I am talking about, this would be an ESOP, which are already in existence but have very complicated structure associated with them, an expensive structure associated with them, that this would be like ESOPs on steroids. We will have working people thinking in terms of partnership with their employer instead of being on an adversarial relationship. People with startup companies will be able to get the top-quality people knowing if their company is successful, the capital gains tax will be zero for them who came onboard early on.

This is another proposal that I am making, and I would hope that people will look at that again and ask their Congressman to consider Congressman ROHRABACHER's Employee Ownership Bill, Expanding Employee Ownership.

Finally, I would like to talk about one last issue that is something that is very controversial, I know, and I have never stepped away from being controversial. But what we have got here today is a major change in public attitude towards something that has been wrong for a long time but the public was not aware of it.

I would hope that we do not pass up the chance again of legalizing the medical use of marijuana. And the fact is, 44 States have taken many restrictions off the use of medical marijuana.

I have legislation that says respect State marijuana laws. This should be left up to the States. This should be left up to the people who decide for themselves whether or not they believe medical marijuana should be available to seniors, to veterans, and to other people. And we should stop paying money to the drug cartels by making sure that this medicine that we now know is possible with marijuana that we don't want to have the source being the drug cartels around the world.

So I would ask my colleagues to join me in supporting the medical marijuana initiative, what I have, which says we will respect medical marijuana laws and the United States.

I would hope that my colleagues get the message. These are four very important issues. These are issues I spent a lot of time on, but I am doing that because I understand these are fundamental. We have to start doing more. If we are going to drain the swamp, as the President says, we have got to be working on the fundamentals that are wrong with the system rather than just trying to create some image of progress and image of activity here.

We can do it. We have got good leadership here in the House. We have got a willingness to cooperate with the other side of the aisle. We have got a President who wants to work with us. Congress is here. We are in action, and we have got some great new creative ideas. Now the American people are welcome to participate.

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

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 6 o'clock and 22 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 2331

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. YOUNG of Iowa) at 11 o'clock and 31 minutes p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 32 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, April 27, 2017, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

1147. A letter from the Acting Under Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the ''Iran-Related Multilateral Sanctions Regime Efforts'' report for the period of August 7, 2016 to February 6, 2017; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1148. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2015-7095; Directorate Identifier 2015-SW-085-AD; Amendment 39-18848; AD 2017-07-09] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received April 21, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1149. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters Deutschland GmbH [Docket No.: FAA-2016-3257; Directorate Identifier 2015-SW-072-AD; Amendment 39-18846; AD 2017-07-08] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received April 21, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1150. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Bell Helicopter Textron Canada Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2017-0189; Directorate Identifier 2017-SW-008-AD; Amendment 39-18847; AD 2017-05-51] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received April 21, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1151. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2016-8184; Directorate Identifier 2016-NM-036-AD: Amendment 39-18843; AD 2017-07-05] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received April 21, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1152. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc. Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2016-6897; Directorate Identifier 2015-NM-187-AD; Amendment 39-18853; AD 2017-08-04] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received April 21, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1153. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc., Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2016-9299; Directorate Identifier 2016-NM-119-AD; Amendment 39-18851; AD 2017-08-02] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received April 21, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1154. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Gulfstream Aerospace Corporation Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0651; Directorate Identifier 2014-NM-043-AD; Amendment 39-18850; AD 2017-08-01] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received April 21, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1155. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31127; Amdt. No.: 3741] received April 21, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1156. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Gulfstream Aerospace Corporation Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2016-9385; Directorate Identifier 2016-NM-111-AD; Amendment 39-18844; AD 2017-07-06] (RIN: 2120-AA64)

received April 21, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1157. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; General Electric Company Turbofan Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2013-0879; Directorate Identifier 2013-NE-30-AD; Amendment 39-18842; AD 2017-07-04] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received April 21, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1158. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2017-0245; Directorate Identifier 2017-NM-023-AD; Amendment 39-18841; AD 2017-07-05] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received April 21, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1159. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; M7 Aerospace LLC Models Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2016-9531; Directorate Identifier 2015-CE-011-AD; Amendment 39-18839; AD 2017-07-01] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received April 21, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1160. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Embraer S.A. Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0059; Directorate Identifier 2013-NM-075-AD; Amendment 39-18832; AD 2017-06-08] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received April 21, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1161. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Meggitt (Troy), Inc. Combustion Heaters [Docket No.: FAA-2014-0603; Directorate Identifier 2013-CE-026-AD; Amendment 39-18827; AD 2017-06-03] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received April 21, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1162. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2016-8851; Directorate Identifier 2016-NM-070-AD; Amendment 39-18831; AD 2017-06-07] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received April 21, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1163. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2017-0245; Directorate Identifier 2017-NM-023-AD; Amendment 39-18841; AD 2017-07-03] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received April 21, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1164. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; American Champion Aircraft Corp. [Docket No.: FAA-2017-0283; Directorate Identifier 2017-CE-009-AD; Amendment 39-18849; AD 2017-07-10] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received April 21, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1165. A letter from the Trial Attorney, Office of the Chief Counsel, Federal Railroad Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Implementation of the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act Improvements Act for a Violation of a Federal Railroad Safety Law, Federal Railroad Administration Safety Regulation or Order, or the Hazardous Material Transportation Laws or Regulations, Orders, Special Permits, and Approvals Issued Under Those Laws [Docket No.: FRA-2016-0021; Notice No.: 3] (RIN: 2130-AC59) received April 21, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1166. A letter from the Acting Under Secretary, Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting a progress report for the period of July 1, 2016, through September 30, 2016; jointly to the Committees on Foreign Affairs and Armed Services.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. WOODALL: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 280. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1694) to require additional entities to be subject to the requirements of section 552 of title 5, United States Code (commonly referred to as the Freedom of Information Act), and for other purposes; providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules; and waiving a requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII with respect to consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules (Rept. 115–96). Referred to the House Calendar.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. HENSARLING (for himself, Mr. MCHENRY, Mr. HUIZENGA, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. DUFFY, Mr. BARR, Mrs. WAGNER, and Mr. PEARCE):

H.R. 10. A bill to create hope and opportunity for investors, consumers, and entrepreneurs by ending bailouts and Too Big to Fail, holding Washington and Wall Street accountable, eliminating red tape to increase access to capital and credit, and repealing the provisions of the Dodd-Frank Act that make America less prosperous, less stable, and less free, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committees on Agriculture, Ways and Means, the Judiciary, Oversight and Government Reform, Transportation and Infrastructure, Rules, the Budget, and Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. ROE of Tennessee (for himself, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. KUSTOFF of Tennessee, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee, Mr. DESJARLAIS, and Mrs. BLACK):

H.R. 2146. A bill to amend the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to provide notice to State authorities when unaccompanied alien children are placed in that State; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. COFFMAN:

H.R. 2147. A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to hire additional Veterans Justice Outreach Specialists to provide treatment court services to justice-involved veterans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. PITTENGER (for himself and Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia):

H.R. 2148. A bill to amend the Federal Deposit Insurance Act to clarify capital requirements for certain acquisition, development, or construction loans; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas:

H.R. 2149. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require inclusion of the taxpayer's social security number to claim the refundable portion of the child tax credit; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. DEFAZIO (for himself, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, and Mr. FERGUSON):

H.R. 2150. A bill to ensure that permits issued by the Secretary of Transportation to foreign air carriers under the United States-European Union Air Transport Agreement of April 2007 do not undermine labor rights or standards, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. POCAN (for himself, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Miss RICE of New York, Ms. NORTON, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. YARMUTH, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Ms. DELBENE, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. LANGEVIN, Ms. TSONGAS, Mr. JEFFRIES, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. NADLER, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. KILMER, Mr. COHEN, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Ms. TITUS, Mr. PETERS, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. DELANEY, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. DEUTCH, and Mr. BLUMENAUER):

H.R. 2151. A bill to prevent harassment at institutions of higher education, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. POE of Texas (for himself and Mr. WALBERG):

H.R. 2152. A bill to require States and units of local government receiving funds under grant programs operated by the Department of Justice, which use such funds for pretrial services programs, to submit to the Attorney General a report relating to such program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. ROTHFUS (for himself, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. COOPER, and Mr. LOEBSACK):

H.R. 2153. A bill to hold the salaries of Members of a House of Congress in escrow if

the House of Congress does not agree to a budget resolution or pass regular appropriation bills on a timely basis during a Congress, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. CRAMER:

H.R. 2154. A bill to rename the Red River Valley Agricultural Research Center in Fargo, North Dakota, as the Edward T. Schafer Agricultural Research Center; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. WALBERG (for himself and Mr. CUELLAR):

H.R. 2155. A bill to amend the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 to authorize funds to identify and eliminate excessive occupational licensure; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. KNIGHT (for himself and Ms. BROWNLEY of California):

H.R. 2156. A bill to provide for the establishment of a national memorial and national monument to commemorate those killed by the collapse of the Saint Francis Dam on March 12, 1928, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. BRAT (for himself, Mr. MEADOWS, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. OLSON, Mr. PALMER, Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina, Mr. WESTERMAN, Mr. LOUDERMILK, Mr. ROUZER, Mr. BIGGS, Mr. LABRADOR, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. SCALISE, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. WITTMAN, and Mr. BABIN):

H.R. 2157. A bill to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to limit the authority of the President to withdraw areas from oil and gas leasing, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. BEYER (for himself, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. NORTON, Ms. LEE, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. KEATING, Mr. HASTINGS, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. SANFORD, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, and Mr. PRICE of North Carolina):

H.R. 2158. A bill to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to prohibit oil-, gas-, and methane hydrate-related seismic activities in the North Atlantic, Mid-Atlantic, South Atlantic, and Straits of Florida planning areas of the outer Continental Shelf, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. CICILLINE (for himself, Mr. DELANEY, Ms. LEE, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. POCAN, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. SLAUGHTER, and Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts):

H.R. 2159. A bill to reduce the deficit by imposing a minimum effective tax rate for high-income taxpayers; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. CRIST:

H.R. 2160. A bill to improve the safety of school buses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committees on Education and the Workforce, and Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CURBELO of Florida (for himself, Mr. SOTO, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ):

H.R. 2161. A bill to adjust the immigration status of certain Venezuelan nationals who are in the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois:

H.R. 2162. A bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to provide for automatic continuing resolutions; to the Committee on Appropriations.

By Mr. FITZPATRICK (for himself, Ms. SLAUGHTER, and Ms. DELAURO):

H.R. 2163. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to require physicians and physician's offices to be treated as covered device users required to report on certain adverse events involving medical devices, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. FITZPATRICK (for himself, Ms. SLAUGHTER, and Ms. DELAURO):

H.R. 2164. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to liability under State and local requirements respecting devices; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. GALLAGHER (for himself and Mr. MCCAUL):

H.R. 2165. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to direct the Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) to make certain improvements in managing TSA employee conduct, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. GOHMERT (for himself, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. COLE, and Mr. WITTMAN):

H.R. 2166. A bill to amend title 37, United States Code, to provide for the continuance of pay and allowances for members of the Armed Forces, including reserve components thereof, during lapses in appropriations; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. GRIFFITH (for himself, Mr. LAMALFA, and Mr. GOSAR):

H.R. 2167. A bill to provide for no net increase in the total acreage of certain Federal land under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management, the National Park Service, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, or the Forest Service, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. ISSA (for himself, Mrs. COMSTOCK, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. NORTON, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. BEYER, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. DONOVAN, Mr. POE of Texas, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. ROYCE of California, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. CHABOT, and Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina):

H.R. 2168. A bill to waive the passport fees for first responders proceeding abroad to aid a foreign country suffering from a natural disaster; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. KATKO (for himself, Mr. MCCAUL, and Mr. KEATING):

H.R. 2169. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to enhance information sharing in the Department of Homeland Security State, Local, and Regional Fusion Center Initiative, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. LAMALFA (for himself, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. COMER, Mr. COOK, Mr. COSTA, Mr. DENHAM, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. KNIGHT, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. NUNES, Mr. ROHRABACHER, Mr. ROUZER, Mr. ROYCE of California, Mr. VALADAO, and Mrs. MIMI WALTERS of California):

H.R. 2170. A bill to amend the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 to allow the repair, expansion, and construction, without elevation, of agricultural structures located in special flood hazard zones, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. LEWIS of Georgia (for himself, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. BLUMENAUER, and Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois):

H.R. 2171. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reduce taxpayer burdens and enhance taxpayer protections, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. LOVE:

H.R. 2172. A bill to amend the Federal Reserve Act to remove the mandate on the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and the Federal Open Market Committee to focus on maximum employment; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. MATSUI (for herself, Mr. POE of Texas, and Mr. HIMES):

H.R. 2173. A bill to improve passenger vessel security and safety, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS (for herself, Mr. BARTON, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mr. BUCK, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. EMMER, Mr. FARENTHOLD, Mr. FLORES, Mr. JORDAN, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. MESSER, Mr. OLSON, Mr. PALMER, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. STEWART, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. YOHO, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. WALKER, Mr. RENACCI, Mr. BLUM, Ms. JENKINS of Kansas, Mr. RATCLIFFE, Mr. SMITH of Missouri, Mr. BYRNE, Mr. LOUDERMILK, and Mr. HUDSON):

H.R. 2174. A bill to provide for a reauthorizing schedule for unauthorized Federal programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committees on Rules, and the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. MURPHY of Florida (for herself, Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. MOULTON, Ms. HANABUSA, Ms. DELBENE, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, and Mr. KILMER):

H.R. 2175. A bill to direct the Director of National Intelligence to establish an integration cell to monitor and enforce United Nations Security Council resolutions with respect to North Korea, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Intelligence (Permanent Select).

By Mrs. MURPHY of Florida (for herself, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. GALLEGO, Ms. HANABUSA, Ms. BORDALLO, and Mr. CASTRO of Texas):

H.R. 2176. A bill to authorize the establishment of an Asia-Pacific Defense Commission to enhance defense cooperation between the United States and allies in the Asia-Pacific region, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of

such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 2177. A bill to amend title 28, United States Code, to change the residency requirements for certain officials serving in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 2178. A bill to provide for the compensation of Federal contractor employees that may be placed on unpaid leave as a result of the Federal Government shutdown, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. ROUZER:

H.R. 2179. A bill to require certain welfare programs to deny benefits to persons who fail a drug test, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on Agriculture, and Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. SPEIER (for herself, Ms. NORTON, Ms. DELBENE, Miss RICE of New York, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. SINEMA, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. TSONGAS, Ms. MENG, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. HECK, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. KILMER, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. ELLISON, Ms. DEGETTE, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. AGUILAR, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. YARMUTH, Ms. MOORE, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. WELCH, Mr. BERA, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. HIMES, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Ms. LEE, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. DELANEY, Ms. ESTY of Connecticut, Ms. TITUS, Mr. PETERS, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CORREA, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. MATSUI, and Mr. SWALWELL of California):

H.R. 2180. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to ensure that women members of the Armed Forces and their families have access to the contraception they need in order to promote the health and readiness of all members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. TIBERI (for himself, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. PAULSEN, and Mr. REED):

H.R. 2181. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permit the consolidation of life insurance companies with other companies; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. ZELDIN (for himself, Ms. DELAURO, Ms. MENG, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. LANGEVIN, and Mr. COURTNEY):

H.R. 2182. A bill to require the Comptroller General of the United States to submit a report to Congress on the alternatives for the final disposition of Plum Island, including preservation of the island for conservation, education, and research, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN:

H.J. Res. 99. A joint resolution making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2017, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Appropriations.

By Mr. ZELDIN (for himself and Ms. MENG):

H. Res. 279. A resolution recognizing Israeli-American heritage and the contributions of the Israeli-American community to the United States; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. CÁRDENAS (for himself, Mr. JEFFRIES, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. CURBELO of Florida, Mr. CONYERS, Mrs. LOVE, Mr. WALKER, Mr. RUSSELL, Ms. BASS, and Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois):

H. Res. 281. A resolution expressing support for designation of April 2017 as ''Second Chance Month''; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. DENT (for himself, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Mr. JENKINS of West Virginia, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, and Mr. COOPER):

H. Res. 282. A resolution supporting State, local, and community initiatives to encourage parents, teachers, camp counselors, and childcare professionals to take measures to prevent sunburns in the minors they care for, and expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that State, local, and community entities should continue to support efforts to curb the incidences of skin cancer beginning with childhood skin protection; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. LOWENTHAL (for himself and Mr. FITZPATRICK):

H. Res. 283. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that congressional redistricting should be reformed to remove political gerrymandering; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MCEACHIN (for himself, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. PALLONE, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. BEYER, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. BROWN of Maryland, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. CLAY, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. CONYERS, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. EVANS, Ms. FUDGE, Mr. GALLEGO, Ms. HANABUSA, Mr. HASTINGS, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. JEFFRIES, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI, Ms. LEE, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. MOULTON, Mrs. MURPHY of Florida, Mr. NADLER, Mr. NORCROSS, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. POCAN, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. SABLAN, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Ms. TSONGAS, Mr. TONKO, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, and Ms. WILSON of Florida):

H. Res. 284. A resolution expressing support for honoring Earth Day, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. TAYLOR (for himself, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Mr. REICHERT, and Mr. PASCRELL):

H. Res. 285. A resolution expressing the sense of the United States House of Representatives that Congress and the President should empower the creation of police and community alliances designed to enhance and improve communication and collaboration between members of the law enforcement community and the public they serve; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. HENSARLING:

H.R. 10.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 (''To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes'');

Article I, Section 8, Clause 5 (''To coin Money, regulate the Value thereof, and of foreign Coin, and fix the Standard of Weights and Measures'');

Article I, Section 8, Clause 6 (''To provide for the Punishment of counterfeiting the Securities and current Coin of the United States''); and

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 (''To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States or in any Department or Officer thereof.'').

By Mr. ROE of Tennessee:

H.R. 2146.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Constitution of the United States Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 and Clause 18.

By Mr. COFFMAN:

H.R. 2147.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Mr. PITTENGER:

H.R. 2148.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 1: All legislative Powers herein shall be vested in a Congress of the United States

By Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas:

H.R. 2149.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1

By Mr. DEFAZIO:

H.R. 2150.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1, Clause 3, and Clause 18 of the Constitution.

By Mr. POCAN:

H.R. 2151.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

The Congress shall have Power . . . To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and

among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.

By Mr. POE of Texas:

H.R. 2152.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. ROTHFUS:

H.R. 2153.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1

By Mr. CRAMER:

H.R. 2154.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority on which this bill rests is in section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

By Mr. WALBERG:

H.R. 2155.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the Constitution of the United States; the power to regulate commerce among the several states

By Mr. KNIGHT:

H.R. 2156.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8 Clause 18

''To make all Laws which shall be necessary and porper for carrying into Execution and foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer therof.''

By Mr. BRAT:

H.R. 2157.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2:

''The Congress shall have Power to dispose of and make all needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory or other Property belonging to the United States; and nothing in this Constitution shall be so construed as to Prejudice any Claims of the United States, or of any particular State.''

By Mr. BEYER:

H.R. 2158.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority of Congress to enact this legislation is provided by Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. CICILLINE:

H.R. 2159.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. CRIST:

H.R. 2160.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority of Congress to enact this legislation is provided by Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. CURBELO of Florida:

H.R. 2161.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 4: The Congress shall have Power To establish an uniform Rule of Naturalization, and uniform Laws on the subject of Bankruptcies throughout the United States.

By Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois:

H.R. 2162.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 9, Clause 7 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. FITZPATRICK:

H.R. 2163.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

By Mr. FITZPATRICK:

H.R. 2164.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

By Mr. GALLAGHER:

H.R. 2165.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18—To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. GOHMERT:

H.R. 2166.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 9, Clause 7 of the U.S. Constitution sets forth the power of appropriations and states that ''No Money shall be drawn from the Treasury but in Consequence of Appropriations made by Law. . . .''

In addition, Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 states that ''The Congress shall have the Power . . . to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defense and general Welfare of the United States. . . .''

Also, Article I, Section 8, Clauses 12 and 13 states that Congress shall have power ''to raise and support Armies . . .'' and ''to provide and maintain a Navy.''

By Mr. GRIFFITH:

H.R. 2167.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. ISSA:

H.R. 2168.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.

By Mr. KATKO:

H.R. 2169.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18—''To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.''

By Mr. LAMALFA:

H.R. 2170.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article One, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. LEWIS of Georgia:

H.R. 2171.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I of the United States Constitution and its subsequent amendments, and further clarified and interpreted by the Supreme Court of the United States.

By Mrs. LOVE:

H.R. 2172.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Section 8 of Article I of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. MATSUI:

H.R. 2173.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3

By Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS:

H.R. 2174.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 7, Clause 1: ''All Bills for raising Revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives; but the Senate may propose or concur with amendments as on other Bills.''

Article I, Section 9, Clause 7: ''No Money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in Consequence of Appropriations made by Law; and a regular Statement and Account of the Receipts and Expenditures of all public Money shall be published from time to time.''

By Mrs. MURPHY of Florida:

H.R. 2175.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution, which gives Congress the power to provide for the common defense and to make all laws necessary and proper to carry out this power.

By Mrs. MURPHY of Florida:

H.R. 2176.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution, which gives Congress the power to provide for the common defense and to make all laws necessary and proper to carry out this power.

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 2177.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

clause 18 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 2178.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

clause 7 of section 9 of article I of the Constitution.

By Mr. ROUZER:

H.R. 2179.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

The Congress shall have the Power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debt and provide for the common Defense and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.

By Ms. SPEIER:

H.R. 2180.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. TIBERI:

H.R. 2181.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 1 of Section 8 of Article I

By Mr. ZELDIN:

H.R. 2182.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Sections 8 & 9 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN:

H.J. Res. 99.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The principal constitutional authority for this legislation is clause 7 of section 9 of article I of the Constitution of the United States (the appropriation power), which states: ''No Money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in Consequence of Appropriations made by Law. . . .'' In addition, clause 1 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution (the spending power) provides: ''The Congress shall have the Power . . . to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States. . . .'' Together, these specific constitutional provisions establish the congressional power of the purse, granting Congress the authority to appropriate funds, to determine their purpose, amount, and period of availability, and to set forth terms and conditions governing their use.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 37: Mr. LOUDERMILK.
H.R. 44: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI.
H.R. 80: Mr. BARLETTA.
H.R. 82: Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia.
H.R. 112: Ms. BROWNLEY of California.
H.R. 115: Mr. POE of Texas.
H.R. 179: Mr. LYNCH, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. COLE, and Ms. DELAURO.
H.R. 256: Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. MEADOWS, Mr. STEWART, and Mr. MCKINLEY.
H.R. 371: Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 389: Mr. VALADAO.
H.R. 392: Mr. MULLIN, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Mr. BUCSHON, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. TSONGAS, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. JEFFRIES, and Mr. REED.
H.R. 448: Mrs. DAVIS of California and Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.
H.R. 453: Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mr. JONES, and Mr. O'HALLERAN.
H.R. 488: Mr. KENNEDY and Ms. ROSEN.
H.R. 490: Mr. WEBSTER of Florida.
H.R. 499: Mr. SANFORD.
H.R. 510: Mr. POE of Texas.
H.R. 520: Mr. STEWART, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. RENACCI, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia, Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky, Ms. CHENEY, and Mr. LATTA.
H.R. 553: Mr. DESJARLAIS.
H.R. 566: Mr. BACON and Mr. RUSSELL.
H.R. 592: Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. TONKO, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, and Mr. BERA.
H.R. 608: Mr. KHANNA.
H.R. 613: Mr. REICHERT, Mr. VALADAO, and Mr. POE of Texas.
H.R. 619: Mrs. HARTZLER and Mr. MESSER.
H.R. 632: Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Mr. SERRANO, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. NOLAN, and Ms. SÁNCHEZ.
H.R. 681: Mr. BACON and Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana.
H.R. 721: Ms. ESTY of Connecticut.
H.R. 747: Mr. UPTON, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mrs. ROBY, Mr. BACON, and Mr. SMUCKER.
H.R. 750: Mr. DEUTCH.
H.R. 782: Mr. BACON.
H.R. 785: Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mr. ROUZER, and Mr. BRIDENSTINE.
H.R. 807: Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky, Mr. MCGOVERN, and Mrs. LOVE.
H.R. 810: Mr. CICILLINE.
H.R. 813: Ms. ESHOO and Mr. CASTRO of Texas.
H.R. 820: Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. CULBERSON, Mr. LATTA, and Mr. MOULTON.
H.R. 828: Mr. COLE.
H.R. 830: Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania and Mr. COFFMAN.
H.R. 881: Ms. SÁNCHEZ.
H.R. 909: Mr. RUIZ and Mr. KIND.
H.R. 918: Ms. ROSEN.
H.R. 919: Mr. LIPINSKI.
H.R. 939: Mr. SOTO and Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 986: Mr. BRIDENSTINE.
H.R. 989: Mr. COOK and Mr. RATCLIFFE.
H.R. 990: Mr. COOK and Mr. RATCLIFFE.
H.R. 997: Mr. STIVERS.
H.R. 1005: Mr. ROGERS of Alabama.
H.R. 1017: Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. DONOVAN, and Mr. KELLY of Mississippi.
H.R. 1027: Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia.
H.R. 1057: Mr. HILL.
H.R. 1058: Mr. BLUMENAUER.
H.R. 1090: Mr. NOLAN.
H.R. 1104: Mr. RYAN of Ohio and Mr. AL GREEN of Texas.
H.R. 1116: Mr. COFFMAN, Mr. YOUNG of Iowa, Mrs. NOEM, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, and Mr. PAULSEN.
H.R. 1120: Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, and Ms. STEFANIK.
H.R. 1141: Mr. LOBIONDO.
H.R. 1146: Mr. SERRANO.
H.R. 1148: Mr. WALZ.
H.R. 1149: Mr. KING of Iowa.
H.R. 1155: Mr. WALZ.
H.R. 1156: Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana.
H.R. 1180: Mr. SMUCKER and Mr. BROOKS of Alabama.
H.R. 1192: Mr. LOUDERMILK.
H.R. 1200: Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois and Mr. RUPPERSBERGER.
H.R. 1212: Mr. CICILLINE.
H.R. 1235: Mr. COURTNEY, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York; Mr. ROSKAM, Mr. PAULSEN, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico, Ms. DEGETTE, and Ms. DELAURO.
H.R. 1239: Mr. SCHNEIDER.
H.R. 1241: Mr. VALADAO.
H.R. 1253: Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts.
H.R. 1272: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey and Mr. MACARTHUR.
H.R. 1300: Mr. AL GREEN of Texas and Mr. LOBIONDO.
H.R. 1310: Ms. SHEA-PORTER.
H.R. 1317: Mr. PALAZZO.
H.R. 1322: Mrs. MURPHY of Florida and Mr. VELA.
H.R. 1334: Mr. COLE.
H.R. 1379: Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mrs. BEATTY, and Ms. SPEIER.
H.R. 1393: Mr. BILIRAKIS and Mr. MOOLENAAR.
H.R. 1405: Ms. SÁNCHEZ and Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico.
H.R. 1421: Mr. LARSON of Connecticut.
H.R. 1444: Ms. BROWNLEY of California and Mr. SARBANES.
H.R. 1447: Ms. TENNEY and Mr. LOWENTHAL.
H.R. 1456: Ms. TSONGAS, Mr. PETERS, Mr. POLIS, Mr. POCAN, Mr. SUOZZI, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Mr. MCEACHIN, Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. LEVIN, and Mr. SCHNEIDER.
H.R. 1457: Mr. BYRNE.
H.R. 1468: Mr. BACON.
H.R. 1478: Mr. MEEKS and Mr. CUMMINGS.
H.R. 1481: Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire.
H.R. 1485: Mr. BARLETTA.
H.R. 1515: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 1516: Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER.
H.R. 1528: Mr. COFFMAN, Mr. NOLAN, and Mr. LAMBORN.
H.R. 1532: Mr. COOK.
H.R. 1544: Mr. TAYLOR and Ms. MATSUI.
H.R. 1552: Mr. KNIGHT.
H.R. 1555: Mr. RUSSELL.
H.R. 1562: Mr. GALLEGO.
H.R. 1570: Mrs. BEATTY.
H.R. 1588: Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 1599: Mr. LAMBORN.
H.R. 1625: Mr. POE of Texas.
H.R. 1626: Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, Mr. FASO, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. COSTA, Mr. LUCAS, Mr. VALADAO, and Mr. WITTMAN.
H.R. 1632: Mr. GIBBS and Mr. LUETKEMEYER.
H.R. 1635: Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. MESSER, and Mrs. RADEWAGEN.
H.R. 1644: Mrs. WAGNER.
H.R. 1651: Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico and Mr. DONOVAN.
H.R. 1661: Mr. NOLAN.
H.R. 1663: Mr. HUFFMAN and Mr. MOULTON.
H.R. 1665: Mr. BARLETTA.
H.R. 1674: Ms. ESTY of Connecticut and Mr. LARSON of Connecticut.
H.R. 1676: Mr. WITTMAN and Mr. LUETKEMEYER.
H.R. 1677: Mr. RUSSELL, Mr. FRANCIS ROONEY of Florida, Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana, and Ms. TITUS.
H.R. 1683: Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. CORREA, Mr. TONKO, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. KILMER, and Mr. RUSH.
H.R. 1697: Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mrs. MIMI WALTERS of California, Mr. FASO, Mr. SIRES, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania, and Mr. YOUNG of Alaska.
H.R. 1698: Mr. BUDD, Mrs. MIMI WALTERS of California, Mr. FASO, Ms. HANABUSA, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. SCALISE, Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, and Mr. LUETKEMEYER.
H.R. 1711: Mrs. DEMINGS.
H.R. 1731: Mr. BARLETTA.
H.R. 1759: Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 1761: Mr. SCALISE and Mr. BIGGS.
H.R. 1772: Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico and Mr. GARAMENDI.
H.R. 1777: Mr. HARRIS, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana, Mr. POLIQUIN, Mr. YOUNG of Iowa, Mr. LATTA, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. BACON, and Mr. HUDSON.
H.R. 1779: Mr. LOEBSACK.
H.R. 1794: Mr. BACON, Mr. WITTMAN, and Mr. GAETZ.
H.R. 1796: Mr. HIMES.
H.R. 1811: Ms. TENNEY.
H.R. 1813: Mr. KING of Iowa.
H.R. 1819: Ms. LOFGREN.
H.R. 1820: Ms. LEE.
H.R. 1823: Mr. DEFAZIO and Ms. LEE.
H.R. 1824: Mr. DEFAZIO and Ms. LEE.
H.R. 1825: Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Mr. ELLISON, Mrs. COMSTOCK, and Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 1833: Mr. BROWN of Maryland and Mr. MEEKS.
H.R. 1838; Mr. VALADAO.
H.R. 1853: Mr. MEEKS, Ms. MOORE, and Ms. JAYAPAL.
H.R. 1874: Mr. SWALWELL of California.
H.R. 1882: Ms. SPEIER, Mr. RICHMOND, and Mrs. BEATTY.
H.R. 1891: Mr. VALADAO.
H.R. 1892: Mr. POE of Texas, Mr. SWALWELL of California, and Mr. FARENTHOLD.
H.R. 1895: Mr. RUSSELL.
H.R. 1899: Mr. KILMER and Mr. VEASEY.
H.R. 1902: Miss RICE of New York.
H.R. 1910: Mr. COLE and Ms. TENNEY.
H.R. 1919: Mr. CULBERSON.
H.R. 1921: Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina.
H.R. 1928: Mr. COLE, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, and Ms. SHEA-PORTER.
H.R. 1940: Mr. SERRANO.

H.R. 1953: Mr. FASO and Mr. WITTMAN.
H.R. 1957: Mr. NADLER, Mr. POLIS, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. DEUTCH, Ms. TITUS, and Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 1971: Mr. LATTA.
H.R. 1989: Mr. ROYCE of California, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. LAMALFA, and Mr. CALVERT.
H.R. 1991: Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, and Mr. DENT.
H.R. 1997: Mr. POE of Texas.
H.R. 2000: Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Mr. SWALWELL of California, and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.
H.R. 2001: Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Mr. SWALWELL of California, and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.
H.R. 2004: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. BERGMAN, and Mr. BISHOP of Michigan.
H.R. 2023: Mr. PALAZZO.
H.R. 2024: Mr. FRANCIS ROONEY of Florida.
H.R. 2029: Mr. DUNN, Mr. POSEY, and Mr. OLSON.
H.R. 2043: Mr. O'ROURKE, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. ENGEL, and Mr. LEVIN.
H.R. 2054: Mr. SANFORD.
H.R. 2096: Ms. LEE.
H.R. 2097: Mr. COLE and Mr. HUNTER.
H.R. 2106: Mr. COLE.
H.R. 2108: Mr. GALLEGO and Mr. PERLMUTTER.
H.R. 2121: Mr. LOUDERMILK.
H.R. 2132: Mr. KING of New York and Mr. VELA.
H.R. 2145: Ms. MOORE and Mr. PERLMUTTER.
H.J. Res. 51: Mr. COLE.
H.J. Res. 88: Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts.
H. Con. Res. 8: Mr. STIVERS, Mr. KING of New York, and Mr. COLE.
H. Con. Res. 10: Mr. LUETKEMEYER.
H. Con. Res. 13: Mr. MCHENRY, Mr. FASO, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. BACON, Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas, and Mr. LEWIS of Minnesota.
H. Con. Res. 37: Mr. HUNTER.
H. Con. Res. 43: Mr. CARSON of Indiana.
H. Con. Res. 45: Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. CRAMER, Ms. NORTON, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania, Ms. PINGREE, Mrs. RADEWAGEN, Mr. KILMER, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. RUSH, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. BERGMAN, and Mr. GALLEGO.
H. Res. 15: Ms. FRANKEL of Florida, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Ms. FUDGE, and Mrs. LAWRENCE.
H. Res. 28: Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, and Mr. KILMER.
H. Res. 31: Mr. RASKIN, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. SHERMAN, and Mr. HIMES.
H. Res. 85: Mr. JEFFRIES.
H. Res. 90: Mr. KHANNA.
H. Res. 108: Mr. HUFFMAN.
H. Res. 218: Mr. COOK and Mr. SCHNEIDER.
H. Res. 220: Mr. SCHNEIDER.
H. Res. 239: Mr. SIRES, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, and Mr. DEUTCH.
H. Res. 249: Mr. TROTT.
H. Res. 259: Mr. FRANCIS ROONEY of Florida and Mrs. TORRES.
H. Res. 269: Mrs. WAGNER.

CONGRESSIONAL EARMARKS, LIMITED TAX BENEFITS, OR LIMITED TARIFF BENEFITS

Under clause 9 of rule XXI, lists or statements on congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits were submitted as follows:

OFFERED BY MR. FRELINGHUYSEN

H.J. Res. 99, making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2017, and for other purposes, does not contain any congressional earmark, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

The amendment to be offered by Representative CHAFFETZ, or a designee, to H.R. 1694, the Fannie and Freddie Open Records Act of 2017, does not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

DELETIONS OF SPONSORS FROM PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were deleted from public bills and resolutions, as follows;

H.J. Res. 50: Mr. DAVIDSON.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE SMITHVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2017

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I pause to thank and honor the Smithville Police Department for their efforts in serving Smithville following the March 6, 2017 tornado.

The EF–2 rated tornado left a trail of destruction up to 1,000 feet wide and 18 miles long. In Smithville, over 60 houses were damaged with several completely destroyed, resulting in over 65 tons of debris. Miraculously, no injuries were sustained during the storm.

After the storm, officers from the Smithville Police Department helped set up a perimeter, went door-to-door making sure residents were safe, and protected the neighborhood with a 24/7 presence in the days that followed. The effect of the police department on the neighborhoods affected by the tornado cannot be understated, whether through making the victims feel safe from scroungers or looters or by helping residents with their physical needs throughout the recovery.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me and the community of Smithville in thanking Chief Jason Lockridge and the officers and staff of the Smithville Police Department for their service following the March 6 tornado and wishing them God's blessings and protection in the years to come.

COMMEMORATING WWI

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2017

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, 100 years ago today, the House of Representatives voted in support of the United States' entrance into World War I. The Great War was considered to be the war to end all wars.

Four million Americans, including 200,000 Texans, proudly served during World War I. Boys who grew up on Texas farms suddenly became men as they found themselves in the muddy, rainy, and bloody trenches an ocean away.

The life of a Doughboy was hard. Soldiers were constantly bombarded with artillery and machine gun fire. They often faced the danger of traipsing over the trenches and crossing no man's land, repelling the enemy.

In the midst of battle and in the face of the enemy, our men displayed tremendous gallantry. Four Texans were awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for their heroic actions. Their names are: Daniel R. Edwards, David E. Hayden, Samuel M. Sampler, and David B. Barkley.

One hundred and one years later we still remember the brave warriors of WWI. World War I changed our nation, our people, and our world.

And that's just the way it is.

A GRATEFUL THANK YOU TO A TRUSTED ADVISOR

HON. MICHAEL T. McCAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2017

Mr. MCCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the professional achievements and dedication of Cindy Simms who recently began the newest chapter of her esteemed career of public service in the Executive Office of the President. Cindy was most recently my Director of Member Services and a Senior Advisor for the House Homeland Security Committee. Her insight was an invaluable asset to my Committee and Cindy's vision and determination allowed her to grow in her role as a vital part of the Committee's daily operation and strategy.

Cindy has been involved in politics at all levels of government which has contributed to her breadth of knowledge and keen political mind. A native Californian, Cindy began her career working for a state senator before joining the Schwarzenegger gubernatorial campaign and later working in the governor's office as a legislative analyst. Cindy then answered her professional calling and moved to the East Coast where she served in the George W. Bush White House at the Office of National Drug Control Policy. She later worked for both the Department of Homeland Security and Coast Guard, focusing her efforts on issues of national defense.

We relied heavily on Cindy's leadership and outreach as the Director of Member Services for the Homeland Security Committee. Cindy is a true professional and a trusted advisor. Her influence, however, extended across the Committee as she assisted the offices of all Republican Members. Cindy worked tirelessly to keep Members and staff engaged in Committee activities and went out of her way to facilitate opportunities for every single one of the 18 Republicans on the Committee. Her legacy lives on in the tremendous growth in outreach we have experienced during her tenure here. I will always be grateful for the personal relationships she built with the Members of this Committee, myself included, as well as the professional relationships she grew with outside coalitions and stakeholder groups to enhance the Committee's involvement and influence.

The White House is lucky to have Cindy on their team. Her political insight, professional demeanor, and strong relationships built during her time on Capitol Hill will be a great asset to President Trump. Her work ethic, determination to grow, and innovative vision make Cindy an excellent fit to work in the highest office in the land.

TOM CLARK

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2017

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Tom Clark for his leadership, vision and lasting impact on Denver and Colorado as the CEO of the Metro Economic Development Corporation and Executive Vice President of the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce.

With more than 30 years of economic development experience at the state, regional, county and city level, Tom's unique perspective and wealth of knowledge is unparalleled. Tom's career spans four decades from Director of Commercial and Industrial Development for the Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs, through positions with the Fort Collins Chamber of Commerce, the Greater Denver Corporation, the Boulder Chamber of Commerce, the Jefferson Economic Council, and the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce.

Tom was the founder and first president of the Metro Denver Network, the Metro Denver region's first economic development program, for which he received the Arthur D. Little Award for Excellence in Economic Development. In 2012, Tom was recognized as the Denver Post's Business Person of the Year as well as awarded the Denver Business Journal's Power Book Award for Economic Development and Government. He has also been recognized as one of the nation's top economic development professionals by the Council on Urban Economic Development.

I extend my deepest appreciation for Tom and his dedication to our great state, and wish him the best of luck in retirement and future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GEORGE HOLDING

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2017

Mr. HOLDING. Mr. Speaker, due to unforeseen travel delays, I missed the following votes on Tuesday, April 25, 2017:

Roll Call Vote No. 222: H. Res. 187, Relating to efforts to respond to the famine in South. Had I been present, I would have voted "YEA".

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

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

Roll Call Vote No. 223: H.R. 876, the Aviation Employee Screening and Security Enhancement Act of 2017. Had I been present, I would have voted "YEA".

HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE AND THE 69TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL

HON. SCOTT TAYLOR

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2017

Mr. TAYLOR. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD on behalf of my constituent, Rabbi Dr. Israel Zoberman. Rabbi Zoberman is the Founding Rabbi of Congregation Beth Chaverim in Virginia Beach, Virginia. Born in Chu, Kazakhstan (USSR) in 1945, he is the son of Polish Holocaust Survivors. Rabbi Zoberman asked me to include the following remarks in the RECORD:

We remember lest the world forgets or denies the genocidal tragedy that befell the Jewish people at the hands of Nazi Germany and its collaborators of the greatest crime in human history. We dare not forget the six million innocent Jewish victims who were all begrudged their covenantal bond with Israel's God of compassion, caring and love, ever prodding the human family to rise higher and higher. So much that is precious has been forever lost. Nazi ideology sought to eradicate Western civilization's life affirming Judeo- Christian system. We remember the survivors whose numbers are now being naturally diminished, and their resilient spirit that allows them to rebuild their lives with the affirmation of life's undying goodness and the human capacity to overcome evil. We remember the rescuers, those righteous gentiles, who risked their own lives and the lives of their loved ones to protect and save vulnerable Jewish lives. Last but not least, we remember the liberators and heroes who paid the ultimate sacrifice, fighting to preserve human dignity.

My Jewish friend, Ed Shames, is one of the greatest of the Greatest Generation whose legendary legacy is captured in Airborne (the Combat Story of Ed Shames of Easy Company) by Ian Gardner. Edward David Shames was born on June 13, 1922, in Virginia Beach, when it was but a rural community. He was the youngest of the four children, of David and Sadie, who ran the ''Shames Provisions'' country store, with the family living above it. The father's sudden death at age 42 and the Great Depression challenged the family. He grew up rowing and fishing in Chesapeake Bay, target practicing with his father's pistols and learning navigation when hiking with a gift of maps and a compass from his sacrificial mother. Shames went to great length to firmly train his third platoon. Though his strictness was resented by some, it did pay in saved lives. Not only did Ed hold the best record for saved lives among the Division's 500 platoons, he also was the Division's first to receive a battlefield commission following D–Day. Furthermore, he was the first officer of his Division to enter Dachau a few days following its liberation and the horrors he faced are still with him today. The book's sales proceeds admiringly go toward wounded warriors and their families. I can personally attest to Col. Shames' keen convictions, biting humor, and profound humility of a soldier's soldier and a hero's hero. He was honored by the French Government and the legislature in Richmond, Virginia.

As we celebrate Israel's 69th Anniversary, we look forward with lasting gratitude to the 50th Jubilee of the 1967 Six-Day-War miraculous victory, and the reunification of Jerusalem, the Jewish people's eternal capital. We recall the preceding gripping fear of another Holocaust, this time by the surrounding and menacing Arab states begrudging the triumphant survival of European Jewry's remnant which includes my own family. At last, all of Jerusalem's holy sites are safeguarded and respected. We pray for Shalom's blessing of elusive peace to embrace Israelis and Palestinians with the latter finally accepting the exceptional return of an ancient people uprooted from its native land by the Roman sword's power. For two trying millennia, Israelis, never abandoned its divine bond with Zion and Jerusalem, thus proving the superiority of the human soul's power.

We marvel at Israel's world-class, astonishing accomplishments and innovations in its brief and challenging years of renewed sovereignty, even as it faces existential threats from a nuclear capable seeking Iran, its proxies', and the close presence of ISIS and Jihadist groups. The genocidal tragic Syrian scenario is entering its seventh year of massive human destruction and the greatest refugee crisis since WWII. President Trump's military response to the latest gas attack on the long abandoned Syrian civilians including children, reminiscent of the Holocaust, is deeply appreciated. New opportunities have emerged for rapprochement between Israel and the Sunni Arab states. We bemoan the precipitous and alarming global rise of anti-Semitism, the world's oldest hatred that made the Holocaust possible. The threats within the United States against Jewish institutions, the desecration of Jewish cemeteries and anti- Israel/Jewish activities in American schools make mockery of sacred memory, justice and truth, while enabling aggressors to persist and delay peace.

The United Nations, created in the wake of WWII and the Holocaust, has shamefully turned into a bastion of anti-Israel propaganda as we praise Israel's valiant defense as well as staunch opposition to the destructive BDS movement by American Ambassador Nikki Haley, a shining light in a house of darkness. The unique bond of genuine brotherhood with the United States, vital to both countries, is between the world's leading democracy and the only democracy in the Middle East. The constructive role of American Jewry cannot be overstated.

HONORING THE CLAY COUNTY PARK RANGERS

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2017

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I pause to thank and honor the Clay County Park Rangers for their efforts in serving Smithville following the March 6, 2017 tornado.

The EF–2 rated tornado left a trail of destruction up to 1,000 feet wide and 18 miles long. In Smithville, over 60 houses were damaged with several completely destroyed, resulting in over 65 tons of debris. Miraculously, no injuries were sustained during the storm.

After the storm, officers from the Clay County Park Rangers helped set up a perimeter, went door-to-door making sure residents were safe, and helped protect the neighborhood with a 24/7 presence in the days that followed. The effect of the rangers on the neighborhoods affected by the tornado cannot be understated, whether through making the victims feel safe from scroungers or looters or by helping residents with their physical needs throughout the recovery.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me and the community of Smithville in thanking Interim Park Security Manager John Davis and the rangers and staff of the Clay County Park Rangers for their service following the March 6 tornado and wishing them God's blessings and protection in the years to come.

PRAISING LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES INVOLVED IN SOLVING THE MURDER OF CHIEF DEPUTY CLINT GREENWOOD

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2017

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my deep appreciation and admiration to all of the Texas federal law enforcement officers who worked so diligently in getting to the bottom of the tragic and senseless murder of Harris County Precinct 3 Constable, Assistant Chief Deputy Greenwood.

My hat goes off to the Baytown Police Department, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), U.S. Marshals Service, Houston Police Department, Gulf Coast Violent Offenders Task Force, Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS), Texas Rangers, Harris County Sheriff's Department, and Harris County District Attorney. These men and women showed tremendous determination and commitment in their efforts to find this evil perpetrator and deliver justice. While we continue to mourn the loss of another one of our brave Texas law enforcement officers, their hard work and tireless efforts have helped bring healing and closure to the family and the entire law enforcement community.

My prayers continue to be with the family of Assistant Chief Deputy Greenwood.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF EARTH FRIENDLY PRODUCTS

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2017

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize the outstanding public service of the Vlahakis family on the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of the founding of their family's company, Earth Friendly Products. The success story of the Vlahakis family is one of love, labor, and perseverance. This family owned and operated company began with the vision of Van Vlahakis, who immigrated to

America from Greece with just $22 in his pocket. He spoke little English, yet he made something of himself, studying chemistry at Roosevelt University and founding the company out of his garage in 1967.

Born out of Van's own experience suffering the effects of exposure to harsh chemicals, Earth Friendly Products was a green company before being green was fashionable.

The Vlahakis family's commitment to sustainability is evidenced by their decision to use safe ingredients, earning recognition as the 2015 EPA Safer Choice Partner of the Year. Just last year, they opened a new Carbon Neutral Platinum Zero Waste manufacturing center, demonstrating leadership in the cause of sound environmental stewardship.

The Vlahakis' dedication to a healthier and happier planet applies not just to their corporate philosophy, but to their community. They have created good jobs and voluntarily implemented a $17 per hour company-wide minimum wage, one of the highest in the nation. They also bring interactive educational programs directly to kids in schools, and host field trips at their facilities.

Although Van Vlahakis passed away in 2014, his legacy lives on under the leadership of his daughter and my friend, Kelly Vlahakis-Hanks. Kelly is a champion in the Greek-American community and she has been an inspiration to those in the green movement.

Fifty years after Van Vlahakis had the foresight to make products with safe ingredients and sustainable practices, much of America has caught up to his vision. We now expect the goods we purchase to be both effective and safe and we demand that companies not exploit the environment in pursuit of profits.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to congratulate Kelly Vlahakis-Hanks and Earth Friendly Products as they celebrate this momentous anniversary.

IN HONOR OF MARK MARINI

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2017

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Chief Warrant Officer Five (CW5) Mark S. Marini, Sr. for his dedicated service to our Country, the United States Army, and the Connecticut National Guard.

This week, Mr. Marini retires from the Connecticut Army National Guard after 42 years of uniformed service. For over four decades, Mr. Marini has served the State of Connecticut and our Country with the utmost dignity and respect, and it is my profound honor to recognize him as he retires this Thursday from his position as the Command Chief Warrant Officer of the Connecticut Army National Guard.

CW5 Marini's accomplishments while serving at home and with his unit deployed into harm's way are extensive-his full engagement, leadership and contributions have had a significant and long lasting impact upon the numerous formations that make up our Connecticut National Guard. His dedication to his country, the National Guard, and the men and women of the state is unparalleled.

I extend my deepest congratulations to CW5 Marini upon his retirement, and extend my appreciation to him for enduring so much for so long on our behalf.

ISRAELI HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2017

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, Israelis commemorated Holocaust Remembrance Day. Carrying out what they called their ''final solution'' to the ''Jewish problem,'' the Nazis gassed millions of Jews at Auschwitz, and then collected their corpses like waste to be burned in the camp.

Mr. Speaker, this happened just 72 years ago, though many seem to forget. From the ashes of Auschwitz the Jewish people returned to their ancient homeland and established the sole democracy in the Middle East.

Unfortunately, the Jewish people of Israel are again targets of elimination. Iran, Hezbollah, Hamas, and a growing list of others have openly called to ''eliminate'' the Jewish state and ''wipe it off the map.''

We must honor the memories of the 6 million Jews murdered by the Nazis by vowing that Jews will never again stand alone before those seeking their extermination. The American people stand with Israel and with Jews everywhere remembering those that perished.

We remember. And we vow: never again.

And that's just the way it is.

HONORING THE CLAY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2017

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I pause to thank and honor the Clay County Sheriff's Office for their efforts in serving Smithville following the March 6, 2017 tornado.

The EF–2 rated tornado left a trail of destruction up to 1,000 feet wide and 18 miles long. In Smithville, over 60 houses were damaged with several completely destroyed, resulting in over 65 tons of debris. Miraculously, no injuries were sustained during the storm.

After the storm, officers from the Clay County Sheriff's Office helped set up a perimeter, went door-to-door making sure residents were safe, and helped protect the neighborhood with a 24/7 presence in the days that followed. Their experience and training in emergency management was crucial as the city and residents began to put their lives back together. The effect of the Sheriff's Office on the neighborhoods affected by the tornado cannot be understated, whether through making the victims feel safe from scroungers or looters or by helping residents with their physical needs throughout the recovery.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me and the community of Smithville in thanking Sheriff Paul Vescovo and the officers and staff of the Clay County Sheriff's Office for their service following the March 6 tornado and wishing them God's blessings and protection in the years to come.

A BOW TO A LAWYER WITH APPEALING SKILLS—JOAN O'HARA JOINS VICE PRESIDENT PENCE'S 'RIGGEROUS' NATIONAL SECURITY CREW

HON. MICHAEL T. McCAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2017

Mr. McCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today out of gratitude for the service and friendship of Joan O'Hara—formerly my General Counsel for the House Homeland Security Committee—who now holds the post of Deputy National Security Advisor to Vice President Mike Pence.

Joan would tell you she owes her professional success not to the Halls of Congress but to the sculls and shells of crew. In fact, the first 15 years of Joan's adult life were dedicated to competitive rowing—not law or politics. She approached rowing as she has since approached any obstacle or opportunity in her life: with genuine curiosity and an undeterrable will for success.

Joan took up rowing in her senior year at Loyola College in Maryland. Shortly thereafter, she won a national championship in the single scull competition and was part of a winning team in a quad scull. The former is a testament to Joan's individual determination and perseverance, the latter—her leadership and teamwork. Both of these qualities have since expressed themselves explicitly in Joan's political career.

After her own competitive career was over Joan coached rowing at the collegiate level. As a mentor to young women, she shared her personal experiences and insight to help others better themselves. Joan taught that it is not just the strength of one's back that contributes to rowing success but a cognizant awareness of the route to the finish line and humble understanding of what it takes to get there; and that when there are multiple people in the scull, it is not about how well any one person rows but how well they row as one.

This same mentality has guided her political career. In 2007, Joan noticed a political fervor at the grassroots level that she had never seen before. With her interest sparked, she decided to pursue a law degree and career in public service. Similarly to rowing, Joan excelled at an impressive rate. She joined the Homeland Security Committee as a legal intern and was hired on as a counsel—quickly ascending to General Counsel.

In her tenure as my General Counsel, she was a trusted advisor and close confidant. She positioned herself at the forefront of the encryption debate by drafting legislation to create a national commission to provide recommendations balancing privacy and security. She also played an integral part in facilitating the first congressional agreement to reauthorize the Department of Homeland Security.

Joan's insight, professionalism, and leadership are missed as she departs this Committee. She will be an outstanding advisor to the Vice President, and I am excited to see what she makes of this new opportunity. It will be a pleasure to watch Joan as she once again embarks on a new adventure and accepts nothing less than excellence along her journey.

HONORING DOCUMENTED ORIGINAL TUSKEGEE AIRMAN WALTER K. ROBINSON, SR.

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2017

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring the service of Documented Original Tuskegee Airman (DOTA) Walter K. Robinson, Sr. Tomorrow, I will welcome Mr. Robinson and his family to my office to celebrate his extraordinary service.

Walter K. Robinson, Sr. was born in Baltimore, Maryland in 1920, the second son of Dr. John C. Robinson and Mrs. Clara Denning Robinson. In 1941, while attending Howard University in Washington, D.C., he volunteered for the Army Air Corps. He was sent to Camp Lee in Virginia, Keesler Field in Biloxi, Mississippi, and finally to Tuskegee Army Air Base in Tuskegee, Alabama. He began training at Tuskegee Institute for Basic Ground School, and after three months, continued in Pre-Flight, Primary, Basic, and Advanced Flight. During Primary Training, he had an accident in which he severed his Achilles tendon and was hospitalized for a year, enduring six operations and extensive physical therapy. When he was eventually able to return to full duty, he completed training, and while there, World War II ended. On November 8, 1945, Mr. Robinson returned to civilian life, a few years after marrying his high school sweetheart, Edmonia Bailey.

After his honorable discharge from the military, Mr. Robinson and his wife moved to Washington, D.C. in 1959. He worked for the U.S. Postal Service and retired after 35 years of service, rising through the ranks of the Post Office as Clerk, Station Manager and the second black Manager of Delivery and Collection for D.C. The Robinsons had one son, Walter K. Robinson, Jr. Sadly, Mr. Robinson's beloved wife, Edmonia Bailey Robinson, passed away in 2000, after 59 years of marriage. Today, Mr. Robinson still lives in Washington, D.C. and is a very active member of the East Coast Chapter of the Tuskegee Airmen (ECCTAI, Inc.). Members of ECCTAI and the Tuskegee Airmen were well-deserving of the Congressional Gold Medal they collectively received in March 2007. It is an honor to have a Tuskegee Airman still living in the District, and I very much look forward to meeting and welcoming him and his family to my office tomorrow.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House to join me in honoring the service of Walter K. Robinson, Sr. and the extraordinary service and sacrifice also made by his brothers and sisters in World War II.

HONORING MICHAEL AND TABITHA MARQUARDT OF PENNSYLVANIA

HON. SCOTT PERRY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2017

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, today I honor my constituents, Michael and Tabitha Marquardt, on his upcoming retirement after more than 20 years of service with the United States Navy.

Michael's tireless dedication to duty, professionalism and sacrifice touched the lives of countless people and challenged all with whom he worked to be the best. His numerous commendations and awards, including the Marine Corps Achievement Medal, the Navy Good Conduct Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal and several others, are a testament to his courage, work ethic and character. His enduring legacy of service to our Nation truly is commendable.

Michael would be the first to admit, however, that his service at home and around the world—to include the Persian Gulf and Mexico—would have been impossible without the sacrifice and service of his wife, Tabitha. Like thousands of other military spouses, her strength and perseverance played a critical role in our Nation's defense as she managed the family's affairs at home, which allowed Michael to focus on critical missions before him. We owe an enormous debt of gratitude for the service of our military families.

On behalf of Pennsylvania's Fourth Congressional District, I commend and congratulate Michael and Tabitha Marquardt upon his retirement and for their family's service to the United States of America.

HONORING MILITARY ENLISTEES

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2017

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor 67 high school seniors in Florida's 21st District who have decided to enlist in the United States Armed Forces.

Of the 67 from my district, 25 have joined the Army; their names are the following: Amon King, Anne Kwarteng, Ola Selwyn-Dudoit, Nicole Thornton, Alejandro Abrego, Jonathan Abresch, Jordan Amoedo, Lashawndra Bryant, Calvin Castro, Emilio Constante, Jordan Edwards, Kamron Flar, Jameal Hutchinson, Dexter Knowles, Jorge Lopez, Kamaal Matthews, Skyler Podhurst, Widmania Registre, Aaron Rodriguez, Andrea Santana, Sameh Sedrak, Matthews Silva, Sabrina Silver, Greggory Westpfahl, and Nicholas Whittington.

Twenty-seven have joined the Marines; their names are the following: Abbey Teitelbaum, Cherilyn Kranenberg, Kyran Russell, Erik Bruce, Daniel Mass, Cesar Bermudez, Ray Smith, Steele Holman, Ethan Brake, Climineda Charles, Clayton Shellard, Jake Sollecito, Michael Mero, Kaudriel Valce, Bernardo Rodriguez-Tomas, Manuel Reyes, Joel Pena, Raymond Findieson, Jaheym Hendrickson, Thai Tran, Jeremiah Brown, Lazaro Figuero, Kristiana Lombardi, Greson Ramos-Artiga, Ian Sorenson, Anthony Torres, and Jacob Smith-Mullaly.

Two have joined the National Guard; their names are the following: Shelby Cochrane and Emilie Ortiz.

Eight have joined the Navy; their names are the following: Jasmaine Oliver, Edwin Velazquez, Maxwell Mulford, Benjamin Johnson Jr., Myles Jackson, Kenny Zamor, Richneider Blaise, and Marjorie Galvez.

Five have joined the Air Force; their names are the following: Dylan Delmastro, Anthony Camposeco, Roland Kupoluyi, Eric Reid, and Brian Blickle.

It is in thanks to the dedication of patriots like these that we are able to meet here today, in the United States House of Representatives, and openly debate the best solutions to the diverse issues that confront our country. On behalf of myself and all of my constituents in Florida's 21st District, we thank them for their service, and wish them best of luck as they pursue this challenging endeavor.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF JEFFERSON COMMUNITY COLLEGE PRESIDENT CAROLE A. MCCOY

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2017

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable woman who has shown strong dedication to serving New York's 21st District.

Carole McCoy first came to Watertown, New York, in January 2007, when she was appointed as the fifth president of Jefferson Community College. During her ten years of service, Ms. McCoy has continually demonstrated her commitment to the students of the North Country. Under her leadership, the college saw the construction of a Collaborative Learning Center for the purpose of fostering academic curiosity and encouraging cooperation among students. Additionally, since 2007, enrollment at Jefferson Community College has increased by nearly 21 percent, seven times the typical growth rate at community colleges across New York State.

Ms. McCoy also received the 2016 ATHENA Award, which celebrates remarkable women as valued members and leaders of the community. She was recognized for professional excellence, providing valuable services to her community, and for supporting women to realize their potential.

In the 21st District of New York, we are proud of Carole McCoy's commitment to service and academia, and we honor the legacy she will leave at Jefferson Community College.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIÉRREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2017

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent in the House chamber for roll call votes 222 and 223 Tuesday, April 25, 2017. Had I been present, I would have voted Yea on both

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2017

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, April 25, 2017, I was not present for roll call vote 223. If I had been present for this vote, I would have voted: Yea on roll call vote 223.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LIFE AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF JUSTICE MICHAEL J. EAGEN

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2017

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Michael J. Eagen, former Chief Justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court whose life will be commemorated by the Lackawanna County Historical Society with a History Marker. A shrewd legal mind, Eagen was a celebrated force for change in the Pennsylvania justice system before his retirement in 1980.

Michael J. Eagen was born on May 9, 1907 and grew up in Jermyn, Pennsylvania. In 1927, Eagen graduated from St. Thomas College, today the University of Scranton. Eagen then enrolled at Harvard Law School. After one semester, he returned to Northeast Pennsylvania following the loss of a family business. Eagen later enrolled in a law course in Philadelphia and passed the bar exam to start practicing law.

Eagen then set his sights on elected office and public service, beginning his illustrious judicial career. In 1933, at the age of 26, he was elected the youngest District Attorney in Lackawanna County. After two terms as DA, he became the youngest judge in Lackawanna County history at 34 years old. While on the bench, Eagen was outspoken against corruption, notably criticizing city police and Assistant City Solicitor Joseph V. Phillips in a 1943 case when a defendant claimed he was denied his right to testify.

In 1959, Eagen joined the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. In 1977, Eagen was named the Court's 38th Chief Justice. In his years on the Supreme Court, Eagen ordered a number of reforms to improve Pennsylvania's judicial system. Under his deft leadership, the Court was expanded, delays in resolving civil lawsuits were rectified and streamlined, and a system of accountability for judges was instituted requiring them to submit a monthly report on the status of their assigned cases.

After an impressive 21-year career on Pennsylvania's highest court, Chief Justice Eagen retired from the bench in 1980. Eagen passed away in 1987 at 80 years of age, leaving behind an impressive legacy and a reformed Pennsylvania judicial system. It is an honor to recognize his many contributions to Pennsylvania.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2017

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and missed Roll Call vote numbers 222 and 223. Had I been present, I would have voted ''aye'' on both.

RECOGNIZING ADAM BLANKS

HON. KEN BUCK

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2017

Mr. BUCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Adam Blanks for his hard work and dedication to the people of Colorado's Fourth District as an intern in my Washington, D.C. office for the Spring of 2017.

The work of this young man has been exemplary, and I know he has a bright future. He served as a tour guide, interacted with constituents, and learned a great deal about our nation's legislative process. I was glad to be able to offer this educational opportunity, and look forward to seeing him build his career in public service.

Adam plans to continue pursuing his degree at the end of this internship. I wish him the best as he pursues his career path. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Adam Blanks for his service the last several months to the people of Colorado's 4th district.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2017

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I missed Roll Call Vote 222 (H. Res. 187) and 223 (H.R. 876). Had I been present, I would have voted YES on both.

RECOGNIZING NOLAN HENDERSON

HON. STEVE STIVERS

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2017

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Nolan Henderson, a true American hero and pillar of our community, who passed away earlier this month.

Henderson was born and raised in Glenford, Ohio in Perry County. Soon after his graduation from Glenford High School, where he was part of the 1941 State Championship basketball team, he made the decision to join the Army.

In the Army, Henderson served with the 101st Airborne ''Screaming Eagles'' Division as a paratrooper in the 907th Field Glider Artillery Battalion. He fought in the Normandy invasion on D-Day, and was awarded the Bronze Star, Distinguished Unit badge with 4 bronze stars, and the WWII Victory Medal. His Battalion would go on to become the most decorated Army division of WWII.

After returning home, Henderson began a long career of serving the Glenford community. He served nearly 40 years as the Mayor of Glenford and 35 years as a rural carrier for the U.S. Postal Service. He was an active member of multiple community organizations, touching nearly every aspect of the community. This included time on the Northern Local School Board, the Glenford Lions Club, and the Shelly Park Board. He even served with the Hopewell Volunteer Fire Department.

Throughout his life, there is no doubt of the impact he has had on our community and our nation. Thank you Nolan Henderson.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2017

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 222.

HONORING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF UPLIFT FAMILY SERVICES

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2017

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and commend Uplift Family Services, the oldest charitable institution in Santa Clara County. Uplift Family Services, previously known as EMQFF, is a non-profit behavioral health organization for children and families and will celebrate its 150th anniversary this year. Today, Uplift Family Services is one of the largest family centered treatment programs in all of California; they serve 20,000 children in 30 different countries.

Uplift Family Services, founded in 1867, evolved from an orphanage and Chinese rescue mission to California's largest, most comprehensive provider of behavioral health services for children and families. In fact, in 1994, Uplift Family Services became the first agency in California to launch an innovative program called Wraparound. That program, which delivers mental health and trauma related services to children and families, is now mandated in

every county in the State of California. Uplift Family Services and its directors have played a vital role in generating community awareness, and facilitating engagement for the communities they serve. In so doing, they assist individuals realize their hopes for behavioral health and emotional well-being.

Uplift Family Services' three-part Crisis Continuum of Services serve an average of 200 youth per month and successfully divert 70 percent of the youth from hospitalization. In addition, Uplift Family Services provide Foster Care and Adoption Services to 26 counties in California. Uplift Family Services was awarded the 2016 Agency Community Hero Award by the Santa Clara County Behavioral Health Board. Since its inception, Uplift Family Services has helped children and adolescents with complex behavioral challenges recover from trauma, cope with mental health disabilities, and lead happier and fuller lives.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Uplift Family Services, for its 150 years of service and advocacy to children and families in Santa Clara County.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 85TH ANNIVERSARY OF HORIZON BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD OF NEW JERSEY

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2017

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey as it celebrates its 85th anniversary this year. Since its founding, Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey has provided quality, accessible insurance to its customers. Its commitment to the service and benefit of its policyholders is truly deserving of this body's recognition.

The oldest and largest health insurer in New Jersey, Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey (Horizon) was established in 1932 as the Associated Hospitals of Essex County, Inc. and today serves more than 3.8 million residents. It is also New Jersey's largest Medicaid insurer, covering 841,000 patients. Additionally, Horizon provides a substantial impact on the economic growth of New Jersey as well as thousands of employment opportunities to New Jersey residents.

Horizon strives to fulfill its mission of improving the well-being of its members and the overall health care industry through a comprehensive approach to medical care. In addition to its medical, dental and prescription insurance coverage, Horizon offers patient support programs, case management, around-the-clock medical advice and lifestyle wellness resources.

Supporting local community organizations through the Horizon Foundation for New Jersey, Horizon aims to improve the health of individuals across New Jersey. Since its inception in 2004, the Horizon Foundation for New Jersey has given $47.8 million in grants to various organizations, including the YMCA and the Boys and Girls Clubs of New Jersey. Horizon's employee Horizon Cares program also provides hands-on volunteer assistance to neighborhoods across the state.

Mr. Speaker, I sincerely hope my colleagues will join me in celebrating the 85th anniversary of Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey. The company continues to uphold its mission to providing outstanding services to its customers and New Jersey's communities.

HONORING THOMAS KIBLER OF PENNSYLVANIA

HON. SCOTT PERRY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2017

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, today I honor my constituent, Thomas Kibler, for his retirement after 26 years in local law enforcement.

Mr. Kibler has served as a patrol officer and/or a criminal investigator with the Northern York County Regional Police, the North Middleton Township Police and finally with the Carroll Township Police. Mr. Kibler has earned numerous commendations and awards for his police work and also served our Nation honorably in the United States Army Reserve. He'll continue to serve our fellow citizens in a new role with the Pennsylvania Capitol Police.

Mr. Kibler's tireless dedication, professionalism and sacrifice touched the lives of countless people and challenged all with whom he served to be the best. His legacy of service to our community truly is admirable.

On behalf of Pennsylvania's Fourth Congressional District, I commend and congratulate Thomas Kibler on his retirement from local law enforcement and wish him Godspeed in his future adventures.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA FEDERAL OFFICIALS RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT EQUALITY ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2017

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the District of Columbia Federal Officials Residency Requirement Equality Act, a bill that would amend federal law to require certain federal officials who serve the District of Columbia to actually live within its boundaries. In nearly every other jurisdiction in the United States, federal district court judges, U.S. Attorneys, and U.S. Marshals are required by federal law to reside within the jurisdictions where they have been appointed—but these same officials appointed to serve the people of the District are not bound by these same requirements. Even in the territories that have such officials, the officials must live in those districts, other than the U.S. Attorney and U.S. Marshal appointed for the Northern Mariana Islands who at the same time are serving in the same capacity in another district. The only other exceptions exist for such officials appointed to the Southern District of New York and the Eastern District of New York, which are the only districts that serve different parts of the same city. My bill would put D.C. on equal footing with almost every other jurisdiction by ensuring that our Marshals, judges, and U.S. Attorney live among the residents they have been appointed to represent.

Clearly, the idea that these federal officials ought to live in the jurisdictions they serve is a significant one—which is why the residency requirement for other jurisdictions is enshrined in federal law. Yet, D.C. was exempt from this requirement based on the now-outdated notion that the District is too congested and small to house these appointed officials. The District is a vibrant and bustling city with a diverse populace who deserve direct engagement on the part of its federal judges, U.S. attorney, and Marshals. My bill recognizes the fact that D.C. deserves the same type of community involvement by these federal officials as nearly every jurisdiction.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

RECOGNIZING AND CELEBRATING THE BIRTHDAY OF BENJAMIN ''BEN'' MORRIS OF WESTMORELAND COUNTY, VA

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2017

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the 90th birthday of Benjamin ''Ben'' Morris of Westmoreland County, VA.

Born on May 6, 1927, Ben would attend grade school at Oak Grove School for first through eleventh grade. Upon graduating in 1945, Ben enlisted in the United States Navy to serve in World War II.

By the time Ben completed boot camp in Maryland, the war had ended but the mission to evade Japan was still to take place. He journeyed to California to board a troop ship that would travel to the Marshall Islands where he would board the USS *Prairie*. The USS *Prairie* traveled the seas of the Pacific, stopping at many islands, until it reached Tokyo, Japan. Ben recalls being amazed at the destruction of the city from the bombing that had occurred. After his naval tour of 15 months, he returned to his home in Montross, VA to begin working with his father at L.A. Clark Company, producing railroad ties.

In 1950, Ben and his older brother built a lumber mill. He was married that year and him and his wife would have three boys and a daughter together. In 1951, Northern Neck Lumber, Inc. opened for business in Warsaw, VA. After his brother's death, Ben continued to run the business as President until 1995 when he retired. Ben's two sons continue to run the business today.

Ben served on the Board of The Bank of Montross for 34 years until it was sold. Ben is a member of St. James Episcopal Church where he has served on the Vestry several times.

Ben has enjoyed the pleasures of the Northern Neck: golfing, fishing, boating, and hunting. He is proud of his three children from his first marriage who have blessed him with nine

grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. Ben and his current wife of 33 years live in Montross, and her two children and five grandchildren have been part of an ever growing family.

Mr. Speaker, I have had the pleasure of knowing Ben for many years and am honored to recognize him and to celebrate his 90th birthday. On behalf the millions of Americans that he has selflessly served through his military service and service to his community, I thank him and wish him the happiest of birthdays.

TRIBUTE TO COACH KEN SPARKS

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2017

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, many Tennesseans care about the Three ''F's'' in life: Faith, Family, and Football.

One outstanding Tennessean in particular, Coach Ken Sparks, incorporated his love for all three of these into his amazing life.

Ken Sparks devoted his life to his alma mater, Carson Newman University, as an inspirational coach for almost 40 years.

While his record setting list of wins and accomplishments with his football teams might give someone else a big ego, Coach Sparks always kept the focus on someone else.

I had the honor of celebrating his impact on my district, thousands of student athletes, and other coaches just a few months ago at his retirement ceremony.

Coach Sparks spoke of success, wins, and achievements, but he did it while giving all the credit to the Lord. He spoke of his gratefulness to God through his amazing life experiences.

The life that Ken lived was one that was devoted to building up the success of others while remaining humble through each level of success he achieved himself. He had an amazing ability to connect with players in a way that gave them purpose on and off the field.

The love he had for his faith, family, and football were given deeper meaning with the devotion he had to his wife Carol, and their four children and 14 grandchildren.

Even though he was diagnosed with cancer five years ago, he continued to work hard to bring glory to God.

Although Tennesseans are greatly saddened by his loss, we should reflect on his life and the legacy he left behind.

I encourage all my Colleagues and others to celebrate the amazing life of Coach Sparks.

I would also like to call attention to the article that appeared in the Knoxville News Sentinel on March 31, 2017, entitled ''Ken Sparks, A Life Well Lived''.

NEWS SENTINEL EDITORIAL BOARD, PUBLISHED MARCH 31, 2017

A wave of sadness washed over East Tennessee on Wednesday with the word that Carson-Newman University football icon Ken Sparks had succumbed to cancer.

Carson-Newman and Sparks were inseparable, venerable institutions.

He had dedicated nearly four decades to shaping young men's lives who played football for the university. That was more important to him than any of the championships, the trophies, the accolades, the numbers.

''I'm grateful to be part of a profession where you can teach about life while you're teaching blocking and tackling,'' Sparks said in 2010 when he was honored with the Robert R. Neyland Trophy. ''The Lord has blessed me.

''I hope that through things like this I can honor the Lord and that it has more meaning than what's on the scoreboard at the end of the field.''

Sparks, 73, a Knoxville native, retired after the 2016 season after courageously battling through his cancer diagnosis in 2012.

Polite, warm, always smiling, Sparks coached 37 seasons, recorded 338 wins, made 25 playoff trips, won 21 South Atlantic Conference titles and 5 national titles for the university where he graduated in 1967. He coached in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics and the National Collegiate Athletics Association Division II as well as at several high schools before returning to Carson-Newman in 1980.

In addition to the Neyland Trophy, Sparks has been honored with the Fellowship of Christian Athletes Lifetime Achievement Award. Sparks was elected president of the American Football Coaches Association in 2007. In 2002 he received the All-American Football Foundation's Johnny Vaught Lifetime Achievement Award.

Sparks earned NAIA coach of the year honors in 1984 and was voted SAC coach of the year 12 times.

A forgiving man, he gave troubled players who had lost their way at other institutions a second chance.

''You're going to have influence, whether you like it or not,'' Sparks said last November when he retired. ''Everyone of us is an example of something. We can talk all we want to, but our walk is what tells people who we are.

''The Lord has put us in a position where we've been able to have an audience of players and people that want to know the message. That's what I hope I've been true to, the Lord's message.''

When Sparks announced his retirement, Carson-Newman athletics director Allen Morgan called it a sad day.

''It's a day we honor Ken and the legacy he is leaving for how he has touched young men's lives in a way far greater than wins on a football field.

''He has molded boys to become Christian young men, husbands and community leaders where they too can give back. So today, it's Ken Sparks' day. The entire Carson-Newman community gives thanks for what he has done not only for Carson-Newman but for the greater good of mankind.''

HONORING MARLENE ''MARTI'' HOLLENBACK

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2017

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Marlene ''Marti'' Hollenback, a resident of Spokane and owner of Dishman Dodge, a local car dealership. Marti passed away at the age of 74 on April 15 after a short illness.

Marti's influence in the Spokane community extends well beyond the car dealership family. She started her career as a registered nurse, spending 25 years working as the head nurse in pediatrics at Valley Hospital and ultimately the director of community programs for Empire Health Systems. In 1995, her father convinced her to join the family business at Dishman Dodge, where she was initially the general manager. Marti was passionate about the dealership, knew every employee by name, and made a point of attending employee recognition events.

Marti also served on numerous community boards over the years, including Red Cross, Children's Home Society, Spokane Valley Community Center, Vanessa Behan Crisis Nursery and other business organizations. She was honored on several occasions and was a recipient of the Everyday Heart Award from Kiwanis in 2003. Her giving spirit was not only extended to these community boards, but also through philanthropic donations both personally and on behalf of the dealership, including a donated van to the Meals on Wheels program.

Marti is survived by her four children and numerous grandchildren. She surely will be missed by them and the Spokane Community.

HONORING CONGRESSMAN JAY DICKEY

HON. J. FRENCH HILL

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2017

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues today to honor the life and legacy of one of Arkansas's great leaders—Congressman Jay Dickey, who passed away last week after a battle with Parkinson's disease at the age of 77.

Jay represented the 4th District of Arkansas after becoming the first-ever Republican to hold the seat.

He was a great public servant who made many contributions to Arkansas and our Nation as a whole.

I have always admired his irrepressible enthusiasm for lower Arkansas and his dedication to his constituents.

We are all fortunate to have had someone with such a strong character be a leader for our state.

Jay leaves behind a legacy of warmth and passion, and his contributions to the Natural State will continue to live on for generations to come.

I extend my respect, affection and prayers to his family and loved ones.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE TRINITY CHRISTIAN ACADEMY OF CAPE COD

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2017

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th Anniversary of the Trinity

Christian Academy of Cape Cod in Hyannis, Massachusetts.

Originally established in January 1967 as the Trinity School of Cape Cod by a group of four ministers and three laymen, the Trinity Christian Academy of Cape Cod was created as a nonprofit independent school without affiliation to any church or denomination. The school was established for the purpose of providing a strong academic education centered in historic Christianity and founded on the basic tenets of the Bible.

Trinity first opened its doors with a preschool and kindergarten program in South Yarmouth using two buildings owned by the Evangelical Baptist Church. Since then, the school has moved to a new campus located on Mary Dunn Road in Barnstable. It has expanded to teach students all the way through high school, preparing them for higher education. Their current enrollment is 164 students, of which 53 percent receive some level of financial aid. Further proving their dedication to academic excellence, 100 percent of Trinity Christian Academy of Cape Cod graduates are accepted into their college of choice.

In addition to a strong academic program, the Trinity Christian Academy of Cape Cod's high school leadership development program guides their students to embrace the message of Christ in their daily lives and to go on and become influential and compassionate leaders. This program provides ample opportunity for students to reach out and serve those who are marginalized in their community resulting in empathetic leadership skills. Trinity students actively mentor elementary students at local public schools and have partnered with local daycares which service lower income families, providing Christmas gifts, activities, and story time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Trinity Christian Academy of Cape Cod on its 50th Anniversary. I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring the school's five decades of service and commitment to academic excellence and I look forward to seeing all that they are able to accomplish in the next 50 years.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF BERGMANN'S CLEANING

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2017

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to use this time to recognize a local business on its 100th year in operation. Bergmann's Cleaning, whose main plant is located in Virginia's 10th District in Sterling, Virginia, provides a variety of cleaning services and is one of the oldest family-operated businesses in our region. Now managed by fourth generation family members, Bergmann's Cleaning is truly a staple in our community and region, and I commend the Bergmann family on their exemplary business practices and ability to adapt and grow throughout the years.

In 1917, W.C. Bergmann decided to supplement his income as a lamplighter in Washington, D.C. by starting a small laundry service, where he, with his horse drawn truck, would pick up the clothes of his customers, clean and press them, and then deliver them back to their homes. His services quickly gained recognition, and with the help of his sons, he opened the first Bergmann's Cleaning store within a year of starting the horse drawn truck business. The number of inner city stores increased, but many people were moving out to the suburbs of Washington, D.C. and also required new services. Accordingly, Bergmann's Cleaning not only continued their convenient and free pick-up and delivery service, which garnered thousands of new customers in the D.C. suburbs, but also expanded its cleaning offerings to include clothing, rugs, draperies, linens and more.

Today, Bergmann's Cleaning's day-to-day operations are managed by E. Peter Bergmann, the President, and Larry M. Bergmann Jr., the Vice President of Sales and Operations. Under their leadership, the company has 20 efficient delivery and pick-up routes, ranging from Reston, Virginia, to Columbia, Maryland, and has a staff of 125 people, many of whom are constituents of Virginia's 10th District. In addition to the successful door-to-door service, Bergmann's Cleaners serves more than 25 hotels in our region, uses ecofriendly and biodegradable cleaning products, and is responsible for the most successful annual coat drive in the nation. In fact now in its 17th year, the annual ''Share the Warmth, Coats for Kids and the Needy'' drive has delivered nearly 500,000 coats to those less fortunate.

In today's society, family owned businesses are essential to the future of our nation. It is families, like the Bergmanns, who help foster strong local economies by establishing successful business practices that can be carried out for multiple generations. While the services provided have changed and expanded over the years, the entrepreneurial attitude of the Bergmann family and common goal of serving their community has remained the same.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding Bergmann's Cleaning for its dedication to serving our community for 100 years. I wish E. Peter Bergmann, Larry M. Bergmann, Jr., and the entire company the best in their future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO HON. NELSON JAEGER BECKER

HON. TODD ROKITA

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2017

Mr. ROKITA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a prominent Hoosier leader and my close friend, Mr. Nelson Jaeger Becker, who passed away on April 7, 2017 surrounded by his loving family.

Nelson was born in Logansport, Indiana on September 16, 1940. He graduated from Logansport High School, received his Bachelor of Business Administration from Tulane University, and his Doctor of Jurisprudence from Tulane University Law School. He also graduated from the Culver Summer Naval School and served in the United States Air Force as a JAG officer where he attained the rank of captain.

Nelson was passionate about the law, the legislative process, serving the community, and politics. He practiced law in Logansport from 1968 up until his passing. He dutifully served the residents of Carroll and Cass Counties as their State Representative for over a decade in the Indiana House of Representatives. During that time, he served as Majority Whip and Speaker Pro Tempore. Nelson continued to serve the state legislature as a government affairs professional for several industries providing the part-time legislators with facts to help them make decisions on policy issues facing the General Assembly. Nelson's service to the great State of Indiana did not go unnoticed. He was a recipient of Indiana's highest civilian award, The Sagamore of the Wabash.

Nelson truly cared about the City of Logansport and it showed through his actions. He was a former member of the Board of Directors of Logansport Savings Bank and the Board of Directors of the First National Bank of Logansport. He was also the former President of the Cass County YMCA Board of Directors and the United Fund Board of Directors and held memberships with the First United Methodist Church, the Elks, and American Legion.

I had known Nelson for many years and always appreciated his advice and council on a variety of issues. Nelson was one of the very first people to support me in my bid for public service. And he was quite literally the first person to turn his verbal support into concrete action. I will never forget that . . . or the small group of Logansport leaders who met with me in Nelson's house one evening in 2001 to support my goals for public service.

Nelson leaves Dixie, his beloved wife, five sons, and fifteen grandchildren to carry on his legacy of service to fellow Hoosiers. Anyone who knew him well knows what a great loss his passing is for our community and the State of Indiana. May he rest in peace, he will not be forgotten.

IN HONOR OF DEAN AND ANGIE WYSNER'S 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2017

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention to recognize the 50th wedding anniversary of Dean and Angie Wysner on May 5th.

Dean and Angie met at Woodland High School and dated only a short time before he enlisted in the Army. Dean was assigned and stationed in California and they were married after he had been gone for a year.

Dean and Angie have been blessed with three children: Deena, Chad and Lori. Additional blessings include their four grandchildren: Tanner, Abby, Brittany and Mason and great-grandchildren: Rayleigh, Kayleigh and AnaLeigh.

Dean is the son of Moulton and Josie Wysner of Graham, Alabama and graduated from Woodland High School in 1964. He worked in manufacturing after high school and then served as a Military Police in the Army. After his service, he went back to manufacturing for a few short years until he became a self-employed farmer and has continued for 45 years. He has served with the Farmer's Federation for 18 years advocating for the family farm and also served as a Randolph County Commissioner.

Angie is the daughter of Marvin and Earla Spradlin of Woodland, Alabama and graduated from Woodland High School in 1965. She worked in manufacturing after high school until having children and then working full-time on the family farm. Once the children had all graduated from high school, she began a career with the U.S. Postal Service as a Rural Letter Carrier which she continues today.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the 50th wedding anniversary of my friends, Dean and Angie Wysner.

ANZAC DAY

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2017

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, yesterday marked the anniversary of the ANZAC Day. On this day, 102 years ago, while horrific trench warfare was taking place in Europe, half a continent away, the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps, came together for a noble cause. Together they set out to capture the Dardanelles and Gallipoli to open a route for the allied navies.

The combined forces were met by fierce resistance from the Ottoman Turks. What was originally intended to quickly eliminate Turkey from the war turned into a bloody, 8-month battle. More than 8,000 Australians and 2,400 New Zealanders died in that campaign.

The tragic losses of so many brave soldiers caused Australians and New Zealanders to remember the sacrifice of all those who died on ANZAC Day. On this national day of remembrance I am humbly inspired by how Australians show gratitude to their fallen warriors.

Today I ask my colleagues to join our friends and allies, the Aussies and the Kiwis, across the sea, as they honor their fallen and reflect on the many different meanings of war.

And that's just the way it is.

HONORING THE 52ND ANNIVERSARY OF HEAD START

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2017

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the Head Start organization on its 52nd Anniversary.

Since its establishment, Head Start has been working to serve the country's most vulnerable families. In addition to working with organizations that provide learning, nutrition and general health assistance for children, Head Start has also helped to provide training, job development, and volunteer opportunities for low-income parents. These efforts are critical for establishing an environment in which every American is equipped to reach their full potential.

In my district, the Warren County Head Start Center has strengthened our community by working with over 250 families to provide learning opportunities for children and parents alike. While focusing on early childhood development programs, these centers also offer assistance to parents seeking higher education, lessening their burden so that they may work towards a brighter future for their family.

I would like to thank Head Start for 52 years of commitment to children and families across the country. In New York's 21st District, we are grateful for their work to make sure every child has the opportunity to succeed. I wish Head Start a prosperous future and I am confident that it will continue making a positive impact on the lives of many Americans.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2017

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on roll call vote 222 and 223, I was not present because I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "AYE."

HONORING ERIC STILES OF PENNSYLVANIA

HON. SCOTT PERRY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2017

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, today I honor my constituent, Eric Stiles, for earning a 2017 Governor's Victim Service Pathfinder Award, Pennsylvania's most prestigious award for a victim service professional or program.

Mr. Stiles is a sexual assault survivor who has devoted his career to advocacy and activism on behalf of others. At the National Sexual Violence Resource Center, Mr. Stiles has helped to develop best practices in sexual violence intervention and prevention. He's led efforts to support sexual violence victims at all stages of life. His colleagues rave about a man who they say ". . . leads with passion and heart for the work, which only grows with his visionary ideas and creative outlets for engaging others," and who ". . . has an uncanny knack for helping people to move and grow into a better version of themselves."

As a member of the House Victims' Rights Caucus, and simply as a person who empathizes with and prays for the plight of sexual violence victims, I'm truly moved by Mr. Stiles' strength and compassion. His dedication has touched the lives of countless people and his legacy of service to others is exceptional.

INTRODUCTION OF THE LOW-WAGE FEDERAL CONTRACTOR EMPLOYEE BACK PAY ACT OF 2017

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2017

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the Low-Wage Federal Contractor Back Pay Act of 2017, to grant back pay to federally contracted retail, food, custodial and security service workers who may be furloughed if there is a federal government shutdown this fiscal year. The bill would apply to all three branches of the federal government. The idea for the bill was brought to my attention by federally contracted service workers, some of whom work here on the Capitol grounds providing Members of Congress and congressional staff with daily services, in 2013 when the federal government shut down.

Many federally contracted workers in federal agencies earn little more than the minimum wage with few, if any benefits, and while others are unionized with a little better wage, all are the lowest paid workers in the federal government and should not be punished because Congress fails to do its job and keep the government functioning. Congress has historically provided back pay to federal employees, who work in the same buildings as these low-wage service workers, furloughed during government shutdowns—but not low-wage contract workers. However, both groups of workers deserve to be made whole after these shutdowns. I recognize, of course, that contract workers are employees of contractors, but the distinction between federal workers and at least the lowest-paid service workers who serve the federal government and its employees and keep, for example, their premises clean, fails when it comes to a deliberate government shutdown. Unlike many other contractors, those who employ low-wage service workers have little latitude to help make up for lost wages. Low-wage federally contracted service workers could least afford the loss of pay during a shutdown, and should not have to go to work every day with everyone else in their federal buildings likely receiving back pay except for them.

The nation's capital is the high-profile home of the federal government's collusion with contractors that pay low wages through leases and contracts with federal agencies. At least this legislation would provide some parity to their low-wage federal contractor workers.

I strongly urge my colleagues to support the legislation.

CELEBRATING MARK! LOPEZ, RECIPIENT OF THE 2017 GOLDMAN ENVIRONMENTAL PRIZE

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 26, 2017

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate mark! Lopez, a tireless environmental advocate and the executive director of East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice, on his receipt of this year's

Goldman Environmental Prize for North America. mark! has played an integral role in the fight to test and clean up the contaminated homes of families living near the former Exide battery recycling plant, which is situated in my 40th Congressional District. Though mark! is just 32 years old, his activism and passion have already made a clear and positive mark on our community, richly deserving of this global recognition.

mark! was born to a family of activists, and was raised in the midst of the activities of Madres del Este de Los Angeles Santa Isabel (Mothers of East LA Santa Isabel), an organization cofounded by his grandparents, my good friends Juana Beatriz Gutierrez and Ricardo Gutierrez, and continued by his mother, Elsa Lopez. Protesting and organizing were familiar sights to him from an early age, and during his years as an environmental studies major at UC Santa Cruz, he showed his commitment to this family tradition as a community organizer and activist for the needs of minority students and service workers. His dedication to advocacy and the environment foreshadowed his work in the fight to close the Exide plant and clean up the polluted lands surrounding the facility.

Exide finally agreed to shut down this plant in 2015, but properties for miles around remained contaminated with high levels of lead and arsenic. The work of mark! and his colleagues at East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice was invaluable in compelling the California Department of Toxic Substances Control to expand its testing of properties around the plant, and in helping secure a state commitment of $176.6 million to test and clean up contaminated homes.

All families, regardless of their background, regardless of their neighborhood, deserve to raise their loved ones in a safe and clean environment. Activists like mark! Lopez not only help to make that goal a reality, they inspire other citizens to act through their example. As testing and cleanup efforts around Exide continue, I have no doubt that mark! will be at the forefront of the fight to support and protect families imperiled by this terrible contamination, and to ensure a pristine environment for all.

Mr. Speaker, as mark! Lopez is honored with the Goldman Environmental Prize, I hope all of my colleagues will join me in commending him on receiving this prestigious award and in saluting his commitment to environmental justice.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, April 27, 2017 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MAY 2

10 a.m.
Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
To hold hearings to examine the United States-European Union covered agreement.
SD–538

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
To hold an oversight hearing to examine federal payments to local governments provided through the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self Determination Act and the Payment in Lieu of Taxes program and the need to provide greater fiscal certainty for resource-dependent communities with tax-exempt federal lands.
SD–366

Committee on Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Terry Branstad, of Iowa, to be Ambassador to the People's Republic of China, Department of State.
SD–419

10:30 a.m.
Committee on the Judiciary
To hold hearings to examine responses to the increase in religious hate crimes.
SD–226

2:30 p.m.
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies
To hold hearings to examine United States European Command, focusing on theater assessment and European Reassurance Initiative (ERI) progress; to be immediately followed by a closed hearing in SVC–217.
SD–124

MAY 3

10 a.m.
Committee on Armed Services
Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities
To hold hearings to examine Department of Defense laboratories and their contributions to military operations and readiness.
SR–222

Committee on Foreign Relations
Subcommittee on Multilateral International Development, Multilateral Institutions, and International Economic, Energy, and Environmental Policy
To hold hearings to examine global philanthropy and remittances and international development.
SD–419

10:30 a.m.
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Department of Defense
To hold hearings to examine defense innovation and research funding.
SD–192

Committee on the Budget
To hold hearings to examine the economy and private sector growth.
SD–608

MAY 4

9:30 a.m.
Committee on Armed Services
To hold hearings to examine United States Special Operations Command.
SD–G50

10 a.m.
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
To hold hearings to examine the threat posed by electromagnetic pulse and policy options to protect energy infrastructure and to improve capabilities for adequate system restoration.
SD–366

2:30 p.m.
Committee on Armed Services
Subcommittee on Strategic Forces
To hold hearings to examine ballistic missile defense policies and programs.
SR–232A

MAY 8

2:30 p.m.
Committee on the Judiciary
Subcommittee on Crime and Terrorism
To hold hearings to examine Russian interference in the 2016 United States election.
SD–226

MAY 10

2:30 p.m.
Committee on Indian Affairs
To hold hearings to examine S. 772, to amend the PROTECT Act to make Indian tribes eligible for AMBER Alert grants, and S. 825, to provide for the conveyance of certain property to the Southeast Alaska Regional Health Consortium located in Sitka, Alaska.
SD–628

Special Committee on Aging
To hold hearings to examine aging with community, focusing on building connections that last a lifetime.
SD–562

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—*Thursday, April 27, 2017*

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

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
April 27, 2017.

I hereby appoint the Honorable PAUL MITCHELL to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

PAUL D. RYAN,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 3, 2017, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to 1 hour and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m.

REMEMBERING YOM HASHOAH—HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) for 5 minutes.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, this week we commemorated Yom HaShoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day. People around the world gathered together in their communities to remember and to reflect, to mourn the dead, to pay tribute to the survivors, and to honor the sacrifices of the rescuers and liberators.

As a Member of Congress who represents south Florida, Yom HaShoah is particularly meaningful for me and for my constituents as so many Holocaust survivors call our south Florida community home.

I have had both the honor and the privilege to come to know many survivors over the years and be able to call them my friends. You know, you can only learn so much about the Holocaust from history books because the human toll, that is told by survivors.

What is truly eye opening and what really brings things into perspective is sitting down with survivors or family members of survivors and hearing their stories. It is as heartbreaking as it is unimaginable to think that humanity could inflict this kind of hatred, this kind of evil upon fellow human beings, and it is as shameful as it is unconscionable that the indifference of mankind could allow such atrocities to occur.

This is why it is incumbent upon us, all of us, Mr. Speaker, to mark Yom HaShoah each and every year and to rededicate ourselves to learning from the lessons of the past so we can ensure a better future free of such hatred, free of such intolerance.

On Tuesday, we marked the Days of Remembrance with a beautiful and moving candle-lighting ceremony here in the Capitol rotunda where survivors lit six candles representing the 6 million Jews murdered by the Nazis. It was the first such commemoration since the passing of Elie Wiesel.

Elie Wiesel made it his life mission to share the memories of what had occurred so that the world would know the truth. Elie Wiesel would not let anyone forget the horrors of the past because, as he said in his Nobel Peace Prize acceptance speech: ''If we forget, we are guilty, we are accomplices.''

Elie was only 15 years old when he and his family were deported to the Auschwitz concentration camp facing near certain death. It was at Auschwitz where nearly 1 million Jews were murdered. Almost one out of every six Jews who were killed during the Holocaust were killed at Auschwitz.

Today, Auschwitz serves as a stark reminder of the sins of the past, of the evil, of the indifference of mankind, but it also serves as an educational opportunity, an opportunity to bear witness.

As Elie Wiesel said at the dedication ceremony of our United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in 1993: ''For the dead and the living, we must bear witness.''

For not only are we responsible for the memories of the dead, Mr. Speaker, we are also responsible for what we are doing with those memories. That is why, since 1988, the International March of the Living has brought over 250,000 participants together from over 50 countries to march a 3-kilometer path leading from Auschwitz to Birkenau.

The march is a silent tribute to all victims of the Holocaust, and as the International March of the Living states: It is intended to inspire individuals, to fight indifference, to fight racism, to fight injustice by witnessing the atrocities of the Holocaust.

This past Monday, April 24, the International March of the Living held its annual march in Poland. And though the march is a silent tribute, Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to pay a vocal tribute to the participants of the March of the Living, as well as to the International March of the Living members, for their part in keeping alive the legacy, in keeping alive the memory of those who perished.

I pay tribute to its efforts to educate, to bring together individuals with survivors so that they can get a better understanding of what blind hatred can do if left unchecked.

And I pay tribute to the International March of the Living for its pledge to ''Never Again'' and to working to build a world in which we can all fulfill our promise of a better future free from hatred, free from bigotry, free from indifference to the suffering of others.

INTRODUCING DRAIN THE SWAMP ACT

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

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, so 100 days. Candidate Trump made much about, you know, the pernicious influence of peddlers in Washington, D.C., the revolving door between high-level government political appointees and lobby firms. He called D.C. a swamp again and again and again, and he promised to drain it. So how is he doing?

He was going to have a 5-year ban, if you worked for him in an eye-level position, 5-year ban from becoming a lobbyist. Of course, there was already an existing provision, ethics provision that forbids lobbyists from joining agencies that lobbied in the prior 2 years. So let's check in.

Number 1, Chad Wolf, lower right. He has been named chief of staff for the Transportation Security Administration. For the last 2 years, he has lobbied the TSA to spend hundreds of millions of dollars on a new carry-on luggage screening device. Now, as chief of staff, he is in the position to decide whether or not that agency will purchase the device as it is being tested and evaluated for use.

Now, how could that be? Well, President Trump eliminated that ethics provision that you couldn't lobby, join an

agency which you have been lobbying for 2 years; so hence, number 1, Chad Wolf.

Number 2, Michael Catanzaro. He is the top White House energy adviser. He worked last year as a lobbyist for energy companies, oil, gas, and coal, and was lobbying to stop or overturn the Obama attempts to deal with climate change, including the Clean Power Plan and various other things, but he is now the top White House adviser.

Okay. Well, we are not doing so good so far. Well, how about the 5-year prohibition? That is pretty stiff. None of these guys are going to leave their lucrative lobby jobs and come and work as a public servant at those low salaries if they can't go back to lobbying, right, so that has got to be cleaning up the swamp. Whoops. Oh, no, not so much.

Marcus Peacock, senior White House budget adviser, he is leaving the Trump administration to join the Business Roundtable, 77 days after he started working for President Trump. He is going to lead the policy group on key issues relating to the Trump agenda, including taxes, infrastructure, regulatory reform, and he signed the pledge saying that for 5 years he would not lobby this administration, but he got a waiver, just a little waiver. So much for the 5-year restriction.

Anybody who wants to leave the Trump administration just goes and gets a waiver, and they go right back to lobbying for him. So the revolving door is spinning faster and faster.

But how about the President saying no one should benefit from this kind of public service. Well, ELIJAH CUMMINGS and I have raised concerns about the lease of the Trump Hotel here, which says specifically that no government official shall benefit. No elected official of the United States of America shall benefit from this lease. But President Trump says that that is not a problem, and the new temporary appointee of head of the GSA says it is not a problem. He is not benefiting. The money is going into trust, and the trust can only use the money to improve the properties or pay down the debt. So, therefore, he doesn't benefit. Huh?

But then we had a really kind of strange incident this week where the State Department posted ads for Mara-Lago on an official government website, ostensibly because they just wanted to show people the winter White House. Of course, they, you know, were showing the rooms and all that. I don't think they had the rates posted. You still had to call. They took it down after people complained about it.

So we are not doing so good on the drain the swamp stuff. But I want to help the President here. I introduced a bill at the beginning of this Congress, the DRAIN the SWAMP Act. Maybe he doesn't know these things are going on. Maybe he doesn't know this guy Peacock got a waiver. Maybe he doesn't know that these people were lobbying these agencies, and he really does want to drain the swamp.

So I am hoping he will endorse a bill I have introduced, the DRAIN the SWAMP Act, which—instead of having a signed agreement, which can be waived by some random bureaucrat at the White House in secret—would actually put into statute a 5-year ban on returning to lobbying after you have been a high-level political appointee in this or any future administration.

Now, that would really drain the swamp. So the question is: Is the President just going to pretend the swamp doesn't exist anymore, or would he like to put some teeth in a law that would actually help us drain the swamp and stop this pernicious revolving door and influence peddling that he was so offended by as a candidate but seems to be turning a blind eye to as President of the United States?

HONORING FORMER CONGRESSMAN RAY KOGOVSEK

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

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor former Congressman Ray Kogovsek, a dear friend who represented the Third Congressional District of Colorado before me. I ask that you keep him in your thoughts and prayers as he now faces a challenge far greater than any political race.

Ray is a native of Pueblo, Colorado, and but for his college years and his tenure here from 1979 to 1985, he never left his hometown and never wanted to. His commitment to his community spread to encompass the entire Third District, which he came to serve after 10 years in the Colorado Legislature where I first met him.

Ray won election to Congress in 1978 by 364 votes. In 1980, he faced the same challenger in a Reagan landslide year. He won by 22,000 votes. And in 1982, after redistricting changed half of his district, he handily won again. Ray won because of who Ray is. He is a man of gentle wisdom, wisdom about people, a man with a gut instinct to know what is right, a genuine man, a man who knows no anger.

His achievements in his short time here in Congress were many. From a vast wilderness bill painstakingly built through his outreach and development of a coalition of broad support, to funding to widen a beautiful highway through Glenwood Canyon to make it safer for road travel, to resolving a decades-old boundary dispute for the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, and his work on behalf of the Third District continued after he chose to leave Congress.

He is known for his work on Western water issues and was awarded the prestigious Wayne Aspinall Award by the Colorado Water Congress, an award named after another Colorado congressman who served as chairman of the House Interior Committee.

But I have a sense that what Ray values most about his career in public service, about his advocacy for his district and for the West, are his friendships, the friendships that he found and nurtured here in these halls and beyond.

I want to thank Ray Kogovsek on behalf of the House of Representatives and the Third District and wish him and his family comfort and strength during this difficult time.

□ 1015

END HUNGER NOW—SNAP WORKS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MARSHALL). The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, the House Agriculture Committee has held 21 hearings during the past 2 years on the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, known as SNAP. The committee has heard over 30 hours of testimony from over 60 experts, both liberal and conservative, from all across the country. We have heard from academics, advocacy groups, Federal and State government officials, charitable organizations, and even a few people who have relied on SNAP for food assistance.

All of our witnesses have confirmed what we know to be true: SNAP works. It is a powerful program that helps to alleviate poverty and food insecurity, and it is worthy of our support.

Today I would like to share with my colleagues a few of the most important takeaways from the 21 hearings I participated in as ranking member of the Nutrition Subcommittee.

First, SNAP benefits should not be cut. Forty-two million Americans, including working families, veterans, seniors, children, and the disabled, struggle to put food on the table. In the richest country in the history of the world, I find that unconscionable. SNAP is a vital tool that helps struggling Americans get back on their feet, and participation has steadily declined as economic conditions have improved.

Second, the current SNAP benefit is inadequate. On average, SNAP households receive about $225 a month. The average benefit per person is about $126 per month, which works out to be a meager $1.40 per person per meal. You can't buy a Starbucks coffee for that.

Pamela Hess with the Arcadia Center for Sustainable Food and Agriculture, said it best during her testimony before the Agriculture Committee: ''. . . people can't parent well and raise happy, healthy children who are ready to learn, and you can't work well if you

are hungry, if you are wondering where your next meal is coming from. . . .''

Cutting this meager benefit would be a rotten and heartless thing to do, especially as so many in our country continue to face incredible hardships.

Third, SNAP does not discourage work. The majority of people on SNAP who can work, do work. Almost 70 percent of SNAP recipients aren't expected to work because they are kids, they are elderly, disabled, or caring for a young child or disabled family member. More than half of SNAP households with at least one working-age, nondisabled adult do work while receiving SNAP, and more than 80 percent work in the year before or after receiving benefits.

Under current law, able-bodied adults without dependents, known as ABAWDs, are limited to 3 months on SNAP out of every 3 years if they aren't working. I don't agree with that provision, but I have come to learn that some of my Republican colleagues want to shorten that time that these very vulnerable adults can remain in the program. Make no mistake, such a move wouldn't help people find jobs; it would only make them hungry and more vulnerable.

As Sherrie Tussler of the Milwaukee Food Bank noted in her testimony before the Agriculture Committee: ''Somehow, we have determined that punishing people with hunger will motivate them towards work. Hunger doesn't motivate. It dulls and it makes people sick.''

Fourth, case management requires a well-funded, multiyear commitment. Case management that helps connect those in need with tailored services to move out of poverty can be successful, but those investments cost money. We need to adequately fund these efforts.

Lastly, block grants threaten programs that provide an economic ladder. Past Republican budgets have proposed block-granting SNAP, but we know from decades of experience that funding for block-granted programs erodes over time and does not provide the same responsiveness to economic conditions that SNAP does.

SNAP expands during times of economic hardship and contracts as the economy recovers. It successfully reaches those in need and is only limited by the modest benefit calculation and hurdles to access like the ABAWD time limit. There is no reason whatsoever, based on all of our hearings, to undermine SNAP through structural changes, block grants, further restrictions, more onerous requirements, or cuts.

At a minimum, the next farm bill must do nothing to make hunger worse in this country—period. Instead, we should focus on strengthening our antihunger safety net to make sure anyone who needs modest food assistance benefits has access to them. We need to support and expand innovative programs that help to increase the purchasing power of SNAP, and we need to increase SNAP benefits to provide families who benefit from the program access to more nutritious foods that last them through the month.

Mr. Speaker, today, chefs and advocates from across the country are on the Hill with Food Policy Action and Environmental Working Group to discuss issues related to the farm bill, including our antihunger safety net. I urge my colleagues to listen to these chefs—they are food experts—and pay attention to them, especially when they ask you to support policies that will be aimed at ending hunger now.

THANKING SHERIFF JOHN SANNER FOR HIS SERVICE

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

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and thank recently retired Stearns County Sheriff John Sanner for his service to the people of Minnesota. For the past 33 years, Sheriff Sanner has watched over our community, ensuring our safety and the safety of our loved ones. In 1984, he started out as a patrol deputy and was elected sheriff 20 years later.

After the horrific abduction of Jacob Wetterling in 1989, Sheriff Sanner was one of the main officers on the case. He worked for more than 26 years searching tirelessly for Jacob, hoping to finally give Jacob's family an answer. Years went by and, soon, decades, but Sheriff Sanner never gave up on Jacob or the Wetterling family. He stood by them until the case was finally solved just this past year, proving his dedication to his job and to the people he served.

Sheriff Sanner, I speak on behalf of all Minnesotans when I say thank you. We wish you a long, peaceful retirement spent with your family.

TRUMP ERA OF IMMIGRATION

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

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, ''This is a new era. This is the Trump era.'' Mr. Speaker, those were the words of the Attorney General, the former Senator from Alabama.

The Attorney General has launched a campaign to paint immigrants as criminals, rapists, gang members, and ''cartel henchmen.'' In his prepared remarks at the border a couple of weeks ago, the Attorney General planned to say the following: ''It is here, on this sliver of land, where we first take our stand against this filth.''

When he gave the speech he edited out the words ''this filth'' because, I guess, calling immigrants from Latin America ''filth'' was even too extreme for this Attorney General. But it remains on the DOJ website. In fact, as far as the Attorney General is concerned, any immigrant who is here illegally is a criminal.

He has ordered the government to prosecute immigration violations, even minor ones, to the full extent of the law and to make prosecution of immigrants a top priority—on par with murder, drugs, counterfeiting, and kidnapping.

He has ordered every one of the 94 U.S. Attorney Offices to appoint a special prosecuting attorney so that immigrants are considered public enemy number one, nationwide—not drug dealers, immigrants. According to the latest Federal data, 46 percent of all new Federal criminal prosecution is immigration related—not narcotics. The second highest crime prosecuted accounts only for 14 percent of new Federal cases. In the new Trump era, a felony prosecution against an immigrant who has been living and working here peacefully for decades is three times important than a felony prosecution of a drug dealer.

And that imbalance is not enough for the Attorney General. He wants to prosecute immigrants beyond the full extent of the law by turning misdemeanors into felonies, and turning felonies into aggravated felonies. They think it will not look so ugly when the U.S. is deporting moms and dads who have raised successful families—or deporting children who grew up in the U.S. from the time they were toddlers—if the Attorney General and his team can look and tell the American people they were just thugs, gangbangers, and rapists.

Jeff Sessions and Donald Trump want more immigrants criminalized, felonized, and deported. Yes, we are truly in the Trump era.

But let's be frank. This is not a surprise when Donald Trump descended the gold escalator and announced his candidacy for President. Almost the first words out of his mouth were Mexicans are rapists, murderers, drug dealers, and immigration is turning America into a war zone.

When he was a Senator from Alabama, the Attorney General made a career of associating immigrants with crime and doing his best to defeat reforms that would strengthen legal immigration and reduce illegal immigration. Deportation, criminalization, and restricting legal immigration were the bedrock of this Attorney General's approach when he was a U.S. Senator.

Our legal immigration system already works fine according to both Senator and Attorney General Sessions, no matter that some people who are receiving their visas today applied for them when Bill Clinton was President and that those applying for visas today will probably get them when

Chelsea Clinton is President of the United States.

Mr. Speaker, when your constituents say, ''Hey, why don't those immigrants come here legally?'' or, ''Why don't they just go back and come back legally?'' the answer is clear: as a Senator, our Attorney General made sure that that was impossible.

Next week, millions of Americans will take to the streets to demonstrate against mass deportation, the border wall, prison beds, and drive-by deportations. But it is not because we are soft on crime or love immigrants more than the people who were born here. No. We have a different vision of what the United States is and should always be.

We are not an incarceration nation, a nation hostile to other countries and their people. We are a great nation, a nation that, in her greatness, is a beacon of hope to refugees, a land of opportunity for entrepreneurs, and a democracy with separate branches of government that act as effective checks and balances on unlimited power.

The American people are sensible, fair, and pragmatic, and are correct when they reject the idea that a wall makes sense in the 21st century as the centerpiece of our immigration policy. We are not persuaded by the poetry of the Attorney General when he stands at the border and says: ''It is here, on this sliver of land, where we first take our stand against this filth.'' No, we think of another, better poem, the one at the Statue of Liberty, the lady with her torch in the harbor, who shares our deeply held values as Americans and says every day to the entire world at that harbor: ''Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free.''

CONGRESS SHOULD VOTE ON CONTINUING POLICY IN AFGHANISTAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) for 5 minutes.

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, last week was another reminder of the chaos in Afghanistan. Tragically, 200 Afghan soldiers were killed by the Taliban; but, unfortunately, that is no surprise.

After 16 years in Afghanistan, absolutely nothing has changed. If anything, it has gotten worse. The American taxpayer, United States military, and the marines in my district are frustrated with the 16 years of continued chaos. That is why Mr. GARAMENDI and I have introduced H.R. 1666 and have been joined by seven of our colleagues. Our bill asks that Congress be able to debate and vote on whether we should or should not continue our current policy in Afghanistan.

Mr. Speaker, I bring this poster on the floor as a reminder. Let me say to you today and my fellow colleagues that we have spent over 800 billion taxpayer dollars, over 2,200 American servicemembers have died, and over 20,000 of our troops have been severely wounded. The waste, fraud, and abuse is just as bad, if not worse, today than at the very beginning of 2002.

Now, some 300 additional marines, mainly from Camp Lejeune in my district, have been deployed to Afghanistan this spring, and we have had no discussion of that on the floor of the House. Mr. Speaker, I am calling on PAUL RYAN as Speaker of the House to permit a new debate on our future involvement in Afghanistan and whether or not our young men and women should be sent to war, as there are more than 300 Members of the House of Representatives that were not here in 2001 that have never had a debate or a vote on Afghanistan and the policy of Afghanistan.

It is time that the Congress interject itself. It is our constitutional responsibility to send our young men and women to die for this country, and yet we do not ever have a debate. That is why the bill that Mr. GARAMENDI and I have put in, H.R. 1666, will simply say that the House will have a debate on whether we should or should not be in Afghanistan.

Mr. Speaker, I don't know why that is asking too much because it is our constitutional duty. Nothing that we vote on in this House of Representatives is as sacred as sending a young man or woman to die for this country.

□ 1030

I have sent a letter to PAUL RYAN as recently as yesterday asking him to please give us the ability that we have taken the oath to debate war. And the Speaker of the House can order the committees of jurisdiction to send an authorization of military force to the floor of the House for debate.

Mr. Speaker, for all of our men and women in uniform, all of the families of our men and women in uniform who have died for this country, please, Congress, let's join together, Republican and Democrat, and let's debate the future of Afghanistan.

CONGRATULATING RABBI ELYSE FRISHMAN ON HER RETIREMENT

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

Mr. GOTTHEIMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank my friend and spiritual mentor, Rabbi Elyse Frishman, for her 22 years of exceptional service to Barnert Temple in Franklin Lakes, New Jersey.

After decades of service to the Jewish community, Rabbi Frishman will be retiring this June. Personally, I am very lucky to call Rabbi Frishman my rabbi.

In addition to leading our congregation, she is the editor of the reform prayer book ''Mishkan Tefilah,'' and a national leader in worship and congregational engagement.

Rabbi Frishman has stood as a model citizen and faith leader, going the extra mile to bring together the community in times of anxiety and fear.

She was recently featured by The Bergen Record for her work to unite the interfaith communities in a common mission, forming dialogues, understanding, and building friendships where they didn't exist before.

In doing so, she has long set an example for the families of our congregation. As a parent, I am glad my children are growing up knowing and being led and educated by her in our faith community.

Rabbi Frishman deserves to be held up as a model for public service. And though our congregation and I will miss her deeply, I congratulate her on her retirement, and I hope everyone enjoys the evening celebrating her years of service to us. America and our community has been very lucky to have Rabbi Elyse Frishman.

Thank you, Rabbi Frishman.

HONORING CAPTAIN JOSHUA TODD BYERS

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

Mr. AMODEI. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to honor Captain Joshua Byers, a fallen soldier, son, husband, brother, and friend.

In Sparks, Nevada, Captain Byers lives on as a legacy. His kind heart, patriotic soul, and strong ideals of servant leadership have left a strong and lasting impact on everyone who knew him.

Captain Byers attended Edward C. Reed High School in Sparks, the home of the Raiders. Although not originally from Sparks, Captain Byers moved with his mother, father, and two younger brothers to chase a dream and God's calling in Nevada.

While at Reed High School, he joined the Naval Junior ROTC program and various other clubs, all while maintaining excellent grades.

When he reached his senior year, he was student body president, the battalion commander of the Junior ROTC unit, and in line to be valedictorian on graduation.

One of his biggest dreams was to attend one of the Nation's service academies. After he completed his 4 years at Reed High School, he accepted an appointment to the United States Military Academy at West Point, Hudson High.

Upon graduating from West Point, he earned an Army Ranger tab and was deployed to Iraq in 2003, where he was killed in action due to an IED explosion.

His legacy lives on at Reed High School, especially in the NJROTC program. Through an award given there by one of the past instructors as well, there is now being more done in order to memorialize a hero who left such a profound impact on those who knew him and were around him.

The NJROTC hallway at Reed High is going to be completely dedicated to Captain Byers, being named the Captain Joshua T. Byers Leadership Memorial Hallway.

In this hall you can find Captain Byers' uniform, awards, military decorations, and various pictures and stories to help capture the essence of this hero in our hearts and minds.

Mr. Speaker, I ask today that we keep the Byers family and Joshua in our prayers and thoughts.

PRESIDENT TRUMP'S PROMISE TO DRAIN THE SWAMP AND 100 DAYS

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, we are quickly approaching President Trump's first 100 days in office, and the swamp he pledged to drain now has been stocked with Wall Street's finest.

President Trump made a big jobs promise to working people across this country in his campaign. But hundreds of steel workers in places like Lorain, Ohio, are being terminated due to continuing Korean and Chinese imports being dumped into this marketplace.

The President seems to have a raft of bankers from Goldman Sachs advising him on the global economy, but where is his trade team that is supposed to protect workers like I represent in the State of Ohio?

This is the backdrop to the 2018 budget the President has chosen to send up to Congress. His 2018 budget rewards Wall Street—anybody surprised—and hurts Main Streets in places like Lorain and Ohio and Pennsylvania and Michigan and Indiana and Wisconsin, the States that carried him into the Presidency.

Vice President Joe Biden once said: ''Show me your budget, and I will tell you what you value.''

Well, President Trump's budget apparently doesn't value the people of the Great Lakes States because it zeros out the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative and other programs under the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the Environmental Protection Agency that are trying to help us clean up water, the source of all life.

Look what he is doing to job training programs, to Meals on Wheels, to afterschool care, programs that the middle class cares about and are vital to life: slash, slash, slash. More bankers in there from Goldman Sachs and Wall Street.

To make matters worse, the Trump administration has a total disregard for ethics, as they clearly violate the Emoluments Clause of our Constitution.

President Trump and his children have still failed to fully divest their assets and put them in true blind trusts to prevent real and dangerous conflicts of interest.

How about the number of patents that China has just granted to the Trump family, including Ivanka Trump? How about that? When the President has changed his position on China from what he said in the campaign and now it is a little bit different and the patents just got approved after sitting on the shelf for a decade, does that strike anyone as unusual?

The Trump administration is not draining the swamp. This President is filling it with broken promises to the American people who are depending on him and his administration to make a difference for people who need attention across this country.

SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

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

Mr. BACON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about Sexual Assault Awareness Month and the need to support those who have been victimized by this terrible crime.

According to the National Sexual Violence Resource Center, nearly 1 in 4 women and 1 in 10 men will experience sexual violence, and 7 out of 10 sexual assault cases are committed by someone who the survivor knows.

Nearly 50 percent of female survivors will experience PTS, or post trauma stress, and per the Rape and Incest National Network, only 2 percent of those offenders will spend jail time or be convicted of a felony.

Sex trafficking is a prevalent problem, and according to the U.S. State Department, 600,000 to 800,000 people are trafficked across international borders. Of those numbers, 80 percent are female and half are children.

Sex trafficking occurs when someone uses fraud, force, or coercion to cause a commercial sexual act with an adult or cause a minor to commit a commercial sexual act.

Thus, victims of sex trafficking are also victims of assault. They are threatened, taken from families and loved ones, and forced to commit acts they would not do on their own free will.

These statistics demand action. I personally know victims of sexual assault, and I have tackled it head-on while as a commander. I started this journey when I was a commander at the Ramstein Air Base in Germany.

When I arrived there as a new base commander in 2008, the allegations of sexual assault were too high. I implemented a two-step solution to address the problem.

First, all rape accusers, if willing to testify, would have their day in court, have their day to say what happened to a jury.

Second, those convicted of rape would have their names and prison sentences distributed widely around the base. Our rates immediately improved. This program was later ranked by the Air Force as the number one sexual assault response program—the number one in the Air Force. So I take this issue seriously.

I recently met with Courtney, a constituent in my district in Omaha, who was sexually assaulted while serving as a marine. She shared her story with me, including how she was treated after reporting the rape. And what she told me greatly disheartened me. I could not believe that someone who proudly served in uniform was basically ostracized by the very people she served with.

She felt persecuted and ignored for daring to report an assault that should not have occurred, from simple acts of being ignored to having her belongings thrown out of the barracks in black trash bags by her fellow servicemen.

Courtney was not only a victim of assault, but a victim of repeated backlash from superiors and colleagues. Courtney developed PTS because of not only the assault, but how she was treated for reporting the assault.

In my district office is Makayla, an intern who at the young age of 15 was molested by her father. Makayla's parents were divorced, and one weekend when she was alone with her biological father, the horrendous crime took place.

She would live in fear for the next 2 years until, finally, by the grace of God, she told her mom what happened. The days following were a whirlwind, from giving testimony to telling her grandparents what their son had done to her.

The lives of both women will never be the same. However, they both know and both knew that God would turn their trauma into triumph.

Makayla is now a college student at the University of Nebraska Omaha and shares her story at colleges, schools, nonprofits, and other organizations all over Nebraska. After graduating, she wants to work in politics to change the policies surrounding sexual assault cases.

Courtney is also speaking out and has started a blog on social media sites detailing her journey to recovery and sharing her story so others know that they are not alone.

She also will be staying in touch with me about potential legislation and ideas to help those who are victims of sexual assault in the military.

There are many in Omaha who deserve recognition for the work they do

every day to combat sexual assault and human trafficking to help victims. The Women's Center for Advancement helps victims of sexual assault and domestic violence. They have a hotline that victims can call and make that their first step in getting the help they need.

Project Harmony offers victims of child sexual assault the opportunity to take forensic interviews instead of having to appear in court, which can retraumatize the victims.

The Coalition on Human Trafficking is training staff at hotels and motels to be able to identify possible victims of sex trafficking. The goal is to provide the awareness training to all hotels within a 50-mile radius of Omaha, and to date they have trained over 85 locations.

Finally, we can't forget the members of law enforcement who work tirelessly to catch those responsible for sexual assault and human trafficking. Without them, there would be so many more victims who would still be abused, assaulted, and traumatized.

And while there are law enforcement and others dedicated to stopping these assaults and human trafficking, there is more that could be done.

Earlier this month I joined my colleagues as an original cosponsor on H.R. 2052, also known as the PRIVATE Act, which would amend the Uniform Code of Military Justice to provide harsher penalties to anyone who engages in what is known as revenge porn.

The Violence Against Women's Act of 1994 also helps provide some justice. This act used Federal funds to help investigate and prosecute sex offenders and establish the Office on Violence Against Women in the Department of Justice, a program we must continue to support.

Finally, I have agreed to cosponsor H.R. 1035, the Extending Justice for Sex Crimes Act of 2017, which amends the statute of limitations for a victim of human trafficking or a Federal sexual offense to seek and recover damages.

This bill sets a 10-year statute of limitations from the date the victim discovers the offense or injury and not when it occurred to file a civil action. It also extends the statute of limitations for a minor victim to file a civil action for 10 years from the date that the victim turns 18. Currently it stands at 3 years.

Sexual assault and exploitation is a social problem and a crime. We need to step up and assist with prevention of these acts, prosecute the perpetrators, and provide the provisions for resources for victims.

□ 1045

NATIONAL MINORITY HEALTH MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, April is National Minority Health Month, and I have pledged to use every opportunity that I can to promote awareness, greater understanding, and direction toward solutions to some of our health needs and problems.

I have with me today a statement from one of the staff members in my district office who describes what it is like to live with sarcoidosis.

She begins her statement by saying:

Hello. My name is Shonna Latrice Smith, and I have sarcoidosis. Living with sarcoidosis has been a tough battle for me, not knowing what other parts of my organs could be affected by this terrible disease.

I began having symptoms of experiencing hoarseness for months at a time, swollen lymph nodes, loss of weight, loss of breath, severe joint pain with deformity in my fingers. My face and arms showed noticeable skin lesions with severe swelling. I experience most mornings chronic dry coughs that feel like my chest would burst open.

After a series of blood tests, X-rays, pulmonary testing, and skin biopsies, test results indicated sarcoidosis, I began to have anxiety attacks. Because I had no clue where, when, and how I contacted this disease, I didn't know if it would affect the longevity of my life. I began with small doses of prednisone orally to treat inflammation and swelling, including steroid injections to my face, arms, and fingers to reduce swelling.

My battle with sarcoidosis has affected my getting up, walking with struggling not to lose my balance due to my joints being stiff and sore. Doctors begin treating me for rheumatoid arthritis with a medication called methotrexate, a chemotherapy agent and immune system suppressant to treat autoimmune diseases and rheumatoid arthritis.

After taking methotrexate for about a year, doctors saw no change in the swelling of my hands and face, so I began taking a new medication called Plaquenil also used to treat rheumatoid arthritis, skin diseases, and autoimmune diseases. I am currently taking prednisone to continue to treat severe swelling for my face and hands.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Ms. Smith for sharing this information and this experience with us. Therefore, I urge that we continue to support research so that we may find more effective treatment and a cure for sarcoidosis and other disease entities.

It is my position that health is wealth. We can have all of the other attributes of life, but if we have chronic disease that has not been cured or for which we are not sure of a cure for, then that takes away from the quality of life for the individuals with those experiences. Therefore, I reiterate that research could be the answer.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 49 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. PALMER) at noon.

PRAYER

Pastor Melissa Hatch, Prosper United Methodist Church, Prosper, Texas, offered the following prayer:

Almighty and gracious God, today we are grateful for Your guidance and Your presence in our lives. We humbly follow Your lead and direction.

When our own decisions seem too difficult to navigate, help us to turn to the One who never slumbers or sleeps. When we are impatient for decisions, help us to wait upon You for the right way to go.

Strengthen us for the work that You have called us to do. Help us to work together for the common good and reach across lines to be Your hands and feet in a world that desperately needs You.

When times and situations seem uncertain, help us cling to the hope that we find in You. And in the words of Micah 6:8, help us to act justly, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God.

We pray all of this in Your mighty name.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

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

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. BUDD led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

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

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

HONORING COACH DON DAVIDSON

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

Mr. HULTGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Don Davidson for 50 years of teaching and coaching at Yorkville High School, Aurora Christian, and Parkview Christian Academy.

Coach Davidson's ability to inspire and energize his students of all ages has led them to hundreds of victories on the basketball court, earning him a place in the Illinois Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Fame. Not only does Don hold the second longest home winning streak in Illinois history, with 80 wins from February 1988 until February 1997, but his exceptional coaching has secured 677 career varsity wins, 10 IHSA regional titles, 5 IHSA sectional titles, and 3 ACSI Great Lakes championships.

More importantly, Don is a generous, compassionate mentor who cares deeply about the lives of his students off the court.

Don, thank you for your 50 years of service to our community and, most importantly, for embodying the life of Christ to your students and to their parents, like me.

VOICING SUPPORT FOR SCIENTISTS AND FEDERAL WORKERS

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

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice support for the dedicated public servants who make this country great.

President Trump campaigned on a promise to drain the swamp, and instead he nominated unqualified Wall Street executives and career politicians for Cabinet and senior-level positions, leaving the next level of appointments almost entirely unfilled, all while threatening to cut the experienced Federal workforce who make our government work well every day.

As the only Ph.D. physicist in Congress, I know that many of these Federal workers and their support staff are scientists who work every day to advance innovation and improve our standard of living. The Department of Energy, for example, relies on scientists with technical expertise to run our national labs. The success of their work depends on long-term sustained funding and a continuity of competent leadership to make their new ideas a reality.

But our President's skinny budget would destroy scientific funding and force us to give up our place as a leader in innovation, and many of his appointments are insulting jokes. So last weekend I joined the March for Science because it is clear that this administration does not value science and scientific enterprise.

I call on my colleagues here today to support scientists and Federal workers. And if a swamp needs to be drained, the place to start is Mar-a-Lago.

TAX FREEDOM DAY

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, last Sunday marked Tax Freedom Day, determined by the Tax Foundation, led by President Scott Hodge. This is the day when our citizens have earned enough money to pay their tax bill for the year.

It is alarming that American taxpayers must work 113 days to foot the bill for their annual tax obligation. Collectively, American families spent more on their taxes this year than on food, clothing, and housing combined. This is an abuse of the American people, limiting their ability to spend their own hard-earned wages.

As Tax Freedom Day is pushed later each year, we must commit to commonsense reforms to the Tax Code. The Federal Government takes too much from American workers with an obsessive push to increase taxes, destroying jobs.

I am encouraged by the tax plan President Donald Trump outlined yesterday and look forward to working with him to provide tax reform that will create jobs, simplify the Tax Code, and grow the economy. I am confident that, by working together, we can deliver comprehensive, balanced tax reforms for American families which will promote jobs.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

PUERTO RICO MEDICAID FUNDS EVAPORATING

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

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, while my Republican colleagues take their sweet time passing a bill to fund the government, Puerto Rico is watching its Medicaid funds evaporate.

In this package, we must provide sufficient resources to address this shortfall from the funding authorized under the ACA that is already owed to the people of Puerto Rico.

I remind Congress the funding under discussion would close a Medicaid shortage that was created by the unequal treatment of American citizens in Puerto Rico, fueling a healthcare crisis of historic proportions.

Last year, Speaker PAUL RYAN committed to helping the people of Puerto Rico. As he, himself, recognized, these are our fellow citizens.

Yes, Mr. President, they are American citizens. They have fought, shed blood, and given their lives in nearly every major war, yet they have been treated unfairly for decades.

Donald Trump's own HHS Secretary recently acknowledged Puerto Rico needs $900 million to fund Medicaid. For once, I agree with the Secretary.

PAYCHECK PROTECTION ACT

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

Mr. BUDD. Mr. Speaker, a labor union's purpose is simple: to represent its members and to bargain on their behalf. But for millions of Americans who are currently paying union dues, their money is sometimes being used for political advocacy that they may not support.

The First Amendment in our Constitution grants workers around the country the freedom to donate or not to donate to any political cause. As it currently stands, however, union members have to opt out of having their dues spent on certain political activity. This process can be burdensome, and it can be complicated and time consuming.

Instead of asking workers to go through a lengthy process just to avoid funding political causes they don't support, they should have the choice from the start whether to opt in to that spending or not.

Earlier this week, I introduced the National Paycheck Protection Act that would require an employee's consent before their labor organization dues are used for any purpose not directly related to collective bargaining.

Mr. Speaker, union members are Americans before they are Republicans or Democrats, and this simple change would be the first step in the fight for more worker freedom.

DRAIN THE SWAMP

(Ms. KELLY of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, Saturday marks 100 days since President Trump took office. He is far from

''draining the swamp'' as promised. He stacked his administration with billionaires, family members, and people with dangerous ties to Russian interests.

His national security policies have been a far cry from the steady-handed decisionmaking he promised. From Mar-a-Lago missile strikes to aggressive and impulsive national security rhetoric, the President has made our foreign policy as murky as swamp water—a dangerous practice in today's world.

One hundred days in, the President is heavy on alternative facts and light on action. Where is his job bill? Where is his infrastructure and cybersecurity plan? Where is all of the ''winning'' we were supposed to be sick of by now?

It has been 100 days, Mr. President. It is time to do something the American people can get behind. You can start by draining the swamp you created at the White House.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to recognize the life and legacy of Donna Lynn Johnson who, for 40 years, brought quality eye care to the South Side of Chicago. She will be greatly missed by her patients, family, and especially her niece, Donna Miller.

Lastly, I am proud to have Baily Lynn Compton from Texas as my shadow today.

THE WORLD'S BIGGEST FISH FRY, PARIS TENNESSEE

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

Mr. KUSTOFF of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the World's Biggest Fish Fry, which happens to be this week in Paris, Tennessee. Each year at the end of April, people from all across the country travel to west Tennessee to take part in a week-long celebration that includes parades, a carnival, rodeos, dances, catfish races, and much more.

The Fish Fry, as folks call it in west Tennessee, originated in 1938 as one of the many ''Mule Days,'' when farmers gathered to trade their products, do their shopping, and enjoy the fellowship of their community.

By the 1950s, the tractor replaced the mule, so the good citizens of Paris and Henry County started a new event that is now known in west Tennessee and around the country to be ''The World's Biggest Fish Fry.''

The festival ends with the main event this Friday, April 28, when more than 5 tons of catfish will be cooked, leading up to a grand 2-hour finale of parades.

I thank the Paris-Henry County Chamber of Commerce for their leadership in preserving this great west Tennessee tradition.

□ 1215

REPUBLICAN HEALTH CARE

(Mr. HIGGINS of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, the new Republican healthcare scam, again, slams good hardworking Americans with higher costs and less healthcare coverage. Fewer people will have healthcare coverage, and insurance companies will increase their already record profits.

And what would a Republican healthcare bill plan be without a massive tax cut for high-paid insurance executives?

UnitedHealthcare is one of America's largest insurers and is under investigation by the Department of Justice for defrauding Medicare and the American people out of billions of dollars over the past decade.

On page 67, in seven words, this Republican bill gives their chief executive officer, who made $66 million in 2014, a massive tax cut.

Mr. Speaker, this is disgusting and morally reprehensible.

TAKE YOUR DAUGHTERS AND SONS TO WORK DAY

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, today there are a lot of children in the Capitol for Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day.

While my three sons are all grown and scattered across the country, I do have the privilege of having Seth Lewis Parish with me today.

Seth lives in Maryland, and thanks to the nonprofit Tuesday's Children, he gets to spend the day with me—or better yet, I get to spend the day with him.

Seth is 7 years old and actively involved in his Cub Scout pack. I was really glad to hear that, as I am an Eagle Scout who has been involved in Scouting all my life. Seth is in the first grade. He is a Tiger Scout, plays ice hockey, and also participates in tae kwon do.

In 2009, Seth's dad was serving in the Army and lost his life about a month before Seth was born. Tuesday's Children uses its experience and expertise to help our military families work through their own losses.

Seth's mom, Debbie, dropped him off at my office this morning. He is the best-dressed guy today on the floor and, very frankly, on Capitol Hill, right over there.

Seth, I hope you are having a good day shadowing an old Scout like me.

CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING

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

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, yesterday Representative FITZPATRICK and I introduced a bipartisan resolution calling on the House to commit to the removal of political gerrymandering from congressional redistricting and to improve the public confidence in our electoral process.

Every citizen in every State deserves to have the same ability as citizens in States like California, Arizona, Hawaii, and Ohio, who now have to draw their Congressional district boundaries without the influence and gamesmanship of politics.

The political gerrymandering of our congressional districts, which attacks at the very bedrock the right of every American to fair representation, has seriously undermined the public's trust in our democratic system.

Mr. Speaker, it is time to get the back room out of the ballot box and let the people decide.

HONORING U.S. CHESS TEAM FOR ITS GOLD MEDAL VICTORY AT 42ND WORLD CHESS OLYMPIAD

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

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the U.S. Chess Team for its historic victory in the 42nd Chess Olympiad held in Baku, Azerbaijan, this past September.

The last time the United States won this competition was 40 years ago at the 1976 Chess Olympiad in Haifa, Israel. At that time, the gold medal was determined by the outcome of a single game that lasted 14 hours and contained 111 moves, and eventually ended in our favor.

The final round in Baku was even more strategic, with the gold medal determined by a brilliant final move. The game was close, but the United States Chess Team took home the gold once again.

Today I would like to honor the six members of the winning chess team as well as their coach. This was a great accomplishment for the United States. I am honored to have the opportunity in Congress to recognize them.

For the next 2 years, the Olympiad trophy will rest and be on display at the World Chess Hall of Fame in St. Louis, Missouri. I look forward to recognizing the team's accomplishments in my home State.

THE FCC AND NET NEUTRALITY RULES

(Ms. GABBARD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. GABBARD. Mr. Speaker, yesterday the new Trump-appointed FCC

Chairman announced his mission to undermine the net neutrality rules that we fought so hard to put in place.

In 2015, over 4 million people submitted comments calling on the FCC to keep the internet open and fair. However, the FCC's new Chairman, who used to work as counsel for Verizon, wants to turn the internet into a system of pay-to-play fast lanes for Big Money and people who can afford it, leaving everyone else behind in the slow lane.

This hands the levers of access over to big ISPs at the expense of students, small businesses, entrepreneurs, independent content creators, and millions more.

In today's digital age, maintaining open and equal internet access is essential to breaking down barriers in education, media, expanding access to jobs and employment, driving innovation in health care, and so much more.

We must stand strong in opposition to the FCC's attack on fairness, equality, and net neutrality.

CELEBRATING GULFSTREAM'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th anniversary of Gulfstream Aerospace, the largest private sector employer in Georgia's First Congressional District.

Gulfstream's origins as an aerospace company are steeped in American history. During World War II, Roy Grumman built war planes for the United States during the war. After the war ended, he sought a new use for his resources and, in 1958, founded Gulfstream to build business airliners instead.

Mr. Grumman's first project, the Gulfstream I, made its first flight on August 14, 1958. This purpose-built business aircraft was the first of its kind and revolutionized general aviation. Gulfstream produced more than 200 of the original aircraft, many of which are still operating today. The first project spawned more aircraft models and helped exciting innovations take off.

On September 29, 1967, Gulfstream landed in Savannah, Georgia, where it remains headquartered to this day. Savannah offers optimal land availability, labor supply, transportation facilities, and weather conditions, making it the perfect location to operate.

We have gladly welcomed Gulfstream in our district for the last 50 years, and this impressive company has greatly contributed to the community by employing nearly 10,000 people.

Congratulations to Gulfstream Aerospace on reaching its 50th anniversary, a milestone I am confident it will continue to build on.

TRUMPCARE

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

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to oppose the latest version of TrumpCare. Once again, House Republicans have confirmed their approach to fixing health care requires gutting key provisions for people with preexisting conditions, increasing costs, and offering fewer protections. Letting the States cherrypick the essential health benefits—the 10 basic medical care categories covered, like emergency care, mental health, addiction treatment, or lab tests—is just crazy.

The obvious problem with eliminating the Affordable Care Act's essential health benefits is that it will leave people without access to reasonable quality health insurance. The consumer should know what their health insurance covers.

Without some minimum requirements, insurance companies can offer plans that are insurance in name only. Anyone who is actually sick and needs care will be left out in the cold.

The essential health benefits make the marketplace viable because they help pool the risk among the whole population instead of just attracting sick people who need these services.

If Republicans thought TrumpCare was so great, why would they exempt Members of Congress and our staff?

I urge my colleagues to scrap this political game and work with us to strengthen health care for all Americans.

PRESIDENT TRUMP'S FIRST 100 DAYS

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

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. Speaker, the President said he would drain the swamp in Washington. He has flooded it. He said he would break the cycle of corruption. He has accelerated it. Nearly 100 days into his administration, the President has reneged on the fundamental promise that he would clean up Washington.

Today, the Democracy Reform Task Force is releasing a report detailing 100 ways the Trump administration has flooded the swamp in the first 100 days. As the report chronicles, President Trump has made a mockery of ethics law and regulation, promoted a culture of secrecy in the executive branch, stacked his Cabinet with Big Money campaign donors, installed a special interest revolving door into the Trump White House, put big money ahead of the public interest, turned the Presidency into a profit-making enterprise, pursued public policy for his personal benefit, and raided the Treasury to pay for vacations and private business promotion.

These are not the actions of a President intent on draining the swamp or restoring a voice to the voiceless or restoring power to the powerless. Americans of all political stripes are starting to wonder: ''Maybe the President isn't looking out for me and my family. Maybe he is just looking out for himself, his business, and his brand.''

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

SUSTAIN THE RESISTANCE

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

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, this is undoubtedly the greatest 100 days of any President in human history. Give President Trump a grade of A-plus for the greatest broken campaign promises in history; the greatest meaningless executive orders, offering showy ceremonies when a mere phone call would have done the job; certainly, the very greatest number of insulting tweets—no President in history has ever come close; the greatest conflicts of interest; the greatest embrace of authoritarian leaders; the greatest gap between reality and fantasy, unquestionably. He talks as a populist and he governs as a plutocrat.

The greatest thing about Trump's 100 days is that America still exists without a major war or an economic free fall. Every day we survive without a Trump-inspired catastrophe is a great day for our country.

Sustain the resistance and remain hopeful for a Trump-free America.

TRUMPCARE DROPS MILLIONS FROM COVERAGE

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

Ms. PINGREE. Mr. Speaker, I thought the Republican plan for repealing the Affordable Care Act and dropping 24 million Americans from healthcare coverage could not get any worse, but I was wrong. The latest iteration of TrumpCare still drops millions from their coverage, but will now make coverage worse and more expensive for those who can get it.

I believe all Americans deserve protections for the coverage of essential health services and preexisting conditions, not just Members of Congress. Swiss cheese insurance plans that don't cover ER visits or prescriptions and charge you more if you have ever been sick aren't worth the paper they are printed on.

This bill undermines our healthcare system in so many damaging ways. And for what?

Let's not forget that the bill includes nearly $600 billion in tax breaks for drug companies, insurers, and the wealthy. Millionaires would get an average annual tax cut of more than $50,000 while hardworking families and older Americans would struggle to afford meaningful coverage.

I won't stand for a bill that endangers the well-being of my constituents to benefit the very wealthiest Americans. I urge my colleagues to do the same.

NORTH KOREA

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

Mr. KHANNA. Mr. Speaker, I rise out of a concern of this administration's policies to North Korea. I urge the administration to look at recent history.

From 1994 to 2002, North Korea was not developing plutonium and there was no threat of medium- or long-range ballistic missiles. That was under President Clinton's leadership because President Clinton had come up with a deal to buy the medium- and long-range missiles from North Korea.

Then what happened?

President Bush came and disregarded both deals and put North Korea under the axis of evil, even though they had no relationship to 9/11. It was a mistake of foreign policy.

We know the solution to North Korea. We know they have an army of 200,000. They have 15,000 places of nuclear weapons. There is not a militaristic solution. The solution is to go back to the direct diplomacy that President Clinton had and to have South Korea engage in that diplomatic solution.

There is an answer to North Korea. We cannot play games with this issue when President Clinton showed the framework.

□ 1230

FIRST 100 DAYS OF BROKEN PROMISES

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

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, on the campaign trail, the President talked a good game on trade that appealed to working families. But now that he is President, his promises ring hollow.

He promised to stop outsourcing and shipping jobs overseas, but he issued 15 contracts since becoming President with companies that have outsourced jobs. He promised to hold China accountable and label them a currency manipulator. He reversed that pledge.

He promised to drain the swamp, but he has done just the opposite. He stacked the Cabinet with wealthy insiders; and his White House is filled with friends, family, and a stunning display of nepotism and conflicts of interest.

He said he would release his tax returns. That is a laugher. Breaking with 40 years of precedent, he has not released his taxes and claimed the American people don't care.

Seventy-four percent of Americans want to see his tax returns. And we will never know the full extent of his conflicts of interest and how he stands to enrich himself in office until we see his tax returns.

Congressional tax-writing committees can request them because they have the authority under IRC 6103, and I urge my colleagues to support this effort.

BIGGER AND BIGGER SWAMP

(Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California. Mr. Speaker, Donald Trump promised American voters he would drain the swamp of special interests in Washington. Instead, he is swimming in it.

He has filled his administration with billionaires, Wall Street operatives, special interest lobbyists, lawyers, and consultants who are drafting policies for the very industries they came from, and he refuses to release the White House visitor log so we have no idea what special interest lobbyists he is meeting with.

Trump has refused to release his tax returns or divest his business interests.

Can you believe the State Department posted a blog advertising his exclusive Mar-a-Lago resort? Since becoming President, he increased the fees for that resort from $100,000 to $200,000.

He has both close allies, Cabinet appointees, and other appointees with questionable ties to Putin and Russia.

His swamp is getting bigger and bigger.

HAPPY 75TH BIRTHDAY EARL F. HILLIARD

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

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join with friends and family of our former colleague and my personal friend, Earl F. Hilliard, who this weekend will be celebrating his 75th birthday.

While a Member of this body, Earl and I worked very closely together preserving the integrity of Historically Black Colleges and Universities and supporting the preservation and restoration of historic sites and buildings.

This weekend, a gathering will establish a scholarship in his honor in order for more rural Alabama young men and women to have opportunities to further their education.

I want to congratulate my friend for reaching this milestone in his life—a place I got to last year this time—and wish him a happy birthday and further success in establishing benefits for young men and women throughout Alabama.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1694, FANNIE AND FREDDIE OPEN RECORDS ACT OF 2017; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF MOTIONS TO SUSPEND THE RULES; AND WAIVING A REQUIREMENT OF CLAUSE 6(A) OF RULE XIII WITH RESPECT TO CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN RESOLUTIONS REPORTED FROM THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Mr. WOODALL. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 280 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 280

Resolved, That at any time after adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1694) to require additional entities to be subject to the requirements of section 552 of title 5, United States Code (commonly referred to as the Freedom of Information Act), and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and amendments specified in this section and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. In lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform now printed in the bill, it shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 115-14 modified by the amendment printed in part A of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution. That amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered as read. All points of order against that amendment in the nature of a substitute are waived. No amendment to that amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be in order except those printed in part B of the report of the Committee on Rules. Each such amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. All points of order against such amendments are waived. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill

to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. Any Member may demand a separate vote in the House on any amendment adopted in the Committee of the Whole to the bill or to the amendment in the nature of a substitute made in order as original text. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

SEC. 2. It shall be in order at any time through the legislative day of April 29, 2017, for the Speaker to entertain motions that the House suspend the rules as though under clause 1 of rule XV. The Speaker or his designee shall consult with the Minority Leader or her designee on the designation of any matter for consideration pursuant to this section.

SEC. 3. The requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII for a two-thirds vote to consider a report from the Committee on Rules on the same day it is presented to the House is waived with respect to any resolution reported through the legislative day of April 29, 2017.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Georgia is recognized for 1 hour.

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

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. WOODALL. Mr. Speaker, I have a confession to make to you. In fact, I have two confessions to make.

The first is I have got a big group up in the Rules Committee right now. It is my Gwinnett County Chamber of Commerce. It is an amazing county, tremendous diversity, tremendous record of success in solving problems. They have been up there visiting with leaders all day long.

I first met with them this morning while Mr. MCGOVERN was down here on the floor during 5 minutes. I said: Well, this is a 5-minute time. You can step right through the doors there, if you would like to see it.

They said: Who is on the floor?

I said: Well, it is this fellow right here. His name tag is there in the Rules Committee. He is down there, #endhunger.

I said: The gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN) and I can disagree on all sorts of issues, all sorts of public policy, but there is nobody in this institution who has a heart for service on the issue of hunger more than JIM MCGOVERN does.

I said: Here he is. He is representing Massachusetts, of all places, and he has chosen to serve on the Agriculture Committee. If you are a Georgian, you serve on the Agriculture Committee because you grow cotton and peanuts and row crop after row crop after row crop. When you are from Massachusetts and you sit on the Agriculture Committee, you want to end childhood hunger, you want to feed people.

I tell you that as a confession, Mr. Speaker, because I am not going to confess to sharing my admiration for JIM MCGOVERN all that often on the House floor, but I was with folks up there today who really do commit themselves to making a difference in our county. It was nice to have a colleague on the floor—again, with whom I disagree about much—who was putting everything he had, as he does every day, into an issue that he cares a lot about.

That is all my constituents back home want, Mr. Speaker, is to believe that we have sincere, earnest folks working on sincere and difficult issues. So I thank the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN) for that.

My second confession, Mr. Speaker, is that ordinarily I really enjoy listening to the Reading Clerk read the rule. It gets me all wound up about how the process is. Of course, today she was talking about all the amendments we are going to make in order. We are making every single amendment offered by both sides of the aisle in order on this underlying bill.

I found myself thinking back to the days when I was a young man and I came up here with my class. I was sitting up here in the gallery, and I walked into the floor at a time when the Reading Clerk was just standing up there reading. There was no cheat sheet that they give you in the gallery, Mr. Speaker. You don't have any idea whether they are going to read for 20 seconds or 20 minutes. For all you know, they are going to read for the rest of the afternoon, and it was hard to follow.

I get a cheat sheet here that my staff gives me before each rule. I didn't enjoy it as much today as I ordinarily do, Mr. Speaker, because there is a lot of procedural work in this rule.

We are coming up on a bunch of big deadlines. So there is the ability to bring up suspensions. These are commonsense bills that two-thirds of the House agree on. You can bring those up at any time. That provision is made in this rule.

There is the ability to bring things up the same day. If the Rules Committee goes up and passes a new rule, we can bring that bill to the floor immediately. Ordinarily that would lay over for 24 hours. But because there are so many things we are trying to get done, we waived that.

All of those procedural issues, Mr. Speaker, get in the way of my favorite part of the rule, which is that every single Member of this body had a chance to come up to the Rules Committee, offer their ideas for how we can make this bill better, and the Rules Committee made every single one of them in order. Let me tell you more about that.

This House Resolution 280, Mr. Speaker, is the structured rule for the consideration of H.R. 1694. If you happen to tune into our Rules Committee web feed, Mr. Speaker, you can see it at rules.house.gov if you are not able to get up there with us as we meet sometimes late at night.

This House Resolution 280 is for the consideration of H.R. 1694, the Fannie and Freddie Open Records Act of 2017. Now, folks know a lot about open records, Mr. Speaker. It is that procedure—it is called FOIA, the Freedom of Information Act—where any member of the United States community board of directors—that would be any United States citizen—can write and say: this is my government, and I want some information about what is going on. That has been a very fundamental part of who we are as a people for as long as you and I have been alive.

What is unusual, though, is the way the Federal Government has gotten involved in Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac to the tune of about $187 billion—billion with a B, Mr. Speaker. The American taxpayer bailed out these two private institutions making the American taxpayer, making the U.S. Government the largest shareholder in both of these institutions.

So we found ourselves in a unique situation of having the American taxpayers in charge of an institution with no ability, through the Freedom of Information Act, to request information from that entity. It just hadn't come up that often. Thank goodness we haven't had to bail out folks that way in the past.

Mr. Speaker, these entities that Fannie and Freddie are a part—we called them government-sponsored enterprises—they just haven't historically been the subject of that kind of taxpayer scrutiny, but times are changing.

This bill, Mr. Speaker, went through the regular order process. Hearings were held. Markups were held. It came out of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. If you have not looked into government reform, Mr. Speaker, it is not often that the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform is moving unanimous legislation.

The Committee on Oversight and Government Reform is a tough committee to serve on. I served there in my first term here, Mr. Speaker. It is the hardest things about our government, how we hold each other accountable. Of course, where you stand sometimes depends on where you sit here. If you sit on the left or you sit on the right, you

might feel differently about government reform and accountability.

This bill passed out of this committee on a voice vote, Mr. Speaker. The most collaborative of efforts moved this bill to the floor.

Then when we got it in the Rules Committee, we had several Members say: I think we can make this bill better. I think we can make this bill even better.

These were Members who may not have had a chance to fix those issues on the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

Again, as I said, we made all amendments in order from both sides of the aisle. I believe that totals three today, Mr. Speaker. But the take-home message for me is, if you had an idea about how to fix this bill, the folks in the Rules Committee made that opportunity available to you.

Mr. Speaker, we can't do the big things every single day of the week. Every piece of legislation we pass, unless we stuff everything into it, can't do everything for everyone. Candidly, I am opposed to stuffing everything into a piece of legislation. I am glad when we have an opportunity to move one issue, one subject, one topic at a time and deliver on behalf of the American people.

□ 1245

Mr. Speaker, this structured rule, House Resolution 280, is a good bill. It is a good resolution that, if passed, will provide for the consideration of the underlying legislation, H.R. 1694, which, if passed, will provide the American taxpayer, for the first time, the accountability that they deserve for the $187 billion in taxpayer support that Fannie and Freddie have received. I am proud to be associated with that.

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume, and I thank the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. WOODALL), my friend, for the customary 30 minutes.

Mr. Speaker, I first want to begin by thanking the gentleman for his kind words to his constituents about me on the floor. It means a lot to me, and I appreciate it.

I should tell him, however, that, even though sometimes people don't realize this, Massachusetts has a robust agricultural base, and, in fact, in my district, I have 1,832 farms on over 142,899 acres, compared to the gentleman who has 209 farms on 13,328 acres. So, in addition to fighting hunger, I am on the Agriculture Committee to represent my farms.

I do genuinely appreciate the gentleman's kind words, but then I look at the rule that we are debating today and it kind of spoils the mood.

Having said that, I just want to say to my colleagues, Mr. Speaker, that here we are again, just 1 day from our government running out of funding and confronting yet another manufactured, totally avoidable crisis, and instead of working on a bill to fully fund America's biggest priorities, we are back on the floor with—the only way I can characterize this—more filler legislation. It seems my Republican friends care more about looking busy than actually doing their jobs.

This rule provides for the consideration of H.R. 1694, as my colleague mentioned, the Fannie and Freddie Open Records Act of 2017. It is a fine bill designed to strengthen transparency at Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. I support the legislation. My Democratic colleagues support the legislation. The Republican majority supports the legislation. In fact, I haven't found one person yet who doesn't support the bill.

Freedom of information is a good thing, Mr. Speaker, and I support FOIA, but what about the freedom from the threat of a government shutdown?

What about freedom from the threat of a default on our national debt?

What about freedom to know what our President's conflicts of interest are and to see his tax returns?

What about the freedom from having our healthcare protections ripped away, protections like essential health benefits and protections for people with preexisting conditions?

And what about the freedom to know what Congressional Republicans and the White House are doing to our healthcare system behind closed doors?

None of this seems to matter.

But the most troubling part of this rule is that it declares blanket martial law, through Saturday, that allows Republicans to bring anything—and I mean anything—to the floor between now and then.

Now, I understand the importance of rushing something to the floor when the government is about to run out of money; although, I would point out that we are 7 months into the fiscal year and my Republican friends set this deadline themselves back in December, so there is absolutely no excuse for Congress to come within hours of yet another shutdown. But this is just the latest example of Republican obstruction, obfuscation, and incompetence that has, once again, brought us to the edge of the cliff. And, Mr. Speaker, this is no way to govern.

This rule would allow Republican leadership to rush anything to the floor within hours of it being released. Not just appropriations, it gives them blanket authority to jam us with whatever new disaster they cook up with the White House in the backroom of Capitol Hill, and that includes this latest healthcare deal that I have heard so much about this week.

Of course, with it being a backroom deal, we were relying on news reports all week to clue us in to these terrible new provisions; and it was only last night, around midnight, when the Republicans finally posted their newest healthcare proposal that we were able to confirm just how bad it really is.

Incredibly, this new amendment will make the bill even worse than before. Honest to God, Mr. Speaker, I didn't know that was possible.

In addition to killing the requirement to provide basic, crucial, essential benefits like maternity care and prescription drugs and emergency services, this new amendment will also completely gut protections for people with preexisting conditions. In fact, this amendment directly violates the commitment made by President Trump and House Republicans to protect those with preexisting conditions.

This newest proposal will allow insurers to charge an unlimited ''age tax'' to older Americans, and, to make matters even worse, Republicans have set up a system that would allow women to once again be charged more than men for health coverage. It will bring us back to those bad old days when insurance companies could charge women more because they said being a woman was a preexisting condition.

Give me a break.

All of this, on top of a disaster of a healthcare bill that will cause 24 million Americans to lose their healthcare coverage. And in addition, their bill would cut Medicaid by close to $1 trillion, and take that $1 trillion and give it, in the form of tax breaks, to the wealthiest individuals in the country.

Mr. Speaker, this is not the way we should be running this House. All of this is being done to appease the most conservative fringes within the Republican Conference in an attempt to deliver, I guess, a political ''win'' to Donald Trump so he can celebrate 100 days in office. It doesn't matter what the details are, he just wants to be able to tout a victory of some sort.

Well, this is not a victory for the American people. This would be a disaster for the American people.

It is no wonder that my Republican colleagues have been overwhelmed by angry calls from their constituents at home demanding that they oppose this reckless and heartless bill. As one Republican remarked: ''I spent the whole work period hearing from people pissed about preexisting conditions. This isn't helpful.'' That is one of my Republican colleagues.

Now, under this rule, these dangerous backroom deals could be rushed to the floor without any proper deliberations, but they will have a very real, very serious, and very dangerous consequence for millions of Americans. Real lives are at stake here.

Now, I can't help but also note that this newest amendment exempts Congress from the terrible impacts of this

proposal. Can you believe that? Knowing just how damaging these new provisions are, Republicans wanted to keep healthcare protections for themselves but set up another system for their constituents.

Now, it was only after the press caught Republicans with their hands in the cookie jar that they introduced yet another bill to unexempt themselves. But the new bill to unexempt Congress would require a 60-vote supermajority in the Senate. What are the odds that is going to happen, Mr. Speaker?

Are we seriously supposed to trust that they won't exempt themselves from this terrible plan, to trust that the Senate can muster 60 votes to pass this provision or anything else?

Let me be clear: this maneuver is a procedural sleight of hand. This is legislative smoke and mirrors designed to give Republicans, who tried to pull a fast one and got caught, a talking point.

Mr. Speaker, Republicans wrote this bill, so change the damn bill. Don't just say: ''Trust us. We will pass another bill to fix the fix, and we will get the Senate not to make any changes. Oh, while we are at it, we will get a supermajority in the Senate to support it.'' Who do you think you are fooling, Mr. Speaker?

I urge all my colleagues to defeat this martial law rule, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I would tell my friend that I think this is exactly the right way to be moving legislation, and I am proud that we are doing it. Big bills are hard and big bills are sloppy. Can we do better on big bills? Of course we can. Of course we can.

But you and I have been on the Rules Committee together, Mr. Speaker. The Rules Committee process, you have seen it happen. If I am down here talking about a small bill that everybody agrees on, folks want to know why it is we are not doing something bigger. And when I bring a big bill down here tomorrow, folks are going to want to know why I have rushed it to the floor and we are not doing something that has more bipartisan agreement on it instead.

These issues are hard, and that is why they have sent serious men and women here to try to solve them. I want to do everything that my friend from Massachusetts has talked about, Mr. Speaker. I want to see a healthcare bill go across the floor. I want to see a full-year funding bill go across the floor. Shoot, I don't stop there. I want to see the budget go across the floor. I want to see a transportation and infrastructure bill go across the floor. I have got a tax bill I want to see go across the floor. The list is long.

And while my friend from Massachusetts and I are down here working on this, I have got 433 other colleagues out there working on that, and my great hope is that we are going to deliver on those things in the very near future, too.

But today, Mr. Speaker, today isn't a day for recriminations. Today is a day for celebrations, in that what we have here is a bill that we have worked through the regular order process.

You are not going to hear one person, Mr. Speaker, not one, come down to the floor and say this bill wasn't moved through the process in the right way. You are not going to hear one person come down to the floor and say their voice was silenced on this bill. You are not going to hear one person come down to the floor and say their input was turned away on this bill.

We do so much that we wish we could do better, Mr. Speaker. When we have these opportunities to celebrate those things we are doing right, I sometimes wish we would take a little more time to focus on our successes. There will always be time to turn our attention back to our failures.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I would just say to my colleague, I don't have any problem with the underlying bill, but I would argue with him that I think most of our colleagues probably don't know what the hell we are doing here because, in the scheme of things, this is not terribly consequential. I think our problem is the fact that we are at the edge of another crisis where, if we don't fund the government by tomorrow, we shut this place down, we shut the government down, and that has an impact on the American people.

I think what our objection is is that the rule that you bring to us here today to consider the underlying bill also allows my Republican friends to bring up anything they want between now and Saturday, including, you know, an awful healthcare repeal bill.

And by the way, when we talk about regular order, it would be nice, especially when it comes to the big things like health care, that we actually do things like hearings and listen to what experts have to say and our constituents and patients and doctors, I mean, a whole bunch of people who have a stake in our healthcare system.

The bill that my friends brought to the floor, that they had to pull, never had a single hearing and, in all likelihood, whatever monstrosity they bring to the floor in the future will probably not be the result of regular order. It will be the result of a backroom deal where very few people have any input.

So I can't celebrate today. I am very concerned for my constituents. I am very concerned for the millions of people who might lose their health care. I am concerned for this country.

Mr. Speaker, I am going to ask my colleagues to vote ''no'' on the previous question.

Mr. Speaker, President Trump's first 100 days have been embroiled in controversy and shrouded in secrecy. The American people deserve a heck of a lot better. They deserve transparency from their government. They deserve to know which special interests are getting face time with the President and his top aides and whether the White House is being used to personally enrich President Trump and his family.

It is our duty, as the people's Representatives, to hold this administration accountable, an administration that has so many conflicts of interest, financial conflicts of interest, that it is on a collision course with corruption. So, if we defeat the previous question, I will offer an amendment to the rule to bring up Representative KATHERINE CLARK's resolution, H. Res. 286, which would force the White House to release information to us regarding the President's many potential conflicts of interest, including his tax returns, involvement in his business empire, and White House and Mar-a-Lago visitor logs.

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

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

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 12 minutes to the distinguished gentlewoman from Massachusetts (Ms. KATHERINE CLARK) to discuss our proposal.

Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleague from Massachusetts. I am glad to share in this bipartisan moment of admiration for his work with my colleague from Georgia.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues to defeat the previous question so that we can bring a resolution to the floor. This resolution will ensure that the House meets its constitutional responsibility to conduct oversight of the executive branch by investigating potential conflicts of interest of President Donald J. Trump.

□ 1300

It reads: ''Whereas, on October 18, 2016, then-candidate Donald J. Trump communicated via Twitter: 'I will Make Our Government Honest Again—believe me. But first, I'm going to have to #draintheswamp in DC';

''Whereas, President Trump subsequently nominated a team of wealthy and connected insiders to lead his Cabinet, many of whom have been forced to

withdraw from consideration because of irrevocable conflicts of interest;

''Whereas, as President-elect, President Trump announced that he would be 'leaving his great business' to his adult children, a move he felt would be 'visually important';

''Whereas, President Trump has taken no steps to untangle his financial interest in his business holdings, to limit his ability to advise the nominal managers of The Trump Organization, or to prevent other interests from currying favor with the White House by doing business with companies that might benefit the President's bottom line;

''Whereas, President Trump has reversed White House policy and now refuses to release visitor logs to the public;

''Whereas, on May 30, 2014, President Trump stated: 'If I decide to run for office, I will produce my tax returns, absolutely';

''Whereas, on January 24, 2016, President Trump stated that he would release his 'very big returns . . . in the next period of time';

''Whereas, on February 25, 2016, President Trump changed his position and stated that, although he could not release his tax returns while under audit, he would do so 'as soon as the audit is done';

''Whereas, on May 11, 2016, President Trump communicated via Twitter: 'In interview I told @AP that my taxes are under routine audit and I would release my tax returns when the audit is complete, not after election!';

''Whereas, on January 22, 2017, White House senior adviser Kellyanne Conway stated that 'the White House response is that he's not going to release his returns';

''Whereas, President Trump has directed the Congress to act on comprehensive reform of the Internal Revenue Code;

''Whereas, without the President's tax returns, the public cannot know how the full extent to which any proposed reforms will personally benefit the President;

''Whereas, on January 11, 2017, President Trump insisted that he has 'no dealings with Russia';

''Whereas, it has been widely reported that President Trump sought and received funding from Russian investors, especially when American banks stopped lending to him after his multiple bankruptcies;

''Whereas, Donald Trump, Jr., who runs day-to-day business operations for his father's companies, has stated: 'Russians make up a pretty disproportionate cross-section of a lot of our assets. We see a lot of money pouring in from Russia';

''Whereas, on March 20, 2017, James B. Comey, Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, confirmed the existence of a Federal investigation into multiple connections between the Trump campaign and the regime of Russian President Vladimir Putin;

''Whereas, it has been reported that President Trump has personally guaranteed over $300 million in loans to German financial institution Deutsche Bank AG;

''Whereas, the Trump administration is now responsible for overseeing multiple investigations into the trading and lending practices of Deutsche Bank AG and for negotiating a potentially multibillion-dollar settlement with the bank related to its trading of mortgage-backed securities;

''Whereas, these matters represent only a few of the many instances in which President Trump has broken his promise to 'drain the swamp';

''Whereas, under the Constitution of the United States, the United States Congress has a responsibility to conduct oversight of the executive branch of government;

''Whereas, the majority of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform of the House of Representatives rejected an amendment to have the committee's oversight plan that would have tasked the committee with investigating the President's conflicts of interest;

''Whereas, members of the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Foreign Affairs, the Judiciary, Homeland Security, and Ways and Means of the House of Representatives have each advanced resolutions of inquiry designed to obtain information about the President's ongoing conflicts of interest;

''Whereas, the majority has blocked each of those resolutions from consideration on the House floor;

''Whereas, the continuing refusal of the majority to conduct even basic oversight of the Trump administration diminishes the status of the Congress as a coequal branch of government;

''Whereas, this continued neglect undermines the credibility of the House of Representatives and raises a question of the privileges of the House;

''Now, therefore, be it Resolved, That the House of Representatives directs the following persons to take the following actions:

''(1) President Trump is directed to transmit to the House of Representatives copies of any document, record, memorandum, correspondence, or other communication in possession of the Executive Office of the President, or any portion of such communication, that refers or relates to President Trump's proposal to maintain an interest in his business holdings, while turning over day-to-day operation of those interests to his sons Donald J. Trump, Jr. and Eric Trump.

''(2) In support of transparency in government and the longstanding tradition of the disclosure of tax returns of Presidents and Presidential candidates, the Secretary of the Treasury is directed to provide the Committee on Ways and Means with the tax return information of Donald J. Trump for tax years 2007 through 2016 for review in closed executive session by the committee as provided under section 6103 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, and directs the committee to hold a vote on reporting such information to the full House of Representatives.

''(3) The Director of the Office of Government Ethics is directed to publish any waiver or exception granted to any officer or employee of the government to the January 28, 2017, executive order entitled 'Ethics Commitments by Executive Branch Appointees'.

''(4) The Administrator of General Services is directed to provide the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform of the House of Representatives with any legal analysis supporting its March 23, 2017, conclusion that Trump International Hotel in Washington may maintain its lease with the Federal Government, despite an express prohibition on elected officials taking part in the lease.

''(5) President Trump is directed to provide visitor logs for both the White House and Mar-a-Lago to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform of the House of Representatives on a rolling and ongoing basis, and directs the committee to hold ongoing votes on reporting the contents of such visitor logs to the full House of Representatives.''

Mr. Speaker, I filed this resolution because it appears to me and the American public that Mr. Trump has drained the swamp and funneled it into the Oval Office.

Trump's billionaire, special interest friends are now in charge of policies that impact every American, every family, and every child. Everything from education to health care to taxes are in the hands of people who have never sent their kids to public schools, who have never had to take out a loan to pay for college, and who have never had a medical bill they couldn't afford—and all of this is in the hands of a President who refuses to release his tax returns.

While Trump fights to keep Americans in the dark about which of his other friends he owes special favors to—whether it is Big Oil, foreign banks, lobbyists at Mar-a-Lago, or the Russians—Republicans seem to be happy to look the other way.

Transparency and accountability are not partisan ideas. Families at home deserve a Congress that works together to be the necessary check that our Constitution provides over this unaccountable administration. I urge my colleagues to defeat the previous question.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

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

Mr. Speaker, I would say to my friends on the other side of the aisle that they had me at hello. When they said this was a great bill underlying this resolution and they didn't see any controversy, they thought we ought to pass this and they thought this was a good step forward for the American people, yet you had me. I would like to do that.

I remember, Mr. Speaker, a friend of mine, his name was Jay Pierson. He served in this institution for over four decades. His job was not to be particularly partisan one way or the other. His job was to make sure this place functioned. I wonder what goes on over the 40 years of changes in the way that we treat each other on the House floor and the way that we work with each other on the House floor.

My friends have a perfectly legitimate concern. In fact, they brought it up as a privileged resolution already this year. It has been tabled. I recognize that my friends and I have disagreements—vast disagreements—in numerous areas of public policy, but today we have a chance to talk about one of the agreements that we have. I wonder, Mr. Speaker, what folks back home watching think. Do they think, just like the media loves to report, that, golly, those guys can't even agree on what time to start in the morning?

For Pete's sake, we have worked a bill through the process, just like we learned about in civics class. Don't make me sing ''I'm just a bill, and I'm sitting here on Capitol Hill,'' Mr. Speaker, because that is exactly the process that we all want bills to go through, and we have done that here today.

We can't even take a moment to talk about how successfully we have worked together, not even a moment to talk about how the process worked, not even a moment to talk about how we delivered for folks. We have to shift gears to something that is not even the topic of the bill today. We will have time to talk about every controversy we want. If folks want to go fisticuffs with one another, I am certain we will make time for that, but right now we have a chance to talk about those things that unite us.

In the spirit of dispelling those myths, Mr. Speaker, dispelling those myths that things don't get done around here, dispelling those myths that we don't respect each other, and dispelling those myths that we can't work together, I want to dispel the myth that what this underlying rule does is it provides Republicans with a pathway for doing whatever it is they want to do whenever it is they want to do it, because that doesn't really sound like fair play. I wouldn't want to support such a bill either.

What this rule does do is, contrary to the rules, allow us to bring up suspension bills at any time. Now, what a suspension bill is, Mr. Speaker, as you know, it is a bill that can pass not with a simple majority, but with a two-thirds majority. So this rule says, forbid the thought, should bipartisanship break out in the next 72 hours, you all should be able to bring those bills to the floor and deliver it for the American people.

Well, dag gum it, I support that. I don't look at that as a way of Republicans to manipulate the system. I look at it as a way for the United States Congress to deliver on behalf of the system, and I am glad we are doing it.

Number two, the bill says, if the Rules Committee, in its wisdom, passes a rule to bring a bill to the floor rather than have that bill lay over for a night, you can bring that bill to the floor directly. So my friend is absolutely right when he says that passing this rule would allow us to rush legislation to the floor. It would rush that commonsense, bipartisan legislation that two-thirds of us would agree on, we can rush those results across the finish line for the American people; and, if the Rules Committee acts and we pass that rule on the floor of the House, it will allow us to consider the legislation that that rule would bring to the floor on the same day instead of waiting 24 hours.

Now, what my friend says about having an opportunity to read the bills is critically important—critically important. I want to point out because, again, folks have so many concerns about what goes on in this institution, I got lots of things I can gripe about, but when we are getting it right, I want to make sure that we are telling folks that we are getting it right.

This tradition of self-flagellation in this institution drives me crazy because, when we tear ourselves down, Mr. Speaker, it is not us who bears the cost of that. It is our constituents. It is the board of directors of the United States of America. It is the folks who come beyond us.

We have a responsibility to lead this institution, and when we are doing it right, we ought to tell the American people that we are doing it right. For example, there might be a healthcare vote that comes to the floor of this House in the next 24, 48 hours. I don't want to get my expectations high for that, Mr. Speaker, but I sure would be enthusiastic if that happened. If that were to happen, my friend is exactly right: we will go to the Rules Committee; we will pass a rule; we will bring it to the floor; and we will bring it up the same day. But the language was posted yesterday, and the vote wouldn't happen until tomorrow. So when folks say let's leave the language out there for folks to have a chance to read it, let's not rush something through, we have got 3 days built into the system.

□ 1315

That is not a rule of the House. I want to make that clear. There is no rule in this institution that says you have got to present a bill before you can pass a bill to read it and find out what is in it. This is not a rule of this House. It is a policy of ours. It is a policy of who we are and of let's do this; let's make this our commitment to make this happen. Mr. Speaker, it does not always happen, but most of the time it does. I celebrate that success.

Again, thinking about those things that unite us instead of divide us, I just listened to my friend, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, make an incredibly eloquent plea for her bill. She said, if we defeat the previous question—that vote is coming up very soon—we will take up her piece of legislation, which was just handed to me about 3½ minutes ago.

Mr. Speaker, I get it that sometimes people think that they have such urgent ideas that those ideas need to come to the floor in a hurry. I will settle for either outcome: that it is okay that we bring ideas to the floor in a hurry and that it is okay if you hand somebody a bill 3½ minutes ago and tell them you want to bring it to the floor 30 minutes from now. If that is okay, then let that be okay. If what we need is for bills to lay overnight, then let that be okay.

We have a process here that is built on mutual respect, that is built on years of tradition that men and women paid a tremendous price for, that they provided tremendous leadership for. In the name of short-term political gains, I want to make sure that we don't tear down those long-term policy successes.

This institution should be a source of pride for the American people. I don't believe that it is today. The responsibility of making it that source of pride falls on you and me. We are the only ones who can get that job done. We have an opportunity today to do just a little bit of that, and I hope we take advantage of that.

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

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

Let me say to the gentleman from Georgia: he had me at hello, too. If all he said was ''hello'' and introduced the underlying bill, we would be done. There would be no controversy. The underlying bill is being brought to the floor under a rule that is atrocious and that, quite frankly, every Member of this House should be ashamed about. Under this martial law rule, you can bring anything up at any time you want, at a moment's notice, without people having an opportunity to actually understand what they are going to vote on.

The gentleman talked about they might bring up the healthcare bill between now and Saturday. He said: Yesterday, we posted the text of our new

amendment. He used the word ''yesterday'' loosely. They posted it at midnight last night. I was asleep at midnight; I don't know about the gentleman.

The bottom line is, there is nothing that says that they can't change the text again and again and again and again, offer more amendments, because that is what they have been doing since they first began their effort to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act.

On something as important as health care, on something that could affect millions and millions of people in this country, that could throw 24 million people off of health care, that will cut Medicaid by a trillion dollars, that will compromise Medicare, that will take away essential benefits, people ought to know what the heck they are voting on.

We ought to have regular order on these major pieces of legislation. Why is that so controversial? How about a hearing on health care? The idea that we would like the opportunity to know what we are voting on, to do this in a thoughtful way, is so offensive to my Republican colleagues. I am flabbergasted by this—to basically defend this process.

We have to use a procedural motion to be able to try to force a debate or bring to the floor the bill of my colleague, KATHERINE CLARK, which basically calls on the President to release his tax returns and calls for some transparency with regard to visitor logs at the White House and Mar-a-Lago. We have to resort to a procedural motion because the Republican majority basically blocks us from bringing anything to the floor under a normal process.

The Rules Committee has become a place where democracy goes to die. Yet the bill that we have before us, the underlying bill that we are going to consider later today, could probably pass on a suspension.

By the way, we have no problem with giving you same-day authority on suspension bills. Those aren't controversial. We don't even have a problem, although you should have prepared for this, with you being able to bring a bill to the floor quickly to keep the government running.

It is the broad authority that you have given yourselves to bring anything at a moment's notice, without anybody having a chance to review it. That is what we have a problem with. Quite frankly, my Republican colleagues ought to have a problem with that, too.

Mr. Speaker, shortly after taking the gavel, Speaker RYAN said: ''I want to have a process that is more open, more inclusive, more deliberative, more participatory, and that is what we are trying to do.'' That was the Speaker of the House.

Unfortunately, Republicans do not appear to be trying very hard. The current Congress is on track to become the most closed in history, with an incredible 26 closed rules in this year's first quarter out of 42 total rules. The Republican majority shut out all amendments from both Democrats and Republicans on fully 62 percent of the legislation considered by the House under a rule.

Do Members realize that? On most bills, even they are not allowed to offer amendments. No amendments at all. Under a closed rule, you can't even offer an amendment to fix a typo.

Mr. Speaker, I am going to ask my colleagues to take a look at this chart. This shows closed rules in the past decade and for the first quarter of the year.

Do you see this really long red line on the top? I am happy to bring it over to my colleagues here. If you see that line, you will see that the bottom line is that this shows that this Congress has an abysmal record with regard to an open, fair process.

When we were in charge from 2007–2010, we averaged only 8 closed rules in the same timeframe. This Congress is more than three times as closed. We have 26 closed rules in the first quarter alone; that is not to mention zero open rules. You are even crushing your record for 2015, the year that you beat the all-time closed rule record. This is not something to be proud of.

What has this historically closed process brought to the House? Complete chaos. Virtually no legislative accomplishments. A lousy process usually leads to lousy legislation. We learned that from your awful, disastrous attempt to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act.

By the way, I should point out that while we were meeting here today—I guess some of the advocacy organizations had a chance to read the language you posted last night at midnight—so far, the American Hospital Association, AARP, the American Medical Association, March of Dimes, and America's Essential Hospitals have all come out against this terrible, new Republican health proposal. In fact, the American Hospital Association said: ''The amendment proposed this week would dramatically worsen the bill.''

I would just say to my colleagues: We don't have a problem with suspensions. We don't have a problem with a rule that will allow us to keep the government running. We have a problem with your closed, authoritarian approach to the legislation. We have a problem with the prospect that you might bring a healthcare bill to the floor that will impact millions and millions of Americans, and nobody will have read it, nobody will even have any guarantee that what you posted last night at midnight will even be what we are voting on.

This is a big deal. It affects my constituents and it affects your constituents. We ought to be doing a better job around here, and this process, quite frankly, stinks.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia). Members are reminded to direct their remarks to the Chair.

Mr. WOODALL. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire how much time I have remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Massachusetts has 3½ minutes remaining.

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

Simply, again, I reiterate that everybody in this House, Democrats and Republicans alike, should be ashamed at the way this House is being run. The American people who are watching should be appalled by the way this House is being run.

I don't care whether you are a liberal or conservative or fall somewhere in the middle. You ought to have some confidence that what the people's House is doing is actually thoughtful and is actually in the best interest of the people of this country. That is not what is happening here.

Yes, the underlying bill that we are going to talk about later today, we have no problem with it. It could have passed overwhelmingly under a suspension vote. I am happy to support it. No problem.

I have no problem, by the way, with bringing up suspensions to fill up time as we try to get a resolution to the continuing resolution. We have no problem, quite frankly, with bringing up a continuing resolution in a quick fashion.

This rule continues a lousy process that has been embraced by the current Republican leadership in this House. There is no excuse for this. When it comes to big bills, big legislation, like health care, which is a very personal thing to people in this country, the American people deserve much better than this.

I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to vote ''no'' on this lousy rule and stand up to your leadership and demand that they open this House up not only to Democratic amendments but to Republican amendments as well. This is a deliberative body. We ought to be able to deliberate.

On big issues like health care, it ought not be some backroom deal that a few people put together. We saw the result of those backroom deals with a lousy, terrible, awful bill that would hurt millions of Americans. We ought to do it out in the open.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I heard a group of constituents ask one of our freshman Members what they found to be the most surprising part of this institution, having served here for about 100 days, and it was with no small amount of joy that they gave exactly the same answer that I would have given after my first 100 days. They said to their constituents: What really surprised me is how earnest, hardworking, conscientious, dedicated, and how committed each and every Member of this institution is.

There are a couple of bad apples that don't follow under that perspective, but, by and large, the surprise when you get elected to Congress is about the high quality of the people who you get to work with, the commitment of the people you get to work with, the conviction of the people who you get to work with.

What you have heard from my friend from Massachusetts, Mr. Speaker, I will tell you, is 100 percent authentic. There is no one down here playing for the cameras today. I could make a powerful case that while cameras provide a great deal of sunlight, they create a great deal of unnecessary heat, as well. Folks sometimes are performing for cameras in this institution, but not my friend from Massachusetts.

What you heard from my friend from Massachusetts was absolutely sincere concern about public policy. I agree with him. I believe we should have an open and deliberative process in this institution.

You and I and my friend from Massachusetts don't work for the leadership. The leadership works for us. There is not one Member of the leadership team who votes for me. I vote for them.

We have an opportunity to direct the way this institution is led. Candidly, I couldn't be more proud than I am of the way that PAUL RYAN leads this institution. He is not the Republican Speaker. We have a Republican leader. The Democrats have a Democratic leader. PAUL RYAN is the Speaker of the House. I am incredibly proud of the way he leads this institution.

The way to make it even better, Mr. Speaker, is not to cite every single thing that we do as a failure. It is just not so. Let's find those things that we do that we can do better, and let's identify them and work together, but let's celebrate those successes.

For example, my friend pointed to the number of closed rules that have come to the floor. For folks who don't follow the process closely, a closed rule means there were no amendments allowed.

Well, many of those bills, Mr. Speaker, were bills that the Rules Committee sent out an email to all of Capitol Hill and said: We are bringing this piece of legislation to the floor. Here it is for you to read it and digest it. And if you have any ideas about how to make this bill better, you send them to us, and we will take a look.

When we did that, Mr. Speaker, not one single idea came back from the Republican or the Democratic side of the aisle for improving the bill.

□ 1330

So, yes, the bill came to the floor. The rule was closed not because we are trying to silence the minority, not because we are trying to silence elements of the majority, but because we had a completely open process, and it turned out that regular order got it right the first time. We don't need to identify that as a failure. That is an unmitigated success.

Some of those closed rules, Mr. Speaker, came because we were bringing legislation under the Congressional Review Act. Now, for folks who don't know the Congressional Review Act, that is that act that was passed so that Congress could go back and review regulations that had been passed by the administration to make sure those regulations followed congressional intent.

By definition, those bills have to be narrow and targeted. We can't have an amendment about healthcare legislation added to our waters of the U.S. Congressional Review Act bill. We can't have folks go and add a pay raise for our military men and women to that Congressional Review Act bill. We want a pay raise for our men and women in uniform. We passed it out of the House. It is sitting in the United States Senate, but it can't be on a CRA piece of legislation. So, yes, every single one of those bills came to the floor under a closed rule not because someone was trying to silence the minority, not because someone wanted to silence elements of the majority, but because that is the process that we have to work through together, and, by golly, we are doing it right.

My friend from Massachusetts talked about what has gone on in this body. I will tell you, this body has moved more legislation to the President's desk for his signature in these first 100 days than any President since Truman. We have had Republicans running the show, we have had Democrats running the show, but it is only when we collaboratively have been running the show that we have moved more bills to the President's desk than any other Congress in modern American history. I am proud of that. Some of those votes went my way, some of those votes didn't go my way, but we worked each one of those through the process, and we did each one of those things together.

Mr. Speaker, I would love to tell you what is going to happen over the next 18 months. I have no idea. But I know that to the extent that this body is full of accusations, to the extent that this body is full of mistrust, to the extent that this body is full of frustration and condemnation, we are going to go down one path.

To the extent that this body isn't afraid to tell folks back home when we are working hard together, to the extent that this body isn't ashamed that we rolled up our sleeves together and got some things done that folks thought we wouldn't be able to get done, to the extent that this body isn't afraid to confront the fact that we are always going to have disagreements, but from time to time bipartisanship breaks out and bills move a little more quickly than they do at other times. If folks are willing to accept our successes with the same zeal that they celebrate our failures, Mr. Speaker, I tell you, we are going to create a different institution over these next 18 months. Again, not under Democratic leadership, not under Republican leadership, but under PAUL RYAN's leadership as Speaker of this entire House of Representatives.

We have one such opportunity today. I encourage folks to go to the web page of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. I believe it is oversight.house.gov. Those folks are working on some of the toughest issues in this town, and often they are bitterly divided along partisan lines. They are working on those issues that tend to separate Americans rather than unite them. They have sent us a bill today that was so widely supported, it passed by a voice vote unanimously out of that committee. It then went to the Committee on Rules, where every single Member of Congress was invited to improve it. Three Members of Congress took us up on the invitation, and every single one of their amendments was made in order by this rule.

Mr. Speaker, we have lots of things that are going to bring my friend from Massachusetts and I back down to this floor, and we are going to disagree heartily about those. Today we have an example of something that brings us together. I urge all of my colleagues to vote ''yes'' on this rule that brings our OGR unanimously passed bill to the floor, and vote ''yes'' on that underlying bill, just as our Republican and Democratic colleagues on the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform did.

Mr. Speaker, there are lots of challenges ahead of us. This is one we can put in the books as a success for our constituents back home. I ask for a ''yes'' vote.

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

AN AMENDMENT TO H. RES. 280 OFFERED BY MR. MCGOVERN

At the end of the resolution, add the following new sections:

SEC. 4. Immediately upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order without intervention of any point of order to consider in the House the resolution (H. Res. 286) directing certain officials of the executive branch to provide information to the House of Representatives that will enable the House to

meet its constitutional responsibility to conduct oversight of the executive branch by investigating potential conflicts of interests of President Donald J. Trump. The resolution shall be considered as read. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the resolution and preamble to adoption without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform; and (2) one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

SEC. 5. Clause 1(c) of rule XIX shall not apply to the consideration of H. Res. 286.

THE VOTE ON THE PREVIOUS QUESTION: WHAT IT REALLY MEANS

This vote, the vote on whether to order the previous question on a special rule, is not merely a procedural vote. A vote against ordering the previous question is a vote against the Republican majority agenda and a vote to allow the Democratic minority to offer an alternative plan. It is a vote about what the House should be debating.

Mr. Clarence Cannon's Precedents of the House of Representatives (VI, 308–311), describes the vote on the previous question on the rule as ''a motion to direct or control the consideration of the subject before the House being made by the Member in charge.'' To defeat the previous question is to give the opposition a chance to decide the subject before the House. Cannon cites the Speaker's ruling of January 13, 1920, to the effect that ''the refusal of the House to sustain the demand for the previous question passes the control of the resolution to the opposition'' in order to offer an amendment. On March 15, 1909, a member of the majority party offered a rule resolution. The House defeated the previous question and a member of the opposition rose to a parliamentary inquiry, asking who was entitled to recognition. Speaker Joseph G. Cannon (R–Illinois) said: ''The previous question having been refused, the gentleman from New York, Mr. Fitzgerald, who had asked the gentleman to yield to him for an amendment, is entitled to the first recognition.''

The Republican majority may say ''the vote on the previous question is simply a vote on whether to proceed to an immediate vote on adopting the resolution . . . [and] has no substantive legislative or policy implications whatsoever.'' But that is not what they have always said. Listen to the Republican Leadership Manual on the Legislative Process in the United States House of Representatives, (6th edition, page 135). Here's how the Republicans describe the previous question vote in their own manual: ''Although it is generally not possible to amend the rule because the majority Member controlling the time will not yield for the purpose of offering an amendment, the same result may be achieved by voting down the previous question on the rule. . . . When the motion for the previous question is defeated, control of the time passes to the Member who led the opposition to ordering the previous question. That Member, because he then controls the time, may offer an amendment to the rule, or yield for the purpose of amendment.''

In Deschler's Procedure in the U.S. House of Representatives, the subchapter titled ''Amending Special Rules'' states: ''a refusal to order the previous question on such a rule [a special rule reported from the Committee on Rules] opens the resolution to amendment and further debate.'' (Chapter 21, section 21.2) Section 21.3 continues: ''Upon rejection of the motion for the previous question on a resolution reported from the Committee on Rules, control shifts to the Member leading the opposition to the previous question, who may offer a proper amendment or motion and who controls the time for debate thereon.''

Clearly, the vote on the previous question on a rule does have substantive policy implications. It is one of the only available tools for those who oppose the Republican majority's agenda and allows those with alternative views the opportunity to offer an alternative plan.

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

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

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 and clause 9 of rule XX, this 15-minute vote on ordering the previous question will be followed by 5-minute votes on adopting the resolution, if ordered, and suspending the rules and passing S. 496.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 230, nays 193, not voting 7, as follows:

[Roll No. 229]

YEAS—230

Abraham
Aderholt
Allen
Amash
Amodei
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Banks (IN)
Barletta
Barr
Barton
Bergman
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (MI)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Blum
Bost
Brady (TX)
Brat
Bridenstine
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Buchanan
Buck
Budd
Burgess
Byrne
Calvert
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Chabot
Cheney
Coffman
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Comer
Comstock
Conaway
Cook
Costello (PA)
Cramer
Crawford
Culberson
Curbelo (FL)
Davidson
Davis, Rodney
Denham
Dent
DeSantis
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Donovan
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Dunn
Emmer
Estes (KS)
Farenthold
Faso
Ferguson
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flores
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gaetz
Gallagher
Garrett
Gibbs
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Griffith
Grothman
Guthrie
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Hice, Jody B.
Higgins (LA)
Hill
Holding
Hollingsworth
Hudson
Huizenga
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurd
Issa
Jenkins (KS)
Jenkins (WV)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Katko
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kinzinger
Knight
Kustoff (TN)
Labrador
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Latta
Lewis (MN)
LoBiondo
Long
Loudermilk
Love
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
MacArthur
Marchant
Marshall
Massie
Mast
McCarthy
McCaul
McClintock
McHenry
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McSally
Meadows
Meehan
Messer
Mitchell
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Mullin
Murphy (PA)
Noem
Nunes
Olson
Palazzo
Palmer
Paulsen
Pearce
Perry
Pittenger
Poe (TX)
Poliquin
Posey
Ratcliffe
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Rice (SC)
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney, Francis
Rooney, Thomas J.
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Rouzer
Royce (CA)
Russell
Rutherford
Sanford
Scalise
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smucker
Stefanik
Stewart
Stivers
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Trott
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walker
Walters, Mimi
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IA)
Zeldin

NAYS—193

Adams
Aguilar
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady (PA)
Brown (MD)
Brownley (CA)
Bustos
Butterfield
Capuano
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson (IN)
Cartwright
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Conyers
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Crist
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Demings
DeSaulnier
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle, Michael F.
Ellison
Engel
Eshoo
Espaillat
Esty (CT)
Evans
Foster
Frankel (FL)
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
Gonzalez (TX)
Gottheimer
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutiérrez
Hanabusa
Hastings
Heck
Higgins (NY)
Himes
Hoyer
Huffman
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kihuen
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lieu, Ted
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lujan Grisham, M.
Luján, Ben Ray
Lynch
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Matsui
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McNerney
Meeks
Meng
Moore
Moulton
Murphy (FL)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Nolan
Norcross
O'Halleran
O'Rourke
Pallone
Panetta
Pascrell
Payne
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters
Peterson
Pingree
Pocan
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Rice (NY)
Richmond
Rosen
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Sinema
Sires
Smith (WA)
Soto
Speier
Suozzi
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tonko

Torres
Tsongas
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters, Maxine
Watson Coleman
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Yarmuth

NOT VOTING—7

Bucshon
Chaffetz
Marino
Newhouse
Slaughter
Smith (MO)
Walorski

□ 1359

Messrs. VARGAS, KILMER, NOLAN, DEMINGS, HUFFMAN, and Mrs. TORRES changed their vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

Mr. GROTHMAN changed his vote from ''nay'' to ''yea.''

So the previous question was ordered.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HOLDING). The question is on the resolution.

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

RECORDED VOTE

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

A recorded vote was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 226, noes 192, not voting 12, as follows:

[Roll No. 230]

AYES—226

Abraham
Aderholt
Allen
Amodei
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Banks (IN)
Barletta
Barr
Barton
Bergman
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (MI)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Blum
Bost
Brady (TX)
Brat
Bridenstine
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Buchanan
Buck
Budd
Burgess
Byrne
Calvert
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Chabot
Coffman
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Comer
Comstock
Conaway
Cook
Costello (PA)
Cramer
Crawford
Culberson
Curbelo (FL)
Davidson
Davis, Rodney
Denham
Dent
DeSantis
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Donovan
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Dunn
Emmer
Estes (KS)
Farenthold
Faso
Ferguson
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flores
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gaetz
Gallagher
Garrett
Gibbs
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gottheimer
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Griffith
Grothman
Guthrie
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Hice, Jody B.
Higgins (LA)
Hill
Holding
Hollingsworth
Hudson
Huizenga
Hultgren
Hunter
Issa
Jenkins (KS)
Jenkins (WV)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Katko
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kinzinger
Knight
Kustoff (TN)
Labrador
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Latta
Lewis (MN)
LoBiondo
Long
Loudermilk
Love
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
MacArthur
Marchant
Marshall
Mast
McCarthy
McCaul
McClintock
McHenry
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McSally
Meadows
Meehan
Messer
Mitchell
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Mullin
Murphy (PA)
Noem
Nunes
Olson
Palazzo
Palmer
Paulsen
Pearce
Perry
Pittenger
Poe (TX)
Poliquin
Posey
Ratcliffe
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Rice (SC)
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney, Francis
Rooney, Thomas J.
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Rouzer
Russell
Rutherford
Sanford
Scalise
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sinema
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smucker
Stefanik
Stivers
Suozzi
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Trott
Turner
Upton
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walker
Walters, Mimi
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IA)
Zeldin

NOES—192

Adams
Aguilar
Amash
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady (PA)
Brown (MD)
Brownley (CA)
Bustos
Butterfield
Capuano
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson (IN)
Cartwright
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Conyers
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Crist
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Demings
DeSaulnier
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle, Michael F.
Ellison
Engel
Eshoo
Espaillat
Esty (CT)
Evans
Foster
Frankel (FL)
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
Gonzalez (TX)
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutiérrez
Hanabusa
Hastings
Heck
Higgins (NY)
Himes
Hoyer
Huffman
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kihuen
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lieu, Ted
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lujan Grisham, M.
Luján, Ben Ray
Lynch
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Massie
Matsui
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McNerney
Meeks
Meng
Moore
Moulton
Murphy (FL)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Nolan
Norcross
O'Halleran
O'Rourke
Pallone
Panetta
Pascrell
Payne
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters
Peterson
Pingree
Pocan
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Rice (NY)
Richmond
Rosen
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Sires
Smith (WA)
Soto
Speier
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tonko
Torres
Tsongas
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters, Maxine
Watson Coleman
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Yarmuth

NOT VOTING—12

Bucshon
Chaffetz
Cheney
Hurd
Marino
Newhouse
Royce (CA)
Slaughter
Smith (MO)
Stewart
Valadao
Walorski

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1407

So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Ms. CHENEY. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 230.

Mr. ROYCE of California. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 230.

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 230.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY COMMITTEE ON RULES REGARDING AMENDMENT PROCESS FOR H.R. 1180, WORKING FAMILIES FLEXIBILITY ACT OF 2017

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, this morning, the Rules Committee issued an announcement outlining the amendment process for H.R. 1180, the Working Families Flexibility Act of 2017, which will likely be before the Rules Committee next week.

An amendment deadline has been set for Monday, May 1, at 10 a.m.

The text of the bill is available on the Rules Committee website.

Feel free to contact me or my staff if you have any questions.

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION COORDINATION AND PLANNING AREA REFORM REPEAL ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, 5-minute voting will continue.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 496) to repeal the rule issued by the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration entitled ''Metropolitan Planning Organization Coordination and Planning Area Reform'', on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. LEWIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 417, nays 3, not voting 10, as follows:

[Roll No. 231]

YEAS—417

Abraham
Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Allen
Amash
Amodei
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Banks (IN)
Barletta
Barr
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Beatty
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Beyer
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (MI)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Blum
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bost
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Brat
Bridenstine
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Brown (MD)
Brownley (CA)
Buchanan
Buck
Budd
Burgess
Bustos
Butterfield
Byrne
Calvert
Capuano
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson (IN)
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chabot
Cheney
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coffman
Cohen
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Comer
Comstock
Conaway
Connolly
Conyers
Cook
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Costello (PA)
Courtney
Cramer
Crawford
Crist
Crowley
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Curbelo (FL)
Davidson
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
Davis, Rodney
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Demings
Denham
Dent
DeSantis
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Donovan
Doyle, Michael F.
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Dunn
Ellison
Emmer
Engel
Eshoo
Espaillat
Estes (KS)
Esty (CT)
Evans
Farenthold
Faso
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flores
Fortenberry
Foster
Foxx
Frankel (FL)
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
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Gaetz
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garrett
Gibbs
Gohmert
Gonzalez (TX)
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gottheimer
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffith
Grijalva
Grothman
Guthrie
Gutiérrez
Hanabusa
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings
Heck
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Hice, Jody B.
Higgins (LA)
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Hill
Himes
Holding
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Huffman
Huizenga
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurd
Issa
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Jeffries
Jenkins (KS)
Jenkins (WV)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Kaptur
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Keating
Kelly (IL)
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Kennedy
Khanna
Kihuen
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King (IA)
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Kuster (NH)
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Labrador
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Lance
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (MN)
Lieu, Ted
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Long
Loudermilk
Love
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lujan Grisham, M.
Luján, Ben Ray
Lynch
MacArthur
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Marchant
Marshall
Massie
Mast
Matsui
McCarthy
McCaul
McClintock
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
McSally
Meadows
Meehan
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Mitchell
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Mooney (WV)
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Murphy (FL)
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O'Halleran
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Olson
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pascrell
Paulsen
Payne
Pearce
Pelosi
Perlmutter
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Poe (TX)
Poliquin
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Price (NC)
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Ratcliffe
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Renacci
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Richmond
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney, Francis
Rooney, Thomas J.
Ros-Lehtinen
Rosen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Rouzer
Roybal-Allard
Royce (CA)
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
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Russell
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Ryan (OH)
Sánchez
Sanford
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sinema
Sires
Smith (NE)
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Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
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Speier
Stefanik
Stewart
Stivers
Suozzi
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Titus
Tonko
Torres
Trott
Tsongas
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walker
Walters, Mimi
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters, Maxine
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Yarmuth
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IA)
Zeldin

NAYS—3

Blumenauer
DeSaulnier
Lofgren

NOT VOTING—10

Bucshon
Chaffetz
Ferguson
Graves (LA)
Marino
Newhouse
Peters
Slaughter
Smith (MO)
Walorski

□ 1417

Ms. JACKSON LEE changed her vote from ''nay'' to ''yea.''

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 2015

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that Representative JOE WILSON be removed as the cosponsor of H.R. 2015. He was incorrectly listed when it should have been Representative FREDERICA WILSON.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. COLLINS of New York). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

FANNIE AND FREDDIE OPEN RECORDS ACT OF 2017

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 1694.

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

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 280 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 1694.

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

□ 1419

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 1694) to require additional entities to be subject to the requirements of section 552 of title 5, United States Code (commonly referred to as the Freedom of Information Act), and for other purposes, with Mr. COLLINS of Georgia in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

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

The gentleman from Florida (Mr. ROSS) and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of H.R. 1694, the Fannie and Freddie Open Records Act of 2017.

Mr. Chairman, transparency is critical. It is critical to oversight and accountability of the Federal Government and how it spends taxpayer dollars. The American public has a right to know how their tax dollars are spent.

The Freedom of Information Act, or FOIA, is a key tool for citizens to access information about their government. Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac are not subject to the requirements of FOIA, despite taxpayers' substantial investment into both entities and the government's implicit guaranteed backing of these entities.

Taxpayers have spent $187 billion to bail out Fannie and Freddie, the most sweeping government intervention into private financial markets in decades. Taxpayers are on the hook for $400 billion in lost investments and $5 trillion in mortgage liabilities.

At the same time, the American public is unable to seek accountability from these entities under FOIA. It is

far past time we apply FOIA to Fannie and Freddie. There is precedent for applying FOIA to non-traditional quasi-governmental entities. Congress subjected Amtrak to FOIA in recognition of sizeable taxpayer funding.

To stabilize the housing market in the aftershock of the 2008 financial crisis, the Federal Housing Finance Agency placed Fannie and Freddie into conservatorship to return them to financial viability and stockholder control. FHFA is a government entity subject to FOIA. Under the terms of its conservatorship over Fannie and Freddie, FHFA exercises the titles to their books and records, as well as the powers and privileges of Fannie and Freddie.

Despite this government intervention and explicit guarantee, taxpayers, however, are unable to obtain any information from Fannie and Freddie.

H.R. 1694, the Fannie and Freddie Open Records Act of 2017, sponsored by Oversight and Government Reform Chairman JASON CHAFFETZ, will allow the American public to submit FOIA requests to Fannie and Freddie as long as the entities remain under FHFA's conservatorship. H.R. 1694 reflects FOIA's presumptions of openness, granting taxpayers information unless an exemption applies.

This bill is a commonsense measure to allow the American public access to basic information regarding entities that they fund with their tax dollars.

The American public should not be in the dark when it comes to what Fannie and Freddie are doing.

Mr. Chairman, I urge support for the legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Chair, I rise in support of this bill, the Fannie and Freddie Open Records Act of 2017.

I want to start by thanking the sponsor of this bill, Chairman CHAFFETZ, for working with the Democratic members of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform to address concerns that we raised as well as concerns raised by the Federal Housing Finance Agency. The bipartisan cooperation that was demonstrated on this bill should be a model for this body.

This bill would apply the Freedom of Information Act to Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac while they are in conservatorship or receivership. Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac are stockholder-owned, government-sponsored enterprises chartered by Congress to purchase mortgages and pool them into mortgage-backed securities to create liquidity in the mortgage market.

Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac were brought into Federal conservatorship under the control of FHFA in September 2008. According to the CBO, during the financial crisis, Treasury purchased $187 billion of senior preferred stock from the two entities to ensure that they could continue to operate. Neither entity has drawn on Treasury support since 2012, both have returned to profitability, and the dividends they generate are paid to the Treasury.

There are some practical concerns with the underlying bill because it would apply FOIA to these private companies for the first time. The amendment Chairman CHAFFETZ will offer addresses some of those concerns, which I will discuss when we consider this amendment.

I would like to discuss some concerns with language that was added in this bill at the Rules Committee to address the estimated cost of the bill.

CBO estimates that this bill would increase the administrative costs of Fannie and Freddie by $310 million, with $10 million of that resulting in direct spending. This bill would address those costs by requiring commercial requesters to pay for processing FOIA requests made to Fannie and Freddie. This would be a significant change from the way FOIA typically works.

It is unclear how Fannie and Freddie could reasonably estimate how many FOIA requests they would receive or to know how to distribute administrative costs equitably among commercial requesters.

The bill would allow Fannie and Freddie to determine how much they would charge commercial requesters. Whatever cost estimation methodologies Fannie and Freddie choose to use, the methodologies will almost certainly be challenged, potentially leading to litigation, which would be handled by the Department of Justice.

It is highly likely that banks would file FOIA requests to obtain information about the business practices and holdings of Fannie and Freddie. The costs charged to them for their requests would then be passed on to consumers.

I believe this language was intended to be helpful, but it is one result of applying to private companies a statute designed to apply to government agencies. We should carefully analyze this provision and its likely consequences as this bill moves forward in the legislative process. There may be a better way to address this issue.

I also hope that the chairman will continue to seek ways of expanding transparency in government, and that the committee's next step will be to require the disclosure of White House visitor logs.

The White House recently reversed what had been the Obama administration's policy of disclosing the records of who comes and goes from the White House. The president of Judicial Watch, Tom Fitton, said:

''This new secrecy policy undermines the rule of law and suggests this White House doesn't want to be accountable to the American people.''

I look forward to working with the chairman to address this very troubling reversal of a critical government transparency policy.

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

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL).

Mr. HILL. Mr. Chair, I thank my friend from Florida for the opportunity to speak on this bill. And as a member of the House Financial Services Committee, I am grateful for the bipartisan leadership in the Oversight and Government Reform Committee in bringing H.R. 1694 to the floor, for it is high time that Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac be subject to the regimen of the Freedom of Information Act. This critical oversight tool is sorely past due for these government-sponsored agencies.

Over the past four decades, we have seen the waste and largess exhibited by Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac embedded in their everyday operations. And while they got their start during the height of the Depression and performed an able task of setting high standards for the liquidity for mortgage credit, they have long outlived their original charter.

Oakley Hunter, the president and chairman of Fannie Mae back in the 1970s, described Fannie Mae as the world's largest floating crap game. Nothing has changed.

□ 1430

In the early 1980s, we found Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac dominating, as they do today, 9 out of 10 mortgages in the United States, and yet they were highly unprofitable and highly suspect in their management. During that time, Senator William Proxmire led the charge in the United States Senate seeking answers about the enterprises' executive compensation.

Flash-forward to the 1990s, we saw executive compensation at Fannie Mae run amok.

During the 2000s, their imprudence and desire for growth paved the way for the U.S. housing crisis and global economic collapse.

More recently, we have discovered that Fannie Mae is spending $171 million in taxpayer funds on a new Taj Mahal office in Washington, D.C., to replace their already extraordinarily luxurious campus on Wisconsin Avenue, which one Washingtonian, Mr. Chairman, described as what Versailles would look like if Louis XIV had any money. According to the inspector general's report from last June, this 15-year cost of relocating Fannie Mae's headquarters and the construction of the new building now topped $770 million.

The CHAIR. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Chair, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentleman from Arkansas.

Mr. HILL. Mr. Chairman, as Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac languish in Federal conservatorship following their collapse from the 2008 housing crisis, it is high time to apply FOIA to these GSEs and bring accountability and transparency for the American taxpayers.

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Chairman, as you can see, this is a bill that I think has broad bipartisan support. It is something that we need to do for the taxpayers who have invested so much into Fannie and Freddie over the years. Let's make them subject to FOIA.

I urge support of this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIR. All time for general debate has expired.

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

In lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, printed in the bill, it shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the 5-minute rule an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 115–14 modified by the amendment printed in part A of House Report 115–96. That amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered as read.

The text of the amendment in the nature of a substitute is as follows:

H.R. 1694

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

SEC. 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Fannie and Freddie Open Records Act of 2017''.

SEC. 2. APPLICABILITY OF FOIA.

(a) APPLICABILITY TO GOVERNMENT SPONSORED ENTITIES IN CONSERVATORSHIP.—Section 552 of title 5, United States Code (commonly referred to as the Freedom of Information Act), is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(n) The Federal National Mortgage Association or the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation shall comply with agency requirements under this section during any period such enterprise is under conservatorship or receivership pursuant to section 1367 of the Federal Housing Enterprises Financial Safety and Soundness Act of 1992 (12 U.S.C. 4617).''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE; APPLICABILITY.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall be effective on the date of the enactment of this Act and shall apply with respect to any request filed under section 552(a)(3) of title 5, United States Code, on or after such effective date, relating to any record created before, on, or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 3. COMMERCIAL REQUESTERS.

For purposes of subsection (n) of section 552 of title 5, United States Code, as added by section 2(a), each enterprise described in such subsection shall establish a fee schedule such that in the first year the fees collected from requests for records intended for a commercial use cover the costs of administering such subsection (n), which shall be estimated as $40,000,000 in the first year. In each subsequent year, each such enterprise shall evaluate whether the fees collected under the prior year's fee schedule were sufficient to recover all actual costs of administering subsection (n) and revise the fee schedule to recover the costs of administering subsection (n) in the following year and any outstanding costs of administering subsection (n) from the prior year not collected through fees in the prior year. Each such enterprise shall make the revised fee schedule and a detailed explanation of the prior year's costs and projections of future costs that were used to justify the fee schedule publicly available online for 10 days prior to the fee schedule going into effect.

The CHAIR. No amendment to that amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be in order except those printed in part B of House Report 115–96. Each such amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question.

AMENDMENT NO. 1 OFFERED BY MR. ROSS

The CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 1 printed in part B of House Report 115–96.

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk, as the designee of the gentleman from Utah (Mr. CHAFFETZ).

The CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 1, strike line 10 and all that follows through line 16 and insert the following:

''(n)(1) This section shall apply to the Federal National Mortgage Association and the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation during any period either such enterprise is under conservatorship or receivership pursuant to section 1367 of the Federal Housing Enterprises Financial Safety and Soundness Act of 1992 (12 U.S.C. 4617).

''(2) For purposes of this subsection, the exemption described in subsection (b)(4), relating to trade secrets and commercial or financial information, shall apply without regard to whether such information was obtained from a person outside the Federal National Mortgage Association or the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, as the case may be.''.

Page 1, line 18, after ''on the date'' insert the following: ''that is six months after the date''.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 280, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. ROSS) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Chairman, the manager's amendment that I am offering on behalf of Chairman CHAFFETZ makes technical and conforming changes to the bill.

Applying FOIA to Fannie and Freddie while the entities remain in conservatorship will better ensure that the American people know what their government does with their taxpayer dollars. But, if and when Fannie and Freddie come out of conservatorship, the entities need to be able to operate as commercially competitive businesses.

This amendment clarifies that Fannie and Freddie may use exemption 4, which protects sensitive commercial information from disclosure, regardless of whether information was obtained from a person outside of Fannie or Freddie, to protect their financially sensitive materials from public disclosure.

Mr. Chairman, recognizing the administrative labors involved in setting up FOIA shops, the amendment also addresses the implementation date. Fannie and Freddie will likely need to hire staff, update their websites, and identify records to be made publicly available as a matter of course.

The manager's amendment, therefore, provides Fannie and Freddie 6 months after the bill's enactment to establish their respective staffs and protocols to administer FOIA.

Mr. Chairman, I urge adoption of the amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Chairman, I claim the time in opposition, but I am not opposed to the amendment.

The CHAIR. Without objection, the gentleman from Missouri is recognized for 5 minutes.

There was no objection.

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of this amendment, which would make improvements that address concerns raised by FHFA.

The manager's amendment would make several important improvements to the underlying bill. This amendment would provide Fannie and Freddie 6 months to implement the bill. This time is important to ensure they have staff and procedures in place to process FOIA requests.

This amendment would also clarify that Fannie and Freddie could use exemption 4 of FOIA in the same way that FHFA can currently use it to protect trade secrets and commercial or financial information generated by Fannie and Freddie.

Exemption 4 protects ''trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person and privileged or confidential.'' Exemption 4 requires that that information can only be protected if it comes from an outside source rather than being generated by an agency itself.

Without the language added by this amendment, there would have been uncertainty as to whether confidential business information that would have been protected if Fannie or Freddie sent it to FHFA would have been protected when those entities were, themselves, responding to FOIA requests.

I appreciate Chairman CHAFFETZ' willingness to work with us in addressing these concerns, and I urge all Members to support this manager's amendment.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. ROSS).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 2 OFFERED BY MR. JOHNSON OF GEORGIA

The CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 2 printed in part B of House Report 115–96.

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 1, after line 16 insert the following new subsection (and redesignate the subsequent subsection accordingly):

(b) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this Act may be construed as precluding the application of any of the exemptions described in section 552 of title 5, United States Code, to subsection (n) of such section, as added by subsection (a).

The CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 280, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. JOHNSON) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia.

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, I would like to first commend Chairman CHAFFETZ for introducing H.R. 1694, the Fannie and Freddie Open Records Act of 2017. I would also like to thank the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) and members of the committee for all of their hard work on this legislation.

H.R. 1694 would amend the Freedom of Information Act, FOIA, to make its provisions apply to Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac when the two entities are in Federal conservatorship or receivership. My amendment makes commonsense improvements to the underlying bill to ensure that all nine FOIA exemptions apply to government-sponsored entities in conservatorship.

By passing this amendment, we will ensure that personal privacy and sensitive information is appropriately protected, while ensuring the highest level of transparency for the American taxpayers.

I am pleased to have the support of Chairman CHAFFETZ on this amendment, and I urge all of the Members to support this amendment.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Chairman, I claim the time in opposition, though I am not opposed to the amendment.

The CHAIR. Without objection, the gentleman from Florida is recognized for 5 minutes.

There was no objection.

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Chairman, FOIA does not require that all records be released to requesters. The FOIA statute allows agencies to withhold information under nine exemptions, which were designed to protect truly sensitive information that would be harmful to important interests if released.

Just last year, Congress clarified that the expectation—and now the legal requirement—is that agencies only withhold information when it is necessary to prevent harm to the interest that the exemption was intended to protect. The Johnson amendment clarifies that Fannie and Freddie would be allowed to withhold requested information under those nine exemptions, just as any other agency would be permitted to withhold information, if the enterprises reasonably foresee that disclosure would harm a protected interest.

Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to support this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. JOHNSON).

The question was taken; and the Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Georgia will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 3 OFFERED BY MR. CLAY

The CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 3 printed in part B of House Report 115–96.

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Chairman, as the designee of the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Ms. PLASKETT), I offer amendment No. 3.

The CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill, add the following new section:

SEC. 3. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.

Nothing in this Act, or the amendment made by this Act, may be construed as precluding or restricting the disclosure of information regarding any proposed new product or significant new product term prior to loan purchasing, or substantive negotiation with an interested party regarding purchase of loans with such new product or significant new product term.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 280, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Missouri.

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong support of the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Ms. PLASKETT). This amendment simply makes clear that the application of FOIA to Fannie and Freddie will not limit disclosures regarding the loans to which Fannie and Freddie offer any type of guarantee or support.

I agree that Americans have the right to know what loans and other agreements Fannie and Freddie are backing. Earlier this year, Fannie Mae created a ''pilot program'' under which Fannie has backed a large investor's purchase of foreclosed homes that the investor will then lease. The public certainly has a right to information about such programs.

As Ms. PLASKETT's amendment makes clear, such disclosures should occur before any loans are purchased or backed so that Congress can assess the potential effects on all stockholders, including taxpayers, home buyers, and renters. I appreciate the gentlewoman's thoughtful amendment, and I urge all Members to support it.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Chairman, I claim the time in opposition, though I am not opposed to the amendment.

The CHAIR. Without objection, the gentleman from Florida is recognized for 5 minutes.

There was no objection.

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Chairman, it is imperative that Fannie's and Freddie's conservator—the Federal Housing Finance Agency, or FHFA—scrutinize new purchasing strategies to ensure that the enterprises' dealings are in line with their charters to stimulate homeownership. If FHFA fails to guarantee the soundness of their business dealings, FOIA could empower the taxpayer to step in and hold accountable Fannie or Freddie.

For instance, thanks to taxpayers' explicit backing of Fannie earlier this year, Invitation Homes, the single-family rental business owned by the lucrative private equity firm Blackstone, secured a $1.8 billion initial public offering, or IPO, the largest since October of 2015.

In its IPO filing, Invitation Homes disclosed that Fannie, which received over $116 billion from the taxpayers in the aftershock of the financial crisis, is guaranteeing up to $1 billion in debt from Invitation. While Blackstone gets the money, the taxpayers take on the risk; and Fannie pivots unimpeded into the rental markets, leaving those hopeful of homeownership with less support.

Applying FOIA to Fannie and Freddie under this bill strengthens the guarantee that government-sponsored entities are fulfilling their mandate to stimulate homeownership rather than being in the business of supporting profitable, private equity investors on the backs of taxpayers.

Mr. Chairman, this amendment further clarifies the legislation's assurance of applicable disclosures as a mechanism to keep Fannie and Freddie consistent with their Federal charters to stimulate homeownership.

I urge my colleagues to support this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY).

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON) having assumed the chair, Mr. COLLINS of Georgia, Chair of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1694) to require additional entities to be subject to the requirements of section 552 of title 5, United States Code (commonly referred to as the Freedom of Information Act), and for other purposes, had come to no resolution thereon.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 3 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 44 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1500

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. YODER) at 3 p.m.

FANNIE AND FREDDIE OPEN RECORDS ACT OF 2017

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 280 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 1694.

Will the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. COLLINS) kindly resume the chair.

□ 1501

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 1694) to require additional entities to be subject to the requirements of section 552 of title 5, United States Code (commonly referred to as the Freedom of Information Act), and for other purposes, with Mr. COLLINS of Georgia in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIR. When the Committee of the Whole rose earlier today, amendment No. 3 printed in part B of House Report 115–96 offered by the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY) had been disposed of.

AMENDMENT NO. 2 OFFERED BY MR. JOHNSON OF GEORGIA

The CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, the unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on amendment No. 2 printed in part B of House Report 115–96 offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. JOHNSON) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 410, noes 5, not voting 15, as follows:

[Roll No. 232]

AYES—410

Abraham
Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Allen
Amash
Amodei
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Banks (IN)
Barletta
Barr
Barragán
Barton
Bass
Beatty
Bera
Bergman
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (MI)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Blum
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bost
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Brat
Bridenstine
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Brown (MD)
Brownley (CA)
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burgess
Bustos
Butterfield
Byrne
Calvert
Capuano
Carbajal
Carson (IN)
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chabot
Cheney
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coffman
Cohen
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Comer
Comstock
Conaway
Connolly
Conyers
Cook
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Costello (PA)
Courtney
Cramer
Crawford
Crist
Crowley
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Davidson
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Demings
Denham
Dent
DeSantis
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Donovan
Doyle, Michael F.
Duffy
Duncan (TN)
Dunn
Ellison
Emmer
Engel
Eshoo
Espaillat
Estes (KS)
Esty (CT)
Evans
Farenthold
Faso
Ferguson
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flores
Fortenberry
Foster
Foxx
Frankel (FL)
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garrett
Gibbs
Gohmert
Gonzalez (TX)
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gottheimer
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffith
Grothman
Guthrie
Gutiérrez
Hanabusa
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings
Heck
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Hice, Jody B.
Higgins (LA)
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes
Holding
Hollingsworth
Hoyer
Huizenga
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurd
Issa
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Jeffries
Jenkins (KS)
Jenkins (WV)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kihuen
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kinzinger
Knight
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
Kustoff (TN)
Labrador
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (MN)
Lieu, Ted
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren
Long
Loudermilk
Love
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lujan Grisham, M.
Luján, Ben Ray
Lynch
MacArthur
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Marchant
Marshall
Massie
Mast
Matsui
McCarthy
McCaul
McClintock
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
McSally
Meadows
Meehan
Meeks
Meng
Messer
Mitchell
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Moore
Moulton
Mullin
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (PA)
Nadler
Neal
Noem
Nolan
Norcross
Nunes
O'Halleran
O'Rourke
Olson
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pascrell
Paulsen
Payne
Pearce
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters
Peterson
Pingree
Pittenger
Pocan
Poe (TX)
Poliquin
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Ratcliffe
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Richmond
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney, Francis
Rooney, Thomas J.
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Rouzer
Roybal-Allard
Royce (CA)
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Russell
Rutherford
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez
Sanford
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sinema
Sires
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Soto
Speier
Stefanik
Stewart
Stivers
Suozzi
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Titus
Tonko
Trott
Tsongas
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walker
Walorski
Walters, Mimi
Walz
Waters, Maxine
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Yarmuth
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IA)
Zeldin

NOES—5

Curbelo (FL)
Davis, Rodney
Gaetz
Posey
Webster (FL)

NOT VOTING—15

Beyer
Cárdenas
Chaffetz
Duncan (SC)
Grijalva
Hudson
Huffman
Lowenthal
Marino
Napolitano
Newhouse
Rosen
Slaughter
Torres
Wasserman Schultz

□ 1525

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida changed his vote from ''aye'' to ''no.''

Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Messrs. CRAWFORD, EMMER, Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS, Messrs. MCHENRY, and BURGESS changed their vote from ''no'' to ''aye.''

So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on a rollcall vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 232.

Ms. ROSEN. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 232.

The CHAIR. The question is on the amendment in the nature of a substitute, as amended.

The amendment was agreed to.

The CHAIR. Under the rule, the Committee rises.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. HULTGREN) having assumed the chair, Mr. COLLINS of Georgia, Chair of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1694) to require additional entities to be subject to the requirements of section 552 of title 5, United States Code (commonly referred to as the Freedom of Information Act), and for other purposes, and, pursuant to House Resolution 280, he reported the bill back to the House with an amendment adopted in the Committee of the Whole.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the rule, the previous question is ordered.

Is a separate vote demanded on any amendment to the amendment reported from the Committee of the Whole?

If not, the question is on the amendment in the nature of a substitute, as amended.

The amendment was agreed to.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the passage of the bill.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, this 5-minute vote on passage of the bill will be followed by a 5-minute vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal, if ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 425, nays 0, not voting 5, as follows:

[Roll No. 233]

YEAS—425

Abraham
Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Allen
Amash
Amodei
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Banks (IN)
Barletta
Barr
Barragán
Barton
Bass
Beatty
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (MI)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Blum
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bost
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Brat
Bridenstine
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Brown (MD)
Brownley (CA)
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burgess
Bustos
Butterfield
Byrne
Calvert
Capuano
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson (IN)
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chabot
Cheney
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coffman
Cohen
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Comer
Comstock
Conaway
Connolly
Conyers
Cook
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Costello (PA)
Courtney
Cramer
Crawford
Crist
Crowley
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Curbelo (FL)
Davidson
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
Davis, Rodney
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Demings
Denham
Dent
DeSantis
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Donovan
Doyle, Michael F.
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Dunn
Ellison
Emmer
Engel
Eshoo
Espaillat
Estes (KS)
Esty (CT)
Evans
Farenthold
Faso
Ferguson
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flores
Fortenberry
Foster
Foxx
Frankel (FL)
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gabbard
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garrett
Gibbs
Gohmert
Gonzalez (TX)
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gottheimer
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffith
Grijalva
Grothman
Guthrie
Gutiérrez
Hanabusa
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings
Heck
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Hice, Jody B.
Higgins (LA)
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes
Holding
Hollingsworth
Hoyer
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurd
Issa
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Jeffries
Jenkins (KS)
Jenkins (WV)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kihuen
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kinzinger
Knight
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
Kustoff (TN)
Labrador
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (MN)
Lieu, Ted
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren
Long
Loudermilk
Love
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lujan Grisham, M.
Luján, Ben Ray
Lynch
MacArthur
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Marchant
Marshall
Massie
Mast
Matsui
McCarthy
McCaul
McClintock
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
McSally
Meadows
Meehan
Meeks
Meng
Messer
Mitchell
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Moore
Moulton
Mullin
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (PA)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Noem
Nolan
Norcross
Nunes
O'Halleran
O'Rourke
Olson
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pascrell
Paulsen
Payne
Pearce
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters
Peterson
Pingree
Pittenger
Pocan
Poe (TX)
Poliquin
Polis
Posey
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Ratcliffe
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Richmond
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney, Francis
Rooney, Thomas J.
Ros-Lehtinen
Rosen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Rouzer
Roybal-Allard
Royce (CA)
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Russell
Rutherford
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez
Sanford
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sinema
Sires
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Soto
Speier
Stefanik
Stewart
Stivers
Suozzi
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Titus
Tonko
Torres
Trott
Tsongas
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walker
Walorski
Walters, Mimi
Walz
Waters, Maxine
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Yarmuth
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IA)
Zeldin

NOT VOTING—5

Chaffetz
Marino
Newhouse
Slaughter
Wasserman Schultz

□ 1535

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal, which the Chair will put de novo.

The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

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

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

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

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 249, noes 163, answered ''present'' 2, not voting 16, as follows:

[Roll No. 234]

AYES—249

Abraham
Adams
Aderholt
Allen
Amodei
Arrington
Bacon
Banks (IN)
Barletta
Beatty
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (MI)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Brady (TX)

Brat
Bridenstine
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Brown (MD)
Buchanan
Budd
Bustos
Butterfield
Byrne
Calvert
Carson (IN)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Castro (TX)
Chabot
Cheney
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clay
Cohen
Cole
Collins (NY)
Comer
Comstock
Conyers
Cook
Cooper
Correa
Courtney
Cramer
Crawford
Crist
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Curbelo (FL)
Davidson
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Demings
Dent
DesJarlais
Dingell
Doggett
Donovan
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Dunn
Ellison
Emmer
Engel
Eshoo
Estes (KS)
Esty (CT)
Ferguson
Fleischmann
Fortenberry
Foster
Frankel (FL)
Frelinghuysen
Gabbard
Gallego
Garrett
Gonzalez (TX)
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gottheimer
Gowdy
Granger
Griffith
Guthrie
Hanabusa
Harper
Harris
Hastings
Heck
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Higgins (LA)
Higgins (NY)
Himes
Hollingsworth
Huffman
Hultgren
Hunter
Issa
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy
Kildee
King (IA)
King (NY)
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
Kustoff (TN)
Labrador
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Levin
Lewis (MN)
Lipinski
Long
Loudermilk
Love
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lujan Grisham, M.
Luján, Ben Ray
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Marchant
Marshall
Massie
McCarthy
McCaul
McClintock
McCollum
McHenry
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
McSally
Meadows
Meeks
Meng
Messer
Mooney (WV)
Moulton
Mullin
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (PA)
Nadler
Napolitano
Nunes
O'Rourke
Olson
Palazzo
Palmer
Payne
Perlmutter
Perry
Pingree
Pocan
Polis
Price (NC)
Reichert
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (KY)
Rohrabacher
Rooney, Francis
Rooney, Thomas J.
Rosen
Ross
Rothfus
Royce (CA)
Ruppersberger
Russell
Rutherford
Sanford
Scalise
Schiff
Schneider
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sinema
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Speier
Stefanik
Stewart
Suozzi
Takano
Taylor
Tenney
Thornberry
Tiberi
Titus
Trott
Tsongas
Velázquez
Wagner
Walden
Walker
Walorski
Walters, Mimi
Walz
Waters, Maxine
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yarmuth
Yoho
Young (IA)
Zeldin

NOES—163

Aguilar
Amash
Babin
Barr
Barragán
Barton
Bass
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Blum
Bost
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady (PA)
Brownley (CA)
Buck
Bucshon
Burgess
Capuano
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carter (GA)
Castor (FL)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coffman
Collins (GA)
Conaway
Connolly
Costa
Costello (PA)
Crowley
Davis, Rodney
DeFazio
Denham
DeSantis
DeSaulnier
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Doyle, Michael F.
Espaillat
Evans
Farenthold
Faso
Fitzpatrick
Flores
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Fudge
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gibbs
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Gutiérrez
Hartzler
Hice, Jody B.
Hill
Holding
Hoyer
Hudson
Huizenga
Hurd
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Jeffries
Jenkins (KS)
Jenkins (WV)
Johnson (OH)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Katko
Kelly (IL)
Khanna
Kihuen
Kilmer
Kind
Kinzinger
Knight
LaHood
Lance
Langevin
Larson (CT)
Latta
Lee
Lewis (GA)
Lieu, Ted
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren
Lowenthal
Lynch
MacArthur
Mast
Matsui
McEachin
McGovern
McKinley
Meehan
Mitchell
Moolenaar
Moore
Neal
Noem
Nolan
Norcross
O'Halleran
Pallone
Panetta
Pascrell
Paulsen
Pearce
Pelosi
Peters
Pittenger
Poe (TX)
Poliquin
Posey
Raskin
Ratcliffe
Reed
Renacci
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Richmond
Rogers (AL)
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Rouzer
Ruiz
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schrader
Sewell (AL)
Sires
Smith (MO)
Soto
Stivers
Swalwell (CA)
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Tipton
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Visclosky
Walberg
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Woodall
Yoder
Young (AK)

ANSWERED ''PRESENT''—2

Grijalva
Tonko

NOT VOTING—16

Chaffetz
Garamendi
Gohmert
Grothman
Larsen (WA)
Maloney, Sean
Marino
Newhouse
Peterson
Quigley
Rokita
Roybal-Allard
Slaughter
Smucker
Torres
Wasserman Schultz

□ 1543

So the Journal was approved.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. MARINO. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to attend votes on April 27, 2017 due to a family medical issue. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

"Yea" for rollcall vote 229.
"Yea" for rollcall vote 230.
"Yea" for rollcall vote 231.
"Yea" for rollcall vote 232.
"Yea" for rollcall vote 233.
"Yea" for rollcall vote 234.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.J. RES. 50

Mr. BUDD. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that my name be removed as cosponsor of H.J. Res. 50.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GALLAGHER). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from North Carolina?

There was no objection.

UNCLE SAM IS GOING HUNTING FOR RUSSIAN BEAR

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

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, Uncle Sam is going hunting for Russian bear. World War II started with Nazi Germany invading Poland. Russia quickly invaded for the West to take their chunk of Poland's freedom.

Years later, we won the Cold War, and Poland joined NATO. But Poland has never been truly free because Mr. Putin—mother Russia—has controlled Poland's energy. Mr. Putin has punished Poland in their desire to be free by slowing natural gas exports in a cold, Polish winter that became much colder.

Uncle Sam is about to put the Russian bear on permanent hibernation by exporting American liquid freedom. Our liquified natural gas will leave Sabine Pass in June heading to Poland.

The Russian bear is on the run. Let American liquid freedom reign.

DISTRICT SCHOOL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

(Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the talent and hard work of the youth in New Jersey's 12th District.

This past weekend, a group of East Brunswick High School students were recognized as the best team from the Northeast in the We the People competition. Competing against more than 1,200 students, this team demonstrated knowledge of constitutional principles in both historical and contemporary contexts.

This weekend, students from John Witherspoon Middle School of Princeton and West Windsor-Plainsboro South High School will come to Washington to compete in the final round of the 2017 National Science Bowl.

To all of these students: The guidance of your teachers, Alan Brodman, Bill Merritt, and Sunila Sharma, and your hard work is evident, and New Jersey's 12th District is very proud of you.

It is an honor to represent a district that continues to emphasize the importance of STEM and civic education, and encourage our Nation's youth to thrive.

FIRST 100 DAYS OF PRESIDENT TRUMP'S ADMINISTRATION

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

Mr. BIGGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the first 100 days of President Donald Trump's administration.

In his first 100 days, President Trump has enacted more pieces of legislation than any other President since Truman, facilitated the earliest Supreme

Court confirmation since 1881, eliminated many onerous regulations to restore economic optimism and opportunity, protected the sanctity of life, and driven illegal border crossings to a 17-year low. His accomplishments are truly remarkable.

I have appreciated President Trump's willingness to listen and work with Congress on major pieces of legislation. His effort to work with Congress is a breath of fresh air.

President Trump made several promises to the American people, and I am encouraged by his efforts to fulfill them. Mr. Speaker, the American people are watching—they are watching both the President and those of us in Congress. They will not accept broken promises or half-hearted measures. They want results. I look forward to working alongside President Trump to keep our promises.

PRESIDENT TRUMP'S PROMISE TO DRAIN THE SWAMP

(Mrs. DEMINGS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. DEMINGS. Mr. Speaker, the President made big promises on the campaign trail to drain the swamp. He promised that his Washington would look different. Well, it does look different, but not in the way he promised.

Instead of ethics reform, his administration rolled back ethics provisions that prevented officials from serving in Federal agencies that they lobbied in the last 2 years.

He promised to tackle campaign finance, saying that he wouldn't accept campaign donations from special interest groups. Instead, he has invited the special interests into his Cabinet, appointing them into the highest position.

He promised he would ask Congress to pass campaign finance reform that prevents registered foreign lobbyists from raising money in American politics. Instead, it turns out that some of his closest confidants and former campaign advisers have made millions lobbying foreign governments.

He promised he would release his own tax returns, but has not. The American people have no way of knowing how he or his family businesses stand to benefit from these tax cuts.

Mr. Speaker, this is not draining the swamp. Everyone is accountable, especially those in the highest levels of our government.

CONGRATULATING DARLENE JOHNSON

(Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Darlene Johnson of Woodland, Washington, on being nominated for two Women in Transport Awards of 2017 by Transport News International. She was given these well-deserved awards for Best Woman-Owned Land Logistics Company in the Pacific Northwest, and Most Inspirational Woman in Land Transport in the Northwestern U.S.

Throughout her distinguished career, Darlene has done everything in her power to serve her community. She currently sits on the Woodland Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors where she advocates for stronger environment for businesses in southwest Washington. Darlene's tenacity and dedication motivate and inspire those around her, me included.

Not only does she advocate for local businesses, but she is a local businessowner herself. Darlene, along with her husband, Jim, operate Woodland Truck Line, Inc. It is fitting that she is receiving this award for successfully running a business in an industry that is commonly thought to be male dominated. Those who know Darlene, like I do, know that if Darlene were to start a business in any other industry, she would go over, under, or right through any obstacles in her way.

Darlene's service to our community does not go unnoticed. There is not an issue affecting the Woodland community with which she is not actively involved. She currently is deserving of this prestigious award on behalf of southwest Washington. I congratulate her and wish her the best in her future endeavors and continued success in transportation.

LET'S START FOCUSING ON MAIN STREET AND AMERICAN WORKERS

(Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, President Trump campaigned throughout this country, including my home State of Pennsylvania, as a great populist, as a champion of the working class.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank President Trump and his administration for revealing their true intentions yesterday when they revealed their Wall Street written and designed tax plan—a giveaway for millionaires and billionaires. And not one thing—not one—for 99.9 percent of the working American people.

Mr. Speaker, we do need tax reform, and you would see broad bipartisan support for that. But it has to be real. It has to be paid for. And it must include relief for those three-quarters of the American people who pay more in payroll taxes than they ever do in individual income taxes.

Enough of focusing on Wall Street and the corporate income tax rate, and let's start focusing on Main Street and American workers.

HEALTHCARE DEBATE IN OUR NATION

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

Mr. ROTHFUS. Mr. Speaker, as President Trump and Republicans in Congress work toward finally delivering the American people relief from ObamaCare, it is important to remember how we got here and why we find ourselves in this position today.

We are approaching the fork in the road for health care in our country. We have a choice of two paths, and they lead to very different outcomes.

ObamaCare's regulatory behemoth is collapsing the individual market and is paving the way toward a disastrous result, namely, socialized medicine—and the crowded waiting rooms, scarce access to physicians, and low-quality health care that comes with it, not to mention an unprecedented accumulation of power in Washington, D.C.

This is not conjecture. Barack Obama, Harry Reid, and a whole host of ObamaCare supporters have been completely candid about their ultimate goal of a single-payer healthcare system, which could then seamlessly devolve into socialized medicine.

The time to right our course is now. Republicans are offering the American people a better way, one that fosters choice, lowers healthcare costs, and improves Americans' health outcomes. We have two clear and very distinct options. Let's make the right choice and pull back from the brink of socialized medicine.

PRESIDENT TRUMP'S FIRST 100 DAYS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2017, the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCLINTOCK) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, the last four elections have defined one of the most dramatic political realignments in our country's history.

In these elections, we have seen a net shift of 64 U.S. House seats, 12 U.S. Senate seats, 10 Governors, 919 State legislative seats, and the Presidency shift from Democrat to Republican.

This happened in large part on three overarching mandates from the American people: revive the economy, secure our borders, and restore our healthcare system. If President Trump can accomplish these three objectives, his administration and this Congress will be remembered as one of the most successful and beneficial in our Nation's history.

In working toward these goals, President Trump has faced the most bitter, virulent, and partisan opposition that any President has endured since the election of 1860.

We have seen the radical left in full display across our Nation with its appalling incivility, its intolerance of other points of view, and its disrespect of our democratic process and constitutional institutions. Sadly, this opposition now permeates much of our press and academia.

Yet, despite these obstacles, as we mark the first 100 days of this Presidency, there is ample reason to celebrate the new direction that President Trump and this Congress have taken and the progress that we have made.

Our overarching mandate is to revive our economy and restore prosperity to millions of struggling American families who have suffered the most disappointing decade in more than 80 years, buried under an avalanche of Obama-era regulations and taxes.

American workers finally have an advocate in the Oval Office. This President has signed more legislation in his first 100 days than any President since Harry Truman. And many of these bills, as well as his executive orders, have begun repealing the heavy regulations that have been sinking our economy.

One study estimates these actions have already relieved our economy of $68 billion of destructive regulations. That comes to about $500 for every family in America.

The Keystone pipeline alone will produce thousands of construction jobs, billions of dollars of private investment, and, when completed, 830,000 barrels of Canadian crude oil entering American markets every day.

And what has happened?

Well, consumer confidence is up 3 points since the election. The S&P is up 11 percent, the NASDAQ is up more than 15 percent, and the Dow is up 13 percent. 317,000 more Americans are working today than on the day the President took the oath of office, unemployment has dropped three-tenths of a point, and the labor participation rate has started to inch upward once again.

It is not yet ''morning again in America,'' but the first faint shades of light are appearing on our economic horizon.

The second great mandate was to secure the borders after many years, when millions of illegal immigrants made a mockery of our Nation's sovereignty and our rule of law. Wages for working Americans stagnated, jobs dried up, and social services have strained as a result.

Well, finally, we have a President who takes the Nation's security and the sovereignty of our borders seriously. Renewed enforcement has, by all accounts, boosted morale of our immigration agencies dramatically, and criminal aliens are finally being deported—already showing a 32 percent increase in deportations compared to the last administration. Because of this new resoluteness, illegal border crossings have plunged by some 60 percent.

□ 1600

Now, healthcare reform is the third of the mandates. That requires congressional action, and here is where Congress has let him down. But as we approach the 100th day of the administration, it appears legislation will soon begin moving to the Senate, and, before long, the collapsing, one-size-fits-all bureaucracy of ObamaCare will give way to a healthy and vibrant healthcare market where Americans will have the widest possible range of choices to meet their own needs with the supported tax system to ensure that these plans are within the financial reach of every American.

Ultimately, though, the success of this administration will not be measured by 100 days or by talking points from politicians. It will be measured by a simple question that every American will answer for himself or herself: Am I better off today? As we approach this first checkpoint in the course of this administration, there is strong reason to believe the answer to that question will be a decisive yes.

This is a period of great change, and great change brings great controversy. But I believe that this President and our Nation can take increasing confidence from these first 100 days and can take great strength in knowing that a day is fast approaching when we will awaken and realize it is, indeed, morning again in America.

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

FIRST 100 DAYS ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2017, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. WOODALL) is recognized for the remainder of the hour as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. WOODALL. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate you yielding and being willing to stick around with me this afternoon. I have a great pleasure this afternoon, and that is to talk about successes that we have had together.

I was down on the floor earlier when we were debating the rule, and I was talking to my Democratic colleagues on the Rules Committee about the good work that was going on in the Rules Committee; the good work that was going on on the House floor. In fact, we brought the bill—it was a raucous debate, Mr. Speaker. You will remember it. We argued for an hour about all sorts of extraneous things, then we brought the bill down, and it passed, I believe unanimously, here on the floor of the House just a few minutes ago.

I don't understand that. I just don't understand what those drivers are in politics, Mr. Speaker, that encourages us to tear folks down instead of build folks up. And that is why I want to talk about some successes today. You can't see my slides, Mr. Speaker, but I have got some numbers written down to the left in red, and those are the numbers that are worth paying attention to.

Twenty-eight. Twenty-eight is the number of bills President Trump has signed into law in his first 100 days; 28. That is more bills signed into law than any other American President since Harry Truman.

More bills. Now, I read the same newspapers you read, Mr. Speaker. I listen to the same news broadcasts you listen to. I hear folks talk about inaction. I hear folks talk about confusion. I hear folks talk about division. I don't hear folks talking about success, and success is what marks these first 100 days.

Again, there has been more legislative activity than any other President and Congress—collaboratively Congress, House, Senate, Republicans, Democrats—more legislative success than we have had in any Congress and White House combination since Harry Truman.

Mr. Speaker, we had the first Supreme Court confirmation in the first 100 days since 1881—since 1881. Now, it is with no joy that I share with you that the Supreme Court is such a powerful institution, Mr. Speaker. I think too often we fail to get the job done legislatively, and the Court steps in and legislates from right across the street. That wasn't the job the Constitution envisioned. That wasn't the job assigned in Article III, but it is the job that has been taken on by default. So it has become increasingly important that we make sure the Court is staffed.

I supported the Senate having hearings on the Garland nomination last cycle. I supported the Senate having hearings on the Gorsuch nomination this cycle. Decision after decision in the last session went 4–4, which meant we could sustain the underlying Court's decision, but we couldn't decide these important questions that were still a source of confusion across this country. We now have a fully staffed Supreme Court again—the first time since 1881. We have seen a Supreme Court confirmation in the first 100 days of a new administration.

Seventeen, Mr. Speaker. It has been 17 years since illegal border crossings reached this low level. I am going to come back to that. But what I am saying is that words matter. And what the President has said is: we are going to grow the most robust economy the world has ever seen, but we are going to do it with a legal visa program that makes sure folks are coming and going in accordance with U.S. law. And simply that change in attitude, Mr. Speaker, simply that change in attitude from

''we are going to ignore the law'' to ''the law matters'' has brought illegal crossings down to a 17-year low.

Mr. Speaker, 728; that is the number of millions of dollars saved with the President's first foray into cutting Federal budgets. His first foray into cutting Federal budgets, he started taking a look at Federal contracts. Can you imagine, Mr. Speaker, what it is like to be a new President of the United States, particularly one that doesn't come out of a legislative or government tradition? Everything is new as it comes to the content, but what is not new is so much of the process.

The President has been looking at contracts his entire life, Mr. Speaker. The President has been negotiating contracts his entire life. He took a look at the beginnings of the Pentagon contracts and said, by golly, we can do better for the American people; $728 million on project number one saved for the American taxpayer.

That brings us to number 16, Mr. Speaker, and that is 16 years since consumer confidence in this country has been as high as it is today. I enjoy traveling across the district, Mr. Speaker, and I am talking to folks. We are a divided community, like every community is in the country. Some folks believe one thing; some folks believe another. Generally, we are united on issues, but sometimes we are divided on issues. And voter after voter after voter says: ROB, I am not sure what is going to happen, but I feel like we are going to have opportunity. It has been 16 years since consumer confidence has reached this high of a level.

Now, with that increase in confidence, Mr. Speaker, comes an incredible obligation on the 435 of us to deliver. This isn't confidence that is based on nothing happening. This is confidence based on something happening. We have real obligations to fulfill those promises, those commitments that we all made during the last election cycle. I think we have the men and women in this Chamber who can do it, but it has been 16 years since the American people believed that we could.

I want to put those border crossings in perspective, Mr. Speaker. There has been a 61 percent decline in border crossings in President Trump's first 100 days.

Now, I come from Georgia. We have got a robust agricultural economy in Georgia. And I tell my constituents day in and day out, if you are not going to raise your son or daughter to pick carrots in south Georgia; if you don't aspire for your son or daughter to be the very best cabbage picker that we have in the State of Georgia; if you are not aspiring to be part of that agricultural economy and help us get crops out of the field, we are going to need somebody who is aspiring to do that hard work. And it is hard work, Mr. Speaker.

Well, if we can agree that these aren't jobs that American citizens are losing, these are jobs that are adding to the American economy, then we need a legal visa program to let folks come in and to let folks go out. I went on a bipartisan codel, Mr. Speaker—a bipartisan codel, Republicans and Democrats, traveling together to El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras talking with families.

You remember the women and children crisis there: unaccompanied minors coming across the border? I talked to family after family, and they said: ROB, listen, I don't want to be an American citizen. I don't want to go to America. I don't want to be in America. I am happy here at home. But dad, or my husband, he generally travels to America during the growing season, during the construction season, and turns around and comes back home when that season is over.

Well, you all are getting so tough on your border security, you are not handing out legal visas to do this work, that now my husband or my dad can't come back home when the growing season is over. So now we are all picking up, and we are trying to get into America, too, so the family can stay together.

Well, it makes perfectly good sense to me if you were that family. It makes no sense if you are the American taxpayer. You recognize that you have jobs that need to be filled. You recognize you have skills that you are not training your children to fulfill, and you don't want to change the visa program to make that happen.

The President has committed to growing the economy. We know that is going to mean legal access in and out of the country. There was a 61 percent drop in illegal border crossings in the first 100 days.

I will tell you what else that means, Mr. Speaker. That means, instead of our border patrol men and women working that border under very difficult conditions, instead of our law enforcement, instead of all of the instruments of homeland security that we have in this country being focused on families crossing the border, with a 61 percent decline in this human traffic crossing the border, law enforcement can now focus on the real security issues to this country: to the drugs crossing the border, to the weapons crossing the border; forbid the thought to weapons of mass destruction crossing the border.

There have been tremendously important accomplishments here in the first 100 days; so much more that we will be able to do together.

Mr. Speaker, there were 25 Iranian entities sanctioned by the Trump administration in the first 100 days. That is what we did together in this Chamber. You will remember, Mr. Speaker, we passed the Iranian sanctions language in a bipartisan way to send the word to the leaders of Iran that while we have great respect for your citizenry, we cannot tolerate a nuclear Iran. We do not trust you to be a member of the league of nations with nuclear capabilities, and the answer is no as you pursue those very dangerous dreams.

Well, you will remember, President Obama negotiated a deal with the international community and with the Iranians. I wish he hadn't, but he did. We had sanctions. Those sanctions are now gone. Iran is pursuing very much the same path that I would have expected them to pursue, given the deal that was negotiated. And the world continues to be a dangerous place.

Well, we have rules on the books today, laws on the books today that allow the government, in consultation with Congress, in cooperation with Congress, based on statutes passed by Congress, to get involved unilaterally as the United States of America in trying to prevent a nuclear Iran.

There were 25 different entities identified by this administration as helping the Iranian Government to pursue those dangerous and illegal nuclear goals sanctioned and reined in. It is going to make a difference. It is going to make a difference to national security. It is going to make a difference to international security.

Mr. Speaker, $18 billion—you can't see this slide, but already in 4 months on the job, 4 months in cooperation with this Congress, we have seen $18 billion saved through the elimination of red tape. I don't mean $18 billion that is a one-time deal, Mr. Speaker. I mean $18 billion annually in wasteful compliance costs erased by this administration, again, often in cooperation and consultation with Congress.

When I go back and tell you that this President has signed more bills into law than any President since Harry Truman in cooperation with this Congress, I am talking about many of the bills that did exactly this: cutting red tape, saving the American taxpayer money. Those bills, very often, were brought through the Congressional Review Act process. That is a process, as you know, Mr. Speaker, that allows the Congress to take a look at the regulations that the administration promulgates.

We pass the laws; the administration writes the regs; we get to go back and look at the regs to make sure they represent the true intent of the legislation.

Well, in many instances so far this year, Mr. Speaker—in fact, in more instances than any other time in American history, we have decided that those regulations do not reflect the intent of Congress. In fact, often they are running directly contrary to the intent

of Congress. We have eliminated those $18 billion annually in savings to the American taxpayer.

Remember the Keystone pipeline, Mr. Speaker. This administration approved the Dakota Access pipeline. Think back, Mr. Speaker. We are going to disagree on things. I am perfectly comfortable with the disagreements that this body has. But when the application for the Keystone pipeline was delivered to the administration, it took longer for the past two administrations to approve the Keystone pipeline—and by approve it, I mean ultimately they rejected it. It took longer for them to consider and reject the Keystone pipeline than it took for Americans to build the Hoover Dam from start to finish.

I want you to think about that. When we are talking about jobs; when we are talking about the economy; when we are talking about America being that beacon of hope, and freedom, and opportunity across the country; when we are talking about the tremendous need for public works projects in this country, and the amazing things the American people can do when they put their shoulder into it, it took longer in the 21st century to get an answer to whether or not you are allowed to build a pipeline than it took to build the Hoover Dam from start to finish. That is bad for all of us.

□ 1615

That is bad for every Republican, every Democrat, every Independent. Every single American citizen needs economic opportunity. Every single American citizen needs a job. Every single American citizen needs the certainty of knowing if the pipeline is bad, let's cancel it and let's move on. But let's not sit and wait and delay. Let's not debate and debate. Let's get to an answer.

In the first 100 days on the job, President Trump got to an answer. President Bush and President Obama, combined, again, over 8 years of delay. President Trump, first 100 days, approved this.

What does this mean? Well, it means that the oil coming out of Canada is going to come to America to be refined. Remember, the Keystone Pipeline debate, Mr. Speaker, was never about the environment and whether or not the Canadians were going to harvest this oil. It was never about that. The Canadians were loud and clear: We are going to get this oil out of the ground. We are either going to get it out of the ground and send it to America to be processed, or we are going to get it out of the ground and send it to China to be processed. You pick.

Well, Mr. Speaker, that is an easy choice. If I get to be king of Canada, I can make different decisions about their environment. But while Canada has sovereignty and gets to make its own decisions about its natural resources, we get to decide: Are American citizens going to profit from the processing of this oil or is China going to profit from the processing of this oil?

When this oil gets processed, who do you think is doing it in the most environmentally sensitive manner, Mr. Speaker? You tell me. If there's a single colleague in this body that believes the Chinese are better stewards of the environment than the Americans are, then you needed to vote ''no'' on the Keystone pipeline. But if you believe that we care more about Mother Earth than the Chinese do, if you believe that American rules and regulations protect the environment more than Chinese rules and regulations do, then you needed to be a supporter of the Keystone pipeline.

In his first 100 days, President Trump took this source of indecision and confusion and provided certainty. That is not academic, Mr. Speaker. That certainty is directly connected to jobs.

You can't see it from where you sit, Mr. Speaker, but I am talking about over 500,000 new jobs not connected to the pipeline, individually. There are going to be a lot of jobs on the pipeline. Not this number. I am talking about this approach to governing that says people deserve a ''yes'' or a ''no'' answer. People deserve certainty. People deserve fast responses. People don't need to hang in the lurch.

Every single Member of this body, Mr. Speaker, has seen it in their constituency back home where a small-business owner said: You know what? I wanted to hire a few more people, but I wasn't really sure what was about to happen and so I have been putting it off. I wanted to open a new franchise, but I wasn't entirely sure of what the economic situation was going to be so I have been putting it off.

When we talk about the economic growth over the past 100 days, when we talk about the stock markets moving, when we talk about consumer confidence rising, when we talk about new jobs being created, we are talking about a change in attitude. And I have seen it on both sides of this body.

It is a shame, Mr. Speaker, there is that underlying current that maybe voters reward fighting with each other more than they reward working together. I don't believe it, but I certainly see people posit that theory. I believe folks reward cooperation and getting things done. I don't think people pay us to agree with each other. I think people pay us to make progress together—500,000 new jobs.

I will read from The Wall Street Journal. It says: ''The Trump order is a promise in the bank for the voters who elected the President because he promised to focus on jobs and revving up the economy.''

I believe it is 12 congressional districts, Mr. Speaker, that have Democrats representing them in Congress, but those districts voted for President Trump in the Presidential election. These are not conservative men and women out across the district pursuing some sort of ideological agenda. These are hardworking American families who identify more with the Democratic Party and Democratic values but who began to lose hope in what was going on with regulation across the country and job creation across the country, and they cast their vote for President Trump.

Over 500,000 new jobs, Mr. Speaker.

What are we talking about? We are talking about the Keystone pipeline. We are talking about the Clean Power Plan, which, alone, threatened to put about 286,000 jobs out to pasture. We are talking about new investments in infrastructure.

I am not just talking about roads and bridges, Mr. Speaker. I am talking about the FAA and air transportation. I am talking about ports like the Port of Savannah in Georgia, the fastest growing container port in the Nation, and sea transportation. I am talking about railroads. I am talking about water infrastructure to make sure every family has access to clean and healthy drinking water.

These are job-creating proposals, and they are job-creating proposals that have been kept off the books for so long because of regulatory uncertainty. Today we have an opportunity to do that for the very first time.

Mr. Speaker, I am going to take you back to where I began, and that is that we have a choice in this country. We can focus on the things that divide us all day every day. We can do it. I still believe there is more that unites us as a nation than divides us as a nation, but if you choose to spend your time talking about those things that divide us, you can fill up a day.

If you choose to spend your time talking about those things that are broken yet proffering no solutions to fix them, you can fill up a day. If you choose to spend your day talking about why everybody else is a lazy son of a gun and only you have access to the truth, you can fill up a day, and then a week, and then a month, and then a year, and then a Presidential cycle, and then a decade, and then a generation.

But, Mr. Speaker, if you will recognize that working together we have already passed more laws in 2017 than any other Congress and President working together since Harry Truman, if you will recognize that we have taken the uncertainty out of the Supreme Court—we fully staffed the Supreme Court so that uncertainty in the legal arena will exist no longer—if you recognize that a thorny issue like illegal immigration that has been made so difficult to solve because we haven't been able to figure out how to deal

with the border security aspect so that we can go on and deal with the other thorny issues, those border crossings are down, which means our opportunity has increased for dealing with these problems that have plagued our Nation for so long.

I can give you one example of that, Mr. Speaker. I am going to digress.

I have got a family in my district trying to bring a relative into the country from Haiti. They have been working on it for 11 years—11 years. All the talk that goes on in this body about immigration, nobody is taking about helping my constituents from Haiti. Nobody is talking about passing a law to make it easier to get your family member in from Haiti. Nobody is talking about those families that have been separated while trying to follow the law of the land. Nobody is talking about those families that have paid out of pocket to go through the legal process—all the time, all the money, all the delay to do it the right way. Nobody is talking about fixing it for those families.

Let's fix it for those families because we all agree there is a better way. If you want to get your adult child in from Mexico, Mr. Speaker, you needed to file your paperwork in 1993 for their number to be coming up today—1993, to do it the right way and have their number to come up today.

Who believes a 25-year process to bring a family member into this country is the right answer? Of course folks are going to do it the wrong way.

If you want to bring your adult brother or sister in from the Philippines, you had to file in 1994 for their number to be coming up legally today. Who believes that is the right system?

The system is broken. We don't have enough trust together to repair the system. By eliminating the illegal border crossing's immediate challenge, the President has created the headroom for us to work together on issues that we can absolutely solve.

728, Mr. Speaker, the number of millions of dollars saved in contract negotiations thus far—in fact, not even thus far, but contract negotiations on one single Pentagon project that the President has inserted himself in.

For all the things you may think the President knows, doesn't know, you agree with, you disagree with, you have to know that he knows how to drive a hard bargain. You have to know that he knows how to negotiate big contracts.

The American taxpayer is not satisfied with the way we have been doing it, with the way former White Houses have been doing it. We have an opportunity to come together and do it better, and the President is leading us in that way.

And that all culminates, Mr. Speaker, in 16. That is the number of years since consumer confidence in this country was at its current levels. You can do that math if you would like, Mr. Speaker. It will take you back through an entire 8 years of Democratic control of the White House, and it will take you back through an entire 8 years of Republican control of the White House.

The American consumer does not care whether you are a Republican or a Democrat. The American consumer cares whether or not they think their job is secure.

The American consumer does not care if you are a Republican or a Democrat. The American consumer cares whether prices are higher tomorrow or lower tomorrow.

The American consumer does not care about our petty, silly, inside-the-beltway Washington arguments. They care about whether America is going to be stronger for their children and grandchildren a generation from now. And it has been 16 years since American consumers have the optimism that they have today.

I will say it again, Mr. Speaker. We can consume every second of every day in this body fussing, griping, complaining—there are lots of things that are wrong and lots of folks to blame for it—or we can recognize the big hopes and dreams that the American people have placed on this President and this Congress and this time in our history. We can recognize that there is still more that unites us in this country than divides us in this country. We can still recognize that folks care very little about us and our families and care so very much about their community and their families.

With that as our touchstone, Mr. Speaker, call me an irrational optimist, but I think there is absolutely nothing that we can't do together, and I look forward to playing a role in that.

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

PRESIDENT TRUMP'S TAX PLAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2017, the gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. JAYAPAL) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of my Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Speaker, this Special Order is for the Congressional Progressive Caucus, and I am so proud to be a vice chair of that caucus and to lead the Special Order hour with my colleague, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. RASKIN).

We do this once a week, and we try to take up topics that we think are of great interest across the country to our constituency. So I am very proud to have the Congressional Progressive Caucus leading the way on so many issues that are important, from education to transportation, infrastructure to, of course, today's topic, which is the tax plan that was released yesterday by President Trump.

The tax plan that was released yesterday—and I have to start by saying I am not sure this is actually the plan. I am not sure that a one-page document constitutes a plan. This is not even a two-sided document. It is a one-sided document. This is what we are reacting to. And it is similar to the tax plan that candidate Trump spoke about during the campaign.

So we will do our best with what has been put forward as a plan, but this plan, in our estimation, when you look at what it contains, really amounts to nothing more than a one-page document full of handouts to the rich.

The Secretary of the Treasury, Steve Mnuchin, yesterday said, during a press conference, that one thing that this President has done very well—this is a quote: ''One thing this President has done very well is listen.''

Mr. Speaker, I have to disagree with that. Two weekends ago, there were 190,000 Americans in red States and blue States across the country who were on the streets asking for the President to release his tax returns in the same way that every other President of the United States has done in modern history. Unfortunately, this President has not listened. As a candidate, he said he would release his tax returns. As a President, he has refused to do so.

He didn't listen when women and their allies took to the streets in the biggest march in American history to demand that he respect women, protect Planned Parenthood, and support equal rights for women.

And this President certainly didn't listen to the millions of Americans who were outspoken in their opposition to the Republican healthcare plan that essentially took $1 trillion off of the backs of working people and folks who need health care across this country and transferred it to the wealthiest in our country.

The reality is this President, unfortunately, has not been listening to the American people. If you look at that healthcare plan, just as an example, only 17 percent of the American public actually supported TrumpCare. This President has not been listening, to now put forward another plan on health care that again suggests that we should actually take away essential health benefits from people, take away the opportunity for people to have preexisting conditions covered, and, once again, leaving an additional 24 million

Americans stripped of their health care.

□ 1630

So in this tax press conference yesterday, it became very clear that the administration doesn't have really an idea of exactly what the plan is going to look like, except for the fact that it will be good for business.

Secretary Mnuchin said:

''Under the Trump plan, we will have a massive tax cut for businesses. . . .''

Despite all of President Trump's broken promises, we have to believe that this may actually be true. Let's not forget that the Secretary of the Treasury was a C-level executive at Goldman Sachs and his loyalties have been with Big Business.

The tax plan, as we have been given it on this one-page document, is a gift-wrapped tax cut to the highest earners and corporations. The claim is that it was written to create jobs and spur economic growth and help low- and middle-income families, but what it really does is drastically reduce tax rates for Big Business to just 15 percent. That tax break isn't just for cooperations; it is also for pass-through firms.

Let's be clear about what pass-through firms are. Pass-through firms are entities that wealthy people and companies use in order to funnel money and have lower tax rates. Among these companies is The Trump Organization.

This is why, in asking for the President's tax returns, this is not just an ask that doesn't have any meaning. It is not a partisan ask. We have 190,000 Americans in the streets in red States and blue States asking. When we know what is in the President's tax returns, then we have the ability to make sure that we understand, as the American people, whether any plan he proposes is in the interest of the American people or whether it is in his own financial interest.

According to the Center for American Progress, 70 percent of partnership and S corporation income goes to the top 1 percent of U.S. households by income. So when you propose a tax cut for these pass-through entities, we are talking about a tax cut for the people in the top 1 percent of this country. We are not talking about a tax cut that benefits middle class, working families.

The Center on Budget and Policy Priorities provided a specific example where a lawyer making $1 million a year could funnel their income through that pass-through and could actually save $180,000 a year. There is no doubt that this President would himself benefit from this tax plan, although we can't say exactly how much, because we haven't seen the tax returns and we don't know exactly which financial interests he has and how much he would benefit.

However, his own lawyers reported that nearly all of his 500 or so businesses are—don't be surprised—pass-throughs. If we accept this assertion from his lawyers that his assets are worth more than $10 billion, then this tax plan or tax ploy, depending on how you want to see it, would actually save the President of the United States millions of dollars, but it would not benefit millions of working families across this country who actually need to see our tax system reform so that it is more fair.

When asked how these tax cuts were paid for, Secretary Mnuchin said they would be so effective at bolstering the economy that it would pay for itself. Now, we have seen trickle-down economics before in this country, and it is a nonsensical idea that this tax plan would bolster the economy. We have seen the disastrous effects of trickle-down economics specifically on low-income and middle-income families.

The Tax Foundation estimates that reducing the business rate for companies and pass-throughs to 15 percent would actually reduce revenue in this country by $3.5 trillion over 10 years. They also found that, at the very best, the plan would only spur enough growth to pay for less than half the cost of the tax cuts. Low-and middle-income Americans would ultimately pay the price, not Big Business.

Now, this is similar to what we saw in the healthcare plan. In the healthcare plan, if you remember, what we saw was a proposal to cut $880 billion from Medicaid and take that money and essentially give a trillion dollars in tax cuts to the wealthiest. So if you were in the top 4 percent of income earners in this country, you would have gotten a tax cut of about $200,000 a year. But if you were in that age that we like to call seniors, between 50 and 64, you would have an age tax and you would have to pay up to $15,000 more on your premiums. So that is why some of my colleagues across the aisle actually called that healthcare plan a downpayment on a tax plan. It was supposed to be the beginning of a tax reform plan that, again, moved more money to the wealthiest in our country.

We are seeing a State-level microcosm of this playing out right now in the State of Kansas where the State passed massive tax cuts, including exempting pass-throughs from State taxes.

The result?

More than 333,000 residents changed their income to funnel through pass-throughs in the first year alone.

What happened in Kansas when this was pushed through?

State revenue went down by an additional almost 2 percent, costing $206 million in 2013 and $472 million the following year.

Today, the State faces a $1.1 billion shortfall, and residents are paying the price in lost programming and services. But the promise that was made at the time that this plan was pushed through in Kansas—the same kind of plan that is being proposed today at the Federal level—the promise that was made was that it would kick-start the economy. Unfortunately, but not surprisingly, that hasn't happened either. Economic growth in Kansas is happening at just half the national average.

Because here is the thing: tax cuts don't just pay for themselves, and there are plenty of experts on both sides of the aisle that will attest to that. A sheet of paper is not a plan, and everyone knows it.

When reporters pressed Secretary Mnuchin and the National Economic Council Director Gary Cohn for details, they failed to provide anything of substance. A reporter asked Cohn three times what the tax cut would look like for a family of four making $60,000 per year.

I have a lot of those families, Mr. Speaker, in my district. I believe we have those families in red States and blue States, working people across this country who believe that America should be and must be a land of opportunity for people who work hard. Maybe they are not the richest people in the world. Maybe they are not the richest top 1 percent in this country. But they work hard, they earn a good living, and they deserve to have fairness in our tax plan.

Now, when Mr. Cohn was asked three times by this reporter what the tax cut would look like for a family of four making $60,000 a year, he replied it is ''gonna mean a tax cut'' three times in a row. Instead of getting answers, though, and when he was pressed, reporters were told over and over again that they would get more information later and that the administration is in ''robust talks.''

Well, I am a Member of the House, and supposedly those robust talks are happening with the House and the Senate. We all represent the people of the United States. We want to all be a part of the conversation, and we demand to know specifically, as we look at this plan, how this President, his family, and his Cabinet will benefit from the tax plan. That is only fair, Mr. Speaker, that we understand exactly how this tax plan would benefit the person who is proposing the tax plan.

Is this tax plan for the American people to see relief, or is it for the President and his best friends to see relief?

The reality is that this is about an issue of trust. The American people deserve to know whether they can trust this President and this administration to act on their behalf. So far, unfortunately, this administration has continued to throw the middle class under the bus, whether it is threatening to cut funding for Meals on Wheels, which is part of the budget proposal in cutting the CDBG programs, or whether it

is in proposing a healthcare plan that cuts vital health care from millions of Americans. So we are intent to stay extremely vigilant.

I see that we have a couple of colleagues from the Progressive Caucus.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the distinguished gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE), a colleague on the Judiciary Committee, a strong champion for working people in Texas and across our country.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. JAYAPAL) for yielding and for her leadership on this Special Order.

I will take just a moment of the gentlewoman's time because I think she has captured the essence of the frustration, not that Members of Congress have, but that the American people have. So I wanted to make sure that I shared some of the contrasts that we have between what has happened yesterday and the announcement of the administration of Mr. Trump's tax proposal, which, in essence, is really a bowl of horror. It is a continuation of an ineffective 100 days, and the fear that I have is that it was rushed and put together to meet this really unnecessary standard or unnecessary test of 100 days, one that was so pronounced during Mr. Trump's campaign in contrast to Mr. Clinton, Mr. Bush, and Mr. Obama, the last three Presidents that we have as examples.

What is in the first 100 days?

The first 100 days should be working. You should be working every day and you should have to account or you should be able to account for the successes that you have done in the normal course of work. Methodically, you can check off the good that you have done for the American people; that it comes naturally, that you have been methodical, that you have worked with Congress, that you worked with your executives, that you have looked to see what can be improved.

All that we can see is what has been destroyed or dismantled or taxed or ridiculed. There is nothing that advantages the American people.

Certainly, the healthcare bill was ridiculing the American people. It was ridiculous. $880 billion was taken from Medicaid; $600 billion was to be used for tax cuts, which they do not have at this point. We fear that they will be rushing through such a bill in the next couple of days.

More importantly, where was the commitment to all of the promises?

So let me just speak to two particular points.

The economic security of women, what has happened under this administration?

Blocking expanded overtime pay, which disproportionately benefits women workers. Failing to advance equal pay, paid family leave, and affordable childcare legislation, talking about it but doing nothing.

Endangering retirement security by blocking a rule requiring retirement advisers to put clients first.

Can you imagine?

Senior citizens have helped build this country, and you would deny them adequate counsel on their retirement. That has happened.

All of these have happened under the Trump administration: proposing severe cuts to the Department of Labor, which would hinder enforcement of family and medical leave. Of course, cutting Meals on Wheels, as has been indicated. Cutting the National Institutes of Health. Major lifesaving research down the drain. Scientists looking for other countries to go to because they have no room at the inn.

And then making student debt harder to pay off by rescinding a rule that limits the fees that loan companies can charge its borrowers. Remember, those borrowers are 18, 19, 20, 21 years old. They are the next generation or the current generation of the builders of this economy and this society.

Then to add insult to injury, if I might say, yesterday a big pronouncement announced over the weekend the biggest, fattest tax cut you could ever have or tax reform that you would ever have. Of course, everyone knows in America this is not tax reform. This is a simple bunch of tax cuts that will have a competition between debt and deficit. This will be a spiraling downward trend digging America into the deepest hole of debt and deficit in the history of the United States.

Trillions of dollars spent on individuals and corporations that do not need it.

How do I know?

I have spoken to them, and there is a whole litany of corporate issues that are not being answered.

For example, the idea of being able to deduct interest payments is nowhere to be found. That might help middle class working families, as well as corporations and small businesses.

What you have is trickle-down economics. President Trump's tax plan is built on the same trickle-down economics that withered inequality and undermined working families.

There are massive tax breaks for Trump himself. In the course of his days that he may have paid taxes—and let me be very clear that we don't know what impact this tax bill would have on him because we do not have his tax returns. But we do know, in the last time we have records, he had to pay $39 million in taxes because of the alternative minimum tax put in place in 1986 by President Reagan.

Can you imagine?

If there was not the AMT—alternative minimum tax—he would be paying $5 million.

□ 1645

Well, ladies and gentlemen, my dear colleagues, they have eliminated in this tax bill the AMT. That sounds suspicious, and it shouldn't sound suspicious. It is suspicious, and the reality of it is it is self-promoting and self-happening.

Then, of course, these tax cuts are moving the corporate rate from 35 to 15. Let me make a breaking news announcement. Most corporations pay about 14, but with the 35 moved to 15, maybe they will pay zero.

Who is going to be part of the overall supporting and investment in this Nation, to build our infrastructure, to create jobs, to build the new level of energy, new technology, to ensure that health care is provided for those who need it, to make sure that the Affordable Care Act continues to cover the millions of people that need it instead of cutting 24 million people?

Well, with the tax cuts in place, there is a rush to judgment. That judgment is a pronouncement of a complete deficit hole for the American people. That is what this tax cut does. There are no benefits for working class Americans or middle class Americans. There is no incentive to create jobs. In fact, I have no idea what the thinking or planning was that went into the President's tax plan.

All I know is that the American people who get up every day and go to work, or those who get up every day and get three or four buses to go to work—and part of the time that they are going to work, they have to drop off their children at a school that may not be in their neighborhood because there is a need for more investment in education. All I know is that those people whom I am so proud to be able to represent, as well as large businesses and small businesses that, I believe, as I have listened to corporate leaders just a few hours ago saying, ''We are with you all. We want what is best for America. This is not what we desire, not to give all to us or the top 1 percent. We want to help America grow because, as America grows, our companies thrive, our shareholders thrive,'' that is not the message of this administration.

So I am delighted to join the Congressional Progressive Caucus to ask the question of the Trump administration: Are you so worried about the 100 days that you cannot worry about the American people? Is 100 days more important than the mother who is traveling to work 3 and 4 hours? Is 100 days more important than the traveling salesmen who need the kind of infrastructure and roads that work? or those in southern America that need the kind of rural electric system that helps them? or those that need clean energy? or those that need research for the next cure for sickle cell anemia?

Is your 100 days so important that you cannot provide resources for law

enforcement and firefighters and first responders, that you cannot provide help for the national parks, the National Endowment for the Arts, and you cannot provide direction to the Department of Justice, which has turned itself into the injustice, unjust department, exploring ideas of taking away civil rights, denying individuals their rights as citizens in the United States in terms of discrimination and equality, opportunity or, in actuality, creating the one thing that you can be proud of, and that is the deportation task force that is demonizing hard-working individuals who simply want an opportunity for their families?

So I would only say that I thank the gentlewoman for yielding to me, and I thank the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. RASKIN), as well, for his presence here and others that will come and ask the question: Are all these people that we have listed less important than your 100 days? I am saddened if the answer is yes.

Mr. Speaker, I join my colleague Congresswoman PRAMILA JAYAPAL and who is leading tonight ''Congressional Progressive Caucus Special Order the impact of President Trump's Tax Cut Plan.''

As a member of the House Budget Committee, I would participate in any Committee's markup of a tax reform bill.

President Trump's much anticipated tax plan is another disappointment; a poor work product; something he should have been ashamed to put his name on; and it reveals yet again what many warned about before the election.

This President is unprepared for his office, and he shows either no capacity or interest in on the job training.

This tax plan in any school of business would get a failing grade.

A one page federal tax cut plan—really is an insult to the American People.

This plan shows no command of the facts regarding our nation's very complex tax system.

President Trump's tax plan, just as his healthcare reform proposal, and immigration reform proposal would hurt working families and disproportionately favor the wealthy and large corporations at the expense of the nation's middle class.

Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin set out a test for tax reform that, ''there will be no absolute tax cut for the upper class.''

But the president's tax plan has failed this test miserably by providing a huge tax cut for the wealthy while middle income families would receive very little benefit.

In fact, Trump's tax plan provides a huge tax benefit for him personally. Using his 2005 tax return numbers, President Trump would save about $28.6 million in taxes under his plan.

About $27 million of those savings is due to the reduction of the pass through income rate to 15%.

President Trump's tax proposal blows a hole in the nation's deficit.

It's become painfully obvious that the deficit only matters when a Democrat is President.

The plan is not revenue neutral. In fact, early press reports indicate that the Trump proposal is likely to add several trillions of dollars to our deficit.

Busting the deficit the way the Trump tax plan would do puts immediate pressure on our other obligations—including guaranteed Medicare benefits.

The President can't pretend to protect Medicare, then leave beneficiaries completely exposed by draining our coffers.

For some context, these tax cuts could fund Medicare for the next 75 years or more.

You have to question the priorities of the President—is he working to keep his promises to hardworking Americans, or is he abandoning those promises in favor of enriching the wealthy.

President Trump's tax proposal is a return to Reagan's failed supply side economics.

The evidence is clear: large tax cuts like this don't pay for themselves, despite the rhetoric we hear from this Administration. Just ask the conservative leaning Tax Foundation.

This broad outline—which lacks any kind of real detail—seems to simply be a repeat of the mistakes we made with President George W. Bush's tax cuts in 2001 and 2003, which cost us trillions of dollars, did nothing to help working families, and, in part, contributed to the Great Recession.

Democrats know that the Middle Class deserves the tax cut, not Donald Trump and his Cabinet.

We would focus on growing our economy from the middle out, instead of trickle-down economics from the top down.

The middle class does not need to lose their healthcare coverage provided by the Affordable Care Act.

The middle class does not need to deal with the consequence of a massive tax cut for the wealthy.

Any tax cut must be paid for by getting funding from somewhere else in the federal budget.

The source of funding to pay for the tax cuts under the failed repeal of the Affordable Care Act would have come from Medicare and Medicaid—hurting millions of people who would have lost access to health insurance coverage.

I am joining my colleagues this evening in strong opposition to this Administration's attempt to diminish the quality of life of working families by creating unfair burdens like funding ill-conceived tax cut plans.

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Texas for eloquently articulating so many of the issues that are in front of us right now, including, once again: What exactly is this administration doing for people across this country, both those who voted for him and those who didn't, but middle class Americans who are trying to make sure that this country stays a land of opportunity?

Mr. Speaker, so the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. RASKIN), my distinguished vice chair and co-chair of this Special Order hour, may control the remainder of this hour, I yield back the balance of my time.

PRESIDENT TRUMP'S TAX PLAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2017, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. RASKIN) is recognized for the remainder of the hour as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congresswoman JAYAPAL for leading us in this Special Order to discuss President Trump's tax proposal, which we received this morning—or last night. The public discussion on taxes has been going on for several weeks now in anticipation of the release of the President's proposal.

Hundreds of thousands of Americans took to the streets, from the East to the West, the North to the South, all over America. Hundreds of thousands of people marched with a very simple demand to President Trump, which is that he follow the precedent and the policy that was pursued by the last nine Presidents, going back to Richard Nixon, for a half century of releasing his tax returns, something that President Trump promised to do as a President, saying he would do it after his audit was completed, and then he got into office and then just changed his mind and said this would be, I guess, another one of the broken promises that he would deliver to the American people.

So why is this a big deal? Why is it important that we get to see the President's taxes?

Well, America was conceived in popular democratic revolution against royalty, against monarchy, against aristocracy. We, as a people, overthrew a king who imposed tea taxes on small businesses, on the little people, but exempted his tycoon buddies in the East India Corporation, a king who constantly sweated the commoners with high taxes to pay for his lavish expenses and traveling jaunts and vacations around the world with the royal family and the royal court, a king who never paid any taxes and never disclosed his own entanglements with foreign governments. We rebelled against that kind of government.

We demand accountability. We demand transparency here.

Mr. President, please read the Constitution. We have no kings here. We have no slaves here. We have no czars here. We have no serfs here. We have equal citizens, free citizens with equal rights.

We allow no titles of nobility here, which is a point you might mention to your Secretary of State, who still carries that disgraceful title conferred upon him by Vladimir Putin, the Russian Order of Friendship.

In America, no one is above the law and all of us are subject to it. As Tom Paine put it, in the monarchies, the king is law; but in the democracies, the law is king.

The President of the United States owes an undivided loyalty to the people, the laws, and the Constitution of the United States, not the oligarchs of

Russia, not the businessmen of Azerbaijan, not the hotel owners of the world, not the Bank of China, not the dictators and kleptocrats and tyrants of the Earth. The President owes undivided loyalty to the people of the United States.

So we ask the question: Where are your taxes?

How can we determine whether the President has conflicts of interest or is collecting illegal emoluments from foreign governments if he won't show us the names of the people and the corporations that he is in active partnership with all over the world? We simply can't do it.

How can we dream of undertaking to completely reform and revise the tax policy of America unless we see the President's tax returns in order to determine whether or not he is going to benefit from the policies that he is now advancing? We can't do it.

Forgive me, but is there anyone left in America who thinks that this President would propose a tax reform that would hurt his own individual, personal, or business interests? If you believe that, you are too innocent to be let out of the house by yourself at this point in the Trump administration.

So then we arrive at work and we receive this. This single piece of paper is the Donald Trump tax plan. It is not a bill. It is not a study. It is not a plan. There are not even complete sentences in it. There are sentence fragments in it. It is not even a press release.

But it has got a few key ideas, apparently, that he is asking the Republicans in Congress to lead us to pass by tomorrow in order to make the 100-day deadline which the President has disdained and castigated. But he wants to make the 100-day deadline because he understands now that there is some kind of milestone that he wants to suddenly be able to achieve.

Well, what is in here?

Well, first, the Treasury Secretary, Mr. Mnuchin, set out a test for tax reform in which he said there will be no absolute tax cut for the upper class. Well, this plan totally defies that promise. It betrays that promise. It provides a huge tax cut for the wealthy, while middle class families receive very little benefit, at the same time that social programs are being sliced and diced all over the Federal Government.

We also know that the tax plan will provide a huge benefit to Donald Trump himself. Now, we know this only because one of his tax returns leaked out, suspiciously, and some think, from the White House, the 2005 plan, which appeared on TV—nothing before that, nothing after.

But even taking this 1 year which, presumably, is most in the President's favor, President Trump would save over $28 million in taxes under the 1-page plan that got passed around Congress today. Most of that money comes through the reduction of the pass-through business income tax rate, reducing it from the 30 percent range to 15 percent.

But then it also proposes abolishing, and I know it because it says right here, bullet No. 3 under bullet No. 5, repeal the alternative minimum tax. He wants to repeal the alternative minimum tax.

Now, what is this AMT? AMT does not stand for ''all money to Trump.'' AMT stands for the alternative minimum tax. And what it means is, if you are superwealthy and you have got an army of lawyers on your side and you can structure your corporate bankruptcies and your personal business losses—of which President Trump has many—in such a way as to make it possible for you not to pay any taxes for a long time, the alternative minimum tax says, well, there is something that everybody has got to pay. There is an alternative minimum tax. We are not going to let anybody's clever lawyering bring them below a certain rate.

On that rule, we know that Mr. Trump, in that 1 year we know about, 2005—you probably saw it on Rachel Maddow. In that 1 year, he paid millions of dollars only because of the existence of the alternative minimum tax. In other words, all of his deductions and corporate bankruptcies and clever lawyers' tricks that got him down to zero, presumably, in all these other years that he won't show us, none of them could stop him from having to pay something, because the alternative minimum tax says let's not press a good joke too far. We understand you are very wealthy. We understand that there are loopholes that have been injected to the law, but we are not going to let anybody fall below a certain minimum threshold.

You could think of it kind of like equivalent to the minimum wage for working people. The alternative minimum tax is kind of the minimum wage that the wealthiest people in the country pay us, as opposed to escaping all of their taxes.

Well, Donald Trump now wants to abolish the alternative minimum tax. He just wants to get rid of it. That doesn't sound like a very good idea. It is going to dig a superbig hole for us and dig the deficit much further.

Let's talk about the deficit. Well, I thought—look, I love the fact that we have got two parties. We should have more parties. It is great that we have got a left and a right. A bird can only fly if it has got a left wing and a right wing, all right?

□ 1700

But I thought that the heart of Republican Party orthodoxy is you don't blow up the deficit with outrageous tax proposals or spending proposals. They call us tax-and-spend liberals. They are cut-the-taxes-and-spend conservatives. I don't even know what makes them conservative anymore. I call myself a liberal because the heart of the word ''liberal'' is liberty. I call myself a progressive because the heart of the word ''progressive'' is progress. And if we are not making progress, then what are we doing in government?

But after seeing this plan, I realize those of us on our side of the aisle can call ourselves conservatives, too, because we want to conserve the land, the air, the water, the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, political democracy, our alliances with foreign governments and foreign democracies, Social Security, health care for the people, and we want to preserve as much of a balanced budget as we can get to. On the other side of the aisle, they are calling themselves conservatives, and I don't know why because if they back this proposal, then they are blowing a multitrillion-dollar hole in the deficit.

This plan is not remotely revenue neutral. The earliest estimates are that it will blow a 6 or $7 trillion hole in the deficit. That, of course, is a way to put unsustainable pressure on the other commitments we have made as a Congress, as a people, Social Security commitments to the people, and Medicare commitments to the people for health care. We cannot afford this irresponsible and reckless tax plan that has been sent to Congress by the President. It is a return to discredited, failed, supply-side economics. All they can say is they will blow a $7 trillion hole in the deficit, but they are going to make so much money back through all the economic activity that we will be able to make money on that. If you believe that, then you will believe Mr. Trump's promise that he is going to release his tax returns next year or the year after that.

Look, we do need tax reform in America because this system is regressive, and this system is opaquely complex. We need some real reform. But this is not remotely the answer, this one-page mimeographed sheet of some really bad ideas.

Let me just say one other thing that seems to have snuck in there: repeal the estate tax. They want to repeal the estate tax. This might be the greatest betrayal of all—not because President Trump has ever supported it, but because the Founders of America were determined to have an estate tax. I am talking about Thomas Jefferson, Tom Paine, and Ben Franklin. The original Americans wanted this to be a country of economic opportunity and freedom for people. But they thought the idea of inherited wealth passed down from generation to generation was a major threat to the idea of political equality and democracy for all. They saw that it would be unsustainable if you had huge fortunes—nowhere near as huge as they are today—but huge fortunes being

passed down from generation to generation. That would lead us to an aristocracy; that would lead us to a monarchy; and that would lead us to Presidents of the United States who would think that they don't have to show you their income taxes, Presidents of the United States who think it is okay to spend public money on fancy vacations for their family and Secret Service all over the country and the world and having a winter or a summer escape at Mar-a-Lago, Florida, and so on. Go back, please, I beseech the citizens of America, read Thomas Jefferson about inherited wealth.

Now, our laws today don't even have the estate tax or the inheritance tax starting until millions of dollars. The vast majority of Americans are not even affected by it. It applies right now only to the smallest sliver of the wealthiest Americans. I think—and forgive me for not having the facts in front of me—again, we are just getting this all right now, but I think we are now somewhere around $4.5 million. So if you die with $4.5 million, your estate is not going to be taxed. That is enough to send the kids and the grandkids to college. It is enough for people to inherit a house or two houses. That is not bad. But the fact that we would tax beyond that means that we are not going to get a society that is based on inherited wealth and deep, profound political and economic inequality which were totally anathema to the Founders of the country, and also, by the way, totally antithetical to the vision of Adam Smith who is the big hero to my conservative friends on the other side of the aisle.

Adam Smith was someone who said: You don't want to have inherited wealth in a society like that. That is dangerous. It will promote idleness and irresponsibility among the people who inherit hundreds of millions or billions of dollars. It will increase political inequalities and class tension in the society, and it will lead to irresponsible behavior by the people who have that kind of wealth.

People will get the idea that they can buy a public office. In America, public office is something that you earn. It is not something that you buy; but, right now, there is a model for elective politics around the country which is you don't have to be involved in politics, you don't have to be involved in social movements, you don't have to be involved in public service, and you don't have to do anything for anybody. As long as you have got enough money, you can go in, you can buy the consultants and the pollsters, and you can go right to the head of the class, and then you can get into office.

What is so dangerous about that? Well, look around the world. What is happening? There is a whole new model of government that is popping up from Putin's Russia to Duterte's Philippines to Orban's Hungary to Le Pen's France. And the model is this: that people get into office, and government becomes a moneymaking operation for them and their friends, for a tiny elite. That totally contradicts the promise of America. Our Founders were concerned with making sure that there would be public virtue, that we would put people in office who were committed to the common good, to the public interest of everybody, not to the goal of enriching themselves or their hotel partners or people they are in business with in Russia or in Saudi Arabia or all over the world. That is not the model. In America, the government has got to be devoted to the people.

So, America, read the fine print here. This tax plan contradicts everything that we were founded on as a country. It upsets the very idea of democracy—abolishing the estate tax, abolishing the alternative minimum tax, driving all the wealth up the income and wealth ladder. That is not America. We have got to stand up for what American values really are. We are not Russia. We are not a kleptocracy. We are not Azerbaijan. We are not Saudi Arabia. This is the United States of America. We need a government that is committed to the economic success of every family and of every person.

So I am urging the public to do exactly what you did with that terrible health proposal they came forward with that would have thrown 24 million Americans off health insurance in order to create hundreds of billions of dollars of tax breaks for the wealthiest Americans. Reject it. Don't accept it.

America needs to know that all of the protests and the popular participation is working. The Women's March set the whole context for discussion about what is going to happen here because we know that President Trump campaigned like William Jennings Bryan, like he was a big populist. He was going to be on the side of the working people. But he got in, and the very people he denounced, like Goldman Sachs, have come to run his government. It is a Wall Street Cabinet. It is the wealthiest Cabinet in the history of the United States. That is who this government represents today. That is what this tax plan represents today.

So they are going to try to jam it down Congress over the next 24 hours. We are going to do everything to stop it. We need the help of the American people to stand up and say: No; what is the rush? Let's take time, and let's analyze what is in there. Let's see if it is consistent with our values. Let's see if it is going to blow a multitrillion-dollar hole in the U.S. deficit. Let's see if it is sustainable, and let's see if this is the best way to do this.

This is not a way to run Congress of the greatest democracy on Earth—springing things at us in the last minute, just like they did with the healthcare plan. The Affordable Care Act that they are so eager to slice and dice at this point came about after 70 hearings in this body, after a year and a half of debate, and after town meetings all over America. Their plan to destroy it they brought in on Monday night, and they voted it in on Wednesday with no hearings, with no witnesses, with no deliberation and discussion. Now they want to try the same magic trick with their tax plan.

They have got a royal straight flush. Let's be clear, they control the House, the Senate, the White House, and now, with the confirmation of Mr. Gorsuch, the Supreme Court. All that we have on our side are those three beautiful words that kick off our Constitution: we the people. We the people have to stand up and say that this is not what anybody voted for. It clearly was not what the majority of the country voted for because a majority of the people did not vote for Donald Trump. But it is not even what the States and the electoral college who were on his side wanted. Nobody was talking about a tax plan that would bring havoc and ruin to our economy and drive working class and middle class people even further into a position of submission to the wealthiest people who now appear to want to govern us in all things.

We don't begrudge anybody their wealth. It is great. This is a country where people can get rich. That is great. But your wealth does not give you the right to control everybody else. Your wealth does not give you the right to govern the rest of America. That is the principle at stake here.

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

DILIGENT CONSIDERATION OF LEGISLATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2017, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) for 30 minutes.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, it has been interesting hearing about a situation in the country—and it is amazing how some of us can look at the same thing and see very different situations. I know there are some that think we should stay in session all the time, but as is normally said back in Texas about the Texas legislature—and it applies even more so to the U.S. Congress—and that is, when legislature is in session, neither man nor property is safe.

We are voting on bills every day we are in session. As I understand it, there was a time when Congress could be in session, have hearings during the day, maybe vote in committee but not actually have votes on the floor during the day. But I think over the years, the concern has been if we are not voting on the floor where it is recorded, then people might not show up. There is certainly a body of evidence to support

the country being better off when Congress doesn't come into session.

I had read that one of our Founders, Thomas Jefferson, for all his wisdom and his incredible draft—his was the first draft of the Declaration of Independence—Jefferson was not actually there in Philadelphia to help draft the Constitution in 1787. But I had read that he sent a letter and remarked that if he had one thing that he could get into the Constitution—realizing, of course, it was too late at that point—but it would be a requirement that no bill could be voted on in Congress until it had been on file for a year.

Some might immediately respond: well, gee, there are so many bills that we pass as emergency bills; and I would respond that yes, and usually those things that are drafted so quickly are more problematic than other legislation that goes through a lengthy and more diligent look at what is in the bill before it is passed.

In fact, if we had such—and I am not advocating that we have this constitutional amendment—but I am noting, Mr. Speaker, the merits of having bills on file for a lengthy period of time so people have a chance to think about it, talk about it, weigh the merits, and go back to our districts and talk about the merits there.

Of course, I am not talking about going back and having these fake news townhalls where people who supported opponents demand townhalls, and they have their playbook for how you go about trying to intimidate your Member of Congress and keep intimidating until your Member of Congress becomes a coward and he is afraid not to have, or she is afraid not to have, a townhall. And then once you have cowarded them into having a townhall, then they have the playbook for how you totally disrupt the townhall.

□ 1715

That is not what I am talking about. I am talking about going all over your district talking to people eye-to-eye, heart-to-heart, and finding out where people are. It is incredible how people have come to be hurting over the last 8 years.

For all the talk that President Obama had about Fat Cats on Wall Street, it was as if there was a wink and a nod: Okay, I am going to refer to you guys on Wall Street as Fat Cats, but I am going to make you richer than you have ever been. I am going to stack the deck in your favor. All you have to do is endure me calling you Fat Cats, making references to you being so greedy. I may even refer to you being Republican, even though probably more of you donate to me than did my opponents. But that will be our little game. Then, of course, when I am out of office, you can pay me $400,000 for giving you an hour of my time. That is another wink and nod. It is just a friendly reward for how good I did for you while I was President.

Let's face it, the Democrats got through the Dodd-Frank bill that was supposed to punish the banks that brought us to the brink of ruin, but instead of punishing or reining in the investment banks on Wall Street that brought us to the brink of ruin, Dodd-Frank has overseen the demise of hundreds, even thousands of community banks that did not bring us anywhere close to the brink of economic disaster. In fact, they were the backbone.

As President George W. Bush was going out of office, he got $700 billion handed over to the Treasury Department so they could reward people like those at Goldman Sachs who helped bring us to the brink of desperation. In fact, I only saw one of the contracts that were drafted by the Treasury Department some years back. Lo and behold, it was one of the firms that was listed as being appropriate for the Treasury to contract with. Goldman Sachs was right in there.

Of course, with the disdain that Secretary Paulsen had for Goldman Sachs, he wasn't about to let their competitor, Lehman Brothers, survive. He was able to keep them from surviving, not helping them. God bless Ford Motor Company. They were able to turn down any government assistance that GM and Chrysler took.

There was a remedy, if we hadn't panicked and followed the advice of former FDIC Chairman Isaac. I found out from my Democratic friend BRAD SHERMAN that he actually was the one that first brought former Chairman Isaac to the Hill. He had a good solution that would not have caused us to take what was referred to by socialists the day after it passed as the biggest step toward socialism in the last 50 years, and that was the Federal Government crawling in bed and calling the shots with the investment banks on Wall Street, much to the ruin of so many community banks.

We gave advantages to the big banks. We hurt the community banks who were not able to compete as well. God bless all of those that have hung in there. I hope that we can rectify things better than that.

The bottom line, I think, testifying about what the Obama years were about—and was even acknowledged by President Obama—a few years ago, he actually acknowledged that his Presidency oversaw a record that had never happened before in U.S. history. Ninety-five percent of the income in the United States—that was under Obama's policies—95 percent of all American income went to the top 1 percent in America.

If you were looking for one fact to really characterize the abuses of the preceding 8 years, I think that would be in contention. Ninety-five percent of the income went to the top 1 percent, not under George W. Bush, not under George H.W. Bush, not under Ronald Reagan, not under Richard Nixon, not under Dwight Eisenhower, not even under Harry Truman, but under Barack Hussein Obama's policies.

During his Presidency, the way the deck was tilted against the middle class and shrunk as the poor in America grew under Obama's policies, we actually hit a milestone in American history. Ninety-five percent of the income went to the top 1 percent income earners. That is pretty amazing.

I do personally, Mr. Speaker, think that has something to do with the Republicans gaining the majority in the House, in the Senate, and getting the Presidency. Americans, by a huge margin of electoral votes, and if you look at the map, who voted for Donald Trump and who voted for Hillary Clinton, it pretty well establishes the Democratic Party as the fringe party of America. They won the fringes, other than some major cities here and there. They are the fringe party.

All across America—the bulk of America, when you look at the map, voted to change course. Let's try something different so that 95 percent of America's income doesn't end up in the pockets of the top 1 percent—those same 1 percent that will be paying former President Obama $400,000 for 1 hour of his time.

Where have we heard that recently?

Well, I don't believe that was George W. Bush speaking to the disabled veterans getting that kind of money. Oh, yes, I recall now. It was Hillary Clinton. It was Bill Clinton. Bill Clinton earned massive amounts for speeches while his wife was the Secretary of State. And, wow, all of those tens, hundreds, millions of dollars coming to the Clinton Foundation amazingly at the time that this company that ends up being controlled by the Russians are allowed by Hillary Clinton to buy 25 percent or so of our uranium production.

Let's recap briefly what the Clinton family has done for us. Well, we know that in the nineties, when it comes to foreign affairs, North Korea was a threat to the world, to freedom, because they had a crazy leader, Kim Jong-il, and the world was concerned that North Korea might get nuclear weapons.

So what happened through the Clinton administration?

Well, they sent Wendy Sherman and some other folks and they negotiated with the North Koreans and said: If you will just sign and say you are agreeing not to develop nuclear weapons, we will make sure you have everything you need to make nuclear weapons, but you will have to sign saying that when we give you everything, make sure you have everything to make nuclear weapons, you just won't make them into nuclear weapons.

I mentioned before, it reminds me of that routine Jeff Foxworthy talks about when he was not doing very well financially and a guy comes to take his car because he hasn't been able to make his payments, and he said: Look, man, please don't take my car. If you take my car, I can't do any more gigs and I can't make any money, and then I have no chance of paying you.

The guy said: Buddy, I am sorry, but my instructions were to either take the car or cash or a check.

Foxworthy said: Check? You mean I can just sign something and you will take that and leave me alone? Oh, I can give you a check. I didn't know that was going to be good enough.

I thought about Kim Jong-il thinking: You mean you will give me everything I need to create a bunch of nuclear weapons and you will accept my signature and that is good enough for Wendy Sherman and all those other people—our Under Secretary of State under Bill Clinton?

It is amazing that she has had the nerve to come out critical of any other Secretary of State after the disaster she presided over.

Yes, he was glad to sign whatever the Clintons wanted him to sign. He said: Sure, if Ms. Sherman wants me to sign something, I will sign whatever you want.

And in no time, what does he have?

Nuclear weapons.

President Obama comes into office and the whole world is concerned about Iran getting nuclear weapons.

What do they do?

They said: Let's send Wendy Sherman and some of these smart people like John Kerry, who doesn't now how to pronounce Genghis Khan. Let's send them over there to negotiate with Iran so that maybe we can keep Iran from developing nuclear weapons the same way some of these same people kept North Korea from developing nuclear weapons.

So what happens?

They go over and they give the largest supporter of terrorism in the world massive amounts of cash. By massive, I mean pallets of cash and checks; however you may want it. There is no telling. They may have sent some gold or platinum. Who knows? Plutonium.

It will be interesting in the years ahead to just see how terrible the agreement was and how we are finding out—it seems like almost every night in the news we find out some other disaster that the Obama administration provided the crazy supporters of terrorism in Iran. I don't mean the rank-and-file people.

We get the impression possibly a majority of Iranians like Americans. They wish they did not have radical Islamists in control, but they are. The Obama administration provided them murdering thugs who have killed, been responsible for the death of so many in the past, and no doubt will be again in the future, and they are on their way to having nuclear weapons, just like the Clinton administration oversaw with North Korea.

□ 1730

In the meantime, though at the end of the Bush administration, the President Bush administration actually was making progress in making our borders more secure. It never came out during those days, but the Republicans in the Texas delegation in Congress were having meetings once every couple of weeks with people in the Bush administration—Karl Rove, Chertoff—a lot of good that did. But we were getting reports every couple weeks. We wanted to know what advancements, what progress had been made in the preceding two weeks in securing our border. They were taking steps to do that.

President Obama takes over, and what happens? It is like the floodgates were opened. As the Border Patrol have said to the drug cartels who were responsible from the Mexico side for every inch of the border, if you cross over in one drug cartel's sector, you must make sure you have their permission. Normally that means you must pay or agree to work for them when you get to the U.S. city where you are going.

That is why they called the Department of Homeland Security their logistics, that all the drug cartels had to do is get these people across the border. They would pay thousands to the drug cartels to get them across. They were used as a distraction. They sent them across. The Border Patrol would have to in-process them in accordance with the Obama policies. While they were doing that, they would tell you privately, yes, we know there are drugs coming across at other points in the river down there south of McAllen and southwest of McAllen, but they knew. We are doing our job. We know they are bound to be bringing drugs over while they keep us tied up. What a business model.

Then the Department of Homeland Security would ship many of those people to the places that they would have addresses for, and, as I witnessed myself, there were times when our Border Patrol would say: well, you certainly didn't come up with all the thousands. And ultimately they finally admit: no, they are going to let me work some of that off when I get to the city where I am going.

In other words, they would be their drug mules, they would be their drug salespeople. Some, God forgive us, would get into sex trafficking. The Obama administration allowed this massive network to take off.

At the same time, we heard from FBI Director Comey, we ended up with ISIS cells in every State, we had the drug cells locating all over the country in the last 8 years, we had ISIS creating cells that would be activated at some point and begin to kill Americans, and so it shouldn't have been that big of a surprise to those who were really paying attention that Americans were ready for a change. Not on the fringes, but Americans across the heartland were ready for a change, and they voted for Donald Trump.

This week, I don't know if we are going to vote tomorrow on the American Health Care Act. I indicated now, with the changes that have been made, I think probably 90 percent or so of the Freedom Caucus has now agreed. Because, I mean, we have gotten the best we can get. If we don't do something, people in my district who are just overwhelmed with the prices of their health insurance premiums, the cost of health care, the high deductibles, meaning they are paying for insurance they are probably never going to get anything out of—they have got to have help.

That is one of the reasons, one of the biggest reasons I was a holdout because even though I think CBO was talking about premiums continuing to increase up to 2026, and then 10 years from now start down a little bit, people in east Texas could not afford for premiums to continue to go up for 10 years. I think it was probably more accurate they would be going up for 3 years.

But with what we have done, and the agreement we got—I am telling you, President Trump is a great man to negotiate with. He does want to get a deal done. He was extremely cooperative. He actually can be quite enjoyable to negotiate with. He is an amazing man. But we were having trouble with leaders in the House and the Senate. President Trump would agree to things, and we would have trouble getting it past our own leadership.

Some of us felt all along, if you let the conservative group sit down with the Tuesday Group, we could probably get things worked out, and, really, bottom line is, that is what happened. TOM MACARTHUR is a very dear friend. I know he wants what is best for the people in his district. He is doing all he can to serve them. I know that is what the Tuesday Group wants to do. They want to serve their constituents. We all do.

So now where we are—and hopefully we will have votes and we can get this done. But we have gone from a bill that had 17 percent support of the American people, and now we have gotten an agreement to include provisions that eliminate the taxes immediately that would have been kept in place for the future. Under our agreement, the language is there, those taxes are out immediately. There has also been added a work requirement for people who are Medicaid recipients. If they are able to work, then they should work. If they don't have a job, they still will need to

do some work under the work requirements, much like the welfare requirements that were passed in the 1990s by the Republican House and Senate. For the first time in 30 years, a single-mom income, when adjusted for inflation, started going up after the work requirement was added.

We have also agreed to language that will make sure that people who have preexisting conditions can't be shunned by the insurance companies. If you are 26 and you are living with your parents, you can still be on their insurance. I don't know why we have even an age limit at all. Those things will still be there, despite all the fear mongering that some on the other side of the aisle have done back in Texas that I know of.

Let's make no mistake, this is not a full repeal. There is still a lot of work to be done. But the MacArthur amendment will allow the repeal of some of the mandates—not the preexisting condition or the 26 being on parents' insurance but some of the other mandates that have spiked the insurance costs so high. While this revised version still does not fully repeal ObamaCare, it will bring down the costs of health insurance. The people I represent just had to have help. At least 75 percent were saying: We have got to have help. So we look forward to working with the Senate and trying to make it even better as it goes through the Senate.

I think I have got just a minute. I just wanted to note, the observance anniversary of the Holocaust this past Tuesday, April 25, was a very somber occasion held in the rotunda. I know the minority leader, Senator SCHUMER, wanted it there. I just continue to hope and pray, as I hope most Americans do, that we will never, ever have another Holocaust. I think one of the things that can help prevent that is if we have effective national days of prayer, as have been going on for so many decades, going back to Washington proclaiming days of thanksgiving and prayer and fasting.

I deeply regret, though, that we thought we were going to be able to fulfill the vision of Anne Graham Lotz, the new chairman of the National Day of Prayer. She took over for Shirley Dobson, who did a magnificent job for the last 25 years as the national chair. She had a vision for doing it in the rotunda, and all that would require, like for the Holocaust observance, would be a unanimous consent agreement in the House and Senate, and then it would have been in the rotunda. It would have needed to have been after 5. Even though the Holocaust occurred during the day, it was clear, and she had agreed, the National Day of Prayer folks had agreed, but any Senator can put a hold on such a thing, and one Senator did. Senator SCHUMER put a hold on the National Day of Prayer being able to use the rotunda.

I hope and pray some day Senator SCHUMER will realize that the best way to avoid a Holocaust in the future is to have effective national days of prayer from the rotunda and everywhere else that we possibly can, as the church services have been held in the Capitol, participated in by Thomas Jefferson and James Madison and so many others. They were nondenominational; so they thought that didn't violate their Constitution.

But it looks like this will be in the area that Senator SCHUMER cannot stop from being used. It is totally under the control of the House. I want to thank Speaker RYAN for allowing the use. We will be in statuary hall where nondenominational Christian churches were held on Sunday. It was the largest Christian church in Washington for much of the 1800s. So that is where it will be this year. Hopefully we won't have a Senator who will put a hold on it next year, and Billy Graham's daughter, Anne Graham Lotz' vision will finally be fulfilled.

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

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 41 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 2303

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. WOODALL) at 11 o'clock and 3 minutes p.m.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.J. RES. 99, FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

Mr. SESSIONS, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 115–97) on the resolution (H. Res. 289) providing for consideration of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 99) making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2017, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 4 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Friday, April 28, 2017, at 9 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

1167. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Services, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Education, transmitting the Department's final regulations — Title I—Improving the Academic Achievement of the Disadvantaged (Subpart C—Migrant Education Program) [Docket ID: ED-2013-OESE-0119] (RIN: 1810-AA99) received April 24, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

1168. A letter from the Acting Under Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a certification of a proposed license for the export of firearms, parts, and accessories abroad controlled under Category I of the United States Munitions List, Transmittal No. DDTC 16-126, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(c)(2)(C); Public Law 90-629, Sec. 36(c) (as added by Public Law 94-329, Sec. 211(a)); (82 Stat. 1326); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1169. A letter from the Acting Under Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a certification of a proposed license for the export of firearms, parts, and accessories abroad controlled under Category I of the United States Munitions List, Transmittal No. DDTC 16-105, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(c)(2)(C); Public Law 90-629, Sec. 36(c) (as added by Public Law 94-329, Sec. 211(a)); (82 Stat. 1326); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1170. A letter from the Acting Under Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a certification of a proposed license for the export of defense articles, including technical data, and defense services, Transmittal No. DDTC 16-100, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(c)(2)(A); Public Law 90-629, Sec. 36(c) (as added by Public Law 104-164, Sec. 141(c)); (110 Stat. 1431); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1171. A letter from the Acting Under Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a certification of a proposed license for the export of firearms, parts, and accessories abroad controlled under Category I of the United States Munitions List, Transmittal No. DDTC 17-008, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(c)(2)(A); Public Law 90-629, Sec. 36(c) (as added by Public Law 104-164, Sec. 141(c)); (110 Stat. 1431); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1172. A letter from the Acting Under Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a certification of a proposed license amendment for the export of defense articles, including technical data, and defense services, Transmittal No. DDTC 17-017, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(c)(2)(A); Public Law 90-629, Sec. 36(c) (as added by Public Law 104-164, Sec. 141(c)); (110 Stat. 1431); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1173. A letter from the Acting Under Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a certification of a proposed license amendment for the export of defense articles, including technical data, and defense services, Transmittal No. DDTC 17-005, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(c)(2)(A); Public Law 90-629, Sec. 36(c) (as added by Public Law 104-164, Sec. 141(c)); (110 Stat. 1431); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1174. A letter from the Acting Under Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a certification of a proposed license for the export of defense articles that are firearms controlled under Category I of the United States Munitions List, Transmittal No. DDTC 16-137, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(c)(2)(A); Public Law 90-629, Sec. 36(c) (as added by Public Law 104-164, Sec. 141(c)); (110 Stat. 1431); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1175. A letter from the Acting Under Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting certification of a proposed license for the export of defense articles that are firearms controlled under Category I of the United States Munitions List, Transmittal No. DDTC 16-074, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(c)(2)(A); Public Law 90-629, Sec. 36(c) (as added by Public Law 104-164, Sec. 141(c)); (110 Stat. 1431); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1176. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Commerce, transmitting a report certifying that the export of the listed items to the People's Republic of China is not detrimental to the U.S. space launch industry, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2778 note; Public Law 105-261, Sec. 1512 (as amended by Public Law 105-277, Sec. 146); (112 Stat. 2174); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1177. A letter from the Assistant Legal Adviser, Office of Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report concerning international agreements other than treaties entered into by the United States to be transmitted to the Congress within the sixty-day period specified in the Case-Zablocki Act, pursuant to 1 U.S.C. 112b(a); Public Law 92-403, Sec. 1(a) (as amended by Public Law 108-458, Sec. 7121(b)); (118 Stat. 3807); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1178. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31126; Amdt. No.: 3740] received April 21, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1179. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31125; Amdt. No.: 3739] received April 21, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1180. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class C Airspace; Little Rock, AR [Docket No.: FAA-2017-0233; Airspace Docket No.: 17-AWA-1] received April 21, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1181. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class E Airspace; Monongahela, PA [Docket No.: FAA-2016-9102; Airspace Docket No.: 16-AEA-6] received April 21, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1182. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class D and Class E Airspace; Savannah, GA [Docket No.: FAA-2016-9101; Airspace Docket No.: 16-ASO-14] received April 21, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1183. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of Class E Airspace; Louisville, GA [Docket No.: FAA-2015-0581; Airspace Docket No.: 15-ASO-4] received April 21, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1184. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — 2017 Revisions to the Civil Penalty Inflation Adjustment Tables [Docket No.: FAA-2016-7004; Amdt. Nos.: 13-39, 406-11] (RIN: 2120-AK90) received April 21, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1185. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Determination of Housing Cost Amounts Eligible for Exclusion or Deduction for 2017 [Notice 2017-21] received April 21, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

1186. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Examination of returns and claims for refund, credit, or abatement; determination of correct tax liability (Rev. Proc. 2017-26) received April 21, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

1187. A letter from the Secretary, Department of State, transmitting a letter certifying that the conditions of Section 135(d)(6) of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, including as amended by the Iran Nuclear Agreement Review Act of 2015 (Public Law 114-17), have been met as of April 18, 2017 (H. Doc. No. 115—32); jointly to the Committees on Foreign Affairs, Financial Services, the Judiciary, Oversight and Government Reform, and Ways and Means and ordered to be printed.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. SESSIONS: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 289. Resolution providing for consideration of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 99) making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2017, and for other purposes (Rept. 115–97). Referred to the House Calendar.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. BILIRAKIS (for himself, Mr. KIND, and Mr. CRIST):

H.R. 2183. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a reduced excise tax rate for portable, electronically-aerated bait containers; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. MCCAUL (for himself, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. THORNBERRY, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. RATCLIFFE, and Mr. RICHMOND):

H.R. 2184. A bill to support meeting our Nation's growing cybersecurity workforce needs by expanding the cybersecurity education pipeline; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. PITTENGER (for himself and Mr. ZELDIN):

H.R. 2185. A bill to require the President to transmit to Congress determinations and certifications of whether foreign financial institutions listed in Attachment 3 or Attachment 4 to Annex II of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action have facilitated transactions or provided services for foreign terrorist organizations, sanctioned foreign persons, or Iran's Revolutionary Guard Corps or any of its officials, agents, or affiliates, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. BROOKS of Alabama (for himself, Mr. BRADY of Texas, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. GOHMERT, and Mr. GARRETT):

H.R. 2186. A bill to reserve any amounts forfeited to the United States Government as a result of the criminal prosecution of Joaquin Archivaldo Guzman Loera (commonly known as ''El Chapo''), or of other felony convictions involving the transportation of controlled substances into the United States, for security measures along the Southern border, including the completion of a border wall; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. BLACK (for herself, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mrs. BLACKBURN, and Mr. KUSTOFF of Tennessee):

H.R. 2187. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to clarify the treatment of certain retirement plan contributions picked up by governmental employers; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. MCCAUL (for himself, Mr. HURD, Mr. SESSIONS, Ms. MCSALLY, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. KATKO, Ms. SINEMA, Mrs. DEMINGS, Mr. RATCLIFFE, Mr. WILLIAMS, Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. BRADY of Texas, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. OLSON, Mr. ZELDIN, Mr. FLORES, and Mr. DONOVAN):

H.R. 2188. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish the major metropolitan area counterterrorism training and exercise grant program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. CÁRDENAS (for himself, Mr. FARENTHOLD, Mr. SWALWELL of California, and Mr. ISSA):

H.R. 2189. A bill to amend section 337 of the Tariff Act of 1930 with respect to requirements for domestic industries, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. RUTHERFORD:

H.R. 2190. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to direct the Under Secretary for Management of the Department of Homeland Security to make certain improvements in managing the Department's

real property portfolio, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. DUNN (for himself, Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas, Mr. BUCHANAN, and Mr. NEAL):

H.R. 2191. A bill to direct the Secretary of Transportation to revise certain regulations relating to aircraft boarding, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. MCSALLY (for herself, Mr. BANKS of Indiana, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. MACARTHUR, Mr. FLORES, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. DESANTIS, Mr. ARRINGTON, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. SANFORD, Mr. HUIZENGA, Mr. OLSON, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. WALKER, Mr. GALLAGHER, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. BUCSHON, Mr. UPTON, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. PITTENGER, Mr. BRAT, Mr. MEADOWS, Mr. JORDAN, Mr. BRIDENSTINE, Ms. JENKINS of Kansas, Mr. KNIGHT, Mr. BISHOP of Michigan, Mr. TIBERI, Mr. YOHO, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mr. WESTERMAN, Mrs. LOVE, Mr. LEWIS of Minnesota, Ms. CHENEY, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. STEWART, Mr. SMITH of Missouri, Mr. WALDEN, Mr. TIPTON, Mr. BUDD, Mr. BABIN, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, Mr. MITCHELL, Mr. HARPER, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. BERGMAN, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. BYRNE, Mr. ROKITA, Mr. HOLLINGSWORTH, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. GAETZ, Mr. DAVIDSON, Mr. LATTA, Mr. LABRADOR, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. FASO, Mr. GARRETT, and Mr. GOWDY):

H.R. 2192. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to eliminate the non-application of certain State waiver provisions to Members of Congress and congressional staff; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on House Administration, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. NOEM (for herself, Mr. WOMACK, Mr. CHAFFETZ, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. BARLETTA, Mr. CONYERS, Ms. SPEIER, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. WELCH, and Mr. CICILLINE):

H.R. 2193. A bill to grant States authority to enforce State and local sales and use tax laws on remote transactions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HUNTER:

H.R. 2194. A bill to protect the public health by providing the Food and Drug Administration with certain authority to regulate e-liquids and personal electronic vaporizers, to reduce the morbidity and mortality resulting from cigarette smoking through the responsible regulation of e-liquids and personal electronic vaporizers as a tobacco harm reduction strategy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BLUM (for himself, Mr. CHAFFETZ, Mr. CUMMINGS, Miss RICE of New York, Mr. COFFMAN, and Ms. SPEIER):

H.R. 2195. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide for access of the Special Counsel to certain information; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. RUSSELL (for himself, Mr. CUMMINGS, and Mr. LYNCH):

H.R. 2196. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to allow whistleblowers to disclose information to certain recipients; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT (for himself, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania, Mr. CURBELO of Florida, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. HANABUSA, Mr. KEATING, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. PETERS, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. POCAN, Mr. RASKIN, Miss RICE of New York, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. RUSH, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. TONKO, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. WELCH, and Mr. MCGOVERN):

H.R. 2197. A bill to require the Secretary of Energy to establish an energy efficiency materials pilot program; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. CASTRO of Texas (for himself and Mr. TAKANO):

H.R. 2198. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to ensure that calls to medical facilities of the Department can be quickly redirected to the Veterans Crisis Line; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. CRAMER (for himself and Mr. KIND):

H.R. 2199. A bill to improve Federal land management, resource conservation, environmental protection, and use of Federal real property, by requiring the Secretary of the Interior to develop a multipurpose cadastre of Federal real property and identifying inaccurate, duplicate, and out-of-date Federal land inventories, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (for himself, Ms. BASS, Mr. ROYCE of California, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana, Ms. FRANKEL of Florida, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. POE of Texas, and Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania):

H.R. 2200. A bill to reauthorize the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, Oversight and Government Reform, Ways and Means, Transportation and Infrastructure, Energy and Commerce, Armed Services, and Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. EMMER:

H.R. 2201. A bill to amend the Securities Act of 1933 to exempt certain micro-offerings from the registration requirements of such Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas:

H.R. 2202. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize appointment of Doctors of Chiropractic to regular and reserve corps of the Public Health Service Commissioned Corps, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. HANABUSA (for herself, Ms. NORTON, Ms. FRANKEL of Florida, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. HASTINGS, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. BLUMENAUER, and Ms. GABBARD):

H.R. 2203. A bill to authorize Federal agencies to establish prize competitions for innovation or adaptation management development relating to coral reef ecosystems, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. HULTGREN (for himself and Mr. BARR):

H.R. 2204. A bill to require the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a study regarding the privacy of information collected under the Home Mortgage Disclosure Act of 1975, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. JENKINS of Kansas:

H.R. 2205. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude from gross income interest received on certain loans secured by agricultural real property; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. KAPTUR (for herself, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. POCAN, Ms. MOORE, Ms. LEE, Ms. NORTON, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. EVANS, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. PERLMUTTER, and Mr. MCNERNEY):

H.R. 2206. A bill to authorize the President to reestablish the Civilian Conservation Corps as a means of providing gainful employment to unemployed and underemployed citizens of the United States through the performance of useful public work, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Ms. KELLY of Illinois (for herself, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. NOLAN, Mr. WALZ, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. TSONGAS, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, and Mr. GUTIÉRREZ):

H.R. 2207. A bill to amend the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to support community college and industry partnerships, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Ms. KELLY of Illinois (for herself, Mr. RUSH, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, and Mr. GUTIÉRREZ):

H.R. 2208. A bill to amend the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to provide funding, on a competitive basis, for summer and year-round employment opportunities for youth ages 14 through 24; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Ms. KELLY of Illinois (for herself, Mr. RUSH, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, and Mr. GUTIÉRREZ):

H.R. 2209. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the work opportunity credit for certain youth employees, and to extend empowerment zones; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania (for himself, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania, Mr. MEEHAN, and Mr. DENT):

H.R. 2210. A bill to designate the community living center of the Department of Veterans Affairs in Butler Township, Butler County, Pennsylvania, as the ''Sergeant Joseph George Kusick VA Community Living Center''; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. LANCE (for himself, Mr. PASCRELL, and Mr. LOBIONDO):

H.R. 2211. A bill to provide for the award of medals or other commendations to handlers of military working dogs and military working dogs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. MARINO (for himself and Mr. CICILLINE):

H.R. 2212. A bill to promote competition in the market for drugs and biological products by facilitating the timely entry of lower-cost generic and biosimilar versions of those drugs and biological products; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. MCSALLY (for herself, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. HURD, Mr. CARTER of Texas, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, and Mr. VELA):

H.R. 2213. A bill to amend the Anti-Border Corruption Act of 2010 to authorize certain polygraph waiver authority, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. O'HALLERAN:

H.R. 2214. A bill to prohibit the payment of salary to Members of Congress in the event of a Government shutdown, to direct the Congressional Budget Office to submit daily reports during the period in which a Government shutdown is in effect on the effects of the shutdown on the economy and the costs of the shutdown to taxpayers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. PERLMUTTER (for himself, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. COFFMAN, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. CORREA, Mr. COURTNEY, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. DELANEY, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. HECK, Mr. HUNTER, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. KIHUEN, Ms. LEE, Mr. LEWIS of Minnesota, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PETERS, Mr. POCAN, Mr. POLIS, Mr. ROHRABACHER, Mr. SCHRADER, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Ms. TITUS, and Mr. YOUNG of Alaska):

H.R. 2215. A bill to create protections for depository institutions that provide financial services to cannabis-related legitimate businesses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. POLIQUIN:

H.R. 2216. A bill to provide that certain project works on the St. Croix River, Maine, are not required to be licensed by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. POLIS:

H.R. 2217. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase for 2 years the residential energy credit and the investment tax credit with respect to solar property with a nameplate capacity of less than 20 kilowatts; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. ROE of Tennessee:

H.R. 2218. A bill to expand the Big Laurel Branch Wilderness and Sampson Mountain Wilderness in the Cherokee National Forest in the State of Tennessee, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. ROYCE of California (for himself, Mr. KEATING, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, and Mrs. LOVE):

H.R. 2219. A bill to increase the role of the financial industry in combating human trafficking; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. SINEMA:

H.R. 2220. A bill to appropriate such funds as may be necessary to ensure that members of the Armed Forces, including reserve components thereof, and supporting civilian and contractor personnel continue to receive pay and allowances for active service performed when a Government shutdown occurs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SMUCKER:

H.R. 2221. A bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to provide for automatic continuing resolutions; to the Committee on Appropriations.

By Mr. STIVERS (for himself and Mrs. BEATTY):

H.R. 2222. A bill to amend section 428 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act to provide incentives to grantees under the Continuum of Care program to re-house all former members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. SCHIFF (for himself, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. EVANS, Ms. HANABUSA, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. POCAN, and Mr. WALZ):

H.J. Res. 100. A joint resolution to authorize the use of United States Armed Forces against al Qaeda, the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), and the Afghan Taliban; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Rules, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts:

H. Res. 286. A resolution directing certain officials of the executive branch to provide information to the House of Representatives that will enable the House to meet its constitutional responsibility to conduct oversight of the executive branch by investigating potential conflicts of interests of President Donald J. Trump; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, Transportation and Infrastructure, and Rules, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. YOUNG of Iowa:

H. Res. 287. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that Congress should pass no law that would exempt from its obligations or provide any other special consideration to elected or appointed Federal officials or any other Federal employee; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committees on House Administration, and the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CHABOT (for himself, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mrs. RADEWAGEN, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. BLUM, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. KNIGHT, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Mr. EVANS, Mr. BACON, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. BRAT, Mr. COMER, Ms. ADAMS, Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico, and Mrs. MURPHY of Florida):

H. Res. 288. A resolution expressing support for the designation of the week of April 30, 2017, through May 6, 2017, as ''National Small Business Week'' to celebrate the contributions of small businesses and entrepreneurs in every community in the United States; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois (for himself, Ms. ADAMS, and Mrs. BEATTY):

H. Res. 290. A resolution expressing support for celebrating the fourth week in April as Every Kid Healthy Week; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. AL GREEN of Texas (for himself, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. CLAY, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Ms. NORTON, Mr. RUSH, Mr. ELLISON, Ms. PLASKETT, Mr. BEYER, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. CONYERS, Ms. ADAMS, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California, Ms. MOORE, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. LEE, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas, Ms. FUDGE, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. GUTIÉRREZ, Mr. RICHMOND, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mrs. LAWRENCE, and Ms. SHEA-PORTER):

H. Res. 291. A resolution promoting and supporting the goals and ideals of the Fair Housing Act and recognizing April 2017 as Fair Housing Month, which includes bringing attention to the discrimination faced by every-day Americans in the United States in housing and housing-related transactions on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, familial status, disability, and religion; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico:

H. Res. 292. A resolution designating April 30, 2017, as El Día de Los Niños-Celebrating Young Americans; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. BILIRAKIS:

H.R. 2183.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of Congress to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises as enumerated in Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. MCCAUL:

H.R. 2184.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Sec. 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. PITTENGER:

H.R. 2185.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution

By Mr. BROOKS of Alabama:

H.R. 2186.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Congress has the power and authority to enact this legislation according to Article 1 of the Constitution.

By Mrs. BLACK:

H.R. 2187.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Section 8 of Article I: The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises, to pay the debts and provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States; but all duties, imposts and excises shall be uniform throughout the United States;

Amendment XVI: The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes on incomes, from whatever source derived, without apportionment among the several states, and without regard to any census or enumeration.

By Mr. MCCAUL:

H.R. 2188.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18—''To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in and Department or Officer thereof.''

By Mr. CÁRDENAS:

H.R. 2189.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clauses 1 and 8 of Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution.

By Mr. RUTHERFORD:

H.R. 2190.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. DUNN:

H.R. 2191.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. MCSALLY:

H.R. 2192.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3: To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18: To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States or in any Departmenr

By Mrs. NOEM:

H.R. 2193.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, section 8, clause 3 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Mr. HUNTER:

H.R. 2194.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. BLUM:

H.R. 2195.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. RUSSELL:

H.R. 2196.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT:

H.R. 2197.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 (relating to the power of Congress to regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.)

By Mr. CASTRO of Texas:

H.R. 2198.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Congress shall have power . . . To make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by this Constitution in the government of the United States, or in any department or officer thereof.

By Mr. CRAMER:

H.R. 2199.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey:

H.R. 2200.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clauses 3 and 18.

Article 4, Section 3.

By Mr. EMMER:

H.R. 2201.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas:

H.R. 2202.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution.

By Ms. HANABUSA:

H.R. 2203.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. HULTGREN:

H.R. 2204.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Section 8, Clause 18: To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

Section 8, Clause 3: To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.

By Ms. JENKINS of Kansas:

H.R. 2205.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8:

The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defense and general Welfare of the United States.

By Ms. KAPTUR:

H.R. 2206.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 with specific power to provide for the general welfare of the United States and to regulate commerce among the several states, and with the Indian tribes of the Constitution.

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By Ms. KELLY of Illinois:

H.R. 2207.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Ms. KELLY of Illinois:

H.R. 2208.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Ms. KELLY of Illinois:

H.R. 2209.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 2210.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The United States Constitution, Article 1, Section 8.

By Mr. LANCE:

H.R. 2211.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 14: ''Congress has the power to . . . make rules for the government and regulation of the land and naval forces.''

By Mr. MARINO:

H.R. 2212.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section I, Clause 1 of the U.S. Constitution, in that the legislation concerns the exercise of legislative powers generally granted to Congress, including the exercise of those powers when delegated by Congress to the Executive.

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution in that the legislation exercises legislative powers granted to Congress by that clause ''to regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.'' and

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the U.S. Constitution in that the legislation exercises legislative powers granted to Congress by that clause ''to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Office thereof.''

By Ms. MCSALLY:

H.R. 2213.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1: The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18: To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. O'HALLERAN:
H.R. 2214.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 18
By Mr. PERLMUTTER:
H.R. 2215.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 1
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3
10th Amendment
By Mr. POLIQUIN:
H.R. 2216.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
The constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of Congress ''To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes:'' as enumerated in Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.
By Mr. POLIS:
H.R. 2217.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution
By Mr. ROE of Tennessee:
H.R. 2218.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2: The Congress shall have power to dispose of and make all needfull rules and regulations respecting the territory or other property belonging to the United States; and nothing in this Constitution shall be construed as to prejudice any claims of the United States, or of any particular state.
By Mr. ROYCE of California:
H.R. 2219.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, section 8, clause I (relating to the general welfare of the United States); and Article I, section 8, clause 3 (relating to the power to regulate interstate commerce).
By Ms. SINEMA:
H.R. 2220.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I Section 8
By Mr. SMUCKER:
H.R. 2221.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 9, Clause 7.
By Mr. STIVERS:
H.R. 2222.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1 and Article 1, Sec 8, Clause 3
By Mr. SCHIFF:
H.J. Res. 100.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
The Consolidated Authorization for Use of Military Force Resolution of 2017 is constitutionally authorized under Article I, Section 8, Clause 11.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 38: Mr. ARRINGTON.
H.R. 90: Mr. FARENTHOLD.
H.R. 93: Mr. CARSON of Indiana and Mr. HASTINGS.
H.R. 102: Mr. CARSON of Indiana.
H.R. 103: Mr. CARSON of Indiana and Mr. MAST.
H.R. 113: Ms. TITUS, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. HASTINGS, Ms. ROSEN, and Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 169: Mr. KHANNA and Ms. BROWNLEY of California.
H.R. 173: Mr. LONG, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mrs. DAVIS of California, and Mr. HUDSON.
H.R. 247: Mr. TIPTON.
H.R. 256: Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. RATCLIFFE, and Mr. KING of Iowa.
H.R. 305: Mr. LEVIN, Mr. DELANEY, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, and Mr. SCHRADER.
H.R. 350: Mr. LEWIS of Minnesota and Mr. KUSTOFF of Tennessee.
H.R. 355: Mr. ABRAHAM.
H.R. 390: Mr. ISSA and Mr. CHABOT.
H.R. 392: Mr. SARBANES and Mr. SIRES.
H.R. 463: Mr. COFFMAN and Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 488: Mr. HASTINGS.
H.R. 510: Mr. COLLINS of Georgia and Mr. FARENTHOLD.
H.R. 535: Mrs. WAGNER.
H.R. 606: Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. ISSA, and Mr. CALVERT.
H.R. 608: Mr. RUSH.
H.R. 613: Mr. FARENTHOLD and Mr. BIGGS.
H.R. 619: Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. COMER, and Mr. PALAZZO.
H.R. 632: Ms. SHEA-PORTER.
H.R. 638: Mr. VARGAS, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. THOMPSON of California, and Mr. MCCLINTOCK.
H.R. 671: Mrs. MURPHY of Florida.
H.R. 719: Mr. ROUZER, Mr. BANKS of Indiana, Mr. LAMALFA, and Mr. FLORES.
H.R. 721: Mr. THOMAS J. ROONEY of Florida.
H.R. 731: Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, and Mr. LOWENTHAL.
H.R. 747: Mr. SERRANO, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, and Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS.
H.R. 749: Mr. BACON.
H.R. 750: Ms. JENKINS of Kansas and Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.R. 754: Mr. SHERMAN and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.
H.R. 758: Mr. FLORES, Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina, Mr. LAMALFA, and Mr. GAETZ.
H.R. 772: Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana and Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER.
H.R. 801: Ms. JENKINS of Kansas.
H.R. 809: Mr. BYRNE.
H.R. 816: Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 828: Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico.
H.R. 830: Mr. RENACCI.
H.R. 846: Mr. RUTHERFORD, Ms. MCSALLY, Mr. GAETZ, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. BISHOP of Michigan, and Mr. SCHNEIDER.
H.R. 849: Mr. VALADAO, Mr. BIGGS, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Ms. ESTY of Connecticut, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. PETERSON, and Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi.
H.R. 904: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 927: Mrs. COMSTOCK, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, and Mrs. HARTZLER.
H.R. 930: Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. BARLETTA, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. TONKO, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Mr. GUTIÉRREZ, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. LANGEVIN, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. BERA, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. DUFFY, Mr. LATTA, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. LOFGREN, and Mr. HUDSON.
H.R. 931: Mr. O'HALLERAN, Mr. MCEACHIN, Mr. PETERS, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. LATTA, Mr. TIPTON, Ms. MATSUI, Mrs. MURPHY of Florida, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. DENT, and Mr. KENNEDY.
H.R. 952: Mr. O'HALLERAN and Ms. MOORE.
H.R. 967: Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. CLEAVER, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. YARMUTH.
H.R. 972: Mr. NADLER.
H.R. 980: Mr. VARGAS, Ms. DELAURO, and Ms. SHEA-PORTER.
H.R. 1002: Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. FASO, and Mr. HASTINGS.
H.R. 1017: Mr. KENNEDY, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. WALZ, and Mr. WALBERG.
H.R. 1038: Mr. REED, Mr. SMUCKER, Mr. DESJARLAIS, and Mr. WOMACK.
H.R. 1039: Mr. POE of Texas.
H.R. 1054: Ms. JUDY CHU of California.
H.R. 1057: Mr. QUIGLEY, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, and Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas.
H.R. 1058: Mrs. LOVE.
H.R. 1065: Mr. SMUCKER.
H.R. 1073: Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana.
H.R. 1090: Ms. SHEA-PORTER.
H.R. 1097: Ms. KAPTUR.
H.R. 1136: Mr. MEADOWS, Mr. BUDD, and Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina.
H.R. 1156: Mr. CULBERSON.
H.R. 1164: Mr. FARENTHOLD and Mr. FRANCIS ROONEY of Florida.
H.R. 1180: Mr. ROKITA and Ms. MCSALLY.
H.R. 1186: Mr. LOEBSACK.
H.R. 1200: Mr. LUCAS, Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. YODER, Mr. BARR, Mrs. COMSTOCK, Mrs. BEATTY, Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico, Mr. HARPER, Mr. GROTHMAN, and Mr. MESSER.
H.R. 1205: Ms. BASS, Mr. LYNCH, Ms. ESTY of Connecticut, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. WELCH, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. TAYLOR, Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. COURTNEY, and Ms. DELAURO.
H.R. 1206: Mr. HASTINGS.
H.R. 1232: Mrs. DINGELL.
H.R. 1245: Mr. GARAMENDI.
H.R. 1341: Mr. BACON.
H.R. 1358: Mr. O'HALLERAN, Miss RICE of New York, Mrs. MURPHY of Florida, and Mr. KIND.
H.R. 1361: Ms. JENKINS of Kansas, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. BOST, Mr. PITTENGER, and Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 1377: Mr. CALVERT.
H.R. 1384: Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Ms. MOORE, Mr. KILMER, and Mr. WELCH.
H.R. 1413: Mr. SERRANO.
H.R. 1419: Ms. SHEA-PORTER.
H.R. 1421: Mr. BISHOP of Michigan.
H.R. 1438: Mr. MCNERNEY and Ms. LOFGREN.
H.R. 1539: Ms. LOFGREN.
H.R. 1558: Mr. ISSA.
H.R. 1565: Mr. ISSA.
H.R. 1569: Ms. LOFGREN.
H.R. 1575: Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts.
H.R. 1584: Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 1618: Mr. RYAN of Ohio and Ms. SHEA-PORTER.
H.R. 1625: Mr. ISSA, Mr. DONOVAN, and Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.
H.R. 1626: Mr. HUDSON, Mr. WALZ, Mr. PITTENGER, Mr. MCGOVERN, and Mr. CARTER of Georgia.
H.R. 1627: Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. PAULSEN, Mr. TROTT, and Mr. UPTON.
H.R. 1629: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mrs. BEATTY, Ms. LOFGREN, and Ms. JUDY CHU of California.
H.R. 1644: Mrs. MIMI WALTERS of California.
H.R. 1651: Ms. BONAMICI and Mr. WITTMAN.
H.R. 1652: Mr. PETERSON and Mrs. DINGELL.
H.R. 1661: Ms. ROSEN.
H.R. 1663: Mr. KEATING.
H.R. 1671: Mr. BROOKS of Alabama.

H.R. 1676: Mr. COMER and Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico.
H.R. 1677: Mr. KHANNA, Mr. RENACCI, and Mr. SESSIONS.
H.R. 1698: Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania, Mr. THORNBERRY, Ms. FOXX, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. BYRNE, Ms. GRANGER, Mr. LIPINSKI, and Mr. DIAZ-BALART.
H.R. 1711: Mr. CAPUANO.
H.R. 1727: Ms. LEE.
H.R. 1736: Mr. HUDSON.
H.R. 1748: Ms. VELÁZQUEZ.
H.R. 1760: Mr. SCALISE and Mr. LAMALFA.
H.R. 1777: Mr. BRIDENSTINE.
H.R. 1779: Mr. SMUCKER.
H.R. 1784: Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire and Mr. RUSH.
H.R. 1789: Mr. YOHO.
H.R. 1809: Mr. CURBELO of Florida.
H.R. 1821: Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. WILLIAMS, and Ms. LEE.
H.R. 1838: Mr. HUDSON.
H.R. 1841: Mr. COHEN.
H.R. 1844: Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia, Mr. PEARCE, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, and Mr. TIPTON.
H.R. 1874: Mr. YODER and Mr. MEEHAN.
H.R. 1875: Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, and Mrs. DINGELL.
H.R. 1881: Mr. OLSON, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. FLORES, Mr. HUDSON, and Mr. WITTMAN.
H.R. 1885: Mr. MCNERNEY.
H.R. 1892: Mr. RENACCI.
H.R. 1896: Mr. FITZPATRICK and Mr. SWALWELL of California.
H.R. 1897: Mr. SWALWELL of California.
H.R. 1904: Mr. LONG, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, and Mr. KING of New York.
H.R. 1905: Mr. MCNERNEY.
H.R. 1911: Mr. KING of New York, Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. MCGOVERN, Miss RICE of New York, and Mr. SWALWELL of California.
H.R. 1919: Mr. FITZPATRICK and Mr. LEWIS of Minnesota.
H.R. 1924: Mr. MCNERNEY.
H.R. 1928: Mr. TAYLOR, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. DONOVAN, Mr. BISHOP of Michigan, and Mr. KIND.
H.R. 1939: Mr. RYAN of Ohio.
H.R. 1953: Ms. SHEA-PORTER.
H.R. 1955: Mr. WITTMAN.
H.R. 1974: Ms. LEE and Mr. KENNEDY.
H.R. 1991: Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 2023: Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana.
H.R. 2044: Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. QUIGLEY, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. SIRES, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. PALLONE, Ms. LEE, Mr. POLIS, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. BEYER, Mr. PASCRELL, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Ms. MATSUI, and Ms. BROWNLEY of California.
H.R. 2052: Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana, Mr. BYRNE, Ms. MOORE, and Ms. JAYAPAL.
H.R. 2053: Mr. BARR and Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 2068: Mr. AGUILAR, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Ms. MOORE, and Mrs. BEATTY.
H.R. 2124: Ms. JUDY CHU of California.
H.R. 2151: Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, and Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York.
H.R. 2161: Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico.
H.R. 2166: Mr. BISHOP of Michigan, Mr. DONOVAN, and Mr. OLSON.
H.R. 2168: Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana.
H.R. 2170: Mr. BERA.
H.R. 2175: Mr. EVANS.
H.R. 2176: Mr. MOULTON.
H.R. 2180: Mr. RUSH and Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.R. 2182: Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. FASO, and Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.J. Res. 51: Mr. BIGGS.
H. Con. Res. 8: Mr. POLIQUIN, Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. HOLDING, and Mr. BANKS of Indiana.
H. Con. Res. 27: Mr. PERLMUTTER and Ms. DELBENE.
H. Con. Res. 41: Mr. MAST.
H. Res. 31: Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania.
H. Res. 129: Mr. HECK, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. KING of New York. Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. OLSON, and Mr. LIPINSKI.
H. Res. 161: Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mrs. BEATTY, and Ms. ESHOO.
H. Res. 165: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD and Ms. JAYAPAL.
H. Res. 172: Mr. KINZINGER, Mr. NOLAN, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Ms. MENG, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. TITUS, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. BASS, Ms. FRANKEL of Florida, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. COHEN, Mr. JEFFRIES, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. SUOZZI, Mrs. TORRES, Mr. TED LIEU of California, and Mr. NADLER.
H. Res. 220: Mr. LIPINSKI.
H. Res. 222: Mrs. NOEM.
H. Res. 239: Mr. ESPAILLAT.
H. Res. 243: Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Ms. NORTON, Ms. LEE, Ms. FUDGE, and Mr. GRIJALVA.
H. Res. 252: Mr. FORTENBERRY and Mr. MCGOVERN.
H. Res. 260: Mr. FLEISCHMANN and Mr. MOULTON.
H. Res. 269: Mr. HUFFMAN.
H. Res. 272: Mr. LAMALFA.
H. Res. 281: Mr. LARSEN of Washington and Mr. TAYLOR.

DELETIONS OF SPONSORS FROM PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were deleted from public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 2015: Mr. WILSON of South Carolina.
H.J. Res. 50: Mr. BUDD.

SENATE—*Thursday, April 27, 2017*

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

PRAYER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Today's opening prayer will be offered by Martyn Sloan, lead pastor of Harvest Time in Fort Smith, AR.

The guest Chaplain offered the following prayer:

Almighty and Eternal God, who has created us, to whom we belong and whom we serve, it is in You that we find our purpose, our peace, and our prosperity. May Your Kingdom come.

Use this day our lawmakers to complete and carry out Your will on this Earth as in Heaven. Create in each of them a clean and a courageous and a selfless heart that will not give in to fear, adversity, or temptation. Grant them wisdom and the discernment of the truth so that they may rightly judge these, Your children. Strengthen them as they grow weary so that they may give strength to the weary and burdened in this life.

We pray this and all things in Your Holy Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. STRANGE). The Senator from Arkansas is recognized.

WELCOMING THE GUEST CHAPLAIN

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I would like to thank Pastor Marty Sloan for delivering the opening prayer in the Senate today.

Pastor Sloan is the lead pastor of Harvest Time, one of the most active and well-attended houses of worship in Arkansas's second largest city of Fort Smith, which is the city in which I grew up.

Pastor Sloan is also a proud husband and father and plays an important role in the life of the Fort Smith community. As the lead pastor of Harvest Time, he has a passion for caring for his congregation and those in the larger community through preaching, teaching, and counseling in order to encourage and build up their faith and develop meaningful relationships with Christ and one another.

For 22 years, Pastor Sloan has been in ministry and has focused on both national and international missions. He has also been involved with the Live Nativity on Capitol Hill and the National Day of Prayer and has conducted pastoral conferences in America, Peru, and Armenia. Pastor Sloan says that one of his greatest joys is to ''pastor from the center of the room'' because his desire is to lead his congregation by walking through life together with them.

Serving as the guest Chaplain is an incredible honor. I am thankful for Pastor Sloan's ministry, and I am so pleased he could be here to offer an invocation of asking God to guide and bless the efforts of Congress and America's leaders.

I yield the floor.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

THE PRESIDENT'S TAX PLAN

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, yesterday, the administration introduced a plan to serve as the guideline for modernizing and simplifying America's Tax Code. This process is long overdue, and it is a priority that is shared by the Republican House, Senate, and the administration. By bringing down tax rates for individuals, we can help ease the burden on middle-class families, and by lowering taxes for American businesses, both small and large, we can foster job creation here at home, while making our country more competitive in an increasingly competitive international economy. I commend the President and his team for taking this critical first step, and I look forward to working with the administration and our House colleagues to finally overhaul our tax system.

NOMINATION OF ALEXANDER ACOSTA

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, on another matter, despite much unnecessary obstruction, the Senate has continued to move forward with the confirmation process for administration nominees.

Just this week, we have confirmed two more impressive individuals—Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue and Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein. Today, we will have the opportunity to confirm a third. That nominee, Alexander Acosta, understands the difficult task ahead of him as the next Secretary of Labor. Fortunately, he has an impressive background that will serve him well as he takes on these tough issues. It explains why Acosta has earned high acclaim from numerous pro-job groups, like the National Association of Manufacturers, which called him an ''exceptional choice to lead the Department,'' and the chamber of commerce, which noted his ''extraordinary history of government service and refined skills.''

He has also earned support from across the political spectrum, including from people like Lafe Solomon, a National Labor Relations Board Acting General Counsel in the Obama administration, who said Acosta is ''very open-minded and fair'' and ''deserves to be Secretary of Labor.''

We have also heard from unions that have backed him as well. In their words, Acosta is an ''advocate for the middle class,'' a nominee with ''strong credentials and an impeccable reputation,'' and someone they can work with ''to protect and make better the lives of working men and women across America.''

Acosta's leadership at the Labor Department will serve as a much needed change from what we saw under the previous administration, when, too often, onerous regulations that stifled instead of encouraged growth were given high priority, which came at a disadvantage to the very workers the previous administration claimed to be helping.

Of course, much work remains when it comes to providing relief to middle-class workers, but today's vote to confirm Acosta represents another positive step in that direction.

GOVERNMENT FUNDING LEGISLATION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, on one final issue, as we know, talks on government funding legislation have continued throughout the week on a bipartisan, bicameral basis. The House has introduced a short-term funding bill that we expect to pass before Friday night's deadline so that a final agreement can be drafted and shared with Members for their review prior to its consideration next week. This extension will also protect thousands of retired coal miners and their families from losing the healthcare benefits I have fought for throughout this entire process, as I continue to lead the fight to secure them on a permanent basis.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the Acosta nomination, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of R. Alexander Acosta, of Florida, to be Secretary of Labor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I think I have 15 minutes to speak. When I get to about 13 minutes, would you raise your thumb or something and tell me, please.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair certainly will.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Thank you.

DEFENSE DEPARTMENT'S OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

Mr. President, I come to the floor today to spotlight a potential failure of leadership at the Defense Department's Office of Inspector General in that a large number of hotline cases have been set aside, neglected, and possibly forgotten.

The hotline plays a very critical role in the inspector general's core mission of rooting out fraud, waste, and abuse. The hotline is the command and control link between whistleblowers on the one hand and investigators on the other hand. To succeed, hotline tips need quick and decisive action, but speed is not one of the chief assets of this unit. Without a quick response, the full value of whistleblower information is lessened.

Last year, at my request, I was given a 12-page spreadsheet dated November 8, 2016. It listed 406 hotline cases that had been open for more than 2 years or over 730 days. Frankly, I was stunned by what I saw on this spreadsheet. I counted 240 cases—over half of the total—that had been open for more than 1,000 days. Many had been open for more than 1,300 days. Some were right at a 4-year marker; that is 1,460 days. The oldest is now pushing close to 1,600 days. Even—if you can believe it—5-year-old cases are not unheard of. So we can see why working quickly on these investigations—taking tips from whistleblowers and pursuing them on waste, fraud, and abuse—is very important, and we shouldn't have this time wasted.

When cases remain open for years, they become stale. Inattention breeds neglect. Work grinds to a halt. Cases slowly fade from memory. This is unacceptable, and my colleagues ought to consider it unacceptable, and the Secretary of Defense ought to consider it unacceptable. The hotline, then, with this waiting period, loses its full value.

The deputy inspector general for administrative investigations, Mrs. Marguerite C. Garrison, is in charge of the hotline, so she is accountable for the backlog. The backlog shows a lack of commitment to the hotline creed and the plight of whistleblowers. Here is why: Hotline posters are displayed throughout the Department of Defense. They are a bugle call for whistleblowers. They encourage whistleblowers to step forward, and they do that at considerable risk. In return, then, these patriotic people ought to deserve a quick and honest response.

Allowing their reports to slide into a deep, dark hole, in limbo for 2, 3, or 4 years—and even more, as I have pointed out—leaves whistleblowers exposed, leaves them vulnerable to retaliation, and of course distrusting of the system that is designed to protect the whistleblowers. So, in the end, this kind of treatment will discourage others from stepping forward in the future.

Hotline officials, including Mrs. Garrison, were questioned about the backlog on December 15, 2016. They attempted to deflect responsibility elsewhere and showed little interest in the problem. After numerous followup inquiries, a second meeting was requested.

So at a March 30 meeting this year, Hotline officials were singing a whole different song. They tried to dispel the notion that a surge in cases closures were triggered by my inquiry. To the contrary, they said, it was part of routine, ongoing ''cleanup of the hotline mess'' that began way back in March of 2013. They reported that 107,000 cases were swept up, including the so-called bad dog cases from 2002.

This explanation may be fiction.

Mrs. Garrison should know that the 406 cases date back to 2012 and 2013. After sitting on the hotline docket for up to 4-plus years, these cases are anything but routine. They are tough nuts to crack, of course, and very difficult to resolve—sort of like the bad dogs way back in 2002.

What they needed was clear direction from the top. They needed to be handed off to a tiger team, but that didn't happen. Priorities became an afterthought, and the hotline mess got more nourishment.

Then, finally, the ''routine, ongoing'' cleanup reached the 406 most egregious cases—the worst of the worst. The ones that bring me to the floor today.

Since January, I received five updated spreadsheets trumpeting the closure of 200 of these so-called bad dogs—done with due diligence, I hope. Though late and incomplete, the surge shows what is possible when management starts doing what we expect management to do; in other words, managing. The backlog can be controlled and eliminated.

Why did it take top managers so long to see the light and get on the stick doing their job? Maybe they just didn't care—at least not until the Senator from Iowa started asking questions. Then and only then did they indicate what had been characterized as ''aggressive management oversight.''

Well, praise the Lord. Those words—''aggressive management oversight''—warm my heart, but the deputy IGs need to exercise aggressive oversight at all times, not just when a Senator steps in and not just when embarrassing revelations get some daylight. Good managers don't need a Senator looking over their shoulders to know what needs to be done. That is no way to run a railroad, as we say. The managers responsible for the hotline mess need more supervision.

One of Mrs. Garrison's other directorates—the whistleblower reprisal investigations, or what we call the WRI unit—is always crying out for help. It is facing its own hotline-style tsunami. It has a staff of 56 personnel, but only 28 of those 56—or about 50 percent—are actually assigned to investigative teams. They complete 50 to 60 reports per year. With some 120 cases under investigation at any one time, a large number inevitably get rolled forward from year to year. The backlog could easily double or triple over the next few years.

In November, 38 cases were beyond acceptable limits. As of March 28, the oldest one was 1,394 days old. While many of these cases were recently closed, new ones keep popping up on the list. Despite very substantial increases in money and personnel since 2013, the deputy IG still seems overwhelmed by the volume of work.

While beefing up the whistleblower reprisal investigations may be necessary, Mr. Fine and his deputies need to do more with what they have. With an annual budget of $320 million and a 1,500-person workforce, efficiencies can be found.

Some units are said to be top-heavy and ripe for belt-tightening. The investigative processes are notoriously cumbersome and could be streamlined.

The audit office, with 520 workers, turns out mostly second-rate reports.

It needs strong leadership and it needs redirection. The Obama administration never seemed to take these problems very seriously. I hope this new administration coming in to drain the swamp will do better.

Weak leadership gave us the hotline backlog. Weak leadership is giving us the continuing mismatch between the workforce and the workload. Both are messy extensions of a much more harmful leadership problem—a festering sore that is eating away at integrity and independence.

This is what I am hearing:

Top managers have allegedly been tampering with investigative reports and then retaliating against supervisory investigators who call them to account. This is sparking allegations that a culture of corruption is thriving in the Office of the Inspector General. I gave my colleagues a glimpse of this problem in a speech on April 6 of last year. I used the fifth and final report of Admiral Losey's investigation to illuminate this problem.

That report was allegedly doctored by senior managers. Investigators were allegedly ordered to change facts and remove evidence of suspected retaliation.

Can my colleagues believe this?

Mrs. Garrison even sent a letter that cleared the admiral long before investigators had even completed the review of the evidence. This was a very serious error in judgment, giving the appearance of impropriety.

Was this then a coverup to facilitate the admiral's pending promotion?

Thankfully, Acting Inspector General Fine intervened. He showed real courage. After taking a firsthand look, he backed up the investigators, overturning some—but not all—unsupported charges. He helped to bring evidence and findings back into sync. I thank Inspector General Fine from the bottom of my heart.

But Mr. Fine still has more work to do.

The alleged doctoring of the Losey report, I am told, is not an isolated case. There are at least five others just like it—and probably more—that all need oversight.

As I understand it, the Office of Special Counsel is contemplating a review of these matters and could rule in favor of whistleblower reprisal investigations. They blew the whistle on all of the alleged tampering going on—and do my colleagues know what these patriotic people got for it? They got hammered for it. They got hammered for protecting Federal workers.

If top managers are tampering with reports and retaliating against their own people who report it, then how can they be trusted to run the agency's premier whistleblower oversight unit?

All of the pertinent issues need to be resolved, and they demand high-level attention. So I call on the new Secretary of Defense and the acting inspector general to work together to address these problems.

No. 1, the hotline needs to be brought up to acceptable standards under stronger management; No. 2, all potential solutions to the workload-workforce mismatch need to be explored, including internal realignments; No. 3, an independent review of all cases where alleged tampering occurred should be conducted, to include an examination of the Garrison letter clearing an admiral in the midst of an investigation. If tampering and retaliation did in fact occur, then the culprits should be fired.

I look forward to receiving a full report.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority whip.

U.S. MILITARY READINESS

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, our military and our intelligence community grapple with intersecting issues that aren't wholly unique to this day and age. Our national security has always been imperiled by foreign threats, from the Revolutionary War to two World Wars, and we previously faced a seemingly unsurmountable debt burden following World War II.

The challenge seems to be, as it always is in a democracy, that people of different views differ on the sense of urgency on priorities and the means to address both those threats and our financial house in order to be able to pay for what it takes to keep America safe. What is unique is the range and complexity of the problems we face and their scale.

I am reminded of a sobering quote from the former Director of National Intelligence during a hearing just last year, former Director James Clapper, who served 50 years in the U.S. intelligence community. He said: ''In my time in the intelligence business, I don't recall a time when we have been confronted with a more diverse array of threats.'' I agree with him.

On top of that diverse array of threats, never before has our country been at war for such an extended period of time since 9/11, and never before have we done so much with an all-volunteer military force stressed by repeated deployments, while at the same time defense spending has been cut by nearly 15 percent over the last 8 years.

So the United States is at a crossroads when it comes to meeting the diverse threats we face today, while simultaneously preparing for the ever-evolving future threats headed our way tomorrow.

I wish to first provide a little bit of context about our lack of readiness to meet those threats by framing the challenges our military and our Nation faces, and then I wish to offer some thoughts about how we can rise to meet these challenges and maintain our military preeminence and leadership in the world.

First, there are the challenges abroad. We face a range of adversaries unlike any other in our history. In the Middle East, even as ISIS forces are pushed back in Iraq, their ideology spreads like a contagion through their so-called cyber caliphate, and it continues to permeate the West and attract the vulnerable and the disillusioned. FBI Director Comey has said that his agency has open investigations into home-grown jihadists in all 50 States.

Iran, under the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, is a breakout nuclear threat and remains the No. 1 state sponsor of terrorism in the world. At the same time, it is rapidly growing its ballistic missile arsenal and has regained much of its financial strength following sanctions relief under the JCPOA.

Then there is Syria. Since the Syrian civil war began, 400,000 have died in a bloody civil war, while Bashar al-Assad, a brutal dictator known to repeatedly use chemical weapons on his own people despite redlines drawn, enjoys Russian and Iranian support and protection.

In addition to its meddling in the Middle East, Russia has invaded eastern Ukraine and annexed Crimea. It routinely threatens NATO member states and has ramped up its use of ''active measures''—a program of both overt and covert action that leverages propaganda, cyber espionage, social media, and a sometimes gullible mainstream media both here and abroad—to influence and undermine public confidence in the very foundation of our democracies, which are our free and fair elections.

In the Pacific, China seeks to advance its regional dominance by making claims to former sandbars and reefs that it has now built into strategic military bases—complete with a 10,000 foot runway—in the South China Sea.

Finally, as we learned more about yesterday at the White House in the briefing from the President's national security advisers, North Korea continues to develop and test its nuclear and ballistic missile capabilities with the threat of soon being able to combine the two to threaten the continental United States and wreak death and destruction.

Many before me have observed that American strength on the world stage is a deterrent and a stabilizing influence, while weakness is an invitation to our adversaries and inherently destabilizing. I think that proposition has never been more evident than it is today.

But to address these threats—to maintain the peace and fight, if we must—we need a capable, ready, and modern military force. But the truth is we are not ready. While I believe America will always rise to the challenges

once roused from our national complacency, it makes a dangerous world even more dangerous.

U.S. military readiness and modernization—already under great stress and stretched thin around the world—has suffered 15 years of continued operations and simultaneous budgetary restrictions and deferred maintenance and investment. That has led to some very real consequences for our military. Let me just illustrate a few of those consequences.

According to General Walters, the Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps, more than half of all Marine Corps fixed- and rotary-wing aircraft were unable to fly at the end of 2016. Let me say that again. That is a shocking statistic. More than half of the Marine Corps' fixed- and rotary-wing aircraft were unable to fly by the end of 2016. These aircraft are in constant operation overseas and are absolutely necessary to continue the fight against ISIS and terrorism, yet half of them are unable to take off.

The Navy fleet currently stands at 275 of the 350 ship requirement. Law mandates an inventory of 11 aircraft carriers and has a stated force level goal of 12. But today, the Navy requires a waiver in order to operate just 10, currently. As we all know, these carrier strike groups deploy worldwide, and, as the Navy likes to say, they act as ''100,000 tons of diplomacy that doesn't need a permission slip.''

Of our 58 Army brigade and combat teams, only three are considered fully ready for combat. These are the main building blocks of the Army that support the majority of Army operations, and only three are fully ready. Keep in mind, too, that our Army is smaller than at any time since before World War II, as a result of draconian cuts in defense spending.

Finally, when it comes to our Air Force, General Wilson, the Air Force Vice Chief of Staff, recently testified: ''Sustained global commitments and funding reductions have eroded our Air Force to the point where we have become one of the smallest, oldest equipped, and least ready forces across the full-spectrum of operations in our service history.'' The Air Force currently has 5,500 aircraft in its inventory. That is down from 8,600 since 1991. The average aircraft in the U.S. Air Force is 27 years old. For example, I was at Dyess Air Force Base in Abilene, TX, just last week, viewing some of their B–1 bombers, which is a plane first flown in 1974.

Then, of course, there is the grandpa of our aircraft fleet, the B–52—that is still in operation—first introduced in the 1950s.

The Air Force is also experiencing a pilot shortage crisis due to the pressure on the force, including quality of life issues and, of course, increased demand and competition from the airline industry.

So our military faces these internal issues as well. No one would argue that in order to keep the peace and to protect our national vital interests, we must have a credible and modern force. But the hard truth is that we don't currently meet that standard, and we can't afford to ignore the problems.

So why, I ask, do we continue to do so? More importantly, the question is this: Where do we go from here? How can we assure that our military can maintain its competitive edge and ensure it is ready to meet these and future challenges? I have a few suggestions.

First, we must fund our military to meet the threat environment, not do what we can to meet the threat environment with what we funded for the military. In other words, the threat should determine the resources necessary to meet that threat. So I would suggest we should start by eliminating sequestration of Department of Defense funding under the 2011 Budget Control Act. The truth is that the Budget Control Act was never meant to cut military spending. It was meant to spur action. Remember the supercommittee and the hoped-for grand bargain? Instead, the BCA took a meat ax to our defense budget. Allowing the Budget Control Act to keep making automatic cuts to our military until 2021 does not serve the national security interests of the United States. It does the opposite. These cuts add risk not just to our national security but also to our servicemembers and their families—who, as I said, have been fighting the longest war in our Nation's history—and it does so by undermining their training, readiness, and modernization.

At a time when our growing national security threats require greater investment in technology, we are tying the hands of our military and simply hoping for the best. So if we want to return to a strong American military after years of stress and inadequate funding, we need to start with ending the Department of Defense sequestration.

Of course, the next logical question becomes this: If we do away with the defense portions of the Budget Control Act, how do we control overspending, deficits, and unsustainable national debt, which is a serious problem?

That brings me to my second point. A bipartisan Congress and the Trump administration must address our budget priorities by looking at and addressing all government spending, not just the 30 percent or so represented by discretionary spending. Right now, about 70 percent of Federal spending isn't even appropriated by the Congress. It simply runs on autopilot, and it grew last year at the rate of 5.5 percent, while discretionary spending has remained relatively flat. Until we have the political courage on a bipartisan basis to tackle our structural financial problems, we will never adequately fund the military or our other national priorities.

We also need a bipartisan commitment to ending continuing resolutions and the self-destructive drama and narrative of potential government shutdowns.

Most importantly, perhaps, the Defense Department needs to be able to plan, not just for the duration of the next continuing resolution, but it needs to be able to plan long term and to spend the money that is appropriated to it in an efficient way.

The Chief of Staff of the Air Force, General Goldfein, captured the point well 2 months ago, when he said: ''There is no enemy on the planet that can do more to damage the United States Air Force than us not getting a budget.'' This sentiment is shared by all the service chiefs, and I wholeheartedly agree.

In a Department as big, as large, and as unwieldy as the Department of Defense, there is no doubt that there is room to streamline, improve efficiencies, and reduce duplication. We can all agree on that. But the truth is we need to take a hard, strategic look at our budgetary and fiscal needs across the Federal Government. Endless continuing resolutions aren't the answer. Continuing resolutions actually limit an agency's ability to be efficient and flexible, and they prevent the establishment of new programs and the retiring of the old and obsolete programs.

At the end of the day, the only way we can rein in spending, get a handle on our debt, and ensure our military stays ready for the threats facing it every day is to clearly articulate our country's needs and how we plan to meet them. That way, we can restore constitutional oversight responsibilities to Congress.

Finally, Congress has a tremendous opportunity, working with the Trump administration, to propose a strategy to modernize our military and prepare for the next generation of warfighting. Both readiness and modernization have been encumbered by the lack of a coherent national security and foreign policy strategy in recent years, in addition to the blanket restrictions placed on defense spending.

Too frequently, modernization has simply been pushed aside by myopic views of how to deal with our financial challenges, which place greater risk on the warfighter and our collective security. You had better believe that, not hamstrung by redtape and regulations or continuing resolutions or deep cuts in defense spending or national security spending, our enemies take full advantage of our reluctance to deal with our challenges on a bipartisan basis. All the while, the United States operates on platforms engineered decades ago to fight the last generation's wars.

I can't think of a better example than our nuclear weapons program. This is the preeminent deterrent to war. Our country is the leading pioneer in science and technology, but instead of modernizing our nuclear weapons to provide a safe, reliable, and dependable deterrent, we, in effect, merely extend the service life of outdated and ancient weapons.

Clearly, we need a coherent national security strategy from President Trump and his Cabinet to do that. I know Congress is committed to working with them to make that happen.

By doing away with the Budget Control Act, putting the Pentagon on a dependable and predictable budget and developing a coherent national security strategy, we can maintain our status as the top military in the world. Along the way, we can deter our enemies and reassure our allies. We don't need to rewrite the playbook. We need to go back to the basics of government, providing for our national defense and keeping our fiscal house in order, all in light of the challenges and threats these times present.

My hope is that we will get out of the rut we have been in the Senate and in the Congress for the last few years and we will actually capitalize on this moment—and rally around a bipartisan commitment that a strong, modern, and ready military is really a nonnegotiable item—to lay the foundation for a modern military that will continue to keep our Nation safe for generations. I am committed to working with the administration and all of my colleagues in order to accomplish these goals.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader is recognized.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I enjoyed hearing my friend and gym colleague talking about defense. I agree with him; we need a strong defense. I agree with him that deficits are an enemy of getting the defense spending that we need. I hope when we consider tax cuts, we will hear that same view that we can't go deeply into deficit. I appreciate my colleague's great comments.

GOVERNMENT FUNDING BILL

Mr. President, I wish to talk first about some good news: the appropriations process—our negotiations to keep the government open. The President has backed off his threat to hold government funding hostage over the wall and over cutting healthcare funding for millions of Americans. This healthcare funding is essential to ensuring that millions of Americans will not see their premiums skyrocket and that they will not be kicked off their plans. Make no mistake, we will watch the administration like a hawk to make sure they follow through on their promise to continue this funding.

We are very happy that they have seen the light that Democrats have tried to show them for weeks. Threatening to hurt Americans for political gain is a loser.

Much like the administration's withdrawal of their demand for wall funding, which Democrats laid out a month ago as a condition for successful bipartisan negotiations on the appropriations bill, this decision brings us closer to a bipartisan agreement to fund the government and is good news for the American people.

The tendency of this administration has been to go at it alone. What these negotiations show is that when the Trump administration takes into account the Democratic position and is willing to move in our direction, they can make progress on issues as we have on the appropriations bills.

On those appropriations bills, of course, there are a few remaining issues to be settled. The most vexing are poison pill riders. We will not accept them, but I believe we are close to final agreement. Our side will continue to work in good faith to see that an agreement is reached to keep the government open by tomorrow's deadline.

I hope that this is something of a metaphor for the future, that the administration will not put together its plan and say that bipartisanship means you support our plan without any Democratic consultation, input, and, more importantly, taking into account our values, which we believe are close to where American values are—much closer than some on the other side.

THE PRESIDENT'S TAX PLAN

Mr. President, yesterday the President released—and this is not as good news, unfortunately—a one-page outline of his plan to change the U.S. Tax Code. Even from the very limited details that were released, the President's priorities are clear: Give massive tax breaks to folks like himself—the very, very wealthy in America.

The top rate would come down; taxes that disproportionately affect the very wealthy would go away, while middle-class and working families would be denied some of the most useful deductions. This isn't simply the Trump plan to lower taxes. It is the plan to lower the taxes of Trump and those with enormous wealth, similar to his.

The prime beneficiaries of the Trump plan would be his Cabinet. Secretary Mnuchin, one of the architects of the plan, could not guarantee this morning that the middle class will not pay more under the Trump tax plan. If, on one sheet of paper, you can guarantee that corporations pay less and you can guarantee that the wealthiest Americans pay less but you can't guarantee that hard-working, middle-class Americans pay less, you don't have a good recipe for changing our Tax Code. And, for the good of America, you are to go back to the drawing board.

This proposal falls short, far short of the mark in several ways: First and foremost, it mostly benefits the very wealthy. In the Trump tax plan, corporations and the very wealthy get a huge tax break through lower rates and the elimination of things like the estate tax. In fact, the proposal the President put out yesterday is actually even more of a giveaway on the estate tax than his proposal in his campaign. In the campaign, President Trump promised to repeal the estate tax for estates up to $10 million, retaining it for the wealthiest of estates. This proposal would eliminate the tax completely, particularly on those multimillion- and even billion-dollar estates. The result would be that the 5,200 wealthiest families in America would each receive, on average, a $3 million windfall, and many would receive much, much more than that.

Also, because the Trump plan lowers the tax rate on the so-called passthrough entities to 15 percent, wealthy businessmen, like President Trump, will be able to use passthrough entities to pay 15 percent in taxes while everyone else pays in the twenties and thirties. This has implications for something we don't need—the carried interest loophole. President Trump promised to get rid of this in his campaign. Instead of using the carried interest loophole under the President's bill, Wall Street funds could file their taxes at a new passthrough rate of 15 percent, which is even lower than the present tax on carried interest.

Ironically, the President's tax plan would indeed get rid of the carried interest loophole only by making it lower than the present rate and making it permanent—a total, total reversal of what he pledged in his campaign.

It all goes to show that those who stand to benefit most from this proposal are folks like the President and those at his level of wealth, while tens of millions of American middle-class, working families are hurt and could very well pay more.

This brings me to my second point, which is that the Trump plan hurts middle-class and working Americans by eliminating their most popular and useful deductions. Take the elimination of the State and local tax deduction, for instance, which is used by so many middle-class families in my home State of New York. As it was cited in the Syracuse Post Standard: ''The loss of the deduction will cost New Yorkers an average of $4,500 per year for those who file itemized returns, totaling about $68 billion per year that State residents will no longer be allowed to deduct from Federal returns.''

I saw in Newsday this morning that a number of our Long Island Republican colleagues said they couldn't be for this. We hope they will stand up to anything that gets rid of State and local deductibility because, let me repeat, that is $4,500 a year that New

Yorkers would no longer be able to deduct on average—massive tax cuts for the very wealthy, crumbs at best for everyone else.

Third, the Republican plan is steeped in hypocrisy. Even without filling in the details, Trump's plan is already impossible to pay for. The Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget estimates that Trump's tax cuts will cost about $5.5 trillion over 10 years, as much as $7 trillion. That is a huge amount of money in our economy.

CRFB projects that ''no plausible amount of economic growth would be able to pay for the tax plan.'' The Republican plan would explode the deficit.

For the last 8 years, all we heard from our Republican colleagues was that Obama was raising the deficit and we needed to cut programs that benefit the poor and the middle class; cut the entitlements, Social Security, Medicare because of the deficit. All of a sudden, now with a Republican President and a proposed tax cut for the wealthy, we are hearing from the other side of the aisle that deficits don't matter.

Our Republican colleagues certainly believe the admonition that ''consistency is the hobgoblin of little minds.''

Fourth, the Trump tax plan would explode the deficit and, thus, endanger Social Security and Medicare, which may well be the nefarious, ultimate goal of the hard right.

Sadly, I know it can happen. I have seen it before with the Bush tax cuts. President Bush pushed a big tax break for the wealthy. It blew a hole in the deficit and racked up debt, and then he and his Republican colleagues tried to pursue deep cuts to the social safety net to balance the ledger.

If Trump's tax plan were to pass, you can be sure, America, that a few years down the line—maybe even not that long—the deficit will be so large that our Republican colleagues will throw up their hands and say: We have no choice but to come after Social Security and Medicare and other important programs for the middle class as a way to address the deficit they created by showering tax breaks on the very rich.

They will resume the cry they had in the Obama years: Cut the deficit—which seems to apply to the programs that help the middle class but never to the ones that benefit the wealthy.

Just from the bare-bones skeleton the administration outlined yesterday, we can already surmise that this plan is not much more than a thinly veiled ruse to give away trillions to the wealthiest among us, starve the government of resources, balloon the deficit, and then cut Social Security, Medicaid, and Medicare to make up the difference.

This plan will roundly be rejected by taxpayers of all stripes. The American people are once again learning that what President Trump promised to working America in his campaign and what he is doing are totally at odds.

TRUMPCARE

Mr. President, on TrumpCare, very briefly—on the new version of TrumpCare that may soon be headed for a vote in the House, let's not forget the reason that Americans were against the first version of TrumpCare. They are still in the second version. This version is worse, and there has been a lot of focus on a few of the changes.

The fundamental nastiness of the TrumpCare proposal—raising the rates on people 50 to 65, 24 million people uncovered, difficulty in covering preexisting conditions—is still in this bill. In fact, it is even worse. The new TrumpCare will allow States to decide whether insurers have to cover Americans with preexisting conditions. It is hard to come up with a crueler bill than one that would have resulted in 24 million fewer Americans with healthcare coverage, but this new TrumpCare manages to do it. It would hurt even more Americans and bring us back to the days when an insurance company could deny you coverage exactly when you needed it most.

I say to the more moderate Republicans in the House: If you didn't like the first version, you surely shouldn't like this version. Frankly, you will pay a huge consequence in the 2018 elections if you vote for it. We hope you don't vote for it because we know how many people it would hurt. Even if it passed the House, the chances for survival in the Senate are small. We don't even know if the new version would survive under the rules of reconciliation, the amendment to allow States to drop preexisting conditions. The fulcrum of the new changes very possibly violates the Byrd rule and would be kicked down here and need 60 votes, which they won't get for such a nasty provision.

A warning to all those voting for it in the House: It may well be a chimera, all to save face for the President in his first hundred days.

THE PRESIDENT'S FIRST ONE HUNDRED DAYS

Finally, Mr. President, we are only a few days from President Trump's 100th day in office, and by all accounts, this has been a vastly different Presidency than was promised during his campaign. So far this week, we Democrats have highlighted how this President has broken or not fulfilled promise after promise to the working men and women of America.

Today, I would like to focus on a particularly stunning reversal this President made in the first 100 days on one of the central pillars of his campaign: his promise to drain the swamp. President Trump repeated this phrase at every campaign rally. In many ways, it summed up his ''outsider'' campaign. Make no mistake about it—the President ran as a populist outsider, not as a traditional, hard-right, conservative Republican. He challenged the establishments of both parties and pitched himself as a change agent, someone who could shake up the status quo. ''Drain the swamp'' was his tag line.

We Democrats disagree with this President on many things, but we agree with him that the very wealthy, powerful special interests have far too much power in Washington. Large corporations that have the resources to make unlimited, undisclosed campaign contributions, that have resources to hire lobbyists on issue after issue, hold far too much power in this Nation's Capital, and that structure has created a system where the wealthy and powerful are advantaged in DC, while average, hard-working Americans have a much smaller voice.

Draining the swamp would be a good thing, but unfortunately, despite the many times he pledged radically to change the power structure in Washington in the first 100 days, the President has abandoned the mission. He filled his government with billionaires and bankers laden with conflicts of interests. He has broken with the practice of the Obama administration by ending the publishing of visitor logs to the White House, so the press and the American people don't know who has the ear of the President and his top people. He has even granted waivers to lobbyists to come work at the White House on the very same issues they were just lobbying on, and he has kept those waivers secret.

A President who truly wanted to drain the swamp wouldn't have taken a single one of those actions. What are the American people going to think? He campaigned on this and totally reversed himself within the first 100 days. What are they going to think of him? It is no wonder his popularity ratings are low and sinking.

President Trump ran as a populist, but at the 100-day mark, he hasn't even tried to change the power structure in Washington and has in many ways rigged the government even more to benefit corporate special interests. This is one of the biggest broken promises he made to the working men and women of America. That is how we Democrats sum up the first 100 days—broken and unfulfilled promises to the working people of America. And when it comes to draining the swamp, he has not done it.

One final point. The events yesterday have further proven our point. The President promised one thing in his campaign and is now doing another. On his new healthcare proposal, he has shown his hand: Promise something for the working people but deliver legislation that only helps the very wealthy. On his new tax plan, which still benefits the rich: Promise the working people; deliver for the wealthy. The President has made our point better than we

could this week. After these two bills, his promises to working people are in tatters.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Connecticut.

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. President, I thank the leader for his remarks, especially with respect to the new addition of the healthcare bill. It is a disaster for Americans. It is immoral. It doesn't work. It doesn't address any of the problems that remain in the underlying healthcare system. Hopefully the Senate can rise above it and work together to do something better for the American people.

GUN VIOLENCE

Mr. President, I rise today because tomorrow President Trump is going to become the first President in about 30 years to address the National Rifle Association. He will address the NRA tomorrow, and I thought it would be appropriate to come down to the floor to talk a little bit about the epidemic of gun violence in the context of this speech.

A lot of us were thrown off by the tone of the President's inaugural address. It was very different from a lot of inaugurals we have heard—not uplifting, really. There was much more of a dark, dystopian picture of America, one that was frankly unfamiliar to a lot of us. Maybe the most memorable line from the President's inaugural address was that after describing this dystopia that he believed most persons lived in, he said: ''This American carnage stops right here and it stops right now.''

I wanted to come down to the floor today to talk about that idea of American carnage, what it really is. I mean, this is American carnage. It is 31,000 Americans, mostly young men and women, who die every year from gunshot wounds—2,600 a month, 86 a day. That is an enormous number. There is no other country in the first world, in the industrialized world, that has numbers like this. They happen for a variety of reasons. Two-thirds of those are suicides. That is an epidemic in and of itself. A lot of them are homicides. A number are accidental shootings. But America has this problem uniquely. There is no other industrialized competitor where this happens. That is the face of American carnage.

President Trump is going to address the National Rifle Association tomorrow—an organization that is, frankly, dedicated to continuing this real carnage that is happening in America. You can't explain these numbers through mental illness. There is just as much mental illness in all of our economic competitors around the world. You can't explain this through exposure to violent content on TV or movies or video games. There are plenty other countries that have rates that are much lower than this and the kids see that same content. You can't explain this away by law enforcement. We spend an awful lot of money putting cops on the streets. What we have in this country that is different from any other nation is loose and lax gun laws that allow for criminals and people with serious mental illness to get their hands on weapons that are more powerful than those that are available in other nations. That was the case in Sandy Hook, too—enormous destruction in a short amount of time.

I want to talk a little bit today about two things—first, about the real scope of this carnage, and second, about the real story of gun owners.

The President is going to go talk to the NRA—a group that is increasingly wildly out of step with gun owners not just in my State but across the country.

First, I want to talk about this idea of carnage in America—the central focus of the President's inaugural address. I commend to my colleagues an article that appeared earlier this week—maybe late last week—called ''What Bullets Do to Bodies.''

We don't like to talk about that a lot because today the popular image of a gun is almost divorced from its actual function. People collect them. People buy them in order to convey a certain image or lifestyle. People certainly have weapons to protect themselves, but very few Americans actually understand what these guns are designed to do. They are designed to kill people. They are designed to gravely hurt people. In particular, the AR–15 and AR–15 variants are dedicated to killing people as fast and as gruesomely as possible.

This article, ''What Bullets Do to Bodies,'' follows a trauma surgeon in Philadelphia. I want to read a few paragraphs from this article. It says:

> The main thing that people get wrong when they imagine being shot is that they think the bullet itself is the problem. The lump of metal lodged in the body. The action-movie hero is shot in the stomach; he limps to a safe house; he takes off his shirt, removes the bullet with a tweezer, and now he is better. This is not trauma surgery. Trauma surgery is about fixing the damage the bullet causes as it rips through muscle and vessel and organ and bone.
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> The bullet can stay in the body just fine. But the bleeding has to be contained, even if the patient is awake and screaming because a tube has just been pushed into his chest cavity through a deep incision without the aid of general anesthesia (no time; the patient gets an injection of lidocaine). And if the heart has stopped, it must be restarted before the brain dies from a lack of oxygen.
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> It is not a gentle process. Some of the surgeon's tools look like things you'd buy at Home Depot. In especially serious cases, 70 times just at Temple last year, the surgeons will crack a chest right there in the trauma area. The technical name is a thoracotomy. A patient comes in unconscious, maybe in cardiac arrest, and Goldberg has to get into the cavity to see what is going on. With a scalpel, she makes an incision below the nipple and cuts 6 to 10 inches down the torso, through the skin, through the layer of fatty tissue, through the muscles. Into the opening she inserts a rib-spreader, a large metal instrument with a hand crank. It pulls open the ribs and locks them into place so the surgeons can reach the inner organs. Every so often, she may have to break the patient's sternum—a bilateral thoracotomy. This is done with a tool called a Lebsche knife. It's a metal rod with a sharp blade on the end that hooks under the breastbone.

The surgeon in this case is Dr. Goldberg.

> Goldberg takes out a silver hammer. It looks like—a hammer. She hits the top of a Lebsche knife with the hammer until it cuts through the sternum. ''You never forget that sound,'' one of the Temple nurses told me. ''It's like a tink, tink, tink. And it sounds like metal, but you know it's bone. You know like when you see on television, when people are working on the railroad, hammering the ties?''

''It's just the worst,'' one nurse told the writer of this story. ''They're breaking bone. And everybody—every body—has its own kind of quality. And sometimes there's a big guy you'll hear, and it's the echo—the sound that comes out of the room. There's some times when it doesn't affect me, and there are some times when it makes my knees shake, when I know what's going on in there.''

The article goes on to talk about what happens to those who survive.

> The price of survival is often lasting disability. Some patients, often young guys, wind up carrying around colostomy bags the rest of their lives.

They go to the bathroom through a stoma, a hole in their abdomen.

> ''They're so angry,'' Goldberg said. ''They should be angry.'' Some are paralyzed by bullets that sever the spinal column. Some lose limbs entirely.

AR–15s are designed by the military in order to kill people even more quickly so that you don't ever have the chance of going to an emergency room. That is what happened at Sandy Hook. What is remarkable is that not a single one of those kids ever made it to a trauma surgeon. All of those kids died on the spot—20 of them.

You sort of have to think about bullets like running fingers through the water: When you run your fingers through the water, it causes ripples, it causes disruptions in the water around them. Well, a bullet coming out of an AR–15 rifle moves three times faster than a bullet coming out of a handgun. So just look what happens when you run your hand through water. You run it through at this speed versus running it through at that speed. The ripples and the disruptions get bigger, right? And they spread further. That is what happens when the bullet from an AR–15 enters the body of anyone, but it certainly does something different when it enters the body of a 6-year-old. One trauma surgeon said that when it hits bone, it likely will just turn it to dust. If a bullet from an AR–15 hits the liver, well, this surgeon says that ''the liver

looks like a Jell-o mold has been dropped on the floor.''

I know some people think AR–15s are fun. They are fun to show off to your friends. They are neat to fire. But that is carnage. A little kid's bones turning to dust in the middle of a first grade classroom is not sport; that is American carnage. Do you know what? A lot of gun owners get this. A lot of gun owners understand that this has gotten out of hand.

There was a poll that was conducted just about 2 weeks ago of gun owners across the country. Eighty percent of them support requiring a background check before you buy a gun. That is pretty similar to the number you would find when you ask gun owners and nongun owners, but the gun owners in my State were frankly just as shocked and horrified at what happened in that classroom at Sandy Hook as my nongun owners were.

Gun owners in this country increasingly are not represented by the National Rifle Association, the group Donald Trump is going to go talk to this week, because the National Rifle Association, which claims to be speaking for gun owners, opposes background checks. They don't want a single additional gun sale to go through a background check. They are just fine with the fact that almost half of all guns sales in this country occur without a background check, meaning criminals and people with serious mental illness can get a gun so easily in this country that they don't even have to make much of an effort.

Eighty-six percent of gun owners in this poll support prohibiting anyone who is convicted of stalking or domestic abuse from buying a gun. The NRA opposes that. Eighty-five percent of gun owners support prohibiting those who are on the Federal terror watch list or no fly list from buying a gun. The NRA opposes that.

Eighty-eight percent of gun owners believe you should have a permit to carry a concealed handgun in a public place. The NRA opposes that. So it is no secret that 67 percent of gun owners feel the NRA used to be an organization dedicated to gun safety, but it has been overtaken by lobbyists. Fifty percent of gun owners feel the NRA does not represent their interests.

When President Trump goes to talk to the NRA tomorrow, I hope he understands they are not advocating for the views of gun owners in my State, they are not advocating for the gun owners in most all of your States. They are a radical political organization. They have to start answering for why they don't square with the views of gun owners.

Finally, here is a story of American carnage. Keon Huff, Jr., was 15 years old when he was shot on March 17 of this year in Hartford, CT. Here is what Keon said to one of his mentors in the North End of Hartford. He said: ''I'm either going to go on to college and play basketball or I'm going to die on the streets.''

Can you imagine there are kids who think that in this country? Can you imagine there are kids in this country who think their choices are to go play basketball in college or die on the streets of Connecticut? Most Americans cannot imagine a little kid saying that, but Keon thought that. He was right—because he was a great basketball player. He lived at the North End YMCA. He devoted all of his energy to basketball. He wanted to be the next Michael Jordan. If you told him otherwise, he just did not want to hear it. He was committed to playing basketball in college, but it was the other one that got him. He died in the hallway of his apartment complex when he was shot in the head on Friday, March 17. He died on the streets of Hartford. He did not end up going to college to play basketball. He is just one of 2,600 a month who die from guns, 31,000 a year, 86 a day.

A lot of gun owners in this country get that. They understand the flow of illegal weapons into our streets. They understand there are some weapons out there that are way too powerful that do those terrible things to bodies when the bullet enters.

When Donald Trump talks to the NRA, I hope he takes them on and asks why they refuse to stand up for policies that will end this American carnage that the President talked about in his speech and why they will not start actually representing the views of American gun owners.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SULLIVAN). The Senator from Wyoming.

FOREIGN POLICY

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, people around the country know the world continues to be a very dangerous place. It became more dangerous over the past 8 years. I believe that is particularly related to what I saw as unwise and unsound policies by the Obama administration, certainly when it comes to foreign policy.

Every President's foreign policy should secure America's national interests and demonstrate America's leadership around the world. That was not the case under President Obama. The last President and his team followed a policy, what has been called strategic patience—strategic patience—when dealing with hostile countries all around the world: Iran, North Korea.

Any time there was a belligerent, aggressive, cunning dictator on the move, President Obama's position was strategic patience. It was a terrible approach—a terrible approach for us in dealing with reckless regimes.

I always thought President Obama was completely focused on signing a nuclear deal with Iran, not because it actually was a great deal but maybe because it might reflect well on his legacy. I thought he wanted a deal so badly that he ended up getting a deal that was a bad deal. Well, as part of the deal, the former President accepted Iranian demands—and he accepted all of them—to lift an arms embargo that the United Nations had put into place.

This was an embargo that said that Iran was not supposed to be selling weapons to other countries. The embargo was going to disappear in 5 years, whether Iran complied with it or not. We already know Iran has no intention of playing by the rules. They haven't played by the rules all the way through. Last week, the Secretary of Defense, James Mattis, said Iran has already been violating the embargo. That is why I believe they have no intention of playing by the rules.

The Secretary of Defense tells us they are not playing by the rules now. He said we have seen Iranian-supplied missiles—our Secretary of Defense said: We have seen Iranian-supplied missiles being fired into Saudi Arabia by the rebels in Yemen. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson was even more clear. He said last week that Iran is ''the world's leading state sponsor of terrorism.''

He said that Iran is ''responsible for intensifying multiple conflicts''—''intensifying the conflicts and undermining U.S. interests in countries such as Syria, Yemen, Iraq, and Lebanon.'' Now, this is a direct result of President Obama spending 8 years being strategically patient. It is the result of sending the signal that Iran would be rewarded for its bad behavior.

So let's look at what happened last year when the Obama administration was bragging about the nuclear deal—and they were high-fiving, bragging about the deal.

Just when the deal went into effect, President Obama arranged to send to Iran $1.7 billion in cash—$1.7 billion is an astonishingly large amount of money. It is a million and a million and a million—it is 1,700 piles of $1 million. Remember—try to visualize this. You may remember the news reports about pallets of cash stacked up going to Iran. President Obama sent $400 million as a downpayment.

Within 24 hours, the Iranians agreed to release a group of Americans whom they had been holding hostage. The Obama White House said it was not a ransom payment to free the hostages. The Obama administration actually thought the American people were naive enough to believe it was just a coincidence in timing. Well, you can bet the Iranians did not believe it was a coincidence because they actually said it was not a coincidence.

The Iranians described the money as for the release of the hostages. We know from experience that the Iranians see hostage-taking as a valid way

of conducting their own foreign policy. Right now, North Korea also has taken hostages—three American hostages written about today in the papers.

We know from experience the Iranians see hostage-taking as a valid way to conduct foreign policy, and they have also gotten the message, at least from the previous administration, that it can be a very profitable policy as well. President Obama played right into their hands. There is something else President Obama did that we just learned about, and that is why I wanted to speak about this today.

Politico had a major expose on Monday of this week. The headline was: ''Obama's hidden Iran deal giveaway''—the ''hidden deal giveaway.'' Around the same time President Obama was sending cash to Iran, he also released seven Iranians who had been arrested by the United States. The President downplayed the crimes these individuals had committed. He said it was a ''one-time gesture'' to help grease the skids for his Iran deal.

Now, according to the documents obtained by Politico, the Obama administration also dropped charges and international arrest warrants against 14 other individuals. Some of them were wanted for serious threats to our own American national security. One man was charged with trying to buy thousands of assault weapons—thousands of assault weapons—and send them to Iran.

Another was charged with conspiring to get from Iran thousands of pieces of equipment with nuclear applications. The scheme included hundreds of U.S.-made sensors for uranium enrichment centrifuges in Iran. Centrifuges were a big reason we were concerned about Iran's nuclear program in the first place. Yet, according to President Obama, this doesn't seem to be a problem.

According to the article that came out Monday, ''As far back as the fall of 2014, Obama administration officials began slow-walking some significant investigations and prosecutions of Iranian procurement networks operating right here within the United States.''

As one expert told Politico, ''This is a scandal.'' She said: ''It's stunning and hard to understand why we would do this.'' Republicans in Congress warned about this kind of thing from the very beginning. President Obama was so interested in getting a deal that he got one that in my opinion, has been very bad for the United States—not just for the United States, bad for the world because Iran with a nuclear weapon makes the world less safe, less secure, and less stable.

President Obama has this as part of his legacy, but I will tell you strategic patience has failed. Secretary of State Tillerson said so last week, and I agree with him completely. I am glad to hear our top diplomat recognized this, and I am glad to see the Trump administration doing a comprehensive review of the Iran nuclear agreement.

The last President put international opinion first when it came to foreign policy. We see this all around the world. This President, President Trump, is showing that we will put America's interests first. It is not just Iran where we have the problem. I was recently in Asia over the break, along with a group of Senators. We went to Tokyo, we went to Beijing to meet with the leaders in China. We went around that region. We met with the Premier of China, who is the No. 2 person in China, and we met with the No. 3 and the No. 4 to talk specifically about the problems of North Korea and the region.

For a long time, North Korea has been called the land of lousy options, but there is new urgency as we see the increasing capacity of North Korea now with their rockets not just propelled with liquid fuel but now with solid fuel that allows for quicker launches. The launch vehicles are no longer on wheels limited to the roads in North Korea, they are now on tracks and they can go anywhere.

North Korea has increased their nuclear capacity as well as their missile deliverability, and they are working on intercontinental ballistic missiles that can hit the United States. That is why we were at the White House yesterday for this secure briefing. That is why it is so critical that we focus on North Korea and we have a President who is focused on a peaceful resolution but is not afraid to use force, as we have seen in Syria and in Afghanistan, because if you want to use deterrence, you have to have a capacity—which we have had in the United States, which is incredible—through the Presidents over the years. You have to have a commitment to use that capacity, and we have seen from President Trump a commitment to use that capacity in Syria, in Afghanistan. You have to communicate a willingness to use that capacity, as President Trump is doing today.

Last week, Vice President PENCE traveled to the demilitarized zone between South Korea and North Korea. He said very clearly that when it comes to North Korea's nuclear weapons program, ''the era of strategic patience is over.''

North Korea has been allowed to get away with too much for too long. It continues to test nuclear weapons. It continues to test missiles. It continues to use hostages as a way of getting what it wants from other countries.

Over the weekend, we learned that North Korea arrested an American professor who was in that country. North Korea, like Iran, has a history of taking hostages and using them as leverage to get what it wants. We now know three Americans are being held in North Korea.

The leadership of countries like Iran and North Korea need to understand that this kind of action will not succeed.

No one wants a fight with Iran. No one wants a fight with North Korea. The way to avoid the fight is to show that there is a limit to the patience of civilized countries of the world, which is why the age of strategic patience is now in the past.

There is new leadership with negotiation, deterrence, and, as a final option, the use of force, if necessary, which has not been the case in the last 8 years, where the use of force, the message sent by that administration was: We have no commitment to use the capacity which the United States has.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Delaware.

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, there is probably nobody in the Senate I admire more than the Senator from Wyoming, except maybe his colleague, MIKE ENZI, who is also from Wyoming.

I come to the floor not to talk about these issues but to talk about others. I feel compelled to respond to some of what he said.

There's no need for Senator BARRASSO to remain. So don't feel as though you have to, but thank you just the same.

Mr. President, a little background: As the Presiding Officer knows, having spent some time in the military—'06, the Marine Corps; the Navy salutes the Marine Corps. I am a retired Navy captain, three tours in Southeast Asia in the Vietnam war. I served as a P–3 aircraft mission commander right at the end of the Cold War. The month I stepped down as a Navy captain, I led a congressional delegation back into Vietnam. Six of us—Democrats, Republicans—went at the behest of former President George Herbert Walker Bush's administration to find out what happened to thousands of MIAs to see if we could get information about them and to provide that information to their families for closure. That was the beginning of an effort in the House, mirrored by the one over here led by JOHN MCCAIN and John Kerry, to move us toward normalized relations to see if the Vietnamese would cooperate with us in providing information that we wanted and the families wanted and deserve.

In fact, a year ago, I learned, along with President Obama, that we are there to kind of close the circle on our relationship with Vietnam, which has changed a lot over the last 30 years. Interestingly enough, we are Vietnam's best trading partner, and they are a very good trading partner to us.

When we were there, they announced they were going to buy something like $10, $12, $14 billion worth of our aircraft—not fighter aircraft, not military aircraft, but civilian aircraft from, I believe, Boeing.

I learned about some polling data. They had taken two polls, two surveys of the Vietnamese people early last year, and the question asked of Vietnamese people was: How do you feel about other countries, the people from other countries? How do you feel about the Chinese, the Russians, Filipinos, Malaysians, Indians, Pakistanis, Americans, and others? How do you feel about them? In one survey, 85 percent of the Vietnamese people said they had favorable opinions toward America and Americans—85 percent, the highest of any other nation surveyed. Another survey said: No, no, 95 percent of Vietnamese have favorable opinions of the United States, which is higher than their opinions of any other nation.

The reason I mention Vietnam—they were a bitter enemy of this country. The names of 55,000 men and women with whom I served in Southeast Asia are on a wall just down 2 miles from here, down by the Lincoln Memorial. While we were bitter enemies, we resolved those differences in the 1990s. We are now close trading partners. We don't agree with them on every single thing, but they like us a lot. We have much more of a relationship than we have ever had in the past, and it is a much better economic relationship than we have ever had in the past.

The reason I mention Vietnam is that there are some corollaries here with Iran. In 1978, that was when some will recall—the pages are too young to remember this. But in 1978, Iranians, led by their religious leader, captured, took control of the U.S. Embassy in Tehran. They held our folks for a year or two as part of their cultural revolution or religious revolution.

When they did that, do you know what we did? We seized a lot of their assets in this country, in other countries as best we could. And that was not just a couple of dollars, not just a couple million dollars; it was hundreds of millions of dollars, and, man, maybe even more. Maybe it was even billions of dollars.

We held those assets, and we kept the Iranians from reclaiming those assets for, gosh, over 30 years—maybe close to 40 years. They have litigated in court. They say that they feel they should have access to what is theirs, what was theirs.

We are told by lawyers—I am not a lawyer—but we are told by some pretty smart lawyers on our side and others that they had a very good chance of getting all that and more in court if we didn't settle.

What we did, at the end of the day, when the Iranians agreed to the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action agreement, which was reached with not just the United States but with the Germans, the French, the Brits, the Chinese, and the Russians—the idea was to make sure that Iran didn't have a quick path, a fast track to continuing their development of nuclear weapons. They were clearly wanting to do it, and we wanted them not to do that.

So we ended up negotiating this agreement. Part of the agreement was to settle these claims from almost 40 years ago, financial claims, valuable assets that we basically seized and refused to return.

It turns out, we have to mention how highly the Vietnamese people think of us today. As it turns out, Vietnam is a very young country, very young. So is Iran.

Iran has about 80 million people. In Iran, the majority of the people are under the age of 25. They like this country a lot, but they have people over there who are more in line with the old regime, who don't like us. The Revolutionary Guard, some of the military leadership—they don't like us.

They have newly elected leadership from 4 years ago, President Rouhani, Foreign Minister Zarif, and others who, frankly, want to be able to work with us, if they can. They are willing to agree to what I think is a very harsh agreement to ensure that they don't move forward on developing weapons and developing nuclear weapons. If they do, then we are going to impose these really stringent sanctions on them, shut down their economy—double-digit rates of inflation, economy in the tank. Finally, they said: OK, uncle. We will agree to this agreement.

Since then, the Iranians have done what the Vietnamese did a year ago; they have a more abundant civilian air fleet. Their civilian aircraft are old, decrepit, and they need new ones. They are doing what the Vietnamese have already done: buying a lot of American-made aircraft, passenger aircraft by Boeing. We are not talking about just a couple billion dollars' worth but certainly more than $10 billion worth.

I think they have already taken orders on one and have made one of the very first ones, and there is more to come. I think they are also going to buy a bunch of airbuses. I think more than half of the airbuses have components made in America, and that is another boost to our economy.

I don't remember who said it, but a Chinese military leader once said: The greatest victory of all is the one that we win without firing a shot. That is what he said: The greatest victory of all is the one we win without firing a shot.

Well, for a Navy guy who has seen some time in a combat area and the Presiding Officer, who knows a little bit about this stuff as well—I think he probably agrees with me that if you can win one without shooting anybody or getting anybody killed, I think that is worth doing.

The other thing I would say is, that doesn't mean we just trust Iran that they are going to do what they said they are going to do in the deal. There is an agency—I think it is called the International Atomic Energy Agency. They are all over them in terms of monitoring the deal and making sure that what the Iranians agreed to do, they actually do. What is it, trust but verify? That is really what the Iranian deal is all about: trust but verify. We will see how it all works out.

Color me hopeful. A lot of times when we vote on stuff, we vote our hopes as opposed to our fears. Sometimes we vote our fears, as opposed to our hopes. On the Iran deal, I voted my hopes. We will see how it goes, and I am hopeful.

BORDER WALL

Mr. President, that is not why I came to the floor. There is a lot of talk about a wall. I heard a song by Pink Floyd the other day: ''All in all it was just a brick in the wall.''

The President wants us to build a wall on our southern border with Mexico. It is about 2,000 miles between the Pacific Ocean and the Gulf Coast. I have been down there any number of times as the chairman of the Homeland Security Committee and still as the senior Democrat on the Homeland Security Committee. The ranking member is CLAIRE MCCASKILL of Missouri.

I have not been on every square mile of the border with Mexico, but I can tell you that there are some places on the border where a wall makes some sense, and there are frankly a lot of places where it doesn't, including where you have hundreds of miles of river where it doesn't make any sense.

Also, I have heard from folks from Yuma down there, where the Border Patrol told me—where they had an area where they had some wall. I think the wall was maybe 15 feet high, and they kept finding like 18-, 19-foot ladders on the other side of the wall, where people would come up with a ladder to the wall and go over and above the wall. So you can go over a wall. You can even go over a high wall with a ladder that is high enough. A lot of that has been done.

You can go under a wall, tunnel under. A lot of people tried to get out of Mexico into the United States by tunneling under the wall.

As it turns out, walls in some places make sense. Fences in some places make sense. Boats in some places, like on the river that happens to be our border, the Rio Grande border with Mexico—boats make sense. Sometimes fast boats, really fast boats make sense. Sometimes it makes sense to build a ramp so you can get boats into the water in different places. Sometimes it makes sense to build a road on our side of the border to give us mobility. Sometimes it makes sense to put surveillance equipment in drones. Sometimes it makes sense to put surveillance equipment in helicopters. Sometimes it makes sense to put surveillance equipment in fixed-wing aircraft

and also not just binoculars to try to find people.

There is something called VADER. It is an acronym for Vehicle and Dismount Exploitation Radar, to find people. It is very highly sophisticated surveillance equipment to go on our drones, go on our helicopters, and go on our fixed-wing aircraft.

What is so special about this? It can see at night. It allows us to see dozens of miles into Mexico at night—through fog, through rain. We have a system and if we need to, rather than just send out aircraft or drones or whatever without that kind of surveillance equipment, let's put the surveillance equipment on it. That makes far more sense than building a 2,000-mile wall.

Other things that make sense are surveillance towers. We have to go 100 feet up in the air, 200, 300 feet. Some of them are mobile. Some of them are stationary. We have motion detectors. In some places, that makes a lot of sense.

There is no shortage of ideas that make sense. What I like to do to try to figure out what to do is I ask people like the Border Patrol: What do you think makes sense? And what they pretty much say is an ''all of the above'' approach.

We have an ''all of the above'' approach in energy. If we are smart about securing our border with Mexico, I think we have gotten smarter as we have gone on. We certainly have a lot more people down there than we had before that. We have 20,000 people, our men and women in the Border Patrol. They work hard and do a good job.

It is an ''all of the above'' approach. So I wanted to get that off my chest.

Does it make sense to spend $25 billion to build a wall that we may need less than 100 miles? Probably not. Absolutely not.

The people who are coming across our border with Mexico are not Mexicans. They used to be. There are more Mexicans going back into Mexico from the United States than are coming into the United States from Mexico. The places where a lot of illegal immigration is coming from are three countries: Honduras, Guatemala, and El Salvador. Honduras, Guatemala, and El Salvador.

Here is why they come. It is because they live lives of desperation. They live lives without economic hope, economic opportunity, murder, mayhem, some of the highest murder rates in the world. I think El Salvador—I don't know if we have the numbers here. They have a number of different routes they take from the three countries of Honduras, Guatemala, and El Salvador, mostly coming into the United States right here. They don't so much go over to El Paso. They certainly don't head over here on land to get in on the western side of our border. Some try to come by air, but mostly they come by—it used to be by train, now mostly it is by land, and they are dangerous missions. The reason they come is because there is not much hope there.

Frankly, the reason there is not much hope there, in part, is because of us. There used to be a comic strip called ''Pogo.'' The Presiding Officer remembers ''Pogo.'' One of the lines from ''Pogo'' is, ''I found the enemy, and it is me.''

We are the enemy. The chairman of the Homeland Security Committee said many times, the root cause of what is going on down there is our addiction to drugs in this country. The drugs are trafficked through here, they come into the United States, are sold, and the money from the drugs goes back there along with guns. When we deport the bad guys, what do we do? We take the bad guys who were selling the drugs, and we put them right back down here. It is a toxic mix of guns, weapons, and bad guys. They make life down here miserable for people.

As it turns out, Colombia, a few years ago, was a miserable place to live too. One time, about 20 years ago, a bunch of gunmen in Colombia rounded up the supreme court justices of the Colombian supreme court, took them into a room and shot them to death—shot them to death.

There was a time when the FARC, the rebel groups, the leftist groups, and the drug gangs were trying to take down the Government of Colombia, and it looked like they could. And some great people in Colombia stood up and said: Not on my watch. This is not going to happen on my watch. They came up with Plan Colombia in order to make sure this didn't happen. President Clinton and a guy named Joe Biden, who was chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, led an effort to—not for us to fully fund Plan Colombia, but they basically said: This is on you. You can do it like at Home Depot. You can do it. We can help. They did the heavy lifting. They did most of the raising of revenues, and we played our role. We continued to play our role for 20 years and Colombia is a different place today.

The same thing can happen to these three countries down here. Joe Biden was playing a significant role as Vice President. I was helpful, as was Jeh Johnson, former Secretary of Homeland Security, and others as well. These folks, along with these three countries, came up with something they called the Alliance for Prosperity. It is really like Plan Colombia—find out what works, do more of that. Plan Colombia worked, and they are trying an approach like this down here. The idea is to restore the rule of law, to focus on infrastructure, to focus on making good government work and be effective, to really tamp down on the corruption they have there, the obstruction that goes on with small businesses. The idea is to create a safer, better place. Most people don't want to leave here. I talked to plenty of them. They want to stay there. Some of them want to come up here and work but then go home. This is their country, and they love their country, like we love ours.

Finally, as we have been joined on the floor by one of my colleagues, I ask him to allow me just maybe another minute or two.

NAFTA

Mr. President, there has been talk about NAFTA. There has been talk—and I don't know if these are alternative facts coming out of the White House or what—that the President is going to pull out of NAFTA.

I would just state this. I met with Robert Lighthizer, who is going to be our Trade Rep—and I understand that he will be a good one. He will succeed Michael Froman, who was an excellent Trade Rep for a number of years. When I met with Mr. Lighthizer in my office a couple of months ago, he talked about renegotiating NAFTA. When we negotiated the Trans-Pacific Partnership with 11 other countries around the world—40 percent of the world's markets—we did that over the last couple of years, we were renegotiating NAFTA. We fixed a lot of things in NAFTA that needed to be fixed, not just in the Mexico part of NAFTA but also Canada.

One of the things that needed to be fixed was in our top market—we raise a lot of chickens in Georgia, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, and other places. Our top market for poultry is Mexico. Canada doesn't buy our chickens. They keep us out. The Trans-Pacific Partnership renegotiated NAFTA, not just for poultry but for a variety of other commodities we want to sell.

So my friendly advice to the President is, before he goes ahead and pulls out of NAFTA, why doesn't he and the administration take a closer look at what we renegotiated in the Trans-Pacific Partnership when we renegotiated NAFTA. I think we will find a lot of what we need to do, want to do, and what we can agree to do.

HEALTHCARE

Mr. President, I want to talk about healthcare reform. The Republicans came up with a really good idea in 1993. It was introduced by John Chafee, the Senator from Rhode Island, and cosponsored by 23 Senators. It was an alternative plan to HillaryCare in 1993. The Republicans got the ideas from the Heritage Foundation, and they turned out to be good ideas.

One provision they included was that every State would have an exchange. If people couldn't get healthcare, they could buy their healthcare coverage as a part of a large purchasing pool called an exchange. The Republican idea from Chafee and others not only had exchanges but had sliding-scale tax credits for buying down the healthcare for

lower income folks to buy down the cost of coverage for lower income people. When their income reached a certain level, the tax credit went away. That was in 1993, the alternative plan to HillaryCare, with the individual mandate. Basically, many folks had to be covered, and there would be a fine if they didn't get coverage. We can't make people get coverage, but the idea was to get people to get coverage.

The employer mandate was the fourth concept. The fourth concept said employers of a certain size—I think it was employers with 50 to 100 employees—were to provide healthcare to their employees.

The last piece was that insurance companies could not deny coverage to people because of preexisting conditions. That was the 1993 proposal, courtesy of the Heritage Foundation.

When Mitt Romney was Governor of Massachusetts, he took that game plan, lock, stock, and barrel, and established RomneyCare and it worked out pretty well. When we did the Affordable Care Act, we took RomneyCare and built on that.

I will close with this. The piece that needs to be fixed and repaired, not repealed but fixed, out of the original Republican idea is the idea that the insurance companies need a stable insurance pool of healthy people, not just old people and sick people but healthy people and younger people as well. There are some ways we can fix that. It is one of the fixes we need to make. It isn't all that hard. It isn't all that hard, and I will talk about that some other day.

I appreciate my friend from one of those Dakotas—South Dakota—for being patient and waiting. Thank you.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from South Dakota.

Mr. ROUNDS. Thank you, Mr. President.

My colleague and friend, the Senator from Delaware, is also a former Governor, and it is always enjoyable to listen to the experiences and clearly the understanding about a number of the issues we have in common in terms of things that concern us.

I remember back in 1993, as well when we were looking at healthcare reform in South Dakota, we actually, in our process, adopted the vast majority of what was considered to be the recommendations from the National Association of Insurance Commissioners—guaranteed renewability of policies, guaranteed to be able to move from one group insurance product to another group insurance product, a minimum amount of premium versus maximum amount of premium by any carrier in any single group of policies in one plan. Those provisions actually worked for us for a period up until 2009, when ObamaCare became the law of the land, and at that point we suffered through the same problems most of the rest of America is suffering through right now.

But there are some things that really do bind us together, and one of them is trying to make and produce the best healthcare products for the citizens within our different States that we possibly can. I think in the U.S. Senate there are enough of us who truly believe we can fix, repeal, replace ObamaCare. I think Democrats would like to say we are going to fix it. I think Republicans recognize that we are probably going to do more of a startover because the basic concept of ObamaCare, which was moving more and more into a single-payer system, will not work.

For those of us who believe in the free market, what we want to do is take away the regulations at the Federal level, give them back to the States, and allow the States to actually experiment and make a more competitive healthcare product. That allows for businesses to be able to insure more individuals to help pay for their costs. It also means, then, you can actually get more individuals to receive the benefits of private healthcare rather than being responsible for or at least expecting that the Federal Government is going to subsidize with Federal taxpayer money their healthcare costs. I think that is part of what we need to be concerned with here today.

REGULATORY REFORM

Mr. President, we all want a strong economy. We want more jobs being made available. One of the reasons I am here on the floor today is to talk about not just the healthcare regulations that impact the ability of employers to hire employees, but we should also be talking about the regulatory environment in the United States.

That is what I really want to talk about today, is this tremendous success we are beginning to have in just the first 3 months that President Trump has taken office. We have been successful in undoing a number of the regulatory hurdles that have been hindering job growth and prosperity in the United States.

It has been 3 months now since the President took office, with a Republican-led Congress in place ready to help him advance policies that grow our economy and allow hard-working Americans to keep more of their paycheck each month.

We are going to be talking a lot about tax reform, but we shouldn't forget about regulatory reform as well.

One of the items with tax reform, some folks actually suggested a tax on items being brought into the United States—a border adjustment tax. One of the reasons for that was they thought we would be buying more American goods if we made those goods from other countries more expensive by putting a tax on them, which would be passed on to the consumers. I think that is the wrong approach.

What we should be doing is allowing our consumers the availability of a less expensive American product, and the way you do that is we allow manufacturers in the United States to become more competitive. We do that by reducing their input costs, including a regulatory impact that is huge.

We believe we should be creating an atmosphere in the United States for products to be produced at a cost that is less in the first place. We shouldn't have to increase the cost of other people's products coming into the United States. We should be making it less expensive for our producers to compete with them. The way we accomplish this, first and foremost, is by reducing the regulatory environment in America, which is way too intrusive, duplicative, and overreaching.

If anyone is wondering how bad the regulatory environment is in the United States today, well, regulations cost the American people $1.9 trillion annually, the bulk of which is handed down to consumers. Businesses don't absorb it, they pass it on.

How are the consumers paying for it? Through higher prices on products and goods produced in the United States. If you are wondering why it is such a big deal, it is because we want our manufacturers, our producers, and our businesses in the United States to be able to compete with our competitors overseas, the ones that don't have the crippling regulatory environment we have here at home. Right now, our businesses and job creators are crippled by Federal regulations that limit their ability to expand and grow, to create more job opportunities, and pay higher wages.

If the $1.9 trillion we spend annually on regulations were a country, it would be the 10th largest economy in the world, about the size of India or Russia's economy. Get this. We pay more as consumers for the cost of regulations at $1.9 trillion than we as taxpayers pay in personal income taxes on April 15. On April 15, we pay about $1.4 trillion in personal income taxes, and yet we pay $1.9 trillion—one-half trillion more in the costs of regulations.

No other country in the world even comes close to this sort of unhealthy, costly regulatory environment. It is putting us at a competitive disadvantage in the international arena. While there has been a lot of focus this week on reforming our tax policy to get us back to the level of global competitiveness that we need, we must not lose sight of the need to reform our regulatory environment to one that invites growth and innovation. Both are needed. We have to reform our tax policy, and we absolutely have to reform our regulatory policies.

Already in the first 3 months that President Trump has been in office, we

have made progress in stopping harmful regulations from taking effect. Under the Congressional Review Act, the Senate has passed 13 resolutions so far this year to undo Obama-era regulations. The Congressional Review Act allows us to disapprove certain regulations that basically were approved by the administration or created by the administration over the last 6 months. The reason we are able to do it is because we can do it with just a majority vote. It is a privileged motion in the U.S. Senate. It is a majority vote in the House and takes a majority vote in the Senate. It doesn't require 60 votes, so we are actually able to, with a majority vote, undo these regulations that were going to be imposed on the American public over the last 6 months. I think that is a step in the right direction. This is a program which in the past has been used only one time since it was created in the 1990s. We have done it 13 times in just these first 3 months. The Congressional Review Act, or CRA, is truly an important oversight tool that allows Congress to undo Federal regulations issued by unelected bureaucrats at Federal agencies by this simple majority vote.

For example, we have been able to reverse the Obama administration's education mandate which would have imposed Federal education standards to assess schools at the State and level local. We think that should be done at the State and local level.

We also stopped an Obama regulation that would have imposed burdensome new restrictions on internet service providers that would do nothing to increase privacy protections for consumers. If you follow some of the misinformation that has been put out there, some people have suggested that we were taking away privacy that had been put in place by the last administration. Not true. Actually, what happened was that the courts had already stopped these provisions before they were ever put into effect.

So, for the people who like the policy protections that are in place today, they are still there. This was a new regulation that they were going to impose that took an entirely different approach to managing privacy. We were able to stop it. We have told the agencies to go back, to start over again, and to start following a similar course of action to what was already in place and that people already liked.

The savings that come from undoing these and other regulations that we have stopped under the Congressional Review Act, combined with the President's Executive actions and rule delays, will save Americans, approximately, 52 million hours of paperwork annually and, if you accumulate what the costs are over an extended period of time, over $65 billion in regulatory compliance costs. To the President's credit, he has also been busy using the tools he has available in order to undo burdensome regulations that are crippling growth.

The new administration put a halt to the overreaching waters of the United States—or WOTUS—rule, requiring the Environmental Protection Agency and the Army Corps of Engineers to review the WOTUS rule in order to make certain it promotes economic growth and minimizes regulatory uncertainty. I would suspect that this time around, rather than the last time around, they will actually be required to use sound science in making those determinations.

It also stopped the Obama administration's costly Clean Power Plan, which would have required States to completely rework their electric grids and would have led to dramatically higher electricity bills for every single American in the country.

Now, I am not suggesting that all rules are bad. Some rules are necessary for a government to operate in an orderly fashion and keep Americans safe, but too much regulation is costly and clearly stifles innovation. For the past 8 years, Americans have seen an unprecedented number of new rules and regulations that have been issued by unelected, unaccountable Washington bureaucrats.

We are committed to changing that ''Washington knows best'' mentality because, at the end of the day, overregulation hurts families the most because they are the ones who are forced to pay more for goods and services when businesses are forced to spend exorbitant amounts of money just to put their products on the market.

It is time for America to retake its position as a world leader in innovation. It is time for America to get busy on production again—creating new job opportunities, selling more of our products at a competitive advantage overseas, affording young people new job opportunities and the ability to stay here in the United States, inviting more capital to come in because there is a better return on capital, which, once again, gets reinvested in the United States and, thus, grows our economy and allows us to be able to enjoy the services that economy supports.

It is time to take a second look at regulations. It is time for the United States to be a leader again and for the American people to have the ability to have influence on the laws that are being created. Those laws should be voted on by their elected representatives, not imposed on them by unelected Washington bureaucrats.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KENNEDY). The Senator from Missouri.

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. President, I want to follow up on the remarks that have just been made by our friend from South Dakota.

During his first 100 days in office, President Trump has wasted no time in fulfilling one of his key promises and one of those promises that is hard to appreciate because, if bad things do not happen to you, it is hard to realize they did not happen. Yet there were many bad things in store for the American people and frankly a lot of bad things that have happened through the very kinds of regulations, over the last years, that Senator ROUNDS was talking about.

Over the last 8 years, any time I had been traveling in Missouri, one of the top-of-mind issues with group after group had always been a different and more troublesome and more burdensome recent regulation by the Federal Government. I had heard about healthcare, but often I had heard about healthcare with regard to the irrational regulations that were being put out as part of the bill, and I had heard about taxes. Yet I would say that the No. 1 issue I had heard about for the whole 8 years was that of out-of-control regulators who were clearly also not responsive to anybody and did not need to be. Frankly, in the second 4 years of that Presidency, the regulators were even less responsive than they were in the first 4 years, and I think that is something that happens way too often.

I hear from families, farmers, and job creators who tell me that the biggest barrier to job creation and economic growth is exactly what we are hearing about here this morning; that people do not think out the real consequences of the regulations.

According to regulations.gov, Federal agencies finalized more than 4,000 new regulations in 2016 alone. That was an average of 11 new regulations a day in the final year of the Obama Presidency. Let's think about that. Every one of those 4,000 regulations was a regulation that the country had lived without for the entire history of the country and that the Obama administration had lived without for 7 years.

A number of those regulations had been done so late that we had had a chance to look at them through the Congressional Review Act because they were still available to the new Congress. That is how late they happened. One of them went into effect on January 18, and the Obama administration was over at noon on January 20.

They handed down a record-breaking 600 major new regulations that imposed more than $700 billion in costs on our economy. Senator ROUNDS just mentioned the estimated total annual compliance costs for regulations of $1.9 billion—almost $2 trillion. Imagine. If half of those regulations are either duplicative or unnecessary, talk about a stimulus, if somehow we go back and figure out how to eliminate the half that does not need to be done so one can really focus on the half that needs

to be done. I am for every regulation that we absolutely have to have, but I am not for regulations that we do not absolutely have to have.

What is worse is that the completely unnecessary aim of these regulations is frankly the amount of effort some of them require.

There is a $12.3 billion regulation on efficiency standards for central air conditioners. Now, one has to find a lot of efficiency to find $12.3 billion in savings. That is a lot of efficiency. There is a $4.4 billion regulation that sets standards for ceiling fans. I like ceiling fans as much as the next person, but when you add $4.4 billion to standards, that has to be paid for by somebody just like the $3.6 billion in regulations of the control of commercial vehicle operators.

What the regulators so often do not seem to understand is that ultimately the consumers have to pay for the costs of these regulations. The cost of regulations is not really a reflection of the government's cost of being the regulator, it is the economic cost of having the regulations.

That is why I have been particularly encouraged to see President Trump taking the steps he has taken to roll back many of the late efforts by the Obama administration. Since taking office, President Trump has signed 13 Congressional Review Act resolutions which, according to the administration, will save $10 billion in regulatory costs over a 10-year period of time. With regard to the Congressional Review Act, the Congress's passing a rejection of the rule and the President's agreeing to it happened exactly one time in 25 years prior to this administration. It has happened 13 times this year. It will happen, I am confident, a few more times, and it will have a real impact.

When you look at the regulations that have been delayed or repealed by CRAs and Executive orders—Congressional Review Act resolutions or Executive orders—the American Action Forum estimates that $18.8 billion would be saved annually. Now, the President is not going to get much credit for that, and the Congress is not either, but if in the last few weeks we figured out how to take an $18.8 billion burden off of people by not moving forward with regulations that the country had not had prior to just a few weeks ago, in some cases, that is a good thing.

Many of the Missourians from whom I have heard are particularly relieved that the President is also moving back from a couple of rules—the power rule and the waters of the United States rule—that Federal courts, fortunately, up until now, had said to President Obama's administration they did not have the authority to do what they were trying to do in either of these rules. The rules would have had devastating impacts on job opportunities and on families in our State. The power rule would have doubled the utility bills in 10 or 12 years.

I have been reminding Missourians over the last several months that if you do not think that is going to impact you when you pay your electric bill the next time, just write it right out of your checkbook one more time—write it—because that is what you would be doing sometime in the next decade and see what impact that has on the kinds of things you and your family would have been doing with the money that you would have been spending on twice your utility bill.

A week ago, EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt was in our State, at the Thomas Hill powerplant, to talk about how these rules would have affected the State and how one can still fulfill the mission of the EPA for clean air and clean water and a better environment without having rules that devastate families as well as deal with problems, many of which have now been on the priority list for 10 years and longer and have never been dealt with, while the EPA has been coming up with something else to do. They would have driven up the cost of groceries. They would have driven up the cost of the utility bill itself. Of course, when the utility bill goes up, the utility bill work goes up, too, and work might not be there at double the utility bill.

The combined cost savings is estimated to be as high as $67.3 billion over the very foreseeable future of the Congressional Review Act, the President's Executive orders, the announced decisions that they have made about things like the clean power rule and the waters of the United States rule. Even in Washington, $67.3 billion is a lot of money, not to mention the 52 million hours of paperwork that will be needed to comply with rules that were not necessary to be there and that Senator ROUNDS mentioned.

Our economy cannot grow and thrive with billions of dollars' worth of regulations dragging it down. Let me say again that I am for every regulation that we absolutely have to have—there is no argument about that—but we need to have a process by which we know whether we have to have them. That is why, in the next few weeks, I plan to reintroduce the bipartisan Regulatory Improvement Act, which the Congress looked at last year.

This bill would create a Regulatory Improvement Commission that would review outdated regulations with the goal of bringing the list back to the Congress and saying that we think that these can all be eliminated.

I have also cosponsored an act called the REINS Act, which would give me and the rest of the Congress the obligation to vote on any regulation that has more than $100 million of impact on the economy so that if we need it, we are going to go home and justify it, and the American people—where I live and the Presiding Officer lives—can get their hands on us if we cannot explain why we thought it was a good idea to do that.

I believe the government should work for the American people, not the other way around, and I believe the President and the Congress have taken advantage of this historic opportunity to drive that peg a little deeper in the ground.

I look forward to continuing to work on these issues. I think we need to take more responsibility for these issues. I know some of our colleagues have said: Well, why did we repeal these late regulations? Well, they were late regulations for a reason, and the country had done just fine without them up until now.

So I look forward to working with the Presiding Officer and others to continue working on this effort to have regulations that make sense when we need them and not to have regulations when we don't need them.

NORTHWEST MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY BEARCATS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Mr. President, I would also like to mention one more topic quickly. This is a very Missouri topic.

The Northwest Missouri State University Bearcats this year, in NCAA Division II, won both the football championship and the men's basketball championship. It has been a long time in Division II when any school was able to bring both of those championships back to their campus.

When I was a college president, we were in that conference, the MIAA, which is a competitive conference, and competitive enough that in that Division II level, the Bearcats brought home both of those championships.

Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

CONGRATULATING SNOWFLAKE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Mr. FLAKE. Mr. President, I have spoken a lot in recent years about how Arizona is quickly becoming one of our country's major tech hubs. From entrepreneurial startups to major technology companies, Arizona is supporting innovation like never before. In fact, it was just announced that Waymo, Google's self-driving car project, will be launching its first public trials of self-driving vehicles in the greater Phoenix area.

But, today, the biggest news in tech isn't coming from publicly traded Silicon Valley companies. No, today, the

talk of the tech world is the students from my alma mater, Snowflake Junior High School. That is because these students from my small hometown of Snowflake, AZ, just won the Samsung Solve for Tomorrow contest.

This national contest tasks students from across the country with creating a solution to improve their local communities by using STEAM skills—Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math.

The winning project from Mr. Eilertsen's students is something special. Snowflake students designed and constructed a low-cost animal detection system to prevent fatalities from vehicle collisions with wild animals. They were motivated by the fact that an estimated 200 people lose their lives each year in these collisions, which can be common around rural communities like Snowflake.

The winning design consists of a 10-inch, weather-resistant motion sensor that blinks to warn drivers when a large animal is near. These durable, affordable sensors can be placed atop existing fence posts like the thousands that line roads all over rural Arizona.

I had the opportunity to meet with these very bright students—2 of them from a class of, I believe, 23—and those 2 are in the Gallery today, along with their teacher Mr. Eilertsen. I had the opportunity to meet with them yesterday in my office and to hear all about this winning project. Let me tell my colleagues that they blew me away with their creativity, their knowledge, and, most of all, their desire to use the STEAM discipline to save lives.

Think about how remarkable this project is. Here is a device that can actually save hundreds of lives and prevent harm to wildlife and to livestock. With the grit and ingenuity of a great startup, these students at Snowflake Junior High have shown the country that big ideas come from small towns.

In recognition of their innovative project, the students won $150,000 in technology for their school and an additional $20,000 for having the most popular project on social media and with the public—not bad for some kids from Snowflake.

Before I yield the floor, I would like to thank Mr. Eilertsen for all that he has done to inspire his students to think big and for making a victory in this Samsung competition possible.

I would also like to thank all of the faculty and staff in Snowflake for their tireless work as educators.

Finally, I would like to congratulate the students of Snowflake Junior High for their victory. I am confident that your project will save lives, and by winning this competition, you have provided your school with educational resources that will help students for years to come.

To the winning students from Snowflake Junior High School: Congratulations. You make me proud to be a Lobo, and, as always, proud to come from Snowflake and proud to be an Arizonan.

NAFTA

Mr. President, we can't simply ignore the benefits of NAFTA for the U.S. economy. Experts have said that more than one-quarter of global GDP—some $20.5 trillion—is produced in NAFTA's combined markets of the United States, Canada, and Mexico. Canada and Mexico are the largest export markets for the United States. U.S. trade with Canada and Mexico has more than tripled since 1993, and that was before NAFTA came into effect.

In 1993, U.S. foreign direct investment in Mexico was slightly more than $15 billion. In 2016, it was more than $92 billion in foreign direct investment.

NAFTA increased U.S. agricultural exports to Canada and Mexico by 350 percent, supporting U.S. farmers and ranchers like those back in Arizona. NAFTA has resulted in an integrated supply chain between the United States and other countries.

For example, the Wall Street Journal reported that ''tens of thousands of parts that make up a vehicle often come from multiple producers in different countries and travel back and forth across borders several times.'' Abandoning NAFTA would destroy these supply chains, making it harder for our country's private sector employers to grow and to do business.

Arizona has certainly benefited from NAFTA. In 2016, Arizona's trade with Mexico exceeded $15 billion. Total trade between Arizona and NAFTA countries reached nearly $20 billion last year.

The Arizona Daily Star noted back in November that ''trade with Mexico supports about 100,000 jobs in Arizona and retailers depend on roughly $8 million Mexican shoppers spend daily in Arizona.''

The bottom line is that trade is good for American businesses, it is good for American workers, and it is good for American consumers.

Trade deals like NAFTA make inputs for U.S. manufacturing cheaper than they would be otherwise. Cheaper inputs mean lower production costs for U.S.-based businesses, which, in turn, allows these companies to expand production and to reduce prices. That means everyday consumer products are more affordable for middle-class families.

If the protectionist trade policies of the past have taught us anything, it is that when we increase trade barriers, nobody wins. Do I agree that we should work to make U.S. businesses more competitive? Absolutely. Do I agree that we can modernize NAFTA? You bet. Pro-growth trade policies have been at the top of my list of priorities since I came to Congress. But any efforts to impose new restrictions on our ability to trade with Mexico and Canada will have serious consequences for Arizona, leading to jobs being lost and higher costs for consumers.

If we just think, in 2003 total U.S. trade with Mexico was just around $50 billion. Today, it is between $500 billion and $600 billion.

What is not to like about NAFTA? It is good for Americans. It is good for the Mexican economy. It is good for Canada.

We have noted many times that with regard to border security, the net flow of Mexican migrant workers has been south, not north, over the past couple of years. One of the biggest reasons for that, obviously, is the Mexican economy is doing better, and part of the biggest reason for that is because of NAFTA and their ability to trade. That is good for the United States. It is good for Mexico.

Trade is not a zero sum game where one party wins and the other party loses. Free trade benefits everyone. I hope that we remember this as we look toward NAFTA's future. We need to improve it and to modernize it, certainly, but we shouldn't abandon it.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Colorado.

Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, before I begin my remarks, I just want to say, while the Senator from Arizona is still here, what a privilege it is to hear somebody come to this floor and actually speak about facts as they actually are—economic facts, facts related to immigration. If we had more people in the Senate who spoke on the floor the way the Senator from Arizona just did, there is nothing we wouldn't be able to accomplish together. It is a privilege to serve with him. It is a privilege to hear the clarity with which he spoke about these important issues. So I want to thank him through the Chair for that speech.

ANTIQUITIES ACT

Mr. President, at the close of the 19th century, many of our country's—almost all of our country's—most historic sites were completely unprotected. Places like Chaco Canyon and Cliff Palace, home to some of the most ancient dwellings in North America, faced looting and desecration. So in 1906, Congress actually passed pieces of legislation and thought about the next generation of Americans. Congress acted to protect these places by passing the Antiquities Act. The act empowered Presidents to preserve sites of cultural and historic importance and protect our most spectacular landscapes by designating them as national monuments using that authority.

Teddy Roosevelt moved to protect places like Devil's Tower, Muir Woods Forest, and even the Grand Canyon. Looking back, it is hard to imagine our country without those iconic places. It is hard to imagine our country without

the legacy of those people who were thinking not between sound bites on the television but across generations.

Since Teddy Roosevelt, administrations from both parties, Democratic and Republicans—he was a Republican, as it happens, but both parties have used the Antiquities Act to preserve places critical to our heritage, including the designation of Colorado National Monument in 1911. I just visited there.

In Washington, we may differ over policies—sometimes sharply. There is no surprise that is true. But both parties have long risen above partisan squabbles of today to protect these special places for tomorrow. But with yesterday's Executive order, President Trump has upended that tradition by opening the door to attacks on our national monuments for generations to come.

I know there are people in this administration who have said they are ''lifetime supporters and admirers of Teddy Roosevelt's policies.'' If they are, now is the time they need to be heard because today's action is an offense to Teddy Roosevelt's vision for America and threatens his bipartisan legacy of conservation. The administration's latest Executive order initiates a review of all national monument designations since 1996 that are larger than 100,000 acres, with an interim report on its findings just 45 days later. I wonder if they know how long it takes to build a consensus in the West and in other places that a place is sacred enough that it should have one of these designations, and in 45 days they are going to threaten to disturb the work of people all over the West who have supported these designations.

Speaking yesterday, President Trump justified this action by calling earlier monument designations an ''egregious abuse of federal power.'' I wonder what he would call a Washington-led effort to undo protections for national monuments that enjoy deep support from communities all across the country, including in my State of Colorado?

For all their rhetoric about Washington overreach, this administration and its allies in Congress seem to have no problem substituting their rash judgment for the thoughtful, community-driven designations of national monuments across the United States of America. Had they studied this issue at all, they would have learned that existing monument designations come from exhaustive consultation and hundreds of meetings over thousands of hours.

Unlike this administration, western communities did our homework. We laid the groundwork and paved the way for these designations, which leads me to wonder what the administration's review hopes to achieve. I would challenge anybody in the Senate to come down here to this floor and explain exactly how this 45-day review will uncover information that somehow our western communities missed. They can't. They can't because that is not the point of this review, which is no more than a Trojan horse for advancing the agenda not of the West but for advancing the agenda of partisan think tanks and politicians in Washington instead of the real-world interests of western communities.

Worse, if the administration ultimately repeals national monument designations—which I hope they will not—as a result of this order, it would cause real economic pain to Western States, especially in rural areas. A recent study found that rural counties in the West with protected public lands saw jobs grow at a rate more than three times faster compared to areas without protected lands. It just makes sense. Just ask outfitters and guides near Browns Canyon, a national monument, or local business owners around Chimney Rock, a national monument, what the effect has been on their businesses. In fact, those businesses were huge champions of both those national monuments. You can go buy a beer in Pagosa Springs from a brewery that is brewing it and putting a label on it that says ''Chimney Rock National Monument.'' You can buy the beer and take it rafting through Browns Canyon with outfitters who strongly support the monument.

National monuments not only preserve our heritage, they strengthen rural communities by supporting outdoor economies and attracting visitors from around the country and around the world. We should be more encouraging of that. Let's do more of that. Instead, this Executive order takes aim directly at our rural economies in the West.

Look at this. As we can see here, nationwide, Americans spend $887 billion on the outdoor economy each year, supporting $65 billion in Federal tax revenue and 7.6 million American jobs which can't be exported anywhere. There is not a country in the world that has a system of public lands like the United States of America and in particular the Western United States of America. There is not a country in the world that has what we have.

If this administration really is serious about creating jobs, strengthening our economy, and remaining faithful to the bipartisan legacy of Roosevelt, it should keep our national monuments intact and uphold the traditions honored by every President since 1906.

These are treasured places. Even though they have a huge value in dollars and cents, their value goes far beyond the economic value. It goes to the heart of who we are as a nation. It goes to our cultural heritage and to the legacy we want to pass on from our grandparents to our grandchildren.

Teddy Roosevelt called conservation ''a great moral issue, for it involves the patriotic duty of ensuring the safety and continuance of the nation.'' We must do our duty, our patriotic duty, and I will use every tool at my disposal to protect the Antiquities Act and our national monuments because in the end our character as a nation is revealed in what we choose to preserve now and for generations to come.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, yesterday President Trump issued an Executive order that undermined the protection of dozens of our national monuments that were established over the past two decades by three different Presidents. In continuing his administration's war on our public lands, President Trump and Secretary of the Interior Zinke have attacked one of our Nation's most prized conservation laws—the Antiquities Act, which gives the President the authority to protect our nationally important lands and waters on Federal land by designating them as national monuments.

In the 111 years since the Antiquities Act was signed into law by President Teddy Roosevelt, 16 Presidents—8 Republicans and 8 Democrats—have used the law's authority to designate over 150 national monuments. President Trump is trying to undo over 100 years of conservation in just a few days.

Many of our Nation's iconic national parks were first protected by using the authority of the Antiquities Act, including the Grand Canyon, Acadia, Glacier Bay, Joshua Tree, Zion, and in my home State of Washington, Mount Olympus National Monument, which later became Olympic National Park.

No doubt Presidents of both parties have used the Antiquities Act to preserve the most beautiful places in our country. However, President Trump appears to be very uninformed on the history or the importance of the Antiquities Act. In his remarks signing the Executive order yesterday, he described the designation of national monuments as an ''egregious use of federal power'' and vowed he would ''give that power back to the States.'' He truly does not understand the Antiquities Act, nor does he appreciate the bold leadership of all of those Presidents, both Democrats and Republicans, over a period of time—eight Republicans and eight Democrats—who have used this authority in an appropriate way to preserve for all Americans in the future and those in the past who have enjoyed these beautiful places—and to preserve our access to public lands.

I can't tell you how important access to public lands is for schoolchildren, our returning veterans, our families, hunters, fishermen, and hikers. Putting the Antiquities Act and the millions of acres of national monuments that have been protected back into the hands of a few who are more aligned with special interests to try to open these areas up to oil and gas exploration is the antithesis of what the Antiquities Act is all about.

We plan to continue to emphasize how wrong the President's Executive order is.

First and foremost, in the Executive order, the President directed the Secretary of the Interior to review the designation or expansion of national monuments under the Antiquities Act where the Secretary deems that the designation or expansion was made without adequate public comment or coordination with relevant stakeholders. That literally gives the Secretary of the Interior broad authority to look at all the land that has previously been designated since 1996 and potentially open it up to saying they are going to try to reverse that.

There have been many discussions about the last 20 years of the designation of some unbelievable, beautiful places in America that are so special—the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument in Utah, which is 1.7 million acres; the Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument in Arizona; the Giant Sequoia National Monument in California; the Canyon of Ancients National Monument in Colorado—I know my colleague Senator BENNET from Colorado was speaking about it earlier; Hanford Reach National Monument in Washington, which covers 195,000 acres; the Ironwood Forest National Monument in Arizona; the Vermilion Cliffs National Monument in Arizona; the Carrizo Plain National Monument in California; the Sonoran Desert National Monument in Arizona; the Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument in Montana; the Rio Grande del Norte National Monument in New Mexico, on which my colleague Senator HEINRICH worked so hard; the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument, also in New Mexico; the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument in California; the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument in California; the Basin and Range National Monument in Nevada; the Mojave Trails National Monument in California; the Sand to Snow National Monument in California; Bears Ears, as I have mentioned, in Utah; and the Gold Butte National Monument in Nevada. That sounds like a lot of designations that we have made over the last 20 years. Presidents were very judicious about those designations. It took a lot of public comment, many community meetings, and a lot of scientific analysis about the preservation of these areas. The end result is that for these generations and future generations, national monuments have been designated on public lands that are in our national interests.

This has been so important to us as a nation. As I said, places like the Grand Canyon, Olympic National Park in my State—many places have created what has become an outdoor recreation economy. That outdoor recreation economy is now over $800 billion of annual revenue and dwarfs what the oil and gas industry represents as an economy of the future. In fact, this industry sector is on par to compete with other large sectors of our economy—the financial service sector and the healthcare sector. So why are we taking away the very tool that has launched so much outdoor activity and a burgeoning job economy, with 7 million outdoor industry workers? Why are we taking away national monument designations that have been the priority of past Presidents and trying to return them because someone doesn't understand what the Antiquities Act is all about?

In addition to those large monuments that I just mentioned, also under review will be a group of other monuments that are marine national monuments. Yes, according to the definition I mentioned earlier, Secretary Zinke could review all of these monuments. In fact, I noticed that there were several people at the President's signing who represented some of these monuments. I don't know if they are urging the President to remove their areas, but it raises great concern about how important these marine monuments have been.

There is the Papahánaumokuákea marine national monument in the Hawaiian islands that was established in 2006; the World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument, also in Hawaii; the Rose Atoll National Monument in American Samoa; the Pacific Remote Islands National Monument in Hawaii; the Marianas Trench National Monument in the Mariana Islands; and the Northeast Canyons and Seamounts Marine National Monument in the Atlantic.

In addition to all of those maritime national monuments of grand scale, these also under consideration are an additional two dozen or so—I think it looks like 25—smaller national monuments that could also be reviewed by the Secretary of the Interior. Even though they were designated with this Presidential authority, in previous administrations after great review, they could, by this President and this Interior Secretary, be wiped away very quickly.

We definitely do not believe the President has this legal authority, and we will pursue a vigorous fight. Why should we be wasting taxpayers' money when taxpayers' money was already spent to make these designations, and the taxpayer is getting the huge economic benefit of having these outdoor areas?

What else could be on the President's list according to this Executive order? The California Coastal National Monument; Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument; President Lincoln and Soldier's Home National Monument in Washington, DC; Kasha-Katuwe Tent Rocks National Monument in New Mexico; Minidoka National Historic Site in Idaho; Pompeys Pillar National Monument in Montana; Virgin Islands Coral Reef National Monument; Governors Island National Monument in New York; the African Burial Ground National Monument in New York; Fort Monroe National Monument in Virginia; Fort Ord National Monument in California; Chimney Rock National Monument in Colorado; the Cesar Chavez National Monument in California; San Juan Islands National Monument in the State of Washington; the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad National Monument; the First State National Historic Park in Delaware; the Charles Young Buffalo Soldiers Monument; the Honouliuli National Monument in Hawaii; the Pullman National Monument in Illinois; Browns Canyon National Monument in Colorado; Waco Mammoth National Monument in Texas; Castle Mountains National Monument in California; the Belmont-Paul Women's Equality National Monument; Stonewall National Monument in New York; the Birmingham Civil Rights Monument in Alabama; the Freedom Riders National Monument in Alabama; and the Reconstruction Era National Monument in South Carolina.

The Executive order says the Secretary of the Interior can review any national monument designation since 1996 ''Where the Secretary determines that the designation or expansion was made without adequate public outreach and coordination with relevant stakeholders.''

The Executive order says that for any national monument on the list I just mentioned, the Secretary of the Interior could decide there was not appropriate public outreach. Even though the process used by Presidents under the Antiquities Act makes sure you have that, this Secretary could decide there wasn't enough and recommend to undo any of these monuments and eliminate access to the public for the purposes of recreation and enjoyment.

So this administration has it dead wrong. He is no Teddy Roosevelt. In fact, I saw he had a press conference with a statue of Teddy Roosevelt behind him. Teddy Roosevelt would be appalled because his concept of preserving Federal land was so important. Teddy Roosevelt was an outdoorsman who spent many a time in these great places of our Nation and understood

their great significance. That is why we have the Antiquities Act. He knew that these resources strengthened our country. They made us strong as a nation. They show the crown jewels of the United States of America in all their glory and beauty. He knew it was important to protect them for future generations to enjoy, not just for the special interests to take advantage of in the near term.

We have a lot of Federal land and offshore land that is used for resource exploration and development. As people know, natural gas is at an all-time high in the United States and driving an all-time low price. It is not as if you need access to Bears Ears National Monument to drive down the price of natural gas or other fossil fuel. What you are going to do by pursuing this wrongheaded approach on Bears Ears is take away one of the historic and beautiful archaeological histories of Native Americans and early Americans in the United States—and an area that has excellent outdoor recreation opportunities—and throw it, along with the concept of the Antiquities Act, over the side just because someone wants to try to reverse what our previous Presidents, starting with Teddy Roosevelt, have done to protect these monuments in our national interest.

Representing a State where we have several counties that have lots of Federal land, whether forest lands or BLM lands, I know that it can be challenging for local communities to maintain the infrastructure, the education, the hospitals, the law enforcement. I am a big believer in making sure that what are called PILT payments and the Secure Rural School Program are well funded and financed to make sure that these communities can be there to help us support these public lands. But the notion that with one act we would throw in Teddy Roosevelt's face all of these national monuments and now say that we are going to try to use it in reverse to review the work in the near term, of 3 different Presidents who used this authority is simply wrongheaded.

What we need to do is embrace the outdoor economy. As I said, it is 7 million jobs with over $800 billion of economic activity. In fact, since the last time they did their report, there has been a $200 billion annual increase in the economic impact in the United States of America. What great news. An industry and sector, particularly in retail, is growing by leaps and bounds. It is an industry that is providing people with more tools and opportunity to enjoy our beautiful places. The only thing we can do to screw that up is start taking away the beautiful places where people go to recreate. I would say we should be examining how well these areas we have protected are being used and figure out how we can continue to communicate to the general public about these wonderful experiences.

Do not think for one minute that the American people in their souls are not connected to the spiritual nature of these beautiful lands. They are. And that is what Teddy Roosevelt knew. He knew this is where we go to rejuvenate. Let's not take it away for some oil and gas exploration.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SASSE). The Senator from Nevada.

NO BUDGET, NO PAY ACT

Mr. HELLER. Mr. President, as we approach yet another deadline to continue funding for the government, I rise to speak today regarding my frustration and disappointment that Congress is once again kicking the can down the road. I am frustrated that I keep having to have this same conversation with my colleagues. I am disappointed in the lack of responsibility of everyone here in Washington, DC, to do their job. Washington, DC, is the only place I can think of where people believe it is OK not to do their job, miss their deadlines, make up a new deadline, and then repeat that same process year after year after year.

I am upset that continually I have to remind everyone in Congress that the most basic responsibility that we have is to pass a budget and all of the appropriations bills and we should do it on time. It seems like Members of Congress now depend on the countdown clock at the bottom of every news channel to remind them to do their job.

Here we are, 4 months into 2017, and we still have not completed the appropriations process that was supposed to have been done half a year ago. If that is not bad enough, we only have 15 legislative weeks left to finish funding for the next fiscal year. My colleagues, I believe we are setting ourselves up for failure.

Washington is a consequence-free zone. That is why I will continue to advocate for my No Budget, No Pay Act. I have personally never seen Congress pass all 12 appropriations bills on time, on their own, without an omnibus or a CRomnibus. Regardless of who is in the majority, regardless of who is in the minority, my No Budget, No Pay legislation says that if Members of Congress do not pass an annual concurrent bipartisan budget resolution and all 12 spending bills on time, each year, then, they should not get paid.

Let me repeat that last part. If Congress fails to pass all 12 spending bills on time each year, then, they should not get paid. The American public is just as frustrated as I am. Since I have introduced No Budget, No Pay, I have been getting some much positive support for this idea. A woman by the name of Patricia from Fernley, NV, wrote to say No Budget, No Pay is long overdue.

Dorothy from Henderson, NV, wrote me to say No Budget, No Pay is a wonderful solution. Just last week, speaking in Reno, NV, I was asked when Congress is going to finally pass the No Budget, No Pay Act. Until the No Budget, No Pay Act is passed into law, I don't see any other way to motivate Members of Congress to do their job and avoid these continuing resolutions in the future.

I cannot support a CR that just boots our problems to another day without enacting the principles that are outlined in my No Budget, No Pay Act. There are important issues that need to be addressed through the appropriations process. For my home State of Nevada, we are looking at proposals from this new administration to cut funding to vitally important programs, such as the Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act, better known as SNPLMA, or payments in lieu of taxes, better known as the PILT program.

While these programs may not mean much to some of my colleagues, for Nevada they are vitally important to ensuring economic viability and competitiveness for our State. Moreover, Nevada has been a good steward of these dollars by utilizing them for job-creating projects within my State.

By taking up individual appropriations bills and engaging in debate on programs important to particular agencies, Members have the opportunity to fight for priorities that are important to their State. Right now, I am fighting to fund these programs. Sometimes this fight needs to ensure certain programs are not funded because they are a waste of taxpayer dollars, like Yucca Mountain. I cannot say it enough times for my colleagues: Congress should not provide any funding to this failed project that has already wasted so many taxpayer dollars.

Nevada will not be a federally subsidized national nuclear waste dump, plain and simple. If I can repeat that. Nevada will not be a federally subsidized national nuclear waste dump, plain and simple. Without exercising the power of the purse, which my No Budget, No Pay legislation ensures, we will all be right back here in a week, a month, or several months, making the same speeches, taking the same votes over and over.

So I would like to say to any of my colleagues who are tired of these continuing resolutions, regardless of what specific issues they are fighting for, to support the No Budget, No Pay Act. I believe the Congress can work again, but it will take some of that accountability—like the No Budget, No Pay Act—to get us there.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

REGULATORY ACCOUNTABILITY ACT

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to talk about legislation to give our economy a shot in the arm and to help raise wages for Americans all across our country.

When I am back home, whether it is at a small auto body shop or whether it is at a big steel plant or whether it is at a soybean farm, I hear the same thing, which is people coming up to me and saying: Hey, ROB, with all of these regulations coming from Washington, I would love to hire more people, but I am spending too much time and money trying to keep up with these regulations.

I think that is true with every Member here, whether you are a Democrat or a Republican, when you are back home talking to people. They get frustrated. Sometimes it is local and State regulations as well, but a lot of them are coming from the Federal Government.

One example would be the Whitacre Greer Company, which makes bricks. It is a small family-owned business in Alliance, OH, just outside of Youngstown. They told me recently that complying with just one regulation is now costing this small company almost a million bucks a year that they don't have. They have had to go out and borrow the money, and that has been difficult for them. The cost of just complying with this one new regulation is about 10 percent of their annual revenue. Otherwise, that roughly million bucks would have been invested, they say, in plant, equipment and people. In other words, they would be able to create more jobs and modernize their facility if not for that compliance cost.

They are not alone. It is happening all over Ohio and across the country. Costly regulations are causing companies to pull back on expanding jobs and creating more opportunity for the people we represent.

Look, regulation has its place. There is no question about it. We need regulations. I think everybody acknowledges that. It has a proper role. We need reasonable laws that protect our health and the environment and prevent dishonest business practices. But let's make sure that, as we regulate more and more and more, we have smart regulations—regulations that make sense and that don't affect these small businesses, as I talked about with this brick company in Alliance, OH.

The reality today is that a lot of Federal regulations are more extensive in scope, more expensive to these companies—and, therefore, these workers—more unpredictable than they have to be to meet whatever the policy objectives are.

So Congress writes a law, and we have certain policy objectives, but then the regulators take that and they change the spirit of the congressional law instead of meeting that objective in the most cost-effective way possible. So I get that from my constituents, and the question is this: What do we do about it?

The other thing I hear about is the fact that regulators aren't accessible. People don't feel like they have any influence over it.

By keeping new businesses from starting and small businesses from growing, regulations are just making it harder for people to be able to make a living.

So how did we get here? Why are regulations so expensive and so burdensome on workers and jobs? I think a big reason is the way the Federal Government goes about writing regulations. Too often the process is unaccountable to the people. Too often it is based on sloppy or even bad information.

The current law that gives us the basic framework for all this process is called the Administrative Procedure Act. This has been around for a long time. But guess what. It has not been reformed in any significant way in 70 years.

The APA, or the Administrative Procedure Act, is something I have studied in law school, as did other people here in this Chamber. It is something that you would expect to sort of change with the times, but it simply hasn't. That doesn't make sense.

Imagine if we didn't update our healthcare laws for 70 years. We are talking right now about updating the healthcare laws that were passed 7 years ago. Imagine if we didn't update our immigration laws for 70 years. Imagine if we didn't update our criminal laws for 70 years. You know, the world changes. It just doesn't make any sense not to update our regulation policy because we live in a growing and dynamic economy. Things are changing, and we have changed a lot in the last 70 years.

We didn't have things like microwave ovens or color TVs, and our economy was 10 percent the size of what it is today. Yet we are still using the same regulatory process that was put in place for a totally different kind of economy.

By the way, in 70 years, we have also learned a lot about how to regulate in a way that it is more cost effective and more efficient, and we need to put that into practice. So a reform of our regulatory process, in my view, is long overdue.

So far this year, we have taken some steps here in the Congress to give small businesses very specific regulatory relief by rescinding some of the recent regulations that the Obama administration had promulgated. We have done this about 10 times now with what is called the congressional review process. It is estimated that this has saved the economy a total of $65 billion in regulatory costs and about 45 million hours of paperwork.

I have supported most of these Congressional Review Act bills because I think they make sense. But this is just a handful of recent regulations. We have only addressed a few of the symptoms, not the underlying cause. We still have to deal with the underlying problem of the way regulations get made. If we don't do that, the regulatory burden will just continue to increase.

By the way, this should be true whether it is a Republican administration or a Democratic administration. The same rules ought to apply.

All of this is why yesterday Senator HEIDI HEITKAMP from North Dakota and I introduced bipartisan legislation called the Regulatory Accountability Act, or the RAA, which would put in place some really important and very reasonable safeguards on the regulatory process to get better outcomes.

Every President since Ronald Reagan—Republican and Democrat alike—has agreed with the idea that regulatory agencies should estimate the costs and the benefits of something that we all accept. So they put this into what are called Executive orders saying that they have to go through the cost-benefit analysis the same way that your family does and that families in Ohio do when they make a decision as to whether to buy that car or whether they can afford to send their kids to college. They figure out what it will cost and what the benefit will be. That has to go into regulations. Although every President from Ronald Reagan to Barack Obama has agreed on the need for that, it has never been put into law.

The first thing this legislation does is very simple. The Regulatory Accountability Act—the RAA—says that there should be a law, we should codify the practice so that businesses have the predictability of knowing that regulations are going to continue to use that commonsense cost-benefit practice.

The Regulatory Accountability Act would then take the next step of requiring regulatory agencies, once they have figured out the costs and benefits of these proposals, to choose the most cost-effective way to achieve their policy objectives. That is common sense, right? It is not done now. This is a big change and an important part of the legislation. Again, it is the same thing people do every day with their families. When they are deciding where they are going to go to school or what brand of milk they are going to choose, they go through that kind of analysis. Let's find the most cost-effective way to accomplish the goal, one that costs less and has the least impact on the ability to create jobs.

As I said before, a lot of regulations are expensive. According to the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office,

from 2009 to 2014, in those 5 years, the Federal Government published more than 80 major rules a year, every year. A major rule costs the economy more than $100 million a year, and there have been 80 a year.

For these major rules, the RAA would let stakeholders ask a court to review the cost-benefit analysis used by the regulators, so that we ensure that agencies are using the best information available, not relying on faulty information or making mistakes. That seems fair to me, that we should have some process to make sure they are doing the right thing. This is going to have a huge impact on regulations.

The RAA makes regulators more accountable by bringing the public into the process. When folks talk about regulations, a lot of the time, their concern is that they feel they are cut off from the process. Although they can come to me or their other elected officials and state their concerns about this or that law, they have no access to the regulators. They are not elected; they don't feel as if they are accountable. They can't complain to them, and there is no influence if they do.

So under the RAA, agencies would have to listen to public comments and proposals before making a decision. Again, this is an important change. Instead of waiting until after the decision has been made and potentially triggering years of litigation, the RAA would move up that process. An ounce of prevention, my colleagues, is worth at least a pound of cure. It is a lot better for our companies and for job creation to put some time into the effort upfront to get it right than to have to fix it later. I think it is better for the regulatory process and better for a smart regulatory process in terms of taking our laws and putting them into practice.

So the RAA requires agencies to choose the most cost-effective regulations, creates more accountability by involving the public, ensures we are using better information, and takes existing practice and puts it into law. Ultimately, this is going to make smarter rules with better outcomes and will give us a better environment for creating more jobs with better wages. The RAA will free up more resources for small businesses to hire more people, raise wages, and purchase more equipment. That will boost economic growth and benefit all of us.

There are some critics who have suggested that this bill will kill the regulatory process and prevent new regulations from being issued, but clearly they have not read the bill. The reason this bill is bipartisan is because it gives the American people a voice in the regulatory process and it makes it more effective for both our economy and for our health and safety. That is the kind of commonsense regulatory process that hard-working taxpayers expect and deserve from their government.

We have a lot of support for this bill from workers all over the country and from a wide variety of industries, including organizations representing truckers, farmers, electricians, and manufacturers. It is a bipartisan bill because it is a common-ground bill. It is a middle-ground bill.

I first introduced the RAA 6 years ago, and it has passed the House of Representatives five times. By the way, on one of those stand-alone votes, 19 Democrats in the House supported it. Some Democrats who serve in the Senate today have supported it in the past; they were House Members then. By the way, that was when the regulatory burden was less of a problem than it is today. I have always had Democratic cosponsors of the RAA when I have introduced it here in the Senate.

I am happy to have Senator HEITKAMP, Senator MANCHIN, and Senator HATCH as the original cosponsors to this legislation because this idea is needed now more than ever. It is a great opportunity to break through the partisan gridlock and get something that creates more jobs, raises wages, and makes a difference in people's lives. I think that is what the American people are looking for. That is what my neighbors in Ohio tell me. They want us to get stuff done to help families. I urge my colleagues to join Senator HEITKAMP, Senator HATCH, Senator MANCHIN, and me in supporting this legislation that will create a more stable and reliable regulatory process and give the people we represent more opportunity.

Thank you, Mr. President.

I yield back my time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Colorado.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN STRAAYER

Mr. GARDNER. Mr. President, in Denver today, the Colorado General Assembly will gather to pay tribute to Colorado State University professor John Straayer, whose 50-year teaching career included 37 years of managing a legislative intern program during the spring semester. Every Tuesday and Thursday, rain or snow, Dr. Straayer, a van or two, and an over caffeinated, sleep-deprived, ambitious crew of college juniors and seniors would travel to Denver from Fort Collins under the tutelage of Dr. Straayer to learn the ''art of legislation.''

After publishing several seminal books on Colorado politics, accumulating roughly 140,000 miles back and forth to the State capitol, and supervising over 1,000 interns over the years, he is retiring from his service as Colorado's legislative professor emeritus.

Dr. Straayer has a true love of politics—the process, the policy, the people, and the place. He has a passion for every ounce of it, the kind of healthy obsession with a place that means so much to the lives of its citizens. He has seen it all—the good and the bad, the fights and the endearing moments. He watched the impacts of constitutional battles, term limits, and reforms, and 50 years later, he has never lost his passion.

To be a part of his intern program, students were required to take his class on the legislative process. As a young CSU Ram myself, I remember his class vividly, absorbing his drive and drawn into the intrigue of policy. We talked about the cowboy coalition and the Sagebrush Rebellion; about Speaker Bev Bledsoe and Roy Romer; about Anne Burford, who served in the legislature as one of the self-identified ''House Crazies,'' who in the 1980s became known as Ronald Reagan's EPA Administrator but who this past month became known as Neil Gorsuch's mom. We talked about the high-water mark of rural power and the rise of the suburban legislator.

Dr. Straayer introduced new generations of students to oatmeal with vanilla ice cream and topped with maple syrup.

Dr. Straayer introduced people to public service, including congressional and legislative staffers and many members of my own staff. According to a recent article in the Denver Post, those staffers and interns included former Democratic Governor Bill Ritter, Democratic State Senator Matt Jones, and Republican State Representative Dan Nordberg. They were all proteges of Dr. Straayer's. The article goes on to state that Straayer had arranged these internships, monitored them, and graded the reports of their experiences. Dozens of Straayer interns have risen to high electoral office or become key legislative lobbyists—and not just in Colorado; one of his former students is a city alderman in Chicago.

I remember visiting Dr. Straayer when I first joined the program and was getting ready to be assigned to a legislator. When I received the assignment, I was disappointed to learn that I hadn't been appointed to the legislator I was hoping to be assigned to. Instead, I was assigned to a legislator from the Western Slope of Colorado. I am from the Eastern Plains, and I wasn't used to the Western Slope issues. Soon I would discover that Dr. Straayer had placed me with an incredible legislator named Russell George, who went on to become Colorado's speaker of the house—an individual who Dr. Straayer knew would be an incredible tutor and an inspiration to me. Dr. Straayer was right. Speaker George taught me about issues I work on each and every day here in the U.S. Senate—about public lands, water, and the West. He was and is an inspiration to me, and it is because Dr. Straayer had the discernment to go above and beyond for his students.

After graduation, Dr. Straayer invited me to speak to his class and later would tease me in the State legislature that perhaps I talked too much from the well. He provided me interns from the very same program I was a part of 10 years before. Most of all, he reminded me of the good that comes from our teachers and mentors, those who look out for us because, from a special place in their heart, they know that through the gift of their teaching, they will have a lasting impact for generations to come.

Congratulations, Dr. Straayer. Thank you for your service to Colorado State University and to the State of Colorado, and thank you for impacting the lives of so many people. From this U.S. Senator, thanks for being that life-changing spark.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Rhode Island.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak for up to 15 minutes as in morning business.

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

CLIMATE CHANGE

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, on Monday night we confirmed former Georgia Governor Sonny Perdue to be President Trump's Secretary of Agriculture, and I am here for my 164th ''Time to Wake Up'' speech to urge Secretary Perdue to listen to his agency, to scientific researchers in farm States across the country, to our major food and agricultural producers, and to farmers, fishermen, ranchers, and foresters about the serious and growing effects of climate change.

Carbon dioxide from burning fossil fuels is changing the atmosphere and the oceans. We see it everywhere. We see it on drought-stricken farms and in raging wildfires. We see it in fish that are disappearing from warming, acidifying waters. We see it in our dying pine forests. We see it in extreme weather events.

Secretary Perdue is taking the helm of an agency with a key role in mitigating those very effects. The USDA provides farmers, foresters, commodities markets, and State and local officials with analyses of trends and emerging issues affecting agriculture, the food supply, the environment, and rural communities. In its own Climate Change Adaptation Plan, the Department notes: ''Climate change has the potential to confound USDA efforts to meet these core obligations and responsibilities to the Nation.''

During his tenure as Governor, Secretary Perdue issued a State energy strategy, stating: ''Strong scientific evidence exists that increasing emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases are affecting Earth's climate.''

That is encouraging. Yet, when asked by Senator LEAHY about climate change during the Secretary's confirmation process, he backpedaled and said: ''It is clear that the climate has been changing,'' but there is ''significant debate within the scientific community'' on whether human activities play a role in that.

Whoops, that is the classic denier dodge, and it is just not true.

Secretary Perdue said several times during his confirmation process that he will use the ''best scientific and statistical data available'' to make decisions. The National Climate Assessment uses the ''best scientific and statistical data'' to conclude this: ''In the long term, combined stresses associated with climate change are expected to decrease agricultural productivity.''

In the Midwest, for instance, the National Climate Assessment reports that temperatures are increasing, and the rate of warming tripled between 1980 and 2010. Under the assessment's worst-case scenarios, temperatures across the Midwest are projected to rise 8.5 degrees Fahrenheit by the year 2100. If you are a farmer, 8.5 degrees changes everything.

In the western mountains, massive forests stand dead on the mountainsides as warmer winters allow the killer bark beetle to swarm into higher latitudes and higher altitudes. Over 82 million acres of national forests are under stress from fires, these insects, or both. Ominously, the assessment says that the combined effect of increasing wildfire, insect outbreaks, and diseases is expected to cause an ''almost complete loss of subalpine forests.''

The cost to taxpayers of fighting fires in those dead and dying forests is growing dramatically. Firefighting has gone from just 13 percent of the Forest Service's budget in 2004 to over 50 percent in 2015. The Forest Service estimates that by 2025 fighting fires will take up to two-thirds of its budget. Forest Service Chief Tom Tidwell testified to the Senate: ''This increase in the cost of wildland fire suppression is subsuming the agency's budget and jeopardizing its ability to implement its full mission.''

One place Secretary Perdue can go to find out a little bit about this is from our State universities.

The University of Wyoming's Center for Environmental Hydrology and Geophysics, for example, reports: ''Many of the most pressing issues facing the Western United States hinge on the fate and transport of water and its response to diverse disturbances, including climate change.''

At Kansas State University, professor of agronomy Charles Rice is using climate modeling to help anticipate climate effects in the Great Plains and to help the region mitigate and adapt to those effects.

In Wisconsin, Victor Cabrera, an assistant professor in the University of Wisconsin-Madison Dairy Science Department, says that higher summer temperatures and increasing drought will interfere with both livestock fertility and milk production, and dairy cows could give as much as 10 percent less milk. Secretary Perdue's own Department of Agriculture predicts that by 2030 climate change will cost the United States' dairy sector between $79 million and $199 million per year in lost production.

South Dakota State University professor Mark Cochrane is working with the Forest Service to better understand how a changing climate is affecting our forests. Professor Cochrane reported: ''Forest fire seasons worldwide increased by 18.7 percent due to more rain-free days and hotter temperatures.''

Secretary Perdue could travel to Iowa and hear from Gene Takle, an Iowa State University professor of agronomy and geological and atmospheric sciences, who told a United Nations conference recently that climate change is already affecting Iowa farmers. ''This isn't just about the distant future,'' he said. At Iowa State's Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture, Secretary Perdue could also hear about what the center calls ''aggravated and unpredictable risk that will challenge the security of our agricultural and biological systems.''

I am from the Ocean State. So let's turn to the oceans, where the National Climate Assessment predicts: ''Fishing costs are predicted to increase as fisheries transition to new species and as processing plants and fishing jobs shift poleward.'' In the Pacific Northwest, ocean acidification caused a 70-percent loss of oyster larvae from 2006 to 2008 at an oyster hatchery in Oregon. Wild oyster stocks in Washington State have failed as weather patterns have brought more acidic water to the shore. This is an industry worth about $73 million annually. So we ought not to laugh this off.

In Alaska, the University of Alaska has an Ocean Acidification Research Center. That is how seriously they take it. The Ocean Acidification Research Center warns that ocean acidification ''has the potential to disrupt (the Alaskan seafood) industry from top to bottom''—a top-to-bottom disruption of one of Alaska's major industries, and we cannot get a word on climate change out of the Republican side of the aisle in this building.

It is, of course, not just scientists. Some of the largest agriculture and food companies are speaking out as well. For these companies, climate change is not a partisan issue. It is not even a political issue. It is a business survival issue. It is their new reality. In 2015, major food and beverage companies visited Congress to tell us how climate change is affecting their industry.

''Climate really matters to our business,'' said Kim Nelson, of General Mills. ''We fundamentally rely on Mother Nature.'' The choices we make to protect or forsake our climate, she said, will be ''important to the long-term viability of our company and our industry.''

Paul Bakus, of Nestle, agreed, saying that climate change ''is impacting our business today.'' His company cans pumpkins under the Libby's brand. They have seen pumpkin yields crash in the United States. Mr. Bakus told us: ''We have never seen growing and harvesting conditions like this in the Midwest.''

Chief sustainability officer for the Mars Corporation, Barry Parkin, was blunter in his assessment: ''We are on a path to a dangerous place.''

Greg Page, the former CEO of Cargill, has publicly stated that climate change must be addressed to prevent future food shortages. Specifically, he said:

U.S. production of corn, soybeans, wheat, and cotton could decline by 14 percent by mid-century, and by as much as 42 percent by late century. From an agricultural standpoint, we have to prepare ourselves for a different climate than we have today.

In advance of the Paris climate conference, the heads of Mars, General Mills, Nestle USA, Unilever, Kellogg Company, New Belgium Brewing, Ben & Jerry's, Cliff Bar, Stonyfield Farm, Danone Dairy, PepsiCo, Coca-Cola, Hershey, and Hain Celestial signed a public letter—this one here—that said:

Climate change is bad for farmers and agriculture. Drought, flooding, and hotter growing conditions threaten the world's food supply and contribute to food insecurity.

They continued:

Now is the time to meaningfully address the reality of climate change. . . . We are ready to meet the climate challenges that face our businesses.

These big, successful companies don't take climate change lightly, and neither do our farmers, loggers, ranchers, and fishermen.

In South Carolina, farms that have been in families for generations, like that of Representative MARK SANFORD's, are under threat from climate change. Congressman SANFORD said: ''At our family farm in Beaufort, I've watched over the last 50 years as sea levels have risen and affected salt edges of the farm.''

Out West, ranchers are experiencing longer and more severe droughts. In a 2012 survey of Southern Colorado ranchers, roughly one-quarter of respondents said they would likely leave the industry if the drought persisted. Carlyle Currier, who owns a ranch in Molina, CO, said: ''We just can't grow enough to feed the cattle ourselves.''

In New Hampshire, Jamey French, President of Northland Forest Products, has seen hardwood tree species begin to migrate, with less valuable timber trees like oak and hickory beginning to take the place of sugar maple and yellow birch.

I sure hope Secretary Purdue will come to Rhode Island and meet our fishermen. Chris Brown is the owner of Brown Family Seafood and the president of the Rhode Island Commercial Fishermen's Association. He has fished in the waters of Rhode Island Sound for years: ''We used to come right here and catch two, three, four thousand pounds [of whiting] a day, sometimes 10,'' he told the New York Times. But the whiting have moved north to cooler waters. ''Climate change is going to make it hard on some of those species that are not particularly fond of warm or warming waters,'' Chris said.

And he is not alone. I have been told by other fishermen that it is getting weird out there in Rhode Island's waters, that this is not our grandfathers' ocean. These changes are serious for this industry.

So I hope Secretary Perdue will hear the message of our farmers, foresters, ranchers, and fishermen. They are sending this message loud and clear. Climate change is happening now, and they count on us to face the challenge.

The problem, of course, is the fossil fuel-funded denial machine that has so much influence over the Republican Party in Congress today. That fossil fuel-funded denial machine will do its best to change the subject, to muddy the waters, to create artificial doubt, and to use its anonymous dark political money to break up and thwart any signs of progress, but all the dark money in the world can't change the things that Iowa farmers, Wyoming ranchers, South Dakota forest managers, and Rhode Island fishermen see.

If this body—if our Republican friends here—will not listen to Mars Corporation, to General Mills, to Nestle USA, to Unilever, to Kellogg, to Coke and Pepsi and Hershey, it is really time to wake up.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. PERDUE). The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that I be allowed to address the Senate as in morning business.

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

INCREASING THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS ACCOUNTABILITY TO VETERANS ACT

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, this afternoon, the President will be signing an Executive order to increase accountability within the Department of Veterans Affairs. For several years, I have been calling on the VA to hold bad actors within the VA accountable. In my view, in too many instances, that has not occurred. There are far too many examples of those who commit wrongdoing while working at the VA, and even crimes against veterans and other VA employees have occurred without any consequence.

On his first day in office, I wrote the President urging him to make accountability within the Department of Veterans Affairs one of his top priorities. We see too many examples, and unfortunately one of those examples—one of those egregious examples—is in my home State of Kansas, where we face a terrible example of a VA employee violating the trust of veterans. Yet the VA seems to have no real sense of urgency in holding this person accountable or committing to fix the process by which he got into the position that he could commit the acts he did.

In 2015, we learned from local newspaper reports—not from the VA—that a physician's assistant at the Leavenworth VA hospital had been sexually abusing veterans. Shortly after that news broke, Leavenworth County prosecutors charged this individual with multiple counts of sexual assault and abuse against numerous veterans. He is currently awaiting trial.

The stories continue to come into our office and to the prosecutor about other victims. Veterans who sought services at the VA—the place they would expect to be cared for, respected, and the place they certainly should find safe—found something exactly the opposite.

As the story unfolded, we learned that Mr. Wisner—the person now charged with crimes—targeted vulnerable veterans suffering from PTSD, post-traumatic stress syndrome; he prescribed opioids that inhibited their thinking, and he used his position to deepen their wounds of war rather than to heal them.

Although Mr. Wisner is now beyond the reach of the VA, he and others like him who fail our veterans are not beyond the reach of Congress. It is ridiculous that taxpayers continue to fund pensions of VA senior executives and personnel convicted of crimes that harmed our Nation's veterans when they should have been serving and caring for them.

In the last Congress, we led significant efforts to develop, introduce, and pass legislation. Most of those efforts were with the Senator from Connecticut, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and we passed some legislation unanimously here in the Senate. That legislation increases the accountability of the Department of Veterans Affairs to make certain that senior VA executives and certain healthcare employees convicted of a felony do not receive the same benefits as those who diligently and honorably serve our Nation's veterans.

Not as an aside but as a separate sentence, let me take this moment to say thank you to those people within the Department of Veterans Affairs who conscientiously care for and fulfill their responsibilities to our Nation's veterans each and every day. How saddening it must be that they have to work side by side with people who commit crimes—and other failures for our veterans—and receive no consequence for that behavior.

We want to protect our veterans. We also want to make sure that those who work at the Department of Veterans Affairs know that their profession is honorable and that they are doing the right thing. It is difficult to reach that conclusion when surrounded by individuals who have not fulfilled that responsibility.

In light of the situation with Mr. Wisner—and other cases of wrongdoing so awful that they have been found guilty of a felony—we will not tolerate crimes against veterans that cause harm to their personal safety or that involve corrupt, backroom dealings with senior VA executives.

That legislation passed the U.S. Senate on the final day of our session last year. It passed unanimously. Unfortunately, that legislation did not then pass the House of Representatives, despite what we were told was significant support for it. It just didn't work in the schedule. So today I am back on the Senate floor. A hotline request is pending in which we ask—I ask—that legislation unanimously passed by the U.S. Senate on the final day of the previous session would pass today. That will then give the House of Representatives the time and the mechanics to see that this legislation becomes law.

In fact, the very first piece of legislation I introduced in this session, the 115th, was Increasing the Department of Veterans Affairs Accountability to Veterans Act of 2017. We today call for its swift passage. I am hopeful this legislation will provide an ounce of justice to those victims who have suffered at the hands of this VA employee, and I call on my colleagues to once again stand with me in passing this legislation.

In addition to the issues of accountability of wrongdoing employees of the Department, this legislation also has additional provisions. Those provisions include holding VA leaders accountable for Department mismanagement, hiring well-qualified people and addressing employee performance, preventing employees from conflicts of interest, and improving manager training.

We have a duty. Of all people in this country, whom should we pay respect and honor to? Whom should we care for? For whom should we make certain we live up to the commitments that were made? One would think that those who served in our military, who protected our freedoms and liberties are the ones we would put on a high pedestal and make sure everything possible to protect them is done.

We have a duty to taxpayers, as well, to make sure funds are not going to employees who are convicted of crimes against those veterans that they are charged to protect and to serve.

There have been a number of VA scandals, corruption, and illegal activity in nearly every State. Whether it has been a secret wait-list in a hospital that delayed critical care, opioid overmedication that led to death or suicide, or physical abuse and neglect, crimes must come to an end. There must be accountability for us to be able to say we are doing everything possible to bring those crimes to an end.

This legislation is an important step in making the VA worthy of the service of those who have sacrificed for this Nation. Given the previous unanimous support, I can't imagine—I hope there is no reason this legislation should not again pass today. I call upon my colleagues in the U.S. Senate to stand with me and Senator BLUMENTHAL and others as we work to make certain the VA is a department worthy of the veterans it serves.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak as in morning business.

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

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, later this afternoon the Senate will vote on the President's nomination of Alexander Acosta to serve as the U.S. Secretary of Labor. Mr. Acosta has excellent credentials and is well qualified for the position. He understands that a good-paying job is critical to helping workers realize the American dream for themselves and for their families.

After immigrating to the United States from Cuba, Mr. Acosta's parents worked hard to create more opportunities for their son. Alexander Acosta became the first person in his family to go to college, and from there he has had quite an impressive career.

He has already been confirmed by the U.S. Senate three different times: He served as a Republican member of the National Labor Relations Board, he served as Assistant Attorney General for the U.S. Justice Department's Civil Rights Division, and he served as U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Florida.

Mr. Acosta's most recent role was serving as dean of Florida International University's law school. The school's president told the Miami Herald recently, ''Alex has a destiny in public service. . . . He's a person of integrity, conscientious, thoughtful, he doesn't overreach.''

On March 22, Mr. Acosta had a hearing in the Senate Labor Committee that lasted two and a half hours. Following his hearing, he answered 380 follow-up questions for the record—604 questions if you count the sub-questions. Then, on March 30, our committee approved Mr. Acosta's nomination, readying the nomination for consideration by the full Senate.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD a list of 140 groups, which includes business groups and labor unions, which support Mr. Acosta's nomination.

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

140 GROUPS THAT SUPPORT MR. ACOSTA'S NOMINATION

Aeronautical Repair Station Association; Air Conditioning Contractors of America; Alaska Chamber; Alliance of Wyoming Manufacturers; American Apparel & Footwear Association; American Bakers Association; American Beverage Association; American Coatings Association; American Coke and Coal Chemicals Institute; American Concrete Pressure Pipe Association; American Fiber Manufacturers Association; American Fire Sprinkler Association; American Foundry Society; American Fuel & Petrochemical Manufacturers; American Home Furnishings Alliance; American Hotel & Lodging Association; American Iron and Steel Institute; American Moving & Storage Association; American Staffing Association; American Supply Association; American Trucking Associations; AmericanHort; Americans for Tax Reform; Argentum.

Arizona Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Arizona Manufacturers Council; Arkansas State Chamber/Associated Industries of Arkansas; Asian American Hotel Owners Association; Associated Builders and Contractors, Inc.; Associated Equipment Distributors; Associated General Contractors of America; Associated Industries of Missouri; Auto Care Association; Brick Industry Association; Can Industry Association; Center for Worker Freedom; Coalition of Franchisee Associations; Colorado Association of Commerce and Industry (CACI); Council of Industry of Southeastern New York; Corry & Associates; Delta Industries, Inc.

Fabricators and Manufacturers Association, International; The Fertilizer Institute; Franchise Business Services; Georgia Association of Manufacturers; Global Cold Chain Alliance; Harsco; Heating, Air-conditioning & Refrigeration Distributors International (HARDI); Hispanic National Bar Association; Hispanic Leadership Fund; HR Policy Association; INDA, The Association of the Nonwoven Fabrics Industry; Independent Electrical Contractors; Independent Lubricant Manufacturers Association; Insured Retirement Institute; International Association of Bridge, Structural, Ornamental and Reinforcing Iron Workers; International Association of Fire Fighters; International Foodservice Distributors Association.

International Franchise Association; International Housewares Association; International Sign Association; International

Sleep Products Association; International Warehouse Logistics Association; Investment Casting Institute; ISSA—The Worldwide Cleaning Industry Association; Laborers' International Union of North America; The Latino Coalition; Leading Builders of America; League of United Latin American Citizens; The Linen, Uniform and Facility Services Association (TRSA); Manufacturer & Business Association; Metal Powder Industries Federation; Metals Service Center Institute; Michigan Manufacturers Association; Miles Sand & Gravel; Missouri Association of Manufacturers; MMC Materials, Inc.; Montana Retail Association.

Motor & Equipment Manufacturers Association (MEMA); MSPA Americas; National Association of Home Builders; National Association of Manufacturers (NAM); National Association of Printing Ink Manufacturers (NAPIM); National Association of Professional Employer Organizations; National Automobile Dealers Association; National Christmas Tree Association; National Club Association; National Council of Chain Restaurants; National Federation of Independent Business.

National Franchisee Association; National Grocers Association; National Lumber and Building Material Dealers Association; National Oilseed Processors Association; National Precast Concrete Association; National Ready Mixed Concrete Association; National Restaurant Association; National Retail Federation; National Roofing Contractors Association; National Stone, Sand & Gravel Association; National Wooden Pallet and Container Association; Nebraska Chamber of Commerce & Industry; Nevada Manufacturers Association; New Mexico Business Coalition; North American Building Trades Union; North American Concrete Alliance; Pennsylvania Manufacturers' Association; Plastics Industry Association; Port Aggregates, Inc.; Precast/Prestressed Concrete Institute; Private Care Association.

Puerto Rico Manufacturers Association; Retail Industry Leaders Association; Rhode Island Manufacturing Association; San Jose Police Officers' Association; Seafarers International Union of North America; Sergeants Benevolent Association, Police Department, City of New York; Shipbuilders Council of America; Sioux Corporation; Small Business & Entrepreneurship Council; SNAC International; The Society of Chemical Manufacturers and Affiliates; Society for Human Resource Management; South Carolina Chamber of Commerce; Southeastern Lumber Manufacturers Association; Specialty Equipment Market Association; Spurlino Materials.

Technology & Manufacturing Association; Texas Association of Business; Texas Association of Manufacturers; Tile Roofing Institute; Tree Care Industry Association; Truck Renting and Leasing Association; United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners; United Motorcoach Association; U.S. Chamber of Commerce; United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce; The Vinyl Institute; Water & Sewer Distributors of America; Wine & Spirits Wholesalers of America; Workforce Fairness Institute.

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, the supporters include the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the National Retail Federation, the National Federation of Independent Business, the National Association of Manufacturers, the International Franchise Association, the Associated Builders and Contractors, and the American Beverage Association.

Here are some examples of what these groups had to say about Mr. Acosta. The International Franchise Association said, ''Franchise owners around the country are facing a great deal of regulatory uncertainty as a result of the wreckage created by the previous administration's out-of-control Department of Labor. Mr. Acosta's exemplary record handling labor issues as a member of the NLRB has shown the appropriate balance needed to protect the interests of employees and employers.''

The National Federation of Independent Business said, ''Alexander Acosta is an experienced public servant with a distinguished record. His knowledge of labor issues and his service as U.S. Attorney make him an especially strong candidate to take on the entrenched bureaucracy, which has imposed unbelievably severe and costly regulations on small business in the recent years.''

The National Retail Federation said, ''Mr. Acosta's diverse experiences in both public service and the private sector position him well to be an effective and pragmatic leader at the Department of Labor.''

Why is this nomination so important? In his new book, New York Times columnist Thomas Friedman uses the term ''Great Acceleration'' for all of the technological, social, environmental, and market changes simultaneously sweeping across the globe and argues that we are now ''living through one of the greatest inflection points in history'' as a result. Add Ball State University's finding that automation is responsible for the loss of 88 percent of our manufacturing jobs. Add globalization. Add social, cultural, climate changes, and terrorism, and you get a big mismatch between the change of pace and the ability of the average American worker to keep up and fit in the accelerating forces shaping the workplace.

Earlier this year, after a group of senators listened to a group of scientists talk about the advances in artificial intelligence, one Senator asked, ''Where are we all going to work?''

Tom Friedman says that probably the most important governance challenge is a great need ''to develop the learning systems, training systems, management systems, social safety nets, and government regulations that would enable citizens to get the most out of these accelerations and cushion their worst impacts.''

One of the federal government's chief actors in this drama should be the U.S. Secretary of Labor. In fact, as many have suggested and the House of Representatives has done, the title of the job for which Alexander Acosta has been nominated should be changed to the Secretary of Workforce, not Secretary of Labor.

Labor union membership in the private sector today is down to less than 7 percent. The issue for workers today is not whether they belong to a union. It is whether they have the skills to adapt to the changing workplace and to find and keep a job. To be accurate, to create and keep a job. My generation found jobs. This generation is more likely to have to create their own jobs.

In his inaugural address, President Trump said he heard ''forgotten men and women'' who are struggling to keep up and fit into today's changing world: ''[F]or too many of our citizens, a different reality exists: mothers and children trapped in poverty in our inner cities; rusted out factories scattered like tombstones across the landscape of our nation . . .'' That is what President Trump said in his inaugural address.

Ten days earlier, in his farewell address, President Obama said he, too, heard those same voices: ''[T]oo many families, in inner cities and in rural counties, have been left behind . . . if we don't create opportunity for all people, the disaffection and division that has stalled our progress will only sharpen in years to come. . . .''

That was President Obama.

What can we do about this? The most important thing is to work with employers and community colleges and technical institutes and find ways to increase the number of Americans earning post-secondary certificates and two-year degrees or more.

Georgetown University's Center on Education and the Workforce says that by 2020—3 years from now—65 percent of the jobs in this country will require some college or more. And at the rate we are going, Georgetown predicts the United States will lack 5 million workers with an adequate post-secondary education by 2020.

Unfortunately, too many of the federal government's actions over the last few years have made it harder for American workers to keep up, to adjust to the changing world, and to create, find, or keep a job.

President Obama's Department of Labor issued 130 percent more final rules than the previous administration's labor department. Overall, the Obama Administration issued an average of 85 major rules. These are rules that may have an impact of $100 million or more a year on the economy. Eighty-five major rules a year. President Bush, on the other hand, averaged about 62 a year. That is a 37-percent increase under President Obama.

Take the overtime rule. In my state, its costs would add hundreds of dollars per student in college tuition and it would force small businesses across the country to reduce the jobs that provide the stability that families need. This rule has been delayed by the courts until at least June 30th of this year.

Take the so-called joint employer policy. This is a policy that affects

franchising and makes it more likely that a parent company will own and operate its stores instead of allowing franchisees to own and operate those stores. A Republican majority at the National Labor Relations Board can start undoing the damage caused by this harmful decision.

Then, there is the fiduciary rule, which is going to make it too expensive for the average worker to obtain investment advice about retirement benefits—again making it harder, not easier, to adjust to the changing world of work. The Department of Labor under the Trump administration has delayed this rule for 60 days, until June 9, 2017. Some parts of the rule are delayed until January 1, 2018.

One rule after another from the Obama administration has stacked a big wet blanket of costs and time-consuming mandates on job creators, causing them to create fewer jobs.

The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission's EEO–1 form will require employers to provide to the government 20 times as much information as they do today about how they pay workers. Earlier this month, the Senator from Kansas, Senator PAT ROBERTS, and I asked the Office of Management and Budget to rescind this time-wasting mandate.

There is the ridiculously complex 108-question FAFSA, the federal aid application form that 20 million families fill out every year as students go to college. It turns away from college many of the very students who most need to adjust to this changing world.

The Affordable Care Act defined full-time work as only 30 hours, forcing employers to cut their workers' hours or reduce hiring altogether in order to escape the law's mandate and its unaffordable penalties.

Many of these rules, like the persuader rule, which chills the ability of employers to retain legal advice during union organizing activities, seemed designed for the purpose of strengthening the membership and the power of labor unions.

We are fortunate to have a nominee in Mr. Acosta who can use his good judgment to reevaluate labor policies that make it much harder to create jobs and to find jobs.

We know that Mr. Acosta has support from members of both political parties, and that raises a question for me: Why did the Senate yesterday have to vote to invoke cloture on Mr. Acosta's nomination? The vote was bipartisan, with 61 senators voting to end debate so Mr. Acosta could have had an up or down vote. He could have been approved by majority vote yesterday. That has been the tradition in the U.S. Senate for 230 years. There never has been a Cabinet member denied his or her position by requiring them to get more than 51 votes. There have been some cloture votes for delay or to take some extra time, but no one has ever been denied the position by requiring more than 51 votes.

During most of the 20th century, when one party controlled the White House and the Senate seventy percent of the time, the minority never filibustered to death a single presidential nominee. The practice in the Senate since the Senate's beginning has been that the President nominates and the Senate decides by majority vote whether to approve the nomination. Why are we having these cloture votes? We are getting into more and more of a difficult situation with these votes. It is a bad habit and both sides, Republicans and Democrats, have caused the problem.

During the Obama administration, over the 8 years, there were 173 cloture votes on nominations, and I voted to invoke cloture 41 of those times. For 10 of those nominees, I voted to end debate so that their nomination could have an up or down vote even though I opposed their confirmation.

No one has ever disputed our right in the Senate, regardless of who was in charge, to use our constitutional duty of advice and consent to delay and examine, sometimes causing nominations to be withdrawn or even defeating nominees by a majority vote.

What I would like to suggest today is that if we continue the trend of requiring cloture votes on presidential nominees—cabinet members and others—that may work fine as long as we have a president and a Senate of the same political party, but if we have a president and a Senate of different political parties and everybody has become accustomed to voting no on cloture, to requiring a cloture vote and voting no, the Senate may never be able to confirm any cabinet members or any subcabinet members when the Senate and the president are of different political parties.

I would suggest to my friends on the other side of the aisle that the Senate is a body of precedent, and I think it would be wise for us to stop and think, as we proceed, about whether it is wise to require cloture votes for presidential nominees. Why don't we simply go ahead and approve them or not approve them by majority vote?

We have an excellent nominee in Mr. Acosta. We are fortunate that someone of his intelligence and experience is willing to serve as our U.S. Secretary of Labor. I look forward to voting for and to the Senate approving his confirmation later today.

I yield the floor.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, I oppose the nomination of Alexander Acosta to be Secretary of the Department of Labor.

Our Nation's Labor Secretary has a responsibility to protect the safety and legal rights of the American workforce. From prosecuting civil rights violations to monitoring workplace safety, the Department of Labor ensures fair treatment. The Labor Secretary must also evaluate our economy and advocate for fair and equal pay and benefits for American workers. The Department provides the data and expertise for policymakers, employers, and workers to make economic decisions.

Unfortunately, Mr. Acosta's testimony on these points at his confirmation hearing was disappointing. He would not commit to support updating overtime rules to make sure that employees get fair pay for the hours they work. He would not commit to prioritize closing the gender pay gap. He would not commit to keeping workplace safety inspectors on the job.

Moreover, when Mr. Acosta led the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice during the George W. Bush Administration, the GAO reported that there was a ''significant drop in the enforcement of several major antidiscrimination and voting rights laws.'' The Secretary of Labor must be a vigilant defender of the rights of workers.

In a Cabinet where too many department heads are looking out for millionaires and billionaires, we need a Secretary of Labor who will look out for the American worker. I am not convinced that Mr. Acosta will do that job.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

COAL MINER PENSION AND RETIREE HEALTH BENEFITS

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, it is no great secret that the American people do not have a great deal of confidence in their government. It is no secret that the American people think the Congress is way out of touch with their needs and aspirations. In fact, just confirming that point, a recent poll appeared in the Washington Post and ABC News, and it found that 58 percent of the American people believe that President Trump is out of touch with the concerns of most people in the United States today; 62 percent of the American people believe that the Republican Party is out of touch with the concerns of most people in the United States; and 67 percent of the American people believe that the Democratic Party is out of touch with the concerns of most people in the United States today. Those are numbers that should cause a great deal of concern to Members of the Senate and the House, to Democrats and Republicans, to everybody.

I think one of the reasons is that there is a world outside of Capitol Hill where people are in pain; where people are working longer hours for lower wages; where people are scared to death about facing retirement because they have, in many cases, no money in the bank; where people today are paying 40 percent, 50 percent of limited incomes for affordable housing; where

single moms can't afford childcare for their kids; where young people can't afford to go to college; where other people are leaving college deeply in debt. And all of that is taking place within the context of almost all new wealth and income going to the top 1 percent.

We have the absurd situation today where the top one-tenth of 1 percent owns almost as much wealth as the bottom 90 percent, and 52 percent of all new income is going to the top 1 percent. The middle class is shrinking. There are 43 million Americans living in poverty, and the very wealthy are getting wealthier.

In the midst of all that, my Republican colleagues and President Trump are desperately trying to provide hundreds of billions of dollars in tax breaks for the top 1 percent and cut back on programs that working families desperately need, whether it is Pell grants to make it easier for kids to go to college, whether it is afterschool programs, whether it is the Meals on Wheels program, whether it is affordable housing, or whatnot—tax breaks for billionaires, cutbacks on programs that people desperately need.

The American people will not regain confidence in the U.S. Congress unless we keep promises that were made to them. Today I want to talk about promises that were made to coal miners. For decades, coal miners contributed to their pension funds with the promise that when they retired, they would receive a pension and retiree health benefits that would last for a lifetime. Those were the promises to the people who went underneath the ground, who worked incredibly difficult jobs, who died of black lung disease or a myriad of other diseases or injuries. Promises were made to those workers, and those promises were broken.

If Congress does not act by tomorrow, the retiree health benefits of more than 22,000 coal miners will be eliminated. We cannot allow that to happen. It is not only unfair to the retired coal miners and their families, it once again will tell the American people that they cannot trust their government. Promises were made, but they were not carried out.

My understanding is that an agreement to protect these retiree health benefits may be included in the continuing resolution to keep the government from shutting down. As I have walked the hallways here in the Senate, I have met with members, retirees of the United Mine Workers, who have been back here week after week after week, and I applaud them for their persistence.

Let us hope that, in fact, the continuing resolution does contain an agreement to protect those retiree health benefits. It is absolutely imperative that the agreement contain those benefits and that those promises be kept.

Even if we do put that provision in the CR, it still does not address another problem faced by retirees in the coal industry and retirees all over the country, and that is the fact that we are doing nothing to protect the pension benefits of coal miners and tens and thousands of other workers. This is an issue that is of major crisis proportions all across this country, and it is an issue that must be addressed. That is why I am a proud cosponsor of the Miners Protection Act. That is also why I will be introducing legislation on May 9 to protect the pensions of not only 90,000 coal miners throughout this country, but the retirement benefits of 10 million workers in multiemployer pension plans—10 million workers.

Over 40 years ago, the Federal Government made a solemn commitment to the workers of this country. If a retiree is promised a certain pension benefit after a lifetime of hard work, a company could not renege on that promise. Making that commitment 40 years ago was exactly the right thing to do. When someone works for their entire life, when they give up pay raises, when they work overtime, when they work weekends in order to make sure that he or she has a secure retirement, it is absolutely unacceptable to pull the plug from that worker's benefit.

Guarantees were made, and those guarantees must be kept. This is not the negotiating of wage increases. This is not the negotiating of overtime. This is a promise made to workers and paid for by workers, which simply cannot be nullified if people are to have any faith in our political system.

But more than 2 years ago behind closed doors, a provision was slipped into a must-pass spending bill that now makes it legal to cut the pension benefits of about 10 million workers and retirees in multiemployer pension plans. As a result, retirees all over this country are waking up to the unacceptable reality that the promises made to them could be broken and that the pension benefits they are receiving today may soon be cut by 30, 40 or even 65 percent. What this means is that retirees who are currently receiving a pension benefit of $18,000 a year are in danger of seeing their benefits cut by $3,843, a 21-percent cut. Retirees who are currently receiving a pension benefit of $36,000 a year could see their pension benefits cut by up to $21,000, a 60-percent cut.

In other words, tens of thousands of retirees all over this country who today are in the middle class, who worked hard their entire lives, who gave up on wage increases, who worked overtime in order to protect those pensions may be seeing significant reductions in what they anticipated. We are talking about retirees who will no longer be able to pay their mortgages. We are talking about retirees who will not be able to pay their utility bills. We are talking about families who may have to go on food stamps to feed their families after working their entire lives. That is unconscionable. We cannot allow that to happen.

In my view, we have to send a very loud and very clear message to the Republican leadership in Congress and to the President of the United States, and that is when a promise is made to the working people of this country with respect to their pensions and retiree health benefits, that promise must be kept.

Today, about 150 multiemployer pension plans are in trouble financially, but let's be clear. The retirees are not the reason these pension plans are struggling financially. The reason many of these pension plans are in trouble is because of the greed, recklessness, and illegal behavior on Wall Street that drove this country into the worst recession since the Great Depression of the 1930s. Let us never forget, when the largest financial institutions were on the verge of collapse 7 years ago, it was the taxpayers of this country who bailed them out. I didn't vote for it, but a majority of the Members of Congress did.

Congress gave Wall Street some $700 billion in financial assistance. The Federal Reserve provided $16 trillion in virtually zero-interest loans to every major financial institution in this country and to foreign banks throughout the world because they were, as we will all recall, too big to fail. If Congress can bail out Wall Street, if Congress can bail out foreign banks, we have to protect the pension benefits of American workers.

The legislation that I will be reintroducing on May 9 would prevent the retirement benefits of about 10 million workers and retirees from being cut by repealing the anti-pension rider that was included in an appropriations bill 2 years ago. It establishes an emergency fund within the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation to make sure that multiemployer pension plans can continue to provide every pension benefit owed to every eligible American for decades to come.

It is fully paid for by closing two tax loopholes that allow the wealthiest Americans in this country to avoid paying their fair share of taxes. Closing these loopholes will allow us to protect the earned pension benefits of every worker and retiree in multiemployer pension plans in this country.

At a time of massive wealth and income inequality, when half of all older workers have no retirement savings at all, when 20 percent of seniors are living on less than $13,000 a year, we have to do everything we can to protect and expand the fine pension benefit plans in America.

I look forward to the support of my colleagues for this important legislation.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CASSIDY). The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

(The remarks of Mr. MERKLEY pertaining to the introduction of S. 987 are printed in today's RECORD under ''Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.'')

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

REGULATORY REFORM AND THE BUDGET PROCESS

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. President, there is a lot of conversation about all that is moving this week in the Senate and the House and the executive branch. There is a lot of conversation about 100 days. It is somewhat of a look back, and it is reasonable for Americans to be able to look back and say the beginning of a new Presidency or the beginning of a new session of Congress has begun and what has already happened. There has been quite a bit that has actually happened, but let me highlight one specific area. I want to highlight an area that has moved and to, quite frankly, highlight an area that has not.

What has moved has been a lot of conversation about regulation. When I walked into Congress just a few years ago, I had a lot of people in my State who would catch me and ask for one specific thing. They said: I don't want anything other than to make it stop. Because every time they get news, every time they open up something from an association or try to be able to track something, all they got was a new regulation. Some of them were large and some small, but it seemed like every time they opened the mail, they had a new requirement from some entity they had never heard of, 1,000 miles away, telling them how to operate their business or to submit some new form. Whether they are a school or a hospital or a small business or a large business, whether they are doing manufacturing or are service-oriented or technology, the flood of regulations coming out of Washington, DC, caused people around my State to say: Make it stop; we are trying to catch up. And literally they are hiring more people for compliance than they are to actually do what their business is designed to do. At some point, they want to hire somebody to actually do their business.

A dramatic shift happened starting January 20 of this year when the administration stepped in and for a moment said: Pause on regulations. And literally the Nation could take a deep breath. They didn't turn anything back. They didn't turn anything off. America didn't become less safe. They asked a simple question: How can people actually get involved in the process? And before a regulation comes out, we make sure that it is, No. 1, consistent with the law, and No. 2, that the people who are affected by it actually get a chance to raise their hands and say: When you do a regulation, make sure you consider this.

It doesn't seem unreasonable. If we are going to be a nation of the people, by the people, and for the people, it is a good idea to have people involved in the process of the regulations that affect them. The government should not be their enemy. The government should be their ally. It should be the way to make sure that we have fair rules, that everyone has a consistent set of guidelines and that those guidelines don't change all the time.

Before this year, there had been only one time in the past decade that the Congressional Review Act was used. The Congressional Review Act was actually due to a fellow Oklahoman named Don Nickles who, in the Senate years ago, passed a simple piece of legislation to say that if a regulation is promulgated by an administration—any administration—that is not consistent with the desires of Congress, that Congress can pull it back out in the first few days after it was passed, and most of the time, it is legislative days—it is actually months in calendar time. In the first few months it is in existence, Congress can pull that regulation out and look at it and say: Is this consistent with what Congress passed? If it is not, Congress would have a fast-track process to be able to look at it and say: This is inconsistent with what Congress desired when it passed the law; that it had to go through the House, the Senate, and then to the White House to be signed. That has happened only one time.

In the past few months, Congress has passed now 13 Congressional Review Acts—13 different reviews of different regulations that were put down by the previous administration in their final months, some of them in their final days of—the administration—an administration that lasted 8 full years. These were the things they crammed into the very end, what are called midnight regulations. Those regulations cost billions of dollars, and some had very little review. Thirteen different times this Congress has pulled those out. It is literally billions of dollars in regulations that were laid on the economy and millions of hours of work on people filling out compliance forms and submitting things to Washington, DC, that most likely no one will ever read.

Those thirteen bills that have now been signed into law have helped free up our economy, and it has started a process that is very simple: What do we do to make sure that we have good regulations as a nation, that they stay consistent and have the maximum number of people involved?

The administration has also laid out something that many called a radical idea; that is, for every one regulation that goes in, an agency would pull two out; to go back and review old regulations and say: Are there other regulations that need to come out? For those who have called this a radical idea, I have had to smile and say: You realize the United Kingdom has done that for years. Canada has done that for years. Australia has done that for years.

It is not a radical, crazy idea; it is a simple statement to say that when regulations go in, we need to have consideration for those who are already regulated and say: Are we burying them in new compliance requirements? Is there an area where we can help free them of things that are not needed anymore, that are old, that are not used or not even appropriate anymore? It is a reasonable thing to be able to look at. It is not in statute, it is an Executive order, but it is one of those things that I think are wise for agencies to be able to take a look at.

Every administration over the past several decades has said they are going to do what is called a retrospective review—go back and look at it. This administration has said: We are really going to look at it. If a new regulation goes in, we have to go back and review and see if two can come out at the same time, to force that retrospective review.

Many other areas of regulations are coming out, but the primary issue that has come out is very simple; that is, slowing down the process and making sure it is wise to be able to impose new regulations. We should have them in health and safety areas, but we shouldn't do regulations just because someone in Washington, DC, thinks it is a good idea to be able to run everyone else's business.

With any set of decisions made by the executive branch, we should resolve many of these things in law. The Congressional Review Act—those are all in law. Those have all been settled. The executive actions like the ''one in, two out''—that is an executive action. A future executive can flip it back around and say: We are not going to go back and review it at all.

I proposed a whole series of issues that we need to deal with on regulatory actions. I chair the Regulatory Affairs Subcommittee, in fact. We have had very bipartisan conversations to say: Where can we find common

ground, and what do we need to do to be able to resolve this issue of regulations just showing up?

So we have set out a simple set of ideas, one beginning in small business. If we are going to start with regulatory issues, let's start in the area where we have the greatest amount of agreement; that is, on small businesses. Small businesses should have an opportunity to have a voice at the table. Now, when regulations are put out, often those regulations are put out and only the largest businesses are consulted on them—those that might have lobbyists or government relations or have a team of attorneys to be able to go engage with the Federal Government and get their input considered.

We required years ago that small businesses get a voice. The problem is, many agencies actually don't do it. We need to be able to press the issue and put into statute an absolute requirement that small businesses be consulted. So when a regulation is created, the people who are affected the most—like in my State of Oklahoma, where 97 percent of the businesses are small businesses—that those folks actually get a voice.

It may shock some people in this Chamber to know that small business owners in Oklahoma don't wake up every day and read the Federal Register to see if there is an area they have to give notice and comment to. It may be stunning to know that they don't have a team of lawyers at every small business. In fact, there are towns in Oklahoma where there are many small businesses but there is not a lawyer in that town. We should not require every business to hire attorneys and to read the Federal Register every day for them to be able to stay in business. We should actually reach out to them and say: We are not opposed to small businesses; we want to make sure we facilitate them.

Here is a simple idea of many ideas in the small business bill that I have—not only getting greater input and to make sure they are in consideration, but how about this simple idea: If there is a paperwork violation for a small business, they are not fined immediately. They have forgiveness for that first-time offense. Many of them didn't even know there was a certain amount of paperwork that had to be turned in. It showed up as a requirement in the Federal Register. They are running their small business. They weren't tracking it. Someone comes in and evaluates and says ''There is a piece of paper you haven't turned in'' and drops a $5,000, $10,000, $15,000 fine on them for not submitting something, and they had no idea what it was.

First-time paperwork forgiveness is a simple idea. To actually be engaged where the Federal Government can go to a small business and say ''Hey, you missed one,'' and if they are not health or safety related issues, we give them forgiveness in the process—why should that be so hard for us to do?

We have another piece of legislation we proposed called early participation in regulations. Before a regulation is written by an agency, this would require that they actually put out the word that they are thinking about writing a regulation on a certain topic and get as much input as they can, so before they even write the regulation and we are fighting over whether we should use ''or'' or ''and'' in a section, we actually talk about whether it is needed at all, or if they are going to write it, make sure it has these certain issues in it—again, getting more people involved in the process.

Just a week ago, there was a march through this town and through many towns saying: We need to have great science in our Nation. I could not agree more. We should have quality science in our research. We should have engagement from science when we put policy papers together.

One of the challenges we currently have and one of the things we are trying to correct with another piece of legislation is just on using best science, just requiring agencies, when they make a decision about something in a regulation, to actually use peer-reviewed, good science that can be shared with other people. We bump into issues now commonly with agencies where they say they have made a decision on some of the regulations, and we ask for the science behind it, and they say that the science is proprietary and they can't share it with us or the American people. The American people aren't good about withholding a secret on something that actually affects their day-to-day life. Don't lay a new requirement on them and tell them: Trust us—we have thought about this, and this is the right way to go. Americans aren't great with that. They just want to be able to know the facts behind it so they can see that science themselves.

So getting best science is something we have talked about within the framework of the Administrative Procedures Act for a long time—something many administrations for the past several decades have said we should do. Well, let's go ahead and do it, and let's require that we actually have best science out there.

This body, with a voice vote, just a year ago, passed a bill called TSCA. That TSCA bill dealt with chemicals and how we are going to approve chemicals and how the EPA can do it. We put new language in that requiring good science, peer-reviewed science, and on a voice vote from everyone in this body, we agreed that is the best way to handle science on chemicals.

So what did I do? I took that exact language that we all agreed to on TSCA and said: Let's apply that to every agency so that whenever an agency of any type makes a decision that is science-based, it has good transparency and it is peer-reviewed. We have agreed that the EPA should do it dealing with chemicals; let's agree that everyone should do it. Let's agree on how we handle guidance, to not allow agencies to be able to create guidance documents. Let's have good transparency and simplicity.

We have a simple bill, as odd as this may sound, that just says that for whatever regulation is out there, the agencies also have to put a description out on it in plain language that a non-attorney can understand in just 100 words, just a 100-word description of what it is. Right now there are folks who actually do try to research things, and if you are not a trained attorney, you can't even understand what it means. So just plain-language descriptions of regulations are called for.

These should all be areas of common ground. These should all be straightforward issues that aren't partisan issues but are commonsense issues.

We have made progress on regulations over the past 100 days. The American people have now been able to take a breath as regulations are not coming out at rapid speed. We still need them, though. In the days ahead, we need to do good regulations, so let's figure out a good way to do it.

Let me make one more note on the opposite side. We have made progress in regulations, with a ways to go. Where we have not made progress in the past 100 days is on how we do budgeting.

There is a group of us who have talked for several years now and have said that we have to change the way we do budgeting. Year after year, the American people have said: Are we going to have another continuing resolution? Are we going to have another omnibus bill? Are we going to be late again on budgeting?

Year after year, Congress has said: Yes, we are.

Folks around my State occasionally catch me and say: This is different.

I smile at them and say: No, it is not different.

The way we do budgeting was created right after Watergate in 1974 to create a more transparent process. What they actually created was a process so difficult that it has only worked four times since 1974—four times. So if it feels like every year you are saying ''How come the budget process didn't work again?'' it is because every year but four, since 1974, the budget process didn't work.

At some point, we have to say: The budget process is not in the Constitution. Let's change the way we are doing the process. They were well-meaning in 1974 when they made that process; it just didn't work. So let's fix it instead of saying that once again it didn't work.

We will never get a better product on our budget until we fix the process of our budget. We will never be able to solve the budget debt and deficit issues we have with this continuing resolution autopilot system and with an omnibus system that seems to just perpetuate the same issues over and over again.

We have made specific proposals: doing the budget every 2 years, getting time to get more predictability, to get more time to be able to walk through the research of it; eliminating budget gimmicks, and there are a mess of budget gimmicks that are out there; and getting a better long-term view. The budget has what is called a 10-year window now, where we have to budget over 10 years. So what happens? Congress creates a budget that blows up in the 11th year. Well, that has been done year after year after year, and we have a lot of eleventh-hour years now stacking up and a lot of major problems that are out there.

We need to find a way to prevent us from ever having to get in a conversation about a government shutdown. We have a bill called the government shutdown prevention bill that would keep us from ever having that, and it would put the pressure back on Congress and the White House to resolve the issues but would prevent us from ever having a government shutdown fight. We shouldn't argue about whether the government is going to be opened or closed. We should argue about how we are going to handle the issue of budgeting and how we are going to actually be able to get us back to balance.

There are a lot of simple, commonsense things that are out there that we can do, but we as a body have agreed that we are going to actually tackle the way we do budgeting. That is going to involve some focus and some time commitment and a risk to say: How it was done in the 1970s is not the way we should do it now. It didn't work. Let's change the system so we can actually get us back on track and bring some predictability again to what we are doing.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arkansas.

REMEMBERING JAY DICKEY

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I rise to address the urgent crisis taking place in Sudan, but, first, I wish to take just a moment to remember former Congressman Jay Dickey, who, as many in Washington and Arkansas now know, passed away last week.

Jay was a native of Pine Bluff and represented Southern Arkansas in the Fourth Congressional District for four terms between 1993 and 2001. Jay was known as a fierce advocate for Arkansas and worked hard to ensure that our State had a strong voice in Washington.

A successful business owner and attorney, Jay was a well-respected member of the Pine Bluff community. He served as Pine Bluff city attorney and had a brief tenure on the Arkansas Supreme Court. Jay was a friend to many and built a warm relationship with almost everyone he met—even those who disagreed with him politically. He also wore his faith on his sleeve as a proud born-again Christian.

I will always appreciate Jay's kindness to me when I first started serving in Congress and truly valued his friendship. He was a loving father, a dedicated public servant, and he will be missed by many.

My thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends as they mourn his loss, but I know they are also incredibly proud, as I have been, of the legacy Jay leaves behind, which will continue to have an impact on us all in the years ahead.

SOUTH SUDAN

Mr. President, the Trump administration has stated it will pursue a foreign policy focused on American interests that puts our national security first. I appreciate the President's commitment to a stronger and more respected America and stand ready to work with him to achieve that goal.

A stronger, more respected America does not mean we disengage with the international community. In fact, it means just the opposite. While there are many important issues we must address here at home, we cannot lose sight of the places around the globe that are in need of American engagement.

As we have seen with Syria and North Korea, it makes a difference when the United States acts, but not every international crisis gets front page headlines like Syria and North Korea do. One such crisis with little attention but in desperate need of U.S. leadership is South Sudan. Hunger emergencies are on the rise across Africa, but the situation in South Sudan is so grim that it has led the U.N. to use the word ''famine'' for the first time since 2011.

''Famine'' is not a word the U.N. or the international community throws around lightly. In order for the U.N. to officially declare a famine, a population must reach certain death rate, malnutrition, and food shortage thresholds. In blunt terms, a formal famine declaration means that many people have already started dying of hunger.

The famine in South Sudan is almost entirely manmade. The much heralded August 2015 peace agreement has failed to bring peace to South Sudan, which has been mired in a civil war almost entirely throughout the young nation's lifetime.

Thousands of civilians have been killed and millions more were displaced as a result of the civil war in South Sudan. Millions of those who are left in the country are facing a severe hunger crisis. Fighting between rival factions has left an estimated 4.9 million people—more than 40 percent of the country—in urgent need of food. That total is expected to rise to over 5.5 million people—5.5 million people—by summer if the international community doesn't act quickly. These innocent civilians are victims of competing groups that use hunger as a weapon of war while accumulating wealth by exploiting South Sudan's resources. Millions are suffering in South Sudan, but that is not due to shortage of food. It is because they are being denied food by a small few getting rich off the country's oil, gold, and livestock.

Meanwhile, humanitarian aid workers trying to reach the hungry are being kidnapped and held for ransom. Some have even been killed. Food shipments are being blocked, crops are being torched, farmers and herders are being forced from the land, and civilians so fear for their lives, they have been driven away from the violence in population centers to remote locations where aid workers can't reach them to provide the relief they need.

There is plenty of evidence to show that when people don't have enough to eat, they get desperate. Desperation fuels conflict. Conflict in a young country, in an unstable region, poses the risk of spillover into neighboring countries, further exacerbating human suffering. This is why U.S. leadership is needed.

By that, I don't mean throwing money or military personnel into a conflict zone. In fact, that would likely exacerbate the situation as the structural causes will remain once the money dries out and the troops head home.

The approach I am advocating is two-pronged. First and foremost, there absolutely is a need for the United States to take a lead in coordinating relief with NGOs and our international partners like the World Food Program—aid which has proven effective channels, the dedication and compassion of doers, not takers.

Along with helping those who desperately need humanitarian aid, the international community must also take action to end the unchecked corruption that fuels the conflict in South Sudan. This is the structural cause of the crisis. We have to address this problem at its root. If we want to have any chance at long-term stability in South Sudan, we must seriously consider options that would end the corruption which enriches those in power at the expense of the citizens.

I believe President Trump would support these efforts. The President understands how dire the situation in South Sudan is. The administration recently announced the continuation of the national emergency declaration for South Sudan, which was set to expire earlier this month.

Earlier this week, Ambassador Haley rightfully called out the warring parties in South Sudan and urged the U.N. Security Council to move forward with further sanctions and an arms embargo. The Ambassador's words urging the Council to take action to break the cycle of violence in South Sudan are extremely encouraging. They show the administration understands that the United States must remain engaged in corners of the world that need our leadership. It is my hope that Congress and the President can work together to exert that leadership and put an end to the corruption that is causing so much suffering in the country.

There is a role for soft power in a hard-powered administration. Human suffering is never in our national interest, no matter where it is happening. U.S. leadership, through diplomacy and smart foreign aid programs, help prevent situations which lead to serious threats to our national security.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. LANKFORD). The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

REPUBLICAN HEALTHCARE BILL

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, House Republicans have revived their efforts to repeal the Affordable Care Act.

As a reminder, the original effort to repeal the Affordable Care Act—characterized by some as the TrumpCare bill—was so unpopular that it had to be withdrawn from the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives. That is because, after the Congressional Budget Office took a look, it would have taken away health insurance from 24 million Americans.

Think about that for a moment. The Republican answer to ObamaCare—the Affordable Care Act—was to remove health insurance protection and coverage from 24 million Americans. It would have devastated the Medicaid Program. The Medicaid Program, of course, is one that is easily characterized as a health insurance program for those who are in low-income categories, but that statement doesn't tell the real story.

For example, in my State, half of the children who are born in Illinois are covered by Medicaid. Their mothers and the kids are covered by Medicaid. So when it comes to new babies, particularly in low-income families, Medicaid provides the prenatal care, delivery, and care after the child is born, but the most expensive part of the Medicaid Program is the help it gives to senior citizens—mothers and grandmothers who are in nursing homes who have only a little bit of savings, Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid cover their medical expenses. The Republican plan to repeal the Affordable Care Act would have decimated the Medicaid Program across the United States. It would have increased costs for the average person for health insurance by $3,000, and particularly for people in upper ages—I guess I fit in that category—these folks would have seen a change in the calculation of premiums.

The Affordable Care Act protects premiums so they cannot be more than three times the lowest premium for any individual. The Republican approach said: Let's make that five times. If it goes up to five times, it can mean almost doubling the premiums paid by many senior citizens—those approaching, I should say, being senior citizens, from 50 to age 65.

It also would have cut off funding for women's health centers, all while providing a massive tax cut for upper income, wealthy people and big businesses, including tax cuts for drug companies. What a deal—to eliminate health insurance for 24 million Americans, to devastate the Medicaid Program, to increase the cost of health insurance for the average individual, to cut off funding for women's health centers in order to give a tax cut to wealthy people and drug companies.

The new bill does all those things as well—and then something I didn't think was possible. The new version of the Affordable Care Act repeal Republicans are now considering in the House allows insurance companies to impose—get this—an age tax and charge seniors significantly higher premiums than younger people. It says that insurance plans do not have to cover hospital visits, prescription drugs, maternity care, substance abuse treatment, or mental health services.

The Affordable Care Act defined these as essential services so, if you are buying health insurance, you know you are buying that kind of protection. Well, Republicans have said: That is too much insurance for people. We ought to let them buy stripped-down versions of health insurance that may be cheaper. The obvious question, What happens to those people when they need coverage for substance abuse treatment? What if that son or daughter in high school begins an addiction to opioids, leading to heroin, and now your health insurance plan saved you money by not covering it or didn't cover mental health counseling?

It guts protections for people with preexisting conditions. Is there a person alive who doesn't know someone or have someone in their family with a preexisting condition? That used to be grounds for denying insurance coverage or charging outrageous premiums. We did away with it with the Affordable Care Act.

It is back, my friends, with the new Republican approach to the repeal of affordable care. It allows insurance companies to once again charge unaffordable premiums if someone in your family has a history of asthma, cancer, high blood pressure, or diabetes.

Republicans made these changes to win the votes of the most extreme conservative Members of the U.S. House, the so-called Freedom Caucus. What they are fighting for is for freedom from individuals getting protection when it comes to healthcare. These changes may appeal to a handful of extreme people who conveniently see their health insurance policies—their personal policies—protected under their bill, but these sorts of approaches don't appeal to anyone in the medical community.

Who opposes the new Republican repeal of the Affordable Care Act? The American Medical Association—that would be the doctors—the American Heart Association, the American Nurses Association, the American Association of Retired Persons, as well as every major medical and patient group out there. Every one of them opposes the changes proposed by the Republicans in the House to our healthcare system.

Of course, we have a bottom line that we measure proposals against. We go to the Congressional Budget Office, and we say to them: What impact will this have?

No one has sent this bill to the Congressional Budget Office, and no report has been given. So we don't know the impact on premiums of this new version. What is going to happen to seniors, to middle-income families?

Ramming through a bad bill that will harm Americans just because the President wants to have something to say on the 100th day of his Presidency is a bad idea. It is time to stop this madness. It is time for Democrats and Republicans to sit down and talk seriously about improving our current system.

The Presiding Officer is from the State of Louisiana and is a medical doctor. He has joined on the Republican side with Senator COLLINS of Maine to open this conversation. Thank you. We should have this bipartisan conversation—not about repeal but repair, what we can do to make this better and fairer and more affordable while preserving quality healthcare for Americans. Thank you for your leadership in this. We have talked about it, and I want to continue the conversation.

This notion coming over from the House is unacceptable. I hope that many people will tell the President and tell those who support it that this is no way to celebrate 100 days—by taking health insurance away from 24 million people.

FOR-PROFIT COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

Mr. President, during the Senate's consideration of Betsy DeVos to be

Secretary of Education, I asked a basic question: As Secretary of Education, would she side with corporate and other for-profit interests or would she be on the side of the students and their families?

I was concerned that the record of Secretary DeVos indicated that she was on the side of corporate interests, looking for opportunities to profit off of students and often exploiting them in the process.

Months into the job, now that she was approved by a historic tiebreaking vote by the Vice President, we are beginning to see which side the Secretary is on. A recent Chicago Tribune article entitled ''Targeted by Obama, DeVry and other for-profit colleges rebounding under Trump'' put it this way:

Less than 100 days into Trump's presidency, the Department of Education under Secretary Betsy DeVos has delayed implementation of gainful employment rules . . . withdrawn key federal student loan servicing reforms . . . and signaled a less onerous regulatory environment for the essentially taxpayer-financed career education [or for-profit] sector.

A group of State attorneys general, including Lisa Madigan of Illinois, warned of a return to ''open season'' on students in a letter to Secretary DeVos if she rolled back all of these protections.

I ask unanimous consent that the full text of that letter from the State attorneys general be printed in the RECORD.

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

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL,
February 22, 2017.

Re How For-profit Schools Have Harmed Student Borrowers: the Need for the Gainful Employment Rule, Vigorous Federal Oversight of Accreditors, and the Borrower Defense to Repayment Rule

Hon. ELISABETH DEVOS,
Secretary, U.S. Department of Education, Washington, DC.
Speaker PAUL RYAN,
Speaker of the House, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.
Hon. MITCH MCCONNELL,
Senate Majority Leader, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.
Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
House Minority Leader, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.
Hon. CHARLES E. SCHUMER,
Senate Minority Leader, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR SECRETARY DEVOS, SPEAKER RYAN, SENATOR MCCONNELL, CONGRESSWOMAN PELOSI, SENATOR SCHUMER: We, the undersigned Attorneys General of Illinois, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Iowa, Kentucky, Maryland, Maine, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Washington and the District of Columbia, as well as the Executive Director of the Office of Consumer Protection of Hawaii, write to express our support for recent federal protections for students and taxpayers in higher education. We are deeply concerned that rollbacks of these protections would again signal ''open season'' on students for the worst actors among for-profit post-secondary schools. As the chief consumer law enforcement agencies in our states, our offices handle thousands of complaints concerning higher education every year. We also enforce laws to protect consumers from unfair and deceptive practices perpetrated by higher education providers.

I. BACKGROUND: THE NEED FOR RULES TO PROTECT STUDENTS AND TAXPAYERS FROM UNFAIR AND DECEPTIVE PRACTICES BY FOR-PROFIT HIGHER EDUCATION PROVIDERS

Over the last ten years, student loan debt has soared from $450 billion to nearly $1.4 trillion. A major driver of this increase has been for-profit colleges. Of the top 25 schools where students hold the most student loan debt, over half were for-profit schools in 2014. This is up from only one for-profit institution in the top 25 in 2000.

In addition to driving the increase in student loan borrowing, for-profit institutions also have significantly more loan defaults than other types of institutions. Since 2013, for-profit institutions accounted for 35% of all federal student loan defaults, but enrolled just 27% of all borrowers. Many for-profit schools are almost entirely dependent on federal grants and loans. In December 2016, the U.S. Department of Education (''ED'') found that nearly 200 for-profit schools derive more than 90% of their income from federal sources. The only reason that many of these institutions are in compliance with the federal 90/10 Rule is that certain categories of federal money, including GI Bill money, are excluded from the rule and thus count toward the 10% that is supposed to be non-federal money.

Over the past fifteen years, millions of students have been defrauded by unscrupulous for-profit post-secondary schools. With accreditors asleep at the wheel, State Attorneys General Offices have stepped in to stop some of the worst abuses. The list of State Attorney General investigations and enforcement actions against for-profit colleges is long, including actions against: American Career Institute; Ashford University/Bridgepoint Education, Inc.; Corinthian Colleges, Inc.; Career Education Corporation; Education Management Corporation; Daymar College; DeVry University; ITT Tech; National College of Kentucky; and Westwood Colleges, among others. These schools, and others like them, engaged in a variety of deceptive and abusive practices. Some promised prospective students jobs, careers, and further opportunities in education that the schools could not provide. Many schools inflated job placement numbers and/or promised career services resources that did not exist. Many nationally-accredited schools promised that their credits would transfer, even though credits from nationally-accredited schools often do not transfer to more rigorous regionally-accredited schools. Many students were placed in loans that the schools knew from experience their graduates could not pay back. The schools were overseen by accreditors who failed to take action to protect students or the taxpayers who funded their federal student loans, despite ample evidence of these and other problems. In short, the entire for-profit education system was failing students and taxpayers. As investigations and prosecutions initiated by our offices shed light on these problems, ED began to take steps to remedy these harms, issuing new regulations and reformulating policies to help protect students and taxpayers.

Three of these recent steps—the Gainful Employment Rule, the policy of vigorous federal oversight of accreditors, and the Borrower Defense to Repayment Rule—are essential to protect both consumers and taxpayers from fraudulent actors in the for-profit education sector. The Gainful Employment Rule is a measure of graduates' debt-to-income and is designed to ensure that programs produce graduates that are able to pay back their student loans. Prospectively, the federal government recognizes accreditors who have standards sufficient to show that the schools they accredit provide a quality education and should have access to federal student loans and grants. Finally, where other protections fail and students are defrauded by bad actors, the Borrower Defense to Repayment Rule provides a formal process for students to assert a defense to repayment of their federal student loans.

II. CORINTHIAN COLLEGES: AN EXAMPLE OF THE HARM FACED BY STUDENTS AND TAXPAYERS

The egregious conduct of Corinthian Colleges illustrates how each of these three policies is necessary to avoid harm to both students and taxpayers. In March 2016, after an extensive review of published job placement rates at Corinthian campuses nationwide, the Department of Education found that the job placement rates were fraudulent for hundreds of cohorts from 2010–2014. Corinthian was telling the world that far more of its students obtained jobs than actually did, inducing students to enroll. Many of these students were left without jobs in their field of study. Without these jobs, many are saddled with debt they cannot repay, defaulting on loans funded with taxpayer dollars.

Had the gainful employment regulations been in place, Corinthian's programs that weren't producing jobs for students would have been shut down because the median debt-to-income ratio would have shown that students were not making enough money to pay down their loans. Had Corinthian's accreditors reviewed the school's self-reported job placement data on a regular basis, the fraud would have been discovered and stopped much earlier, saving students and taxpayers billions of dollars.

The absence of policies in place to protect prospective students from Corinthian's fraudulent practices also demonstrates the need for an effective process for students to assert a defense to loan repayment. This defense was established in the 1990s when Congress passed legislation allowing students to assert claims against their schools as a defense to repayment of their federal student loans. There was little detail, however, on the process for asserting such claims. The regulations set to take effect on July 1, 2017 give borrower defense to repayment set processes so that students, schools, and taxpayers have an orderly process, and a degree of certainty, moving forward.

Without the Gainful Employment Rule, meaningful oversight of accreditors, and an orderly borrower defense process, we face the prospect of for-profit schools continuing to line their pockets with taxpayer dollars while students and taxpayers experience another crushing wave of defaulted student loan debt.

III. THE GAINFUL EMPLOYMENT RULE

ED's gainful employment regulations are designed to further a simple idea—that students who attend career training programs should be able to repay their federal student loans once they graduate. The Rule allows prospective students to compare debt-to-income ratios across schools. By doing this, the Rule creates an incentive for schools to make good on their promises to students,

and protects students from programs that will leave them saddled with debt and without job prospects in the careers for which they trained.

The Rule generally applies to vocational programs at for-profit institutions and to non-degree programs at community colleges. If graduates' annual loan payments exceed 30% of discretionary income and 12% of total earnings in two out of three consecutive years, the program loses access to Title IV federal student loans and grants. A program can also lose access if graduates' annual loan payments exceed 20% of discretionary income and 8% of total earnings for four consecutive years.

Data released on January 9, 2017 indicate that over 800 programs fail the Department's Gainful Employment metrics. For-profit institutions are responsible for 98% of the failing programs. But these 800 programs are only a portion of the for-profit school programs that have failed their students. With the Gainful Employment Rule pending, for-profit institutions have already eliminated hundreds of programs where students did not make enough money to cover their debt obligations, sometimes closing entire institutions that would have failed to provide students with gainful employment under the regulations.

It is essential that the Gainful Employment Rule be kept in place. Removing the Rule would open students and taxpayers up to the worst excesses of the for-profit higher education sector. It would greatly increase the regulatory and enforcement burden on states and accreditors by removing a central protection from the federal leg of the triad that oversees higher education in the United States.

IV. VIGOROUS OVERSIGHT OF ACCREDITORS BY ED

The federal government and states need strong partners with specialized knowledge of higher education to provide prospective quality assurance of schools in order to protect students and taxpayers. Accreditors are the organizations tasked with this role. Our experience, however, has shown that without substantive oversight by the federal government, some accreditors are negligent in their role.

The primary example of this dereliction of duty to students and taxpayers is the Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools (ACICS). As noted in our April 8, 2016 comment to the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity (NACIQI) opposing ACICS's application for renewal of recognition, a recent study found that only 35% of students enrolled in ACICS accredited programs graduate, the lowest rate for any accreditor.

NACIQI, a bipartisan panel, voted to revoke ACICS's recognition in June 2016. The Senior Department Official at ED agreed with NACIQI and revoked ACICS's recognition as an accreditor in September, 2016. ACICS appealed the decision to the Secretary of Education, and in December 2016, the Secretary denied ACICS's appeal.

An accreditor's failure to verify program quality at its accredited institutions jeopardizes the effectiveness of state enforcement efforts and regulations, exposing each state's students to subpar educational programs that provide little value, but for which each student may borrow tens of thousands of dollars in student loans, that are nearly impossible to discharge in bankruptcy.

A prime example of the harm that stems from lax accreditation was brought to light by state action against Westwood College. The Illinois Attorney General's Office sued Westwood College for systematically misrepresenting the ability of its criminal justice graduates to pursue careers in law enforcement. Thousands of Westwood students in Illinois borrowed up to $75,000 each for careers they were unable to pursue because many police departments in Illinois, including the Chicago Police Department and the Illinois State Police, did not accept credits from nationally-accredited schools. Graduates of Westwood's criminal justice program have a median salary below the median salary of a 25-year old with a high school diploma, in part because they were locked out of the career they had been promised. This combination of high debt and limited job prospects is a crushing blow not only to students, but to taxpayers who bear the burden of defaults on these loans. Despite the Illinois Attorney General's January 2012 suit against Westwood, ACICS accredited Westwood up to the day it closed its doors in March 2016.

Similarly, on September 8, 2016, a Hennepin County Court found that the Minnesota School of Business and Globe University systematically misrepresented their criminal-justice program as allowing students to pursue careers as Minnesota police officers or probation or parole officers. The Minnesota School of Business and Globe University were accredited by ACICS throughout the time period of the fraud determined by the Court, and their Chief Operating Officer during that time was in fact the Chair of ACICS's board of directors. Terminating ACICS's recognition is a responsible action that will protect students and taxpayers for years to come.

V. THE BORROWER DEFENSE TO REPAYMENT RULE

In order to fairly and efficiently redress the harms suffered by for-profit college students, the borrower defense to repayment rule promulgated by ED must be allowed to take effect on July 1, 2017. As we noted in our August 1, 2016 comment to the proposed rule, students need a fair and transparent process to apply for borrower defense to repayment, and that process is missing from the existing regulation. The regulation finalized by ED also contains significant protections for taxpayers, including the requirement that schools cannot use arbitration agreements to bar students from bringing borrower defense claims directly against the school in court.

It is important to note that these regulations do not create a new defense to repayment. Congress established the borrower defense to repayment in the 1990s. Furthermore, over the last two years, ED has created substantial documentation of what constitutes a valid borrower defense claim under the existing regulation. Not only will the defense continue to be available, but it is likely that claims will continue to be asserted, particularly if regulations surrounding for-profit institutions, such as gainful employment, are loosened, allowing the bad practices of the past to return. Because the defense will continue to exist, a formal, transparent process to assert the defense, as reflected in the new repayment rule, is essential.

A basic sense of justice requires that the borrower defense to repayment rules be allowed to take effect. Millions of students paid tens of thousands of dollars each in federal student loan money to for-profit schools and received worthless degrees in return. Federal student loan debt is non-dischargeable in bankruptcy. These students cannot be left without a clear recourse. The new borrower defense to repayment regulations provide that recourse and should be allowed to take effect.

Our extensive experience in the higher education field, and our participation in the process of developing these recent policies and regulations, gives us unique insight into the abusive and deceptive practices of for-profit schools over the last ten years. We cannot overemphasize the harm to students and taxpayers that a rollback of federal protections would cause. Our offices hear from former for-profit students on a daily basis; sadly, many are hopeless. They have little hope of paying off their student loans without the career prospects promised by their schools. They have little hope of continuing their educations without the ability to transfer their credits from the many nationally-accredited for-profits to more rigorous regionally-accredited schools. Allowing for-profit schools unfettered access to federal student loan money without reasonable oversight and accountability is a mistake that American students and taxpayers should not be made to pay for again.

Sincerely,

Lisa Madigan, Illinois Attorney General; Matthew Denn, Delaware Attorney General; Tom Miller, Iowa Attorney General; Brian E. Frosh, Maryland Attorney General; Maura Healy, Massachusetts Attorney General; Hector Balderas, New Mexico Attorney General; George Jepsen, Connecticut Attorney General; Douglas S. Chin, Hawaii Attorney General; Andy Beshear, Kentucky Attorney General; Janet T. Mills, Maine Attorney General.

Lori Swanson, Minnesota Attorney General; Eric Schneiderman, New York Attorney General; Josh Stein, North Carolina Attorney General; Josh Shapiro, Pennsylvania Attorney General; TJ Donovan, Vermont Attorney General; Karl A. Racine, District of Columbia Attorney General; Ellen F. Rosenblum, Oregon Attorney General; Peter Kilmartin, Rhode Island Attorney General; Bob Ferguson, Washington State Attorney General; Stephen H. Levins, Executive Director, Hawaii Office of Consumer Protection.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, we know what open season means when it comes to these students. Gilbert Caro of Chicago can tell us. He was profiled in the Chicago Tribune article that I mentioned. Gilbert received his master of business administration degree from DeVry University. It is possibly the second largest for-profit college in the United States.

He took on nearly $100,000 in debt for his master of business administration degree. He believed that debt was worth it because it was going to unlock the door to a high-paying job and financial security.

Do you have any idea what Gilbert Caro is doing now with his DeVry master of business administration degree? He is a prison guard in Joliet, IL.

While Gilbert has a good job, he certainly didn't need $100,000 in debt to be a prison guard. It is far from what he was promised by DeVry when he signed up. Gilbert, like so many other students who go to for-profit colleges, was lured in by an amazing marketing campaign, flashy advertisements and empty promises.

In 2016, DeVry University, a for-profit school, agreed to a $100 million settlement with the Federal Trade Commission for misleading ''prospective students with ads that touted high employment success rates and income levels upon graduation.''

DeVry is not alone. For-profit college giants like Corinthian and ITT Tech collapsed after they were caught engaging in similar deceptive, disgusting practices. The predatory practices of these and other for-profit colleges have left tens of thousands of students across the country, just like Gilbert Caro, with worthless degrees and a mountain of debt.

In fact, during the early part of this century, when for-profit colleges acted with near impunity, just the students from the for-profit colleges and universities accounted for 47 percent of all student loan defaults. Ten percent of the students coming out of high school went to for-profit colleges, and 47 percent of the student loan defaults were those same students—10 and 47. Why? Because they were overcharged for worthless degrees. That is why.

The University of Phoenix students held almost $35 billion in cumulative debt. When I look at their flashy advertising and the commercials about how life is going to be perfect if you sign up at the University of Phoenix, it is hard for me to imagine how many of those students are burdened with debt they will never be able to repay.

We also know what open season means for the for-profit college industry and its executives and investors. Between 1998 and 2008, enrollment at for-profit colleges exploded by 225 percent—a lot of advertising, a lot of marketing, a lot of recruiting. With it came exploding profits for these schools.

By 2009, the seven largest publicly traded for-profit college companies were worth a combined $51 billion—2009, $51 billion.

In 2010, the University of Phoenix alone enrolled nearly half a million students, more than the combined enrollment of all the Big Ten universities.

When former Senate HELP Committee Chairman Tom Harkin released his seminal report on the industry in 2012, for-profit colleges had grown to take in an incredible $32 billion a year in Federal taxpayer dollars, 25 percent of all Federal aid in education, despite enrolling only 10 percent of the students that went to college after high school.

For-profit colleges and universities are the most heavily subsidized private businesses in America that exist. No one rivals them. No other industry is even close, and 80, 85, 90, 95 percent of the revenue of these so-called private, for-profit universities ends up coming out of the Federal Treasury.

John Murphy, the cofounder of the University of Phoenix, talks about those days by saying that what started off as a serious venture to educate students soon became too focused on ''chasing stock prices.''

To pump up those stock prices, companies needed students and they needed Federal student aid dollars. They proved that they would do and promise nearly anything to get ''the juice,'' as Mr. MURPHY, the cofounder of the University of Phoenix, called it.

Boy, is this industry itching for the Trump administration to return to those bad old days. The Chicago Tribune reports that since the November 8 election, the stock prices of DeVry University, a for-profit college, have increased 52 percent.

In a recent New York Times article by Patricia Cohen entitled ''For-Profit Schools, an Obama Target, See New Day Under Trump,'' the paid spokesman for the for-profit college industry, former Congressman Steve Gunderson, said he ''has repeatedly spoken with members of Trump's transition team . . . White House domestic policy advisers . . . and congressional Republicans.''

He is truly an insider. Mr. Gunderson promised: ''We're going to get some regulatory relief.''

Sadly, it looks like he is right. Take for example the delay of the gainful employment regulation. The Obama administration spent years writing and rewriting regulations to ensure that career training programs meet the statutory requirement to prepare students for ''gainful employment.''

Is that a radical idea—that if the Federal Government is going to provide grants and loans for a student to go to a school, the school should provide education and training that would lead to ''gainful employment''?

My colleague from Oklahoma was on the floor a little while ago talking about overregulation, too many rules, and the impacts on small business. I would say that I am prepared to stand up and defend what the Obama administration did in saying that if you were going to lure a young man like Gilbert Caro into a school and put him $100,000 in debt for a master's of business administration, he ought to at least end up with a job that is consistent with his education.

Today, Mr. Caro is a prison guard with $100,000 of debt and a business administration degree of no value to him.

The gainful employment rule cuts off title IV funding for programs where graduates' ratio of student debt to earnings is too high. Literally, the students are too deeply in debt.

Prior to leaving office, the Obama Department of Education released the first set of gainful employment data. It showed that the graduates of public undergraduate certificate programs, like community colleges, earn $9,000 more than their for-profit counterparts on average.

Think about that. You go to the virtually free community college, get a certificate, and you are going to earn $9,000 more than if you get deeply in debt at one of the for-profit schools seeking the same degree. Of the programs that saddle students with too much debt compared to the income its students receive after their program, 98 percent of the violators were for-profit colleges.

This is not just a chance occurrence. It is a pattern. The rule is meant to protect students from taking on debt to attend programs that don't lead to a good-paying job. The rule is also meant to prevent billions in taxpayers' dollars on worthless programs.

Many for-profit colleges receive more than 90 percent of the revenue straight from Federal taxpayers. My Republican colleagues are committed to the free market system. So am I. I am committed to capitalism. I believe in it. Though, I think there is need for us to have regulation when it gets out of hand. That is why we have an antitrust division, for example.

In this circumstance, to argue that these are just private companies that are doing what ordinary people do when they start a business is to ignore the obvious. These for-profit colleges could not exist if they weren't receiving 80, 85, 90, and 95 percent of their revenue directly from the Federal Treasury.

In recent testimony before a House subcommittee, the Department of Education inspector general agreed that the gainful employment regulation ''is a good rule in terms of protecting [students] and protecting taxpayers.''

I sent a letter—along with Senators PATTY MURRAY, ELIZABETH WARREN, and nine other colleagues—expressing our concerns to Secretary DeVos about her delaying this rule. In our letter, we made clear that these delays undermine the rule and are going to be a danger to students and taxpayers.

It is also a betrayal of students not to ensure that they are treated fairly after they have been taken advantage of by for-profit schools.

Today, POLITICO reported that the Trump administration has dramatically slowed, if not stopped, processing applications from tens of thousands of students seeking to have their Federal student loans discharged after they have been defrauded by for-profit colleges.

Think about that. A student is about to sign up for a for-profit school. Maybe he doesn't know much about higher education. His parents say: Listen, if you can get a Pell grant and a Federal student loan, this must be a really good school.

He is defrauded into signing up for a school that is too expensive and offers a worthless degree, and then they turn around and that school goes bankrupt. Now the student has the debt, no degree, and we are left holding the bag.

What has happened in previous cases is the Federal Government stepped in and discharged the students from the debt if they were defrauded into signing up for the college.

Secretary Betsy DeVos has decided to slow that down—to slow down the discharge of these students' debt. Students who were misled or defrauded by their schools are eligible for discharge of their Federal student loans under the Higher Education Act—the law as it now exists. Yet during her confirmation process, Secretary DeVos would not commit to providing this relief to students—relief already specified in law—and has now effectively stopped processing the claims.

On the day before President Trump took office, more than 3,200 Illinois students applied to the Department of Education for relief. While the Department fails to process these claims, these students are left in the lurch. It adds insult to injury that students taken advantage of by for-profit colleges, nominally supervised and regulated by the Federal Government, are now being ignored by the Federal Government's Department of Education. That is unacceptable. It is unfair, and the Trump administration should change it.

We've started to see the true colors of the administration and Secretary DeVos when it comes to these students who have been victimized. As feared, the Department has thus far put for-profit and other commercial interests ahead of students and taxpayers.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BLUNT). The Senator from Mississippi.

T–45 GOSHAWK FLEET

Mr. WICKER. Mr. President, I come to the floor to speak about a troubling issue for our Navy, our national defense, and a problem that should be of concern to Members of this body. Our Navy pilot training installations, including Naval Air Station Meridian in my home State of Mississippi, produce some of the finest pilots on the planet. They trained on the T–45 Goshawk.

On Friday, March 31, a significant number of T–45 instructor pilots at NAS Meridian, NAS Kingsville in Texas, and NAS Pensacola in Florida decided not to fly because of safety concerns. As you can imagine, this was an almost unprecedented act and brought considerable attention to a problem plaguing the Navy's tactical fighter community: a dramatic and sustained increase in so-called physiological episodes, or PE events, across the FA–18 Hornet, the EA–18 Growler, and the training jet T–45 Goshawk fleets.

Physiological episodes occur when air crew experience diminished inflight performance related to loss or contamination of oxygen, depressurization in the cockpit, or other factors. There are some technical terms I am going to mention to my colleagues. Hypoxic hypoxia occurs when pilots are getting insufficient oxygen. A more serious phenomenon called histotoxic hypoxia occurs when they are breathing contaminated oxygen, and of course depressurization occurs when the cabin pressure drops.

I have been assured that solving this physiological episode problem is now naval aviation's No. 1 one safety priority. As chairman of the Armed Services Committee's Seapower Subcommittee, I intend to continue the committee's oversight on this issue and, if necessary, include provisions in the upcoming Defense authorization bill to help. I applaud the work of our full committee chairman, Senator MCCAIN, on his efforts so far. In fact, Senator MCCAIN knows NAS Meridian very well, having served there as an instructor pilot. The airfield named ''McCain Field'' is in honor of Senator MCCAIN's grandfather, ADM John McCain.

The Navy has told Congress and the American people repeatedly that its effort to mitigate and solve the problems of these PE events, including histotoxic hypoxia, are ''resource unconstrained.'' In other words, the Navy has told us that money is no object in solving this problem, time is no object, and personnel is no object. As chairman of the Seapower Subcommittee, I intend to put that claim to test.

I would like to update my colleagues on the situation—my factfinding trip to Meridian, the state of play, and the plan going forward.

Beginning around 2010, a significant increase in reported PE events occurred, which led to the establishment of a Physiological Episode Team to identify root causes, develop mitigation efforts and solutions. This team mainly addressed the less serious problem of hypoxic hypoxia, but in recent months, there has been an alarming uptick in histotoxic hypoxia, a relatively new phenomenon involving contaminated oxygen in the cockpit. This has presented new challenges. The Navy has not identified a root cause for either type of hypoxia but has taken steps to mitigate effects through new maintenance rules, equipment changes and redesigns, and by adding data collection tools. However, there is currently not adequate mitigation for the more serious type of hypoxia, which has led to this halt in training.

As a search for the root causes continues, data collection is worth stressing. These aircraft do not have automatic sensors. In effect, the pilot is the sensor. Maximizing data collection on every training flight is critical. The collection of more data can help in the analytical effort, which will get us closer to finding the root cause. After the instructor pilots' boycott—which I stress they had every right to do—the Navy issued a safety standdown and stopped all training flights for a period of days. This tactical pause allowed the Navy to send senior leadership to visit the training installations and hear directly from the instructor pilots and students. I respect the considered decisions of both of these groups, the instructor pilots who continued to fly and the ones who engaged in the boycott.

After meeting with Pentagon experts on this matter, I then made a factfinding trip to NAS Meridian on April 8. I met with VADM Mike Shoemaker, the commander of Naval Air Forces. Admiral Shoemaker is the air boss who commands operational naval aviation forces. I also met with RADM Dell Bull, who is the chief of Naval Air Training, and I met with NAS Meridian's excellent installation leadership. Perhaps most important, I convened two focus groups: one group of instructor pilots who chose to fly and another group who chose not to fly. Both groups agree that a serious communication problem existed. The meetings with pilots demonstrated that some in the Navy hierarchy did not fully appreciate that this histotoxic hypoxia, contaminated oxygen, was a new and different phenomenon. In addition, the efforts of the Navy leadership were not being communicated effectively to the instructors and the students. In other words, the message was not getting down to the flight line, and the people on the flight line did not feel the message was getting back up to the hierarchy. Many felt their concerns were being ignored. The lack of action on the relatively new emergence of histotoxic hypoxia in the Goshawk only exacerbated the feeling among some that the Navy's actions were not matching its rhetoric.

Following my visit on April 8, the Navy took the important step of establishing a Physiological Episode Team for the T–45 alone. This is an important action which should bring more focused attention to the Goshawk community. The Navy ended the safety standdown on April 14 and resumed flying the next week under restricted conditions, such as flying at lower maximum altitudes and pulling fewer Gs. Of course, this is not the optimal way of training.

Then, following a subsequent PE incident in Kingsville and feedback from instructor pilots on the mitigation plan, the Navy has chosen to restrict training flights even further. This is a problem. The Navy tells us the current practice would allow a student to complete only about 20 to 25 percent of the curriculum. That is the status today. The Navy is already short on pilots, and continuing the status quo could further constrict the pilot production pipeline.

Where do we go from here? The Navy has brought three T–45s that have experienced physiological episodes to Naval Air Station Patuxent River, MD,

for extensive engineering investigation and analysis. They are taking the airplanes apart at Pax River. I applaud this action. Initial results of the testing should be available next week with more information to follow as the data is processed. At the same time, engineers have teamed up with pilots from both the test community and the training command, including at least one Meridian instructor pilot. They are investigating possible mitigations, such as alterations to pilot masks. This will allow our instructors and student pilots to get back to what they want to do most; that is, to fly and train new pilots to fly.

In addition, on April 21, Vice Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral Moran, directed Admiral Scott Swift, commander of the U.S. Pacific Fleet, to lead a month-long review of the facts, circumstances, and processes surrounding the recent episodes and how the Navy has addressed them. The Swift review will evaluate the Navy's organizational structures and processes and make recommendations for additional action.

These efforts are desperately needed. Still, we have no real diagnosis. Still, we have no real solution in the works. Senators should know this: As of 3 weeks ago, problems with histotoxic hypoxia at our naval training bases have earned the full attention of the top leadership in the Navy. These problems also have the full attention and oversight of the Senate Armed Services Committee and the Seapower Subcommittee.

I look forward to continued interaction with the Navy leadership on this very important issue.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

ANTIQUITIES ACT

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I rise to commemorate an important day for Utah and the western way of life. Just yesterday, the President signed an Executive order calling for review of monument designations across the United States, with a specific focus on two national monuments that have caused significant damage in my home State of Utah: Bears Ears and the Grand Staircase-Escalante.

Yesterday's Executive action is the culmination of countless hours of hard work and close coordination with the White House. When I first spoke with President Trump in the Oval Office during his first week on the job, I asked for his help in addressing the Bears Ears debacle. From day one, our President has been committed to helping us fix this disaster and ensuring that our smallest counties get a fair shake.

Throughout my Senate service, I have fought to give voice to the needs of our rural communities in the debate over public lands. Too often, past Presidents have ignored the concerns of Utah's families in declaring massive monuments that threaten the western way of life. Too often, Presidents have abused the authority under the Antiquities Act to satisfy the demands of an extreme environmental agenda but no more.

Following yesterday's Executive order, I look forward to working with the Trump administration to address past abuses and restore the original meaning of the Antiquities Act. The Executive order directs Secretary of Interior Ryan Zinke to review dozens of national monuments. This is a welcomed opportunity to set a new precedent for the responsible use of the Antiquities Act—a precedent that will take into account the needs of locals and foster greater trust between the States and the Federal Government as we work toward a shared goal of preserving our cultural antiquities.

For decades, I have sought to rein in Executive abuse under the Antiquities Act. That is why I traveled to Bears Ears just last week to hear firsthand from the local residents and Tribal members who have been hurt most by this monument designation. That is why, in the opening days of his Presidency, I met personally with President Trump in the Oval Office to discuss the public lands issue at length. I made clear to the President that Utahns have had enough of monument designations that come down unilaterally with zero support from locals, State officials, or Congress. Many of my own constituents have had their lives upended by this abuse of Executive power.

For too long, Utahns—many of whom depend on public lands for their very livelihood—have been at the mercy of out-of-touch bureaucrats who have little knowledge or personal connection to the land. President Obama only made their situation worse when he spurned the men and women of San Juan County by declaring the Bears Ears National Monument last December. In doing so, he defied the will of the State legislature, the Governor, and the entire Utah congressional delegation. President Obama's last-minute monument designation imposed even greater land use restrictions on a region that is already predominately controlled by the Federal Government.

As I have said before, in opposing the Bears Ears National Monument designation, I am in no way opposing the protection of lands that need to be protected. Indeed, there are many cultural sites in Utah that warrant preservation, and I am committed to working with the President and with Congress to protect those sacred places for future generations. But as I have also said previously, I believe that it is both unlawful and undemocratic for any President to seize millions upon millions of acres of land through the Antiquities Act—a law that was geared to give the President only narrow authority to designate special landmarks, such as a unique national arch or the site of old cliff dwellings.

We desperately need a new process for creating national monuments. Congress and impacted local communities, not the President alone, should have a say in decisions that restrict access to millions of acres of federally owned land. In making such decisions, the voice of the people is paramount.

Let me be clear: Abusing the Antiquities Act at the expense of local communities is not a sustainable public lands strategy. This strategy is counterintuitive because it puts Antiquities Act authority at great risk. The Antiquities Act was designed to provide specific protections for objects of antiquity, but out West, particularly in Utah, the law has become synonymous with land grabs and Federal overreach.

Restoring the legitimacy of Antiquities Act authority in the eyes of westerners requires a more measured approach to monument designations, an approach that takes into account the needs of locals and restores trust between States and the Federal Government.

To be clear, I have no objection when Presidents use the Antiquities Act according to its original purpose, which was to protect cultural antiquities by designating the minimum acreage necessary. Take, for example, the great State of Washington, which is home to several national monuments that were created in line with the law's original intent. The State's beautiful San Juan Islands cover only 970 acres, while the Hanford Reach encompasses 195,000 acres. At first glance, this amount of acreage may seem large, but compared to Utah's two most prominent national monuments, it is a tiny speck on the map. In fact, the total acreage of the San Juan Islands and Hanford Reach combined is only 6 percent of the size of Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monuments.

In the State of Washington, Presidents have used the Antiquities Act within reason. Unfortunately, the same cannot be said for my home State of Utah, where Presidents have repeatedly abused their authority under the law to declare eight national monuments that together span more than 3.3 million acres. In Utah, national monuments cover roughly 10 percent of all Federal land in a State where 67 percent of the land is already owned and dominated by the Federal Government. By contrast, only 28 percent of the land in the State of Washington is owned by the Federal Government. Of that Federal land, only 1.6 percent is locked away as a national monument. It is no wonder, then, that Utahns feel more threatened by the Antiquities Act than Washingtonians. This is a law that past

Presidents have brandished as a weapon to cut up entire sections of our State.

This is far from the first time I have taken to the floor to speak out against Antiquities Act abuse. It certainly won't be the last. But I am encouraged by yesterday's Executive order with President Trump and Secretary Zinke on our side. I believe we can plot a path forward to correct past abuses and forge a new precedent for future monument designations.

The President's Executive action signifies a critical milestone in the effort to include local voices in the management of our public lands. As the Trump administration reviews various national monuments, we must replace the top-down approach of past administrations with a grassroots strategy that engages local leaders, State officials, and Members of Congress in the decision-making process. Bringing all stakeholders to the table is essential to establish a new precedent that will undo the decades of abuse we have endured under, I think, false interpretations of the Antiquities Act.

I am eager to continue working with the President and the Secretary of the Interior to preserve our Nation's cultural treasures in a way that honors the original meaning of the Antiquities Act. I am likewise eager to involve locals in that process. With all parties working together, I firmly believe we can restore a relationship of trust between the States and the Federal Government in the management of public lands.

I am grateful for a President who is willing to work with us to reset the status quo. Better than any of his predecessors, President Trump understands the lasting damage wrought by past Presidents under the Antiquities Act. Indeed, in all my years of public service, I have never seen a President so committed to reining in the Federal Government and so eager to address the problems caused by these overreaching monument designations.

I wish to thank President Trump and Secretary Zinke for taking concrete steps to rein in abuse through yesterday's Executive order.

I also wish to thank the President's Chief of Staff, Reince Priebus, who helped make yesterday's victory possible. Reince has done exceptionally well in one of the toughest jobs in all of Washington. The President is lucky to have Reince in the White House. I am lucky to call him a friend.

I also wish to thank my former chief of staff, Ron Porter, who is now a special assistant to the President and the Staff Secretary at the White House. Rob is an invaluable asset to the President's team and ours as well. Without him, yesterday's Executive order would never have come to fruition, at least in my opinion. Rob was among the finest men ever to serve as my chief of staff. I have enjoyed watching him succeed at the White House.

Yesterday we took a meaningful first step to fix past abuses under the Antiquities Act. Yet there is still much work to be done, and I look forward to working with the White House every step of the way.

With that, I am grateful for all those who have participated in helping us to right the wrongs that have been going on for far too long, as some of the Presidents have played pure politics with public lands at the expense of the States involved, especially my State. It is easy to pick on a State that is 67 percent owned by the Federal Government and up to well over 70 percent owned by the Federal and State governments. It is easy to pick on these States—a small State indeed. But our State is resilient. We have some of the better people in Congress, and we also have the ability to be able to raise all kinds of hell here.

All I can say is that I just want my State treated fairly. I want to make sure the bureaucrats here in Washington don't walk all over the West because they think they can because of the wide expanses of territory and the many, many other aspects of the Western States that make them vulnerable to this type of inappropriate activity.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

VA ACCOUNTABILITY

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, one goal we share in this body, which is a very bipartisan goal, is keeping faith with our veterans, making sure no veteran is left behind.

I had the great honor to work as ranking member with Senator ISAKSON, the chairman of the Veterans' Affairs Committee, on a bill called the Veterans First Act that unfortunately failed to cross the finish line during the last session. One of the major goals of that bill was to ensure accountability at the Department of Veterans Affairs so employees of the VA who fail to do their job are held accountable. That goal of accountability is one of a number that must be pursued and will be sought during this session, including ending the backlog of appeals and providing better healthcare, ensuring skills training and job opportunities for our veterans.

Today the President signed an Executive order at the Department of Veterans Affairs to designate an individual responsible for accountability and whistleblower protection, a worthwhile first step. It is a commendable step toward accountability. But that individual and the Office of Accountability and Whistleblower Protection must have real responsibility and power and must be insulated from any kind of political interference through establishment through statute. That office should be established by statutory authority. That is why I will be advocating and likely introducing legislation that involves supporting and training employees and listening to veterans about what they want from the VA through that Office of Accountability and Whistleblower Protection, to provide real accountability to the Congress by requiring reporting to Congress about what it finds and real whistleblower protection, so that anybody who complains about the VA's misdirected or misguided action is assured protection against any kind of revenge or retaliation, which is the essence of whistleblower protection, and a Senate-confirmed director so that the accountability function is, again, accountable to us. That kind of statutory embodiment is necessary to make sure that the Office of Accountability and Whistleblower Protection has power and reporting requirements so that it is accountable to us as elected representatives and advocates for our veterans.

My hope is that the Senate and House will adopt that provision, one that was contained in the Veterans First bill that Senator ISAKSON and I championed during the last Senate and which I hope we will pursue again in a very bipartisan way.

I also hope that the Senate will take up and pass S. 12, the Increasing the Department of Veterans Affairs Accountability to Veterans Act of 2017. My colleague, Senator MORAN, a cosponsor with me, spoke about it earlier today. It would provide reduction of benefits for senior executives and certain healthcare employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs if they have been convicted of a felony in connection with their work. VA employees who commit serious crimes in connection with their employment should not be receiving pensions. That is one of the key provisions to activate a deterrent to misconduct and also to assure that misconduct is adequately punished.

Accountability for leaders who manage the Department of Veterans Affairs Employee Affairs would be another goal of this legislation, S. 12, so that the men and women who hire and fire are themselves evaluated when they do those jobs.

These kinds of details are important—as important as any new office with an individual whose unspecified powers may include them or not. Right now they do not, under the Executive order, specifically include such enumerated powers. That is our job, to make sure that this office of accountability is real in its responsibility, is

clearly assigned in its functions, is held accountable for its performance and has real teeth, not just rhetoric.

I am hopeful that we will move ahead with this very, very important office to make sure that our veterans receive what they deserve—real accountability, a genuine assurance that the people who serve them will do their jobs, not just adequately but excellently. That is the goal that I believe we will share.

I welcome this Executive order. I believe we can and must do more to make sure that the VA keeps faith with our veterans and leaves no veterans behind.

Thank you, Mr. President.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KENNEDY). Without objection, it is so ordered.

All time has expired.

The question is, will the Senate advise and consent to the Acosta nomination?

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) is necessarily absent.

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

The result was announced—yeas 60, nays 38, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 116 Ex.]

YEAS—60

Alexander	Gardner	Murkowski
Barrasso	Graham	Nelson
Blunt	Grassley	Paul
Boozman	Hatch	Perdue
Burr	Heitkamp	Portman
Capito	Heller	Risch
Cassidy	Hoeven	Roberts
Cochran	Inhofe	Rounds
Collins	Isakson	Rubio
Corker	Johnson	Sasse
Cornyn	Kennedy	Scott
Cortez Masto	King	Shelby
Cotton	Lankford	Strange
Crapo	Lee	Sullivan
Cruz	Manchin	Tester
Daines	McCain	Thune
Enzi	McCaskill	Tillis
Ernst	McConnell	Warner
Fischer	Menendez	Wicker
Flake	Moran	Young

NAYS—38

Baldwin	Booker	Cardin
Bennet	Brown	Carper
Blumenthal	Cantwell	Casey
Coons	Hirono	Schatz
Donnelly	Kaine	Schumer
Duckworth	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Durbin	Leahy	Stabenow
Feinstein	Markey	Udall
Franken	Merkley	Van Hollen
Gillibrand	Murphy	Warren
Harris	Murray	Whitehouse
Hassan	Reed	Wyden
Heinrich	Sanders	

NOT VOTING—2

Peters	Toomey

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—JOINT RESOLUTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, colleagues, it is my understanding that the four corners who are working on the omnibus appropriations are very, very close to agreement. We still need a few days to process the larger bill. The House has posted a 1-week CR to keep the government open. We are prepared to clear the 1-week CR on this side of the aisle.

Therefore, I ask unanimous consent that the text of a joint resolution, which is at the desk—that is, a 1-week continuing resolution—be printed in the RECORD; further, that if the Senate receives a joint resolution from the House, the text of which is identical to the text of the joint resolution printed in the RECORD, the joint resolution be considered to have been read three times and passed, and that the motion to reconsider be considered to have been made and laid upon the table; provided further, that if the language is not identical, then this order be vitiated.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, reserving the right to object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, colleagues, I am objecting because we still have to resolve the issue of poison pill riders before Democrats can agree to the short-term CR.

Let's make no mistake about it, we are indeed making great progress. I thank the majority leader. He has been cooperative and extremely helpful throughout the process. I thank Chairman COCHRAN and Senator LEAHY the same. But our position has been clear, and it is nothing new: no poison pill riders. The sooner we can resolve this issue, the quicker we can have an agreement on appropriations for 2017.

So I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The majority leader.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I would only add—not to prolong the discussion, but I don't think the failure to pass the 1-week CR necessarily impacts in a positive way the concerns the Democratic leader has. But that is his call to make. This 1-week CR is cleared on our side.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, there is a simple way to resolve it, and that is, the Republican leader of the Senate and the Speaker of the House just agree to no poison pill riders.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kansas.

Mr. ROBERTS. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I wish to make sure my colleagues on the other side of the aisle know that if we don't pass the 1-week extension, the miners' healthcare expires, but it is in the 1-week extension. If we don't pass the 1-week extension, the miners' healthcare revision expires.

Mr. SCHUMER. We are aware.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote, and I move to table the motion to reconsider.

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

The motion was agreed to.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

25TH ANNIVERSARY VERMONT SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, the Vermont Small Business Development Center, VtSBDC, is joining SBDC's across the country in celebrating its 25th anniversary as a crucial resource for entrepreneurs. These centers provide services to facilitate the creation, sustainability, and growth of viable businesses. In Vermont, it is no secret that we take particular pride in our local businesses. Our entrepreneurs and their businesses are at the heart of our vibrant communities, and they are the roots of a thriving economy.

Over the past 25 years, VtSBDC has helped countless businesses capitalize on their potential. From glassblowers to forestry and sugarmakers to restaurants, VtSBDC has delivered thousands of hours of professional business

counseling and training that is focused on strategic planning, business development, financial planning, and cash flow management. After the devastation of Tropical Storm Irene, VtSBDC reached out with State and Federal partners to offer small business owners the assistance and support necessary to undergo full recovery efforts. I am regularly reminded of VtSBDC's worth to entrepreneurs through client testimonials, regularly highlighting that, without the assistance of VtSBDC staff, their business would not have been able to reach the next levels. In addition to working with individuals to achieve their dreams, VtSBDC has also supported business incubators, or coworking spaces, where fledgling businesses and industries find their footing alongside other new businessowners.

Founded as a pilot program run by the Small Business Administration in 1977, national small business development centers have a long history proving public-private partnerships and, when done right, are a successful tool in expanding local pilot programs that benefit communities and States across our Nation. Small business owners always face many obstacles, but the professionals at VtSBDC provide invaluable resources, support, and advice to help overcome these challenges.

I want to congratulate the Vermont Small Business Development Center on their 25th anniversary and thank their dedicated staff for their commitment, energy, and time working to make sure that Vermont's small businesses remain strongly grounded and growing in Vermont.

BUDGET SCOREKEEPING REPORT

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I wish to submit to the Senate the budget scorekeeping report for April 2017. The report compares current-law levels of spending and revenues with the amounts the Senate agreed to in the budget resolution for fiscal year 2017, S. Con. Res. 3. This information is necessary for the Senate Budget Committee to determine whether budget points of order lie against pending legislation. The Republican staff of the Senate Budget Committee and the Congressional Budget Office, CBO, prepared this report pursuant to section 308(b) of the Congressional Budget Act, CBA.

My last filing can be found in the RECORD on March 1, 2017. The information contained in this report captures legislative activity since that filing through April 25, 2017.

Republican Budget Committee staff prepared Tables 1–3 of this report.

Table 1 gives the amount by which each Senate authorizing committee exceeds or is below its allocation for budget authority and outlays under the most recently adopted budget resolution. This information is used for enforcing committee allocations pursuant to section 302 of the CBA. For this reporting period, 14 of the 16 authorizing committees are in compliance with their allocations. The two committees out of compliance are: the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, for spending $1 million more in budget authority and outlays than allowed over each enforcement window due to passage of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Transition Authorization Act of 2017, P.L. 115–10; and the Committee on Veterans Affairs, which violates its outlay allocation by $200 million over both the fiscal year 2017–2021 and fiscal year 2017–2026 periods. The latter violation—the largest of this reporting period—stems from passage of a bill to amend the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014 to modify the termination date for the Veterans Choice Program, and for other purposes, P.L. 115–26. This measure removed the August 7, 2017, sunset from the program to allow funds previously appropriated to be fully exhausted.

Tables 2–3 remain unchanged from the last report as no new appropriations activity has occurred for the fiscal year 2017 cycle.

In addition to the tables provided by Budget Committee Republican staff, I am submitting CBO tables, which I will use to enforce budget totals approved by the Congress.

CBO provided a spending and revenue report for fiscal year 2017, which helps enforce aggregate spending levels in budget resolutions under CBA section 311. In its report, CBO annualizes the temporary effects of the latest continuing resolution, which provides funding through April 28, 2017. For the enforcement of budgetary aggregates, the Budget Committee excludes this temporary funding. As such, the committee views current-law levels as being $953 billion and $583.2 billion below budget resolution levels for budget authority and outlays, respectively.

Revenues are consistent with the levels assumed in the budget resolution for fiscal year 2017. Over the fiscal year 2017–2021 and fiscal year 2017–2026 period, however, revenues are $1 million below assumed levels due to the enactment of H.J. Res. 83, P.L. 115–21, a resolution considered under the Congressional Review Act for disapproving of the rule by the Department of Labor relating to ''Clarification of Employer's Continuing Obligation to Make and Maintain an Accurate Record of Each Recordable Injury and Illness.''

Social Security outlays and revenues are at the levels assumed in S. Con. Res. 3.

CBO's report also provides information needed to enforce the Senate pay-as-you-go, PAYGO, rule. The Senate's PAYGO scorecard currently shows increased deficits of $202 million over the fiscal year 2016–2021 and fiscal year 2016–2026 periods. For both of these periods, outlays have been increased by $201 million, and revenues have been reduced by $1 million. The Senate's PAYGO rule is enforced by section 201 of S. Con. Res. 21, the fiscal year 2008 budget resolution.

Finally, included in this submission is a table tracking the Senate's budget enforcement activity on the floor. No budget points of order have been raised since my last filing.

All years in the accompanying tables are fiscal years.

I ask unanimous consent that the tables be printed in the RECORD.

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

TABLE 1.—SENATE AUTHORIZING COMMITTEES—ENACTED DIRECT SPENDING ABOVE (+) OR BELOW (−) BUDGET RESOLUTIONS

[In millions of dollars]

	2017	2017–2021	2017–2026
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry			
Budget Authority	0	0	0
Outlays	0	0	0
Armed Services			
Budget Authority	0	0	0
Outlays	0	0	0
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs			
Budget Authority	0	0	0
Outlays	0	0	0
Commerce, Science, and Transportation			
Budget Authority	1	1	1
Outlays	1	1	1
Energy and Natural Resources			
Budget Authority	0	0	0
Outlays	0	0	0
Environment and Public Works			
Budget Authority	0	0	0
Outlays	0	0	0
Finance			
Budget Authority	0	0	0

TABLE 1.—SENATE AUTHORIZING COMMITTEES—ENACTED DIRECT SPENDING ABOVE (+) OR BELOW (−) BUDGET RESOLUTIONS—Continued

[In millions of dollars]

	2017	2017–2021	2017–2026
Outlays	0	0	0
Foreign Relations			
Budget Authority	0	0	0
Outlays	0	0	0
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs			
Budget Authority	0	0	0
Outlays	0	0	0
Judiciary			
Budget Authority	0	0	0
Outlays	0	0	0
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions			
Budget Authority	0	0	0
Outlays	0	0	0
Rules and Administration			
Budget Authority	0	0	0
Outlays	0	0	0
Intelligence			
Budget Authority	0	0	0
Outlays	0	0	0
Veterans' Affairs			
Budget Authority	0	0	0
Outlays	0	200	200
Indian Affairs			
Budget Authority	0	0	0
Outlays	0	0	0
Small Business			
Budget Authority	0	0	0
Outlays	0	0	0
Total			
Budget Authority	1	1	1
Outlays	1	201	201

TABLE 2.—SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE—ENACTED REGULAR DISCRETIONARY APPROPRIATIONS [1]

[Budget authority, in millions of dollars]

	2017	
	Security [2]	Nonsecurity [2]
Statutory Discretionary Limits	551,068	518,531
Amount Provided by Senate Appropriations Subcommittee		
Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies	0	9
Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies	0	7
Defense	45	0
Energy and Water Development	−340	−340
Financial Services and General Government	0	0
Homeland Security	0	9
Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies	0	120
Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies	0	24,570
Legislative Branch	0	−1
Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies	7,898	74,600
State Foreign Operations, and Related Programs	0	0
Transportation and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies	0	4,400
Current Level Total	7,603	103,374
Total Enacted Above (+) or Below (−) Statutory Limits	−543,465	−415,157

[1] This table excludes spending pursuant to adjustments to the discretionary spending limits. These adjustments are allowed for certain purposes in section 251(b)(2) of BBEDCA.
[2] Security spending is defined as spending in the National Defense budget function (050) and nonsecurity spending is defined as all other spending.

TABLE 3.—SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE—ENACTED CHANGES IN MANDATORY SPENDING PROGRAMS (CHIMPS)

[Budget authority, millions of dollars]

	2017
CHIMPS Limit for Fiscal Year 2017	19,100
Senate Appropriations Subcommittees	
Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies	0
Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies	0
Defense	0
Energy and Water Development	0
Financial Services and General Government	0
Homeland Security	0
Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies	0
Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies	0
Legislative Branch	0
Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies	0
State Foreign Operations, and Related Programs	0
Transportation and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies	0
Current Level Total	0
Total CHIMPS Above (+) or Below (−) Budget Resolution	−19,100

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, April 27, 2017.

Hon. MIKE ENZI,
Chairman, Committee on the Budget
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The enclosed report shows the effects of Congressional action on the fiscal year 2017 budget and is current through April 25, 2017. This report is submitted under section 308(b) and in aid of section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act, as amended.

The estimates of budget authority, outlays, and revenues are consistent with the technical and economic assumptions of S. Con. Res. 3, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2017.

Since our last letter dated March 1, 2017, the Congress has cleared and the President has signed the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act of 2017 (Public Law 115–10). That act has significant effects on budget authority and outlays in fiscal year 2017.

Sincerely,

KEITH HALL,
Director.

Enclosure.

TABLE 1.—SENATE CURRENT LEVEL REPORT FOR SPENDING AND REVENUES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017, AS OF APRIL 25, 2017

[In billions of dollars]

	Budget Resolution [a]	Current Level [b]	Current Level Over/Under (−) Resolution
On-Budget			
Budget Authority	3,226.1	3,308.0	81.9
Outlays	3,224.6	3,254.7	30.1
Revenues	2,682.1	2,682.1	0.0
Off-Budget			
Social Security Outlays [c]	805.4	805.4	0.0
Social Security Revenues	826.0	826.0	0.0

Source: Congressional Budget Office.

[a] Excludes $81,872 million in budget authority and $40,032 million in outlays assumed in S. Con. Res. 3 for non-regular discretionary spending, including spending that qualifies for adjustments to discretionary spending limits pursuant to section 251(b) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, that is not yet allocated to the Senate Committee on Appropriations.

[b] Excludes emergency funding that was not designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

[c] Excludes administrative expenses paid from the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund of the Social Security Administration, which are off-budget, but are appropriated annually.

TABLE 2—SUPPORTING DETAIL FOR THE SENATE CURRENT LEVEL REPORT FOR ON-BUDGET SPENDING AND REVENUES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017, AS OF APRIL 25, 2017

[In millions of dollars]

	Budget Authority	Outlays	Revenues
Previously Enacted [a]			
Revenues	n.a.	n.a.	2,682,088
Permanents and other spending legislation	2,054,297	1,960,884	n.a.
Appropriation legislation	138,258	619,553	n.a.
Offsetting receipts	−834,250	−834,301	n.a.
Total, Previously Enacted	1,358,305	1,746,136	2,682,088
Enacted Legislation:			
National Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act of 2017 (P.L. 115–10)	1	1	0
Continuing Resolution:			
Further Continuing and Security Appropriations Act, 2017 (P.L. 114–254) [b,c,d]	1,034,868	613,341	0
Entitlements and Mandatories:			
Budget resolution estimates of appropriated entitlements and other mandatory programs	914,848	895,267	0
Total Current Level [e]	3,308,022	3,254,745	2,682,088
Total Senate Resolution [f]	3,226,128	3,224,630	2,682,088
Current Level Over Senate Resolution	81,894	30,115	n.a.
Current Level Under Senate Resolution	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Memorandum:			
Revenues, 2017–2026:			
Senate Current Level	n.a.	n.a.	32,351,659
Senate Resolution	n.a.	n.a.	32,351,660
Current Level Over Senate Resolution	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Current Level Under Senate Resolution	n.a.	n.a.	1

Source: Congressional Budget Office.

Notes: n.a. = not applicable; P.L. = Public Law.

Includes the budgetary effects of enacted legislation cleared by the Congress during the 114th session, prior to the adoption of S. Con. Res. 3, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2017.

Emergency funding that was not designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 does not count for certain budgetary enforcement purposes. These amounts, which are not included in the current level totals, are as follows:

Further Continuing and Security Assistance Appropriations Act, 2017 (P.L. 114–254)	−2	−1	0

[c] Division A of P.L. 114–254 contains the Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2017, which provides funding for those agencies within the jurisdiction of 11 of the 12 regular appropriations bills through April 28, 2017; those amounts are shown under the ''Continuing Resolution'' section of this table. Certain provisions in Division A provide funding until or beyond the end of fiscal year 2017; those amounts are shown in the ''Previously Enacted'' section of this table. In addition, Division B of P.L. 114–254 contains the Security Assistance Appropriations Act, 2017, which provides funding until or beyond the end of fiscal year 2017 for overseas contingency operations; those amounts are shown under the ''Previously Enacted'' section of this table.

[d] Sections 193–195 of Division A of P.L. 114–254 provided funding, available until expended, for innovation projects and state responses to opioid abuse. CBO estimates that, for fiscal year 2017:

The $20 million in discretionary budget authority provided by section 193 would result in an additional $5 million in outlays for FDA innovation projects;

The $352 million in discretionary budget authority provided by section 194 would result in an additional $91 million in outlays for NIH innovation projects;

The $500 million in discretionary budget authority provided by section 195 would result in an additional $160 million in outlays for state response to opioid abuse.

Consistent with sections 1001–1004 of P.L. 114–255, for the purposes of estimating the discretionary budget authority and outlays for these provisions under the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Act of 1974 and the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Act of 1985, these amounts are estimated to provide no budget authority or outlays.

[e] For purposes of enforcing section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act in the Senate, the resolution, as approved by the Senate, does not include budget authority, outlays, or revenues for off-budget amounts. As a result, current level does not include these items.

[f] Excludes $81,872 million in budget authority and $40,032 million in outlays assumed in S. Con. Res. 3 for non regular discretionary spending, including spending that qualifies for adjustments to discretionary spending limits pursuant to section 251(b) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, that is not yet allocated to the Senate Committee on Appropriations.

TABLE 3.—SUMMARY OF THE SENATE PAY-AS-YOU-GO SCORECARD FOR THE 115TH CONGRESS, AS OF APRIL 25, 2017

[In millions of dollars]

	2016–2021	2016–2026
Beginning Balance [a]	0	0
Enacted Legislation: [b,c,d]		
Tested Ability to Leverage Exceptional National Talent Act of 2017 (P.L. 115–1)	*	*
Disapproving the rule submitted by the Department of the Interior known as the Stream Protection Rule (P.L. 115–5)	*	*
National Aeronautics and Space Administration Transition Authorization Act of 2017 (P.L. 115–10)	1	1
Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Education relating to teacher preparation issues (P.L. 115–14)	*	*
Disapproving the rule submitted by the Department of Labor relating to ''Clarification of Employees Continuing Obligation to Make and Maintain an Accurate Record of Each Recordable Injury and Illness'' (P.L. 115–21)	1	1
Disapproving the rule submitted by the Department of Labor relating to savings arrangements established by qualified State political subdivisions for non-governmental employees (P.L. 115–24)	*	*
An act to amend the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014 to modify the termination date for the Veterans Choice Program, and for other purposes (P.L. 115–26)	200	200
Current Balance	202	202
Memorandum:		
	2016–2021	2016–2026
Changes to Revenues	−1	−1
Changes to Outlays	201	201

Source: Congressional Budget Office.

Notes: P.L. = Public Law; * = between −$500,000 and $500,000.

[a] Pursuant to the statement printed in the Congressional Record on January 17, 2017, the Senate Pay-As-You-Oo Scorecard was reset to zero.

[b] The amounts shown represent the estimated effect of the public laws on the deficit.

[c] Excludes off budget amounts.

[d] Excludes amounts designated as emergency requirements.

ENFORCEMENT REPORT OF LEGISLATION POST-S. CON. RES. 3, FY 2017 CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET RESOLUTION

Vote	Date	Measure	Violation	Motion to Waive	Result
	____	____	____	____	____

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. CORKER. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD–423.

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

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Arlington, VA.

Hon. BOB CORKER,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 17–15, concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Greece for defense articles and services estimated to cost $80 million, After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

J.W. RIXEY,
Vice-Admiral, USN Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 17–15

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Greece

(ii) Total Estimated Value:
Major Defense Equipment* $34 million.
Other $46 million.
Total $80 million.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:
Major Defense Equipment (MDE):
Five (5) CH–47D Aircraft.
Seven (7) Common Missile Warning Systems (CMWS) (one (1) for each aircraft plus two (2) spares).
Twelve (12) T55–GA–714A Turbine Engines (two (2) for each aircraft plus two (2) spares).
Non-MDE includes: Also under consideration for this sale is mission equipment, communications and navigation equipment, ground support equipment, special tools and test equipment, spares, publications, Maintenance Work Order/Engineering Change Proposals (MWO/ECPs), technical support, and training, and other associated support equipment and services.

(iv) Military Department: Army.

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: GR–B–JBK, GR–B–XMH.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc. Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: April 27, 2017.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Government of Greece—CH–47D Helicopters

The Government of Greece requested the possible sale of five (5) CH–47D helicopters, seven (7) Common Missile Warning Systems (CMWS) (one (1) for each aircraft plus two (2) spares), and twelve (12) T55–GA–714A turbine engines (two (2) for each aircraft plus two (2) spares). Also included are mission equipment, communications and navigation equipment, ground support equipment, special tools and test equipment, spares, publications, Maintenance Work Order/Engineering Change Proposals (MWO/ECPs), technical support, and training, and other associated support equipment and services. The total estimated cost is $80 million.

This proposed sale will enhance the foreign policy and national security objectives of the United States by helping to improve the security of a NATO ally that has been, and continues to be, an important force for political stability and economic progress. Greece intends to use these defense articles and services to modernize its armed forces by increasing its rotary-wing transport capability. This will contribute to the Greek military's goal to upgrade its capability while further enhancing greater interoperability between Greece, the U.S. and other allies.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support does not alter the basic military balance in the region.

There is no principal contractor as the systems will be coming from U.S. Army stocks. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will require U.S. Government or contractor representatives to travel to Greece for equipment de-processing/fielding, system checkout and new equipment training.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 17–15

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The CH–47D is a medium lift aircraft, remanufactured from CH–47A, B, and C aircraft. The CH–47D aircraft, which includes two T55–GA–714A turbine engines, has been identified as Major Defense Equipment (MDE). The avionic system in the CH–47D helicopter consists of the communications equipment providing HF (AN/ARC–220), VHF AM/FM (AN/ARC–186) and UHF–AM (AN/ARC–164) communications. The voice secure equipment consists of the TSEC/KY–58 and the TSEC/KY–100. The navigation equipment includes ADF (AN/ARN–89 or 149, VOR ILS Marker Beacon, (AN/ARN–123, Doppler/GPS (AN/ASN–128, Tactical Air Navigation (TACAN) System AN/ARN–154(V), VGH FM Homing (AN/ARC–201D) is provided through the FM communication radio. Transponder equipment (AN/APX–118) consists of an IFF receiver with inputs from the barometric altimeter for altitude encoding. The AN/APX–118 and AN/APX–118A transponder is classified SECRET if Mode 4, or Mode 5 fill is installed in the equipment with a crypto device. Mission equipment consists of the radar signal detecting set, (AN/APR–39A(V)1) and the Common Missile Warning System (CMWS) (AN/AAR–57). The AN/APR–39 Series Radar Warning Receiver sets are sensitive items are classified SECRET if the Unit Data Module has threat data software installed. The software for this system determines the classification. Normally a customer has specific software developed to meet their requirements.

2. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to Greece.

3. A determination has been made that the Government of Greece can provide the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. The sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives as outlined in the Policy Justification of the notification.

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Arlington, VA.

Hon. BOB CORKER,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 17–11, concerning the Navy's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Australia for defense articles and services estimated to cost $137.6 million. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

J.W. RIXEY,
Vice Admiral, USN Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 17–11

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Australia

(ii) Total Estimated Value:
Major Defense Equipment * $119.5 million.
Other $18.1 million.
Total $137.6 million.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

Up to seventy (70) AGM–88B High Speed Anti-Radiation Missiles (HARM) Tactical Missiles.

Up to forty (40) AGM–88E Advanced Anti-Radiation Guided Missiles (AARGM) Tactical Missiles.

Up to sixteen (16) CATM–88B HARM Captive Air Training Missiles (CATM).

Up to sixteen (16) CATM–88E AARGM CATM.

Up to twenty-five (25) AGM–88B Control Sections.

Up to twenty-five (25) AGM–88B Guidance Sections.

Up to twenty (20) AGM–88E Control Sections.

Up to twenty (20) AGM–88E Guidance Sections.

Non-MDE includes: Up to forty-eight (48) Telemetry/Flight Termination Systems, U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical and logistics support services, and other associated support equipment and services.

(iv) Military Department: Navy.

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: AT–P–AZN.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Annex Attached.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress:

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Government of Australia—Anti-Radiation Missiles

Australia has requested a possible sale of up to seventy (70) AGM–88B High Speed Anti-Radiation Missiles (HARM) Tactical Missiles; up to forty (40) AGM–88E Advanced Anti-Radiation Guided Missiles (AARGM) Tactical Missiles; up to sixteen (16) CATM–88B HARM Captive Air Training Missiles (CATM); up to sixteen (16) CATM–88E AARGM CATM; up to twenty-five (25) AGM–88B Control Sections; up to twenty-five (25) AGM–88B Guidance Sections; up to twenty (20) AGM–88E Control Sections; up to twenty (20) AGM–88E Guidance Sections; up to forty eight (48) Telemetry/Flight Termination Systems; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical and logistics support services; and other associated support equipment and services. The total estimated cost is $137.6 million.

This sale will contribute to the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of a major contributor to political stability, security, and economic development in the Western Pacific. Australia is an important Major non-NATO Ally and partner that contributes significantly to peacekeeping and humanitarian operations around the world. It is vital to the U.S. national interest to assist our ally in developing and maintaining a strong and ready self-defense capability.

Australia is requesting these missiles for its Electronic Attack EA–18G Growler aircraft. The proposed sale will improve Australia's capability in current and future coalition efforts. Australia will use this capability as a deterrent to regional threats and to strengthen its homeland defense. Australia will have no difficulty absorbing these additional missiles into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support does not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The prime contractors will be Orbital ATK (OA), Ridgecrest, CA, and Raytheon Missile Systems Company, Tucson, AZ. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will not require the assignment of additional U.S. Government or contractor representatives to travel to Australia.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 17–11

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The AGM–88E Advanced Anti-Radiation Guided Missile (AARGM) weapon system is an air-to-ground missile intended to suppress or destroy land or sea-based radar emitters associated with enemy air defenses and provides tactical air forces with a lethal countermeasure to enemy radar directed, surface-to-air missiles, and air defense artillery weapons systems. Destruction or suppression of enemy radars denies the enemy the use of air defense systems, thereby improving the survivability of our tactical aircraft. It uses a multimode seeker that incorporates global positioning system/inertial measurement unit (GPS/IMU) midcourse guidance, a radio frequency (RF) radiation homing receiver, an active millimeter wave seeker, an Integrated Broadcast Service Receiver (IBS–R) and a Weapons Impact Assessment (WIA) transmitter. The AARGM AGM–88E when assembled is classified SECRET. The AARGM Guidance Section (seeker hardware) and Control Section with the Target Detector is classified CONFIDENTIAL.

2. The AGM–88B High Speed Anti-Radiation Missiles (HARM) weapon system is an air-to-ground missile intended to suppress or destroy land or sea-based radar emitters associated with enemy air defenses and provides tactical air forces with a lethal countermeasure to enemy radar directed, surface-to-air missiles, and air defense artillery weapons systems. Destruction or suppression of enemy radars denies the enemy the use of air defense systems, thereby improving the survivability of our tactical aircraft. The AGM–88B HARM when assembled is classified CONFIDENTIAL. The HARM Guidance Section (seeker hardware), and Control Section with the Target Detector are classified CONFIDENTIAL.

3. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the specific hardware and software elements of this possible sale, the information could be used to develop countermeasures which might reduce weapon system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

4. A determination has been made that the Government of Australia can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the technology being released as the US Government. The sale is necessary in furtherance of the US foreign policy and national security objectives as outlined in the Policy Justification of the notification.

5. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to Australia.

DEFENSE SECURITY COOPERATION AGENCY,
Arlington, VA.

Hon. BOB CORKER,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 17–14, concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of the Slovakia for defense articles and services estimated to cost $150 million. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

J.W. RIXEY,
Vice Admiral, USN, Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 17–14

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Slovakia.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment * $0 million.

Other $150 million.

Total $150 million.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE): None.

Non-MDE: Nine (9) Bell 429 Light Utility Helicopters with customer-unique modifications. Also included are WESCAM MX–10 cameras, training, spare parts, and logistical support, mission equipment, communication and navigation equipment, special tools and test equipment, ground support equipment, airframe and engine spare parts, technical data, publications, maintenance work order/electronic change proposals, technical assistance, repair and return, quality assurance team, and transportation of aircraft.

(iv) Military Department: Army.

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: None.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: April 27, 2017.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Government of Slovakia—Bell 429 Light Utility Helicopters

Slovakia has requested a possible sale of nine (9) Bell 429 Light Utility Helicopters with customer-unique modifications. Also included are WESCAM MX–10 cameras, training, spare parts, and logistical support, mission equipment, communication and navigation equipment, special tools and test equipment, ground support equipment, airframe and engine spare parts, technical data, publications, maintenance work order/electronic change proposals, technical assistance, repair and return, quality assurance team, and transportation of aircraft. The estimated cost is $150 million.

This proposed sale will enhance the foreign policy and national security objectives of the United States by helping to improve the security of a NATO ally that has been, and continues to be an important force for political stability and economic progress within Europe.

The proposed sale of the Bell 429 light utility helicopters will improve Slovakia's capability to meet current and future threats. Slovakia will use the enhanced capability to strengthen its homeland defense and deter regional threats. Slovakia will have no difficulty absorbing these helicopters into its armed forces.

The proposed sale will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The principal contractor will be Bell Helicopter of Piney Flats, Tennessee. There are no known offset agreements in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will not require the assignment of any additional U.S. Government or contractor representatives to Slovakia.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 17–14

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The Bell 429 is a light twin, newly manufactured helicopter and is optimized for Instrument Flight Rules (IFR), Category A, and JAROPS–3 compliant operations. The Bell 429 features two/three multi-function displays, dual digital 3-axis autopilot and an integrated electronic data recorder provides enhanced situational awareness and post flight analysis. The Bell 429 standard configuration for Communications, Navigation and Surveillance (CNS) consists of Garmin GTN 650/750 NAV/COM/WAAS GPS system. The Identifier, Friend or Foe (IFF) will be the APX–123, which provides the Mode 4/5 capability. One (1) each Multi Sensor Cameras, L3 WESCAM MX10s will be equipped on four (4) of the nine (9) Bell 429 Helicopters. The communications suite is as follows: one (1) each AN/ARC–231 Multi-mode radios providing VHF FM, VHF–AM, UHF, HQII and DAMA SATCOM. Aircraft survivability equipment (ASE) will not be provided on this LOA.

Identification and security classification of sensitive technological information and/or restricted information contained in the equipment, major components, subsystems, software, technical data (Performance, Maintenance, R&M, etc.) documentation, training devices and services to be conveyed with the proposed sale to include a brief justification/explanation of why information is sensitive provided as follows:

(1) The AN/APX–123A, Identification Friend of Foe (IFF) Transponder, is a space diversity transponder and is installed on various military platforms. When installed in conjunction with platform antennas and the RCU (or other appropriate control unit), the transponder provides identification, altitude and surveillance reporting in response to interrogations from airborne, ground-based and/or surface interrogators. The transponder provides operational capabilities for Mark XIIA Identification Friend of Foe (IFF) capabilities of Modes 1, 2, 3/A,C and 4&5 and Mode S (levels 1, 2, and 3 capable). Additionally, the AN/APX–123 also provides automated ID, position and latitude of the aircraft, and unencrypted ADS–B and is compatible with the Traffic Alert and Collision Avoidance System (TCAS) II equipment.

(2) The WESCAM MX–10 is a small Multi-Sensor, Multi-Spectral Imaging System with Inertial Measurement Unit (IMU) and Embedded with Global Positioning Systems (GPS) Standard Positioning Service (SPS). The WESCAM MX–10 camera system contains a LN–200 IMU manufactured by Northrop Grumman in the United States. WESCAM MX–10 is embedded with GPS SPS. SPS is a three-dimensional position and time determination capability provided to a user equipped with a minimum capability GPS SPS receiver in accordance with GPS national policy.

(3) The AN/ARC–231 (V)(C) is a secure communication system that provides Line-of-Sight (LOS) communications and Beyond Line-of-Sight (BLOS) satellite communications (SATCOM), as well as Voice and data communications capabilities. In addition to Satellite Communications, the AN/ARC–231 (V)(C) provides Secure/Electronic Counter-Countermeasures (ECCM) communications in the following waveform, The Single Channel Ground and Airborne System (SINCGARS) and the HAVE QUICK (HQ). The AN/ARC–231 functions by transmitting and receiving the Radio Frequency (RF) in the 30 MHz–511.995 MHZ range. The Receiver Transmitter provides communication in Frequency Modulation (FM), Very High Frequency—Amplitude Modulation Air Traffic Control Band (VHF AM ATC), Very High Frequency—Frequency Modulation Public Service & Maritime Band, Ultra High Frequency—Amplitude Modulation (UHF AM) HAVEQUICK/Ground-Air Band, Ultra high Frequency Satellite (UHF SATFCOM) Band and Ultra High Frequency—Frequency Modulation Public Service Band.

2. A determination has been made that the recipient country can provide the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government.

3. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification. Moreover, the benefits to be derived from this sale, as outlined in the Policy Justification, outweighs the potential damage that could result if the sensitive technology were revealed to unauthorized persons.

4. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to the Slovak Republic.

DEFENSE SECURITY COOPERATION AGENCY,
Arlington, VA

Hon. BOB CORKER,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(I) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 17–06, concerning the Air Force's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the NATO Support and Procurement Agency for defense articles and services estimated to cost $33.5 million. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

J.W. RIXEY,
Vice Admiral, USN, Director.

Enclosures:

TRANSMITTAL NO. 17–06

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: NATO Support and Procurement Agency (NSPA)

(ii) Total Estimated Value:
Major Defense Equipment* $25.0 million.
Other $8.5 million.
Total $33.5 million.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase: The NATO Support and Procurement Agency requested the sale of AN/AAQ–24(V) Large Aircraft Infrared Countermeasures (LAIRCM) components to support the upgrade of the LAIRCM system on three C–17 aircraft, along with spares.

Major Defense Equipment (MDE): Fourteen (14) Guardian Laser Terminal Assemblies (GLTA) (9 + 5 spares).

Six (6) LAIRCM System Processor Replacements (LSPR) (3 + 3 spares).

Non-MDE: This request also includes contractor spares, consumables, support equipment, technical data, aircraft installation, flight test, certification, publications, training, program and logistics support services.

(iv) Military Department: Air Force.

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: K8–D–QAE.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: April 27, 2017.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

NATO Support and Procurement Agency (NSPA)—Large Aircraft Infrared Countermeasures (LAIRCM) System Components

The NATO Support and Procurement Agency (NSPA) requested the sale of fourteen (14) Guardian Laser Transmitter Assemblies (GLTA) and six (6) LAIRCM System Processor Replacements (LSPR) along with contractor spares, consumables, support equipment, technical data, aircraft installation, flight test, certification, publications and training in order to upgrade the AN/AAQ–24(V) LAIRCM system on three (3) of its C–17 aircraft. The estimated total value is $33.5 million.

This proposed sale contributes to the foreign policy and national security of the United States by enhancing the aircraft self-protection capabilities of C–17 aircraft operated by the NATO Airlift Management (NAM) Programme, a consortium of 12 nations, including the United States. The partner nations in this program fly missions in and around Europe, Afghanistan, Iraq, the Levant, and North Africa. This sale an enhanced military capability for the NAM, and will assist its associated nations in providing airlift for personnel and equipment to locations requiring enhanced threat countermeasures.

The proposed sale advances U.S. and NATO policy goals of expanding the capabilities of strategic airlift to NATO allies and partners. The capabilities associated with this proposed sale bolster the military strength of the NATO alliance and its partners by increasing the self-protection capabilities of NAM airlift aircraft. NSPA will have no difficulty absorbing this equipment.

As these systems are defensive in nature, the proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The prime contractor for production is Northrup Grumman of Rolling Meadows, Illinois. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will not require the assignment of any additional U.S. Government or contractor representatives to NATO.

There will be no adverse impact to U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 17–06

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The ANIAAQ–24V Large Aircraft Infrared Countermeasures (LAIRCM) is a self-contained, directed energy countermeasures system designed to protect aircraft from infrared-guided surface-to-air missiles. The system features digital technology and microminiature solid-state electronics. The system operates in all conditions, detecting incoming missiles and jamming infrared-seeker equipped missiles with aimed bursts of laser energy. The LAIRCM system components required to upgrade the system are the Guardian Laser Transmitter Assemblies (GLTA) and LAIRCM System Processor Replacement (LSPR). The upgraded LAIRCM for the C–17 uses three (3) GLTA and one (1) LSPR. LAIRCM system software, including Operational Flight Program is classified SECRET. Technical data and documentation to be provided are UNCLASSIFIED.

a. The LSPR component analyzes the data from each Missile Warning System Sensor and automatically deploys the appropriate countermeasure via the GLTA.

b. The GLTA uses aimed bursts of laser energy to jam infrared seeker equipped missiles when directed by the LSPR. The hardware is UNCLASSIFIED. The software is SECRET. Technical data and documentation to be provided are UNCLASSIFIED.

2. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the specific hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures or equivalent systems which might reduce system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

3. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification. Moreover, the benefits to be derived from this sale, as outlined in the Policy Justification, outweigh the potential damage that could result if the sensitive technology were revealed to unauthorized persons.

4. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal are authorized for release and export to the NATO Support and Procurement Agency, NATO Airlift Management Program pursuant to the NATO C–17 SAC MOU.

DEFENSE SECURITY COOPERATION AGENCY,
Arlington, VA.

Hon. BOB CORKER,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 17–19, concerning the Air Force's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the NATO Support and Procurement Agency for defense articles and services estimated to cost $300 million. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

J.W. RIXEY,
Vice Admiral, USN, Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 17–19

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: NATO Support and Procurement Agency (NSPA).

(ii) Total Estimated Value: Major Defense Equipment* $0 million.
Other $300 million.
Total $300 million.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE): None.

Non-MDE: Follow-on support for three (3) C–17 aircraft to include participation in the Global Reach Improvement Program, contract labor for Class I modifications and kits, in-country contractor support, alternate mission equipment, major modification and retrofit, software support, aircraft maintenance and technical support, support equipment, personnel training and training equipment, additional spare and repair parts, technical orders and publications, airworthiness certification support, engine logistics support, inspections, and other U.S. Government and contractor engineering, logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Air Force (X7–D–QAC).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: K8–D–QAG.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: None.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: April 27, 2017.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

NATO Support and Procurement Agency (NSPA)—Continuation of C–17 Logistics Support Services and Equipment

The NATO Support and Procurement Agency (NSPA) has requested the possible sale of follow-on support for three (3) C–17 aircraft to include participation in the Global Reach Improvement Program, contract labor for Class I modifications and kits, in-country contractor support, alternate mission equipment, major modification and retrofit, software support, aircraft maintenance and technical support, support equipment, personnel training and training equipment, additional spare and repair parts, technical orders and publications, airworthiness certification support, engine logistics support, inspections, and other U.S. Government and contractor engineering, logistics and program support. The total estimated program cost is $300 million.

This proposed sale will contribute to the foreign policy and national security of the United States (U.S.) by providing sustainment for three (3) C–17s operated by a consortium of twelve nations, including the U.S. This program flies missions in and around Europe, Afghanistan, Iraq, the Levant, and North Africa. This proposed sale will provide a similar readiness level for these C–17s as U.S.-operated C–17s. The current FMS case supporting these C–17s will expire on 20 September 2017.

The proposed sale will advance U.S. and NATO policy goals of expanding the capabilities of strategic airlift to NATO allies and partners and sustain the ability to deploy in support of contingency operations outside of Europe. As the C–17 is a support asset, it would not affect the basic military balance in the region. NSPA will have no difficulty absorbing this support.

The prime contractor will be the Boeing Corporation of Chicago, Illinois. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will not require the assignment of any additional U.S. Government or contractor representatives to the NATO Support and Procurement Agency.

There will be no adverse impact to U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal are authorized for release and export to the NSPA.

DEFENSE SECURITY COOPERATION AGENCY,
Arlington, VA.

Hon. BOB CORKER,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 17–13, concerning the Navy's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of New Zealand for defense articles and services estimated to cost $1.46 billion. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

J.W. RIXEY,
Vice Admiral, USN, Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 17–13

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) *Prospective Purchaser:* New Zealand.

(ii) *Total Estimated Value:*
Major Defense Equipment* $1.03 billion.
Other $ .43 billion.
Total $1.46 billion.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

Four (4) P–8A Patrol Aircraft, which includes: Eight (8) Multifunctional Information Distribution System Joint Tactical Radio System (MIDS JTRS) (one (1) for each aircraft, two (2) for the ground operations support center, and two (2) spares).

Five (5) Guardian Laser Transmitter Assemblies (GLTA) for the AN/AAQ–24(V)N Large Aircraft Infrared Counter Measures (LAIRCM) system (one (1) for each aircraft and one (1) spare).

Five (5) System Processors for AN/AAQ–24(V)N LAIRCM system (one (1) for each aircraft and one (1) spare).

Thirty (30) AN/AAR–54 Missile Warning Sensors for the AN/AAQ–24(V)N LAIRCM system (six (6) for each aircraft and six (6) spares).

Ten (10) LN–251 with Embedded Global Positioning Systems (GPS)/Inertial Navigations Systems (EGIs) (two (2) for each aircraft and two (2) spares).

Non-MDE includes: Commercial engines; Tactical Open Mission Software (TOMS); Electro-Optical (EO) and Infrared (IR) MX–20HD; AN/AAQ–2(V)1 Acoustic System; AN/APY–10 Radar; ALQ–240 Electronic Support Measures; support equipment; operation support systems; maintenance trainer/classrooms; publications; software, engineering, and logistics technical assistance; foreign Liaison officer support, contractor engineering technical services; repair and return; transportation; aircraft ferry; and other associated training, support equipment and services.

(iv) Military Department: Navy (XX–P–SAH).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: This would be New Zealand's first purchase of the P–8A Patrol Aircraft. New Zealand has one related P–8A case, NZ–P–GEE, which provides P–8A study and technical analysis support.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Annex Attached.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: April 27, 2017.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

New Zealand—P–8A Aircraft and Associated Support

New Zealand has requested the potential sale of up to four (4) P–8A Patrol Aircraft. Each includes: commercial engines, Tactical Open Mission Software (TOMS), Electro-Optical (EO) and Infrared (IR) MX–20HD, AN/AAQ–2(V)1 Acoustic System, AN/APY–10 Radar, ALQ–240 Electronic Support Measures. Also included are eight (8) Multifunctional Information Distribution System Joint Tactical Radio System (MIDS JTRS); five (5) Guardian Laser Transmitter Assemblies (GLTA) for the AN/AAQ–24(V)N; five (5) System Processors for AN/AAQ–24(V)N; thirty (30) AN/AAR–54 Missile Warning Sensors for the AN/AAQ–24(V)N; ten (10) LN–251 with Embedded Global Positioning Systems (GPS)/Inertial Navigations Systems (EGIs); support equipment; operation support systems; maintenance trainer/classrooms; publications; software, engineering, and logistics technical assistance; foreign Liaison officer support, contractor engineering technical services; repair and return; transportation; aircraft ferry; and other associated training, support equipment and services. The total estimated cost is $1.46 billion.

This proposed sale will enhance the foreign policy and national security of the United States by strengthening the security of a Major Non-NATO ally which has been, and continues to be, an important force for political stability within the region. New Zealand is a close ally in the region and an important partner on critical foreign policy and defense issues.

The Government of New Zealand intends to use these defense articles and services to continue its Maritime Surveillance Aircraft (MSA) capability, following retirement of its P–3K maritime patrol aircraft. The sale will strengthen collective defense and enhance New Zealand's regional and global allied contributions.

New Zealand has procured and operated U.S. produced P–3 MSA for over 40 years, providing critical capabilities to NATO and coalition maritime operations. New Zealand has maintained a close MSA acquisition and sustainment relationship with the U.S. Navy over this period. The proposed sale will allow New Zealand to recapitalize, modernize and sustain its MSA capability for the next 30 years. As a long-time P–3 operator, New Zealand will have no difficulty transitioning its MSA force to the P–8A and absorbing these aircraft into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support does not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The prime contractor will be The Boeing Company, Seattle, WA. Additional contractors include:

Air Cruisers Co LLC.
Arnprior Aerospace, Canada.
AVOX Zodiac Aerospace.
BAE.
Canadian Commercial Corporation (CCC)/EMS.
Compass David Clark.
DLS/NiaSat, Carlsbad, CA.
DRS.
Exelis, McLean, VA.
GC Micro, Petaluma, CA.
General Electric, UK.
Harris.
Joint Electronics.
Marin Baker.
Northrop Grumman Corp, Falls Church, VA.
Pole Zero, Cincinnati, OH.
Raytheon, Waltham, MA.
Raytheon, UK.
Rockwell Collins, Cedar Rapids, IA.
Spirit Aero, Wichita, KS.
Symmetries Telephonics, Farmingdale, NY.
Terma, Arlington, VA.
Viking.
WESCAM.

There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will require approximately five (5) contractor representatives to support the program in New Zealand.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 17–13

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The P–8A aircraft is a militarized version of the Boeing 737–800 Next Generation (NG) commercial aircraft. The P–8A is replacing the P3C as the Navy's long-range Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW), Anti-Surface Warfare (ASuW), Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR) aircraft capable of broad-area, maritime and littoral operations. The overall highest classification of the P–8A weapon system is SECRET. The P–8A mission systems hardware is largely UNCLASSIFIED, while individual software elements (mission systems, acoustics, ESM, EWSP, etc.) are classified up to SECRET.

2. P–8A mission systems include:

a. Tactical Open Mission Software (TOMS). TOMS functions include environment planning, tactical aids, weapons planning aids, and data correlation. TOMS includes an algorithm for track fusion which automatically correlates tracks produced by on board and off board sensors.

b. Electro-Optical (EO) and Infrared (IR) MX–20HD. The EO/IR system processes visible EO and IR spectrum to detect and image objects.

c. AN/AAQ–2(V)1 Acoustic System. The Acoustic sensor system is integrated within the mission system as the primary sensor or the aircraft ASW missions. The system has multi-static active coherent (MAC) 64 sonobuoy processing capability and acoustic sensor prediction tools.

d. AN/APY–10 Radar. The aircraft radar is a direct derivative of the legacy AN/APS–137(V) installed in the P–3C. The radar capabilities include GPS selective availability anti-spoofing, SAR and ISAR imagery resolutions, and periscope detection mode.

e. ALQ–240 Electronic Support Measures (ESM). This system provides real time capability for the automatic detection, location, measurement, and analysis of RF-signals and modes. Real time results are compared with a library of known emitters to perform emitter classification and specific emitter identification (SEI).

f. Electronic Warfare Self Protection (EWSP). The P–8A aircraft Directional Infrared Countermeasures (DIRCM) suite consists of the ALQ–213 Electronic Warfare Management System (EWMS), ALE–47 Countermeasures Dispensing System (CMDS), and the AN/AAQ–24(V)N Large Aircraft Infrared Countermeasure (LAIRCM) Guardian Laser Transmitter Assemblies (GLTA) processor, and AAR–54 Missile Warning Sensors (MWS). The AN/AAQ–24(V)N LAIRCM is a self-contained, directed energy countermeasures system designed to protect aircraft from infrared guided surface-to-air missiles. The system features digital technology and microminiature sold state electronics. LAIRCM system software, including Operation Flight Program is classified SECRET. Technical data and documentation to be provided are UNCLASSIFIED.

g. Multifunctional Information Distribution System-Joint Tactical Radio System (MIDS JTRS) is an advanced Link–16 command, control, communications, and intelligence (C3I) system incorporating high-capacity, jam-resistant, digital communication links for exchange of near real-time tactical information, including both data and vice, among air, ground, and sea elements. The MIDS JTRS terminal hardware, publications, performance specifications, operational capability, parameters, vulnerabilities to countermeasures, and software documentation are classified CONFIDENTIAL. The classified information to be provided consists of that which is necessary for the operation, maintenance, and repair (through intermediate level) of the data link terminal, installed systems, and related software.

3. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain access of the P–8A specific hardware and software elements, systems could be reverse engineering to discover USN capabilities and tactics. The consequences of the loss of this technology, to a technologically advanced or competent adversary, could result in the development of countermeasures or equivalent systems, which could reduce system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar advanced capabilities.

4. A determination has been made that the recipient government can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the technology being released as the U.S. Government. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

5. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to New Zealand.

DEFENSE SECURITY COOPERATION AGENCY,
Arlington, VA.

Hon. BOB CORKER,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 16–87, concerning the Department of the Navy's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Israel for defense articles and services estimated to cost $440 million. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

J.W. RIXEY,
Vice Admiral, USN, Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 16–87

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Israel.
(ii) Total Estimated Value:
Major Defense Equipment* $400 million.
Other $ 40 million.
TOTAL $440 million.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE): Thirteen (13) 76mm Naval Guns (includes the Digital Control Console).

Non-MDE: Shipboard spares to support operation and preventive maintenance; spares to support repairs; special tools needed for maintenance; holding and transportation fixtures; test equipment; technical manuals, other documentation, and publications; U.S. Government and the contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services; site surveys of ships and maintenance facilities; installation, checkouts and testing of the systems on the boats; operations and maintenance training; and other related support services.

(iv) Military Department: Navy (LHN).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: None.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: April 26, 2017.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Israel—76mm Naval Gun and Technical Support

The Government of Israel has requested a possible sale of thirteen (13) 76mm naval guns. Also included are shipboard spares to support their operation and preventive maintenance; spares to support repairs; special tools needed for maintenance; holding and transportation fixtures; test equipment; technical manuals, other documentation, and publications; U.S. Government and the contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services; site surveys of ships and maintenance facilities; installation, checkouts and testing of the systems on the boats; operations and maintenance training; and other related support services. The estimated cost is $440 million.

The United States is committed to the security of Israel, and it is vital to U.S. national interests to assist Israel to develop and maintain a strong and ready self-defense capability. This proposed sale is consistent with those objectives. This proposed sale will contribute to the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of a strategic regional partner that has been, and continues to be, an important force for political stability and economic progress in the Middle East.

The proposed sale will improve Israel's capability to meet current and future threats in the defense of its borders and territorial waters. The naval guns will be installed on Israeli Navy SA'AR 4.5 and SA'AR 6 Missile Patrol Boats. One gun will be located at an Israeli Naval Training Center to be used for training maintenance personnel. Israel will have no difficulty absorbing this equipment into its armed forces.

The proposed equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The potential principal contractor will be DRS North America (a Leonardo company). There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will not require the assignment of any additional U.S. Government or contractor representatives to Israel.

There is no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 16–87

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) Of the Arms Export Control Act

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The naval gun system proposed in response to this request is a modem variant of the MK–75 naval gun system. The naval gun system is mounted aboard the ship and supports multiple missions while deployed at sea and at home port stations. The missions include ship's surface to air defense and surface to surface defense or attack modes. It also can be used for sea surface to land surface for bombardment or as offshore artillery to support troops on the ground. This gun system does not include Global Positioning System (GPS) or sensors. The naval gun hardware and support equipment, test equipment, and maintenance spares are UNCLASSIFIED.

2. Some of the prospective ammunition types that may be used with the gun system are either laser or GPS guided. Ammunition is not part of this proposal.

3. The naval gun system provides an interface (Digital Control Console) so that it can be used in conjunction with the ships' Fire Control System (FCS) and Combat Management System (CMS). The FCS and CMS are not proposed as part of this sale.

4. A determination has been made that the recipient country can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the policy justification.

5. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to the Government of Israel.

ANTIQUITIES ACT

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, apparently the Trump administration couldn't let its first 100 days go by without going after America's National Monuments. Anybody who cares about protecting some of the greatest treasures in Oregon and across the country ought to be worried.

The President is lining up an Executive order requiring a review of the boundaries of all National Monuments designated since 1996. It might sound bureaucratic, but it is more than that. The President's Executive order is a short-sighted attempt to roll back protections for some of America's most cherished landscapes.

The Executive order flies in the face of a century-old tradition that has ensured generations of Americans can enjoy natural treasures like the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument in my home State.

Colleagues, for over 100 years, Presidents from both parties have used authority granted by the Antiquities Act to permanently protect special Federal lands as National Monuments, to preserve natural, cultural, and historic values for the benefit of everyone. Two of Oregon's most cherished areas were established as National Monuments through the Antiquities Act: Oregon Caves and Cascade-Siskiyou. Both of these areas have a remarkable diverse range of biological, geological, and historic objects.

I am proud to have worked with President Clinton to establish the original boundaries of the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument in 2000. I am proud to have worked with Senator MERKLEY to expand the monument earlier this year and to expand the boundary of the Oregon Caves National Monument in 2014.

There are two important points to make about this debate.

First, it is important that the individuals who live near and recreate on these lands have an opportunity to make their voices heard. As public lands everywhere, they ultimately belong to all of the people.

Some people, the President included, say these monuments are an example of overreach and designated without the right process.

On this issue, the President is wrong. These monuments are not the result of administrative overreach. The boundaries of these monuments are based on years of collaboration between the administration, States, and local stakeholders.

The second point to make is about rural economies. National Monuments, National Parks, and public lands across the United States are important economic generators for rural communities.

According to a report released just this week, public lands generate billions of dollars in consumer spending and millions of jobs every year. In Oregon, the outdoor recreation economy generated $12.8 billion in consumer spending in 2012 and over 140,000 direct jobs. Nationally, the numbers are even bigger; in 2012, the outdoor rec economy generated $889 billion nationwide and over 7 and a half million jobs.

Colleagues, there is an agenda behind this Executive order, and it puts some of our greatest outdoor treasures and a lot of jobs in danger.

Some members of this administration—including the Secretary of the Interior—have said the right things about public lands, and that was reassuring to millions of people who care about recreation. I hope it wasn't just talk, and I certainly hope the President's Executive order is not the first step in dismantling America's National Monuments and public lands.

70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ''EXODUS 1947'' 'S ARRIVAL IN HAIFA

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, July 18, 2017, marks the 70th anniversary of the day that the ship *Exodus 1947* arrived in Haifa, Israel.

The story of *Exodus 1947* is as important today as it was 70 years ago. In 1947, the world was horrified and outraged by the British policy of violently

preventing Holocaust survivors from reaching Palestine and forcing their return to Europe and refugee camps in Germany. Watching the British Navy ram the *Exodus 1947*, which had 4,515 Holocaust survivors on board, inflamed world opinion and prompted the United Nations Special Committee on Palestine, UNSCOP, to scrutinize the actions of the British. Eventually the British were forced to end their policy of preventing Jewish immigration to Israel, and the State of Israel was born.

Why is the story of the *Exodus 1947* so important that we are still talking about it 70 years later? After all, geopolitical transitions have launched multiple large-scale refugee migrations around the world in the 20th century, including Armenians in 1915, Russians in 1917, Chinese in 1949, Hindus from Pakistan and Muslims from India in 1947, East Germans between 1945 and 1961, Bosnians in the 1990s, Rwandans in 1994, Syrians in 2016—and many more.

The story of the *Exodus 1947* is important to remember and consider today because it reminds us of our responsibility to protect human rights, help people outside of our own borders, stand up for Americans values, and work with our allies and international organizations to advance our goals. It reminds us that our work is not finished. It reminds us that, while it was the Jews on the *Exodus 1947* 70 years ago, political outrages around the world continue to require our leadership and our action.

As a U.S. Senator from Maryland and vigilant friend of the Chesapeake Bay and Maryland's Maritime history, I would like to highlight the fact that, prior to its service in support of Jewish refugees from the Holocaust, the *Exodus 1947* was called the *President Warfield* and it sailed the Chesapeake Bay for the Baltimore Steam Packet Company. The *President Warfield* changed hands many times, from the Baltimore Steam Packet Company to the British Navy to the U.S. Navy to the Potomac Shipwrecking Company, which was actually acting as clandestine purchasing agents of the Haganah who wanted the ship because the conditions that made it ideal for navigating the Chesapeake Bay, shifting sand of 3 feet or less in depth, made it ideal for getting immigrants quickly and closely up to the coastal areas of Palestine.

After the Haganah secured the ship, she was retrofitted in Baltimore from where she sailed towards France to pick up 4,515 Holocaust the refugees and deposit them in Palestine—a plan which was destroyed after the British rammed the ship, prevented the refugees from disembarking in Palestine, detained them in inhumane conditions, and eventually returned them to Germany.

The world witnessed the inhumane treatment of the *Exodus*'s passengers and some righteous people cried out. We continue to talk about the *Exodus 1947* to remind ourselves never to forget both our suffering and our empowerment.

I would like to acknowledge all who have made the creation of this memorial possible. Along with a series of associated commemorative projects, the *Exodus 1947* memorial is the culmination of decades of tireless effort by the Jewish American Society for Historic Preservation, JASHP, to recognize the historic events that led to the formation of Israel. In particular, I applaud the work of Dr. Barry S. Lever, chairman of the 50th Anniversary Commemoration of the Final Voyage of the SS *President Warfied—Exodus 1947*, the Jewish Museum of Maryland, the Chesapeake Bay Museum, and the individuals and organizations here and abroad who have aided in the efforts to honor the *Exodus 1947* and its passengers.

Thank you.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LEWISTON-AUBURN ROTARY CLUB

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, on May 1, 1917, the International Association of Rotary Clubs welcomed a new member into its growing global network of neighbors, friends, and leaders working together for positive change in their communities and around the world. I rise today to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Rotary Club of Lewiston-Auburn in my home State of Maine.

There are more than 35,000 Rotary Clubs worldwide. The Lewiston-Auburn club was the 291st to be chartered and is part of the first great wave of expansion that took the Rotary movement from major American cities to smaller communities and to Canada and Europe.

It is remarkable that what began as a small group of civic leaders in Chicago in 1905 has grown to a service organization of 1.2 million dedicated members in more than 200 countries and territories around the world. In any language, Rotarians live up to their motto of ''Service Above Self.''

Rotary International is a powerful force for good around the world. The global effort to eradicate polio is considered to be the most successful public health campaign in human history, one that would not be possible without Rotary's commitment. When Rotary launched its PolioPlus program back in 1985, it was described as a ''gift from the 20th century to the 21st.'' It has been just that.

In addition to its strong support for PolioPlus, the Lewiston-Auburn Club is part of a Rotary International effort to make affordable and safe water more widely available in Haiti. As a result of this effort, a tanker truck was purchased to address this great humanitarian need.

Locally, the Lewiston-Auburn Rotary Club has a special focus on families and children. The club has been a leader in the creation of Lewiston's Universally Accessible Playground, which will provide recreation for all, regardless of physical or developmental limitations. The club also sponsors an annual event to benefit the Autism Society of Maine and awards scholarships to area high-school graduates pursuing higher education.

''Service Above Self'' has a special meaning to the members of the Lewiston-Auburn Rotary. The application for membership in Rotary International was signed on March, 21, 1917, by Frank W. Hulett of Lewiston. On June 6, 1918, Captain Hulett gave his life in the defense of freedom during the World War I Battle of Belleau Wood in France. Hulett Square in Lewiston, the Frank W. Hulett VFW Post, and the Lewiston-Auburn Rotary Club all help to preserve the memory of this great hero.

When Paul Harris led the way in founding Rotary International 112 years ago, he said this: ''Whatever Rotary may mean to us, to the world it will be known by the results it achieves.'' The results are inspiring and the world is grateful. The Rotary Club of Lewiston-Auburn, ME, is part of that effort, and I congratulate its members for this accomplishments and contributions.

Mr. KING. Mr. President, today I wish to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Rotary Club of Lewiston-Auburn, ME. There are over 35,000 Rotary Clubs worldwide, with the LA Rotary being the 291st. Since 1917, the LA Rotary has demonstrated a commitment to community and global service by supporting local organizations, awarding scholarships to local students, and providing clean water to communities in Haiti. In their 100 years of service, this exceptional organization has gained members who represent the unique and diverse business community of the Lewiston-Auburn area.

The LA Rotary was founded by Captain Frank W. Hulett, who gave his life during WWI on June 6, 1918, at the Battle of Belleau Wood in France. Since Captain Hulett signed the application for membership of Rotary International on March 21, 1917, the LA Rotary has made great contributions to the worldwide Rotary organization of business and professional leaders. The LA Rotary has upheld an international presence by providing humanitarian service, encouraging high ethical standards in all vocations, and helping to build and maintain goodwill and peace throughout the world.

I applaud the LA Rotary's emphasis on local and global charity and giving back to their local communities. The LA Rotary is sponsored by the many donors who attend their successful

fundraisers, including one that takes place at the famous Lewiston Hot Air Balloon Festival. The money raised from these fundraisers has gone towards several valuable projects like the Autism Movie Events, an ongoing project in partnership with a local movie theatre and the Autism Society of Maine. The LA Rotary has sustained their all-inclusive pattern by donating to the construction of the Lewiston Universally Accessible Playground Project. The playground will be barrier free, with smooth and level surfaces to make it easier for those with physical limitations, and is meant to provide an attractive and meaningful space for all, regardless of physical or sensory development. Another example of their excellent charity work is that, each May, the LA Rotary also gives back to local students by choosing seven high school seniors throughout the State to award $1,000 college scholarships.

I wish to join the communities of Lewiston and Auburn, as well as the State of Maine, in congratulating the LA Rotary for this remarkable achievement. I look forward to following their continued growth and service, and I thank them for their commitment to bettering Maine and the world.

OHIO HIGH SCHOOL ARMED SERVICE ENLISTMENT

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, I wish to honor 374 high school seniors in eight northeast Ohio counties for their decision to enlist in the U.S. Armed Forces. Of these 374 seniors from 118 high schools in 98 towns and cities, 86 will enter the Army, 98 will enter the Marine Corps, 55 will enter the Navy, 26 will enter the Air Force, 3 will enter the Coast Guard, 95 will enter our Ohio Army National Guard, and 11 will enter the Ohio Air National Guard. In the presence of their parents/guardians, high school counselors, military leaders, and city and business leaders, all 374 will be recognized on May 10, 2017, at the Northeast Ohio Foundation for Patriotism ''Our Community Salutes'' event.

In a few short weeks, these young men and women will join with many of their classmates in celebration of their high school graduation. At a time when many of their peers are looking forward to pursuing vocational training or college degrees or are uncertain about their future, these young men and women instead have chosen to dedicate themselves to military service in defense of our rights, our freedoms, and our country. They should know that they have the full support of this Senate Chamber and the American people, who are with them in whatever challenges may lie ahead.

It is thanks to their dedication and the dedication of an untold number of patriots just like them that we are able to meet here today in the U.S. Senate and openly debate the best solutions to the problems that confront our country. It is thanks to their sacrifices that the United States of America remains a beacon of hope and freedom in a dangerous world. We are grateful to them, and we are grateful to their parents and their communities for instilling in them not only the mental and physical abilities our Armed Forces require, but also the character, the values, and the discipline that leads someone to put service to our Nation over self.

I would like to personally thank these 374 graduating seniors for volunteering to risk their lives in defense of our Nation. We owe them, along with all those who serve our country, a deep debt of gratitude.

I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the names of the 374 high school seniors.

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

UNITED STATES ARMY—86

Allan–Berea; Anderson–Medina; Ashford–Maple Heights; Barnes–Cleveland; Bartoe–Medina; Bonzcek–Fairport Harbor; Brogan–Brunswick; Brown–Eastlake; Burhoe–Fairlawn; Carey–Cleveland; Cawrse–Mentor; Clark–Warrensville Heights; Clements–Maple Heights; Copen–Cleveland; Dachtler–Parma; Daugherty–Madison; Davis E.–North Royalton; Davis T.–Mentor; DeGeorge–Mentor; Dohar–Strongsville; Dolan–Willoughby Hills; Dorsey–Akron; Dunn–Maple Heights; Eakin–Tallmadge; Flanders–Akron; Frazier–Lorain; Gamble–Euclid; Gatrell–Lorain; Grissom–LaGrange; Hagan–Perry; Hayes T.–Euclid; Hayes E.–Strongsville; Hochenberry–Brook Park; Horvat–Medina; Jackson–North Ridgeville; Johnson–Hudson; Karl–Elyria; Kelly–North Ridgeville; Kincer–Amherst; Kline–Rootstown; Kurtz–Elyria; Lebron–Lorain; Lee–Conneaut; Lin–Lakewood; Major–Tallmadge.

Marthe–Mentor; Martin–Cleveland; McCraw–Cuyahoga Falls; McVay–Akron; Mooney–Eastlake; Morales Rubio–Cleveland; Motsinger–Strongsville; Nagy–Wickliffe; Nelson–Elyria; Oyola–Lorain; Patterson–Euclid; Plymel–Mentor On The Lake; Reeves–Garfield Heights; Reid–Elyria; Ripley–North Ridgeville; Rodriguez–Lorain; Rohlman–Wogaman–Akron; Ryman–North Olmsted; Sikora–Parma; Smith–Medina; Sokolowski–Medina; Solon–Streetsboro; Stillisano–Wickliffe; Surovey–Wellington; Szabo–Olmsted Falls; Taveras Smith–Euclid; Vance–Olmsted Falls; Volak–Lorain; Walker–Perry; Washko–Hinckley; Webb–Medina; White–Maple Heights; Whitelaw–Reminderville; Wilfong–Garrettsville; Wilkinson–Medina; Williams–Medina; Wilson–Cleveland; Workman–Ravenna; Wright–Cuyahoga Falls; Zalek–Sheffield Lake; Zaranko–Medina.

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE—26

Bibby–Brecksville; Brezovsky–North Ridgeville; Caraballo–Brooklyn; Cottingham–Olmsted Falls; Cummings–Akron; Dominguez–Cleveland; Evans, II–Akron; Freed–Brook Park; Genovese–Akron; Griffith–Ravenna; Hamilton–Bay Village; Hicks–Brook Park; Hocker–South Euclid; Jones–Akron; Kerr–LaGrange; Maximovich–North Olmsted; Patton–Elyria; Pritts–Mogadore; Robinson–Akron; Ryder–Strongsville; Sandoval–Chagrin Falls; Schillero–Garfield Heights; Swatson–Akron; Waites–Lakewood; Williams–Akron; Williams–Kipton.

OHIO AIR NATIONAL GUARD—11

Aguiar–Medina; Alston–Amherst; Brittian–Richmond Heights; Burton–Ashland; Chappell–Brunswick; Delzoppo–Eastlake; Fassnacht–Warren; Pauly–Ashland; Reik–Eastlake; Tector–Medina; Winterfield–Oak Harbor.

OHIO ARMY NATIONAL GUARD—95

Anderson–Cleveland; Ashdown–Willowick; Asian–Mayfield Heights; Bailey–Kent; Bailey–Elyria; Bailosky–Elyria; Baxter–Akron; Becerra–Cleveland; Bertrand–Conneaut; Blevins–Elyria; Bowens–Lorain; Boyes–Ravenna; Brosky–Lorain; Burkhard–Barberton; Cacho–Cleveland; Clements–Brook Park; Cornier–Akron; Cooper–Ashtabula; Deets–Highland Heights; Doepel–Mogadore; Earlenbaugh–Peninsula; Elliott–Painesville; Ewart–Lodi; Felix–Euclid; Ferguson–Akron; Fields–Akron; Figueroa–Akron; Flemister I.–Bedford; Flemister J.–Bedford; Fohner–Cuyahoga Falls; Garrison–Medina; Gerlach–Avon Lake; Gibbs–Stow; Gilbreath–Wadsworth; Glaze–Akron; Grimm–Barberton; Harrison–Barberton; Hoover–Hiram; Hoyle–Akron; Huffriagle–Mayfield Heights; Jackson–Euclid; Jones–Akron; Kelly–Twinsburg; Keown–Mogadore; Klinehamer–Bratenahl; Koloda–Medina; Lane–Grafton; Layne–Doylestown; Lebron –Lorain; Lero–Munroe Falls.

Lietke–Uniontown; Light–Parma Heights; Lockhart–Cleveland; Loparo–Wadsworth; Lutkus–Cuyahoga Falls; Madigan–Rittman; Massaro–Akron; Miles–Cleveland; Mobley–Sheffield Lake; Moore–Barberton; Nicely–Novelty; Novak–Elyria; Ohara–Fairport Harbor; Pennington–Cleveland; Pescatrice–Medina; Pierce A.–Mogadore; Pierce J.–Sheffield Lake; Piper–Cleveland; Priestly–Twinsburg; Prochniak–Stow; Prunty–Elyria; Raines–Elyria; Reyes–Cleveland; Riley–Bedford; Rinearson–Seville; Robinson–Twinsburg; Russell–Cleveland; Scurlock–Chardon; Sellers–Eastlake; Simmons–Jefferson; Sims–Cleveland; Singleton–Wadsworth; Sinsel–Mogadore; Smith–Bay Village; Spigner–Euclid; Thompson–Cleveland; Trujillo–Grafton; Veon–Olmsted Township; Vroman–Sheffield Lake; Warner–Doylestown; Wells–Parma Heights; Williams–Maple Heights; Workman–Ravenna; Yontz–Rittman; Yurtz–Medina.

UNITED STATES MARINE CORP—98

Allen–Willowick; Anglin–Cleveland; Anthony–Brook Park; Baggett–Chagrin Falls; Banks–Rootstown; Barr–Kent; Bell–Streetsboro; Benefield–Akron; Bentley–Kent; Bly–Cuyahoga Falls; Boose–Medina; Bouhall–Cleveland; Boyer–Akron; Brady–Painesville; Breault–Brook Park; Brown–Cleveland; Bruce–Middleburg Heights; Bufkin–Mentor; Caradine–North Olmsted; Collins–Perry; Cooper–Barberton; Cox–Solon; Creter–Brook Park; Cupedro–Parma; Dabydeen–Cleveland; Devore–Parma; Fincham–Mogadore; Flanagan–Munroe Falls; Frankland–Norton; Frejofsky–Twinsburg; Garrett–Akron; Geiss–Brunswick; Gerber–Clinton; Gerson–Mentor; Green–Hudson; Haas–Solon; Hall–Barberton; Harasyn–Ravenna; Harte–Cleveland; Hernandez–Cleveland; Hill–Middleburg Heights; Houston–Brunswick; Hughes–Mentor; Hurst–Cuyahoga Falls; Johnson–North Olmsted.

Kawalek–Strongsville; Ken–Mentor; Kiel–Ashtabula; Kimmel–Norton; King–LaGrange; Konicek–Stow; Kramer–Akron; Krickhan–Brunswick; Kucharski–Ravenna; Lord–Parma; Manigault–Cleveland Heights; McConahy–Kent; McCraney–Akron;

McElroy–Wadsworth; McHugh–Mentor; McLaren–Rock Creek; McLaughlin–Bay Village; Mendez–Painesville; Morris–Mentor; Moyer–Twinsburg; Nagy–Conneaut; Navratil–Chagrin Falls; Nelson–Litchfield; Ortizramos–Cleveland; Pachecorangel–Painesville; Palchesko–Aurora; Paulo–North Olmsted; Phillipp–Ashtabula; Ploskonka–Parma; Pollay–Ashtabula; Purtell–Eastlake; Ratigan–Parma; Ray–Akron; Roth–Clinton; Schlauch–Wadsworth; Serrano–Olmsted Falls; Serva–Ravenna; Shanley–Ravenna; Simon–Willoughby; Skidmore–Ravenna; Smigel–Cleveland; Smith–Ashtabula; Stack–Brook Park; Staley–Parma; Stansky–Norton; Strausser–Stow; Sturgill–Conneaut; Watkins–Strongsville; Watts–Stow; Weiss–Mentor; Wilmoth–Medina; Wilson–Cuyahoga Falls; Wood–Conneaut.

UNITED STATES NAVY—55

Acadimia–Geneva; Bowles–Rock Creek; Branham–Barberton; Bryan–Ashtabula Coyle–Brooklyn; Czworkowski–Strongsville; Davis–Brunswick; Dreger–Ravenna; Dudek–Bay Village; Gibson–Medina; Grays–Cleveland; Gregoire–Streetsboro; Halabica–Fairview Park; Hardman–Mentor; Higgins–Geneva; Hill–Mentor; Horton–Ashtabula; Irizarry–Olmsted Township; Juncker–Grafton; Koehring–Wadsworth; Konopa–Geneva; Kozma–Alliance; Lada–Lakewood; Martin S.–Chippewa Lake; Martin A.–Willoughby.

McClanahan–New London; Miller–Kirtland; Mills–Kent; Moore–Wadsworth; Morgan–Parma; Muzic–Ravenna; O'Donnell–Parma; On–Akron; Palcic–Chardon; Phillips–Willoughby; Piper–Mentor; Rayburn–Medina; Rodriguez N.–Cleveland; Rodriguez A.–Olmsted Falls; Selders–Medina; Sharpe–Geneva; Shepherd–Avon Lake; Singleton Jr.–Ravenna; Skipper–Akron; Sledz–Painesville; Sokalski–Mentor; Soto–Painesville; Sweeney–Mentor; Tirado–Lorain; Trimble–Parma; Verdi–Geneva; Walker–Ashtabula; Welk–Madison; Williams–Ashtabula; Wimberly–Streetsboro.

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD—3

Montgomery–Fremont; Reese–Sagamore Hills; Sanders–Brunswick.

TRIBUTE TO STEVE STIVERS

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, today I wish to join my colleagues from Ohio in congratulating our good friend and colleague, Congressman STEVE STIVERS, on his new promotion to the rank of brigadier general in the Ohio Army National Guard.

This is a big deal. STEVE is one of the highest ranking National Guard officers ever to serve simultaneously in Congress. I think that is really important because it gives him a unique perspective as a legislator and puts him in an unique position to advocate on behalf of our troops.

The title is a great honor, but what is more important, in my view, is the fact that he earned it. STEVE has been serving Ohio as a soldier for 30 years. He deployed to the Middle East during Operation Iraqi Freedom, while simultaneously serving as a State senator in Columbus, and he even earned a Bronze Star for his accomplishments.

Since he came home, he has been serving his neighbors in central and southern Ohio as a legislator for more than a decade. We are really grateful for that because he has been a faithful Representative in speaking up for his constituents.

I want to congratulate STEVE, Karen, and the kids on this exciting time for them. On behalf of the people of Ohio, I want to thank STEVE and all of our troops for their service.

Thank you.

TRIBUTE TO DR. CANDACE KENDLE

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the contributions of Dr. Candace Kendle, recipient of the 2017 Lifetime Achievement Award from the Association for Corporate Growth, Cincinnati.

As the visionary cofounder of one of the largest international providers of drug development services to the biopharmaceutical industry, Dr. Candace Kendle is being honored for her achievements in founding and growing Kendle International, Inc., from a small, private startup in 1981, to a global clinical research organization traded on NASDAQ, KNDL, and acquired by INC Research in 2011.

Under Dr. Kendle's leadership, Kendle International delivered a wide range of clinical development and clinical trial services to biopharmaceutical companies around the world, including the development of Celebrex.

Prior to founding Kendle International, Inc., Kendle held senior faculty positions at several leading academic institutions, including the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, Schools of Pharmacy and Medicine; the University of Pennsylvania, School of Medicine; Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science; and the University of Cincinnati College of Pharmacy.

A first-generation college student, Dr. Candace Kendle earned a bachelor of science and doctorate in pharmacy from the University of Cincinnati, College of Pharmacy, and was awarded an honorary Ph.D. in science from the University of Cincinnati in 2010.

Dr. Candace Kendle is recognized worldwide as a leader in the CRO industry and is a founding member and past chairperson of the Association of Clinical Research Organizations. She has served as a mentor for the Fortune—U.S. State Department Global Women Leaders Mentoring Partnership and as a member of the Committee of 200, where she served on the board of directors for its foundation. She has also served on biotechnology task forces for the U.S. Department of Commerce, as well as for two Ohio Governors.

Dr. Kendle serves on the boards of directors for USP, Emerson, and the H.J. Heinz Company. She is cofounder of Next Chapter Press and ReadAloud.org, an organization to encourage children and adults to read aloud to encourage lifelong learning. She is also a former trustee for the University of Cincinnati, the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center, and numerous other nonprofit organizations.

TRIBUTE TO DAVE SHOJI

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, today I wish to congratulate retiring University of Hawaii women's volleyball coach Dave Shoji on an outstanding 42-year career.

In 1975, at just 28 years old, Dave Shoji tallied his first win as head coach of the Rainbow Wahine volleyball team. Since then, he has gone on to compile one of the most decorated resumes in collegiate volleyball history. In fact, there has been no such thing as a losing season during Dave's tenure with the Rainbow Wahine. In 2013, he earned the title of the National Collegiate Athletic Association's alltime winningest coach. In 2016, he became just the second coach in NCAA history to win 1,200 matches.

He departs the university with an astonishing record of 1,202 wins, 204 losses, and 1 tie, including 4 national titles, 25 conference championships, and more than 30 postseason national tournament appearances.

Coach Shoji leaves the confines of the Stan Sheriff Center with a legacy much larger than the numbers.

It is fitting that Coach Shoji's tenure began just a few short years after the enactment of title IX, a law now named for Hawaii Congresswoman Patsy Mink who championed its passage. Title IX seeks to ensure equal opportunity and prohibit sex discrimination in higher education. It is most widely known for expanding opportunities for women in collegiate athletics. Coach Shoji's tenure at the helm of Rainbow Wahine volleyball has clearly demonstrated the value of opportunity for young people—not just young women—in Hawaii. His teams have been examples of what can be achieved through hard work, professionalism, and teamwork. That example has led many local players to aspire to 1 day don the green and white Wahine jersey, play in front of sold-out crowds, and look to Coach Shoji in the center of the huddle during a nail-biting set. Parents were always hopeful, too, that they would witness their daughter's transition from girl to woman in the care of Coach Shoji and company.

During his tenure, Coach Shoji's has coached 86 All-American selections, 35 conference players of the year and, 175 all-conference picks. His players' successes extended beyond the court. More than 100 players have earned all-academic conference recognitions under his guidance.

Over the past 42 years, Coach Shoji has built a reputation for excellence built on hard work, integrity, and love for the game. He has helped shape

countless student athletes and brought pride to their families and legions of fans. Coach Shoji has set the standard for those who follow.

Hawaii extends our warmest aloha and mahalo nui loa to Coach Shoji for his passion and commitment to not only the sport of volleyball but the State of Hawaii. ''Let's go 'Bows!''

TRIBUTE TO TERESA SHOOK

Ms. HIRONO, Mr. President, one of the life lessons that I try to keep in mind is that one person can make a difference.

Today I wish to recognize one of these remarkable people—Hawaii resident Teresa Shook.

Most of my colleagues probably don't know who Teresa Shook is, but I am certain all of them know what difference she has made.

Teresa lives in the idyllic but isolated community of Hana on Maui. Following the recent Presidential election, like many Americans, Teresa had concerns about where our country was headed. She felt that it was time to pursue real action. Unsure of where to begin, she took to social media, posing the following question: ''What if women marched on Washington around Inauguration Day en masse?''

Little did she know what that simple Facebook post would lead to. She created a public events page, which caught the attention of 40 people in the first few hours of its posting. She woke up the following morning to find that the event had garnered international attention, and more than 10,000 individuals had pledged their attendance. The numbers and support would only go up from there.

On January 20, 2017, the President delivered his inaugural address in which he painted a grim picture of America. The next day, millions across the United States and around the globe took to the streets to demonstrate against his bleak view of our shared future. Coined the Women's March on Washington, the event united women, men, and children of all ages, races, and religions. From Hilo to Hanalei, San Francisco to New York City, the march assisted in generating meaningful conversations about how to combat the hateful rhetoric and discriminatory agenda of the new President. It has helped and encouraged everyday citizens, many of whom have never been involved in politics, to get outside of their comfort zone and participate.

The need for progressive solutions to reform our criminal justice system, protect and expand access to affordable health care, improve immigration, fight climate change, and protect a woman's right to choose are just a few of the many reasons why Teresa and many others alike decided action needed to take place.

The Women's March on Washington was one event, but the network it generated remains engaged. It is now a global movement against nationalism, discrimination, and hate. It all started when a retired attorney, grandmother of four, and breast cancer survivor decided to speak up. While demonstrations are integral to democracy, the Women's March on Washington pointed to the need for everyday individuals to take their desire for political advancement beyond the streets.

Teresa started a global movement from her rural Maui home, showing us the difference one person can make. It is up to all of us to keep that momentum going, to stay engaged. For those who feel as though their voice has no place within a conversation to pursue change, Teresa has shown a path forward. If there is anything to learn from Women's March on Washington, it is that we are not alone. There is no greater time than now to mobilize your communities and make your voices heard.

Teresa, who has been honored by the Maui County Council and continues to be recognized by many internationally, is a shining example of what we call ''Living Aloha.'' A heartfelt mahalo nui loa to Teresa.

REMEMBERING PAUL LEVENTHAL

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. President, this year we mark the 10th anniversary of the untimely passing of our friend Paul Leventhal. Paul was a trailblazer when it came to addressing the dangers of nuclear power and nuclear weapons. I personally relied on Paul's insight to craft my approach to preventing the spread of dangerous nuclear technology and nuclear weapons.

As a Senate staffer during the 1970s, Paul made major contributions to our Nation's security by working on two landmark laws.

The first was the Energy Reorganization Act, which created the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the agency that later became the Department of Energy. Before this legislation, a single agency, the Atomic Energy Commission, was responsible for both promoting nuclear energy and regulating the nuclear industry, to the detriment of public safety.

Paul was also instrumental for passage of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Act, which required countries to adopt full-scope safeguards from the International Atomic Energy Agency before they could receive civilian nuclear technology from the United States. This requirement later became an international standard when the Nuclear Suppliers Group adopted it.

During the 1980s, Paul played an important role in helping to kill the Clinch River Breeder reactor, which shut down U.S. efforts to develop a full plutonium fuel cycle. Throughout this time, he was also a strong proponent of my efforts to close loopholes in U.S. nuclear nonproliferation law, including tightening nuclear export controls affecting China following Tiananmen Square. He actively worked to ensure House passage of the Nuclear Proliferation Prevention Act, which imposed sanctions on those who knowingly contribute to efforts to acquire unsafeguarded fissile material or nuclear weapons.

Paul was ahead of his time in raising alarms about the threat of nuclear terrorism. His warnings about the need to reduce reliance on highly enriched uranium and to limit the use of plutonium for commercial nuclear power later formed the core of the global nuclear security agenda. His warnings about the flaws in nuclear cooperation agreements continue to reverberate in today's debates over the export of nuclear technology.

Today's ongoing nuclear challenges remind me of our solemn responsibility to carry out Paul's legacy.

The nuclear industry continues to push against stringent safety standards. The Trump administration wants to promote the export of nuclear technology and walk away from the Obama administration's nuclear security mission. The India nuclear deal continues to increase the risk of a nuclear clash in South Asia. Plans for commercial-scale plutonium reprocessing in East Asia threaten to create a new nuclear arms race in the region.

All of these challenges will require us to take inspiration from Paul's work to promote nuclear security and nonproliferation. To honor Paul, we must rededicate ourselves to fighting these threats to international peace and human survival.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO NEIL SMIT

● Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, today I wish to pay tribute to a great Pennsylvanian and a great American: Neil Smit. Neil has made extraordinary contributions to our country through his service as a Navy SEAL, his leadership and innovation in the business world, and his dedication to community service.

Neil has served as a leader in the business community for decades with Comcast, Charter Communications, AOL, Pillsbury, and Nabisco. His notable career began serving his country as a member of the elite Navy SEAL Team Six. He retired from Active Duty as a lieutenant commander. He has never lost his commitment to his country and his comrades. In the private sector, he has worked on behalf of veterans by championing Comcast's pledge to hire veterans and to help Active-Duty servicemembers transition from the military to the civilian workforce.

In all of his roles, Neil has always exemplified the best traits of a leader.

During his time as CEO of Comcast Cable, Neil led his team to innovate and develop game-changing products and businesses that benefited consumers.

His devotion to his community is evident in his role with the executive committee of the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia's board of trustees. Neil is also a member of the board of visitors for Nicholas School of the Environment at his alma mater, Duke University. He also serves as chairman of the executive committee and is a member of the board of directors of C–SPAN.

Neil's life of service and leadership is an inspiration to many, and we thank him for his service to our great country.●

TRIBUTE TO EMMA HOMER

● Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, this week, I have the distinct honor of recognizing Emma Homer of Ashland for the many years she has helped children in eastern Montana. Her generosity and compassion is commendable.

Emma began fostering children in 1979. For nearly 38 years, she has opened her home, and her heart in order to help the local community. The longevity of her noble accomplishment is truly remarkable. Over the years, Emma has directly helped to improve the lives of over 40 children through her service as foster parent. The children she has cared for have varied in age from infants just a few months old to teenagers in high school.

In addition to her contributions as a foster parent, since 1981, Emma has worked in the food service department at St. Labre Indian School. During that time, she has helped prepare hundreds of thousands of nutritious meals for the students and staff.

A loving home and a warm meal are essential elements in every Montana community. Emma has helped provide both of these essentials to many children for well over a generation. Thank you, Emma, for the outstanding example you have set for the next generation.●

REMEMBERING CLYDE SEE, JR.

● Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Clyde See, Jr., a noble veteran, a dedicated community leader, and a beloved member of my home State of West Virginia.

Clyde and I were friends for many years, and I witnessed his unwavering dedication to public service, firsthand.

Clyde was born in Hardy County and continued to give back to his community throughout his life. He was a high school dropout, who received his GED after serving in the U.S. Army. With use of his G.I. Bill, Clyde earned his undergraduate degree from West Virginia University and then attended WVU's Law School. He served as an attorney in Hardy County for 47 years.

Clyde always took great pride in helping others achieve their goals. From 1975 through 1984, he served in the West Virginia House of Delegates, with 6 years as speaker of the house. Among his many achievements and roles in leadership, he served as president of the board of directors of the Mutual Protective Insurance Association for the 20 years, serving on its board for more than 40 years.

He ran unsuccessfully for Governor in 1984 and 1988, but never gave up the opportunity to give back to the State he loved.

He was a member of the Moorefield Volunteer Fire Company and fought fires years ago because he believed so deeply in public service. He knew that, if you can count your blessings, you can share your blessings, and he did indeed share them with the Moorefield region and with our entire State.

Clyde was especially passionate about the passage of Hardy County School Bonds that would enable new schools to be built in the county. He worked tirelessly for this cause and was so very proud to see the passage of the bond for the new Moorefield High School. Clyde knew that our students are the future of our State and Nation and that we must do everything in our power to equip them with the tools they need for success. He had great compassion for students who needed support and was very proactive in making sure they were prepared for the future.

One of Clyde's favorite projects was Brighton Park, located just outside of Moorefield. It is a project that came to fruition, thanks to Clyde's design, development, and funding efforts, as well as with his determination to create something special for the entire region to enjoy. Clyde often enjoyed walking through this beautiful park, and now it remains in our hearts as a place to cherish his memory.

Clyde had the most wonderful sense of humor and such a quick wit. He was also one of the most brilliant and eloquent speakers I have ever heard. It is my hope that his friends and family have found comfort in one another and in the support of our entire home State for their loss.

What is most important is that he lived a full life, surrounded by his loved ones. Clyde was a true West Virginian, always willing to help a neighbor in need. I extend my condolences to his loving companion, Marion Marshall, his children Josh, Lucas, Jenny, and Amy and their families, and to his brother Jack. Again, I am honored to recognize Clyde's memory, as well as the unwavering love he had for his family, friends, and our home State.●

REMEMBERING DR. ROLANDO ALUM, SR.

● Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, today I wish to honor the memory of the late Dr. Rolando Alum, Sr., of West New York, NJ. At the age of 104, Dr. Alum passed away on March 27, a month ago today, leaving behind a legacy of community service and a family full of achievements. I had the distinct pleasure of knowing Dr. Alum personally. He was my constituent from when I first served in the New Jersey State Assembly over 25 years ago to when I became U.S. Senator. I could not be more impressed with the accomplished life of Dr. Rolando Alum, Sr., and his embodiment of the American spirit.

Dr. Alum was born and raised in Havana, Cuba. He began his career as a professor and dean at a local technical college, educating his students on literature and grammar. He then went on to become a dentist, treating patients with whom who he would keep in touch throughout his life. In 1961, Dr. Alum and his family fled Cuba in pursuit of liberty and a better life after the Castro brothers turned the island-nation into a Soviet-modeled totalitarian country.

When Dr. Alum came to the United States, he decided to settle and raise his family in Hudson County, NJ. His first job was at a cardboard box factory in Essex County. Wanting more for his family, Dr. Alum worked tirelessly to become a successful research scientist for a pharmaceutical company, eventually joining a research team that included a Nobel Prize winning doctor. At his company, Dr. Alum established important quality control measures and developed influential drugs.

The light of Dr. Alum's life was his family. Rolando and his pre-deceased wife, Sara, raised a truly exceptional family by any measure. I have worked side by side with his oldest son Roland Alum, Jr., on many civic and community engagement activities to better the State of New Jersey. Dr. Alum's youngest son Luis is an accomplished attorney and a leader in New Jersey's legal community. Rolando's grandson, Alexander, is the Assistant U.S. Attorney in Puerto Rico. Janelle, Dr. Alum's granddaughter, is a school teacher in my hometown of Union City. With such a successful family, I have no doubt that Dr. Alum was proud of each and every member of his family.

One of Dr. Alum's dreams was to one day see democracy in Cuba. Fearing violence from the Castro regime, Dr. Alum, like countless other Cubans who fled from the Castro regime, never returned to his native land. As a U.S. Senator of Cuban descent, I have dedicated my entire career to fighting for the Cuban people and will continue to work towards bringing freedom to Cuba.

Dr. Rolando Alum, Sr., was a model U.S. citizen and is a testament to what Cuban Americans, Latinos, and immigrants contribute to our great country.●

RECOGNIZING THE ALASKA ACES

● Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize Alaska's one and only professional sports team and an organization that has become part of the fabric that makes up the Alaskan society, the Alaska Aces.

The team started as a small semi-professional hockey team in the late eighties known as the Anchorage Aces, but quickly gained the support and popularity of the community and rose through the ranks to become a professional hockey organization in 1995. In 2003, after becoming the Alaska Aces, the team joined the East Coast Hockey League and almost immediately became one of the league's powerhouses, winning three ECHL Kelly Cups in 2006, 2011, and most recently 2014.

The Aces have produced some of the biggest Alaskan professional athletes such as Scotty Gomez, who went on to win two Stanley Cups and became an NHL All-Star on multiple occasions, and Eagle River's Brian Swanson, whose hockey career took him to the National Hockey League, Europe, and finally back home to the Aces before he retired in 2012.

As good as the team has become, it is their dedication to the community that made them a staple with multiple generations of Alaskans. Whether it was their ''Skate with the Aces'' events in which families could skate with the players and get to know them after home games or the ever-popular military appreciation games, this organization has made a lasting impact on the lives of many hockey players and fans alike.

The Aces are full of fond memories and traditions such as the cowbell crew, which is the name given to its enthusiastic fan section. Then there is Bobby Hill, also known as ''The Horseman,'' who is not only the Alaska Aces superfan in charge of keeping the energy alive at every home game by going up and down the length of the ice riding a hockey stick, but is also a Special Olympics Gold medalist.

The Alaska Aces will be dearly missed in what is certainly an unfortunate end for such a storied franchise. Economic times have taken a hit on many sectors of the Alaskan economy, and we have seen the impact with our sporting events, but Alaskans are resilient and our sports teams and athletes are no different. Hockey has a rich history in Alaska and is culturally ingrained in the fabric of our State. Alaska has over 45 hockey associations, reflecting the passion and involvement shared by Alaskans of all ages. It is this passion and dedication to the sport that will surely keep the spirit and memory of our Alaska Aces alive.

I want to commend the leadership of the team's owners, the dedication of its fans and players, and the community for making the Alaska Aces one of the league's best franchises and perennial contenders for the ECHL Kelly Cup every season. The Aces play their very last game on April 8, 2017; however, the memories that countless Alaskans have with our hockey team will not fade, but will last a lifetime.●

REMEMBERING DR. ANDRE LARSON

● Mr. ROUNDS. Mr. President, today I wish to honor the life and legacy of Dr. Andre Larson, who passed away on March 24, 2017, at the age of 74. Dr. Larson grew up in Brookings, SD, and graduated from the University of South Dakota, USD, in Vermillion with a BFA in music education and later, a MM degree in music literature.

A lifelong advocate for fine arts and music, Dr. Larson created the renowned National Music Museum in Vermillion, on USD's campus. Today it has the most complete collection of well-preserved and historically important musical instruments in the world.

The National Music Museum houses and preserves over 15,000 rare musical instruments: Stradivarius violins, and one of the only two Stradivarius mandolins that exist, dombaks and didgeridoos, the oldest playing harpsicord, more than a dozen saxophones made by the instrument's inventor, Adolphe Sax, bouzoukis, hurdy-gurdies, and a bombardon, a 1772 bowlback mandolin, a Javanese gamelan, lutes, flutes, harmonicas, and zithers, the world's oldest cello, called the King cello and created around 1550 A.D., Johnny Cash's guitar, and everything in-between, including a substantial collection of historic instrument documents.

Dr. Andre Larson was inspired by his father, Arne B. Larson, who was a high school music teacher, bandleader, and later a college music professor. Arne began collecting musical artifacts and instruments while serving in World War II, and his passion for music was not lost on his son, Andre. Wanting to share his and his father's passion, Andre conceptualized, planned, and implemented the development of the National Music Museum in Vermillion. In 1972, he was hired as the first director of the museum, then named the Shrine to Music Museum, with his father's 2,500 instruments as the foundation. Andre served as director of the museum until his retirement in 2011.

Under Dr. Andre Larson's leadership, the museum expanded significantly from one room in the Carnegie Library to now occupying the entire building today. His intelligence and great knowledge of instruments and history enabled him to select the best instruments for the collection. He also had a very unique skill in matching instruments to generous donors who would allow the museum to showcase their purchases.

In addition to teaching at the University of South Dakota and running the museum, Dr. Larson also created, produced, and marketed many musical events every year that sometimes included internationally known musicians performing music with the museum instruments. He also created the Nation's only graduate degree program in the history of musical instruments.

Throughout his life, Dr. Larson also served three terms as the president of the American Musical Instrument Society. He edited its newsletter for 18 years, and he was honored with the Curt Sachs Award, the highest honor given by the American Musical Instrument Society. In 2016, he was elected to the South Dakota Hall of Fame for his contributions to the arts in South Dakota.

Dr. Andre Larson's commitment to excellence and his dedication to music have inspired thousands of students and music lovers, not just across South Dakota, but throughout the entire Nation. His work in creating the National Music Museum will continue to inspire others for as long as there is music and there are people.●

TRIBUTE TO ALEC DiFRUSCIA

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize the hard work of my Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee intern Alec DiFruscia. Alec hails from Tewksbury, MA, and is a senior at George Washington University.

During his internship, Alec assisted the committee's press office. He is a dedicated worker who has been committed to getting the most out of his internship. I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Alec for all of the fine work he did for the committee and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO JOHN ''JACK'' KILL

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize the hard work of my Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee intern Jack Kill. Jack hails from Houston, TX, and is a rising senior at Notre Dame University.

While interning on the Commerce Committee, Jack assisted the Consumer Protection, Product Safety, Insurance, and Data Security Subcommittee. He is a dedicated worker who was committed to getting the most out of his internship. I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Jack for all of the fine work he did for the committee and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO ALTER WIENER

● Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I want to take a few minutes today to honor Alter Wiener, a selfless Oregonian who endured the horrors of the Holocaust

and has shared his powerful story with countless students and adults. I would like to share his story with the Senate so that my colleagues can hear how he survived the Nazi atrocities and came to live in Hillsboro, OR, teaching young men and women in my home State the dangers of intolerance and exclusion.

Alter Wiener's story begins more than 90 years ago in the Polish town of Chrzanów, where he was born on October 8, 1926. Like many Jewish children, he attended both public and religious school and was taught the importance of family and faith. What was a happy childhood ended abruptly when the Nazis invaded his hometown in September of 1939. Mr. Wiener fled with his mother and siblings, but his father, forced to stay behind, was ultimately murdered by the Germans.

Barred from practicing his faith or attending school, Mr. Wiener was eventually ripped from his home in the middle of the night and deported to Blechhammer, a forced labor camp. He saw and experienced unimaginable horrors as he was moved from labor camp to labor camp, spending 3 long years in five concentration camps. When the Russian Army freed him in May 1945, he weighed only 80 pounds.

Mr. Wiener made his way to New York City, where he joined his cousins, the only other members of a family that numbered 123 to survive the Nazi atrocities. In New York, he worked tirelessly to rebuild his life, earning his high school diploma at age 38 and then a degree from Brooklyn College. He got married, started a family, and worked as an accountant. Through it all, he rarely spoke of surviving the Holocaust or the atrocities he had witnessed and endured. He says now that he simply didn't feel others would understand.

In 2000, Mr. Wiener moved to Hillsboro, OR. The Oregon Holocaust Resource Center asked him to share his story, and, though he hesitated at first, he ultimately agreed to speak at Century High School. To his surprise, Mr. Wiener received hundreds of letters from students thanking him for changing their lives.

Mr. Wiener has since gone on to volunteer his time and energy to Holocaust education, giving more than 850 presentations to a wide range of audiences. In 2007, he published his autobiography ''64735: From a Name to a Number,'' detailing his harrowing experiences under the Nazi regime and his life thereafter.

Many of my colleagues have heard me talk about my own family's experience: how my parents fled Nazi Germany, how not everybody made it out, how we lost family in Kristallnacht and at Theresienstadt. Tolerance and inclusiveness are issues the Wydens take very seriously. That is why it is so special for me to be able to pay tribute to Alter Wiener today and to honor his work.

There is a concept in Judaism called tikkun olam, which means to repair the world. Truly, I can think of no bigger way to describe Alter Wiener's work than repairing the world. Every time he shares his story, more people understand the horrors of Nazi persecution and the inhumanity of the Holocaust. People also understand the importance of tolerance, pluralism, and inclusion, and they see the power of the human spirit to endure.

Today I offer my deepest affection and a heartfelt thank you to Alter Wiener for using your voice to teach generations to come to never, ever forget.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:55 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1695. An act to amend title 17, United States Code, to provide additional responsibilities for the Register of Copyrights, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that pursuant to section 4003(e) of the 21st Century Cures Act (Public Law 114–255), the Minority Leader appoints the following individual on the part of the House of Representatives to the Health Information Technology Advisory Committee: Dr. Steven Lane of Palo Alto, California.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 1695. An act to amend title 17, United States Code, to provide additional responsibilities for the Register of Copyrights, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

EXECUTIVE REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The following executive report of a nomination was submitted:

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

*Scott Gottlieb, of Connecticut, to be Commissioner of Food and Drugs, Department of Health and Human Services.

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

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. CASEY, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. FRANKEN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. HARRIS, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHATZ, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 954. A bill to prevent harassment at institutions of higher education, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Ms. WARREN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. REED, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. FRANKEN, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 955. A bill to ensure high-income earners pay a fair share of Federal taxes; to the Committee on Finance.

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

S. 956. A bill to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to limit the authority of the President to withdraw areas from oil and gas leasing, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BROWN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. COONS, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. FRANKEN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. HARRIS, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MURPHY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. REED, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. TESTER, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. KAINE, and Mr. PETERS):

S. 957. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to ensure that women members of the Armed Forces and their families have access to the contraception they need in order to promote the health and readiness of all members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MERKLEY, and Mr. CARPER):

S. 958. A bill to authorize Federal agencies to establish prize competitions for innovation or adaptation management development relating to coral reef ecosystems, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. BROWN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. LEAHY, and Mr. NELSON):

S. 959. A bill to restore protections for Social Security, Railroad retirement, and Black Lung benefits from administrative offset; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mr. GARDNER):

S. 960. A bill to amend title 44, United States Code, to protect open, machine-readable databases; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. YOUNG:

S. 961. A bill to develop a database of projects that are proven or promising in terms of moving welfare recipients into work; to the Committee on Finance.

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

S. 962. A bill to establish a grant program to support landscape-scale restoration and management, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. YOUNG (for himself, Mr. BENNET, Ms. COLLINS, and Mr. BOOKER):

S. 963. A bill to encourage and support partnerships between the public and private sectors to improve our Nation's social programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

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

S. 964. A bill to protect broadband users from unfair or deceptive practices relating to privacy or data security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

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

S. 965. A bill to improve passenger vessel security and safety, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mr. PORTMAN):

S. 966. A bill to establish a program to accurately document vehicles that were significant in the history of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. STABENOW (for herself, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. LEAHY, Ms. COLLINS, and Mr. SCHUMER):

S. 967. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to increase access to ambulance services under the Medicare program and to reform payments for such services under such program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

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

S. 968. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to designate certain medical facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs as health professional shortage areas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. KAINE, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Ms. WARREN):

S. 969. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to expand the military student identifier program to cover students with a parent who serves in the reserve component of the Armed Forces; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

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

S. 970. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the care provided by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to newborn children; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. THUNE:

S. 971. A bill to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to include in each regulatory impact analysis for a proposed or final rule an analysis that does not include any other proposed or unimplemented rule; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. CRUZ (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, and Mr. PERDUE):

S. 972. A bill to promote democracy and the rule of law on Nicaragua, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. ALEXANDER (for himself and Mr. CORKER):

S. 973. A bill to designate as wilderness certain public land in the Cherokee National Forest in the State of Tennessee, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LEE, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. COTTON, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 974. A bill to promote competition in the market for drugs and biological products by facilitating the timely entry of lower-cost generic and biosimilar versions of those drugs and biological products; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. DAINES (for himself, Ms. HEITKAMP, Mr. BARRASSO, and Mr. TESTER):

S. 975. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the Indian coal production tax credit; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. ENZI (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. ALEXANDER, Ms. HEITKAMP, Ms. WARREN, Mr. REED, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WARNER, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. KAINE, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. ROUNDS, Ms. DUCKWORTH, and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 976. A bill to restore States' sovereign rights to enforce State and local sales and use tax laws, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself and Mr. HELLER):

S. 977. A bill to permit occupational therapists to conduct the initial assessment visit and complete the comprehensive assessment under a Medicare home health plan of care for certain rehabilitation cases; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. MURRAY:

S. 978. A bill to direct the Secretary of Education to establish an award program recognizing excellence exhibited by public school system employees providing services to students in prekindergarten through higher education; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BENNET:

S. 979. A bill for the relief of Arturo Hernandez-Garcia; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. CAPITO (for herself, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. FRANKEN, and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. 980. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for payments for certain rural health clinic and Federally qualified health center services furnished to hospice patients under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Finance.

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

S. 981. A bill to require the Secretary of Energy to establish an energy efficiency materials pilot program; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. CASEY:

S. 982. A bill to amend the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act to require mandatory reporting of incidents of child abuse or neglect, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Ms. DUCKWORTH):

S. 983. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the work opportunity credit for certain youth employees, and to extend empowerment zones; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Ms. DUCKWORTH):

S. 984. A bill to amend the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to provide funding, on a competitive basis, for summer and year-round employment opportunities for youth ages 14 through 24; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. HASSAN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. FRANKEN, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. CARDIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. NELSON, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. REED, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. HARRIS, and Mr. LEAHY):

S. 985. A bill to prohibit the Secretary of the Interior from revising the approved oil and gas leasing program for fiscal years 2017 through 2022; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. CARPER, and Mr. COONS):

S. 986. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to permit hospitals in all-urban States to be considered Medicare dependent hospitals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

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

S. 987. A bill to transition away from fossil fuel sources of energy to 100 percent clean and renewable energy by 2050, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself and Mr. ROBERTS):

S. 988. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make qualified biogas property and qualified manure resource recovery property eligible for the energy credit and to permit new clean renewable energy bonds to finance qualified biogas property, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. TILLIS:

S. Res. 144. A resolution designating May 1, 2017, as ''National Purebred Dog Day''; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. DONNELLY, Mr. SCOTT, Mr. CARPER, Mr. WICKER, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. COONS, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. PETERS, Mr. CARDIN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. FRANKEN, and Mr. BOOKER):

S. Res. 145. A resolution designating April 2017 as ''Financial Literacy Month''; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. FLAKE, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. CRAPO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. MCCAIN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. REED, and Mr. BOOKER):

S. Res. 146. A resolution designating April 30, 2017, as El Dia de Los Ninos-Celebrating Young Americans; considered and agreed to.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Ms. HARRIS):

S. Res. 147. A resolution commemorating the 25th anniversary of the 1992 Los Angeles civil unrest; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself and Mr. SCHATZ):

S. Con. Res. 14. A concurrent resolution authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for an event to celebrate the birthday of King Kamehameha I; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 104

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 104, a bill to provide for the vacating of certain convictions and expungement of certain arrests of victims of human trafficking.

S. 109

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 109, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage under the Medicare program of pharmacist services.

S. 203

At the request of Mr. BURR, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. STRANGE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 203, a bill to reaffirm that the Environmental Protection Agency may not regulate vehicles used solely for competition, and for other purposes.

S. 223

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the names of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON), the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) and the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) were added as cosponsors of S. 223, a bill to provide immunity from suit for certain individuals who disclose potential examples of financial exploitation of senior citizens, and for other purposes.

S. 236

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the names of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN), the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) were added as cosponsors of S. 236, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reform taxation of alcoholic beverages.

S. 251

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 251, a bill to repeal the Independent Payment Advisory Board in order to ensure that it cannot be used to undermine the Medicare entitlement for beneficiaries.

S. 260

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 260, a bill to repeal the provisions of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act providing for the Independent Payment Advisory Board.

S. 319

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) and the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) were added as cosponsors of S. 319, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish within the Department of Veterans Affairs a center of excellence in the prevention, diagnosis, mitigation, treatment, and rehabilitation of health conditions relating to exposure to burn pits.

S. 322

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 322, a bill to protect victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and dating violence from emotional and psychological trauma caused by acts of violence or threats of violence against their pets.

S. 339

At the request of Mr. NELSON, the names of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) were added as cosponsors of S. 339, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to repeal the requirement for reduction of survivor annuities under the Survivor Benefit Plan by veterans' dependency and indemnity compensation, and for other purposes.

S. 372

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 372, a bill to amend the Tariff Act of 1930 to ensure that merchandise arriving through the mail shall be subject to review by U.S. Customs and Border Protection and to require the provision of advance electronic information on shipments of mail to U.S. Customs and Border Protection and for other purposes.

S. 379

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 379, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to eliminate the five month waiting period for disability insurance benefits under such title for individuals with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.

S. 384

At the request of Mr. BLUNT, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 384, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the new markets tax credit, and for other purposes.

S. 393

At the request of Mr. SCOTT, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 393, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow employers a credit against income tax for employees who participate in qualified apprenticeship programs.

S. 404

At the request of Mr. ISAKSON, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 404, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to improve the process for inspections of device establishments for granting export certifications.

At the request of Mr. BENNET, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. DONNELLY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 404, supra.

S. 407

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 407, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the railroad track maintenance credit.

S. 428

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 428, a bill to amend titles XIX and XXI of the Social Security Act to authorize States to provide coordinated care to children with complex medical conditions through enhanced pediatric health homes, and for other purposes.

S. 445

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 445, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure more timely access to home health services for Medicare beneficiaries under the Medicare program.

S. 486

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 486, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the non-application of Medicare competitive acquisition rates to complex rehabilitative wheelchairs and accessories.

S. 538

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 538, a bill to clarify research and development for wood products, and for other purposes.

S. 540

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 540, a bill to limit the authority of States to tax certain income of employees for employment duties performed in other States.

S. 623

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 623, a bill to enhance the transparency and accelerate the impact of

assistance provided under the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to promote quality basic education in developing countries, to better enable such countries to achieve universal access to quality basic education and improved learning outcomes, to eliminate duplication and waste, and for other purposes.

S. 652

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 652, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize a program for early detection, diagnosis, and treatment regarding deaf and hard-of-hearing newborns, infants, and young children.

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 652, supra.

S. 708

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) were added as cosponsors of S. 708, a bill to improve the ability of U.S. Customs and Border Protection to interdict fentanyl, other synthetic opioids, and other narcotics and psychoactive substances that are illegally imported into the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 736

At the request of Mr. ENZI, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 736, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for collegiate housing and infrastructure grants.

S. 750

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 750, a bill to prohibit drilling in the outer Continental Shelf, to prohibit coal leases on Federal land, and for other purposes.

S. 751

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the names of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) and the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) were added as cosponsors of S. 751, a bill to amend title 54, United States Code, to establish, fund, and provide for the use of amounts in a National Park Service Legacy Restoration Fund to address the maintenance backlog of the National Park Service, and for other purposes.

S. 794

At the request of Mr. ISAKSON, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 794, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act in order to improve the process whereby Medicare administrative contractors issue local coverage determinations under the Medicare program, and for other purposes.

S. 829

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 829, a bill to reauthorize the Assistance to Firefighters Grants program, the Fire Prevention and Safety Grants program, and the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response grant program, and for other purposes.

S. 849

At the request of Mr. KING, the names of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) and the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) were added as cosponsors of S. 849, a bill to support programs for mosquito-borne and other vector-borne disease surveillance and control.

S. 856

At the request of Mrs. MCCASKILL, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS), the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) and the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) were added as cosponsors of S. 856, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 and the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act to combat campus sexual assault, and for other purposes.

S. 858

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) and the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) were added as cosponsors of S. 858, a bill to provide protection for survivors of domestic violence or sexual assault under the Fair Housing Act.

S. 900

At the request of Ms. HIRONO, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 900, a bill to improve the Federal Pell Grant program, and for other purposes.

S. 914

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 914, a bill to improve and coordinate interagency Federal actions and provide assistance to States for responding to public health challenges posed by emerging contaminants, and for other purposes.

S. 916

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the names of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) and the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) were added as cosponsors of S. 916, a bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act with regard to the provision of emergency medical services.

S. 918

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 918, a bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to provide for automatic continuing resolutions.

S.J. RES. 16

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 16, a joint resolution approving the discontinuation of the process for consideration and automatic implementation of the annual proposal of the Independent Medicare Advisory Board under section 1899A of the Social Security Act.

S. CON. RES. 12

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS), the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) were added as cosponsors of S. Con. Res. 12, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that those who served in the bays, harbors, and territorial seas of the Republic of Vietnam during the period beginning on January 9, 1962, and ending on May 7, 1975, should be presumed to have served in the Republic of Vietnam for all purposes under the Agent Orange Act of 1991.

S. RES. 60

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 60, a resolution designating May 5, 2017, as the ''National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Native Women and Girls''.

S. RES. 106

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 106, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate to support the territorial integrity of Georgia.

S. RES. 108

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 108, a resolution reaffirming the commitment of the United States to the United States-Egypt partnership.

S. RES. 136

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. GARDNER), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) and the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 136, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the 102nd anniversary of the Armenian Genocide.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. BROWN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. WARREN, Mr.

WHITEHOUSE, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. LEAHY, and Mr. NELSON):

S. 959. A bill to restore protections for Social Security, Railroad retirement, and Black Lung benefits from administrative offset; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President. Every day, Social Security provides vital benefits to millions of Americans who worked and paid into the system. To ensure workers would receive full access to these fundamental lifeline benefits, for many years, the law protected these earned benefits from attempts to recover debts. However, 20 years ago, Congress suddenly reversed course, and made a change to the law that allowed the government to cut Social Security and other hard-earned benefit payments in order to collect student loan and other federal debts, like home loans owed to the Veterans Administration, and food stamp overpayments. Now, more and more seniors are finding themselves subject to government garnishment of their already modest Social Security benefits in order to recoup student loan debts. In fact, the New York Times published an editorial recently titled, ''Haunted by Student Debt Past Age 50'' that highlighted the worsening struggle that seniors face with student debt.

Student loan debt is becoming an increasingly serious problem in Oregon and across the Nation, with students and their families burdened by crushing student loan debt. Even in the best circumstances, many families will struggle to pay off crippling loans for years to come. However, for people who rely on benefits like Social Security after retirement, disability, or the death of a family member, making payments on student loans or other Federal debts can become an insurmountable hardship.

Because of the lifeline nature of these earned benefits, for more than 40 years the law prevented all creditors from collecting hard-earned Social Security, railroad retirement, and black lung benefits to recoup debts. The only exceptions included unpaid Federal taxes, child support or alimony payments, and court-ordered victim restitution. These protections helped ensure that our social safety net programs were functioning as intended—something I think we can all agree is essential to preserving Social Security and other earned benefits.

Astonishingly, when the law changed as part of a 1996 omnibus budget bill, these changes were never fully debated in Congress. This means Members of Congress never had the chance to really explore how this policy would affect beneficiaries. The legislation ultimately included some protections for the most vulnerable, but even those protections have not been updated in 20 years.

We now realize what a profound effect the loss of these protections has had on retirees and individuals with disabilities, who often live on fixed incomes. More and more seniors and people with disabilities are having their Social Security and other lifeline benefits taken away to pay federal debts. For example, according to a GAO report, in 2004, about 8,000 seniors were living in poverty after having their benefits garnished to recover a student debt. In 2015, over 67,000 seniors were subject to garnishment for a student debt and living in poverty. Congress should restore sanity to the system, and reestablish the protections that these beneficiaries deserve.

That is why I, along with Senators BROWN, MERKLEY, FEINSTEIN, HIRONO, SCHATZ, LEAHY, NELSON, WHITEHOUSE, GILLIBRAND, SANDERS, and WARREN are reintroducing the Protection of Social Security Benefits Restoration Act. The bill would restore the strong protections in the law that prevented the government from taking away earned benefits to pay federal debts, and guarantee beneficiaries will be able to maintain a basic standard of living by receiving the benefits they have earned. The bill is supported by Social Security Works, the Arc of the United States, Latinos for a Secure Retirement, Puget Sound Advocates for Retirement Action, PSARA, AFL-CIO, the Economic Opportunity Institute, the National Organization for Women, Justice in Aging, Gray Panthers NYC, Alliance for Retired Americans, the National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare, Global Policy Solutions, AARP, the American Federation of Government Employees, and the International Union, United Automobile, Aerospace & Agricultural Implement Workers of America, UAW.

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

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

S. 959

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Protection of Social Security Benefits Restoration Act''.

SEC. 2. PROTECTING SOCIAL SECURITY, RAILROAD RETIREMENT, AND BLACK LUNG BENEFITS FROM ADMINISTRATIVE OFFSET.

(a) PROHIBITION ON ADMINISTRATIVE OFFSET AUTHORITY.—

(1) ASSIGNMENT UNDER SOCIAL SECURITY ACT.—Section 207 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 407) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(d) Subparagraphs (A), (C), and (D) of section 3716(c)(3) of title 31, United States Code, as such subparagraphs were in effect on the date before the date of enactment of the Protection of Social Security Benefits Restoration Act, shall be null and void and of no effect.''.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) Section 14(a) of the Railroad Retirement Act of 1974 (45 U.S.C. 231m(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following: ''. The provisions of section 207(d) of the Social Security Act shall apply with respect to this title to the same extent as they apply in the case of title II of such Act.''.

(B) Section 2(e) of the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act (45 U.S.C. 352(e)) is amended by adding at the end the following: ''The provisions of section 207(d) of the Social Security Act shall apply with respect to this title to the same extent as they apply in the case of title II of such Act.''

(b) REPEAL OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFSET AUTHORITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (3) of section 3716(c) of title 31, United States Code, is amended—

(A) by striking ''(3)(A)(i) Notwithstanding'' and all that follows through ''any overpayment under such program).'';

(B) by striking subparagraphs (C) and (D); and

(C) by redesignating subparagraph (B) as paragraph (3).

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Paragraph (5) of such section is amended by striking ''the Commissioner of Social Security and''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to any collection by administrative offset occurring on or after the date of enactment of this Act of a claim arising before, on, or after the date of enactment of this Act.

By Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LEE, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. COTTON, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 974. A bill to promote competition in the market for drugs and biological products by facilitating the timely entry of lower-cost generic and biosimilar versions of those drugs and biological products; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, over the past few years, the national headlines have been dominated by stories about the high cost of pharmaceuticals. We have seen jaw-dropping examples, such as the unconscionable price increase overnight by Turing Pharmaceuticals of their drug for patients with HIV, from $13.50 to $750 per pill.

Pharmaceutical companies should be compensated for their important work developing lifesaving treatments. But when companies engage in predatory practices at the expense of consumers, we must act. That is why today I am reintroducing the Creating and Restoring Equal Access to Equivalent Samples, or CREATES, Act, bipartisan legislation to end inappropriate delay tactics that are used by some brand-name drug manufacturers to block competition from more affordable generic drugs. I am glad to be joined by Senators GRASSLEY, KLOBUCHAR, LEE, and FEINSTEIN, and several other Senators of both parties in introducing this bill today.

The first delay tactic addressed by the CREATES Act involves the withholding of drug samples that generic manufacturers need to gain regulatory approval. Federal law requires generic competitors to prove that their low-cost alternative is as equally safe and effective as the brand-name drug with which they wish to compete. Unfortunately, some brand-name companies are preventing generic manufacturers from obtaining the samples they need to make the necessary comparison. This simple delay tactic uses regulatory safeguards as a weapon to block competition. The FDA has reported receiving more than 100 inquiries from generic product developers who were unable to access samples of a brand-name drug to compare their generic product.

The second delay tactic addressed by the CREATES Act involves the development of shared safety protocols. For some high-risk drugs, Federal law requires a generic drug manufacturer to join the brand-name drug manufacturer in a single, shared safety protocol for distribution of the drug. Despite this requirement, some brand-name companies are refusing to negotiate shared safety protocols with potential generic competitors, again undermining those competitors' ability to gain FDA approval for their generic versions of such drugs.

The revised version of the CREATES Act also allows the FDA more discretion to approve alternative safety protocols, rather than require parties to develop shared safety protocols. Any safety protocol approved by the FDA must meet the rigorous statutory standards already in place.

These exclusionary practices thwart competition and deny consumers the benefit of lower drug prices. I share the concerns of Vermonters and Americans across the country that many prescription drugs are simply too expensive. When brand companies can artificially raise the price of drugs by using predatory practices, patients suffer. Illnesses get worse. Families, government programs, and other payers in the healthcare system ultimately bear those added, unnecessary costs.

This legislation is not a silver bullet to address all of the complex problems driving the high costs of medications. In addition to the delayed entry of generic drugs, I am troubled by the rising cost of treatments for opioid overdoses, which remain expensive for local law enforcement agencies, even though there are generic competitors. In Vermont, many patients are grappling with the extremely high cost of a new drug for hepatitis C that will likely have years of market exclusivity before generic alternatives can be made. Last year we learned the price of EpiPen had increased by almost 500 percent since 2009, now costing roughly $600 for a two-pack. The sharp increase in price combined with the relatively short shelf life of the product—1 year to 18 months—has put this lifesaving drug out of reach for many.

Think for a moment about the impact of price hikes on the family of a patient facing a life-threatening illness. Across the country, hardworking Americans feel like the system is rigged against them by corporations that are looking to make a profit at any price. With examples like Turing and Mylan, it is no wonder they feel that way.

The CREATES Act is one piece of the puzzle, addressing anticompetitive behavior that delays the creation of affordable generic drugs. Drug affordability is a bipartisan issue that affects each and every American. These reforms will make a difference. I hope other Senators will join us in supporting these bipartisan reforms.

By Mr. DAINES (for himself, Ms. HEITKAMP, Mr. BARRASSO, and Mr. TESTER):

S. 975. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the Indian coal production tax credit; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the legislation to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the Indian coal production tax credit be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 975

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

SECTION 1. PERMANENT EXTENSION OF INDIAN COAL PRODUCTION TAX CREDIT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 45(e)(10)(A) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking ''per ton of Indian coal—'' and all that follows and inserting the following: ''per ton of Indian coal—

''(i) produced by the taxpayer at an Indian coal production facility, and

''(ii) sold (either directly by the taxpayer or after sale or transfer to one or more related persons) to an unrelated person.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to coal produced and sold after January 1, 2017.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself and Mr. HELLER):

S. 977. A bill to permit occupational therapists to conduct the initial assessment visit and complete the comprehensive assessment under a Medicare home health plan of care for certain rehabilitation cases; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I wish to introduce the Medicare Home Health Flexibility Act of 2017. I am pleased that my colleague, the senior Senator from Nevada, Mr. HELLER, has agreed to cosponsor this bipartisan, no-cost legislation that would allow occupational therapists to perform the initial home health assessment visit and comprehensive assessments in cases in which occupational therapy is ordered by the physician, along with speech language pathology and/or physical therapy services, and skilled nursing care is not required. Our bill will help ensure that Medicare beneficiaries receive timely access to essential home health therapy care.

Occupational therapists have long been recognized as a valuable component of our Nation's healthcare workforce and a critical aspect of home healthcare because of their focus on patients' functional capabilities and their expertise in home safety. Physicians frequently order occupational therapy as part of an initial plan of care for patients requiring home health care, alongside the qualifying services of physical therapy, speech-language pathology, and skilled nursing. Under certain circumstances, an occupational therapist is allowed to perform the comprehensive assessment to determine a Medicare beneficiary's continuing need for home healthcare. However, under current Medicare law, occupational therapists are not permitted to conduct the initial assessment for home health cases, even when occupational therapy is included in the physician's order and when the case is exclusively related to rehabilitation therapy. Additionally, occupational therapists are not allowed to complete the comprehensive assessment unless occupational therapy is the qualifying service.

By permitting occupational therapists to perform initial home health assessment visits and comprehensive assessments in limited circumstances, the Medicare Home Health Flexibility Act can help prevent delays in the time it takes for Medicare beneficiaries to receive essential home healthcare, especially in underserved areas where access to physical therapists and speech language pathologists may be limited. On January 13, 2017, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, or CMS, released the final conditions of participation, or COPs, for home health agencies participating in Medicare and Medicaid. These new COPs expand the content of the home health comprehensive assessment to include the patient's functional, psychosocial, and cognitive status, all of which are areas of expertise for occupational therapists. The new COPs also require the creation of a patient-centered plan of care that is informed by the comprehensive assessment. As a result of their comprehensive education and unique training, occupational therapists are qualified to perform the necessary assessments to adhere to these new CMS home health guidelines.

It is important to note that the Medicare Home Health Flexibility Act would apply only to rehabilitation therapy cases in which skilled nursing

care is not required. Nurses would still be required to conduct the initial assessment for all home health cases in which skilled nursing care is ordered by the physician. Also, although the legislation would allow occupational therapists to conduct the initial home health assessment visit and comprehensive assessments, it would not alter the existing criteria for establishing eligibility for the Medicare home health benefit.

I urge my colleagues to join me and Senator HELLER and to support the Medicare Home Health Flexibility Act to correct the discrepancy in Medicare regulations between therapy providers and to help ensure timely access to essential, high-quality home health therapy care for Medicare beneficiaries.

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

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

S. 977

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Medicare Home Health Flexibility Act of 2017''.

SEC. 2. PERMITTING OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS TO CONDUCT THE INITIAL ASSESSMENT VISIT AND COMPLETE THE COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT UNDER A MEDICARE HOME HEALTH PLAN OF CARE FOR CERTAIN REHABILITATION CASES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section 484.55(a)(2) or 484.55(b)(3) of title 42, Code of Federal Regulations, or any other provision of law, an occupational therapist may be designated to conduct the initial assessment visit and to complete the comprehensive assessment for an individual who is eligible for home health services under title XVIII of the Social Security Act if the referral order by the physician—

(1) does not include skilled nursing care;

(2) includes occupation therapy; and

(3) includes physical therapy or speech language pathology.

(b) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in subsection (a) shall be construed to provide for initial eligibility for coverage of home health services under title XVIII of the Social Security Act solely on the basis of a need for occupational therapy.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Ms. DUCKWORTH):

S. 983. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the work opportunity credit for certain youth employees, and to extend empowerment zones; to the Committee on Finance.

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

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

S. 983

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Helping to Encourage Real Opportunities (HERO) for At-Risk Youth Act''.

SEC. 2. MODIFICATION AND EXTENSION OF WORK OPPORTUNITY CREDIT FOR CERTAIN YOUTH EMPLOYEES.

(a) EXPANSION OF CREDIT FOR SUMMER YOUTH.—

(1) CREDIT ALLOWED FOR YEAR-ROUND EMPLOYMENT.—Section 51(d)(7)(A) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—

(A) by striking clauses (i) and (iii) and redesignating clauses (ii) and (iv) as clauses (i) and (ii), respectively,

(B) in clause (i) (as so redesignated), by striking ''(or if later, on May 1 of the calendar year involved),'' and inserting '', and'', and

(C) by adding at the end the following new clause:

''(iii) who will be employed for not more than 20 hours per week during any period between September 16 and April 30 in which such individual is regularly attending any secondary school.''.

(2) INCREASE IN CREDIT AMOUNT.—Section 51(d)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking subparagraph (B) and by redesignating subparagraph (C) as subparagraph (B).

(3) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) Subparagraph (F) of section 51(d)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking ''summer''.

(B) Paragraph (7) of section 51(d) of such Code is amended—

(i) by striking ''summer'' each place it appears in subparagraphs (A),

(ii) in subparagraph (B), as redesignated by paragraph (2), by striking ''subparagraph (A)(iv)'' and inserting ''subparagraph (A)(ii)'', and

(iii) by striking ''SUMMER'' in the heading thereof.

(b) CREDIT FOR AT-RISK YOUTH.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (1) of section 51(d) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking ''or'' at the end of subparagraph (I), by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (J) and inserting '', or'' , and by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(K) an at-risk youth.''.

(2) AT-RISK YOUTH.—Paragraph (14) of section 51(d) of such Code is amended to read as follows:

''(14) AT-RISK YOUTH.—The term 'at-risk youth' means any individual who is certified by the designated local agency—

''(A) as—

''(i) having attained age 16 but not age 25 on the hiring date,

''(ii) as not regularly attending any secondary, technical, or post-secondary school during the 6-month period preceding the hiring date,

''(iii) as not regularly employed during such 6-month period, and

''(iv) as not readily employable by reason of lacking a sufficient number of basic skills, or

''(B) as—

''(i) having attained age 16 but not age 21 on the hiring date, and

''(ii) an eligible foster child (as defined in section 152(f)(1)(C)) who was in foster care during the 12-month period ending on the hiring date.''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to individuals who begin work for the employer after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 3. EXTENSION OF EMPOWERMENT ZONES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1391(d)(1)(A)(i) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking ''December 31, 2016'' and inserting ''December 31, 2019''.

(b) TREATMENT OF CERTAIN TERMINATION DATES SPECIFIED IN NOMINATIONS.—In the case of a designation of an empowerment zone the nomination for which included a termination date which is contemporaneous with the date specified in subparagraph (A)(i) of section 1391(d)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (as in effect before the enactment of this Act), subparagraph (B) of such section shall not apply with respect to such designation if, after the date of the enactment of this section, the entity which made such nomination amends the nomination to provide for a new termination date in such manner as the Secretary of the Treasury (or the Secretary's designee) may provide.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Ms. DUCKWORTH):

S. 984. A bill to amend the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to provide funding, on a competitive basis, for summer and year-round employment opportunities for youth ages 14 through 24; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

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

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

S. 984

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Creating Pathways for Youth Employment Act''.

SEC. 2. YOUTH EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES.

Title I of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act is amended—

(1) by redesignating subtitle E as subtitle F; and

(2) by inserting after subtitle D the following:

''Subtitle E—Youth Employment Opportunities

''SEC. 176. DEFINITIONS.

''In this subtitle:

''(1) ELIGIBLE YOUTH.—The term 'eligible youth' means an individual who—

''(A) is not younger than age 14 or older than age 24; and

''(B) is—

''(i) an in-school youth;

''(ii) an out-of-school youth; or

''(iii) an unemployed individual.

''(2) HARDEST-TO-EMPLOY, MOST-AT-RISK.—The term 'hardest-to-employ, most-at-risk', used with respect to an individual, includes individuals who are homeless, in foster care, involved in the juvenile or criminal justice system, or are not enrolled in or at risk of dropping out of an educational institution and who live in an underserved community that has faced trauma through acute or long-term exposure to substantial discrimination, historical or cultural oppression, intergenerational poverty, civil unrest, a high rate of violence, or a high rate of drug overdose mortality.

''(3) INDIAN TRIBE; TRIBAL ORGANIZATION.—The terms 'Indian tribe' and 'tribal organization' have the meanings given the terms in

section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304).

''(4) IN-SCHOOL YOUTH; OUT-OF-SCHOOL YOUTH.—The terms 'in-school youth' and 'out-of-school youth' have the meanings given the terms in section 129(a)(1).

''(5) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The term 'institution of higher education' has the meaning given the term in section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001).

''(6) SUBSIDIZED EMPLOYMENT.—The term 'subsidized employment' means employment for which the employer receives a total or partial subsidy to offset costs of employing an eligible youth under this subtitle.

''(7) TRIBAL AREA.—The term 'tribal area' means—

''(A) an area on or adjacent to an Indian reservation;

''(B) land held in trust by the United States for Indians;

''(C) a public domain Indian allotment;

''(D) a former Indian reservation in Oklahoma; and

''(E) land held by an incorporated Native group, Regional Corporation, or Village Corporation under the provisions of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.).

''(8) TRIBAL COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY.—The term 'tribal college or university' has the meaning given the term 'Tribal College or University' in section 316(b) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1059c(b)).

''(9) TRIBALLY DESIGNATED HOUSING ENTITY.—The term 'tribally designated housing entity', used with respect to an Indian tribe (as defined in this section), has the meaning given in section 4 of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4103).

''SEC. 176A. ALLOCATION OF FUNDS.

''(a) ALLOCATION.—Of the funds appropriated under section 176E that remain available after any reservation under subsection (b), the Secretary may make available—

''(1) not more than $1,500,000,000 in accordance with section 176B to provide eligible youth with subsidized summer employment opportunities; and

''(2) not more than $2,000,000,000 in accordance with section 176C to provide eligible youth with subsidized year-round employment opportunities.

''(b) RESERVATION.—The Secretary may reserve not more than 10 percent of the funds appropriated under section 176E to provide technical assistance and oversight, in order to assist eligible entities in applying for and administering grants awarded under this subtitle.

''SEC. 176B. SUMMER EMPLOYMENT COMPETITIVE GRANT PROGRAM.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—

''(1) GRANTS.—Using the amounts made available under 176A(a)(1), the Secretary shall award, on a competitive basis, planning and implementation grants.

''(2) GENERAL USE OF FUNDS.—The Secretary shall award the grants to assist eligible entities by paying for the program share of the cost of—

''(A) in the case of a planning grant, planning a summer youth employment program to provide subsidized summer employment opportunities; and

''(B) in the case of an implementation grant, implementation of such a program, to provide such opportunities.

''(b) PERIODS AND AMOUNTS OF GRANTS.—

''(1) PLANNING GRANTS.—The Secretary may award a planning grant under this section for a 1-year period, in an amount of not more than $200,000.

''(2) IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS.—The Secretary may award an implementation grant under this section for a 3-year period, in an amount of not more than $5,000,000.

''(c) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—To be eligible to receive a planning or implementation grant under this section, an entity shall—

''(A) be a—

''(i) State, local government, or Indian tribe or tribal organization, that meets the requirements of paragraph (2); or

''(ii) community-based organization that meets the requirements of paragraph (3); and

''(B) meet the requirements for a planning or implementation grant, respectively, specified in paragraph (4).

''(2) GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIPS.—An entity that is a State, local government, or Indian tribe or tribal organization referred to in paragraph (1) shall demonstrate that the entity has entered into a partnership with State, local, or tribal entities—

''(A) that shall include—

''(i) a local educational agency or tribal educational agency (as defined in section 6132 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7452));

''(ii) a local board or tribal workforce development agency;

''(iii) a State, local, or tribal agency serving youth under the jurisdiction of the juvenile justice system or criminal justice system;

''(iv) a State, local, or tribal child welfare agency;

''(v) a State, local, or tribal agency or community-based organization, with—

''(I) expertise in providing counseling services, and trauma-informed and gender-responsive trauma prevention, identification, referral, and support (including treatment) services; and

''(II) a proven track record of serving low-income vulnerable youth and out-of-school youth; and

''(vi) if the State, local government, or Indian tribe or tribal organization is seeking an implementation grant, and has not established a summer youth employment program, an entity that is carrying out a State, local, or tribal summer youth employment program; and

''(vii) an employer or employer association; and

''(B) that may include—

''(i) an institution of higher education or tribal college or university;

''(ii) a representative of a labor or labor-management organization;

''(iii) an entity that carries out a program that receives funding under the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5601 et seq.) or section 212 of the Second Chance Act of 2007 (42 U.S.C. 17532);

''(iv) a collaborative applicant as defined in section 401 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11360) or a private nonprofit organization that serves homeless individuals and households (including such an applicant or organization that serves individuals or households that are at risk of homelessness in tribal areas) or serves foster youth;

''(v) an entity that carries out a program funded under the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.), including Native American programs funded under section 116 of that Act (20 U.S.C. 2326) and tribally controlled postsecondary career and technical institution programs funded under section 117 of that Act (20 U.S.C. 2327);

''(vi) a local or tribal youth committee;

''(vii) a State or local public housing agency or a tribally designated housing entity; and

''(viii) another appropriate State, local, or tribal agency.

''(3) COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATION PARTNERSHIPS.—A community-based organization referred to in paragraph (1) shall demonstrate that the organization has entered into a partnership with State, local, or tribal entities—

''(A) that shall include—

''(i) a unit of general local government or tribal government;

''(ii) an agency described in paragraph (2)(A)(i);

''(iii) a local board or tribal workforce development agency;

''(iv) a State, local, or tribal agency serving youth under the jurisdiction of the juvenile justice system or criminal justice system;

''(v) a State, local, or tribal child welfare agency;

''(vi) if the organization is seeking an implementation grant, and has not established a summer youth employment program, an entity that is carrying out a State, local, or tribal summer youth employment program; and

''(vii) an employer or employer association; and

''(B) that may include 1 or more entities described in paragraph (2)(B).

''(4) ENTITIES ELIGIBLE FOR PARTICULAR GRANTS.—

''(A) ENTITIES ELIGIBLE FOR PLANNING GRANTS.—The Secretary may award a planning grant under this section to an eligible entity that—

''(i) is preparing to establish or expand a summer youth employment program that meets the minimum requirements specified in subsection (d); and

''(ii) has not received a grant under this section.

''(B) ENTITIES ELIGIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may award an implementation grant under this section to an eligible entity that—

''(I) has received a planning grant under this section; or

''(II) has established a summer youth employment program and demonstrates a minimum level of capacity to enhance or expand the summer youth employment program described in the application submitted under subsection (d).

''(ii) CAPACITY.—In determining whether an entity has the level of capacity referred to in clause (i)(II), the Secretary may include as capacity—

''(I) the entity's staff capacity and staff training to deliver youth employment services; and

''(II) the entity's existing youth employment services (as of the date of submission of the application submitted under subsection (d)) that are consistent with the application.

''(d) APPLICATION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), an eligible entity desiring to receive a grant under this section for a summer youth employment program shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require, including, at a minimum, each of the following:

''(A) With respect to an application for a planning or implementation grant—

''(i) a description of the eligible youth for whom summer employment services will be provided;

''(ii) a description of the eligible entity, and a description of the expected participation and responsibilities of each of the partners in the partnership described in subsection (c);

''(iii) information demonstrating sufficient need for the grant in the State, local, or tribal population, which may include information showing—

''(I) a high level of unemployment among youth (including young adults) ages 14 through 24;

''(II) a high rate of out-of-school youth;

''(III) a high rate of homelessness;

''(IV) a high rate of poverty;

''(V) a high rate of adult unemployment;

''(VI) a high rate of community or neighborhood crime;

''(VII) a high rate of violence; or

''(VIII) a high level or rate on another indicator of need;

''(iv) a description of the strategic objectives the eligible entity seeks to achieve through the program to provide eligible youth with core work readiness skills, which may include—

''(I) financial literacy skills, including providing the support described in section 129(b)(2)(D);

''(II) sector-based technical skills aligned with employer needs;

''(III) skills that—

''(aa) are soft employment skills, early work skills, or work readiness skills; and

''(bb) include social skills, communications skills, higher-order thinking skills, self-control, and positive self-concept; and

''(IV) (for the hardest-to-employ, most-at-risk eligible youth) basic skills like communication, math, and problem solving in the context of training for advancement to better jobs and postsecondary training; and

''(v) information demonstrating that the eligible entity has obtained commitments to provide the non-program share described in paragraph (2) of subsection (h).

''(B) With respect to an application for a planning grant—

''(i) a description of the intermediate and long-term goals for planning activities for the duration of the planning grant;

''(ii) a description of how grant funds will be used to develop a plan to provide summer employment services for eligible youth;

''(iii) a description of how the eligible entity will carry out an analysis of best practices for identifying, recruiting, and engaging program participants, in particular the hardest-to-employ, most-at-risk eligible youth;

''(iv) a description of how the eligible entity will carry out an analysis of best practices for placing youth participants—

''(I) in opportunities that—

''(aa) are appropriate subsidized employment opportunities with employers based on factors including age, skill, experience, career aspirations, work-based readiness, and barriers to employment; and

''(bb) may include additional services for participants, including core work readiness skill development and mentorship services;

''(II) in summer employment that—

''(aa) is not less than 6 weeks;

''(bb) follows a schedule of not more than 20 hours per week; and

''(cc) pays not less than the applicable Federal, State, or local minimum wage; and

''(v) a description of how the eligible entity plans to develop a mentorship program or connect youth with positive, supportive mentorships, consistent with paragraph (3).

''(C) With respect to an application for an implementation grant—

''(i) a description of how the eligible entity plans to identify, recruit, and engage program participants, in particular the hardest-to-employ, most-at-risk eligible youth;

''(ii) a description of the manner in which the eligible entity plans to place eligible youth participants in subsidized employment opportunities, and in summer employment, described in subparagraph (B)(iv);

''(iii) (for a program serving the hardest-to-employ, most-at-risk eligible youth), a description of workplaces for the subsidized employment involved, which may include workplaces in the public, private, and nonprofit sectors;

''(iv) a description of how the eligible entity plans to provide or connect eligible youth participants with positive, supportive mentorships, consistent with paragraph (3);

''(v) a description of services that will be available to employers participating in the youth employment program, to provide supervisors involved in the program with coaching and mentoring on—

''(I) how to support youth development;

''(II) how to structure learning and reflection; and

''(III) how to deal with youth challenges in the workplace;

''(vi) a description of how the eligible entity plans to offer structured pathways back into employment and a youth employment program under this section for eligible youth who have been terminated from employment or removed from the program;

''(vii) a description of how the eligible entity plans to engage eligible youth beyond the duration of the summer employment opportunity, which may include—

''(I) developing or partnering with a year-round youth employment program;

''(II) referring eligible youth to other year-round programs, which may include—

''(aa) programs funded under section 176C or the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.);

''(bb) after school programs;

''(cc) secondary or postsecondary education programs;

''(dd) training programs;

''(ee) cognitive behavior therapy programs;

''(ff) apprenticeship programs; and

''(gg) national service programs;

''(III) employing a full-time, permanent staff person who is responsible for youth outreach, followup, and recruitment; or

''(IV) connecting eligible youth with job development services, including career counseling, resume and job application assistance, interview preparation, and connections to job leads;

''(viii) evidence of the eligible entity's capacity to provide the services described in this subsection; and

''(ix) a description of the quality of the summer youth employment program, including a program that leads to a recognized postsecondary credential.

''(2) INDIAN TRIBE; TRIBAL ORGANIZATIONS.—An eligible entity that is an Indian tribe or tribal organization and desires to receive a grant under this section for a summer youth employment program may, in lieu of submitting the application described in paragraph (1), submit an application to the Secretary that meets such requirements as the Secretary develops after consultation with the tribe or organization.

''(3) MENTOR.—For purposes of subparagraphs (B)(iv), (B)(v), and (C)(iv) of paragraph (1), a mentor—

''(A) shall be an individual who has been matched with an eligible youth based on the youth's needs;

''(B) shall make contact with the eligible youth at least once each week;

''(C) shall be a trusted member of the local community; and

''(D) may include—

''(i) a mentor trained in trauma-informed care (including provision of trauma-informed trauma prevention, identification, referral, or support services to youth that have experienced or are at risk of experiencing trauma), conflict resolution, and positive youth development;

''(ii) a job coach trained to provide youth with guidance on how to navigate the workplace and troubleshoot problems;

''(iii) a supervisor trained to provide at least two performance assessments and serve as a reference; or

''(iv) a peer mentor who is a former or current participant in the youth employment program involved.

''(e) AWARDS FOR POPULATIONS AND AREAS.—

''(1) POPULATIONS.—The Secretary shall reserve, from the amounts made available under section 176A(a)(1)—

''(A) 50 percent to award grants under this section for planning or provision of subsidized summer employment opportunities for in-school youth; and

''(B) 50 percent to award such grants to plan for planning or provision of such opportunities for out-of-school youth.

''(2) AREAS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In awarding the grants, the Secretary shall consider the regional diversity of the areas to be served, to ensure that urban, suburban, rural, and tribal areas are receiving grant funds.

''(B) RURAL AND TRIBAL AREA INCLUSION.—

''(i) RURAL AREAS.—Not less than 20 percent of the amounts made available under section 176A(a)(1) for each fiscal year shall be made available for activities to be carried out in rural areas.

''(ii) TRIBAL AREAS.—Not less than 5 percent of the amounts made available under section 176A(a)(1) for each fiscal year shall be made available for activities to be carried out in tribal areas.

''(f) PROGRAM PRIORITIES.—In allocating funds under this section, the Secretary shall give priority to eligible entities—

''(1) who propose to coordinate their activities—

''(A) with local or tribal employers; and

''(B) with agencies described in subsection (c)(2)(A)(i) to ensure the summer youth employment programs provide clear linkages to remedial, academic, and occupational programs carried out by the agencies;

''(2) who propose a plan to increase private sector engagement in, and job placement through, summer youth employment; and

''(3) who have, in their counties, States, or tribal areas (as compared to other counties in their State, other States, or other tribal areas, respectively), a high level or rate described in subsection (d)(1)(A)(iii).

''(g) USE OF FUNDS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—An eligible entity that receives a grant under this section may use the grant funds for services described in subsection (d).

''(2) DISCRETIONARY USES.—The eligible entity may also use the funds—

''(A) to provide wages to eligible youth in subsidized summer employment programs;

''(B) to provide eligible youth with support services, including case management, child care assistance, child support services, and transportation assistance; and

''(C) to develop data management systems to assist with programming, evaluation, and records management.

''(3) ADMINISTRATION.—An eligible entity may reserve not more than 10 percent of the grant funds for the administration of activities under this section.

''(4) CARRY-OVER AUTHORITY.—Any amounts provided to an eligible entity under this section for a fiscal year may, at the discretion of the Secretary, remain available to that entity for expenditure during the succeeding fiscal year to carry out programs under this section.

''(h) PROGRAM SHARE.—

''(1) PLANNING GRANTS.—The program share for a planning grant awarded under this section shall be 100 percent of the cost described in subsection (a)(2)(A).

''(2) IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The program share for an implementation grant awarded under this section shall be 50 percent of the cost described in subsection (a)(2)(B).

''(B) EXCEPTION.—Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), the Secretary—

''(i) may increase the program share for an eligible entity; and

''(ii) shall increase the program share for an Indian tribe or tribal organization to not less than 95 percent of the cost described in subsection (a)(2)(B).

''(C) NON-PROGRAM SHARE.—The eligible entity may provide the non-program share of the cost—

''(i) in cash or in kind, fairly evaluated, including plant, equipment, or services; and

''(ii) from State, local, tribal or private (including philanthropic) sources and, in the case of an Indian tribe or tribal organization, from Federal sources.

''SEC. 176C. YEAR-ROUND EMPLOYMENT COMPETITIVE GRANT PROGRAM.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—

''(1) GRANTS.—Using the amounts made available under 176A(a)(2), the Secretary shall award, on a competitive basis, planning and implementation grants.

''(2) GENERAL USE OF FUNDS.—The Secretary shall award the grants to assist eligible entities by paying for the program share of the cost of—

''(A) in the case of a planning grant, planning a year-round youth employment program to provide subsidized year-round employment opportunities; and

''(B) in the case of an implementation grant, implementation of such a program to provide such opportunities.

''(b) PERIODS AND AMOUNTS OF GRANTS.—The planning grants shall have the periods and amounts described in section 176B(b)(1). The implementation grants shall have the periods and grants described in section 176B(b)(2).

''(c) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—To be eligible to receive a planning or implementation grant under this section, an entity shall, except as provided in paragraph (2)—

''(A) be a—

''(i) State, local government, or Indian tribe or tribal organization, that meets the requirements of section 176B(c)(2); or

''(ii) community-based organization that meets the requirements of section 176B(c)(3); and

''(B) meet the requirements for a planning or implementation grant, respectively, specified in section 176B(c)(4).

''(2) YEAR-ROUND YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMS.—For purposes of paragraph (1), any reference in section 176B(c)—

''(A) to a summer youth employment program shall be considered to refer to a year-round youth employment program; and

''(B) to a provision of section 176B shall be considered to refer to the corresponding provision of this section.

''(d) APPLICATION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), an eligible entity desiring to receive a grant under this section for a year-round youth employment program shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require, including, at a minimum, each of the following:

''(A) With respect to an application for a planning or implementation grant, the information and descriptions specified in section 176B(d)(1)(A).

''(B) With respect to an application for a planning grant, the descriptions specified in section 176B(d)(1)(B), except that the description of an analysis for placing youth in employment described in clause (iv)(II)(bb) of that section shall cover employment that follows a schedule—

''(i) that consists of—

''(I) not more than 15 hours per week for in-school youth; and

''(II) not less than 20 and not more than 40 hours per week for out-of-school youth; and

''(ii) that depends on the needs and work-readiness level of the population being served.

''(C) With respect to an application for an implementation grant, the descriptions and evidence specified in section 176B(d)(1)(C)—

''(i) except that the reference in section 176(d)(1)(C)(ii) to employment described in section 176B(d)(1)(B) shall cover employment that follows the schedule described in subparagraph (B); and

''(ii) except that the reference to programs in clause (vii)(II)(aa) of that section shall be considered to refer only to programs funded under the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.).

''(2) INDIAN TRIBE; TRIBAL ORGANIZATIONS.—An eligible entity that is an Indian tribe or tribal organization and desires to receive a grant under this section for a year-round youth employment program may, in lieu of submitting the application described in paragraph (1), submit an application to the Secretary that meets such requirements as the Secretary develops after consultation with the tribe or organization.

''(3) MENTOR.—For purposes of paragraph (1), any reference in subparagraphs (B)(iv), (B)(v), and (C)(iv) of section 176B(d)(1) to a mentor shall be considered to refer to a mentor who—

''(A) shall be an individual described in subparagraphs (A) and (C) of section 176B(d)(3);

''(B) shall make contact with the eligible youth at least twice each week; and

''(C) may be an individual described in section 176B(d)(3)(D).

''(4) YEAR-ROUND EMPLOYMENT.—For purposes of this subsection, any reference in section 176B(d)—

''(A) to summer employment shall be considered to refer to year-round employment; and

''(B) to a provision of section 176B shall be considered to refer to the corresponding provision of this section.

''(e) AWARDS FOR POPULATIONS AND AREAS; PRIORITIES.—

''(1) POPULATIONS.—The Secretary shall reserve, from the amounts made available under section 176A(a)(2)—

''(A) 50 percent to award grants under this section for planning or provision of subsidized year-round employment opportunities for in-school youth; and

''(B) 50 percent to award such grants to plan for planning or provision of such opportunities for out-of-school youth.

''(2) AREAS; PRIORITIES.—In awarding the grants, the Secretary shall—

''(A) carry out section 176B(e)(2); and

''(B) give priority to eligible entities—

''(i) who—

''(I) propose the coordination and plan described paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 176B(f), with respect to year-round youth employment; and

''(II) meet the requirements of section 176B(f)(3); or

''(ii) who—

''(I) propose a plan to coordinate activities with entities carrying out State, local, or tribal summer youth employment programs, to provide pathways to year-round employment for eligible youth who are ending summer employment; and

''(II) meet the requirements of section 176B(f)(3).

''(f) USE OF FUNDS.—An eligible entity that receives a grant under this section may use the grant funds—

''(1) for services described in subsection (d);

''(2) as described in section 176B(g)(2), with respect to year-round employment programs;

''(3) as described in section 176B(g)(3), with respect to activities under this section; and

''(4) at the discretion of the Secretary, as described in section 176B(g)(4), with respect to activities under this section.

''(g) PROGRAM SHARE.—

''(1) PLANNING GRANTS.—The provisions of section 176B(h)(1) shall apply to planning grants awarded under this section, with respect to the cost described in subsection (a)(2)(A).

''(2) IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS.—The provisions of section 176B(h)(2) shall apply to implementation grants awarded under this section, with respect to the cost described in subsection (a)(2)(B).

''SEC. 176D. EVALUATION AND ADMINISTRATION.

''(a) PERFORMANCE MEASURES.—

''(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish performance measures for purposes of annual reviews under subsection (b).

''(2) COMPONENTS.—The performance measures for the eligible entities shall consist of—

''(A) the indicators of performance described in paragraph (3); and

''(B) an adjusted level of performance for each indicator described in subparagraph (A).

''(3) INDICATORS OF PERFORMANCE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The indicators of performance shall consist of—

''(i) the percentage of youth employment program participants who are in education or training activities, or in employment, during the second quarter after exit from the program;

''(ii) the percentage of youth employment program participants who are in education or training activities, or in employment, during the fourth quarter after exit from the program;

''(iii) the percentage of youth employment program participants who obtain a recognized postsecondary credential, or a secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent (subject to subparagraph (B)), during participation in or within 1 year after exit from the program; and

''(iv) the percentage of youth employment program participants who, during a program year, are in a youth employment program

that includes an education or training program that leads to an outcome specified by the Secretary, which may include—

''(I) obtaining a recognized postsecondary credential or employment; or

''(II) achieving measurable skill gains toward such a credential or employment.

''(B) INDICATOR RELATING TO CREDENTIAL.—For purposes of subparagraph (A)(iii), youth employment program participants who obtain a secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent shall be included in the percentage counted as meeting the criterion under such subparagraph only if such participants, in addition to obtaining such diploma or its recognized equivalent, have obtained or retained employment or are in a youth employment program that includes an education or training program leading to a recognized postsecondary credential within 1 year after exit from the program.

''(4) LEVELS OF PERFORMANCE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—For each eligible entity, there shall be established, in accordance with this paragraph, levels of performance for each of the corresponding indicators of performance described in paragraph (3).

''(B) IDENTIFICATION IN APPLICATION.—Each eligible entity shall identify, in the application submitted under subsection (d) of section 176B or 176C, expected levels of performance for each of those indicators of performance for each program year covered by the application.

''(C) AGREEMENT ON ADJUSTED LEVELS OF PERFORMANCE.—The eligible entity shall reach agreement with the Secretary on levels of performance for each of those indicators of performance for each such program year. The levels agreed to shall be considered to be the adjusted levels of performance for the eligible entity for such program years and shall be incorporated into the application prior to the approval of such application.

''(b) ANNUAL REVIEW.—The Secretary shall carry out an annual review of each eligible entity receiving a grant under this subtitle. In conducting the review, the Secretary shall review the performance of the entity on the performance measures under this section and determine if the entity has used any practices that shall be considered best practices for purposes of this subtitle.

''(c) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—

''(1) PREPARATION.—The Secretary shall prepare a report on the grant programs established by this subtitle, which report shall include a description of—

''(A) the eligible entities receiving funding under this subtitle;

''(B) the activities carried out by the eligible entities;

''(C) how the eligible entities were selected to receive funding under this subtitle; and

''(D) an assessment of the results achieved by the grant programs including findings from the annual reviews conducted under subsection (b).

''(2) SUBMISSION.—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of the Creating Pathways for Youth Employment Act, and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall submit a report described in paragraph (1) to the appropriate committees of Congress.

''(d) APPLICATION TO INDIAN TRIBES AND TRIBAL ORGANIZATIONS.—The Secretary may issue regulations that clarify the application of all the provisions of this subtitle to Indian tribes and tribal organizations.

''SEC. 176E. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

''There are authorized to be appropriated—

''(1) to carry out section 176B, $300,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2018 through 2022; and

''(2) to carry out section 176C, $400,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2018 through 2022.''.

SEC. 3. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.

(a) REFERENCES.—

(1) Section 121(b)(1)(C)(ii)(II) of the Workforce Investment and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3152(b)(1)(C)(ii)(II)) is amended by striking ''subtitles C through E'' and inserting ''subtitles C through F''.

(2) Section 503(b) of such Act (29 U.S.C. 3343(b)) is amended by inserting before the period the following: ''(as such subtitles were in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act)''.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of such Act is amended by striking the item relating to the subtitle heading for subtitle E of title I and inserting the following:

''Subtitle E—Youth Employment Opportunities

''Sec. 176. Definitions.
''Sec. 176A. Allocation of funds.
''Sec. 176B. Summer employment competitive grant program.
''Sec. 176C. Year-round employment competitive grant program.
''Sec. 176D. Evaluation and administration.
''Sec. 176E. Authorization of appropriations.''.

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

S. 987. A bill to transition away from fossil fuel sources of energy to 100 percent clean and renewable energy by 2050, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, today I rise to address the important urgency of addressing climate change. Across the country, we are seeing the impacts of the warmer climate, and it is having devastating consequences on our forests, on our farming, on our fishing, and on our urban populations.

Years ago, people talked about what we might see if we continued to burn fossil fuels and continued to put carbon dioxide into the air, but no longer do we have to talk about what we might see, because it is here. The facts are on the ground right now.

We can look at my home State of Oregon. In Oregon, we have the challenge of forest fire seasons that are longer by several months than they were just decades ago. We have the challenge of warmer winters, resulting in pine beetles doing more damage to our trees. The fact that we have lower snowpacks in the Cascade Mountains means warmer trout streams and less water for irrigation. We have had the worst-ever droughts in the Klamath Basin in the past 15 years. Over on the coast, we have a big impact on oysters. Because we have burned so much in fossil fuels to create so much carbon dioxide that has been absorbed by the oceans and turned into carbonic acid, the oceans have acidified. They are 30 percent more acidic than they were 150 years ago, meaning our oysters are having trouble reaching out and pulling the molecules out of the water to form a shell. In fact, it takes so much energy to do so that they are dying.

That is what is happening. That is just in Oregon. We can look across the United States and see impact after impact.

If we were in Minnesota, we could talk about the tick populations that are killing the moose because it is not cold enough in the winter to kill the ticks. If we are in Maine, we can talk about the fact that the lobsters are migrating to Canada because that is where the colder waters can be found. If we are in Florida, we can talk about sunny day floods, because the ocean levels have risen and the ocean water—the saltwater—is contaminating the freshwater that cities depend on. If we are up the Atlantic coast, we can talk about Hurricane Sandy and how its devastating power was enhanced by an ocean that is much warmer than it was decades ago. If we are in Texas, we can talk about the spread of mosquitoes that carry the Zika virus affecting folks. So the list goes on and on. But it is not just in the United States of America. It is on the entire planet.

As we are talking about oysters on the west coast of the United States, across the globe folks are talking about coral reefs. The Great Barrier Reef has virtually died over the last few years. Scientists say 80 percent of the Great Barrier Reef off Australia has died in the last 3 years. If we are looking at the mountainous regions of the world, you can trace the flow of glaciers and find that across the globe glaciers have diminished by an enormous amount. Some say that if you want to see a glacier in Glacier National Park, you better get there soon. That is just in the United States.

If we turn north to the upper reaches of Canada and the permafrost, you can visit what are called the drunken forests, because the permafrost is melting and the trees are starting to lean in every which direction. If you turn to Alaska, you are finding that Native populations are having to relocate because of changing circumstances of a warmer Alaska.

Go to the Arctic Ocean and what you see is a massive amount of missing ice, and, because that ice is missing, the ocean is absorbing more energy from the sun, and it is creating a feedback loop that is having further devastating consequences. And so the list goes on and on.

It is not just time to address climate change boldly. It is time to address it aggressively. It is time for 100 by 50. What that means is 100 percent clean and renewable energy to power the economy by the year 2050 and the steps to get there in between and to have 50 percent of our energy clean and renewable by the year 2030. That is not far away. That is just 13 years away, and for 2050, add another 20 years.

We have to act quickly because right now human civilization is failing the

test. Our responsibility is to stop burning fossil fuels and to stop putting carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. That is why we have to rapidly transition from an energy economy based on fossil fuels to one based on clean and renewable energy.

Why do I say we are failing the test at the moment? We are failing the test because if you look at the flow of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere from human civilization, the rate of carbon dioxide pollution has not leveled out. In fact, the speed of pollution and the amount of pollution per year is increasing. So we have a tremendous challenge ahead of us. We have to take and not only reduce the amount but reduce it enormously in a short period of time.

Now some say this vision is too bold. Some say this vision is too difficult, that it is too hard. It makes me think of President Kennedy's call. He said decades ago:

> We choose to go to the moon in this decade and do other things, not because they are easy, but because they are hard. Because that challenge is one that we are willing to accept, one we are unwilling to postpone, and one which we intend to win.

I tell you today that we must, as a Nation, be willing to accept the challenge of transforming our energy economy. We must be unwilling to postpone tackling this challenge of transforming our energy economy, and this challenge is one where we must be committed to winning. It is not just time. It is way past time.

I came to the Senate floor last September to lay out the concept of 100 by 50—100 percent clean, renewable energy by 2050. I come today to the Senate floor to say that today a group of Senators are introducing a bill to lay out a roadmap to get there.

Just as President Kennedy laid out the vision of putting an American on the moon, NASA went to work and laid out a plan on how we would get there. They didn't know at first how it would be done. They hadn't proceeded to invent the staged rocket that would enable someone to escape the gravity of Earth in a fashion to get us to the moon. They didn't know how to create a lunar landing operation to put people safely on the planet surface. They weren't even sure of the composition of the surface of the moon, but they figured it out. They put forward a draft. They reworked that draft.

Today we are putting forth a roadmap. I thank my colleagues who are standing with me today to be the original cosponsors: Senator BERNIE SANDERS of Vermont, Senator ED MARKEY of Massachusetts, and Senator CORY BOOKER of New Jersey. I know other colleagues will join us as time progresses, but it is important not to wait until we have, if you will, a large population to begin the conversation—a large set of sponsors to begin the conversation of laying out a roadmap. It is important to lay it out now. It is important to lay it out now because it is a statement of values. It is important to lay it out now so that there is a vision that can be discussed—a detailed vision of how to take on different sectors of the energy economy that can be discussed and debated.

So we are focused not on whether to get to 100 by 50, but on how we are going to get to 100 by 50. I invite and encourage that debate because each of us can envision a roadmap that is slightly different. So let's have that conversation, but let's not forget the importance of getting to this destination—100 percent clean, renewable energy—and getting thereby the year 2050.

Yes, it is audacious when you think about how we use energy today, to think about how we can transform it in just a few decades, but we have many of the tools we need right now. With focused research and development, we can add the other tools that we need.

Let us not fail to accept this challenge, because our planet is crying out in anguish. In addition to the facts on the ground that I have been mentioning, we can simply take the temperature of the planet. Month after month after month, year after year, in the past 2 years we have been setting new records for having the hottest month—not the hottest month in Washington, DC, not the hottest month in the United States of America but the hottest March in the history of the planet, the hottest April since we have been measuring the temperature of the planet—May, June, and so on and so forth.

So the time for conversing about whether we have a problem is over. Now is the time to say how we will achieve this vision.

One important element of achieving this vision is greening the grid. That means that we need to phase out electricity that is generated by fossil fuels. We need to invest in clean and renewable energy that puts green electrons in the grid instead, and we need to advance and develop the deployment of technologies that contribute to this, including high-voltage transmission lines that will move energy between different parts of the United States. We certainly need to develop the ability to store electricity and to use automated demand management and automated supply management so we can match the supply of green energy to the demand at different times of the day or just the demand of different times of the day to make renewable energy fit to the operation of the economy.

Now, we have some specific powerful gifts in this effort. One is that we have a dramatically declining cost of solar energy. A second is that we have a dramatically declining cost in wind energy. A third is that we have a dramatically declining cost of battery storage. This isn't an accident. This has happened because of the innovation economy where these ideas were developed and promoted and researched and advanced right here in the United States of America. But it really helps change the conversation. There have been many who are deeply invested in the fossil fuel world who would like to say that advancing to a clean and renewable energy economy will hurt the economy. But now we are coming to the point that it is less expensive to generate renewable energy than to generate fossil fuel energy. The fact is that we can create a tremendous number of jobs as we rebuild this energy economy.

If we turn specifically to the issue of a Federal emissions vehicle standard—because that is one of the pieces of this puzzle—it means that we have to make national investments in electrical recharging stations along our roads and highways to support these vehicles. There are already half a million plug-in electric vehicles on our roads today, and these vehicles—these cars—are becoming cheaper as the numbers continue to grow.

One of the factors that is enabling the car to become cheaper is the dropping cost of lithium in the batteries that power them. They are getting smaller, lighter, and cheaper. So in the same space you can put more energy with less weight to drive cars further. Since 2008, the cost of these batteries per kilowatt hour has fallen fourfold. They will continuously grow. Having more of these cars on our roads and our highways as the costs keep falling, it is vital that we have an infrastructure in place to support them.

We need to ensure that everyone is part of this clean and renewable energy resolution, including low-income and disadvantaged communities. We addressed that in the 100 by 50 legislation. To do this, we established grants to bring affordable clean energy and energy efficiency to individuals' homes and communities. We invest in zero emission public transportation that is affordable and accessible. We also want to ensure that no workers are left behind in this transformation, especially the workers in the fossil fuel industry. That is why we need to provide a just transition for those workers and job training programs. We need to have a strategy to ensure that there are opportunities to move from jobs in the fossil fuel world to positions in the clean and renewable energy industry. Those industries are, in fact, booming, with jobs in solar and wind growing 12 times faster than the rest of the U.S. economy. Already, the number of clean and renewable industry jobs has surpassed those in the fossil fuel industry by a margin of 5 to 1.

We want to enable everyone to have the skills they need to succeed in these

emerging industries, but to move to this future, we must come to a point at which we stop investing in new fossil fuel infrastructure. We cannot proceed to make this pivot quickly to a cleaner, brighter, renewable future if we continue to tie ourselves and our government to a fossil fuel-powered past. To achieve this clean break, the 100 by 50 Act ends future fossil fuel investments at the Federal level. That would affect projects similar to the Keystone XL Pipeline and the Dakota Access Pipeline, and we would end the tax subsidies for the fossil fuel industry.

This burning of fossil fuels is destroying our planet. We must stop subsidizing the destruction of our planet. This burning of fossil fuels is destroying our forests, which our rural communities depend on. We must stop subsidizing the destruction of our forests. The burning of these fossil fuels is driving droughts, reducing irrigation water, and hurting our farmers. We must quit subsidizing the destruction of agriculture in America. The burning of fossil fuels is also impacting our fishing—from warmer, smaller trout streams to a fishing industry that depends on the critical ecosystem in the ocean. We must stop subsidizing the destruction of our fishing industry.

It is also important to make sure that America remains a leader in the energy economy and leads in the effort to make sure that we do not have a disadvantage with regard to manufacturing in other countries. What that means is that, with regard to countries that are not pursuing this on the same aggressive level, we need to have an effort to drive this transaction. We need to make sure that if there are additional costs, those are offset with a border tax so that we do not encourage the movement of production out of our economy here at home. We have done so with trade policy—in a massively destructive way—to the middle class of America. If we do not make things in America, we will not have a middle class in America, and we need to make sure that we do not do that in the transition of our energy economy.

To fund this plan, we propose a new source of revenue. When I say a ''new source of revenue,'' that is a little misleading because we are taking a cue from history, specifically World War II, and modeling bonds—climate bonds—on the war bonds that helped fund our fight against totalitarianism—to fund our fight against Germany and the Soviet Union. Auctioning off climate bonds is a way to raise the funds to drive the grants to power this transformation—to accelerate this transformation—and make sure that we do not leave out disadvantaged communities but, rather, bring them fully into this transition. The 100 by 50 Act is ambitious, but the circumstances require no less.

Furthermore, we cannot, simply, propose a Federal Government strategy because we live in the United States of America, where important things are done at many different levels. Here in this Chamber—right now in the U.S. Senate—we do not have a committee chair who is going to say that we need to have committee hearings in order to take on this issue. We do not have a committee chair on the House side who is going to drive this conversation. We do not have a President who understands the damage that is being done to our forests and our fishing and our farming and to our planet and who is going to lead the battle.

We have to turn to the wisdom of the American people. We have to turn to the wisdom of the States and the wisdom of the counties and the wisdom of the cities and the wisdom of individuals across America who are willing to go to the leadership of their mosques or the leadership of their temples or the leadership of their churches, who are willing to go to the leadership of nonprofits that they are a part of, who are willing to go to their city councils or their county commissions, who are willing to go to their State legislators.

They are going to say that we need to have a 100 by 50 resolution for our nonprofits, for our religious organizations, for our cities, for our counties, for our States because we need to own this issue. We Americans at every level need to own this issue. This is an issue that depends upon citizens across the globe taking hold of this in a powerful way that cannot be blocked by the dark money of the fossil fuel industry.

In so doing, by passing that 100 by 50 resolution for the city or the nonprofit or the church or the mosque or the synagogue or the temple, we will also adopt an action plan that involves the specific steps that local organizations are going to take over the next 2 to 3 years. This year, maybe they are going to convert their hot water heaters to electrons rather than burning natural gas. Maybe they are going to sign up for green electrons from their local utilities, which is an option that is offered in many places across America. The following year, maybe they are going to invest in energy-saving retrofits of their buildings. The year after that, maybe they are going to say that we have to revamp our fleet of vehicles and start using rechargeable vehicles, like the Volt or the Bolt or the LEAF or a whole set of cars that has been appearing in the economy over the last few years. One can charge them up and, thereby, run them off green electrons rather than off fossil fuels.

These are things that can be owned and done. In fact, it is already happening. It is happening with local organizations across this country that are committing themselves to 100 percent clean and renewable energy. More than 25 cities across the country have already adopted this vision—from Madison, WI, to Abita Springs, LA; from San Diego, CA, to Salt Lake City, UT; from Georgetown, TX, to Greensburg, KS—cities that are working toward a 100 percent clean and renewable future. There are 88 major businesses that are getting in on the action as well—Walmart, Johnson & Johnson, Procter & Gamble, Nike, Coca-Cola, General Motors, and Apple. These are only a few of the major companies that have committed to powering themselves with 100 percent clean and renewable energy.

What is driving this move toward clean and renewable energy? It is that Americans everywhere are seeing the effects on the ground. They are calling for action, and community leaders and business leaders are responding. We need to respond here in the U.S. Senate. We should be holding hearings on how to put this plan into action. We should be taking the best ideas from the city actions and the business actions and the nonprofit actions from across the country and from the ideas generated on the right side of the aisle and the left side of the aisle because the destruction we face—the threat we face—is not a blue issue or a red issue; it is a human civilization issue.

America has been a driver of the technology that can transform our economy and also the technology that we can sell to the world. In adopting this vision and in fighting for this vision, America can be a leader with other nations around the world. It has been beyond strange to have other countries lecture us over the last few months to maintain our commitment as a Federal Government to this vision. Other countries are saying: America, you have to be part of the solution. You have benefited enormously from the burning of fossil fuels, perhaps more than any other economy in the world. You have one of the highest per capita footprints for carbon. You must be part of this effort because every country in the world is affected.

More than 40 countries have now adopted the vision of clean and renewable energy, so there is no time for America to step out and not be part of the solution, not be part of the leadership, not be part of the driving force, not benefit from being on the cutting edge of this transformation of the energy economy.

Just as President Kennedy laid out the vision for going to the Moon, Americans from every walk are coming together to lay out the vision for a 100 percent clean and renewable energy economy. They are adopting a framework—a time, a goal—as to where we are going and when we are getting there; 100 by 50 sums it up.

After President Kennedy laid out the vision, America went to work to make it happen, and we landed American citizens on the Moon. Now it is time for all of America to get to work and implement this vision and ensure that

we succeed in transforming our energy economy within the next few decades by taking important steps every single year—driving ourselves forward, understanding the urgency, applying the technology, accelerating the implementation—to achieve 100 percent clean and renewable energy by 2050.

If there were an asteroid coming toward the Earth, we would not be talking politics or political advantage. We would all be working together to take it on—destroy it before it destroyed us. We have the equivalent of an asteroid that is coming at the Earth in global warming. The time to play politics has passed. The time to play partisanship has passed. It is time for every citizen and every organization at every level—every chair representing every Senator from every State in the Union—to come together to take on this challenge together.

I call upon my fellow Senators to be part of, perhaps, the most important effort we have to solve the biggest challenge to the health of America and the health of the planet—global warming. Step forward and be part of the effort.

Thank you, Mr. President.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 144—DESIGNATING MAY 1, 2017, AS ''NATIONAL PUREBRED DOG DAY''

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

S. RES. 144

Whereas the human-canine bond predates history and individuals have enjoyed the companionship and assistance of dogs since the dawn of civilization;

Whereas dog ownership has existed in all cultures, races, climates, and economic situations;

Whereas more than 350 dog breeds exist worldwide, and more than 180 breeds are recognized by the American Kennel Club;

Whereas purebred dogs and breeders of purebred dogs have played a crucial role in United States history, dating to colonial times, during which George Washington had a foxhound breeding program, which established the American Foxhound breed;

Whereas responsible breeders of purebred dogs dedicate their lives to improving the health and well-being of dogs and preserving unique breeds of dogs;

Whereas purebred dogs were created to work alongside humans, and provide inestimable service as—

(1) search and rescue dogs;
(2) service dogs;
(3) disease detection dogs;
(4) police dogs;
(5) conservation dogs;
(6) livestock guardians;
(7) therapy dogs; and
(8) companions and guardians of families, homes, and property;

Whereas purebred dogs provide unparalleled service to the disabled as guide and service dogs, and are the choice of leading service dog breeding programs because of the heritable intelligence, and desirable and predictable qualities, of purebred dogs;

Whereas purebred military working dogs serve alongside the men and women of the United States Armed Forces in combat and in peacetime;

Whereas breed instinct enables purebred dogs to readily serve as—

(1) avalanche dogs;
(2) trackers and trailers;
(3) herders;
(4) controllers of vermin;
(5) water rescuers;
(6) carting and sled dogs;
(7) retrievers;
(8) protectors;
(9) hunters; and
(10) bird dogs;

Whereas the first ''National Purebred Dog Day'' was established on May 1, 2015;

Whereas millions of individuals, through social media and other avenues, recognize May 1 each year as ''National Purebred Dog Day'' and desire, on May 1, to expressly recognize the contributions of the purebred dog; and

Whereas individuals value all dogs, regardless of the ancestry of the dogs, and especially cherish a purpose-bred dog and the predictability of each respective breed of purpose-bred dog: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates May 1, 2017, as ''National Purebred Dog Day'' in celebration of purebred dogs and the many service and companion benefits purebred dogs have and continue to provide to the United States; and

(2) honors the dedicated and responsible breeders who work to preserve and advance their breeds and responsible dog ownership throughout the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 145—DESIGNATING APRIL 2017 AS ''FINANCIAL LITERACY MONTH''

Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. DONNELLY, Mr. SCOTT, Mr. CARPER, Mr. WICKER, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. COONS, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. PETERS, Mr. CARDIN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. FRANKEN, and Mr. BOOKER) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 145

Whereas, according to the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (referred to in this preamble as the ''FDIC''), at least 26.9 percent of households in the United States, or nearly 33,500,000 households with approximately 66,700,000 adults, are unbanked or underbanked and therefore have not had an opportunity to access savings, lending, and other basic financial services;

Whereas, according to the FDIC, approximately 30 percent of banks reported in 2011 that consumers lacked an understanding of the financial products and services banks offered;

Whereas, according to the 2016 Consumer Financial Literacy Survey final report of the National Foundation for Credit Counseling—

(1) approximately 44 percent of adults in the United States gave themselves a grade of ''C'', ''D'', or ''F'' on their knowledge of personal finance;

(2) 75 percent of adults in the United States acknowledged that they could benefit from additional advice and answers to everyday financial questions from a professional;

(3) 22 percent of adults in the United States, or approximately 51,600,000 individuals, admitted to not paying bills on time;

(4) 1 in 3 households reported carrying credit card debt from month to month;

(5) only 40 percent of adults in the United States reported keeping close track of their spending, a percentage that held steady since 2007; and

(6) 14 percent of adults in the United States identified not having enough ''rainy day'' savings for an emergency, and 15 percent of adults in the United States identified not having enough money set aside for retirement, as the most worrisome area of personal finance;

Whereas the 2016 Retirement Confidence Survey conducted by the Employee Benefit Research Institute found that 19 percent of workers were ''not at all confident'' that they had enough money to retire;

Whereas, according to the statistical release of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System for the fourth quarter of 2016 entitled ''Financial Accounts of the United States: Flow of Funds, Balance Sheets, and Integrated Macroeconomic Accounts'', outstanding household debt in the United States was $14,800,000,000,000 at the end of the fourth quarter of 2016;

Whereas, according to the 2016 Survey of the States: Economic and Personal Finance Education in Our Nation's Schools, a biennial report by the Council for Economic Education—

(1) only 20 States require students to take an economics course as a high school graduation requirement; and

(2) only 17 States require students to take a personal finance course as a high school graduation requirement, either independently or as part of an economics course;

Whereas, according to the Gallup-HOPE Index, only 52 percent of students in the United States have money in a bank or credit union account;

Whereas expanding access to the safe, mainstream financial system will provide individuals with less expensive and more secure options for managing finances and building wealth;

Whereas quality personal financial education is essential to ensure that individuals are prepared—

(1) to manage money, credit, and debt; and

(2) to become responsible workers, heads of household, investors, entrepreneurs, business leaders, and citizens;

Whereas increased financial literacy empowers individuals to make wise financial decisions and reduces the confusion caused by an increasingly complex economy;

Whereas a greater understanding of, and familiarity with, financial markets and institutions will lead to increased economic activity and growth; and

Whereas, in 2003, Congress—

(1) determined that coordinating Federal financial literacy efforts and formulating a national strategy is important; and

(2) in light of that determination, passed the Financial Literacy and Education Improvement Act (20 U.S.C. 9701 et seq.), establishing the Financial Literacy and Education Commission: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates April 2017 as ''Financial Literacy Month'' to raise public awareness about—

(A) the importance of personal financial education in the United States; and

(B) the serious consequences that may result from a lack of understanding about personal finances; and

(2) calls on the Federal Government, States, localities, schools, nonprofit organizations, businesses, and the people of the United States to observe Financial Literacy Month with appropriate programs and activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 146—DESIGNATING APRIL 30, 2017, AS EL DÍA DE LOS NIÑOS—CELEBRATING YOUNG AMERICANS

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. FLAKE, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. CRAPO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. MCCAIN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. REED, and Mr. BOOKER) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 146

Whereas, each year in the United States, El Día de Los Niños—Celebrating Young Americans is recognized on April 30 as a day to affirm and recognize the importance of young children in the United States;

Whereas children represent the hopes and dreams of the people of the United States, and the well-being of children and adolescents is emphasized as a top priority in the United States;

Whereas children and adolescents should be nurtured and invested in to preserve and enhance economic prosperity, democracy, and the spirit of the United States through the free and open exchange of ideas;

Whereas, according to data of the Bureau of the Census, Hispanics are the youngest major racial or ethnic group in the United States, as nearly ⅓, or 17,900,000, of the Hispanic population of the United States is younger than 18 years old, and approximately ¼, or 14,600,000, of the Hispanic population of the United States are millennials (18 to 33 years old in 2014);

Whereas the United States Hispanic population continues to grow, representing the youngest and largest ethnic minority group in the United States, and is a significant part of the workforce of the United States, comprising future consumers, taxpayers, and voters;

Whereas, as the United States becomes more culturally and ethnically diverse, the people of the United States must strive to bring about cultural understanding and celebrate a tradition that honors all children on April 30, 2017, El Día de Los Niños—Celebrating Young Americans, a day that acknowledges and shares traditions and customs with all people in the United States;

Whereas parents represent the center of teaching family values, morality, life preparation, health, survival, and culture;

Whereas the designation of a day to honor the children and adolescents in the United States will help affirm the significance of family, education, health, and community among the people of the United States;

Whereas the designation of a day of special recognition for the children of the United States will provide an opportunity to reflect on their futures, to articulate their aspirations, to find comfort and security in the support of their family members, communities, and schools, and to grow to contribute to the United States;

Whereas the National Latino Children's Institute, which serves as an advocate and a voice for children, will celebrate its 20th anniversary in 2017, and has partnered with States and cities throughout the United States for the last 19 years, will declare April 30, 2017, as El Día de Los Niños—Celebrating Young Americans, a day to bring communities and Latinos together across the United States to celebrate and uplift children; and

Whereas the people of the United States should be encouraged to celebrate the gifts of children and to help children take their rightful place in the future of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates April 30, 2017, as El Día de Los Niños—Celebrating Young Americans; and

(2) calls on the people of the United States to join with children, families, communities, churches, cities, and States across the United States to observe the day with appropriate ceremonies, including activities that—

(A) center on children and are free or minimal in cost so as to facilitate full participation of all people;

(B) uplift and help children positively envision a path to their futures by voicing their hopes and dreams;

(C) offer opportunities for children of diverse backgrounds to learn about the cultures of one another and to share ideas;

(D) include family members, especially extended and elderly family members, so as to promote understanding and communication between generations within families and to enable young people to respect and benefit from the experiences of, and learn from, their family elders;

(E) enable diverse communities to build relationships; and

(F) provide children with the long-term support the children need to learn, develop, and become confident young adults who are ready and eager to contribute to the United States, a country the children believe in.

SENATE RESOLUTION 147—COMMEMORATING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE 1992 LOS ANGELES CIVIL UNREST

Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Ms. HARRIS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 147

Whereas Saturday, April 29, 2017, marks the 25th anniversary of the 1992 Los Angeles civil unrest;

Whereas the 1992 Los Angeles civil unrest is also referred to as the 1992 Los Angeles riots, the South Central riots, the Rodney King riots, the Los Angeles uprising, the 1992 Los Angeles civil disturbance, and ''Sa-I-Gu'', which means April 29 in Korean;

Whereas the 1992 Los Angeles civil unrest began in South Central Los Angeles, California, following the acquittal of 4 Los Angeles Police Department officers who were charged with using excessive force against an African-American taxi driver named Rodney King;

Whereas the acquittal immediately resulted in the formation of large crowds and a public outcry over concerns of racial injustice and police brutality, which soon led to civil unrest at the intersection of Florence Avenue and Normandie Avenue in Los Angeles and continued throughout Los Angeles;

Whereas, during the 1992 Los Angeles civil unrest, more than 60 individuals lost their lives amid the looting and fires, more than 2,000 individuals suffered injuries, and more than 11,000 individuals were arrested;

Whereas more than $1,000,000,000 of property damage was incurred during the 1992 Los Angeles civil unrest, with approximately 3,600 fires set and destruction to over 1,100 buildings throughout Los Angeles;

Whereas the 1992 Los Angeles civil unrest continued for a total of 6 days, during which the unrest spread through multiple neighborhoods, including Koreatown, Inglewood, Hawthorne, Lynwood, Compton, and Long Beach;

Whereas the 1992 Los Angeles civil unrest ended following the deployment of thousands of United States Armed Forces personnel;

Whereas, on May 2, 1992, an estimated 30,000 individuals gathered in a peace march in Koreatown during the 1992 Los Angeles civil unrest, calling for healing and supporting merchants in Koreatown whose businesses were decimated; and

Whereas, on April 29, 2017, local leaders, business owners, and individuals in the African-American, Latino, and Korean-American communities will join together to remember the lives lost during the 1992 Los Angeles civil unrest and to discuss continued work to promote unity in Los Angeles: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes and offers condolences to all who lost their lives, suffered injuries, and suffered losses to their businesses and property during the 1992 Los Angeles civil unrest;

(2) recognizes and commends the communities throughout Los Angeles for the work done to bring different constituencies together to recover and rebuild Los Angeles, improve police oversight, and continue the momentum for change gained in the ensuing months and years following the 1992 Los Angeles civil unrest; and

(3) expresses hope that the memory of the 1992 Los Angeles civil unrest will promote greater dialogue, civility, and unity among all of the communities throughout Los Angeles.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I wish to introduce a Senate resolution to commemorate the 25th Anniversary of the 1992 Los Angeles civil unrest.

On March 3, 1991, an African American named Rodney King was driving on a Los Angeles interstate when officers attempted to pull him over for allegedly speeding. By the time he pulled over and exited his car following a high-speed chase spanning 8 miles, there were multiple LA police department units on the scene.

King was tasered two times, and camcorder video footage recorded by a civilian witness—George Holliday—from his nearby apartment balcony depicted the brutal beating of King by four officers who surrounded him. The officers struck King repeatedly until he was bloodied and disfigured with a fractured cheekbone, 11 broken bones at the base of the skull, and a broken ankle. The video footage shows King being struck by batons over 50 times,

Holliday's video was sent to news outlets and aired around the world. It shook the Nation and raised outcries about excessive force by police officers. But even before the videotape had become public, community leaders in Los Angeles had highlighted on numerous occasions the use of excessive force by LAPD officers.

In fact, in the immediate aftermath of the Rodney King beating, then-Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley formed the Christopher Commission to thoroughly examine thousands of excessive force complaints made against LAPD officers in the late 1980s. So when—a year later on April 29, 1992—the four LAPD officers caught on tape were acquitted after standing trial for using excessive force against Rodney King, the entire Nation was in shock. The verdict appeared completely incompatible with the brutal videotape footage that flooded our TV screens at the time.

When the verdict became public, hundreds gathered at the Los Angeles County Courthouse to protest, and a national debate immediately began over racial injustice and excessive use of force by police against racial minorities. Shortly thereafter, at the intersection of Florence and Normandie in South Central Los Angeles, the public's frustration boiled over and violence erupted, setting off a flash point that the police simply could not quell. Looting, vandalism, and physical attacks became rampant, and I will never forget the image of Reginald Denny being dragged out of his semi-trailer truck to be severely beaten in the middle of the street.

From then on, the unrest overtook the city, including neighborhoods like Koreatown, Hawthorne, Compton and Long Beach. The city, quite literally, was on fire. For 6 days, the city was in a state of emergency.

All told, there were more than 60 individuals who lost their lives amid the looting and fires, and thousands of individuals were injured or arrested, while countless more lost their businesses and places of employment. Over 3,600 fires were set and over 1,100 buildings in Los Angeles were damaged or destroyed.

Images of the smoke clouds over the city evoked the devastation felt by so many Angelenos. The 1992 Los Angeles civil unrest was felt so deeply and so personally by so many communities throughout the city.

The African American community decried not only the verdict returned against Rodney King but also mourned the death of high-schooler Latasha Harlins and so many other victims of violence and excessive use of force. The civil unrest was symptomatic of the deep frustrations felt by the African-American community against a criminal justice system that continually failed to protect them.

Similarly, the 1992 Los Angeles civil unrest was sharply felt by the Latino community in Los Angeles.

According to one report following the unrest, one-third of those killed and half of those arrested were Latino, and countless Latino businesses were looted or destroyed.

The Korean-American community in Los Angeles was also deeply impacted, referring to the unrest as ''Sa-I-Gu,'' to commemorate the date ''April 29'' in Korean to mark it as a significant date in Korean history. Amidst the torched and decimated businesses, 35 to 40 percent of the property damage was suffered by those businesses owned by Korean-Americans—with estimates of up to 1,600 Korean-American-owned stores completely destroyed.

There is no question that those fateful 6 days have impacted generations of Angelenos. We must resolve to never forget the 1992 Los Angeles civil unrest and what emerged from those fires.

We must offer our condolences for the families who lost their loved ones or who bear the scars, both mental and physical, from that time and commend those who have worked so hard to come together to heal community rifts, rebuild a stronger Los Angeles, and continue to promote ongoing dialogue, civility, and unity among all communities.

That is the purpose of this resolution we are introducing today.

I want to thank Senator HARRIS for working with me on the resolution to commemorate the 25th Anniversary of this historic event in California.

I yield the Floor.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 14—AUTHORIZING THE USE OF EMANCIPATION HALL IN THE CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER FOR AN EVENT TO CELEBRATE THE BIRTHDAY OF KING KAMEHAMEHA I

Ms. HIRONO (for herself and Mr. SCHATZ) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. CON. RES. 14

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring),

SECTION 1. USE OF EMANCIPATION HALL FOR EVENT TO CELEBRATE BIRTHDAY OF KING KAMEHAMEHA I.

(a) AUTHORIZATION.—Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center is authorized to be used on June 11, 2017 for an event to celebrate the birthday of King Kamehameha I.

(b) PREPARATIONS.—Physical preparations for the conduct of the event described in subsection (a) shall be carried out in accordance with such conditions as may be prescribed by the Architect of the Capitol.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. President, I have 7 requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the majority and minority leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, April 27, 2017, at 9:30 a.m.

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, April 27, 2017, at 10 a.m. to conduct a hearing entitled ''Countering Russia: Further Assessing Options for Sanctions.''

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate in order to hold a hearing on Thursday, April 27, 2017, at 10 a.m. in Room 366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is authorized to meet in executive session during the session of the Senate on Thursday, April 27, 2017, at 10 a.m. in SD–419.

COMMITTEE ON AGING

The Special Committee on Aging is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, April 27, 2017, in room 430 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building beginning at 9:45 a.m.

COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Senate Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the 115th Congress of the U.S. Senate on Thursday, April 27, 2017 from 2 p.m., in room SH–219 of the Senate Hart Office Building.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON CYBERSECURITY

The Subcommittee on Cybersecurity of the Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, April 27, 2017, at 2:30 p.m.

ORDERS FOR FRIDAY, APRIL 28, 2017

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 11 a.m., Friday, April 28; further, that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; finally, that following leader remarks, the Senate be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order, following the remarks of Senator SULLIVAN.

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

The Senator from Alaska.

TRIBUTE TO MADISON ENGLUND AND JENNIFER TROUTMAN

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, every week I have been coming down to the floor for months now to recognize someone in my State who has made a difference, someone who has devoted time and energy to making Alaska a better place to live for the community and for others. We call these individuals our Alaskan of the week. It covers Alaskans from all over the State.

As I have said repeatedly in every one of my ''Alaskan of the Week'' speeches, I believe Alaska is the most beautiful State in the country—I would argue, in the world. I urge everybody in the room—the pages, the Presiding Officer, and the folks watching on TV—to come see for yourself. It will be a trip of a lifetime, I guarantee it. But it is the people who truly make Alaska unique, people who are helping each other, people who face tough odds and conquer them, strong-willed, warmhearted, tenacious people who have carved generous lives and sometimes in very extreme conditions.

Today, our Alaskan of the week is going to be a twofer. We are going to do two today. So I would like to recognize two Alaskans, Madison Englund of Fairbanks and Jennifer Troutman of Anchorage, as our Alaskans of the week. These are two special athletes who have made all of us in Alaska very proud.

Last month, Madison and Jennifer returned to Alaska with a slew of medals from the 2017 Special Olympics World Winter Games in Austria. First, these young women did everything in their power, including training their hearts out, to qualify for these world Olympic games, and when they got there, they excelled. Madison won a Gold Medal in the advanced super-G snowboard race and added a Silver Medal in the advanced giant slalom. Jennifer claimed a Silver Medal in Monday's advanced super-G ski race, as well.

Jennifer has been an athlete with Special Olympics for 11 years. During her freshman year of high school, she participated in bowling, track and field, and floor hockey through the Partners Club. During her junior year, she found a passion for skiing and has been excelling on the slopes ever since, as you can see from these incredible medals from the Special Olympics. She also works at Petco during her free time.

Madison has been part of Special Olympics for 7 years. Aside from sports, she enjoys other hobbies, to include playing the cello, camping, fishing, and caring for animals. She is proud of her dogs, and she has three of them. She also loves to make jewelry. She said it is her favorite hobby. In addition to all this, she has also won the Good Citizens Award from the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Since its founding nearly 50 years ago and subsequent growth to all corners of the globe, the Special Olympics has brought hope and joy and self-esteem to countless children and adults with intellectual disabilities and, of course, to their families and friends and their supporters like me. Special Olympics has shown what can happen when a group of people get together and sweat it out and work hard in the name of fair competition, camaraderie, and perseverance. These Special Olympians—all Special Olympians, really—make us in Alaska proud.

I want to thank Jim Balamaci, who has been the Special Olympics Alaska head for many years, and his whole team for giving so many Alaskans the opportunity to get out to the field or the slopes and experience the fulfillment of sports for all.

In Alaska, we love our Special Olympics athletes. They are an inspiration to all of us, whether it is when they are competing or even participating in the Polar Plunge in the icy waters of Alaska every winter to raise money for Special Olympics.

Congratulations again to Jennifer and Madison on your hard work and incredible achievements and representing Alaska so well. Congratulations. You have earned it, being our Alaskans of the week.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

AUTHORIZING USE OF EMANCIPATION HALL IN THE CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Con. Res. 14, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the concurrent resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 14) authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for an event to celebrate the birthday of King Kamehameha I.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the concurrent resolution be agreed to and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 14) was agreed to.

(The concurrent resolution is printed in today's RECORD under ''Submitted Resolutions.'')

AUTHORIZING USE OF THE CAPITOL GROUNDS

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of H. Con. Res. 35, which was received from the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the concurrent resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 35) authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the National Peace Officers Memorial Service and the National Honor Guard and Pipe Band Exhibition.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the concurrent resolution be agreed to and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 35) was agreed to.

AUTHORIZING USE OF THE CAPITOL GROUNDS

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H. Con. Res. 36, which was received from the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the concurrent resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 36) authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the concurrent resolution be agreed to and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 36) was agreed to.

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF TAKE OUR DAUGHTERS AND SONS TO WORK DAY

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee be discharged from further consideration of and the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 127.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 127) supporting the goals and ideals of Take Our Daughters And Sons To Work Day.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 127) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of April 7, 2017, under ''Submitted Resolutions.'')

CONGRATULATING THE ASHLAND UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM FOR WINNING THE 2017 NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIP

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Commerce Committee be discharged from further consideration of and the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 132.

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

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 132) congratulating the Ashland University women's basketball team for winning the 2017 National Collegiate Athletic Association division II championship.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 132) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of April 7, 2017, under ''Submitted Resolutions.'')

FINANCIAL LITERACY MONTH

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 145, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 145) designating April 2017 as ''Financial Literacy Month.''

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I further ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 145) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under ''Submitted Resolutions.'')

EL DÍA DE LOS NIÑOS—CELEBRATING YOUNG AMERICANS

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 146, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 146) designating April 30, 2017, as El Día de Los Niños—Celebrating Young Americans.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 146) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under ''Submitted Resolutions.'')

APPOINTMENT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, pursuant to Public Law 94–304, as amended by Public Law 99–7, appoints the following Senator as a member of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (Helsinki) during the 115th Congress: the Honorable CORY GARDNER of Colorado.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 11 A.M. TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until 11 a.m. tomorrow.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 7:15 p.m., adjourned until Friday, April 28, 2017, at 11 a.m.

CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate April 27, 2017:

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

R. ALEXANDER ACOSTA, OF FLORIDA, TO BE SECRETARY OF LABOR.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF THE HONORABLE STEVE STIVERS

HON. STEVE CHABOT

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 27, 2017

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, as the Dean of the Ohio Republican delegation (MARCY KAPTUR has served a few more years in total), it's my honor to recognize STEVE STIVERS for his service to the House of Representatives, and also to our nation.

Since being elected in 2010, STEVE has brought an enthusiasm and dedication to his work in Washington, and back home in Ohio. He is not only an incredible asset to this body and to his constituents, but he also has a gregarious personality that draws people in and puts them immediately at ease. To put it another way, you always know when STEVE STIVERS enters the room.

But, perhaps the most impressive thing about STEVE is his service in the Ohio Army National Guard. Having served his country with great distinction both here at home and overseas in Iraq, Kuwait, Qatar and Djibouti, he was recently promoted to the rank of Brigadier General. And fortunately, Mr. Speaker, STEVE brought the leadership skills he learned in the military to Congress, and we are all better for it.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE FOURTH ANNUAL LAX FOR A CAUSE EVENT

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 27, 2017

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Southwestern Youth Association (SYA), the Chantilly Youth Association (CYA) and an outstanding young woman, Tatum Bulger, whose collaborative efforts have made ''Lax for a Cause,'' a local, annual pre-season lacrosse tournament for charity, a tremendous success. This year, the event raised $22,000 for Special Love, a nonprofit organization that provides support and resources to children in the Mid-Atlantic region with cancer.

The tournament originated in 2014 when Damien LaRuffa, the Commissioner of SYA Lacrosse, Scott Stewart, the Vice Commissioner of SYA Lacrosse, and Chris Saben, the Commissioner of CYA Lacrosse, came together to brainstorm ideas for charitable sporting events in Northern Virginia. Since its inception, the annual event has been a tremendous success, previously donating proceeds to the Wounded Warrior Project, the Fisher House Foundation, and more. This year, Tatum Bulger, a sixth grader at Virginia Run Elementary School and avid lacrosse player, who was diagnosed with Ewing Sarcoma last year, approached the organizers with the idea of donating the proceeds to Special Love, and the SYA and CYA immediately moved forward with the idea.

Tatum is truly a special and inspirational young woman. She has used her individual battle to benefit others and increase awareness about pediatric cancer. Additionally, as a member of the SYA Lady Warriors, she has maintained her commitment to her lacrosse team, attending weekly practices and games, and she has a unique and special impact on her teammates and friends.

Throughout the years, local sponsors and community members have covered the majority of the expenses for the all-day ''Lax for a Cause'' tournament, which has enabled a majority of the donations to go to charity. And while the event organizers were extremely satisfied with this year's event, they hope that other teams and youth organizations will host similar charity games or tournaments.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me as we recognize ''Lax for a Cause'' and the charitable efforts set forth by the SYA, the CYA, and Tatum Bulger. Dedicating their time and efforts to helping children and their families fight an unthinkable battle with cancer attests to their unselfish character and determination to better their community. I wish them all of the best in their future endeavors.

TOM NOLAN, UPON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE BOARD OF THE SAN FRANCISCO MUNICIPAL TRANSPORTATION AGENCY

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 27, 2017

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, it has come to my attention that long-time board member Tom Nolan is leaving after having served on the board of the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency since 2006 and as Chairman since 2010. I want to add my congratulations to those of countless others for the contributions that Tom made during his decades of public service.

Tom has been a longtime friend and colleague and I have always admired his ability to bring peace to the negotiating table and to get to yes. He is truly a regional thinker and a transportation visionary. He was my colleague on the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors during the 1980's, and it was from this position that he first became immersed in the subject of public transportation. While San Francisco has long had a well-developed public transit system, San Mateo County lagged far behind. Tom was instrumental in creating the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board, the operator of Caltrain. He successfully fought for extension of BART to San Francisco airport and served the entire region as a member of the MTC. Even Santa Clara County owes a debt of gratitude for its transit system to Tom Nolan, as the light rail system relies upon a segment brought into the system by Tom's advocacy.

He could have rested on his laurels when he left San Mateo County to become a resident of San Francisco, but instead he decided to once again become a leader in transportation issues. It takes the genius of a heart surgeon and the patience of a saint to serve on the MTA board. Tom met these standards with his tireless advocacy for service improvements, sound labor relations, a vast bicycle network to reduce reliance upon cars, bike sharing, replacement of the bus fleet, and support of the staff and transit system when the economic downturn brought painful adjustments.

Every board member deserves our thanks for his or her dedication to the public, but the enormity of these responsibilities is often apparent only in hindsight. Few cities in America have tried to do what the MTA is doing over time: Create a transportation system that relies upon multiple modes of movement to create a modern city and to extend economic opportunity to all neighborhoods of San Francisco, all the while integrating this system with the region's needs. The new Central Subway and the T Third Line are just two of the latest examples. Tom's advocacy was essential to creating these options, just as his persistent advocacy led in the creation of Caltrain and the airport extension.

When a pedestrian is not hit while crossing a busy intersection, Tom Nolan's advocacy is in part responsible for this wonderful outcome. When a father is on time picking up his child from daycare, he probably never stops to thank Tom Nolan for the bus ride that brought him to the center, but he should. When a housing advocate rises to support the creation of workforce housing along a transit corridor, I doubt that Tom's name ever comes up as one of the reasons that robust service exists along that particular public right of way. As the Giants fans pull into the 4th and King station, I'll bet that exactly zero riders pause to wonder who made that trip possible. In part, it was countless professionals and advocates over decades, but in large part it was Tom Nolan.

As Tom leaves his position on the MTA board, his legacy is evident in concrete and steel, as well as painted bike paths and floral dividers between bikes and vehicles. It is evident in the quality of life that is led by San Franciscans and those in the Bay Area who quietly go about their business each day.

Long before San Francisco had Uber, our region had Tom Nolan. One trades on a public stock exchange and is highly valued by financial analysts while the other quietly serves in

modest but influential public service. There is no doubt in my own mind which is more valuable. Let us all give thanks for Tom Nolan, the ultimate transportation app because he doesn't require a smartphone, a charged battery or a good cell phone connection to get the job done. He's just a guy with a big heart and a mighty vision who delivers value to the public the old fashioned way: He earns it.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 27, 2017

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and missed Roll Call vote numbers 224, 225, 226, 227 and 228. Had I been present, I would have voted ''aye'' on votes 226 and 227. I would have voted ''nay'' on votes 224, 225, and 228.

TRIBUTE TO PUNAHOU SCHOOL NATIONAL SCIENCE BOWL TEAM

HON. COLLEEN HANABUSA

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 27, 2017

Ms. HANABUSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Punahou School's win in the Hawaii Regional Science Bowl and for earning the opportunity to compete in the National Science Bowl for the second year in a row.

Created by the Department of Energy's Office of Science in 1991, the National Science Bowl is one of the largest and most prestigious academic competitions in the United States. Over 265,000 students have participated throughout the National Science Bowl's 26 years. This year, over 14,000 students competed for a coveted spot in the National Science Bowl. Each team completed a series of daunting hands-on challenges that tested their knowledge. This meeting of some of the brightest student minds has encouraged thousands to expand their understanding of mathematics and science and pursue careers in such fields.

This week, Punahou School will compete against 62 other high schools in the National Science Bowl. To the Punahou School team—John Winnicki, Andrew Winnicki, Anna Kimata, Deborah Wen, Conrad Newfield, and Coach Warren Huelsnitz—all the best in this year's competition. They are a great example to their peers and I wish them continued success in their education and careers.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to represent these students and their families in the United States Congress and I know all my colleagues in the House will join me in congratulating them on competing in the National Science Bowl Finals 2017.

COMMEMORATING NATIONAL MINORITY HEALTH MONTH

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 27, 2017

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I am here to recognize the month of April as National Minority Health Month. The Affordable Care Act is a transformative piece of legislation that has helped millions of uninsured people to acquire affordable health insurance who otherwise would not have access to quality patient-centered care. This legislation was not just relegated to help the poor and the needy but also the 177 million employer sponsored insured employees with additional health benefits that never existed before the Affordable Care Act. For instance, ACA prohibited insurance companies from discriminating individuals with pre-existing conditions, and imposing lifetime cost caps on patients. Under ACA, parents can keep their children on their insurance plan up to the age of 26. Also, insurance companies are required to spend 80 percent of all premium dollars toward direct medical expenses and 20 percent toward insurance companies' administrative costs. Otherwise, they must reimburse the customer some of their money back. Currently, ACA has allowed more than 20 million U.S. residents to have health insurance coverage, which has improved the racial and ethnic disparities among minority population.

The purpose of the Affordable Care Act consisted of five basic goals:

1. Expand health insurance coverage for nearly 50 million uninsured people in the United States, which consist of 44 percent Whites, 32 percent Latinos, 16 percent African Americans, 6 percent Asians, 2 percent Native Americans and 0.4 percent Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islanders.

2. Reduce health care costs by establishing marketplaces called exchanges where federal and state-based marketplaces will have a single process to determine whether someone is eligible for tax credits to reduce the cost of premiums, in the form of cost sharing, Medicaid, or Children's Health Insurance Program. ACA requires a minimum standard of essential health benefits to include ambulatory patient services, prescription drugs, emergency services, rehabilitative and facilitative services, hospitalization, laboratory services, maternity and newborn care, preventive and wellness services and chronic disease management, mental health and substance use disorder services (including behavioral health treatment), and pediatric services (including oral and vision care). Whereas before, ACA's essential benefits did not exist, thus leaving the prospective patients without quality access to care.

3. Reduce health care fraud and abuse

4. Improve health care quality through several initiatives: (1) a national quality strategy; increased reliance on value-based purchasing; expansion of meaningful use of electronic health records (EHRs); better care coordination; development of quality measures for Medicaid and Medicare; and measures of quality in the marketplace.

5. Improve population health that includes reducing racial and ethnic disparities among the minority population. One aspect of the ACA helping people of color to reduce disparities is by requiring health plans to cover certain preventative services such as blood pressure and cholesterol screening, mammograms and Pap smears, and vaccinations, with no cost-sharing. The ACA increased funding for community health centers, which provide quality primary and comprehensive services to underserved communities. They served approximately 25 million people in rural and urban centers where more than half of the patients were members of various ethnic and minority groups.

We need more doctors and allied health professionals to assist a healthcare system that for decades was not adequately addressing health disparities among millions of racial and ethnic minority Americans. Many of our minorities are disproportionately more likely to suffer deleterious health disparities just because they are low-income wage earners, poorer in health and suffer worse health outcomes, and are more likely to die prematurely and often from preventable causes compared to their White counterparts. Some of the examples of these health disparities include the following:

The infant mortality rate for African Americans and American Indian/Alaska Natives are more than two times higher than that for whites;

African Americans with heart disease are three times more likely to be operated on by ''high risk'' surgeons than their White counterparts with heart disease;

Hispanic/Latina women have the highest incidence rate for cancers of the cervix; 1.6 times higher than that for white women, with a cervical cancer death rate that is 1.4 times higher than for white women;

Puerto Ricans have an asthma prevalence rate over 2.2 times higher than non-Hispanic whites and over 1.8 times higher than non-Hispanic blacks;

Together, African Americans and Hispanics account for 28 percent of the total U.S. population, yet account for 62 percent of all new HIV infections;

American Indian/Alaska Natives have diabetes rates that are nearly 3 times higher than the overall rate; and

Of the more than one million people infected with chronic Hepatitis B in the United States, half are Asian-Americans and Pacific Islanders.

In addition to the unacceptable costs of human suffering and premature death, there are significant economic repercussions of allowing health disparities to persist. A 2010 study from the Health Policy Institute at the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies found that the total costs of health disparities were $1.24 trillion over a three-year period. This same report found that eliminating racial and ethnic health disparities would have reduced direct medical care expenditures by $229.4 billion over the same three-year period.

Many analysts over the past several years have reported that investments through the Affordable Care Act and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 have helped double the number of clinicians in the National

Health Service Corps by providing scholarships and loan repayments to medical students and primary care physicians and other healthcare professionals as incentives for them to practice in underserved communities. The ACA helped bridge some of the gap in workforce diversity to include dentists and other primary oral health care providers.

Increasing the proportion of African-American dentists is critical because studies show that they are more likely to serve in underserved communities than their white cohort. In 2010, underrepresented minority (URM) Black or African American, Hispanic/Latino of any race, American Indian or Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander-students composed 13 percent of the overall applicant pool for dental school programs. For the 639 URM applicants who enrolled in 2010, the enrollment rate increased only by 1 percent since 2009. A statistic that shows that progress is needed. Dental schools today are graduating 300 Black dentists out of 5,000 each year. Today, 5 percent of dentists are African-American. Black dentists treat nearly 62 percent of Black patients; White dentists only treat 10.5 percent; Hispanics treat 9.8 percent; and Asian dentists only treat 11.5 percent Black patients. The Affordable Care Act helps ensure that dental visits and oral and dental health care become a routine part of everyone's health care regimen.

IN CELEBRATION OF MRS. PEARL BIGGS' 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 27, 2017

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my sincerest congratulations and Happy Birthday wishes to Mrs. Pearl Biggs, who is celebrating her 100th birthday on Tuesday, May 2, 2017. A birthday celebration will be held for Mrs. Biggs on Saturday, April 29, 2017.

In 1917, the United States entered World War I, women did not yet have the right to vote, and segregation was rampant in the South. This is the year Mrs. Pearl Biggs was born to Mahaley Jones and Wiley Bunkley. Indeed, Mrs. Biggs has seen much in her lifetime and through it all, she has relied on her faith in the Lord.

Mrs. Biggs began working as a cook at a young age and so it was inevitable that she would become known as a very good cook. In 1937, she married Pedro Biggs and they would spend the next 76 years together until his passing in 2014.

Pearl and Pedro Biggs opened one of the first Black-owned businesses in the Geneva and Box Springs area in Southwest Georgia. They owned several businesses, including Biggs Sandwich Shop, a movie theatre, and a pulpwood company. They were also farmers.

Mrs. Biggs loves to sing and she sang in the choir at her church. Her favorite song is "Let Jesus Lead Me." She loves collard greens and the color pink. She enjoys fishing and talking on the phone. Mrs. Biggs has never met a stranger—she always wants to feed people and no one ever goes hungry around her.

George Washington Carver once said, "How far you go in life depends on your being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving and tolerant of the weak and strong because someday in your life you will have been all of these." Mrs. Biggs has advanced far in life because she never forgot these lessons and always kept God first.

As she celebrates 100 years of life, Mrs. Biggs will be surrounded by her sons, Monroe and Allen; daughters-in-law, Mildred and Cynthia; grandchildren, Timothy, Kelton, and Amelia; and great-grandchildren, Jackson and Christopher; plus a host of other family members and friends.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me, along with my wife Vivian and the almost 730,000 people of Georgia's Second Congressional District, in honoring an outstanding citizen and woman of faith, Mrs. Pearl Biggs, as she, her family, and friends celebrate her 100th birthday.

IN RECOGNITION OF VISTA MARIA AND ITS 2017 WOMAN OF ACHIEVEMENT HONOREE GLENDA REED

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 27, 2017

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Vista Maria and its 2017 Woman of Achievement Honoree Glenda Reed. As founder and CEO of Crossroads Learning Center, Ms. Reed has dedicated her life to protecting children, teens and adolescents.

Founded in 1883, Vista Maria is a private, non-profit agency that provides treatment and care for vulnerable youth with emotional and behavioral problems resulting from neglect or abuse. Since its establishment by the Sisters of the Good Shepherd, the organization has evolved into a multi-service agency that provides comprehensive support to children and their families. In addition to its community youth assistance programs, Vista Maria runs two on-campus charter schools at their 37-acre Dearborn Heights campus, as well as a health clinic, residential treatment programs, and foster care initiatives. Collectively, these initiatives provide critical services to support and improve outcomes for high-risk youth and adolescents. Vista Maria also raises awareness and recognizes outstanding women in the community at its annual Celebrating Women event.

Vista Maria's 2017 Woman of Achievement Honoree is Glenda Reed, an educator who founded the Crossroads Learning Center, an early childhood education facility in Detroit. Crossroads provides high-quality childcare and after-school care for children ages 0–12. In addition, Ms. Reed runs Once Upon a Time, a nonprofit organization that recognizes and supports survivors of childhood abuse. Her efforts to support these individuals have helped empower them to take control of their lives and fulfill their potential. She has also traveled around the country as an advocate for these women, and her exceptional work on their behalf is more than deserving of this prestigious honor. It is my hope that Ms. Reed and Vista Maria continue to build on their legacy of service on behalf of these youth.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Vista Maria and its 2017 Woman of Achievement Honoree, Glenda Reed. Their work has had a tremendous impact and helped improve the lives of countless women.

CELEBRATING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF TECHNET

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 27, 2017

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, twenty years ago, Bay Area innovation leaders John Doerr, John Chambers, and Jim Barksdale spurred a new era of American technological advancement by creating TechNet.

Today, TechNet represents the spirit of technological innovation that continues to thrive in Silicon Valley.

TechNet stands as a remarkable example of how bringing people together can inspire innovation, strengthen our economy, and create a more productive future.

TechNet's network of CEOs and senior executives have worked with leaders in Congress to drive an Innovation Agenda that creates jobs and opportunities for Americans.

As we look to the future, the iconic companies and dynamic startups that form TechNet will continue to lead our nation in the development of transformative technologies that create more opportunities for more Americans.

Congratulations on 20 years of inspired leadership and shining achievement. Best wishes on many more years of success unleashing the full potential of American innovation.

HONORING LONNIE CARPENTER OF WEST VIRGINIA

HON. EVAN H. JENKINS

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 27, 2017

Mr. JENKINS of West Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my constituent, Lonnie Carpenter. Lonnie, a lifelong Wayne County resident, served his country as a seaman onboard the USS *Ault* destroyer during the Korean War.

After his service, Lonnie returned back to his home in the beautiful hills of West Virginia and started a family with his wife of more than 63 years, Edna Davis. Together they had three wonderful children, and Lonnie provided for them through his career in the banking and finance industry. Lonnie is a proud Mason, having been conferred the 33rd Degree, and chronicled the history of Freemasons in many articles for the Scottish Rite.

Lonnie also served a term as a councilman for the town of Ceredo and volunteers his time

for numerous organizations that have improved the lives of the people of his community. I thank Lonnie for all he has done for the people of West Virginia and for his service to our nation.

TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT COLONEL VINCENT B. MYERS

HON. BRAD R. WENSTRUP

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 27, 2017

Mr. WENSTRUP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in gratitude for the hard work and commitment of Lieutenant Colonel Vincent B. Myers, who has served as the Medical Army Legislative Liaison to my office for the past two years.

A Lieutenant Colonel in the United States Army and an experienced health care provider, Vince has been essential to my office and the House Armed Services Committee, as we work toward the goal of enhancing medical readiness and providing top care for our service members.

On May 11, Vince will continue his committed service to the United States as he takes command of McDonald Army Health Center at Fort Eustis, Virginia. I know that in this role, Vince will serve with conviction and honor.

I congratulate Vince, and thank him for his work and friendship.

HONORING JOHNSON CHAPEL

HON. JUAN VARGAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 27, 2017

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Johnson Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church and its pastors for 100 years of teaching, preaching the Gospel, and making strides in our community.

The Johnson Chapel A.M.E. Church was founded in 1915 by John Fair, James Craig, Roxie Graves, Cora Martin, Ed Ackers, and Nancy Craig. It was formally established in 1917 with Reverend S.E. Edwards as its first pastor. Originally a small congregation meeting in a house on State Street, the church is now highly regarded within the community and has relocated to a significantly larger building on Hamilton Street in El Centro, California.

The African Methodist Episcopal Church was formed out of the Free African Society, established in 1787. African Americans faced unending discrimination while trying to practice their faith in American Methodist churches. Some churchgoers went as far as pulling African Americans off their knees as they prayed. Black members of St. George's Methodist Episcopal Church split off to create their own African congregation. Wanting to avoid discrimination and obtain religious autonomy, many black Methodists began to switch over to African Methodist Episcopal churches.

Currently, the A.M.E. Church has membership across twenty Episcopal Districts in thirty-nine countries, on five continents. Although the church was founded by people of African descent and heritage, it is open to people of any background or race. They place emphasis on the plain and simple gospel and tirelessly work to spread the word of Jesus Christ.

The Johnson Chapel A.M.E. Church has been led by thirty-one dedicated ministers over the past 100 years. They have worked to improve the church and build a community around it. Not only does the church take care of their own members, they have also provided educational programs and outreach to benefit youth in their area.

I would like to recognize the Johnson Chapel A.M.E. Church for their 100 years of dedicated teaching and service within our community.

IN RECOGNITION OF FREEDOM HIGH SCHOOL'S CHARITY PROM

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 27, 2017

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the students, faculty, and Principal, Doug Fulton, of Freedom High School located in Loudoun County, Virginia, for their leadership and efforts to raise money and awareness for pediatric cancer. For the second year in a row, Freedom High School will be forgoing a lavish, expensive prom and instead will be hosting the event in their cafeteria and gymnasium, where the proceeds from ticket sales will be donated to pediatric cancer organizations.

Two years ago, Principal Fulton and several students saw an opportunity for the school to engage with their community and join the fight against childhood cancer when they learned about the Prom Challenge, an initiative set forth by St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Through this initiative, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital provides schools with the tools needed to transform their normal prom events into pediatric cancer fundraisers.

Last spring marked the first time that Freedom High School partook in the challenge, and this unique event truly sparked interests and efforts of the entire student body, faculty, and community. When the decision was made to transform the school's cafeteria and gym into a dining room and ball room in an effort to save money on a venue, many students were at first skeptical and disappointed. Yet once they learned about the challenge, they became excited and very eager to raise money and awareness for the event. Additionally, the Hilton Washington Dulles Airport Hotel, the venue that had already been arranged for the event prior to the conception of this charity ball, generously returned the school its $5,000 deposit.

The theme of last year's prom was ''Hats on to Fight Pediatric Cancer,'' inspired by Ellie's Hats, a local charity in Loudoun County that provides hats to children who lose their hair during cancer treatments. To raise awareness students were asked to wear hats to the event, and some of the proceeds were in fact donated to this local organization. At the event, the food provided was all donated by Whole Foods and the National Conference Center, and the musical performers and photographers each volunteered their time. Lastly, the prom king and queen were not chosen by the student body, but they were instead selected based on who raised the most money in their name. Every final detail and moment of this event was thoroughly planned with the intent of assisting those with pediatric cancer, and ultimately, the event raised $48,000.

Mr. Speaker, while the students and faculty take great pride in last year's tremendous prom, they now hope to make this event a permanent tradition at Freedom High School and hope that other schools will follow their lead. I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring Freedom High School's students and faculty for their extraordinary work on last year's charity prom and their continuous efforts to champion this initiative. Dedicating their time and efforts to helping children and their families fight an unthinkable battle with cancer attests to their unselfish character and determination to better their community.

RECOGNIZING MS. KATHY O'KEEFFE, A RECIPIENT OF THE FBI DIRECTOR'S COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP AWARD FOR 2016

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 27, 2017

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ms. Cathy O'Keeffe—the Director of the Braking Traffik organization, who is being recognized in Washington, D.C. as a recipient of the FBI Director's Community Leadership Award for 2016.

As the Director of Braking Traffik, Cathy has made remarkable contributions to our community, helping bring justice and resources to victims and survivors of labor and sex trafficking. Through education, legislative advocacy and community partnerships, Braking Traffik has helped raise awareness about this important issue and has strengthened trafficking laws in both Iowa and Illinois. Cathy has devoted her drive, energy and fierce determination to this organization since 2011, and has tremendously helped make our community a safer place to live.

I'm very proud of Cathy's work on this issue and am pleased she's gained the recognition of the Director of the FBI. Mr. Speaker, I want to again formally congratulate Cathy on her award, and I join the rest of our community to wish her every success in the future.

HONORING THE LIFE OF EDWARD J. DONLEY

HON. CHARLES W. DENT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 27, 2017

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Edward J. Donley, former Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Air Products and Chemicals, Inc. in Allentown, Pennsylvania. Ed was a dear friend and mentor to

me. After 95 years of life, many of which were spent as a prominent figurehead in the Lehigh Valley's business community and as an impassioned advocate for early-childhood education, he passed away in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania on April 1, 2017. As a testament to Ed's legacy, his son John wrote a tribute to him, a portion of which I summarized and would like to include in the Record today:

Ed Donley was born in Detroit on November 26, 1921. During the Depression, his family moved back to their farm near Richmond, Michigan. After graduating from high school, Donley won a scholarship to Lawrence Institute of Technology (now Lawrence Technological University) in Detroit and earned an engineering degree in 1943. Shortly before graduating, Donley was hired by a new industrial gas company, Air Products, located in Chattanooga, Tennessee, to design portable oxygen generators for Allied bombers in World War II.

Donley met his future wife in Chattanooga: Ms. Inez Cantrell. They wed on October 24, 1946 and were happily married for 66 years until Inez passed away in 2013 from Alzheimer's disease. The couple had three children—Martha, Tom, and John, ten grandchildren, and a growing bevy of great-grandchildren.

Air Products relocated to the Lehigh Valley in 1949, and Donley became Vice President of Sales in 1957, President and Chief Operating Officer in 1966, Chief Executive Officer (1973–86), and Chairman of the Board (1978–86). During his time at Air Products, he was especially proud of his commitment to promoting employee safety, recruiting top students each year, and creating long-term shareholder value.

In the Lehigh Valley, Donley led many local projects. In the 1960s and 70s, he was a trustee of Cedar Crest College, the Allentown Art Museum, and WLVT public television. He and his wife Inez gave their time and financial support to Community Services for Children, the Allentown Library, KidsPeace, Lehigh Carbon Community College, and the Da Vinci Science Center.

Additionally, Donley served on many business and non-profit boards, including a stint as director of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce for 11 years. He was active in the health care industry as well, helping to create the predecessor of the Lehigh Valley Health Network in the 1970s and working with the Rotary Club to found Lehigh Valley Hospice, Inc. in 1980—just the second hospice in the U.S. at that time.

Similarly, Donley held a great passion for early-childhood education. In addition to leading education initiatives, he and his wife gave most of their assets to The Donley Foundation, a trust now run by their children and grandchildren, which supports the work of literacy and early-childhood education groups.

While philanthropy and a strong business acumen served as catalysts for many of Ed's lifetime endeavors, his commitment to his wife, his children, and his grandchildren and great-grandchildren will ultimately be how he is remembered. Mr. Speaker, I ask that the House please join me in celebrating a giant of a man and a life well lived, as well as expressing sympathy to his family and our community, both of which have been made better by his outstanding life and legacy. Rest in peace, dear friend.

RECOGNITION AND COMMEMORATION OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

HON. SALUD O. CARBAJAL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 27, 2017

Mr. CARBAJAL. Mr. Speaker, earlier this month, I joined with over 80 of my House colleagues in calling upon President Trump to properly recognize the Armenian Genocide for what it is—a genocide.

Unfortunately, the president continued to extend U.S. complicity in Turkey's denial of the Armenian Genocide by failing to properly characterize the near annihilation of the Armenians of the Ottoman Empire as a genocide.

The facts are indisputable. Over 1.5 million Armenians were massacred during the first genocide of the 20th century.

As crimes of genocide continue to plague this world, Turkey's policy of denying the Armenian Genocide gives license to those who perpetrate genocide everywhere.

As we recognize and commemorate the 102nd Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide I join my colleagues in calling upon the Turkey government to ends its campaign of denial and urge the administration to end American complicity of this crime against humanity.

REMEMBERING WILLIAM ADAMS KIMBROUGH, JR.

HON. BRADLEY BYRNE

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 27, 2017

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember the life of Mr. William Adams Kimbrough, Jr. Billy, as he was known, was a leader in the Mobile community and a former U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Alabama.

Billy was born in Selma and grew up in Thomasville. He attended the University of the South, or Sewanee, where he was a member of the football team and active in campus affairs. He later graduated from the University of Alabama School of Law.

Under President John F. Kennedy, Billy served as an Assistant U.S. Attorney before working in the legal department at the GM&O Railroad in Mobile. He later joined the law firm of Stockman & Bedsole. In 1977, President Jimmy Carter appointed him to serve as the U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Alabama. He held his position until 1981. Following his service as U.S. Attorney, Billy joined the law firm of Turner Onderdonk where he practiced law until his retirement in 2012.

Billy was a proud Mobilian and participated in many groups and organizations around Southwest Alabama. He was active in politics throughout his life and took part in many political campaigns. He also worked with the Greater Gulf State Fair, of which he was the President in 1967.

He was also a man of strong and steady faith. He sang in the choir and taught Sunday School at Dauphin Way United Methodist Church in Mobile. He took great pride in seeing his church grow and flourish.

Sadly, Billy passed away on March 31st after a lengthy illness. Billy was more than just a colleague and fellow member of the Mobile Bar Association; he was also a friend of mine and my family.

On behalf of Alabama's First Congressional District, I want to share my deepest condolences with his wife of 58 years, Kay, his two children, Mary Elizabeth and Will, and his entire family. I hope you can take great comfort in the many memories together and the fact that Billy had such a profound impact on our community, state, and country.

HONORING THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED WAY OF MIDLAND

HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 27, 2017

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the distinguished service of the United Way of Midland as they celebrate their 70th Anniversary.

For the past 70 years, The United Way of Midland has been dedicated to enriching the Permian Basin through their various outreach programs. UWM works directly with program providers in supporting over 50 programs and services that target individual needs throughout the community. These initiatives focus on three building blocks to a better life, which are: promoting quality education that leads to stable employment; empowering individuals to achieve economic stability and financial security through proven methods like job training and financial planning courses; and vital health services that promote healthy lifestyles and choices. Through their work, UWM assists roughly 65,000 people annually and invests over $3 million back into the community.

As a Lifetime Member of the Board of Directors for the United Way of Midland, I have been fortunate enough to see firsthand the great work that this organization does for the Permian Basin community. I wish them best of luck with their future endeavors.

CURTIS RHYNE

HON. VIRGINIA FOXX

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 27, 2017

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and thank an exceptional North Carolinian, Curtis Rhyne, who has served our state well here in Congress. After getting his start in my office several years ago, he worked for several Chairmen of the Republican Study Committee and later with my colleague, Rep. RICHARD HUDSON. He brought conservative

Carolina values to that service, which were instilled in him by his parents, Jerry and Elaine Rhyne, and his entire family during his formative years in Statesville, N.C.

As an East Carolina University Pirate and graduate, Curtis was well prepared intellectually for his work here in Washington, which was primarily on energy, trade, and other policy issues. He is well known in Washington for his personal attention to individuals and issues and is held in the highest regard for his professionalism and knowledge.

Regardless of where he resides, I'll always think of Curtis as a constituent and wish him well as he moves on to serve our state as a Policy Advisor for North Carolina House Speaker Tim Moore in Raleigh.

REV. PATRICIA BRUGER

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 27, 2017

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the outstanding achievements of Rev. Patricia Bruger and her contributions to the Center of United Methodist Aid to the Community (CUMAC) on this special day, Thursday, April 27, 2017.

Born and raised in Washington, DC, Patricia is a graduate of the University of Maryland, where she earned her BS in Education in 1969. She worked for the Girl Scouts of America and was a public school teacher. From 1969 until 1972 she served as a high school teacher in Silver Spring, Maryland. She later moved to New Jersey, and served as a substitute teacher in Bergen County from 1985 to 1991.

She then received her Masters of Divinity at the Drew Theological Seminary in 1995 with over 25 years of experience in social and civic ministries. She is an ordained Elder of The United Methodist Church, a certified Mentor for the Board of Ordained Ministry, a certified counselor for the Clergy Partnership on Domestic Violence, and a member of the Bishop's Task Force on Urban Minorities.

Patricia is a committed social servant dedicated to the eradication of hunger and poverty through direct source and broad advocacy efforts. Patricia has been the Executive Director of CUMAC for over 26 years. She has led the organization through a tremendous period of growth from operating out of an abandoned church to purchasing its own 28,000 square foot facility and from a small food pantry to a multi-service agency serving over 40,000 people in need every year, providing food assistance, disaster relief, job training, supportive housing, and hope to a community facing pervasive poverty.

She was a founding and active member of the Emergency Food Coalition of Passaic County (newly operating as a CUMAC program), the NJ statewide Anti-Hunger Coalition, and the Paterson Alliance. Patricia has been a leading voice for her community, advocating for hunger to be addressed in the state budget, as well as rallying support for SNAP benefits and Breakfast after the Bell, to feed hungry students so they can concentrate on their education instead.

Patricia's forward-thinking and leadership abilities has encouraged and inspired staff and volunteers to partake in CUMAC's mission of taking care of others. She has raised awareness about pervasive poverty through this organization, and strives to fulfill the needs of people who do not have the adequate resources to function in their daily lives. She has worked closely with other feeding programs throughout Passaic County and northern New Jersey to bring about change in the community, and to assist in eradicating poverty.

The job of a United States Congressman involves much that is rewarding, yet nothing compares to recognizing and commemorating individuals who have dedicated their lives to serving the people. Patricia has truly left an everlasting mark on my hometown of Paterson.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, family and friends, all those whose lives she has touched, and me, in recognizing the work of Rev. Patricia Bruger and her strong desire to help those in need across the world.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PAUL TONKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 27, 2017

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, April 26th, I was unavoidably detained and I missed roll call votes 224 and 225.

Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on roll call vote 224.

Had I been present, I would have voted NO on roll call vote 225.

FINANCIAL LITERACY MONTH 2017

HON. JOYCE BEATTY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 27, 2017

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as Co-Chair of the House Financial and Economic Literacy Caucus in recognition of Financial Literacy Month.

Every day, Americans are faced with financial decisions that impact their lives and their families. That is why promoting financial and economic literacy is so important and why we draw attention to it each and every April.

Financial literacy is a lifelong journey, whether writing a monthly budget, managing your credit, or saving for retirement, every American needs to understand the basic principles of planning, saving and investing for the future.

In that spirit, I urge my colleagues to cosponsor/support bipartisan House Resolution 243, which promotes the ideals and goals of Financial Literacy Month, and to also participate in tomorrow's Financial Literacy Day on the Hill.

Let's ensure more Americans can build a better financial future this Financial Literacy Month and all year round.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. JACK W. SCHWARTZ

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 27, 2017

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Jack W. Schwartz on his 102nd birthday.

Mr. Jack W. Schwartz is from Hanford, California. Growing up, Mr. Schwartz graduated from Hollywood High School at the age of fifteen and went on to earn both his Bachelor of Arts and Master of Science degrees in Civil Engineering from California Institute of Technology. After working in various engineering jobs, Mr. Schwartz joined the United States Navy in 1940 as a Lieutenant Junior Grade in the Civil Engineering Corps. His first Navy assignment was at Pearl Harbor, and he was later transferred to Guam in January 1941. Barely a year later, on December 8, the Japanese Navy attacked Guam.

On December 10, 1941, Guam became the first American territory to formally surrender to an enemy in World War II. Lt. Schwartz and the sailors and Marines on the island became prisoners of war (POW) for nearly the next four years. Lt. Schwartz and the other officers were sent by boat to the Japanese port of Tadotsu on the island of Shikoku to become slave laborers for Japanese corporations. Upon arrival in mainland Japan, Mr. Schwartz was taken to the Zentsuji POW Camp nearly 400 miles west of Tokyo. While in this camp, Lt. Schwartz was beaten and denied food, water, and medical service whenever he defended and advocated for those under his command. In September 1942, he was transferred to Tokyo 2B Kawasaki and later sent to Zentsuji in August of 1944. His final transfer was in June 1945 to POW Camp 11–B Rokuroshi. This camp was located in the Japanese Alps, where food was scarce, conditions were overcrowded, and winter clothes were unavailable, leading many to believe they would not survive the harsh mountain winter. However, the camp was discovered and liberated on September 8, 1945, several days after the formal surrender of Japan on September 2. After the war, Lt. Schwartz remained in the United States Navy and later retired in 1962 as a Commander.

At the age of ninety nine, Mr. Schwartz was invited to take part in the Fifth Delegation of American Former POWs of Japan where he met with Japanese officials, students, and visited the sites of former POW camps. He felt the experience was important for remembrance and reconciliation.

Mr. Schwartz served as the Public Works Director and City Engineer for eighteen years in Hanford, California. Since his retirement in 1980, Mr. Schwartz has been active on many city and council projects including serving eight years as City Planning Commissioner and five years on the Kings County Grand Jury. The most prideful accomplishment of Mr. Schwartz's long career in public service is his work in helping to procure the funds to create and design Hidden Valley Park in Hanford.

Today, Mr. Schwartz has a son, a stepdaughter, and a grandson. His favorite hobbies are woodturning and making things out of

wood, reading, and writing with the Remington Ramblers, a local writing workshop.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in wishing this extraordinary American, Mr. Jack W. Schwartz, well on his 102nd birthday and thanking him for his years of military and public service.

RECOGNIZING PASTOR WALLSTONE E. FRANCIS

HON. BRADLEY SCOTT SCHNEIDER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 27, 2017

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an accomplished individual, a distinguished pillar of our community, and a personal friend, Pastor Wallstone E. Francis, on the occasion of his 25th anniversary as pastor of Shiloh Baptist Church in Waukegan, Illinois. For 25 years, Pastor Francis has shared his passion, his vision and his dedication to scripture and service, not just with his church but with the entire community.

Pastor Francis was born in Nassau, Bahamas, and moved to the United States in 1971. After earning a Bachelor of Theology and Bachelor of Arts Degrees from American Baptist College of American Baptist Theological Seminary in Nashville, Tennessee and an Honorary Doctor of Divinity Degree from Selma University, in Selma, Alabama, Pastor Francis began his ministry in Smyrna, Tennessee and later Franklin, Kentucky.

On May 3, 1992, Pastor Francis was installed as pastor of Shiloh Baptist Church. In his two and a half decades of service, Pastor Francis has become known as an incisive teacher of the Scripture, a dedicated minister to his congregation, and an upstanding leader in his community. In addition to his Christian ministry, Pastor Francis gives back through his service on the Waukegan Civil Service Commission and as a volunteer Chaplain at Victory Memorial Hospital and the Lake County Jail.

Pastor Francis has been blessed with more than forty years of marriage to Mrs. Angelia Rene Otey William. Their loving family includes grown children and grandchildren, including children who came to the family as foster children. I am also honored to celebrate their commitment to foster care.

Illinois's Tenth District and the Waukegan community is lucky for Pastor Francis's leadership. On this moment of anniversary, I wish him, his family, and the entire Shiloh Baptist Church community all the best in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO FORMER CONGRESSMAN EARL E. HILLIARD

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 27, 2017

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my good friend, former Congressman Earl Hilliard, who will celebrate his 75th birthday this weekend, at a gathering of his family and friends in Birmingham, Alabama.

While a Member of this body, Earl and I worked very closely together, preserving the integrity of historically black colleges and universities and supporting the preservation and restoration of historic sites and buildings. At his weekend gathering they will establish a scholarship in his honor in order to help more rural Alabama young men and women have opportunities to further their education.

I want to congratulate my friend for reaching this milestone in his life, a place I got to more than a year ago, and wish him a happy birthday and further success in establishing more benefits for young men and women throughout Alabama.

Family: Former Congressman Earl Frederick Hilliard was born in Birmingham, Alabama on April 9, 1942 to Iola Frazier and William Hilliard. In 1967, Earl Hilliard married Mary Franklin. Both were the first person on both sides of their families to attend and graduate from college. They have two children: Alesia Hilliard-Smith (R. J. Smith) and Earl Hilliard, Jr. (Janine Hunt-Hilliard) and four grandchildren: Roderick Smith, Jr., Reginald Smith, Earl Hilliard, III and Nya Hilliard. In June 2016, the couple celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

Education: Earl graduated from Western-Olin High School in 1960. Because of his experiences growing up in segregated Birmingham, he chose to attend historically black colleges and universities. He received a B.A. from Morehouse College in 1964, a J.D. from Howard University School of Law in 1967, and an M.B.A. in 1970 from Atlanta University (now Clark-Atlanta University) School of Business. He was awarded an Honorary Degree—Doctor of Humane Letters—in 2000 from Talladega College.

Civil Rights/Black History: While a student at Morehouse College, in Atlanta, Georgia, Hilliard met Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The meeting had a powerful effect on him, and he became ''one of King's foot soldiers in the war for racial equality. He worked with voter-registration drives and participated in many protest marches. He continued his work when he was elected to the Alabama House of Representatives where he chaired the first Alabama Black Legislative Caucus.

Political Career: In 1974, Earl F. Hilliard was elected to the Alabama House of Representatives where he chaired the Alabama Black Legislative Caucus. In 1980, he was elected to the Alabama State Senate and chaired the Alabama State Judiciary, Commerce, Transportation and Utility Committees. His Senate career focused on helping the urban poor, who constituted the bulk of his Birmingham-area constituents. He earned a reputation as a hard-fighting, tactical legislator.

In 1992, Hilliard won a seat in the U.S. Congress, becoming the first black Representative from Alabama since Jeremiah Haralson left office after Reconstruction. ''We have not had a voice in 117 years,'' Hilliard declared upon his first election. ''I will be able to articulate the views and opinions of a group that hasn't had representation in a very long time. His district included three major cities—Selma, Montgomery, and Birmingham—all of which were battlegrounds at the heart of the 1960s civil rights movement.

Hilliard's initial focus in Congress was creating economic opportunity for his constituents. He supported legislation that would help Alabama's urban poor. He called for a Southern Rural Development Commission, modeled after the Appalachian Regional Commission to assist economic development in rural communities in ten southern states. Congressman Hilliard reestablished Gees Bend Ferry. He attempted to protect and expand the Alabama military installations used by the U.S. Army and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. He worked to protect a Tuscaloosa-area airport that was difficult to sustain because of the region's sparse population. ''Tuscaloosa and the surrounding communities would suffer terribly without local air service, and this travel option will become increasingly important as industrial development continues in the area,'' he wrote to a colleague. Due in large part to Congressman Hilliard's lobbying, the House and Senate Appropriations Committees diverted limited funding to Tuscaloosa in the Essential Air Service legislation. He successfully pushed funding to support Alabama's historically black colleges and universities and provided scholarship money for minority students. Hilliard was also crucial in convincing a Korean-based car manufacturer to open a plant outside Montgomery. While in Congress, he served on the Agriculture, Small Business, International Relations and Foreign Affairs Committees. An active member of the Congressional Black Caucus, Congressman Hilliard was elected vice chairman of the organization for the 105th Congress (1997 through 1999).

Academic Career: Earl F. Hilliard began his career as a teacher at Miles College (1967 through 1968) and later was an assistant to the president of Alabama State University (1968 through 1970). While in Congress, he didn't forget what he'd learned and the importance of procuring funding to support Alabama's historically black colleges and universities and to provide scholarship money for minority students. Over the years, he has helped countless relatives, friends, and constituents achieve their educational goals by providing financial support to students who desired to pursue advanced degrees, but were financially unable to do so. He has mentored an innumerable amount of people, from high school and college students to seasoned professionals.

Awards/Honors: In 1974, Earl F. Hilliard received Omega Psi Phi's Businessman of the Year Award and he was given Delta Sigma Theta's Distinguished Service and Achievement Award in 1975. He was awarded the Outstanding Alumnus Award, in 2010, from Morehouse College National Alumni Association. In 2011, Earl F. Hilliard received an Outstanding Alumnus Award from National Alumni Council of the United Negro College Fund and in 2015, he was one of the recipients of an Alabama Majesty Award from Miles College.

Community Involvement and Associations: Earl Hilliard holds Life Memberships in Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). He also holds or has held memberships in the National Bar Association,

the Alabama State Bar Association, the American Civil Liberties Union, the Alabama Lawyers Association, the Morehouse College Alumni Association, and Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Morehouse Athletic Foundation, Inc., of which he was one of the incorporators. He has served as Trustee of both Miles College Law School and Tuskegee University. He currently serves as a Deacon, Elder and a Sunday school teacher for the Mount Moriah Missionary Baptist Church of North Pratt and previously served as Chairman of both the Deacon and Trustee Boards.

SENATE—*Friday, April 28, 2017*

The Senate met at 11 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO, a Senator from the State of West Virginia.

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Eternal God, thank You for Your great mercies for us, for while we are yet seeking You, You find us. Before we call, You answer, and while we are speaking, You fulfill Your purposes.

Guide our lawmakers on their legislative pilgrimage. Lord, provide them with a spirit of wisdom so that they will be able to discern what is best. May they strive to honor You in their thoughts, words, and actions. Help them to faithfully seek truth and justice for all rather than privilege for a few.

O God, give us all the courage to go forth to live as we have prayed.

We pray in Your strong Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

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

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, April 28, 2017.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO, a Senator from the State of West Virginia, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ORRIN G. HATCH,
President pro tempore.

Mrs. CAPITO thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

CONTINUING RESOLUTION AND COAL MINER HEALTHCARE BENEFITS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, with cooperation from our friends across the aisle, the Senate will pass a short-term continuing resolution before this evening so Members of both parties can continue to work on a longer term solution.

The legislation should pass today, and it will carry us through next week so that a bipartisan final agreement can be reached and so the Members will have time to review the legislation before we take it up.

Importantly, this 1-week extension will ensure that thousands of retired coal miners and their families, including many in my home State of Kentucky and in the home State of the Acting President pro tempore, West Virginia, will not lose their healthcare benefits.

Protecting these miners and their families from losing their healthcare has been a top priority of mine as well as the occupant of the Chair. Last year, I fought for a long-term extension of healthcare benefits, and earlier this year, I introduced my own bill to provide a permanent fix for miners' healthcare. I will continue to fight on their behalf to secure a permanent solution on this issue in the larger funding bill.

Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

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

MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. LEAHY. I thank the distinguished Acting President pro tempore.

CONTINUING RESOLUTION

Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, as we know, the Senate is considering a stopgap—continuing resolution—to keep the government of the American people open for business. The stopgap, of course, helps us forget the fact that in November we had all the appropriations bills ready to go, but the leadership asked us to hold it off.

Now, I am going to support this 1-week continuing resolution, because I believe we are close to a bipartisan agreement that would avoid the devastating consequences of a government shutdown and save the Congress from once again facing the disruption and humiliation of failing to meet Congress's obligation to fund the basic functions of our government.

But we shouldn't be in this situation. We shouldn't have allowed partisan politics to once again turn a looming deadline into a political standoff and what is really a manufactured crisis.

As I have said, our work could have been and should have been completed in November. We were prepared to do that. We were 90 percent to the finish line—98 percent, actually, to the finish line. Republicans and Democrats had worked together. But at the request of then-President-Elect Trump, all work ground to a halt. For 5 months we have faced one partisan obstacle after another from the Trump administration, including a demand to fund a misguided wall on the southern border at the expense of billions of dollars that would have to be paid for—not by Mexico or anybody else. It would be paid for by the American taxpayers. The administration then threatened to hold hostage the basic health insurance of millions of Americans, crippling the Affordable Care Act. This is more than insulting. It is malicious, and it is wrong.

Now the other side of the aisle is holding the budget of the American people hostage, insisting we include dozens of poison pill riders as the price for funding the people's government and to advance their partisan agenda on abortion, Dodd-Frank, Wall Street reforms, and the environment.

The Republicans control both Houses of Congress and the White House. If they want to pass legislation on these divisive issues, then bring the bills to the floor and vote on them, instead of trying to hide them in an appropriations bill. If they really believe in all these poison pill amendments, then vote on them. Bring up legislation. They control the House and the Senate. They can bring it up anytime they want.

Partisan politics should not be tied to must-pass spending bills, because it is never the right time to play politics with the lives of the American people and the government of the wealthiest and most powerful Nation on Earth.

I think it is very obvious why they want to hide them in an appropriations bill. They don't want to vote on it and give great speeches on the wall, on our southern border. They know that they don't have enough Republican votes to pass it.

One party now controls the White House and both Chambers of Congress. It is incumbent upon the Republicans to ensure that the government of the American people stays open and is fully funded. I am afraid that the partisan bluster threatens to derail months of bipartisan negotiations.

As vice chairman of the Senate Committee on Appropriations, I have been involved in those negotiations. Charles Kieffer and Chanda Betourney have worked almost around the clock for weeks representing us on the Appropriations Committee. If the bluster and the posturing would stop, we could wrap this up.

I hope that with one more week, our bipartisan and our bicameral negotiations, consistent with the bipartisan budget agreement and without poison pills, can continue, because this is no way to govern.

To date, negotiations have produced many positive outcomes for the American people. We have increased investments in the National Institutes of Health. We secured full year Pell grants. We made investments in transit.

As to something that should be of concern to every single Senator from every single State, we made funding available to address the opioid crisis. That is not a Democratic or Republican issue. That is a human issue. Every single State in this country is facing an opioid crisis. I am pleased that Republicans and Democrats came together to address it.

Let's not govern by partisan manufactured crises. Let's do what the American people expect us to do and come together to pay the bills of our country. Stop posturing. We are the greatest democracy on Earth, the most powerful and the wealthiest Nation on Earth. Let's start acting that way. Let's start governing as we should. Let's not hide these divisive issues in an appropriations bill. Let's have votes straight up or down. Let people vote and show their constituents, the American people, where they stand. Don't hide behind a must-pass appropriations bill. It is not the way we should govern. It is not the way I want to do it. I am perfectly willing to cast votes on major issues, even if they are controversial.

We have 6-year terms here. We ought to be willing to be the conscience of the Nation. That is what the Senate is supposed to be. In my years here, I have seen times when we have been under both Republican and Democratic leadership. We are not acting as the conscience of the Nation now. We have to go back to that. I really hope we will.

We have good men and women in this body on both sides of the aisle. Let's start showing the conscience of this great Nation. Let's start governing in reality, not by rhetoric. Governing is not a Twitter feed. Governing is debating the issues and coming to a conclusion for the American people.

I see nobody else seeking recognition.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KENNEDY). The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader is recognized.

CONTINUING RESOLUTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, first, I wish to speak on the appropriations bill. We still have several issues to address. Our Republican friends, mostly in the House—I want to say that my friend the Republican leader is working hard to get a good bill done, and I appreciate that, but Republicans are holding us up on some critical poison pill riders.

We have made good enough progress. The four corners of the negotiations—the Appropriations chairmen and the ranking members in both Chambers and the House and Senate leadership were negotiating until 1:30 a.m. last night. I want to thank all of the staff who worked so hard and stayed up so late to bring us closer to an agreement. They have done heroic work, and I am happy to report that, if we get an agreement, we will see increases in NIH funding, year-round Pell grants, and housing assistance in the underlying omnibus bill.

We are willing to have a voice vote on a short-term extension of the government funding in the hopes that we can wrap this up early next week. As I said last night, there is still a handful of unresolved poison pill riders, fewer than there were yesterday at 6 o'clock because of the work they did overnight, but there are still some out there.

I want to reiterate the Democratic position. We don't want them—zero. We are happy to pass a clean, bipartisan appropriations bill, which is the way this process is supposed to work. On the more controversial issues, we can have a debate in regular order. They shouldn't be stuck in these bills with no debate and no discussion and no votes—no regular order voting.

I am confident that we can get there if both sides realize that these important debates on policy should be left with the regular order process and in full view of the public.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

MAKING FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.J. Res. 99, which was received from the House today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the joint resolution by title.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (H.J. Res. 99) making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2017, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the joint resolution.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the joint resolution be considered read a third time.

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

The joint resolution was ordered to a third reading and was read the third time.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I know of no further debate on the joint resolution.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there any further debate?

Hearing none, the joint resolution having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the joint resolution pass?

The joint resolution (H.J. Res. 99) was passed.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, for the information of our colleagues, the next vote will be on Monday at 5:30 p.m., cloture on an SEC nomination.

We expect the House to send us an Omnibus appropriations bill midweek, and we will consider it as soon as it arrives.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to

consider Calendar No. 36, Jay Clayton to be a member of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

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

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The bill clerk read the nomination of Jay Clayton, of New York, to be a Member of the Securities and Exchange Commission for a term expiring June 5, 2021.

CLOTURE MOTION

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

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

The bill clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Jay Clayton, of New York, to be a member of the Securities and Exchange Commission for a term expiring June 5, 2021.

Mitch McConnell, John Cornyn, Tom Cotton, Dan Sullivan, Shelley Moore Capito, John Barrasso, Roger F. Wicker, Mike Rounds, Orrin G. Hatch, Bill Cassidy, Pat Roberts, Mike Crapo, Lamar Alexander, Richard Burr, John Thune, Jerry Moran, James E. Risch.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum call with respect to the cloture motion be waived.

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

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding rule XXII, the cloture vote on the Clayton nomination occur at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, May 1.

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

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, I was unable to attend yesterday's vote on the nomination of R. Alexander Acosta to be Secretary of Labor. Had I been able to attend, I would have opposed the nomination.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Ridgway, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

In executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:44 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 496. An act to repeal the rule issued by the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration entitled ''Metropolitan Planning Organization Coordination and Planning Area Reform''.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bill and joint resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1694. An act to require additional entities to be subject to the requirements of section 552 of title 5, United States Code (commonly referred to as the Freedom of Information Act), and for other purposes.

H.J. Res. 99. Joint resolution making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2017, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 1694. An act to require additional entities to be subject to the requirements of section 552 of title 5, United States Code (commonly referred to as the Freedom of Information Act), and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

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

EC–1462. A communication from the Acting Deputy Secretary of Agriculture, transmitting pursuant to law, the 2016 Packers and Stockyards Program Annual Report; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–1463. A communication from the Acting Deputy Secretary of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act by the Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC–1464. A communication from the Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''Iran-Related Multilateral Sanctions Regime Efforts'' covering the period August 7, 2016 to February 6, 2017; to the Committees on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs; Finance; and Foreign Relations.

EC–1465. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Revision to an Entry on the Entity List'' (RIN0694–AH32) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 26, 2017; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–1466. A communication from the Chief of the Policy, Performance, and Management Programs Division, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Endangered Species Status for Rusty Patched Bumble Bee'' (RIN1018–BB66) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 27, 2017; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–1467. A communication from the Deputy Chief of the National Forest System, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the final map and boundary for the Ontonagon Wild and Scenic River, in Michigan, added to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC–1468. A communication from the Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report consistent with the Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution of 2002 (P.L. 107–243) and the Authorization for the Use of Force Against Iraq Resolution (P.L. 102–1) for the December 8, 2016–February 6, 2017 reporting period; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–1469. A communication from the Acting Administrator, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Administration's FAIR Act 2014 and 2015 Commercial Activities Inventories, the FAIR Act 2014 and 2015 Inherently Government Inventories, and the 2014 and 2015 FAIR Act Executive Summaries; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–1470. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Assisted Outpatient Treatment Pilot Program for fiscal year 2016; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–1471. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Affairs, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Benefits Payable in Terminated Single-Employer Plans; Interest Assumptions for Paying Benefits'' (29 CFR Part 4022) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 26, 2017; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–1472. A communication from the Associate General Counsel for General Law, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, two (2) reports relative to vacancies in the Department of Homeland Security, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 24, 2017; to the Select Committee on Intelligence.

EC–1473. A communication from the Acting Administrator, Transportation Security Administration, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Administration's decision to enter into a contract with a private

security screening company to provide screening services at Greater Rochester International Airport (ROC); to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1474. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; Ohio River Miles 803.5 to 804 .5, Henderson, KY'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2017–0174)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 26, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1475. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; Unexploded Ordnance Detonation; Naval Base Kitsap, Elwood Point; Bremerton, WA'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2017–0313)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 26, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1476. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; 2017 Key West Paddle Classic, Key West, FL'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2017–0066)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 26, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1477. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Special Local Regulation; Lake Ferguson; Greenville, MS'' ((RIN1625–AA08) (Docket No. USCG–2017–0189)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 26, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1478. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Special Local Regulation; Tred Avon River, between Bellevue, MD and Oxford, MD'' ((RIN1625–AA08) (Docket No. USCG–2017–0077)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 26, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1479. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Special Local Regulation; Ohio River MM 598–602.7, Louisville, KY'' ((RIN1625–AA08) (Docket No. USCG–2017–0238)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 26, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1480. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Special Local Regulation; Wy-Hi Rowing Regatta; Detroit River, Trenton Channel; Wyandotte, MI'' ((RIN1625–AA08) (Docket No. USCG–2017–0217)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 26, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1481. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Special Local Regulation; Red Bull Air Race—San Diego 2017; San Diego Bay, CA'' ((RIN1625–AA08) (Docket No. USCG–2017–0096)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 26, 2017; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. BLUNT (for himself and Mr. REED):

S. 989. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the participation of pediatric subspecialists in the National Health Service Corps program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MORAN (for himself, Mr. UDALL, Mr. DAINES, and Mr. WARNER):

S. 990. A bill to modernize Government information technology, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 324

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 324, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the provision of adult day health care services for veterans.

S. 425

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 425, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve the historic rehabilitation tax credit, and for other purposes.

S. 445

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the names of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY), the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN), the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 445, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure more timely access to home health services for Medicare beneficiaries under the Medicare program.

S. 486

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 486, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the non-application of Medicare competitive acquisition rates to complex rehabilitative wheelchairs and accessories.

S. 652

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 652, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize a program for early detection, diagnosis, and treatment regarding deaf and hard-of-hearing newborns, infants, and young children.

S. 836

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 836, a bill to amend the Federal Credit Union Act to exclude a loan secured by a non-owner occupied 1- to 4-family dwelling from the definition of a member business loan, and for other purposes.

S. 880

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 880, a bill to ensure the use of American iron and steel in public water systems, and for other purposes.

S. 915

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 915, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to repeal the Government pension offset and windfall elimination provisions.

S. 947

At the request of Ms. HASSAN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 947, a bill to protect passengers on flights in air transportation from being denied boarding involuntarily, and for other purposes.

S. CON. RES. 12

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. HELLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 12, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that those who served in the bays, harbors, and territorial seas of the Republic of Vietnam during the period beginning on January 9, 1962, and ending on May 7, 1975, should be presumed to have served in the Republic of Vietnam for all purposes under the Agent Orange Act of 1991.

S. RES. 109

At the request of Mr. PAUL, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 109, a resolution encouraging the Government of Pakistan to release Aasiya Noreen, internationally known as Asia Bibi, and reform its religiously intolerant laws regarding blasphemy.

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, MAY 1, 2017

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 3 p.m., Monday, May 1; further, that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be

closed; finally, that following leader remarks, the Senate proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the Clayton nomination as under the previous order.

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

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. MCCONNELL. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order, following the remarks of Senator CANTWELL.

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

The Democratic leader.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that I be allowed to speak for 10 minutes.

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

THE PRESIDENT'S FIRST ONE HUNDRED DAYS

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, tomorrow will be President Trump's 100th day in office. This week, we Democrats have spent each day highlighting how this President has broken or failed to fulfill promise after promise to the working men and women of America on issue after issue—on jobs and the economy, on healthcare, and on draining the swamp.

Earlier today, my colleagues talked about how the President's budget is another example of his tendency to promise one thing and then do another. Despite promising to address the issues of education, infrastructure, and scientific research, the President's budget takes a meat ax to the funding for NIH and NSF, vital school programs, and transportation grants.

This morning, I want to touch on a few examples of the broken promises that characterize the President's first 100 days, broken promises to the working men and women of America.

In the campaign, he ran as a populist against both the Democratic and Republican establishments. He is governing from the special interest-laden hard right—far, far away from where the American people want him to go.

In the President's scramble to show some progress before his 100th day, he has rushed to make progress on the wall, healthcare, and taxes. This desperate sprint has only left these three efforts more damaged than before.

First, on the wall, we were progressing nicely on a bipartisan agreement to keep our government open and running until the President stepped in to muck up the process by insisting on funding for his wall on the Mexican border. This is a huge broken promise. Every time he mentioned this wall on the campaign trail, he insisted that Mexico would pay for it. This week he demanded that the American taxpayers pay for it and threatened to shut down the government over it. The Americans know that $50 billion—if that is what the wall will cost—is far better spent laying broadband throughout America, rebuilding our roads and bridges—doing things that help Americans, not some ideological issue. Thankfully for the American people, the President failed.

Second, on healthcare, breaking his promise of insurance for everybody and lowering costs yet again, the President's healthcare bill rose from the dead and moved further to the right. It is hard to think of a bill worse than the first, but TrumpCare 2.0 has all the terrible aspects of round one, with even more cruelty placed on the American people. TrumpCare 2.0 would still leave millions without coverage, raise rates dramatically on 50- to 64-year-olds, and also take us back to the day when insurance companies could deny coverage to those with preexisting conditions. Once again, the President failed.

Finally, the President's tax plan was another huge broken promise. As a candidate, Trump promised to lower taxes for middle-class Americans, but his Secretary of Treasury can't even guarantee the plan will do so. The President could have worked with Democrats on taxes, but he chose to focus on the wealthy instead of the middle class.

To be clear, the President's tax plan is a wish list for billionaires, not a serious proposal. The Trump tax plan is designed to cut Trump's taxes, those of his Cabinet, and those people of his wealth, not the taxes of the middle class.

Thankfully, this plan is yet another dead-on-arrival Trump proposal that has been panned by both Democrats and Republicans. The Trump tax plan pretty much sums up the dynamic of the first 100 days—promise for the working class; deliver for the wealthy. Frankly, it is why he has made such little progress.

These three actions this week, in the President's rush to try to prove that the 100 days isn't as bad as everybody is saying—the wall, TrumpCare, and the Trump tax plan—have made our point that his 100 days have been a failure better than we ever could.

President Trump could have chosen to spend his first 100 days working with Democrats to find consensus on issues like jobs, trade, outsourcing, and infrastructure—issues on which we have some common ground. I told him many times that if he governed from the middle, his Presidency would have some success. Instead, he abandoned his campaign populism in favor of a hard-right, special interest-driven agenda and chose to go at it alone without consulting or so much as considering the minority party. That is why he has been unable to make any progress on healthcare. That is why he has been unable to make any progress on his wall. That is why he has been unable to achieve any significant piece of legislation. In fact, of the 10 pieces of legislation the President promised in his first 100 days, he has achieved none of them. These are the bills the President promised to get done in his first 100 days—not a one.

The President's achievements to date consist of Executive orders—something he repeatedly derided during the Obama administration as an ineffective way to govern—and several bills passed under the Congressional Review Act. Keep in mind that many of these Executive orders simply direct Federal agencies to study issues. They are messaging tools that don't achieve anything. And many of the CRAs only benefit powerful special interests.

Compared to Franklin Roosevelt's first 100 days in which FDR passed 76 pieces of legislation, this can hardly be considered a record of effectiveness. And the contrast between the President's boasts and his actual record through the first 100 days is even starker when you consider just how much this President promised to deliver all these things. There is an air of unreality when he says it is the best 100 days ever—compared to Franklin Roosevelt? Come on, give me a break.

In fairness, candidates make a lot of promises. That is the nature of campaigning. We know that. But this President has made particularly outlandish promises to working Americans, summed up by a line he said in his campaign. He said to his supporters: ''I will give you everything.''

President Trump promised working Americans a cherry pie, but after 100 days, he has delivered only crumbs. If the President wants his next 100 days to be better than his first, he needs to abandon the ''my way or the highway'' approach, abandon his special interest-driven, pro-wealthy agenda, and start pursuing policies that actually help the middle class and those struggling to get there. We are willing to work with him if he does. But if he stays on his current path, abandoning the working people of America for the very wealthy, the next 100 days will be just like the first: a series of broken and unfulfilled promises and very few results for America's working families.

Thank you, Mr. President.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

OFFSHORE DRILLING

Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, President Trump, in his attempt to deflect focus from the 100-day performance in his administration is, today, throwing a Hail Mary pass to try to allow offshore oil and natural gas drilling to take place in very protected areas of our Outer Continental Shelf.

The President's approach is unlawful and should be withdrawn before taxpayers pay any amount of money to go forward with it. He is attempting to open up coastal areas to oil and gas production, and he is touting job creation as a factor in his decision. I believe that the economic numbers revealed today show that we need to be doing more, but I doubt that this approach will be a successful approach for more American jobs.

The truth is that instead of creating new jobs, President Trump is poised to favor sectors that will compete with the already growing and thriving industries of fishing, tourism, and recreation, and in some potential areas will also threaten defense issues where we could have a potential conflict.

The bottom line is that the BP *Deepwater Horizon* explosion and subsequent oil spill was a catastrophic human, economic and ecological disaster. Eleven members of the crew were killed in the explosion, and 17 others were injured. Oil spewed in the ocean for nearly 3 months, resulting in the largest oil spill disaster in the history of the United States.

In the end, the BP *Horizon* disaster resulted in 134 million gallons of oil spilled into the Gulf of Mexico; that is 12 times more than the *Exxon Valdez* tanker spill in 1989 in Alaska.

I should say that many attempts have been made by Democrats in Congress to make sure we continue to update our laws. But Republicans have repeatedly blocked legislation that would hold polluters liable for oil spills and improve offshore safety and environmental responses.

So today it is very frustrating that the President of the United States is proposing to roll back the important safety regulations that were put in place during the Obama administration. In fact, this book right here shows the *Deepwater Horizon* impact that was discussed by Members of Congress, the problems we had at the Department of Interior, and asked that these new regulations be put in place.

These regulations by the Obama administration helped put a new regime into place after *Deepwater Horizon*. But now President Trump is bringing those regulations into question, suggesting that we should roll them back. He is even questioning the new regulations on blowout preventer systems and well control, which, if my colleagues will remember, was the centerpiece of the problem with *Deepwater Horizon*.

The blowout preventers used had not been tested; the information was not overseen and regulated properly. So after all of that damage was outlined in this report and we made sure to implement changes, now President Trump, in his first 100 days as the President of the United States, instead of coming up with a better economic strategy is simply saying: Roll back regulations on polluters as a strategy for moving forward.

President Obama had also put large portions of the Arctic and dozens of underwater canyons off the east coast permanently off limits to drilling during his time in office, using his authority under the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act. In the finalized Offshore Oil and Gas Leasing Program for 2017–2022, the Obama administration removed the west coast, east coast, and Arctic waters from oil and gas exploration.

Why did he do that? He did that primarily because of the maritime economy. In Washington State alone, the maritime economy supports 148,000 jobs and $30 billion in economic activity. Many of these parts of the United States could not afford to be devastated again by oil spills or exploration into ecologically sensitive areas like the Arctic.

I believe the Atlantic region was rightly removed due to strong local opposition, conflicts with other ocean uses, and market dynamics. The Department of the Interior recognized the potential environmental and economic impacts and competing ocean uses. For example, the economic value of commercial fishing in just the Mid-Atlantic region is worth more than $1.5 billion, and ocean-dependent tourism is more than $10 billion in the Atlantic region.

So I would say that the fishing economy, the tourism economy, and DOD's need for sea lanes in the Atlantic are all important, and we should not be trying to roll back Obama administration regulations in these areas. It is not surprising that there was significant opposition to the oil and gas leasing from citizens, local officials, and people who reside in these communities.

I can tell you, if this rule includes the west coast, there will be strong opposition from the State of Washington, the State of California, and the State of Oregon, where we are so dependent on healthy oceans and sustainable fisheries. We hope to clarify whether or not the west coast will be included in President Trump's executive order, but if it is, the west coast will speak loudly. From our shellfish growers to our vibrant commercial and recreational fisheries, and generations of families who have to have sustainably harvested Dungeness crab, salmon, and halibut.

We do not want to put them at risk with offshore drilling. Not only would a spill impact our fisheries and habitat, but it could impact our Olympic National Marine Sanctuary. It would also have an impact on one of the busiest shipping lanes in the Strait of Juan de Fuca, in and out of Washington's busy, busy ports.

Washington's coast is a trade superhighway. Our shipping and trade economy is growing faster than ever. In the first quarter of this year, the total domestic and international container volume increased by 10 percent. In our State, this maritime economy is worth $30 billion in economic activity. It supports over 148,000 jobs, in fishing, in seafood processing, in shipbuilding, and other maritime sectors.

Because of this importance, we believe in protecting the west coast. President George H.W. Bush signed the first Executive order banning offshore drilling in the Pacific in 1990. We would recommend that this President follow suit.

It is so unfortunate that this new effort to repeal protections is going forward, but I believe it is going to fail. Many know that this action is just an attempt to reverse the past President's withdrawal of sensitive areas, like in the Arctic and the Atlantic, and is not authorized. It is not authorized under the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act, and, therefore, the President should not spend money. He should go back to the people who know the law and understand that this is a waste of taxpayer dollars.

I hope the President will dialogue with Congress about any of our ideas to stimulate our economy. I am happy to talk at any point in time about ideas that we have that will move our country forward, produce jobs, and help stimulate economic growth.

But expanding offshore drilling and exploration to areas that already have been limited and set aside by past Presidents is not the way to proceed. We need to make sure that an industry that has made mistakes is held accountable and recommendations that were in this report not be reversed back to the days before *Deepwater Horizon*. This is what we need to do to protect our vital maritime economy and make sure there are laws on the books that the oil and gas industry need to comply with.

I yield the floor.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY, MAY 1, 2017, AT 3 P.M.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until 3 p.m. on Monday.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 12:26 p.m., adjourned until Monday, May 1, 2017, at 3 p.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

RYAN DEAN NEWMAN, OF NEW MEXICO, TO BE GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY, VICE ALISSA M. STARZAK.

DAVID JOEL TRACHTENBERG, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A PRINCIPAL DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, VICE BRIAN P. MCKEON.

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

PAMELA HUGHES PATENAUDE, OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, TO BE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, VICE NANI A. COLORETTI.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

MIRA RADIELOVIC RICARDEL, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF COMMERCE FOR EXPORT ADMINISTRATION, VICE ERIC L. HIRSCHHORN.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

DAVID BERNHARDT, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR, VICE MICHAEL L. CONNOR.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—*Friday, April 28, 2017*

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

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer:

Eternal God, we give You thanks for giving us another day. Lead us this day in Your ways, that our Nation might be guided along the roads of peace, justice, and goodwill.

Grant strength and wisdom to our Speaker, leaders, and Members of both the people's House and the Senate, to our President, his Cabinet, and to our Supreme Court.

Bless as well the moral and military leaders of our country, and may those who are the captains of business, industry, and unions learn to work together toward the mutual benefit of all, walking in the ways of righteousness and working for the highest good of our beloved land.

Bless us this day and every day, and may all that is done within the people's House be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentlewoman from Oregon (Ms. BONAMICI) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. BONAMICI led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

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

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

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

HONORING THE LIFE OF JOE MURRAY RIVERS

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of one of Savannah, Georgia's finest, Mr. Joe Murray Rivers, who passed away on April 5, 2017, at the age of 78. Born February 3, 1939, in Savannah, Georgia, Mr. Rivers became a proud public servant in the area he was born and raised.

Mr. Rivers graduated from Beach High School before attending the U.S. Air Force Institute and the University of Maryland, The City College of New York, and Savannah State University.

Mr. Rivers later opened the Olympic Sport Shop in downtown Savannah, and it was during this time that he realized the drastic need for improved public transportation. Inspired to solve this issue, Mr. Rivers was elected to the Chatham County board of directors in 1985. Throughout his 20-year tenure, he became a warrior of public transport and cosponsored legislation to solve the transportation problem in the county. In appreciation for the work Mr. Rivers has done, Savannah's Intermodal Transit Center now bears his name.

Mr. Rivers' public service extended far beyond elected office and transportation reform. His leadership and compassion towards every member of the community will be sorely missed.

HONORING CLAIRE LOVELL

(Ms. BONAMICI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Claire Lovell, an accomplished columnist and devoted resident of Seaside, Oregon.

North coast residents are richer for Claire's presence, and I join them in celebrating her life and her legacy. For 27 years, Claire's column chronicled the happenings of Seaside with cogent prose and an observant eye.

First known as ''Overheard: Notes from Seaside,'' and later ''Scene and Heard,'' her column was the first thing readers went to when they eagerly opened their newspapers. Indeed, some readers bought the newspaper just for her column.

Claire was a Seaside resident for almost all of her 96 years, and no one was better qualified to document the city's life. Whether she was sharing her observations on politics, popular culture, growing older, or the birth of her first great-grandchild, Claire enriched each topic with her signature verve and keen love of the written word.

In a recent column, Claire wrote: Whether one is 5-years old or 95, as the case may be, life's small pleasures are very important.

For decades, one of Seaside's small pleasures was reading her column. It is my honor to recognize Claire Lovell's many contributions to our community and to offer my condolences to her family and the Seaside community on the loss of this remarkable woman.

Her wit, wisdom, and well-chosen words will not be forgotten.

HONORING THE WORK OF THE STATE COLLEGE FOOD BANK

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the good work of the State College Area Food Bank in Centre County, Pennsylvania. In 1982, the food bank opened in the basement of the St. Andrew's Episcopal Church as a temporary solution to a temporary need. As the need continued, so did the food bank. Today, it has a permanent home in a large facility on South Atherton Street.

The need is great, and the statistics are alarming. Nearly 15 percent of Centre County's population lived in food-insecure homes in 2015—the highest in the Commonwealth. It means that more than 22,000 individuals lack regular access to adequate food. Thankfully, the food bank is filling a void in the community. In 2016, it distributed more than 400,000 pounds of food and fed nearly 1,700 individuals.

I rise today as the chairman of the House Agriculture Subcommittee on Nutrition but also as a proud citizen of Centre County. The food bank hopes that one day no one will go hungry in Centre County. Thankfully, it is working every day to realize that goal.

PRESIDENT TRUMP'S 100 DAYS

(Ms. DELBENE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. DELBENE. Mr. Speaker, President Trump's first 100 days have been chaos and confusion for American families and businesses. One thing is clear: he has consistently ignored the middle class. His budget decimates programs like Meals on Wheels. His tax plan is a huge giveaway to the wealthiest few. And now, he is trying to eliminate protections for people with preexisting conditions.

The Republican's latest bill to repeal the Affordable Care Act would be devastating. And as I have heard from constituents—hundreds of constituents throughout my district—getting sick should never mean going bankrupt, like Christine, from Kirkland, who was born with a congenital heart defect and relies on costly medical care to stay alive. She told me her condition is, ''a cruel reality that is nobody's fault. But it is malicious and disgraceful that we might face financial ruin for me to stay alive.''

President Trump spent his first 100 days putting families like Christine's in jeopardy. This must change in the next 100 days for Christine and so many others.

CONGRATULATIONS TO USA TEAM AND HARRISON TURONE ON WINNING GOLD AT CULINARY COMPETITION

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

Mr. BACON. Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning to congratulate the USA Team on winning gold at the Bocuse d'Or culinary competition in Lyon, France.

I would also like to recognize one team member, Harrison Turone, a Nebraska high school graduate. Harrison grew up in Omaha. During his high school career, he enrolled in the Omaha Public Schools Career Center culinary program where he received college credits to the Institute for the Culinary Arts at Metropolitan Community College in Omaha.

In addition to his academic pursuit of the culinary arts, Harrison worked at many restaurants in our area and in California. He then moved to New York to train with Chef Mathew Peters for the USA Team selection for the Bocuse d'Or while working at Per Se restaurant.

After winning the team's selection and the honor to represent the United States, Peters and Turone moved to Napa Valley to train for a year for the Bocuse d'Or competition. The Bocuse d'Or is a prestigious culinary competition that is held in Lyon, France, every 2 years. It is named after the well-renowned French chef Paul Bocuse. He is recognized as the father of the modern French cuisine and has been awarded ''Chef of the Century'' by the The Culinary Institute of America.

While fighting Nazi Germany during World War II, he was shot in the chest and treated at a U.S. Army hospital. He was given a transfusion of blood that saved his life.

The United States competed against 23 other countries in the Bocuse d'Or and won. This was the 30th anniversary of the competition, and it marked the first time the United States took home the gold.

I send my congratulations to the entire team and a special congratulations to Harrison Turone. You represented your team and our State admirably.

WHERE IS THE PLAN, PRESIDENT TRUMP?

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

Mr. BROWN of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, as we approach President Trump's 100th day in office, I rise to address the vision, the agenda, and the plans the White House has laid out. Except, Mr. Speaker, there are no plans to speak up.

President Trump promised an agenda that was supposed to make America great again, but no one in America or the administration seems to know what that includes. As the dust settles on the cruise missile strike in Syria and the dropping of bombs in Afghanistan, where is the plan for ISIS, Iraq, Syria, or Afghanistan that Candidate Trump promised?

The President said his $1 trillion infrastructure plan to create millions of jobs is coming fast, but, again, where is the plan? Instead, President Trump's one-page proposal is a massive $2 trillion giveaway to corporations and the wealthy and doesn't include a penny for infrastructure. That is a missed opportunity.

I could keep going. Where is the plan on fixing America's water infrastructure? Where is the plan on making trade fair for American workers? Where is the plan to provide affordable childcare that the President promised?

Mr. Speaker, there is a hard truth the President needs to realize: the difficult work of governing on behalf of the American people is more than tweets and photo ops. The President's first 100 days have been all talk and no action.

QUALITY ACCESS AND INCLUSION FOR THOSE WITH DOWN SYNDROME

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

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of my constituent Evan Rothholz, an energetic, tech-savvy kindergarten student who happens to have Down syndrome.

Down syndrome is a condition that results from having an additional full or partial copy of chromosome 21. Since his diagnosis, 6-year-old Evan, along with his parents, Mitchel and Julie, advocate for others with Down syndrome and help educate families facing this unexpected diagnosis.

I am appreciative of the work of the Pennsylvania Down Syndrome Advocacy Coalition, a group of concerned parents, self-advocates, supporters, committed to achieving quality access and inclusion for all individuals with Down syndrome in the State of Pennsylvania.

As a member of the Congressional Task Force on Down Syndrome, I am very proud to support H.R. 1896, the ABLE to Work Act, which provides more flexibility for thousands of individuals with disabilities, allowing them to save and plan for the future.

It is Evan's hope that individuals with Down syndrome, and all of those in the special needs community, will have the same educational and financial opportunities that are afforded to others.

HEALTH PLAN NEEDS TO COVER PREEXISTING CONDITIONS

(Ms. ROSEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. ROSEN. Mr. Speaker, the GOP is trying to pull a fast one over working families. This week, House Republicans and President Trump gave into extreme demands of the Freedom Caucus by colluding on a dangerous amendment that would gut protections for individuals with preexisting conditions, allowing insurers to once again discriminate against sick Americans.

We all know that the ACA isn't perfect, but we cannot, in good conscience, throw out essential health benefits that have helped working families to get the protections that they need.

The MacArthur amendment would take us back to the days before these key protections helped save lives. Without protections for preexisting conditions, my constituents with serious illnesses and health conditions would face discrimination from insurance companies solely based on their illness.

How can Speaker RYAN seriously tell Americans that this plan is somehow better for people with preexisting conditions? We need a health plan that will help working families pay for their health coverage, not one that puts health insurance out of reach.

□ 0915

PRESIDENT TRUMP'S FIRST 100 DAYS

(Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow marks President Donald Trump's first 100 days in office. While President Trump has claimed that this is the most productive any President has been, he has not met his own deadlines that were set during his campaign and subsequent victory.

Since day one, this administration has pursued only works that represent the detriment to this country and our democracy. He has made outlandish, hateful, and harmful healthcare proposals. He has plans to gut the Federal budget in exchange for tax cuts for his wealthy friends. He has rolled back the progress made by the Department of Justice under the previous administration. He and his family continue to make money off of his position, and he has used the Congressional Review Act to roll back protections for our environment, public education, gun safety, and women's rights.

We are 100 days in, and we have over 4,000 more days to go. Mr. President, Mr. Speaker, and the residents of New Jersey's 12th Congressional District, we are counting down those days.

FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 289 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 289

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 99) making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2017, and for other purposes. All points of order against consideration of the joint resolution are waived. The joint resolution shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the joint resolution are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the joint resolution and on any amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations; and (2) one motion to recommit.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. POE of Texas). The gentleman from Texas is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN), my friend, the ranking member of the committee, pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the rule. It is a fair rule that enables this body to continue working in a bipartisan fashion to get our work done for the American people. Essentially, it is to fund the government for one more week as final preparations are made and as the Appropriations Committee finalizes its work. It enables us to continue to serve our constituents. It enables the American people to have confidence not only in what we are doing, but to provide the necessary resources so that this Nation can continue to protect itself also.

I also rise in support of the underlying legislation that is in this rule. This short-term CR, while being far from ideal, is exactly what we need to do so that we can allow our colleagues in the House, as well as the Appropriations Committee and this body, to move forth a bill that will find its way to the United States Senate and to the President's desk.

For months now, our colleagues on the Appropriations Committee, under the great work of our brand-new chairman, Chairman FRELINGHUYSEN from New Jersey, have been working towards funding a government agreement while they are trying to reach a long-term bridge.

Yesterday at the Rules Committee, the young chairman, along with the ranking member, Mrs. LOWEY from New York, came and spoke to the Rules Committee not only with great confidence about the work that they are doing, but with great confidence about how they worked well together. It was once again another opportunity for Members of Congress in the performance of their duties to have confidence not only in their working relationship, but in the product that they would wish to move forward.

The Rules Committee was quite blunt to them that, while we were pleased to see them, we wanted to see them get their work done a week from now. I think the American people feel the same way. I think they are willing to take the time to do it right, but it is now time to feel a little bit of pressure towards completing the work that needs to be done.

Mr. Speaker, today we are going to have one of the most distinguished members of the Rules Committee who will speak with us. He shares a role not only as vice chairman of our committee, but he also has an opportunity to sit on the Appropriations Committee; a person responsible as a cardinal for a massive part of not only the Federal Government spending, but the authority and responsibility for the Federal Government to deliver in so many areas in support of the American people.

I will be introducing the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. COLE) in just a few minutes, who will also provide detail and information not only in support of the great work that is being done, but why we are doing that for the American people.

Mr. Speaker, I am confident that my colleagues on the Appropriations Committee are going to continue their work. We are asking this body today to consider this rule to move forth legislation.

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SESSIONS), my good friend, the chairman of the Rules Committee for yielding me the customary 30 minutes, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I want to begin with some good news for my colleagues here in the House and for the American people, and that is my Republican colleagues have decided to pull their abysmal repeal and replace bill with regard to the Affordable Care Act from consideration this week. We can all breathe a sigh of relief. The American people dodged another Republican bullet here.

Their bill, as my colleagues all know, would have caused 24 million Americans to lose their health care. It would have cut Medicaid by over $800 billion, and then they would have given a trillion-dollar tax break to the richest people in the country. It would have compromised Medicare. It would have basically denied Americans essential health protections that they currently are guaranteed in their health insurance; things like emergency room care, maternity care, mental health care. I can go on and on.

Then with their latest addition to their abysmal bill, they would have even allowed insurance companies to once again discriminate against Americans with preexisting conditions; something that they said that they wanted to protect, yet their adjustments to their abysmal healthcare bill would have allowed Americans with preexisting conditions to be discriminated against.

I mean, when we talk about essential health benefits, I want to stress the word ''essential.'' They are important, yet they are going down a road that I think is disastrous for millions of American people.

Let us begin by being thankful that we are not going to do great harm to our country this week. Now, there is always next week—we have to worry about that—but at least this week they had the common sense to pull this terrible healthcare bill that they have been working on for so long. Let's hope that we never ever see the bill. I think it is important for people to understand what is at stake. There is an

awful lot at stake for tens of millions of Americans here today all across the country.

Mr. Speaker, that brings us to today. Let us be clear about why we are here again with yet another continuing resolution, the 29th—yes, you heard that right, the 29th—continuing resolution since Republicans have taken control of the House.

Republicans have nobody to blame for this mess but themselves. They control the White House, they control the Senate, and, unfortunately, they control this House. They were even the ones who set this artificial deadline of April 28 in the first place. That was after Republicans gave themselves a 2-month extension and then a 5-month extension.

Mr. Speaker, this should have all been sorted out last fall, but for 7 months Republicans have played games and delayed and bickered amongst themselves about government funding and health care and other priorities.

What do they have to show for it?

Nothing.

Now, maybe the delay was caused by this obsession from the Republican Conference with repealing the Affordable Care Act and ripping health care away from 24 million Americans. Maybe Republicans have been too busy trying to defund Planned Parenthood, trying to undo important consumer protections put in place by Democrats, trying to tear down commonsense rules to protect public safety and the environment.

Perhaps if Republicans had been responsibly working with Democratic leaders during the past 7 months, we could have already funded our government and we could be getting to work on other things that our constituents sent us here to do, like creating jobs and repairing our crumbling infrastructure.

We could have avoided events that have transpired during the past 48 hours: an emergency Rules Committee meeting, another Republican martial law rule, and threats of a Saturday session.

Mr. Speaker, to put it bluntly, this is about Republican dysfunction and incompetence, plain and simple. If Congress could be sued by the American people for malpractice, we would be in big trouble. This is indefensible. I am sure people who are watching these proceedings are scratching their heads saying: What the hell is going on in the people's House?

For the life of me, I cannot understand why we are constantly at the edge of a cliff. This Republican leadership jumps from one manufactured crisis to the next, and has proven ineffective at carrying out even its most basic responsibilities, like keeping the government's lights on and funding programs that help our constituents.

But don't take it from me. Listen to what some of my Republican colleagues are saying about the priorities of their own leadership. Representative ROONEY, a Republican from Florida, said:

''I have been in this job 8 years, and I am wracking my brain to think of one thing our party has done that has been something positive, that has been something other than stopping something else from happening.''

Representative MARIO DIAZ BALART from Florida commented:

''It is pretty evident that we don't have the votes among Republicans to, in essence, do anything that is real.''

Mr. Speaker, when you have members of your own party making these kinds of statements, you really have to question the capacity of the Speaker and his leadership team to govern effectively.

Mr. Speaker, I very much regret that we are here today to consider another short-term CR. One week—that is all this bill does, keeps the government running for one additional week. Our constituents expect and deserve better from their elected officials.

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

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman, my friend from Massachusetts, for his words of wisdom about the direction we ought to be going. That is what we are going to do; we are going to continue moving.

I find in my job, as I perform my duties, that I have a chance to really interact with a lot of people in government. Over Christmas, I had a chance to visit our troops around the world and look at them and give them the confidence that what we do in Washington will allow them to keep working for freedom and to represent us.

Dr. Francis Collins at the National Institutes of Health, an enormously brilliant man who helped with the genome project, who keeps NIH up and working; and at the National Eye Institute, Dr. Paul Sieving; and so many others who do count on us getting it right, whether it be the United States military, whether it is our border patrol, whether it is our health and human services, but the person who knows these characteristics of what it takes to get agreements is also on the Rules Committee. He is a valuable member of our Rules Committee. He is the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. COLE).

Mr. Speaker, I yield 10 minutes to the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. COLE), vice chairman of the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Subcommittee.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman, my good friend, for yielding me the time and for those incredibly gracious and generous remarks.

Mr. Speaker, I certainly rise to support the rule and the underlying legislation. By the very nature of Rules debates, everything seems to be partisan because it seems to be sort of shirts and skins as it is on the rules. The reality is the legislation we are talking about has actually been requested by both parties. We had both the chairman and the ranking member in there requesting because they are working together in a bipartisan way to produce a major piece of legislation that will direct spending for the United States government in the range of about $1 trillion between now and September 30.

The important thing to note is that it is a very bipartisan negotiation between two very skillful legislators, Chairman FRELINGHUYSEN and Ranking Member NITA LOWEY. When they bring that legislation to the floor, as they will next week, it is going to have some pretty important and pretty major things on it.

We are not only going to adequately fund our military, we are going to increase that. We are going to give the President some things he has asked for in terms of supplemental money for defense to upgrade and improve our military.

□ 0930

We are going to give him some additional things for border security as well that, again, both parties have agreed on. I think we all want secure borders. We know there is always some debate about exactly how or what we should do, but, in this case, we have a bipartisan agreement.

We will actually give a very substantial increase to the National Institutes of Health, which, as the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SESSIONS) mentioned, great work is done on behalf of the American people in that institution. Frankly, it has been Republicans that first doubled that back in the late 1990s and early 2000s and now have reignited the biomedical research engine by putting additional resources in there. It is something our friends support, but actually it was Republicans who took the initiative to achieve.

We will see some really important increases in some education programs that give some of our less advantaged citizens opportunities to go: TRIO, GEAR UP. Both prepare individuals for higher education and then have a chance to exploit the opportunity when it comes.

So that bill will have a lot of good things in it that will be bipartisan. My good friend from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN) mentioned—and I think appropriately so—that there is a certain amount of dysfunction in the appropriations process. Where we probably disagree is—I have got to tell you, it is not new. Since we passed the Budget Control Act over 40 years ago in 1974, budgets and appropriations have been completed on time exactly four times. It didn't matter who was in charge. So maybe we ought to go back and look at

that defective process that was set in motion by our friends back when they controlled both Chambers in overwhelming numbers and rethink how we do this.

I do agree with the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN) that it is important to focus on first things first. And while tax reform is a very important goal that, I think, this Congress will achieve and while health care is a very important goal, which I certainly hope this Conference achieves and I think we are working toward, there is no question the most important thing we do around here is fund the government every day. We make sure that our military has what it needs to protect us and that our border control officials have what they need to make sure they are secure, that we do things like look for cures for Alzheimer's and cancer at the NIH. To me, that always is the most important thing it has to do.

So, in this bill and in the bill that will follow next week, we are actually doing what we should do. We are putting first things first. Let's make sure these basics are done for the American people, and then let's get about the important business of changing their Tax Code and making sure that they have the best health care in the world.

In my view, Congress could have—and to my friend's point—could have and should have done this months ago. It is important to note that the Appropriations Committee had reported out all 12 of the bills that fund the day-to-day operation of the budget. Five of them actually moved across the floor. We did run into problems in the United States Senate where there was a lot of obstruction, but the Appropriations Committee did its job. We just have to now, as a Congress, do our job and make sure those bills get to the floor in a timely manner, and that we do the right thing so that they pass.

The Appropriations Committee can only prepare them. They don't get to schedule them on the floor. They don't get to move them across the floor. That has to be done with all sides working together for the good of the American people.

Again, it is worth noting that we can do this process. Two years in a row, we have done all 12 bills. So I would hope in the future, as we make these decisions—and my friend is right, a decision was made in November or December. It is not one I agreed with—to wait and say let's let the new administration have some input on this. Now, there is certainly nothing wrong with that.

The new administration wants to come in, and there is a vehicle called a supplemental, where, if they want to tweak the budget, they can do that and they can bring it to the floor, and that is what we should have done. But we shouldn't ask them to write the budget for the very year in which they show up. They simply don't have their people in place. They are not ready to do that. They have got to get their Cabinet appointed. So I would hope, in the future, we remember that and do first things first.

Still, it is never too late to do the right thing, as my mom used to say. And the right thing to do today is to pass this rule, pass this bill, give our friends, the appropriators, the time that they need to negotiate a final bill. I am confident we will do that; I am confident we will do it on a bipartisan basis, Mr. Speaker; and I am confident we will be back here with a bill the American people can be proud of because that will have been negotiated in good faith, it will be bipartisan, and it will give us the stability that we need from now until September 30.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, also I want to recognize the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. COLE) for another birthday today. The gentleman from Oklahoma was very silent last night at the Rules Committee. He didn't let us know, so we didn't say anything. But today is his birthday, and I congratulate him for that.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I have a number of the day for my colleagues. I feel like I am on Sesame Street. This is the 29th closed rule this year. This is the 29th CR of this Republican majority. And the government is about to shut down when the calendar flips after midnight, and it is the 29th. So 29 must be the number of the day.

I want to wish the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. COLE) a happy birthday. Maybe he is 29, so it all kind of fits together.

I would just say to my colleagues, as an indication of how dysfunctional this place is: How do you get 29 closed rules in 4 months? How do we run a place in such a closed manner?

This is supposed to be a deliberative body. We are supposed to be debating issues. People are supposed to have a give-and-take on matters of importance. We have had 29 closed rules in the first 4 months of this year. It is unprecedented.

As I have been saying time and time again, when you have a lousy process, you usually end up with lousy legislation. I think that is the case with regard to the repeal and replace of the Affordable Care Act.

Here we are at the last minute trying to keep the government open for a week so we could have more time to keep it open for the rest of the year. I mean, this is not the way this place should be run.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. CASTOR), a former member of the Rules Committee.

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, the American people deserve better. The majority is not serving the interest of the families we represent back home. They are not focused on lifting the economic prospects of our small businesses and hardworking families. They are not focused on lifting wages.

Instead, we are debating what could be the smallest little extension of government funding ever: 1 week. Are you kidding me? We have just come back this week from a 2-week recess. You would think that the majority party would have had the wherewithal to be able to fund the government as required through the end of the fiscal year, which is only September 30. This was leftover business from last year. How small. How unfocused. What a letdown for the people we represent.

Has the majority party brought a bill to the floor of the House that we can debate on jobs, on lifting Americans that work hard every day? No.

Has the majority party brought a bill to debate where we could talk about how we fix roads and bridges and connect communities and address congestion across the country and create jobs that way? No.

The majority party, after the very serious military strike on Syria, could have brought a debate about an authorization of the use of military force where the Congress has been derelict for years in having the debate about a country that has been at war for 16 years. That is very important. People expect us to address the difficult issues, but they haven't brought that debate.

Across the country this week, a lot of seniors in high school are deciding where they are going to attend college or university. We could be having a debate on how we help those families and students afford the cost of a college education or address the student loan crisis. But, no, that debate hasn't been brought

There is going to be a big march in Washington again this weekend on the changing climate. We could discuss and debate the cost of the changing climate, extreme weather events. Boy, my folks back home in the State of Florida are having to look at increased insurance costs, property insurance costs, infrastructure costs because of the changing climate, but that debate hasn't been had.

Instead the Congress has been consumed with a healthcare bill that rips coverage away from families, harms Medicare, raises cost on everyone, and they were stuck in a debate this week about ending the guaranteed protection that families now have if they have a preexisting condition. Remember, under the Affordable Care Act, you can no longer be discriminated against if you have a preexisting condition like cancer or diabetes. They were consumed with: Well, how do we end that and send that back to the States to do that? Thank goodness that bill hasn't been brought to the floor.

Instead, here is an extension of running the government. Again, how small. Maybe it does match what is happening in the White House. With the flip-flopping, unfocused President, this Republican majority is having real trouble governing the country.

I understand the President is consumed with an investigation of associates from his campaign over collusion with the Russians. He is consumed with conflicts of interest and how he doesn't want to be transparent, whether it is his tax returns or the emoluments under the Constitution.

The American people deserve better, and that is what brought me to the floor today. I didn't have to come and talk about the rule that is on the floor.

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Florida.

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I didn't have to come to the floor to oppose a rule and this 1-week appropriations bill. But I am so frustrated, just like families and businesses are across this country, that this Congress still refuses to have the debates, have the discussion on the issues that really impact our families back home. They deserve better than this dysfunctional Republican majority. Why don't we stand up for them for a change?

The Democrats are willing to have those debates. Let's debate and discuss jobs. Let's debate and discuss how kids can afford the cost of a college education. Let's discuss how we lift our public schools. Let's discuss rebuilding America and creating jobs through modern infrastructure investments. Let's have these debates.

Let's not take up the time of the American people on a silly 1-week extension of funding government so we can do this again next week, where we have to debate and take up all the time on how we fund the government until September 30. American families deserve better.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, last night at the Rules Committee, we had a debate where we focused our attention not only on the legislation, but also on the need to get this done.

I appreciate the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. CASTOR), the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. COLE), and the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN) and their attention to the ideas that they have. They do have ideas, and they do have decisions that would help make this process even better. We are here today for the right reasons.

I would advise the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN) that I do not have any further speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time pending his close.

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

Mr. Speaker, I think it is clear that there is a lot of frustration on our side because of what is obviously a dysfunctional House. The fact that we are here again at the last minute trying to just keep the government running really is unfortunate. It is sad because it is not like we didn't know about this date. We have known about it for a long time.

My Republicans friends set this date. They have had months and months to figure out a way to keep the government running. They, again, are in control of the House. They are in control of the Senate. They are in control of the White House. Once again, we have a manufactured crisis where we are right at the edge of a cliff, and the best we could do today is kick the can down the road for a week and we will have this little debate again next week.

Perhaps if the leadership of this House actually focused on the people's business instead of on legislation that is about messaging or press releases, perhaps if they focused on the people's business rather than trying to undermine basic healthcare protections for people, we wouldn't have these crises all the time.

I said at the beginning of my remarks that we can breathe a sigh of relief today because my friends on the Republican side are not bringing up their abysmal repeal and replace of the Affordable Care Act bill.

□ 0945

They have been changing it and changing it, and there was some rumor, President Trump was saying that they would probably bring a bill up to pass it in his first 100 days because somehow it is more important to do something in 100 days than it is to get it right. But, nonetheless, they added another provision which they claim makes it more palatable to their Members. But I want my colleagues to understand that what they have done is made a bad bill worse.

The American College of Physicians sent us a letter to all Members, Democrats and Republicans, and I will just read one sentence from it. ''This amendment'' that my Republican friends added to their healthcare bill ''would make the harmful AHCA even worse by creating new coverage barriers for patients with preexisting conditions and weakening requirements that insurers cover essential benefits.''

I include in the RECORD the letter from the American College of Physicians.

AMERICAN COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS,
April 24, 2017.

Hon. PAUL RYAN,
Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.
Hon. MITCH MCCONNELL,
Majority Leader, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.
Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Minority Leader, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.
Hon. CHARLES SCHUMER,
Minority Leader, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER RYAN, MINORITY LEADER PELOSI, MAJORITY LEADER MCCONNELL, AND MINORITY LEADER SCHUMER: On behalf of the American College of Physicians (ACP), I am writing to urge Congress to move away from the harmful changes to patient care that would occur if the American Health Care Act (AHCA) were to become law, and to instead work for bipartisan solutions to improve the Affordable Care Act (ACA) rather than repealing and replacing it. We believe that the AHCA, which would repeal and replace the most important coverage and consumer protections created by the ACA, is so fundamentally flawed that it cannot be made acceptable. We understand that the leadership in the House of Representatives continues to explore ways to bring a modified version of the AHCA to a vote, based on a draft amendment reportedly being developed by Representatives MacArthur and Meadows, a summary of which was made available to the public through news organizations. This amendment would make the harmful AHCA even worse by creating new coverage barriers for patients with pre-existing conditions and weakening requirements that insurers cover essential benefits.

The American College of Physicians is the largest medical specialty organization and the second-largest physician group in the United States. ACP members include 148,000 internal medicine physicians (internists), related subspecialists, and medical students. Internal medicine physicians are specialists who apply scientific knowledge and clinical expertise to the diagnosis, treatment, and compassionate care of adults across the spectrum from health to complex illness.

The draft MacArthur-Meadows amendment would create what is known as the ''Limited Waiver Option'' that would allow states to eliminate or severely weaken vital ACA Title I consumer protections—specifically, community rating and essential health benefits (EHBs)—returning the country to the pre-ACA days when persons with pre-existing ''declinable'' medical conditions in most states were priced out of the market and the insurance products available in the individual market did not cover medically necessary services.

Specifically;

The MacArthur-Meadows amendment would create an option for states to obtain Limited Waivers from certain federal standards that would gut existing law consumer protections. Based on a summary of the draft amendment, states could seek Limited Waivers for:

Essential Health Benefits (EHBs)

Community-rating rules, except for the following categories, which are not waivable: Gender or Age (except for reductions of the 5:1 age ratio previously established) or Health Status (*unless* the state has established a high-risk pool or is participating in a federal high-risk pool)

To obtain the waiver, states would only need to ''attest that the purpose of their requested waiver is to reduce premium costs,

increase the number of persons with healthcare coverage, *or advance another benefit to the public interest in the state*, including the guarantee of coverage for persons with preexisting medical conditions. The Secretary shall approve applications within 90 days of determining that an application is complete.'' [Emphasis added in italics].

In other words, as long as a state attested that there was a ''benefit to the public,'' insurers would be once again allowed to charge more to people with pre-existing conditions, or decline to cover needed benefits like physician and hospital visits, maternity care and contraception, mental health and substance use disorder treatments, preventive services, and prescription drugs.

This would take us back to the days when people had to fill out intrusive insurance company applications to document their previous health history, even before being advised what the premium would be based on their individual health risk. Unlike community rating, which bases premiums based on the expected costs associated with all persons in the insurance pool (adjusted only by age, tobacco use, and family size), the Limited Waiver would again allow insurers in states that obtain a waiver to again charge people exorbitant and unaffordable premiums for their pre-existing conditions.

Before the ACA, insurance plans sold in the individual insurance market in all but five states typically maintained lists of so-called ''declinable'' medical conditions—including asthma, diabetes, arthritis, obesity, stroke, or pregnancy, or having been diagnosed with cancer in the past 10 years. Even if a revised bill would not explicitly repeal the current law's *guaranteed-issue* requirement—which requires insurers to offer coverage to persons with pre-existing conditions like these—*guaranteed issue without community rating allows insurers to charge as much as they believe a patient's treatment will cost*. The result would be that many patients with pre-existing conditions would be offered coverage that costs them thousands of dollars more for the care that they need, and in the case of patients with expensive conditions like cancer, even hundreds of thousands more.

An amendment to the AHCA reported out of the Rules Committee on April 6th to establish a ''Federal Invisible Risk Sharing Program,'' which would create a fund that states could use to reimburse insurers for some of the costs associated with insuring sicker patients, would not offset the harm done to patients with pre-existing conditions by allowing the Limited Waiver of community rating and essential benefit protections. The pre-ACA experience with high-risk pools was that many had long waiting lists, and offered inadequate coverage with high deductibles and insufficient benefits. Unless a national high-risk pool is supported with a massive infusion of funding it will not be sufficient to cover the millions of people with pre-existing conditions that would be denied or charged more for coverage under the AHCA. One paper estimates that a national high-risk pool would cost $178.1 billion a year, roughly $176.4 billion more than the annual funding provided to the Invisible Risk Sharing Program. Also, shifting people out of the existing health insurance marketplace to a high-risk pool would undermine the assurance that enrollees could keep their existing coverage.

The Limited Waiver Option will also allow states to seek waivers from the essential health benefits required of all plans sold in the individual insurance market, with the result that millions of patients will be at risk of losing coverage for essential services like maternity care, cancer screening tests and treatments, prescription drugs, preventive services, mental health and substance use disorder treatments, and even physician visits, prescription drugs and hospitalizations.

Prior to passage of the ACA, 62% of individual market enrollees did *not* have coverage of maternity services, 34% did *not* have substance-use disorder-services, 18% did *not* have mental-health services and 9% did *not* have coverage for prescription drugs. A recent independent analysis found that the AHCA's repeal of current law required benefits would result in patients on average paying $1,952 more for cancer drugs; $1,807 for drugs for heart disease; $1,127 for drugs to treat lung diseases; $1,607 for drugs to treat mental illnesses; $4,940 for inpatient admission for mental health; $4,555 for inpatient admission for substance use treatment; and $8,501 for maternity care. Such increased costs would make it practically impossible for many patients to avail themselves of the care they need. The result will be delays in getting treatment until their illnesses present at a more advanced, less treatable, and more expensive stage, or not keeping up with life-saving medications prescribed by their physicians.

Allowing states to eliminate the EHB will threaten our nation's fight against the opioid epidemic. A study concluded that with repeal of the ACA, ''approximately 1,253,000 people with serious mental disorders and about 2.8 million Americans with a substance use disorder, of whom about 222,000 have an opioid disorder, would lose some or all of their insurance coverage.'' Finally, allowing states to drop important benefits like maternity, substance use disorder treatment, and preventive services will do little to reduce premiums. A report by Milliman found that the main drivers of premium costs were ambulatory patient services, hospitalization, and prescription drugs. These are crucial services that form the core of any health insurance plan.

To be clear: while some younger and healthier persons might be offered lower premiums in states that obtained a ''Limited Waiver'' of community-rating and essential health benefits, it would be at the expense of making coverage unaffordable for those who need it most, older and sicker persons, and result in skimpy ''bare-bones'' insurance for many others that does not cover the medical care they would need if and when they get sick.

Finally, even without the Limited Waiver Amendment, ACP continues to believe that the AHCA has numerous other provisions and policies that that will do great harm to patients including:

The phase-out of the higher federal match in states that have opted to expand Medicaid and the ban on non-expansion states being able to access the higher federal contribution if they choose to expand Medicaid;

Converting the shared federal-state financing structure for Medicaid to one that would cap the federal contribution per enrollee;

Providing states with a Medicaid block grant financing option;

Eliminating EHBs for Medicaid expansion enrollees;

Imposing work or job search requirements on certain Medicaid enrollees;

Regressive age-based tax credits, combined with changes that will allow insurers to charge older people much higher premiums than allowed under current law;

Continuous coverage requirements for patients with pre-existing conditions;

Legislative or regulatory restrictions that would deny or result in discrimination in the awarding of federal grant funds and/or Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program funding to women's health clinics that are qualified under existing federal law for the provision of evidence-based services including, but not limited to, provision of contraception, preventive health screenings, sexually transmitted infection testing and treatment, vaccines, counseling, rehabilitation, and referrals, and;

Elimination of the Prevention and Public Health Fund, which provides billions in dollars to the enters for Disease Control and Prevention to prevent and control the spread of infectious diseases.

The College strongly believes in the *first, do no harm* principle. Therefore, we continue to urge that Congress move away from the fundamentally flawed and harmful policies that would result from the American Health Care Act and from the changes under consideration—including the proposed ''Limited Waiver'' amendment—that would make the bill even worse for patients. We urge Congress to instead start over and seek agreement on bipartisan ways to improve and build on the ACA. The College welcomes the opportunity to share our ideas for bipartisan solutions that would help make health care better, more accessible, and more affordable for patients rather than imposing great harm on them as the AHCA would do.

Sincerely,

JACK ENDE, MD, MACP,
President.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, we have a press release from the American Hospital Association. Their line here is: ''Our top concern is what this change could mean for older and sicker patients, including those with pre-existing conditions such as cancer patients and those with chronic conditions'' could suffer. ''This amendment proposed this week would dramatically worsen the bill.''

I include in the RECORD the American Hospital Association press release.

[From the American Hospital Association—April 27, 2017]

STATEMENT ON THE AMERICAN HEALTH CARE ACT

(By Rick Pollack, President and CEO, American Hospital Association)

The latest version of the AHCA continues to put health coverage in jeopardy for many Americans. Our top concern is what this change could mean for older and sicker patients, including those with pre-existing conditions, such as cancer patients and those with chronic conditions. For these reasons, along with our previously stated concerns about the AHCA, we cannot support the bill. However, we urge Congress to continue to work with stakeholders on a solution that provides meaningful coverage.

The amendment proposed this week would dramatically worsen the bill. The changes included put consumer protections at greater risk by allowing states to waive the essential health benefit standards, which could leave patients without access to critical health services and increase out-of-pocket spending. This could allow plans to set premium prices based on individual risk for some consumers, which could significantly raise costs for those with pre-existing conditions.

Additionally, the Congressional Budget Office has not yet scored the amendment. However, CBO previously projected that the AHCA would result in 24 million fewer people covered in 2026. It is unlikely this amendment would improve these coverage estimates.

As the backbone of America's health safety-net, hospitals and health systems must protect access to care for those who need it and ensure that the most vulnerable patients are not left behind. The AHCA continues to fall far short of that goal.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, the AARP issued yet another statement saying: ''This harmful legislation still puts an age tax on older Americans and puts vulnerable populations at risk through a series of backdoor deals that attempts to shift responsibility to States.''

I include in the RECORD the statement from the AARP.

AARP MAINTAINS OPPOSITION TO AMENDED HEALTH BILL

AGE TAX, WEAKENING MEDICARE, BACKDOOR CUTS TO PREEXISTING CONDITION POPULATION WOULD HARM AMERICAN FAMILIES

WASHINGTON, DC.—AARP Executive Vice President Nancy LeaMond released the following statement today in response to the amended House bill that would create an ''Age Tax,'' increase premiums, eliminate protections for pre-existing conditions, cut the life of Medicare, and give sweetheart deals to big drug and insurance companies. In a letter sent to all 435 members of the U.S. House of Representatives, AARP restated its strong opposition to the bill and urged each Representative to vote 'No' on the proposed legislation. AARP believes this legislation will have a significant harmful impact on the health of millions of older Americans ages 50 to 64, as well as other vulnerable groups, including poor seniors and disabled children and adults:

''This harmful legislation still puts an Age Tax on older Americans and puts vulnerable populations at risk through a series of backdoor deals that attempts to shift responsibility to states. Older Americans need affordable health care services and prescriptions. This legislation still goes in the opposite direction, increasing insurance premiums for older Americans and not doing anything to lower drug costs.

''AARP continues to oppose legislation that would impose an Age Tax, eliminate protections for preexisting conditions, weaken Medicare, erode seniors' ability to live independently because of billions of dollars in Medicaid cuts, and give sweetheart deals to drug and insurance companies while doing nothing to lower the cost of health care or prescription drugs.

''We intend to let all 38 million of our members know exactly how their Representative votes on this bill in newsletters, in our publications, on social media and in other formats. Our members care deeply about their health care and have told us repeatedly that they want to know where their elected officials stand.''

Past statements and releases about this bill can be found here, here, here, and here. Public policy fact sheets about the Age Tax and other harmful policies can be found here. AARP's full letter to the House of Representatives can be found below:

APRIL 26, 2017.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE: AARP, with its nearly 38 million members in all 50 States and the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and U.S. Virgin Islands, is a nonpartisan, nonprofit, nationwide organization that helps people turn their goals and dreams into real possibilities, strengthens communities and fights for the issues that matter most to consumers and families such as healthcare, employment and income security, retirement planning, affordable utilities and protection from financial abuse.

We write to again share our opposition to the pending American Health Care Act (AHCA) and urge you to vote NO. Throughout consideration of the AHCA, we have been expressing serious concerns about the impact that this legislation will have on older Americans. The Congressional Budget Office (CBO)'s last estimate further demonstrates the harmful impact of this bill on older Americans and some of our most vulnerable. Specifically, we are concerned that the American Health Care Act will weaken the fiscal sustainability of Medicare; dramatically increase premium and out-of-pocket costs for 50–64 year olds purchasing coverage on the individual insurance market; substantially increase the number of Americans without insurance; and put at risk millions of children and adults with disabilities and poor seniors who depend on the Medicaid program to access long-term services and supports and other benefits. In addition, changes under consideration that would allow states to waive important consumer protections—such as allowing insurance companies to once again charge Americans with pre-existing conditions more because they've had cancer, diabetes or heart disease—would make this bad bill even worse.

Our members and others 50 years of age and older care deeply about health care and want to know where their elected leaders stand. Recognizing the importance of the upcoming vote on the American Health Care Act, AARP intends to inform our members, and others over age 50, how their elected officials voted. We'll communicate the results of the vote in our widely-circulated publications, in email alerts, in our online channels, and through the media. Again, we urge all Representatives to vote NO on the American Health Care Act in its current form.

MEDICARE

Our members and older Americans believe that Medicare must be protected and strengthened for today's seniors and future generations. We strongly oppose any changes to current law that could result in cuts to benefits, increased costs, or reduced coverage for older Americans. According to the 2016 Medicare Trustees report, the Medicare Part A Trust Fund is solvent until 2028 (11 years longer than pre-Affordable Care Act (ACA)), due in large part to changes made in the ACA. We have serious concerns that the American Health Care Act repeals provisions in current law that have strengthened Medicare's fiscal outlook, specifically, the repeal of the additional 0.9 percent payroll tax on higher-income workers. Repealing this provision would remove $117.3 billion from the Hospital Insurance trust fund over the next ten years, would hasten the insolvency of Medicare by up to four years, and diminish Medicare's ability to pay for services in the future.

PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

Older Americans use prescription drugs more than any other segment of the U.S. population, typically on a chronic basis. We are pleased that the bill maintains the Medicare Part D coverage gap (''donut hole'') protections created under the ACA. Since the enactment of the law, more than 11.8 million Medicare beneficiaries who have fallen into the coverage gap have saved over $26.8 billion on the improved coverage for prescription drug costs due to closure of the donut hole. We do have strong concerns that the fee on manufacturers and importers of branded prescription drugs, which currently is projected to add $24.8 billion to the Medicare Part B trust fund between 2017 and 2026, will be repealed by the American Health Care Act. Rather than repeal this fee for Medicare, AARP believes Congress must do more to reduce the burden of high prescription drug costs on consumers and taxpayers, and we would be willing to work with you on bipartisan solutions.

INDIVIDUAL PRIVATE INSURANCE MARKET

About 6.1 million Americans age 50–64 currently purchase insurance in the non-group market, and nearly 3.2 million are currently eligible to receive subsidies for health insurance coverage through either the federal health benefits exchange or a state-based exchange (exchange). We have seen a significant reduction in the number of uninsured since passage of the ACA, with the number of 50–64 year old Americans who are uninsured dropping by half. We are deeply concerned that the AHCA would be a significant step backwards and result in millions of older Americans who cannot afford their health care, including many simply losing their health care.

Based on CBO estimates, approximately 14 million Americans will lose coverage next year, while a total of 24 million Americans would lose coverage over the next 10 years. This is especially troubling given that in the CBO and Joint Committee on Taxation's (JCT) assessment ''the non-group (individual) market would probably be stable in most areas . . . under current law.''

Affordability of both premiums and cost-sharing is critical to older Americans and their ability to obtain and access health care. A typical 50–64 year old seeking coverage through an exchange has a median annual income of under $25,000 and already pays significant out-of-pocket costs for health care. We have serious concerns—reinforced by the CBO estimate—that the bill under consideration will dramatically increase health care costs for 50–64 year olds who purchase health care through an exchange due both to the changes in age rating from 3:1 (already a compromise that requires uninsured older Americans to pay three times more than younger individuals) to 5:1 and reductions in current tax credits for older Americans. CBO concluded that the bill will substantially raise premiums for older people and force many into lower quality plans.

Age rating plus reduced tax credits equal an unaffordable age tax. Our previous estimates on the age-rating change showed that premiums for current coverage could increase by up to $3,200 for a 64 year old, while reducing premiums by only about $700 for a younger enrollee. Significant premium increases for older consumers will make insurance less affordable, will not address their expressed concern about rising premiums, and only encourage a small increase in the enrollment numbers for younger persons.

In addition to increasing premiums from the age rating change, the bill reduced the tax credits available for older Americans to help purchase insurance. We estimate that the bill's changes to current law's tax credits alone could increase premium costs for a 55-year old earning $25,000 by more than $2,300 a year. For a 64-year old earning $25,000, that

increased premium rises to more than $4,400 a year, and more than $5,800 for a 64-year old earning $15,000.

Overall, both the bill's tax credit changes and 5:1 age rating would result in skyrocketing cost increases for older Americans. In their analysis, CBO found that a 64 year old earning $26,500 a year would see their premiums increase by $12,900—758 percent—from $1,700 to $14,600 a year. In addition, older workers could also face higher out-of-pocket costs because the bill eliminates cost-sharing subsidies which help lower-income Americans with their co-pays and deductibles. It cannot be overstated how much this bill would erase recent gains in health care coverage and affordability for 50–64 year olds, leading to large spikes in the number of uninsured and financial hardship for millions of older Americans.

Current law prohibits insurance companies from discriminating against individuals due to a preexisting condition. We are extremely concerned that the bill may now repeal preexisting condition protections and would once again allow insurance companies to charge Americans more due to a pre-existing condition. We estimate that 40 percent of 50- to 64-year-olds (or about 25 million people in this age group) have a deniable pre-existing condition and risk losing access to affordable coverage. We strongly oppose any weakening of the law's pre-existing condition protections which benefit millions of Americans.

MEDICAID AND LONG-TERM SERVICES AND SUPPORTS

AARP opposes the provisions of the American Health Care Act that create a per capita cap financing structure in the Medicaid program. We are concerned that these provisions could endanger the health, safety, and care of millions of individuals who depend on the essential services provided through Medicaid. CBO found that the bill would cut Medicaid funding by $880 billion over 2017–2026. By 2026, CBO expects Medicaid spending to be about 25 percent less than what it projects under current law. Medicaid is a vital safety net and intergenerational lifeline for millions of individuals, including over 17.4 million low-income seniors and children and adults with disabilities who rely on the program for critical health care and long-term services and supports (LTSS, i.e., assistance with daily activities such as eating, bathing, dressing, managing medications, and transportation). Older adults and people with disabilities now account for over sixty percent of Medicaid spending, and cuts of this magnitude will result in loss of benefits and services for this vulnerable population.

Of these 17.4 million individuals: 6.9 million are ages 65 and older (which equals more than 1 in every 7 elderly Medicare beneficiaries); 10.5 million are children and adults living with disabilities; and about 10.8 million are so poor or have a disability that they qualify for both Medicare and Medicaid (dual eligibles). Dual eligibles account for almost 33 percent of Medicaid spending. While they comprise a relatively small percentage of enrollees, they account for a disproportionate share of total Medicare and Medicaid spending.

Individuals with disabilities of all ages and older adults rely on critical Medicaid services, including home and community-based services (HCBS) for assistance with daily activities such as eating, bathing, dressing, and home modifications; nursing home care; and other benefits such as hearing aids and eyeglasses. People with disabilities of all ages also rely on Medicaid for access to comprehensive acute health care services. For working adults, Medicaid can help them continue to work; for children, it allows them to stay with their families and receive the help they need at home or in their community. Individuals may have low incomes, face high medical costs, or have already spent through their resources paying out-of-pocket for LTSS, and need these critical services. For these individuals, Medicaid is a program of last resort.

In providing a fixed amount of federal funding per person, this approach to financing would likely result in overwhelming cost shifts to states, state taxpayers, and families unable to shoulder the costs of care without sufficient federal support. This would result in cuts to program eligibility, services, or both—ultimately harming some of our nation's most vulnerable citizens. In terms of seniors, we have serious concerns about setting caps at a time when per-beneficiary spending for poor seniors is likely to increase in future years. By 2026, when Boomers start to turn age 80 and older, they will likely need much higher levels of service—including HCBS and nursing home—moving them into the highest cost group of all seniors. As this group continues to age, their level of need will increase as well as their overall costs. We are also concerned that caps will not accurately reflect the cost of care for individuals in each state, including for children and adults with disabilities and seniors, especially those living with the most severe disabling conditions. CBO estimates that Medicaid spending on a per-enrollee basis would grow at a faster rate than the consumer price index for medical care services (CPI–M)—3.7 percent for CPI–M versus an average annual growth rate of 4.4 percent for Medicaid over the 2017–2026 period. Over time, the difference in the growth rate under the per capita cap (CPI–M) and the actual cost of care would further shift costs to states, which could result in even greater potential harm to some of the most vulnerable individuals.

AARP is also opposed to the repeal of the six percent enhanced federal Medicaid match for states that take up the Community First Choice (CFC) Option. CFC provides states with a financial incentive to offer HCBS to help older adults and people with disabilities live in their homes and communities where they want to be. About 90 percent of older adults want to remain in their own homes and communities for as long as possible. HCBS are also cost effective. On average, in Medicaid, the cost of HCBS per person is one-third the cost of institutional care. Taking away the enhanced match could disrupt services for older adults and people with disabilities in the states that are already providing services under CFC and would result in a loss of about $12 billion for HCBS over ten years.

AARP also has concerns with the removal of the state option in Medicaid to increase the home equity limit above the federal minimum. This provision would take away flexibility for states to adjust a Medicaid eligibility criterion based on the specific circumstances of each state and its residents beyond a federal minimum standard. AARP continues to support critical consumer protections included in current law, including guaranteed issue, prohibitions on preexisting condition exclusions, bans on annual and lifetime coverage limits and allowing families to keep children on their policies until the age of 26. Also, AARP continues to support restoring the 7.5 percent threshold for the medical expense deduction which will directly help older Americans struggling to pay for health care, particularly the high cost of nursing homes and other long-term services and supports.

We look forward to working with you to ensure that we maintain a strong health care system that ensures robust insurance market protections, controls costs, improves quality, and provides affordable coverage to all Americans.

Sincerely,

NANCY A. LEAMOND,
Executive Vice President and Chief Advocacy and Engagement Officer.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, the American Medical Association sent letters to Speaker RYAN and Minority Leader PELOSI saying that ''We are deeply concerned that the AHCA would result in millions of Americans losing their current health insurance coverage. Nothing in the'' so-called ''MacArthur amendment remedies the shortcomings of the underlying bill.''

And then they say that, basically, this addition that the Republicans added to the healthcare bill ''could effectively make coverage completely unaffordable for people with preexisting conditions.''

I include in the RECORD the letter from the American Medical Association.

AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION,
Chicago, IL, April 27, 2017.

Hon. PAUL RYAN,
Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Democratic Leader, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER RYAN AND LEADER PELOSI: After reviewing the MacArthur Amendment to H.R. 1628, the American Health Care Act (AHCA), the American Medical Association (AMA) remains opposed to passage of this legislation. As we have previously stated, we are deeply concerned that the AHCA would result in millions of Americans losing their current health insurance coverage. Nothing in the MacArthur amendment remedies the shortcomings of the underlying bill. The amendment does not offer a clear long-term framework for stabilizing and strengthening the individual health insurance market to ensure that low and moderate income patients are able to secure affordable and adequate coverage, nor does it ensure that Medicaid and other critical safety net programs are maintained and adequately funded.

The MacArthur Amendment would allow states to apply for waivers from critical consumer protections provided in the Affordable Care Act (ACA), including the age rating ratio of 3 to 1, the requirements that health insurers must cover certain essential health benefits, and the ban on health status underwriting. The current ban on health status underwriting protects individuals from being discriminated against by virtue of their medical conditions. Prior to the passage of the ACA, such individuals were routinely denied coverage and/or priced out of affordable coverage. We are particularly concerned about allowing states to waive this requirement because it will likely lead to patients losing their coverage. Although the MacArthur Amendment states that the ban on preexisting conditions remains intact, this assurance may be illusory as health status underwriting could effectively make coverage completely unaffordable to people with preexisting conditions. There is also no certainty that the requirement for states to

have some kind of reinsurance or high-risk pool mechanism to help such individuals will be sufficient to provide for affordable health insurance or prevent discrimination against individuals with certain high-cost medical conditions.

We continue to strongly urge Congress to engage in a bipartisan, bicameral dialogue with stakeholders to work on policies that enhance coverage, choice, and affordability.

Sincerely,

JAMES L. MADARA, MD.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I find all this particularly puzzling because my friends have said over and over and over and over again that they agree with Democrats when it comes to protecting people with preexisting conditions. They said that they do not want insurance companies to have the ability to discriminate against people with preexisting conditions. And yet what they have done is they have created a repeal-and-replacement bill that does just that and then goes after essential benefits.

Again, we have been talking about essential benefits over and over and over again. And again, I want to remind my colleagues what the word ''essential'' means. Go to the dictionary. Look up the word ''essential.'' It says, absolutely necessary, extremely important. That is the definition of essential. And so when we talk about essential health benefits, that is what we are talking about.

I have one additional speaker. I was going to close, but I would ask indulgence.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE).

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, as the gentleman from Massachusetts was speaking, I rushed to the floor because he was making such eloquent and important statements, and I wanted to make sure to join him on recognizing that, though we are pushing the can down the road, we know what the mindset of the administration is in terms of funding this country. As a member of the Budget Committee, we received the skinny budget, and, to my dismay, it was a budget that harmed and hurt and undermined the governance of this Nation.

I think it is important to match the Affordable Care Act with the outside needs of living and thriving in this Nation. So my Houston Housing Authority has now stopped vouchers for families in Section 8 housing for fear of not having the money. They had breaking news 2 days ago telling those families, don't show up because we have no money to house you—similar to no money and no room at the inn.

The zeroing out of the community development dollars, which ends our opportunities for parks and sidewalks and housing and fixing those hurricane roofs of senior citizens who are living in devastation from Hurricane Ike.

It is not realizing the importance of the National Endowment for the Arts or recognizing the EPA and clean air and clean water for those of us who live near the Gulf or near the border.

It is not recognizing that you are not the President of the 10 percent that may approve of what you are doing, but you are the President of the United States of America.

And then, for those who work in health care, in a meeting I just had with the National Institutes of Health, $6 billion cut. Do you realize that one of the institutes sends 88 percent of their moneys out for grants so that researchers, young scientists who live here in the United States, can thrive and provide new kinds of research?

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. I yield the gentlewoman from Texas an additional 1 minute.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. There are 27 institutes in the National Institutes of Health. One of them happens to deal with diabetes. The number one is cancer. And for those of us who have experienced it, and for African-American women and others who have the triple negative trait, breast cancer, the research of the NIH is crucial.

Or Dr. Fauci's National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. Dr. Peter Hotez, in Houston, head of Baylor Infectious Diseases, understands Ebola and Zika. We need these resources. What an outrage to cut, in the skinny budget, $6 billion.

So we may push this to another 7 days, but I can tell you that we are pushing the hearts and minds of Americans. We are creating a disaster.

And I can't appreciate the fact that law enforcement will be losing funding. The Department of Justice and the Civil Rights Division, in spite of who is leading that Department, it is a Department for the vulnerable.

So I thank the gentleman for providing me with this time, but I wanted to make sure that we added this long litany of those who will be negatively impacted and that America is not about that. America is about serving all of the people of the United States.

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

I thank the gentlewoman for her remarks. I thank the chairman of the Rules Committee for his indulgence.

I would just close by saying I think it is sad that we are here at the last minute trying to kick the can down the road to keep the government running again for 1 additional week. This could have been avoided and, again, it could have been avoided if, instead of trying to take away people's health insurance, instead of trying to take away people's essential health benefits, instead of trying to cut Medicaid by $800 billion and taking that money and giving a tax break of close to $1 trillion to the richest people in the country, that we actually focused on our job, which is keeping this government running.

But my colleagues on the Republican side are in charge. We are where we are. We have to keep the government running.

Having said all of that, I yield back the balance of my time.

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

I want to thank the gentleman from Massachusetts. I want to thank the gentlewoman from Florida and the gentlewoman from Texas for their comments about trying to focus us on the activities that perhaps they would want or not want.

Mr. Speaker, today we are here because Chairman FRELINGHUYSEN and Ranking Member LOWEY came to the Rules Committee yesterday and asked us to please consider the offer that they were laying on the table, and that is to fund the government for 1 more week, with an assurance that they needed 1 more week to complete their work.

You heard the gentleman, the Honorable TOM COLE, distinguished gentleman from not only Oklahoma, but a gentleman from the Appropriations Committee, reinforce how important the work is.

We have heard from our colleagues on the Democratic side how important the NIH is, Francis Collins, the work that he does there; the United States Military; Secretary of Defense Mattis; the men and women that protect us; those people that are in Homeland Security. That is what we are going to do, so that is what we are going to focus on, and that is just the way it is.

So, Mr. Speaker, I would urge all my colleagues to support this rule and the underlying legislation.

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

The previous question was ordered.

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

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 235, nays 178, not voting 17, as follows:

[Roll No. 235]

YEAS—235

Abraham	Bishop (UT)	Carter (TX)
Aderholt	Black	Chabot
Allen	Blackburn	Cheney
Amash	Blum	Coffman
Amodei	Bost	Cole
Arrington	Brady (TX)	Collins (GA)
Babin	Bridenstine	Collins (NY)
Bacon	Brooks (AL)	Comer
Banks (IN)	Brooks (IN)	Comstock
Barletta	Buck	Conaway
Barr	Bucshon	Cook
Barton	Budd	Costa
Bergman	Burgess	Costello (PA)
Biggs	Byrne	Cramer
Bilirakis	Calvert	Crawford
Bishop (MI)	Carter (GA)	Crist

Culberson
Curbelo (FL)
Davidson
Davis, Rodney
Denham
Dent
DeSantis
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Donovan
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Dunn
Emmer
Estes (KS)
Farenthold
Faso
Ferguson
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flores
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gaetz
Gallagher
Garrett
Gibbs
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gottheimer
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Griffith
Grothman
Guthrie
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Hice, Jody B.
Higgins (LA)
Hill
Holding
Hollingsworth
Huizenga
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurd
Issa
Jenkins (KS)
Jenkins (WV)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Katko
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
King (IA)
Kinzinger
Knight
Kustoff (TN)
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Latta
Lawson (FL)
Lewis (MN)
LoBiondo
Long
Loudermilk
Love
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
MacArthur
Marshall
Massie
Mast
McCarthy
McCaul
McClintock
McHenry
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McSally
Meadows
Meehan
Messer
Mitchell
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Mullin
Murphy (PA)
Noem
Nunes
O'Halleran
Palazzo
Palmer
Paulsen
Pearce
Perry
Peters
Pittenger
Poe (TX)
Poliquin
Posey
Ratcliffe
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Rice (SC)
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney, Francis
Rooney, Thomas J.
Ros-Lehtinen
Rosen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Royce (CA)
Russell
Rutherford
Sanford
Scalise
Schneider
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sinema
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smucker
Stefanik
Stewart
Stivers
Suozzi
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Trott
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walker
Walorski
Walters, Mimi
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Yoho
Young (IA)
Zeldin

NAYS—178

Adams
Aguilar
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady (PA)
Brown (MD)
Brownley (CA)
Bustos
Butterfield
Capuano
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson (IN)
Cartwright
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Conyers
Cooper
Correa
Courtney
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Demings
DeSaulnier
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle, Michael F.
Ellison
Engel
Eshoo
Espaillat
Esty (CT)
Evans
Foster
Frankel (FL)
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
Gonzalez (TX)
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Gutiérrez
Hanabusa
Hastings
Heck
Higgins (NY)
Himes
Hoyer
Huffman
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kihuen
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Lawrence
Lee
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lujan Grisham, M.
Luján, Ben Ray
Lynch
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Matsui
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McNerney
Meeks
Meng
Moore
Moulton
Murphy (FL)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Nolan
Norcross
O'Rourke
Pallone
Panetta
Pascrell
Payne
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peterson
Pingree
Pocan
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Rice (NY)
Richmond
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schrader
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Sires
Smith (WA)
Soto
Speier
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tonko
Torres
Tsongas
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters, Maxine
Watson Coleman
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Yarmuth

NOT VOTING—17

Brat
Buchanan
Chaffetz
Grijalva
Hudson
King (NY)
Labrador
Larson (CT)
Lieu, Ted
Marchant
Marino
Newhouse
Olson
Rouzer
Sánchez
Slaughter
Young (AK)

□ 1021

Mr. LEVIN changed his vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

Mr. KATKO and Ms. ROSEN changed their vote from ''nay'' to ''yea.''

So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 289, I call up the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 99) making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2017, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the joint resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 289, the joint resolution is considered read.

The text of the joint resolution is as follows:

H.J. RES. 99

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2017 (division C of Public Law 114–223) is further amended by—

(1) striking the date specified in section 106(3) and inserting ''May 5, 2017''; and

(2) inserting after section 201 the following new section:

''SEC. 202. (a) This section may be cited as the 'Further Continued Health Benefits for Miners Act'.

''(b) Section 402(h)(2)(C)(ii) of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 (30 U.S.C. 1232(h)(2)(C)(ii)) is amended—

''(1) in subclause (II), by striking 'April 30, 2017' and inserting 'May 5, 2017';

''(2) in subclause (II)(aa), by striking 'the Continued Health Benefits for Miners Act' and inserting 'the Further Continued Health Benefits for Miners Act'; and

''(3) by adding at the end the following: 'For purposes of subclause (II)(aa), a beneficiary enrolled in the Plan as of the date of the enactment of the Further Continued Health Benefits for Miners Act shall be deemed to have been eligible to receive health benefits under the Plan on January 1, 2017.'.

''(c) The provisions of section 167(d) of Public Law 114–223 (as added by Public Law 114–254) shall apply to this section.''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN) and the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. LOWEY) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.J. Res. 99.

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

There was no objection.

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

I rise today to present H.J. Res. 99, a short-term continuing resolution that will keep our government open for an additional week while work is completed on a full-year funding package.

First, I would like to thank Ranking Member LOWEY for her efforts on this bill and, more broadly, on her valuable participation in the appropriations process over many years.

Our current continuing resolution expires today at midnight. Working together with the Senate, our leadership, and the White House, we are on track to have a full-year, fiscal year 2017 appropriations legislation completed soon, but we need a little more time to process it and prepare it for the floor.

This resolution will ensure that the government stays open for another week, until May 5, 2017, to give Congress additional time. It extends current funding levels for essential government operations that the American people rely on, including, most importantly, our national defense.

It continues all policy and funding provisions in the currently enacted continuing resolution. In addition, it includes an extension of the December CR provision for healthcare benefits for retired coal miners and their dependents for the length of the continuing resolution.

Congress must pass this legislation today to keep the government open and operating as we wrap up our full-year fiscal year 2017 work. It is our constitutional duty and responsibility.

A continuing resolution is never anyone's first choice for funding the government; however, this is our best path forward. This CR is very short term, very limited in scope, and will help us

complete our important work of funding the government for the rest of fiscal year 2017.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

At the outset, I want to thank Chairman FRELINGHUYSEN. It has been a pleasure for me to work with him. I am cautiously optimistic that we will complete this process. Although overdue, we will get our work done.

This is the third continuing resolution during fiscal year 2017. We should be voting today on a bipartisan omnibus appropriations act, not another stopgap bill to keep the government running. After all, we are 7 months into the fiscal year.

Federal departments and agencies have been operating on outdated funding levels and policies for more than half of the year. This is unacceptable, and it cannot continue. Assuming we get to a solution that lasts the remainder of the fiscal year, I do hope Chairman FRELINGHUYSEN will help avoid this outcome in the future.

The continuing resolution we are considering today is a simple date change to continue government funding through next Friday and to extend health insurance for miners through the same day.

The backdrop of this continuing resolution is ongoing negotiations on an omnibus appropriations act. Democrats continue to work in good faith to develop a bipartisan omnibus that provides sufficient funding for critical priorities and rejects divisive poison pill riders. For many months, Democrats have been clear that we will not help pass an omnibus that fails to meet these basic standards, and that remains the case.

As if this process weren't difficult enough, it occurs as the majority is seeking to strip health insurance from 20 million Americans and repeal protections against insurance company discrimination for millions more. Meanwhile, President Trump continues to tweet false and damaging comments about the omnibus negotiations.

It is my hope that these games will end so that we can come together to support investments that create jobs, improve infrastructure, provide a quality education for every student, and invest in technology and biomedical research that will benefit hardworking Americans.

To achieve this, we must make progress on eliminating poison pill riders and advancing shared priorities in an omnibus appropriations act. Next week, we must not consider a fourth continuing resolution, but instead have a positive, bipartisan bill after this unnecessarily lengthy process.

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

□ 1030

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

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), the Democratic whip.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I am so pleased to be here in the House. I am not pleased that we are considering a continuing resolution. To that extent, I presume that I share the opinion of the chairman of the committee, Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. I presume, as she has just articulated, that I share the opinion of the ranking member from New York.

Mr. Speaker, we are now 7 months into fiscal year 2017. We have 5 months remaining, and the majority party has been unable to fund government for the balance of the fiscal year. They have over 218 votes in this body, and they have over 50 votes in the Senate. Now, you need 60 votes in the Senate, so it is more complicated. I understand that. But they now have a Republican President.

As we did for the 2016 budget, which we passed in December of 2015 to the balance for September 30, 2016—I know all those dates run together—it was my desire and my advice, Mr. Speaker, that we do the same thing last December: pass an omnibus, take all the bills that the Committee on Appropriations has spent literally hundreds of hours hearing and making decisions on, make the compromises necessary in a democratic body so that 218 votes would be available.

Now, the American public, if they have been watching closely, will see that not a single major appropriation bill has passed this House without Democratic help, so that everybody in this body knows that whatever is done in a major fiscal bill has to be done in a bipartisan way. The good news for this House is Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN understands that well, based upon his experience and his observations, and, in my view, is willing to work together. I know that that also applies to the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. LOWEY).

I had the opportunity to be on the Committee on Appropriations for 23 years. I am still a member of that committee on leave because I am a whip at this point in time. I am going to vote for this continuing resolution, but I want to put my colleagues and the American people on notice, Mr. Speaker, that I will not vote for another one. I said to the press a month ago that I would vote for a continuing resolution today only if we had an agreement and the continuing resolution was for the purpose of allowing sufficient time to memorialize that agreement; in other words, put it down on paper and pass it through the House and the Senate. We are, unfortunately, not in that position today.

It is my understanding from Mrs. LOWEY, with whom I talked this morning, that there are still significant items that are not resolved. Mr. Speaker, I talked to the Speaker, Mr. RYAN, and to the majority leader standing right there on the floor just hours ago yesterday. It is my understanding that the Speaker's intention is that we have a bill filed Monday night so, in the Speaker's words, we can give 72 hours to review that bill and then pass it on Thursday.

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

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 2 minutes to the gentleman from Maryland.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I hope that the Speaker's intention is carried out, which will require, over the next 72 hours, hard work by Members and by staff and a willingness to understand that each side has some things it must have and each side has some things it cannot do. That is the nature of the legislative process.

If we exercise the responsibility that our constituents hoped that we would exercise when they sent us to this body, surely we can do that. I want to tell my friend, the chairman, for whom I have great respect—I hope that doesn't hurt him too much on his side of the aisle—that I want you to be able to say that Mr. HOYER said he was going to urge his colleagues not to vote for another CR, and that, therefore, unless you have 218 votes on your side for whatever the product that you produce, that if we are going to fund government, as we surely should do, that we come to an agreement.

Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Committee on Appropriations for 23 years, I was very proud, it was the most bipartisan committee in the Congress, and we understood our responsibility that the appropriation bills are the one bill that must pass if we are to continue to serve our public and keep America strong and vibrant and economically growing jobs. This is a serious matter. Continuing to kick the can down the road ought to be an unacceptable alternative.

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

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 2 minutes to the gentleman from Maryland.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I urge every one of my colleagues—there are not a lot of people on the floor, Mr. Speaker, but I hope they are watching on television—to understand that the basic responsibility that we have of ensuring the functioning of the government of the people of the United States is one that we ought to perform in a responsible, effective, and timely fashion.

Mr. Chairman, I will work with you, and I will work with Mrs. LOWEY over

the next few days to ensure that next week we have a product that can pass this House because it has bipartisan support and is in the best interests of our country.

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

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak about H.J. Res. 99, ''Making Further Continuing Appropriations for Fiscal Year 2017.''

This resolution is an imperfect vehicle for appropriations for FY 2017, because it does not fully fund the government for the entire fiscal year and it keeps in place sequestration.

H.J. Res. 99 goes against sound fiscal practice by including the budget gimmickry known as sequestration, a fiscal bludgeon that makes across the board cuts in funding for the valuable services depended upon by American children, seniors, workers, veterans, students, and small businesses.

Mr. Speaker, the Continuing Resolution before us extends current Fiscal Year 2017 government funding by seven days, through May 5, 2017, at its current rate, which means a continuation of the across-the-board cut of .19% for all accounts, defense and non-defense, contained in the expiring continuing resolution that was approved December 8, 2016.

Mr. Speaker, I am disappointed that we have again been placed in the position of having to fund the government through the device of a continuing resolution rather than through the normal appropriations process of considering and voting on the twelve separate spending bills reported by the Committee on Appropriations.

H.J. Res. 99 is far from perfect, but it is a modest and positive step since it ensures that funding for appropriated entitlements will continue at a rate maintaining program levels under current law and, for a week at least, prevents congressional Republicans from shutting down the government again and manufacturing a crisis that only harms our economy, destroys jobs, and weakens our middle class.

The government shutdown of 2013, which was manufactured by the Republican majority lasted 16 days and cost taxpayers $24 billion.

The enormous harm and disruption of the lives of federal employees and the people they serve, however, was irreparable.

As I stated, Mr. Speaker, this Continuing Resolution is not perfect and it only funds the government until May 5, 2017.

As veteran and seasoned Members of Congress, we have been in this challenging position before.

But working together—in a spirit of goodwill, bipartisanship, and realism, I believe we can reach a long-term agreement that will avert a shutdown of government operations and the disruption a shutdown causes to the lives of millions of Americans who depend upon federal programs to do their jobs, educate their kids, care for their parents, and contribute to their communities.

Our constituents look to the Congress and the President to make responsible choices and decisions to keep the nation safe, the economy prosperous, and to make necessary and prudent investments in education, healthcare and research, transportation and infrastructure, economic development, science, the arts and humanities, and the environment.

This is, after all, just another way of saying that the American people expect their leaders in Washington be guided by the Constitution's Preamble and pursue policies and provide the resources that will:

''establish justice, ensure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty.''

The funding priorities that have been floated by the Trump Administration fail this essential test of leadership because they are irresponsible, impracticable, unrealistic, and, in many respects, insensitive or indifferent to the deleterious impact they will have on the lives of real people living in the real world.

They do not command majority support in the Congress or of the public.

To win such support, I believe that it is essential that any subsequent continuing resolution or omnibus appropriations bill achieves the following goals and objectives:

''To establish justice'' and ''To promote the general welfare'':

1. Full funding for the U.S. Department of Justice Civil Rights Division and the Department of Education Office of Civil Rights so that they have funds needed to enforce laws protecting civil rights, voting rights, and prosecuting hate crimes.

2. Fully funds community development block grants and low income housing programs in urban and rural communities.

3. Fully funds the Legal Services Corporation so that working and low-income persons who lack an army of lobbyists to represent them in Washington will at least have the assistance of counsel to defend their legal rights in courts of law.

4. Fully funds programs providing food assistance to housebound seniors, such as Meals on Wheels.

5. Fully funds programs that provide students from low and moderate-income families access to affordable higher education and provides students with special needs the support needed to receive the free appropriate public education (FAPE) in the least restrictive environment (LRE) guaranteed by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA Act).

6. Fully funds before and after school programs and other student enrichment programs that help students succeed.

7. Fully funds programs that make federal housing safer through energy efficient heating and cooling systems.

8. Preserves tax credit programs that help revitalize low income communities.

9. Fully funds the Environmental Protection Agency and Department of Energy programs developing the next generation of clean energy and transportation technologies.

''Provide for the common defense'':

1. Provides robust funding for the Department of State and USAID to advance national security interests in places like Iraq and Afghanistan and to end violent conflicts in trouble spots which could threaten the security interests of the United States.

2. Provides adequate funding for United Nations peacekeeping missions throughout the world and distribution of food aid to people in developing and famine stricken countries, such as South Sudan, Somalia, Yemen, and Nigeria.

''To ensure domestic tranquility'':

1. Fully funds cost-sharing reduction subsidies, or CSRs, to compensate insurers for reducing deductibles and out-of-pocket maximums for low-income customers on the Affordable Care Act exchanges.

2. Protects the adequacy, solvency, and integrity of the Medicare and Medicaid programs, which provide health sustaining support for 70 million Americans.

3. Fully funds the National Institutes of Health research programs so that patient access to lifesaving treatments is not delayed.

4. Does not convert funding for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention into block grants which would hinder the nation's ability to respond swiftly and effectively to public health crises like Ebola, Zika, and HIV/AIDS.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that if all members of the House and Senate work together, we can reach agreement on an appropriate budget framework that invests in the American people, preserves our national security, and keeps faith with the values that have served our nation well and made the United States the leading nation on earth.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time for debate has expired.

Pursuant to House Resolution 289, the previous question is ordered.

The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the joint resolution.

The joint resolution was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the passage of the joint resolution.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, this 15-minute vote on passage of the joint resolution will be followed by a 5-minute vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal, if ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 382, nays 30, not voting 18, as follows:

[Roll No. 236]

YEAS—382

Abraham	Beyer	Buck
Adams	Biggs	Bucshon
Aderholt	Bilirakis	Budd
Aguilar	Bishop (GA)	Burgess
Allen	Bishop (MI)	Bustos
Amodei	Bishop (UT)	Butterfield
Arrington	Black	Byrne
Babin	Blackburn	Calvert
Bacon	Blum	Capuano
Banks (IN)	Blumenauer	Carbajal
Barletta	Blunt Rochester	Carson (IN)
Barr	Bonamici	Carter (GA)
Barragán	Brady (PA)	Carter (TX)
Barton	Brady (TX)	Cartwright
Bass	Brooks (AL)	Castro (TX)
Beatty	Brooks (IN)	Chabot
Bera	Brown (MD)	Cheney
Bergman	Brownley (CA)	Chu, Judy

Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coffman
Cohen
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Comer
Comstock
Conaway
Connolly
Conyers
Cook
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Costello (PA)
Courtney
Cramer
Crawford
Crist
Crowley
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Curbelo (FL)
Davidson
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
Davis, Rodney
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Demings
Denham
Dent
DeSantis
DeSaulnier
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Donovan
Doyle, Michael F.
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Dunn
Ellison
Emmer
Engel
Eshoo
Espaillat
Estes (KS)
Esty (CT)
Evans
Farenthold
Faso
Ferguson
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fortenberry
Foster
Foxx
Frankel (FL)
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Gibbs
Gohmert
Gonzalez (TX)
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gottheimer
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffith
Grijalva
Grothman
Guthrie
Hanabusa
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings
Heck
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Hice, Jody B.
Higgins (LA)
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes
Holding
Hoyer
Huffman
Huizenga
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurd
Issa
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Jeffries
Jenkins (KS)
Jenkins (WV)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kihuen
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
Kinzinger
Knight
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
Kustoff (TN)
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Latta
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Levin
Lewis (MN)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren
Long
Loudermilk
Love
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luján, Ben Ray
Lynch
MacArthur
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Marchant
Marshall
Mast
Matsui
McCarthy
McCaul
McClintock
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
McSally
Meadows
Meehan
Meeks
Meng
Messer
Mitchell
Moolenaar
Moore
Moulton
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (PA)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Noem
Nolan
Norcross
Nunes
O'Halleran
O'Rourke
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pascrell
Paulsen
Payne
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters
Peterson
Pingree
Pittenger
Pocan
Poe (TX)
Poliquin
Polis
Posey
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Reed
Reichert
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Richmond
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney, Francis
Rooney, Thomas J.
Ros-Lehtinen
Rosen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Roybal-Allard
Royce (CA)
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Russell
Rutherford
Ryan (OH)
Sanford
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Serrano
Sessions
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sinema
Sires
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Soto
Speier
Stefanik
Stewart
Stivers
Suozzi
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Titus
Tonko
Torres
Trott
Tsongas
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Vargas
Veasey
Visclosky
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walker
Walorski
Walters, Mimi
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters, Maxine
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Womack
Woodall
Yarmuth
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IA)
Zeldin

NAYS—30

Amash
Boyle, Brendan F.
Bridenstine
Cárdenas
Castor (FL)
Clarke (NY)
DeFazio
DeGette
DesJarlais
Gaetz
Garrett
Gutiérrez
Hollingsworth
Johnson, Sam
Jones
King (IA)
Lee
Lewis (GA)
Lujan Grisham, Michelle
Massie
Mooney (WV)
Pearce
Ratcliffe
Renacci
Rush
Sensenbrenner
Vela
Velázquez
Watson Coleman
Wittman

NOT VOTING—18

Bost
Brat
Buchanan
Chaffetz
Flores
Hudson
Johnson (LA)
King (NY)
Labrador
Larson (CT)
Lieu, Ted
Marino
Mullin
Newhouse
Olson
Rouzer
Sánchez
Slaughter

□ 1129

Ms. CLARKE of New York and Mr. GUTIÉRREZ changed their vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

Messrs. BUDD, COOPER, and AL GREEN of Texas changed their vote from ''nay'' to ''yea.''

So the joint resolution was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted ''yea'' on rollcall No. 236.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted ''yea'' on rollcall No. 236.

Mr. FLORES. Mr. Speaker, I was at the White House for a signing ceremony. Had I been present, I would have voted ''yea'' on rollcall No. 236.

Mr. MULLIN. Mr. Speaker, I was at the White House for a signing ceremony. Had I been present, I would have voted ''yea'' on rollcall No. 236.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted ''yea'' on rollcall No. 235 and ''yea'' on rollcall No. 236.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. BRAT. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted ''yea'' on rollcall No. 235 and ''yea'' on rollcall No. 236.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. ROUZER. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained at the White House. Had I been present, I would have voted ''yea'' on rollcall No. 235 and ''yea'' on rollcall No. 236.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and missed rollcall vote Nos. 235 and 236. Had I been present, I would have voted ''aye'' on vote 236. I would have voted ''nay'' on vote 235.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. MARINO. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to attend votes on April 28, 2017, due to a family medical issue. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

''Yea'' for rollcall vote 235.

''Yea'' for rollcall vote 236.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HOLDING). The unfinished business is the question on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal, which the Chair will put de novo.

The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

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

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

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

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCARTHY), the majority leader, for the purpose of inquiring of the schedule for the week to come.

Mr. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, on Monday, the House will meet at noon for morning hour and 2 p.m. for legislative business. Votes will be postponed until 6:30.

On Tuesday and Wednesday, the House will meet at 10 a.m. for morning hour and noon for legislative business.

On Thursday, the House will meet at 9 a.m. for legislative business.

Mr. Speaker, the House will consider a number of suspensions next week, a complete list of which will be announced by close of business today.

One suspension worth highlighting is H.R. 1644, the Korean Interdiction and Modernization of Sanctions Act, sponsored by Chairman ED ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, last year, North Korea conducted two nuclear weapons tests and 26 ballistic missile flight tests.

Congress has long led the charge to impose strict sanctions against the Kim Jong-un regime. This bill would continue that effort by specifically sanctioning North Korea's shipping industry, as well as targeting those who employ North Korean slave labor abroad. It is critical we send a clear and bipartisan message that North Korea's reckless provocations cannot continue.

In addition, Mr. Speaker, the House will consider H.R. 1180, the Working Families Flexibility Act, sponsored by Representative MARTHA ROBY. This bill would give employees the option to convert the overtime hours worked into paid time off. Mr. Speaker, hard-working Americans in the private sector deserve the same flexibility that

public sector workers have enjoyed for decades. By passing this bill, we will give American families greater choice in how they spend their most important resource, their time.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, the House will consider legislation providing further appropriations for the 2017 fiscal year. I am encouraged by the reports I have received from our Appropriations Committee regarding these negotiations, and I look forward to a strong vote on this agreement next week.

Mr. Speaker, additional legislative items are possible. If any items are added, I will relay scheduling information to Members as soon as possible.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the majority leader for the information on the schedule for next week.

I would ask him, with respect to Korea, that being on the floor—also, as I understand it, the committee has been working on a Syria sanctions bill. Obviously both of those areas are critically important.

Does the gentleman have any information when we might anticipate the Syria resolution coming forward as well?

I yield to the gentleman.

Mr. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, the gentleman is correct. This is a critical area and one that we do want to make sure we speak with one voice and a bipartisan voice.

I have spoken to the committee chairman. He is continuing to work on this. And I anticipate, not next week but in the future, that coming to the floor.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his focus on that issue because we agree, of course, that that is a serious and volatile matter with which we need to deal in a hopefully effective way.

Two items, one that the gentleman mentioned. We just passed a continuing resolution, as the gentleman noted. And pursuant to our discussions, Democrats and Republicans both overwhelmingly voted for that, and it passed handily.

I don't know whether the gentleman heard my remarks on the floor, but what I had indicated is—and I have indicated to him privately—that we Democrats are in a position of not supporting an additional continuing resolution.

In my discussions with Mrs. LOWEY, our ranking member on the Appropriations Committee, she believes that there is a possibility to get an agreement between the two parties, but it appears that the committees themselves have reached a point where they think they will need additional assistance from leadership, I presume, on both sides of the aisle to resolve some of the thorniest issues that are still outstanding.

I want to thank the majority leader and the Speaker. In our discussions yesterday on the floor in private—they weren't, I don't think, private discussions because there were other people around. Both the Speaker and yourself are desirous of getting this done before the end of the weekend, posting something either as early perhaps as Sunday night or as late as Monday night on an omnibus, which would fund government between next week and the end of the fiscal year September 30.

So the first question would be: We share that objective in common, I presume; is that accurate?

I yield to the gentleman.

Mr. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Maryland for yielding.

That is true. I want to thank the gentleman even for his comments earlier in the week. I know they might not have been the same comments as the rest on the other side of the aisle. It was our anticipation that we would not have to do a continuing resolution.

I do believe that the committee is very close. It is the intention of the committee to get to an agreement. I hoped to get to an agreement as early as today, knowing that we do want to provide to the Members the 3 days so they can read through the entire bill and that we can vote on this before the end of this short-term CR.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for that, and I would urge the Speaker and the majority leader to engage with others because I think that would be useful in facilitating the reaching of an agreement. I know that Leader PELOSI and I will also be available to the extent that we could facilitate that.

I know there are some thorny, tough issues still outstanding, but I know the majority leader agrees with me that the funding of government on a sporadic basis on a continuing resolution is very bad for morale of the Federal service, very bad for anybody who wants to plan on how to execute their obligations and responsibilities, and frankly very disconcerting not only to the American people but to people around the world who contemplate the shutdown of the Government of the United States of America on which so much of the world relies for some degree of stability. It is simply not a thing that we ought to be doing. So I would urge the leader and myself to be as engaged as we need to be to get us to that objective next week.

Secondly, Mr. Majority Leader, I know we had some discussion about a healthcare bill. The Affordable Care Act, as you know, we think is working. We think, working together, we can make it better. I know the majority leader and his party disagree with that and want to see it repealed and that there is legislation to do that.

The majority leader did not mention it in his comments, but does he anticipate the American Health Care Act, with or without amendments, being considered next week?

I yield to the gentleman.

Mr. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding. I know we have had many discussions in regards to this, and we have a very strong difference of opinion.

I would believe those individuals that have lost their doctors and that have lost their health care entirely, that they do not have someone providing it. If you look within Tennessee and one-third of the entire country, they only have one provider. There are challenges. We cannot continue to sit back and just watch ObamaCare fail. We have to do something about it.

We had committees work through a bill. We have made great progress over the Easter break. Members have been talking to one another. Members have seen a new amendment to add to the bill. They have been looking at it this week, and I anticipate as soon as Members have looked through that that we will bring that bill to the floor.

I don't have anything scheduled for next week. But as soon as a bill is scheduled, we will notify you. I anticipate the Members reading through it this weekend, and, as soon as possible, we will bring that bill to the floor.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for that comment. The gentleman is certainly correct, we have very substantial disagreements. We believe the Affordable Care Act is working.

I was pleased to see the administration, at least in the short-term, indicate that they will not take actions to undermine it or sabotage it without passing a replacement, without having the ability to give to the American people an option. I think the administration did the right thing. I hope they will continue to do the right thing in making payments consistent with the law.

We will have a very significant debate on that bill. Therefore, I would urge the majority leader if, in fact, the majority leader is going to bring that bill to the floor at some point in time, that significant notice be given so that not only Members of Congress, but that the American people can have the opportunity to assess the ramifications—in our perspective, the very serious adverse ramifications—that the passage of the American Health Care Act would have on the health care and the cost to every American of health insurance.

The President, as you know, has indicated that he wants to make sure—and he said he would support a program where every American has insurance, not access to insurance. He has made comments numerous times during the course of the campaign and since he has been President of the United States that his program would provide for every American to have health insurance at a lower cost with better quality.

I have told the people that, if he sends such a bill down, I would be inclined to support such a bill. He has not, of course, sent such a bill down.

So, Mr. Leader, the bottom line is I am simply saying that this will be a very controversial item and deserving of very significant debate, discussion. Hopefully, we will get significant notice as to when the majority leader expects to bring it to the floor so that we could be prepared for that debate.

I yield to the gentleman.

□ 1145

Mr. MCCARTHY. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

And yes, we have had a lot, ample debate already, through committee and part of the floor, but it is our anticipation that we will give you plenty of notification.

We have already posted the amendment to make sure everybody has the ability to read it, and it has already been there 3 days. It is just 8 pages long, and we have provided the 3 days already. But we will give you, as soon as it is scheduled for the floor, notice of it coming.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman, and I yield back the balance of my time.

ADJOURNMENT FROM FRIDAY, APRIL 28, 2017, TO MONDAY, MAY 1, 2017

Mr. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet on Monday, May 1, 2017, when it shall convene at noon for morning-hour debate and 2 p.m. for legislative business.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GARRETT). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

CONGRATULATING MANNIE JACKSON

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

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mannie Jackson, a legendary basketball player at both the University of Illinois and Edwardsville High School, on his induction into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame.

Born in a railroad boxcar in southern Missouri, Mannie excelled at Edwardsville High School before attending the University of Illinois. He was one of the first African-American letter winners and starters for the Illini. After graduating, Mannie played for the Harlem Globetrotters.

While Mannie was a tremendous player, he also purchased the Globetrotters and helped revive the franchise, leading the team to 12 straight years of double-digit growth.

Mannie also continued his career as a philanthropist. He founded the Illinois Academic Enrichment and Leadership Program at the University of Illinois and has partnered with leaders at Lewis and Clark Community College to create the Mannie Jackson Center for the Humanities.

I have had the privilege of meeting Mannie on multiple occasions and have nothing but admiration and respect for what he does to help others. It is an honor to congratulate him on his induction to the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame, but I am even more proud to recognize all of the contributions he has made to this world.

21ST CENTURY CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, today is Arbor Day, and I rise to reintroduce my bill, the 21st Century Civilian Conservation Corps Act.

In drafting this bill, I was inspired by the CCC Act first established by President Franklin Roosevelt in 1933 as part of his New Deal. This historic initiative generated more than 3 million jobs, especially for America's young people, and inspired a widespread appreciation of America's wealth of natural resources and our responsibility as stewards of these assets.

Through current Federal programs like the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative and other conservation and restoration investments, Americans are once again connecting the dots between clean water, clean land, clean air, and thriving regional ecosystems and economies.

With recent attacks on programs that help our Great Lakes, we should remember we don't have to choose between protecting our environment and natural treasures and creating jobs. We can do both at the same time.

Just Ohio and Michigan, alone, need 20 million new trees planted to make up for the devastation that the emerald ash borer and Asian longhorned beetle have done to our forest populations.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill and its goal of putting young people to work across our country that will prosper our Nation and steward its resources forward. I am confident the young people of America will welcome this challenge.

AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH

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

Ms. TENNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Autism Awareness Month and the more than 3.5 million Americans currently living with an autism spectrum disorder.

Today it is estimated that 1 in 68 people will be born with autism. There has been a significant increase in the number of people born with autism in just a decade.

With an increase in diagnoses of Americans with autism spectrum, it is important that we expand research and provide adequate resources for people on the spectrum. By increasing awareness, we seek to support the numerous families along with millions of individuals managing an autism disorder.

The earlier autism can be diagnosed and treated, the better chance that person has to pursue an independent and productive life. Thus, it is crucial that our early childcare programs, and especially our schools, have the knowledge, resources, and ability to provide assistance to those with autism.

I also wish to acknowledge my friend and former constituent, Vincent McLaughlin, who serves as an inspiration for autism awareness. Vincent, like many Americans with autism, is an active and devoted member of his local community and proudly serves as a member of his local volunteer fire department. For years, Vincent has sought to increase awareness for autism and to serve as an example of just how beneficial early treatment can be.

Autism should not be a barrier to preventing Americans from achieving success and pursuing happiness. It is to that goal that I stand here today to recognize all Americans with an autism disorder, and I am proud to acknowledge April as Autism Awareness Month.

PROTECT EVERY COASTAL COMMUNITY IN OUR NATION

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

Mr. CARBAJAL. Mr. Speaker, I rise because I am deeply troubled by the Trump administration's executive order expected to be signed today that will potentially expand offshore oil drilling in the Pacific, Atlantic, and Arctic Oceans. My district, the central coast, knows all too well the havoc wreaked from gas and oil platforms off our coasts. We cannot afford another disastrous oil spill.

California's coastal region generates over $1.9 trillion per year in GDP. This order poses a direct threat to our local tourism economies and the success of local businesses, which are undeniably tied to a clean coast and healthy, thriving ocean ecosystem.

It is crucial for Congress to pass my bill, H.R. 731, the California Clean Coast Act, to permanently ban drilling off California's coast and to take further action to protect every coastal community across our Nation.

42ND ANNIVERSARY OF THE END OF THE VIETNAM WAR

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, this Sunday, April 30, will be the 42nd year of the conclusion of the Vietnam war. The conflict started between Communist-backed North Vietnam and the U.S.-supported Government of South Vietnam in November 1955 and went on for another 20 years.

While the motives and justification of the war were seen as controversial to many, what needs to be recognized is the service demonstrated by our brave men and women who risked their lives to do their duty asked of them. Many of them made the ultimate sacrifice. For that sacrifice, our Nation is eternally grateful.

Of the nearly 3 million Americans who served in Vietnam, 58,220 laid down their lives in that service. We can find their names forever enshrined right down the road here in Washington, D.C., at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall.

Oftentimes, those who did return were not treated well or properly welcomed home for having served in a war they did not create or ask for. Finally, and thankfully, that welcoming has improved for our Vietnam veterans in recent years as we honor their service. Much still needs to be done in regard to the effects of Agent Orange and other health issues.

Of the 75 living Medal of Honor recipients, 52 earned their medal in Vietnam. In total, there were a staggering 260 soldiers awarded the Medal of Honor for heroic acts in the Vietnam war.

As we commemorate the 42nd year of the fall of Saigon and the dissatisfactory ending of the war in Vietnam this Sunday, we must be thankful for the millions who served in what seemed a thankless role then, who risked their lives in battle for freedom, and for the many still missing or those who did not make it back alive.

TRIBUTE TO JOHNNY MATA ON HIS 80TH BIRTHDAY

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I first want to rise and salute a very special friend of mine, Johnny Mata, on his 80th birthday.

Longtime Houston activist and leading founder of the Greater Houston Coalition for Justice, Johnny, we love you because you have been a fighter for justice all of your life. I look forward to coming home and celebrating you, not only as a fighter for justice, but a great American, and certainly one who served in the United States Army.

I know that Johnny would not mind me making mention of the fact that, in the 100 days that this President has served, not only has he not provided any service to the American people in terms of providing for their comfort, but today he will celebrate his 100 days by going and speaking before the National Rifle Association, where over 80 percent of those members believe in responsible gun safety, but not one word has come from the President of the United States. Yet every day, 48 children and teens are shot in murders, assaults, and suicides in this country and, as well, over $200,000 in costs for health care is part of the tragedy of gun violence.

I would hope that this Presidency will join Members of Congress for responsible gun safety to save lives, and stop catering to the special interests of the National Rifle Association—not its membership, but its leadership who are taking advantage and using this as a moneymaking machine.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to my constituent and longtime friend Mr. Johnny Mata on his 80th Birthday.

Johnny Mata is a longtime Houston activist who is the presiding officer of the Greater Houston Coalition for Justice.

He has been a champion of social justice, education, and civil rights in Houston and across the State of Texas fighting to improve the criminal justice system.

He served his country with distinction in the United States Army and later joined the Gulf Coast Community Services Association, where he served for 32 to years helping struggling families to make better lives for themselves.

His life has been a commitment to service on behalf of those less fortunate, particularly in the Latino communities where his outspoken voice against prejudice and injustice has had a profound effect on our criminal justice system.

Johnny Mata has held numerous leadership positions including six terms as the Director of two local districts and two terms as Texas State Director for the League of United Latin American Citizens.

He is responsible for bringing to the forefront issues regarding law enforcement and education in the Hispanic community and has been nationally recognized for getting public school districts to hire more Hispanic educators and administrators.

In 1999, Johnny Mata founded the Greater Houston Coalition for Justice, an umbrella organization of more than 25 civil rights and advocacy groups dedicated to raising awareness of human rights issues and to addressing deficiencies in the Greater Houston area's criminal justice system.

In the same spirit as Cesar Chavez, Johnny Mata is an inspiration to us all because of his kind spirit and humble heart that allows him to continue his fight for the least of these and for those who just need an opportunity to achieve the American dream on a level playing field with fair and equal justice for all.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Johnny Mata for his deep and abiding commitment to the causes of social justice and equal rights and offer him the very best for his continued success fighting for change and also to recognize his contributions to this country on his 80th birthday.

Johnny Mata is an American hero.

TRUMPCARE 2.0

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

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, with TrumpCare 2.0, Republican leaders took a bad bill and made it worse.

On top of causing at least 24 million more Americans to be uninsured, raising costs for middle class families, imposing an age tax on older Americans, and making everyone pay more for less coverage, this bill now guts protections for patients with preexisting illnesses and removes the essential health benefits: guaranteed coverage for things like prescription drugs, emergency care, maternity care, and mental health. All this while still giving billions in tax breaks to millionaires.

Stop being ideologically driven. Put people above partisanship. Put patients first, and let's work for a bipartisan plan to reduce out-of-pocket costs for care and medicine for all Americans.

AFFORDABLE COVERAGE

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

Mr. GARRETT. Mr. Speaker, over the past days we have heard a great deal of rhetoric as it relates to health care and what the best policy for the United States is. In fact, as we address the Affordable Care Act, which the Democratic Governor of Minnesota referred to as unsustainable and former President Clinton referred to as the craziest thing, we understand that the words ''Affordable Care Act'' do not, in fact, apply.

The paradigm, Mr. Speaker, needs to be this. It need not be whether or not Americans have coverage. In a time when Americans, two-thirds of whom cannot afford $1,000 in a time of financial crisis, as we see premiums and deductibles soar—$4,000, $6,000, $10,000—the paradigm should be: Do they have access to care? Because, in a world where you can't pay your deductible, a premium or catastrophe creates an unaffordable outcome, and then coverage is a piece of paper that does not grant you access to what is truly important, and that is care. That should be the paradigm in this debate going forward.

□ 1200

THE FIRST 100 DAYS

(Ms. TITUS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow marks 100 days of the Trump administration. So let's take a look.

What does that 100 days mean? It means hundreds of vacancies still left in important agencies like State and Defense, hundreds of hours wasted on meaningless executive orders, hundreds of miles flown back and forth to Mar-a-Lago to play golf, hundreds of educational and cultural programs on the chopping block, hundreds of acres of public lands under threat, and hundreds of programs that benefit millionaires while causing hundreds and thousands of seniors to worry about losing Meals on Wheels, working families losing their health care, DREAMers losing their protection, women losing Planned Parenthood, and ordinary folks losing money out of their pocket to pay higher tax bills because of the new proposal.

That is not much of a record, if you ask me. But what it also means is there are hundreds and thousands of voices rising up saying: We will resist, and we will persist.

PRESIDENT TRUMP'S BROKEN PROMISES

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

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to call our President's attention to the working families both in New York's capital region and across our great country who are hurting from his broken promises during his first 100 days in office.

President Trump promised during the campaign that our working families would never be forgotten again. He has forgotten to keep that promise. This President promised to get lobbyists and special interests out of our government. Then he filled his Cabinet with former lobbyists, Wall Street and oil company executives, and other billionaires.

Now reports are coming out that numerous members of his administration were exempted from his widely publicized 5-year lobbying ban; therefore, it is no surprise that his policies, again and again, put corporate interests ahead of America's middle class and working families.

President Trump promised to punish companies that outsourced American jobs. Instead, he has continued to award lucrative government contracts to these outsourcing companies, rewarding them for bad behavior and doing nothing to hold other bad actors accountable.

As a candidate, Donald Trump called NAFTA the worst trade deal ever approved in our country. He promised to hold China accountable for its bad behavior on trade. Mexico and Canada called his bluff this week on NAFTA. Instead of accountability, President Trump has offered China sweetheart trade benefits to get them to keep promises they had already made in dealing with North Korea.

We know the difference between alternative facts and real results. We all do.

RURAL AMERICA

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

Mr. PANETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today for rural America. I represent the central coast of California, one of the most beautiful and bountiful districts in our Nation. With its many and diverse crops, it is the salad bowl of the world. Now, I know it is on the coast of California, but if you drive 1 or 2 miles east, you will be in rural America.

I understand a majority of rural Americans voted for Donald Trump. It has been 100 days now, and all they have received is broken promises with an intended laceration of the Department of Agriculture budget by 21 percent and a lack of respect and a limited appreciation for what the men and women do in rural America.

We ask the President to stop his lip service and start giving public service to rural America with investments in infrastructure, research and development, and, yes, immigration reform. It is time to stop the rhetoric and start recognizing that people who come here who work in agriculture contribute not just to our economy but to our country.

Mr. President, all we ask is that you do what people in rural America do every single day. They get up, they work hard, they are stewards of the land, they provide security for our food and for our families, and they serve not just their communities, they serve our country.

BLACK APRIL AND THE FALL OF SAIGON

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

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, this Sunday, April 30, marks 42 years since the fall of Saigon, commemorated as Black April in Vietnamese-American communities across the United States.

Along with Congresswoman LOFGREN, Congressman CORREA, and other colleagues, I introduced a resolution in remembrance of this event, recognizing the service of U.S. Armed Forces and South Vietnamese forces, and honoring the contributions and sacrifices of Vietnamese Americans.

This community, started by refugees, has prospered and thrived, giving so much back to this country. They continue to fight tirelessly for the basic human rights of people in Vietnam. I will continue to be a voice for Vietnamese Americans in Congress and for the rights of the people of Vietnam.

HEALTH CARE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GARRETT). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2017, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, so many say TGIF. My late mother passed away in 1991, but she said TGIF one time, and the lady responded, S-H-I-T, and mother looked shocked. She said: ''Sorry, honey, it's Thursday.'' But this is not Thursday, it is Friday, and I really hoped we would be voting on a bill that wouldn't totally repeal ObamaCare, but it would give people a great deal of relief.

I know with all the talk from the other side of the aisle about how great ObamaCare is, when we look at the numbers, we know that promise after promise was broken in the passage of the ACA, or ObamaCare. People lost their insurance, they lost the medications that they were eligible to have under their prior insurance, they lost their doctor, and they lost their treatment facility. That does take a toll on people's lives.

There was bragging about the people that now had insurance that didn't have it before. But we know it was clear, most of that was people that got stuck on Medicaid. It wasn't real insurance. As we look at the evolution of health care in America, we see that insurance has changed to where it is no longer insurance.

Right now in America, people who are actually medical doctors are some of the best and brightest that America has ever produced. But as an old history major and someone who continues to read and learn from history every week, it is worth noting that there have been strides made in health care and in medicine in the last 100 years that are unparalleled in the entire history of mankind.

There was a book called ''The Five Thousand Year Leap.'' I don't want to do it an injustice, but basically it points out that when settlers came to North America, not the immigrants that came perhaps from Russia who then later were referred to as Native Americans, but immigrants coming from Europe, the English, and even from Norway, during those years, they came in boats that were not powered other than by sail or by arm strength. Mankind had not made a lot of progress over 5,000 recorded years of history. If you looked at the implements that were used in farming when settlers in the 15th, 16th, and 17th centuries came to North America, there

really had not been any great developments in production of food and in farming tools over the thousands of years that mankind had existed.

Yet I think largely because the Founders of the United States of America recognized the importance of ingenuity and rewarding not only hard work but intellectual developments and processes—in fact, in the Constitution, the Founders had the incredible foresight to provide for something called copyrights or patents because they wanted to protect intellectual property. They felt that if we protect and reward intellectual property, then it will encourage people to develop new ideas and find new and better ways. Within the last 100 years, we have made much more than a 5,000-year leap, and that is also certainly true in health care in the realm of medicine.

I don't think it is just pride in America. I think anyone objectively will have to note that if not for the Presidents of the United States of America and the medical breakthroughs in the United States of America and the contributions of medicine in the United States, we would not be where we are now with so much potential to cure diseases, to prevent diseases, to improve quality of life, and to elongate people's years on the Earth.

Some medical historians would say it was around 100 years ago that for the first time—some believe in the entire history of the mankind, recorded or otherwise—that for the first time, about 100 years ago, a person had a better chance of being healed or getting well after seeing a doctor than they had of getting sicker. It is extraordinary to think that for the thousands of years of man's existence it is only in the last 100 years that physicians actually were able to have a better chance of healing than harming.

We saw an old Saturday Night Live skit that played out where the barber was often also the doctor because he had sharp instruments to cut with. But even going back 200 years to 1799, just over 200 years, George Washington got ill. He had been out in the land that he loved there at Mount Vernon, just southwest of here, a place that he longed to be all during the Revolution. For the 8 years he served as the commander to the Revolutionary forces, all of those days, nights, and weekends, he longed to be back at Mount Vernon. But for the good of his country, he stayed with his troops.

There were entries in journals and letters from people who served under him and were stationed at Valley Forge: Why, even though they weren't fighting? Because Washington knew if he let the men go home, there was a good chance they wouldn't come back. If they didn't come back, then the Revolution was going to be over, and all of those who had participated would be killed by the British forces. So he stayed with the troops. He often allowed the officers to take leave and go home at night or on a weekend perhaps, but he stayed with the troops.

After the war was won, he went back to Mount Vernon. He thought he was done. He had served his country and done what no one else had ever done in history. Although Cincinnatus did an incredibly selfless thing, it still wasn't to the level of selflessness of George Washington. When he thought he was done in 1787, here came leaders begging him to come back and lead the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia because, as they eventually made clear to Washington, if he did not come back and reside, all would be lost. All those who fought during the Revolution would have fought for nothing: it would all go away, and the British would be back in charge. There would be chaos.

□ 1215

So he agrees to come back. Then an incredible thing happened at the Constitutional Convention. After they could not reach any agreement on much of anything, as Ben Franklin pointed out, Randolph made a motion that they recess until after a celebration of the country's birth, its anniversary in early July.

Why don't they go to church together, worship together, celebrate God's love and his gift in this country, and then come back and try what had been so unsuccessful for the 5 weeks or so to that point?

The motion passed. They went to church at the Reformed Calvinistic Church, a Christian church, and they worshipped God together. They asked for his leadership. The Right Reverend William Rogers, pastor of the Reformed Calvinistic Church in Philadelphia, did a powerful job of leading the worship of God in this Christian church. It was a nondenominational service. We still have a record of the prayer that was prayed by Reverend Rogers at that celebration.

People noted after they came back that there was a different spirit. Yes, there was disagreement, but it wasn't as rancorous as it had been before that. It eventually came to the great compromise that allowed one body to have equal numbers of representatives from each State, no matter what size, and another body would have equal power and its representatives would be chosen according to the number of people who lived in that State. That was one of the great compromises.

We end up with a Constitution. George Washington thinks he is done, but after the Constitution is ratified, they begged him to allow them to elect him unanimously to be our first President. He doesn't want to do it. He eventually agrees, gives in. They elect him unanimously. They have a contested vote for Vice President, but John Adams wins. After 4 years, he was ready to go home. They begged him again to allow them to reelect him unanimously. He eventually gave in and served 4 more years as President.

Some did become disappointed with Washington during those 4 years because he would not allow the United States to get involved in the French Revolution. That irritated some people, but Washington believed that America was so weak in that time, that if we got involved in a foreign war, albeit a civil war, we would end up losing what had been gained to that point. So he didn't let the United States get involved.

When he was begged to stay and let them elect him to a third 4-year term, it would not have been unanimous. He said, basically, that it would look too much like a monarchy if someone served 12 years. He refused and could not be deterred. He went back to Mount Vernon.

There at Mount Vernon, as he loved to do, he was going around assessing what improvements needed to be made there on his property. It was cold. It began to rain. He was marking trees as to which ones would be cut and which ones would be allowed to remain.

It got dark. He came to the house, not realizing that visitors had come. Since the Washingtons were always so hospitable, even if they didn't know people were coming, Martha would provide food for them.

George Washington came in. He was wet, he was cold, and Martha implored him to go change clothes, as did the guests, but he wouldn't have of it because he was so polite, always more concerned about others. So he remained, ate in cold and wet clothes, and ended up developing some kind of cold or infection, and it turned into a very serious infection.

A doctor was called, and he couldn't understand why Washington wasn't doing better. They were draining blood from Washington. It should have healed him. It should have made him all well. If we are getting the bad blood out of him, we don't know why he is not getting better, but got weaker.

Imagine that: you drain a man's blood, he gets weaker. They didn't understand what they were doing. That was 218 years ago.

Washington got weaker. They were able to get ahold of the doctor, who was one of George Washington's best friends in the world, Dr. Craik. Dr. Craik loved George Washington. Washington loved him like a brother. Craik wanted to do all he could to get him well. This man who loved Washington and cared so deeply was one of the better doctors of the 18th century. He bled him again. He drained more blood from Washington's body, thinking that would help, and it didn't. As we know now, that was not helping. It was hurting. It was doing great damage.

That is what they thought just 218 years ago. In that intervening 218 years, the advancements in medicine have been staggering. We know now what helps and what doesn't help. There will probably come a time when, if we continue to develop research, as we have in the past, we will be able to look back at the year 2017 and say there were things that we were doing that were not as helpful as we thought, may have been harmful, but never again to the extent as occurred where the doctors actually were responsible for killing their friend, our American hero. I don't think we will get to that point again.

It is worth noting historically the developments of health care so that we can adequately see what has happened in the 7 years since ObamaCare got passed. We have done damage to health care in America under ObamaCare.

I know people talk about all the people that have health insurance now that didn't before. So many lost their policy. They got a much worse policy. ObamaCare basically outlawed catastrophic insurance policies, which are those that have a high deductible with a low premium and ensure against basically something catastrophic, disease, injury. Yet, because of the problems that ObamaCare created, premiums skyrocketed for so many people and the deductibles dramatically increased.

So many people have told me about their deductibles going from $250, $500 to $6,000, $7,000, $10,000. There are so many paying more than $10,000 for their health insurance with a high deductible that they can never pay. We have done great damage to people's ability to get the health care they need, that they used to be able to afford.

It was in the last 40 or 50 years that, when people brought up health insurance, it really was insurance. You paid a very small premium each month against some unforeseeable event out there in the future, a catastrophic disease or injury. So you just paid a small premium, like term life insurance, to ensure against something you hope never would happen. In the meantime, you just paid for your health care.

I know that while growing up in Mount Pleasant, Texas, everybody knew the doctors that were there. We went to more than one. It was sometimes dictated by who raised their prices and who hadn't. Now we don't know who raises their prices. You get a bill from a healthcare provider and there is no way in the world to know how much the procedure costs, how much the visit costs, how much anybody is actually going to pay to satisfy this massive indebtedness. Chances are, maybe less than a tenth of what the bill says that the government will pay if it is Medicaid, Medicare, Blue Cross, Aetna, Anthem, or any of these health insurers.

You can't improve the cost of health care if you don't know what it costs. You can't have free-market principles bringing down the cost of health care when nobody knows what it costs.

We have gone from the days of having health insurance ensure against a distant catastrophic event to paying behemoth companies to manage our health care, to tell us what doctor we can see, which hospital we can go to. We pay for so many other people who come into the country illegally and don't have insurance. We pay for people in the country legally that don't have insurance.

We pay exorbitant amounts for people that go to an emergency room because the Supreme Court has told us that, regardless of whether someone can pay or not, they have to be seen and treated. What happens at the emergency room costs those who do pay dramatically more than if those individuals had just gone to a health clinic and had the same treatment for the same problem.

So there have been some great solutions proposed, none of which have been to have the government have more role, turn all of the Nation's health care into a big Veterans Administration where things can often be catastrophic.

One of the things that has really broken my heart to be a servant of the people of east Texas is so many veterans' stories of how they were not properly cared for medically. They didn't get the care they need. They were waiting for months. Then I will have people tell me they got treated very well. They are in the Lufkin Clinic named for Charlie Wilson.

Overall, I think our veterans would still be better off if all of them were given a card and told: If you want to go to your local VA clinic, if you have one close, fine. You just go to whichever is closest and it gives you the best health care. That provides competition and it keeps our word to the veterans that they will have the health care they need.

Veterans should not be penalized because they served our country and put themselves in harm's way. My 4 years on Active Duty in the U.S. Army did not entitle me to life health care, so I don't have that personal experience of dealing with the VA health care. I was not disabled. I still feel guilty because during my 4 years, 1978 to 1982, we were never in combat.

□ 1230

We were put on alert in 1979 that some of us, at least, might be going to Iran, and we should have. I still feel that thousands of Americans would be alive today if we had been sent back then and had done the job of the radical Islamists that President Carter had been welcomed in. Ayatollah Khomeini, President Carter welcomed him as a man of peace, and he has done anything but provide peace.

But we owe our veterans so much. George Washington knew that, and that is why in that picture just down the hall, that huge painting that John Trumbull had painted, Washington has his arm outstretched, piece of paper in there. On that piece of paper was his resignation. He had also sent a copy to all 13 Governors. Amazingly, the last part of his resignation was a prayer for the Nation. In that prayer for the Nation, he included that he prayed God would ensure that we would never forget those who had served in the field; talking about our veterans who had fought for this country because Washington knew if we were going to remain a free nation, then we would have to honor those, take care of those who suffered as a result of giving us, protecting our freedom. That is why also, if we ever fail to honor those who have honored us by serving us in the military, we won't last past the next major conflict. It is important we do that, and Washington knew that.

So, since Washington's death was certainly propelled by blood being drained, we know draining somebody of their life-giving blood is not normally a good idea, but in the last 100 years, just thinking about you have a better chance of getting well than you do of getting sick, look at the progress that was made in medicine in 100 years and look at the developments in medicine since ObamaCare came about.

Yes, we know the big pharmaceutical companies signed on to endorsing ObamaCare, as did the American Hospital Association and the American Medical Association and AARP. For every organization that signed on endorsing ObamaCare, if you read the ObamaCare bill, as I did, you could normally find where they got their payoff. You could normally find something that they were given to buy their support.

AARP has made more money than they would have ever dreamed before ObamaCare through the health insurance policies that they endorse. So, yes, there was a great deal of self-service for AARP to endorse a bill that did massive medical damage to retired people, a bill that cut $716 billion out of Medicare.

When people realize AARP endorsed a bill that did so much gutting of Medicare, how could they do that if they really care about retired people?

Well, how they could do it is that they were going to be rewarded by selling or endorsing insurance that wouldn't have the 2 percent tax on it that most insurance would have. They got some other benefits out of it. I haven't seen how much profit they have made for a nonprofit organization, but I believe it was in 2008 that they made over $400 million, basically profit for a nonprofit, from their insurance sales. There is no telling how

much that has increased. I would love to see the number since ObamaCare came about. But they got a big payday because they endorsed ObamaCare.

The pharmaceuticals, we knew they were going to make tens of billions of dollars more than they ever had after ObamaCare. They were bought off to endorse it. But for some of us who could see clearly down the road where it was heading, as I have told some in the pharmaceutical industry: By endorsing ObamaCare, if it is not changed, you will have signed the death warrant for your own industry because eventually it will lead to failure to recoup research and development.

Not initially, but by then the people who had endorsed ObamaCare from the pharmaceutical industry will no doubt have gotten their golden parachutes and could own an island somewhere. Who knows? But they will be plenty wealthy. They would have overseen the steps that would lead to the demise of the greatest developments in health care in thousands of years, really just in the last 50 or 60, extraordinary developments.

Something has to be done. That is why a majority of Americans did not support ObamaCare in 2009 and 2010. It is why a majority of Americans wanted change. They had to have change.

Like the old joke about the guy up in the tree who went up to get the gorilla out. After tangling for so long, he yells at the guy: Just shoot up in the tree.

He said: Yeah, but I might hit you.

And the guy yells: Yeah, but one of us has got to have some relief.

People suffering from health care under ObamaCare have been crying for relief: Just do something. We have got to have relief.

I have heard that from so many in east Texas. Look, something has got to be done. We can't keep going like this. We can't afford the premiums, and it is not going to get me help with health care because I can't pay the deductibles. Something has to be done.

I was hoping we would have a full repeal. The bill 2 years ago didn't fully repeal ObamaCare. It did more than we have done in the bill we have now, but the reason I agreed to sign on was so many people were saying: We don't like ObamaCare, but we have got to have some relief. We have got to have relief.

We finally got concessions that would ensure that people's premiums would come down in 2 years—too late for the year, but would come down in 2 years, and then would continue to make progress in the area of premiums.

We would make great inroads in encouraging people. Instead of paying tens of thousands of dollars to health insurance companies, they would have a big hunk of that money going to their own health savings account. That was clearly going to lead us—and still can—to a place where patients control their own health care again, where they can go talk to a doctor and not have an insurance manager intervene and say: Uh-oh, you can't do that. Nope, you can't go see that person. Nope, we haven't given approval to this or that.

It is a doctor and a patient relationship the way progress has been made in the last 100 years that has given us, to a point, the best health care in the history of mankind.

Now, in the 1970s, when I was in the Soviet Union as an exchange student for a summer, I saw socialized medicine. We are talking real socialized medicine, the same kind of socialized medicine that President Obama and so many others called—they put this lovely sounding name—single payer. Now, it is socialized medicine. The government controls it all. You don't have any choices. It is in the hands of the government. They see all; they know all.

Once the government has that power, then they have the right—and an obligation even—to tell you what you have to do physically, what you can eat, who you can see, where you can go, when you can go. People who want total government control over people's lives—not of their own, but everybody else's—they understood, they had the vision that if we can get government control of health care, then we will be able to control all these minions all across America.

There are a lot of people in this body who I disagree with, but I know they want to do what is right for America. But it is not right for America and for Americans to have the United States Government dictating every aspect of our lives.

I long for the days when my liberal friends used to yell: We don't want the government in our bedroom.

Because since then, they have been saying: Yeah, let's get the government in our bedroom, in our bathroom, in our kitchen, in our living room, in our garage. We want government control of everything.

As I have said before, the only thing it appears that George Orwell got wrong was the date. It wasn't 1984. But we still have a chance to get off this miserable road we are on. That is why the huge bulk of geographic America rose up on election day in November and said: We have got to have some relief. Whether we like Donald Trump or not, we have got to have some relief, we have got to have some change.

That is why the huge geographical United States voted for Donald Trump. The fringes of the United States, the coast and a few major cities said: No, we like the government telling us what to do, how to live, what we can have.

But across America geographically, that was not what people wanted.

This is our chance. I really had hoped that by compromising again, as the Freedom Caucus, that we could have a vote by today on a bill that would start us down the road of getting rid of ObamaCare, getting us back on a road toward freedom. We knew it was going to be tough.

If you don't think it would be tough, look at the Soviet Union after the fall of the wall and the Soviet Government. There were so many Russians who said: What are we going to do? We have to look for a job—find our own job. We don't want that kind of freedom.

Well, they are finding out that perhaps they do.

One of the things that we had gotten as a compromise to try to help Americans in the agreement that has developed to this point was the elimination of the taxes that would have been kept in place under the proposed bill that was first filed by our leadership.

Another thing that would be in there is a requirement that if you are going to now be part of Medicaid, as we have had millions now having the government pick up the insurance through Medicaid, then we are going to put a similar work requirement, as was put on by Congress in the 1990s by the Republican House and Senate.

And though President Clinton didn't want to agree to that, once he saw they had the votes to override another veto, he agreed to sign it because rather than have his veto overridden—and now it is one of the things he brags about: Oh, yeah, while I was President, I reformed welfare, so you had to work.

As a result of that reform in the 1990s—it was not a callous move. It was a caring move by Republicans in the House and Senate who understood that it is not a punishment to have a job. It gives you a feeling of self-worth.

□ 1245

We are not going to get back to the days where as many people have jobs as used to until we restore that freedom and a requirement that, if you are going to make the American taxpayers pay for everything that you want and need, then, if you are able to work, you are going to have to do something.

As a result of that work requirement in the 1990s, income for single mothers, when adjusted for inflation, for the first time since welfare began in the 1960s under the so-called Great Society, for the first time, that income increased for single moms when adjusted for inflation.

The Federal Government, since the Great Society legislation, had begun to lure young women into holes, into ruts, from which they could not extricate themselves. After 30 years of the Federal Government luring people into holes they then could not get out of, they were required to get out of the hole, they did, and their lives improved.

Now, I know the mainstream media has been there to defend every bit of

government control as it took over more and more. They would take their potshots at people like me that probably were more intelligent on national testing than they were. But, nonetheless, used all kinds of excoriating terms, make fun. Like the time I mentioned that I was told by somebody that they were in line to get groceries and the person in front of them had crab legs that were expensive, and this person said: Gosh, I am wishing I could have afforded crab legs.

But it turns out, when they pulled out the card, which let them know taxpayers were paying for those crab legs, he realized the reason that he can't afford crab legs is because he is paying for his and this other person's food.

Well, the press went nuts over that. It has been some years back. It wasn't long after that, after the media here in Washington belittled me, the media in New York belittled me, never brought it out, but we got a picture. They said nobody can get crab legs with money from food stamp programs, CHIP, any of that. You can't do that. We have got pictures of crabs for sale and the sign saying ''we take food stamps.''

Anyway, it is very clear that, when you see the signs that say ''we take food stamps'' for the crabs, that the media that belittled me back in those days, they had their fun, but they were just wrong, and they were lying to cover for more and bigger intrusive government.

I want to also thank my friend TOM MACARTHUR. I am not crazy about the amendment that he provided, but TOM is making a real effort: let's reason together. Let's come together on a bill. We compromise, and we get to a point where we can help our respective constituents. We can help America.

I felt like, with all of the compromises, we were going to bring down premiums more quickly. We were repealing at least some of ObamaCare—not enough, but at least some of it—and we were going to be able to move the ball forward so that we could get back to great advancements in improving people's health care and getting away from the insurance monopolies that have developed in each State. It has been reported that in around 30 States there is only one company left providing the insurance.

Well, this body did a great thing, and I appreciate very much Speaker RYAN agreeing to do it. But he and KEVIN MCCARTHY allowed a bill to come to the floor. Our whip, STEVE SCALISE, found: Gee, this is a lot easier doing a whip on this thing than we thought.

But it would eliminate the exemption for health insurance companies from antitrust laws. Under the state of the law since 1945, under the McCarran-Ferguson bill back then, health insurance companies have been allowed to monopolize. They can take actions that, in some other industry, would cause the Department of Justice to come after them and sue them, take very strong actions, and could even result in criminal actions if someone is trying to monopolize. But, in health care, it has been allowed for years.

You can go in and tell somebody: We want, in our agreement, that if you take any of these other upstart insurance companies' insurance, you are going to be out of our network; and we are the big dog, so you will be out of luck.

Well, you can't do that when you are under the antitrust laws of the United States, but you can when you are exempt.

That bill came to the floor. We had over 400 people on both sides of the aisle vote for it. And I know good and well that if Majority Leader MITCH MCCONNELL would bring that to the floor of the Senate, it will have probably every bit as high a percentage. It could even be unanimous. I can't imagine somebody in the Senate voting against it.

But, if we simply change the law to allow people to buy across State lines and we don't eliminate the exemption from antitrust laws, then instead of having 30 monopolies in 30 States, you will have one monopoly for the whole country. The one big company can drive everybody else out because the healthcare providers will know, if they are going to survive, they have got to have this one monopoly paying them. And the monopoly can put in the contract: You won't be in our network if you accept insurance from any other place.

So that has to go. The House did that. I look forward to the Senate doing that.

Our revised version that I was hoping we would vote on today still does not fully repeal ObamaCare, but by the negotiations that have occurred in the Tuesday Group, Freedom Caucus, Republican Study Committee, committee of jurisdiction, we have made a great deal of progress, and I thought we were there. We didn't have any assurances that the Senate would pass exactly what we did, but we were going to move the ball forward.

Now, today was as close as we have gotten to repealing and getting into law a big repeal of a big part of ObamaCare, but it didn't happen today. It needs to happen, and it needs to happen very soon.

But what did happen in the White House, the President has stood undeterred. Again, today, he signed another executive order. This one didn't do as the prior administration and usurped power that was not his, that only Congress has. He is working well within the law and gets good advice on this stuff.

I have got to say, even when I have talked to the President over the last few weeks, more than once, he wants to make sure that he is following the Constitution, and he is careful to say that. I like that. Let's check to see and make sure we are following the Constitution and we are not missing something here. I love having a President that is concerned about that. For all of the grief that President Trump has taken, he is concerned about it. He does not want to exceed his authority.

Unfortunately, we have judges in the Ninth Circuit, particularly, that exceed their authority on a regular basis. Mr. Speaker, that is why I am hoping that, in the very near future, we will break up the Ninth Circuit. It would be okay with me if we restricted the Ninth Circuit, who doesn't have one care about precedence, about the Constitution. They just have their political agenda. If we are not going to get rid of them altogether, then let's at least restrict their jurisdiction to controversies that arise within their building and then divide up the rest.

We need a new circuit. Let President Trump appoint all of the new 12th Circuit that will be created. I am very pleased that our Judiciary Committee is wanting to do something major regarding the Ninth Circuit being out of control.

And I do think an important step will be, when we eliminate the jurisdiction of a district court over immigration and naturalization matters, we have authority to create courts—all but one. The Supreme Court is the only one formed under the Constitution. All the rest of them, we brought them into the world and we can take them out. We give them their jurisdiction and we can take it away. We need to do that if we are going to save this constitutional Republic.

So, Mr. Speaker, I would also like to finish by mentioning the National Day of Prayer recognition that is coming up on Thursday. Anne Graham Lotz took over the gavel from Shirley Dobson. Both are dear friends. Shirley Dobson has done an extraordinary job over the last 25 years.

The National Day of Prayer has continued the tradition for many years now. We do have an observance at the Capitol. For a couple of decades, it has been at the Cannon Caucus Room. It seats more than the rooms here at the Capitol do. We had hoped to have it in the rotunda. It is nondenominational. There are others than Christians. There are Jewish leaders that will participate and always have.

This coming Thursday is that day. Thousands of cities around the country will observe the National Day of Prayer that President Trump will do, as all the Presidents for many decades have done, and sign recognizing that as the Day of Prayer. Congress has passed it recognizing that. Though Senator SCHUMER wouldn't let us have it in the rotunda, it will be in Statuary Hall, and it will be a day of prayer, thanksgiving, and fasting for some.

Our National Day of Prayer is really a day of celebration. I think it is something that has characterized this Nation from our very beginning. We had an order like none other from any commander I am ever familiar with. In my 4 years in the Army, we never had a commander issue an order like this. And certainly if one had been issued under the Obama administration's generals and admirals, the administration would have, no doubt, fired them immediately.

Washington issued an order for all its commanders that they had to allow our military members fighting for the United States to worship on Sunday. They were to set up chaplains in each unit if there was someone who could fulfill that role, and, if not, they would be allowed to go to another unit's worship of the Lord on Sunday.

Now, that was back in our founding. That is when we were fighting for existence. And for all those who have turned a blind eye to the real history of America—which is really hard to do with all of the evidence that is so overwhelming. But if one would just go down to the State Department down the road here, within the glass case there at the State Department, they have a copy of the original Treaty of Paris, 1783.

It surprised me. As much as I have studied history, I did not know how it started until I saw that. And I was actually with our pastor from Green Acres Baptist Church there in Tyler. He and his wife, Cindy, were with me and my wife, Kathy.

I have actually not been on a tour of the State Department since. A lot of it is pretty boring, but this is intriguing. This is the front of the Treaty of Paris, 1783. This was the document that required England, Great Britain, to recognize, in writing, that the United States of America was an independent country, that we did not have to do what we were dictated to by Great Britain, and that we were free and independent. There was still concern there in 1783.

□ 1300

Yes, they surrendered at Yorktown under General Cornwallis' command, but it is still 1783, the delegates are there at Paris, and the United States delegates are trying to figure out: How do we get these people to swear that they recognize we have a right to be independent? What can we get them to swear under that is so important to us and so important to those delegates from England that they would not dare break that oath?

Should we have them swear in the name of Allah, or Muhammad, or Confucius, or Buddha? What could we get the representative delegates from Great Britain, the United Kingdom, the most powerful empire in the world at that time, the most powerful military, navy to swear to? They are a lot bigger than us. What do we get them to swear under so that we know they have to take it seriously?

Well, they came up with it, and it starts the treaty, and it is the only thing in the Treaty of Paris that is huge lettering. And even I was surprised. In huge lettering, it says: ''In the name of the most holy and undivided trinity. . . .'' That is how the Treaty of Paris starts. That is what the United Kingdom Representatives had to swear under: ''In the name of the most holy and undivided trinity.''

It is also worth noting, as Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, the planner of 9/11—thank God he is still in Guantanamo Bay—he noted in his pleading, he gave the reference to the verse in the Koran that says that anyone who attempts to attach someone else to God, to Allah, should be killed. It is a capital offense. It is a death-penalty offense the way Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, ISIS, and others read the Koran, the way the radicals read it. It is a death-penalty offense, as he points out in his pleadings, if you say God has a son. If you say there is a Holy Trinity, that is worth the death penalty for the radical Islamists—not for the moderates, but some estimate 10 percent of Islam.

It is a capital offense, and both the United Kingdom Representatives and the United States of America Representatives signed proudly the Treaty of Paris, recognizing our independence, proclaiming what Khalid Sheikh Mohammed says is a death-penalty sentence. ''In the name of the most holy and undivided trinity.'' They said right there. It started our country, independently.

We recognize there is a most holy and undivided trinity. We say the Declaration of Independence started us, but that didn't really happen until somebody else agrees it is true. And our enemy, at that time, agreed it was true, and we began our Nation. And this National Day of Prayer is a day of rejoicing, a day of thanksgiving to the most holy and undivided trinity. And it would have been awesome if it could have been in the rotunda, but, under the rules of the Senate, if any Senator puts a hold on the bill, then it doesn't go forward for unanimous consent.

Hopefully, Senator SCHUMER is still there next year when it comes time. Hopefully, he won't put a hold on it if Anne Graham Lotz still has a vision of having the National Day of Prayer celebration there in the Nation's rotunda.

But instead, next Thursday, it will be after 5 so it doesn't interfere with the normal workings. I had no problem with having the Holocaust recognition at 11 a.m. in the morning. Not only did I not have a problem with it, I was proud that we did it during the day like that. It should be noted. People should understand that unless you stand up for freedom, stand up for the teachings of Jesus, stand up for things that are actually in the Bible, you are not going to have the kind of freedom that allows people to be part of the greatest country in the world because that greatest country in world history will end up sliding down to the dustbin of history.

So it will be a great day. Mr. Speaker, I hope to see you there.

I yield back the remainder of my time.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has agreed to without amendment concurrent resolutions of the House of the following titles:

H. Con. Res. 35. Concurrent Resolution authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the National Peace Officers Memorial Service and the National Honor Guard and Pipe Band Exhibition.

H. Con. Res. 36. Concurrent Resolution authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby.

The message also announced that the Senate has agreed to a concurrent resolution of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. Con. Res. 14. Concurrent Resolution authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for an event to celebrate the birthday of King Kamehameha I.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 94–304, as amended by Public Law 99–7, the Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, appoints the following Senator as a member of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (Helsinki) during the One Hundred Fifteenth Congress:

The Senator from Colorado (Mr. GARDNER).

FURTHER MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A further message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has agreed to without amendment a joint resolution of the House of the following title:

H.J. Res. 99. Joint Resolution making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2017, and for other purposes.

THE NEXT 100 DAYS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2017, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Mr. LAWSON) for 30 minutes.

Mr. LAWSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, we have heard a lot of big ideas and promises from the President, but we haven't seen much intangible action

from the Republicans over the last 100 days. We know we need to continue to improve health care in this country, yet Republicans have failed to come up with a reasonable solution.

As someone who has spent over 36 years working in the insurance industry, I stand willing and ready to work with my colleagues to improve health care for my constituents and the American people, especially in the Fifth Congressional District.

What we really need is for my colleagues to focus on energy and creating jobs. That is so important here in America.

What we don't need is to continue with more of the antics from the President who is more focused on selling scores from the campaign trail than finding real solutions for the American people.

It really is a sad day in America when Congress can't come together to make real progress for the American people. Real progress. We need to put aside the bickering and roll up our sleeves in order to get the work done for the people in America.

That is something we should all be able to do within the next 100 days. There has been so much concern about what is happening with the present administration over the next 100 days. So since that is prevalent and the American people have heard about it, now the concentration is on what Congress and the President are going to do for the next 100 days for the American people.

I urge my colleagues to join me in doing what is right—right for their constituents, right for the American people.

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

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REFERRED

A concurrent resolution of the Senate of the following title was taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. Con. Res. 14. Concurrent Resolution authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for an event to celebrate the birthday of King Kamehameha I.; to the Committee on House Administration.

ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled a Joint Resolution of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.J. Res. 99. Joint Resolution making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2017, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. LAWSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 1 o'clock and 9 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Monday, May 1, 2017, at noon for morning-hour debate.

OATH FOR ACCESS TO CLASSIFIED INFORMATION

Under clause 13 of rule XXIII, the following Member executed the oath for access to classified information:

Ron Estes

EXPENDITURE REPORTS CONCERNING OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL

Reports concerning the foreign currencies and U.S. dollars utilized for Official Foreign Travel during the first quarter of 2017, pursuant to Public Law 95–384 are as follows:

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DANIEL SILVERBERG, EXPENDED BETWEEN FEB. 20 AND FEB. 24, 2017

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Daniel Silverberg	2/21	2/23	Bulgaria		542		7,348				7,890.00
	2/23	2/24	UK		421						421.00
Committee total					963		7,348				8,311.00

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

Mr. DANIEL SILVERBERG, Apr. 17, 2017.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2017

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]

HOUSE COMMITTEES
Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. ☒

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY, Chairman, Apr. 20, 2017.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE, U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2017

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]

HOUSE COMMITTEES
Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. ☒

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. VIRGINIA FOXX, Chairman, Apr. 5, 2017.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION, U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2017

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
HOUSE COMMITTEES											
Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. ☒											

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. GREGG HARPER, Chairman, Apr. 6, 2017.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES, U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2017

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
HOUSE COMMITTEES											
Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. ☒											

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. ROB BISHOP, Chairman, Apr. 4, 2017.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY, U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2017

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Hon. Randy Hultgren	2/18	2/19	Czech Republic		357.73						357.73
	2/19	2/20	Israel		568.00						568.00
	2/20	2/21	United Arab Emirates		415.81						415.81
	2/21	2/23	Ethiopia		707.49						707.49
	2/23	2/24	Uganda		340.00						340.00
	2/24	2/25	Benin		189.87						189.87
	2/25	2/26	Ghana		411.00						411.00
	2/26	2/27	Spain		287.85						287.85
Committee total					3,277.75						3,277.75

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. LAMAR SMITH, Chairman, Apr. 21, 2017.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, JOINT COMMITTEE ON TAXATION, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2017

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
HOUSE COMMITTEES											
Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. ☒											

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. KEVIN BRADY, Chairman, Apr. 6, 2017.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

1188. A letter from the Acting Deputy Secretary, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's 2016 Packers and Stockyards Program Annual Report, pursuant to 7 U.S.C. 228d; Aug. 15, 1921, ch. 64, title IV, Sec. 415 (as added by Public Law 106-472, Sec. 312(e)(2)); (114 Stat. 2077); to the Committee on Agriculture.

1189. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Michael E. Williamson, United States Army, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 1370(c)(1); Public Law 96-513, Sec. 112 (as amended by Public Law 104-106, Sec. 502(b)); (110 Stat. 293); to the Committee on Armed Services.

1190. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Robert S. Ferrell, United States Army, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 1370(c)(1); Public Law 96-513, Sec. 112 (as amended by Public Law 104-106, Sec. 502(b)); (110 Stat. 293); to the Committee on Armed Services.

1191. A letter from the Acting Secretary, Navy, Department of Defense, transmitting a report of increases in the Program Acquisition Unit Cost and Average Procurement Cost for the Advanced Arresting Gear program that exceed the designated FY 2009 original baseline estimate by at least 50 percent, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2433(d)(3); Public Law 97-252, Sec. 1107(a)(1) (as amended by Public Law 110-417, Sec. 811(c)); (122 Stat. 4522); to the Committee on Armed Services.

1192. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel, Office of Justice Programs, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's final rule — Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act Formula Grant Program [Docket No.: OJP (OJJDP) 1719E] (RIN: 1121-AA83) received April 27, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

1193. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Affairs, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's final rule — Benefits Payable in Terminated Single-Employer Plans; Interest Assumptions for Paying Benefits received April 26, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

1194. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Tioxazafen; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2015-0215; FRL-9955-97] April 24, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1195. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval of Arizona Air Plan Revisions, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality and Pinal County Air Quality Control District [EPA-R09-OAR-2016-0702; FRL-9961-36-Region 9] received April 24, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1196. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Benzobicyclon; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2015-0226; FRL-9961-02] received April 24, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1197. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule — Approval and Promulgation of State Air Quality Plans for Designated Facilities and Pollutants; State of Delaware, District of Columbia, and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, City of Philadelphia; Control of Emissions from Existing Commercial and Industrial Solid Waste Incinerator Units [EPA-R03-OAR-2016-0081; FRL-9961-23-Region 3] received April 24, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1198. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Plans; State of Maryland; Control of Emissions from Existing Hospital/Medical/Infectious Waste Incineration Units [EPA-R03-OAR-2016-0053; FRL-9961-37-Region 3] received April 24, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1199. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; District of Columbia; Revision of Regulations for Sulfur Content of Fuel Oil [EPA-R03-OAR-2016-0199; FRL-9961-31-Region 3] received April 24, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1200. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; TN: Non-interference Demonstration for Federal Low-Reid Vapor Pressure Requirement in Middle Tennessee [EPA-R04-OAR-2016-0615; 9961-48-Region 4] received April 24, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1201. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule — Air Plan Approval; Rhode Island; Repeal of NOx Budget Trading Program [EPA-R01-OAR-2016-0092; FRL-9961-57-Region 1] received April 24, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1202. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule — Air Plan Approval; ME; Emission Statement Reporting [EPA-R01-OAR-2017-0024; A-1-FRL-9961-42-Region 1] received April 24, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1203. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule — Air Plan Approval; CT; Approval of Single Source Orders [EPA-R01-OAR-2016-0648; A-1-FRL-9958-37-Region 1] received April 24, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1204. A letter from the Acting Under Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a certification of a proposed license for the export of defense articles, including technical data, and defense services, Transmittal No. DDTC 16-080, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2776(c)(2)(A); Public Law 90-629, Sec. 36(c) (as added by Public Law 104-164, Sec. 141(c)); (110 Stat. 1431) and 22 U.S.C. 2776(c)(2)(C); Public Law 90-629, Sec. 36(c) (as added by Public Law 94-329, Sec. 211(a)); (82 Stat. 1326); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1205. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Revision to an Entry on the Entity List [Docket No.: 170207154-7253-01] (RIN: 0694-AH32) April 20, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1206. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, Department of Defense, transmitting the Air Force's proposed Letter of Offer and Acceptance to Canada, Transmittal No. 17-18, pursuant to Sec. 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1207. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting D.C. ACT 22-53, ''Interior Design Regulation Temporary Amendment Act of 2017'', pursuant to Public Law 93-198, Sec. 602(c)(1); (87 Stat. 814); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

1208. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting D.C. ACT 22-51, ''Land Disposition Transparency Temporary Amendment Act of 2017'', pursuant to Public Law 93-198, Sec. 602(c)(1); (87 Stat. 814); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

1209. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting D.C. ACT 22-50, ''Williams Alley Designation Act of 2017'', pursuant to Public Law 93-198, Sec. 602(c)(1); (87 Stat. 814); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

1210. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting D.C. ACT 22-52, ''Business License Technology Fee Reauthorization Temporary Amendment Act of 2017'', pursuant to Public Law 93-198, Sec. 602(c)(1); (87 Stat. 814); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

1211. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Economic Impact and Diversity, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's FY 2016 No FEAR Act report, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 2301 note; Public Law 107-174, 203(a) (as amended by Public Law 109-435, Sec. 604(f)); (120 Stat. 3242); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

1212. A letter from the Deputy General Counsel for Operations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting three notifications of a federal vacancy and designation of acting officer, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

1213. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel, General Law, Ethics, and Regulation, Department of the Treasury, transmitting two notifications of a federal vacancy and nomination, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

1214. A letter from the Director, National Science Foundation, transmitting the Foundation's FY 2016 No FEAR Act report, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 2301 note; Public Law 107-174, 203(a) (as amended by Public Law 109-435, Sec. 604(f)); (120 Stat. 3242); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

1215. A letter from the Vice Chairman, U.S. Merit Systems Protection Board, transmitting the Board's FY 2016 No FEAR Act report, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 2301 note; Public Law 107-174, 203(a) (as amended by Public Law 109-435, Sec. 604(f)); (120 Stat. 3242); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

1216. A letter from the Acting Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting a report entitled ''Report to Congress on the Activities of the Department of Justice Regarding Prison Rape Abatement'', pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 15604(b); Public Law 108-79, Sec. 5(b)(1); (117 Stat. 978); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

1217. A letter from the Federal Register Liaison Officer and Agency Editor, Office of Natural Resources Revenue, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Civil Monetary Penalty Rates Inflation Adjustments for Calendar Year 2017 and Initial ''Catch-Up'' Adjustments [Docket No.: ONRR-2016-0002; DS63644000 DR2PS0000.CH7000 178D0102R2] (RIN: 1012-AA17) received April 27, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

1218. A letter from the General Counsel, National Credit Union Administration, transmitting the Administration's interim final rule — Civil Monetary Penalty Inflation Adjustment (RIN: 3133-AE67) received April 20, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

1219. A letter from the Acting Chief Privacy Officer, Privacy Office, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's Privacy Office 2016 Data Mining Report to Congress, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 2000ee-3(c)(1); Public Law 110-53, Sec. 804(c)(1); (121 Stat. 363); to the Committee on Homeland Security.

1220. A letter from the Acting Administrator, Transportation Security Administration, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Administration's certification that the level of screening services

and protection provided at Greater Rochester International Airport (ROC) in New York, will be equal to or greater than the level that would be provided at the airport by TSA Transportation Security Officers and that the screening company is owned and controlled by a citizen of the United States, pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 44920(d)(1); Public Law 107-71, Sec. 108(a); (115 Stat. 613); to the Committee on Homeland Security.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. ROYCE of California: Committee on Foreign Affairs. H.R. 1644. A bill to enhance sanctions with respect to transactions relating to North Korea, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 115–98, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. SHUSTER: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H.R. 1665. A bill to ensure that Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency considers severe local impact in making a recommendation to the President for a major disaster declaration, with an amendment (Rept. 115–99). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. SHUSTER: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H.R. 1678. A bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act concerning the statute of limitations for actions to recover disaster or emergency assistance payments, and for other purposes (Rept. 115–100). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Ms. FOXX: Committee on Education and the Workforce. H.R. 1180. A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide compensatory time for employees in the private sector, with an amendment (Rept. 115–101). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committees on Ways and Means, Financial Services, Transportation and Infrastructure, Oversight and Government Reform, and the Judiciary discharged from further consideration. H.R. 1644 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. DEFAZIO (for himself, Mr. WALDEN, Mr. BLUMENAUER, and Ms. BONAMICI):

H.R. 2223. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to provide for a rail spill preparedness fund, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. SMITH of Nebraska (for himself, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. LONG, Mr. BARR, and Mr. BYRNE):

H.R. 2224. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to apply budget neutrality on a State-specific basis in the calculation of the Medicare hospital wage index floor for non-rural areas; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. STIVERS (for himself and Mr. WALZ):

H.R. 2225. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a pilot program on dog training therapy; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. BARR (for himself, Mr. AMODEI, Mr. EMMER, Mr. HILL, Mr. HULTGREN, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. LUCAS, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. MESSER, Mr. PEARCE, Mr. PITTENGER, Mr. POLIQUIN, Mr. ROYCE of California, Mr. ROTHFUS, Mr. STEWART, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. TIPTON, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. WILLIAMS, Mr. DAVIDSON, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. LOUDERMILK, Mr. MCHENRY, Mr. POSEY, Mr. KUSTOFF of Tennessee, Mr. HUIZENGA, Mr. HOLLINGSWORTH, Mr. DUFFY, Mr. TROTT, and Mr. BLUM):

H.R. 2226. A bill to amend the Truth in Lending Act to provide a safe harbor from certain requirements related to qualified mortgages for residential mortgage loans held on an originating depository institution's portfolio, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. HURD (for himself, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. CHAFFETZ, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. KILMER, Mrs. COMSTOCK, Mr. YODER, Mr. TAYLOR, and Ms. GRANGER):

H.R. 2227. A bill to modernize Government information technology, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committee on Appropriations, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana (for herself, Mrs. DEMINGS, Mr. COLLINS of Georgia, Mr. PASCRELL, and Mr. REICHERT):

H.R. 2228. A bill to provide support for law enforcement agency efforts to protect the mental health and well-being of law enforcement officers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CUMMINGS (for himself and Mr. FARENTHOLD):

H.R. 2229. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide permanent authority for judicial review of certain Merit Systems Protection Board decisions relating to whistleblowers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. COHEN (for himself, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. DEUTCH, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Ms. GRANGER, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. ENGEL, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. FASO, Mrs. COMSTOCK, Mr. RUSH, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico, Mr. HASTINGS, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. COFFMAN, Mr. COOK, Mr. ZELDIN, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. KUSTOFF of Tennessee, Mr. DONOVAN, Mr. LANCE, Mr. HULTGREN, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. ROSKAM, Mr. KATKO, Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. MACARTHUR, Miss RICE of New York, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Mr. HILL, Mr. FARENTHOLD, Mr. ROTHFUS, Mr. REICHERT, Mr. ROYCE of California, and Mr. FITZPATRICK):

H.R. 2230. A bill to direct the Joint Committee on the Library to obtain a statue or bust of Elie Wiesel for placement in the United States Capitol; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Ms. DELBENE (for herself, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. PETERS, and Mrs. MURPHY of Florida):

H.R. 2231. A bill to establish a joint commission on North Korea, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN (for herself, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Ms. GRANGER, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. ROSKAM, Mr. YOHO, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. MEADOWS, Mr. ZELDIN, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. BILIRAKIS, and Mr. DESANTIS):

H.R. 2232. A bill to ensure accountability at the United Nations and its specialized agencies and to promote reform and limit anti-Semitism and anti-Israel bias at the United Nations; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. BROOKS of Alabama (for himself, Mr. JONES, and Mr. FRANCIS ROONEY of Florida):

H.R. 2233. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to improve the H-1B visa program, to repeal the diversity visa lottery program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. TITUS (for herself, Mr. POCAN, Ms. DELBENE, Ms. LEE, Mr. KILMER, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. GARAMENDI, and Mr. MCGOVERN):

H.R. 2234. A bill to direct the Secretary of Education to establish the Recognizing Inspiring School Employees (RISE) Award Program recognizing excellence exhibited by public school system employees providing services to students in prekindergarten through higher education; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Ms. JUDY CHU of California:

H.R. 2235. A bill to improve air travel for passengers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois (for himself, Ms. MOORE, Mr. LANGEVIN, and Mr. RUSH):

H.R. 2236. A bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to provide certain alternative eligibility requirements applicable to

foster care youth, and homeless youth, who are enrolled at least half-time in an institution of higher education; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois (for himself and Mr. KIND):

H.R. 2237. A bill to provide for phased-in payment of Social Security Disability Insurance payments during the waiting period for individuals with a terminal illness; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. DEMINGS:

H.R. 2238. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to enhance the Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit and make the credit fully refundable; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. FUDGE (for herself, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Ms. KAPTUR, and Mrs. BEATTY):

H.R. 2239. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to provide for a State Medicaid option to provide coverage of community-based inpatient substance use disorder treatment for nonelderly adults, to remove such services from the Medicaid exclusion from medical assistance of items and services for patients in an institution for mental diseases, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. GOTTHEIMER (for himself and Mr. MAST):

H.R. 2240. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Defense to carry out a test of the Arrow 3 missile defense system with the Government of Israel, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. HOLDING (for himself and Mr. MEEHAN):

H.R. 2241. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to treat qualified alternative commuter programs as an excludable qualified transportation fringe benefit; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. HUFFMAN (for himself, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. NADLER, Ms. NORTON, Ms. LEE, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. QUIGLEY, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. MCGOVERN, and Mr. RASKIN):

H.R. 2242. A bill to prohibit drilling in the outer Continental Shelf, to prohibit coal leases on Federal land, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas (for himself, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, and Mr. WALZ):

H.R. 2243. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for the eligibility of certain former members of the Armed Forces who are medically retired and who are entitled to hospital insurance benefits under Medicare part A by reason of previous entitlement to social security disability insurance benefits to enroll in the TRICARE program regardless of whether such members decline enrollment under Medicare part B, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, and Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. LANCE (for himself and Ms. DEGETTE):

H.R. 2244. A bill to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to carry out a pilot project under which no more than 3 sponsors agree to evaluate the psychological and social distress experienced by patients participating in a clinical trial, conducted by the respective sponsor, of a drug or biological product that is intended to treat a serious or life-threatening disease or condition, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. LOFGREN (for herself, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. LEE, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. MOORE, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. TITUS, Mr. MCNERNEY, and Mr. GUTIÉRREZ):

H.R. 2245. A bill to direct the Secretary of Education to conduct a study to determine the relationship between school start times and adolescent health, well-being, and performance; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. LUETKEMEYER:

H.R. 2246. A bill to repeal the mandatory flood insurance coverage requirement for commercial properties located in flood hazard areas and to provide for greater transfer of risk under the National Flood Insurance Program to private capital and reinsurance markets, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico:

H.R. 2247. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to provide for equal treatment of individuals in same-sex marriages, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. PALLONE:

H.R. 2248. A bill to prohibit the Secretary of the Interior from revising the approved oil and gas leasing program for fiscal years 2017 through 2022; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. BYRNE, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. PITTENGER, and Mr. COFFMAN):

H.R. 2249. A bill to authorize a State or a portion of a State to conduct a demonstration project designed to test methods of program integration and coordination of services with the goals of moving individuals and families towards self-sufficiency, reducing welfare dependence, and increasing work and earnings; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on Agriculture, Financial Services, Education and the Workforce, and Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mr. CURBELO of Florida, Mrs. WALORSKI, Mr. BISHOP of Michigan, and Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois):

H.R. 2250. A bill to establish consistent requirements for the electronic content and format of data used in the administration of certain human services programs under the Social Security Act; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD (for herself, Mr. JONES, Mr. SOTO, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Ms. MENG, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico, Mrs. TORRES, Mr. VELA, Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. GALLEGO, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Ms. PLASKETT, Mr. MOULTON, and Mr. HIMES):

H.R. 2251. A bill to amend the Department of Veterans Affairs Health Care Programs Enhancement Act of 2001 and title 38, United States Code, to require the provision of chiropractic care and services to veterans at all Department of Veterans Affairs medical centers and to expand access to such care and services; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. SANFORD (for himself and Mr. LOBIONDO):

H.R. 2252. A bill to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to place a ten-year moratorium on oil and gas preleasing, leasing, and related activities on the Outer Continental Shelf in the North Atlantic, Mid-Atlantic, South Atlantic, and Straits of Florida planning areas and in the Eastern Gulf of Mexico; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. SERRANO:

H.R. 2253. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a business credit relating to the use of clean-fuel and fuel efficient vehicles by businesses within areas designated as nonattainment areas under the Clean Air Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. THOMPSON of California (for himself, Mr. DESAULNIER, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. BASS, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. BERA, Mr. DENHAM, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mrs. TORRES, Mr. ROYCE of California, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. ROHRABACHER, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. NUNES, Mr. AGUILAR, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Mr. COOK, Mr. CORREA, Mr. COSTA, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. ISSA, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. KNIGHT, Ms. LEE, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. PETERS, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. RUIZ, Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. VARGAS, and Mrs. MIMI WALTERS of California):

H.R. 2254. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2635 Napa Street in Vallejo, California, as the ''Janet Capello Post Office Building''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. TROTT:

H.R. 2255. A bill to clarify that nonprofit organizations may accept donated mortgage appraisals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. UPTON (for himself, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. HULTGREN, and Ms. BONAMICI):

H.R. 2256. A bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in recognition of Christa McAuliffe; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. WENSTRUP:

H.R. 2257. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to consolidate certain eligibility tiers under the Post-9/11 Educational

Assistance Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. LOWENTHAL (for himself, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. CORREA, Mr. PETERS, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. KILMER, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Mr. KHANNA, and Mr. MCGOVERN):

H. Res. 293. A resolution recognizing the 42nd anniversary of the Fall of Saigon on April 30, 1975; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. TITUS (for herself, Ms. LEE, Mr. TAKANO, and Mr. HUFFMAN):

H. Res. 294. A resolution recognizing and honoring the essential role of classified school education support employees through the Recognizing Inspirational School Employees Award; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. CÁRDENAS (for himself, Mr. TIPTON, Ms. ADAMS, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. BORDALLO, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. COLLINS of New York, Mr. COSTA, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. HULTGREN, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. KILMER, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mrs. LOWEY, Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. QUIGLEY, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. TITUS, Mrs. TORRES, Mr. VEASEY, and Ms. MATSUI):

H. Res. 295. A resolution expressing support for the designation of the week of April 30, 2017, through May 6, 2017, as ''National Small Business Week'' to honor the vital role of small business and the passion of entrepreneurs in the United States; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. COOK (for himself and Mr. LOWENTHAL):

H. Res. 296. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the Socialist Republic of Vietnam should provide former members of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Vietnam, who served alongside the United States Armed Forces in defense of their nation during the Vietnam War, with appropriate levels of support and services; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. HOLDING (for himself, Mr. CONNOLLY, and Mr. MEEHAN):

H. Res. 297. A resolution expressing support for designation of April 2017 as ''National Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia Awareness Month''; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. PEARCE (for himself, Mr. SWALWELL of California, and Mr. CRAWFORD):

H. Res. 298. A resolution recognizing the security challenges of convening government officials in one specific place and directing the House of Representatives to take appropriate steps so that the House of Representatives can meet in a virtual setting; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Rules, and House Administration, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. DEFAZIO:

H.R. 2223.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1, Clause 3, and Clause 18 of the Constitution.

By Mr. SMITH of Nebraska:

H.R. 2224.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1.

By Mr. STIVERS:

H.R. 2225.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 13

The Congress shall have Power to provide and maintain a Navy.

Article I, Section 8, Clause 12

To raise and support Armies, but no Appropriation of Money to that Use shall be for a longer Term than two Years.

Article I, Section 8, Clause 14

To make Rules for the Government and Regulation of the land and naval Forces.

By Mr. BARR:

H.R. 2226.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

(According to Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the Constitution: The Congress shall have power to enact this legislation to regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian tribes.)

By Mr. HURD:

H.R. 2227.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section IX, clause VII, of the United States

By Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana:

H.R. 2228.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18—To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and to all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. CUMMINGS:

H.R. 2229.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution of the United States grants the Congress the power to enact this law.

By Mr. COHEN:

H.R. 2230.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Ms. DELBENE:

H.R. 2231.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN:

H.R. 2232.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution

By Mr. BROOKS of Alabama:

H.R. 2233.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States

By Ms. TITUS:

H.R. 2234.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. JUDY CHU of California:

H.R. 2235.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8.

By Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois:

H.R. 2236.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to congress under Article I of the United States Constitution and its subsequent amendments, and further clarified and interpreted by the Supreme Court of the United States.

By Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois:

H.R. 2237.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of Congress as stated in Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution.

By Mrs. DEMINGS:

H.R. 2238.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Ms. FUDGE:

H.R. 2239.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Atiicle I, Section 8, clause 1

By Mr. GOTTHEIMER:

H.R. 2240.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of Congress to ''provide for the common Defence'', ''to raise and support Armies'', and ''to make Rules for the Government and Regulation of the land and naval Forces'' as enumerated in Article I, section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. HOLDING:

H.R. 2241.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. HUFFMAN:

H.R. 2242.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 4, Section 3, Clause 2: The Congress shall have Power to dispose of and make all needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory or other Property belonging to the United States; and nothing in this Constitution shall be so construed as to Prejudice any Claims of the United States, or of any particular State. [Page H775]

By Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas:

H.R. 2243.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

By Mr. LANCE:
H.R. 2244.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 3, of the United States Constitution, which states that the Congress shall have power to regulate Commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian Tribes.
Article I, Section 8, Clause 18, which states that the Congress shall have the power to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by the Constitution of the United States.
By Ms. LOFGREN:
H.R. 2245.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, section 8, clauses 1 and 3.
By Mr. LUETKEMEYER:
H.R. 2246.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
The constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the explicit power of Congress to regulate commerce in and among the states, as enumerate in Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3, the Commerce Clause, of the United States Constitution.
Additionally, Article 1, Section 7, Clause 2 of the Constitution allows for every bill passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate and signed by the President to be codified into law; and therefore implicitly allows Congress to repeal any bill that has been passed by both chambers and signed into law by the President.
By Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico:
H.R. 2247.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the U.S. Constitution
By Mr. PALLONE:
H.R. 2248.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3
By Mr. REED:
H.R. 2249.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution, to ''provide for the common Defense and general Welfare of the United States.''
By Mr. REED:
H.R. 2250.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution, to ''provide for the common Defense and general Welfare of the United States.''
By Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD:
H.R. 2251.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8
By Mr. SANFORD:
H.R. 2252.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Sec. 8 of the U.S. Constitution.
By Mr. SERRANO:
H.R. 2253.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the Constitution, which states that ''The Congress shll have power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises . . .'' Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution, which states that Congress shall have the power ''to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by this Constitution in the goverment of the United States or in any department or officer thereof.''
By Mr. THOMPSON of California:
H.R. 2254.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section I of the U.S. Constitution
By Mr. TROTT:
H.R. 2255.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8
By Mr. UPTON:
H.R. 2256.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8. ''The Congress shall have the power . . . to coin Money, regulate the Value thereof, and of foreign Coin, and fix the Standard of Weights and measures;''
By Mr. WENSTRUP:
H.R. 2257.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 19: Mr. ZELDIN and Mr. SCHNEIDER.
H.R. 37: Mrs. NOEM and Mr. HUDSON.
H.R. 60: Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky, Mrs. WAGNER, and Mr. PEARCE.
H.R. 113: Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. KENNEDY, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, and Mr. KATKO.
H.R. 140: Mr. HUDSON.
H.R. 170: Mr. BISHOP of Michigan.
H.R. 184: Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 242: Mr. RASKIN.
H.R. 245: Mr. FLORES.
H.R. 246: Mr. CALVERT, Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina, Mr. STEWART, Mr. HARPER, Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN, Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania, and Mr. FARENTHOLD.
H.R. 299: Mr. SIMPSON.
H.R. 305: Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California.
H.R. 380: Mr. FARENTHOLD.
H.R. 394: Mr. SCHNEIDER.
H.R. 426: Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, and Mr. REICHERT.
H.R. 490: Mr. GOSAR, Mr. ROKITA, and Mr. ROSS.
H.R. 606: Mr. NUNES.
H.R. 631: Mr. ISSA, Mr. YOHO, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. REED, Mr. STEWART, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. COOK, and Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS.
H.R. 664: Mrs. DINGELL and Mr. SERRANO.
H.R. 676: Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California, Mr. SOTO, Ms. MATSUI, and Mr. VISCLOSKY.
H.R. 721: Mr. NEAL and Ms. MOORE.
H.R. 747: Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. POLIQUIN, Mr. CORREA, and Mr. KELLY of Mississippi.
H.R. 750: Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. CAPUANO, Ms. DELAURO, and Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 785: Mr. CARTER of Texas, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. LOUDERMILK, and Mr. WEBER of Texas.
H.R. 786: Mr. HUFFMAN and Mr. SARBANES.
H.R. 795: Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. LOEBSACK, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. VALADAO, Ms. MCSALLY, Mr. SMUCKER, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, and Mr. WALZ.
H.R. 820: Mr. HIMES and Mr. VALADAO.
H.R. 823: Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. KILMER, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. VELA, and Mr. AL GREEN of Texas.
H.R. 825: Mr. BROWN of Maryland.
H.R. 849: Mr. ROSKAM.
H.R. 873: Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. PITTENGER, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. FLORES, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. DELANEY, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. KATKO, Mr. ROTHFUS, Ms. CHENEY, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. BUDD, Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas, Mr. BERGMAN, Mr. BYRNE, Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania, Mr. KING of New York, Ms. JENKINS of Kansas, Mr. WESTERMAN, Mr. TAYLOR, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. KIND, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. PAULSEN, and Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas.
H.R. 909: Mr. MACARTHUR.
H.R. 931: Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER.
H.R. 948: Mr. CONYERS.
H.R. 959: Mrs. BEATTY.
H.R. 997: Mr. SCALISE.
H.R. 1002: Mr. LIPINSKI.
H.R. 1017: Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 1022: Mr. WELCH and Mr. QUIGLEY.
H.R. 1032: Mr. GOSAR.
H.R. 1036: Mr. MACARTHUR.
H.R. 1057: Mr. DUFFY, Mr. ROSKAM, and Mrs. COMSTOCK.
H.R. 1103: Ms. BROWNLEY of California.
H.R. 1142: Mr. COOPER.
H.R. 1146: Mr. KENNEDY.
H.R. 1173: Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. PETERSON, Mr. YOUNG of Iowa, and Mr. DEFAZIO.
H.R. 1180: Mr. SMITH of Nebraska.
H.R. 1205: Mr. HUNTER, Mr. LANCE, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. POE of Texas, and Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 1231: Ms. LOFGREN.
H.R. 1243: Mr. PAYNE, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, and Mr. SMUCKER.
H.R. 1244: Mr. CHABOT and Mr. NOLAN.
H.R. 1253: Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas.
H.R. 1267: Mr. PETERS.
H.R. 1276: Mr. DESAULNIER.
H.R. 1299: Mr. TED LIEU of California and Mr. FOSTER.
H.R. 1314: Mr. FERGUSON.
H.R. 1316: Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia and Mr. WELCH.
H.R. 1329: Mrs. BEATTY and Ms. LOFGREN.
H.R. 1334: Mr. CHABOT.
H.R. 1344: Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. LAMBORN, and Miss RICE of New York.
H.R. 1384: Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts and Mr. KENNEDY.
H.R. 1406: Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI, Mr. GALLEGO, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. LOBIONDO, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. COLLINS of New York, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mr. CARBAJAL, and Mr. ENGEL.
H.R. 1421: Mr. LAWSON of Florida.
H.R. 1452: Ms. LOFGREN.
H.R. 1466: Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.R. 1473: Mr. CICILLINE.
H.R. 1475: Ms. LOFGREN, Ms. SLAUGHTER, and Mr. KHANNA.
H.R. 1478: Ms. ESHOO, Mr. LIPINSKI, and Mr. BROWN of Maryland.
H.R. 1494: Mr. LEVIN, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. BLUM, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI, Mr. LOBIONDO, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. VALADAO, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. WITTMAN, and Mr. TAKANO.
H.R. 1542: Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. CONNOLLY, and Mr. WALZ.

H.R. 1565: Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. ROSS, Mr. ROKITA, Mr. WENSTRUP, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. YODER, and Mr. YOUNG of Alaska.

H.R. 1606: Mr. BABIN, Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. BRIDENSTINE, Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania, and Mr. SIMPSON.

H.R. 1612: Ms. SHEA-PORTER and Mr. KHANNA.

H.R. 1616: Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, and Mr. STIVERS.

H.R. 1626: Mr. MARSHALL.

H.R. 1644: Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas.

H.R. 1676: Mr. CÁRDENAS, Ms. CLARKE of New York, and Ms. ESTY of Connecticut.

H.R. 1690: Mr. FITZPATRICK.

H.R. 1697: Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. BYRNE, Ms. GRANGER, Mr. POSEY, Mr. KNIGHT, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. SOTO, Mr. BABIN, and Ms. MENG.

H.R. 1699: Mr. PALAZZO, Mr. HOLLINGSWORTH, Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina, and Mr. KELLY of Mississippi.

H.R. 1709: Ms. BORDALLO.

H.R. 1721: Mr. HUDSON.

H.R. 1757: Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire.

H.R. 1760: Mr. BABIN.

H.R. 1780: Mr. MCNERNEY and Mr. DESAULNIER.

H.R. 1795: Ms. SHEA-PORTER.

H.R. 1825: Mr. TIPTON and Mr. SIRES.

H.R. 1827: Mr. DESAULNIER.

H.R. 1832: Ms. NORTON, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. KHANNA, and Mr. PANETTA.

H.R. 1838: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio.

H.R. 1844: Ms. PINGREE,

H.R. 1847: Mr. BUDD, Mr. KIND, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. VALADAO, and Mr. BUCK.

H.R. 1861: Mr. FASO and Mr. SCHWEIKERT.

H.R. 1886: Mr. SWALWELL of California.

H.R. 1897: Mr. POCAN.

H.R. 1899: Mr. TED LIEU of California and Mr. DESAULNIER.

H.R. 1921: Mr. DESANTIS.

H.R. 1924: Mr. MCGOVERN.

H.R. 1928: Mr. O'ROURKE.

H.R. 1931: Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, and Mr. LEVIN.

H.R. 1988: Mr. ROHRABACHER, Mr. ISSA, Mr. KNIGHT, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. ROYCE of California, Mr. COSTA, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. COOK, Mrs. MIMI WALTERS of California, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. NUNES, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. CORREA, Mrs. TORRES, Mr. SWALWELL of California, and Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California.

H.R. 1990: Mr. GARRETT.

H.R. 1993: Ms. NORTON, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, and Ms. TENNEY.

H.R. 2009: Ms. DELBENE.

H.R. 2013: Mr. HARRIS and Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER.

H.R. 2015: Mr. BROWN of Maryland, Mr. VELA, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. ENGEL, and Mr. DESAULNIER.

H.R. 2044: Mr. PETERSON and Mr. PERLMUTTER.

H.R. 2045: Ms. ROSEN.

H.R. 2050: Mr. HASTINGS and Mrs. MURPHY of Florida.

H.R. 2070: Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. SWALWELL of California, and Mr. CASTRO of Texas.

H.R. 2084: Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mrs. TORRES, Mr. SIRES, Mr. CORREA, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. AGUILAR, Mr. VARGAS, and Mr. SOTO.

H.R. 2105: Mr. DUNN.

H.R. 2119: Ms. MENG, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. HECK, Mr. O'ROURKE, and Ms. TITUS.

H.R. 2123: Mr. COOPER and Mr. RUSH.

H.R. 2133: Mr. SESSIONS and Mr. EMMER.

H.R. 2168: Mr. KNIGHT.

H.R. 2174: Mr. HARRIS, Mr. ROKITA, and Mr. HOLDING.

H.R. 2175: Ms. SINEMA.

H.R. 2176: Ms. SINEMA.

H.R. 2180: Mr. O'ROURKE.

H.R. 2188: Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas.

H.R. 2192: Mr. MESSER, Mrs. NOEM, Mr. HILL, Mr. RENACCI, Mr. BRADY of Texas, Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana, Mr. COFFMAN, Mr. DUFFY, Mrs. WALORSKI, Mr. GRIFFITH, and Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana.

H.R. 2193: Mr. MULLIN,

H.R. 2214: Mrs. MURPHY of Florida.

H.J. Res. 33: Mr. SCHNEIDER.

H.J. Res. 51: Mr. ROSKAM.

H.J. Res. 53: Mr. SCHNEIDER.

H.J. Res. 89: Mr. KNIGHT.

H. Con. Res. 13: Mr. LOUDERMILK and Mr. DONOVAN.

H. Con. Res. 43: Mr. JONES and Mr. KELLY of Mississippi.

H. Con. Res. 47: Mr. CLAY, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. COHEN, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Ms. NORTON, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI, Mr. WALZ, and Mr. DESAULNIER.

H. Res. 28: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.

H. Res. 30: Mr. VEASEY, Ms. MCSALLY, and Mr. MITCHELL.

H. Res. 31: Mr. HECK.

H. Res, 129: Mr. COLLINS of New York and Mr. PERLMUTTER.

H. Res. 164: Mr. JEFFRIES.

H. Res. 188: Mr. BILIRAKIS.

H. Res. 206: Ms. JUDY CHU of California.

H. Res. 213: Mrs. BEATTY.

H. Res. 218: Ms. JUDY CHU of California.

H. Res. 259: Mr. DIAZ-BALART and Mr. DONOVAN.

H. Res. 270: Mr. POCAN.

CONGRESSIONAL EARMARKS, LIMITED TAX BENEFITS, OR LIMITED TARIFF BENEFITS

Under clause 9 of rule XXI, lists or statements on congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits were submitted as follows:

OFFERED BY MR. HARPER

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on House Administration in H.R. 2192 do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

PETITIONS, ETC.

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

42. The SPEAKER presented a petition of the City of Jonesboro, AR, relative to Resolution R-EN-016-2017, urging all United States Senators to reintroduce the Marketplace Fairness Act into the United States Senate during its 2017 session; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

DISCHARGE PETITIONS—ADDITIONS AND WITHDRAWALS

The following Members added their names to the following discharge petition:

Petition 1 by Ms. ESHOO on H.R. 305: Mr. Bera, Mr. Clay, Mr. O'Halleran, Mr. Larson of Connecticut, Mr. Schrader, Mr. Gottheimer, Mr. Thompson of Mississippi, Mr. Loebsack, Mr. Grijalva, Mr. Cuellar.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2017

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Trinity Lutheran Church of Egypt Mills, Missouri on the occasion of its 150th Anniversary.

German Immigrants founded the congregation in 1867. They have worshipped in the same, postcard perfect white church on a hill since 1880. During the first fifty years, German was the church's primary language. With the close of World War I, the transition into English was completed.

Trinity members have served their country from the Civil War through the Afghanistan War. Many have died in service. In celebrating its momentous anniversary, the congregation wants to ''Honor the Past and Celebrate the Future''.

For continuing its work of proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ through 150 years of change and challenge, it is my great pleasure to honor Trinity Lutheran Church of Egypt Mills, Missouri, today before the United States House of Representatives.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF FALLEN SOLDIER ARMY CORPORAL (CPL) KEVIN W. PRINCE

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2017

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in memory of Army Corporal (CPL) Kevin William Prince, who paid the ultimate sacrifice while defending our nation on April 23, 2005, during Operation Iraqi Freedom. CPL Prince was killed when an improvised explosive device detonated near his humvee while on patrol in Iskandariyah, Iraq.

CPL Prince, an Ohio native, was assigned to the 2nd Squadron, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment, Fort Irwin, California, which was attached to the 155th Brigade Combat Team (BCT) from Mississippi. He enlisted in the Army in 2001 with plans to go to college after he returned from Iraq. CPL Prince was trained to operate a Bradley Fighting Vehicle prior to his deployment to Iraq on January 9, 2005. Before he left, CPL Prince told his family he had bought a Bible to take with him.

Before joining the Army, CPL Prince loved playing soccer, something he enjoyed from a young age. He worked part-time at his parent's bagel shop. His brother, Jason Prince, said Kevin was someone who really enjoyed life and loved his family.

''He was only 22. He still had a lot more life left,'' Prince shared with Associated Press. ''I want people to know he's not just a number. There's a face behind that number.''

CPL Prince is survived by his parents, Ron and Susan Price, brother and sister-in-law, Jason and Ember Prince; his maternal grandparents, William and Evelyn Martin; his paternal grandmother, Ruth Miller; aunts and uncles, Carole and Rich Frazee and Jayne and Lon Slabaugh, Rick and Susan Prince, Steve and Judy Miller, Cathy and Dennis McDonnell, Mike and Helen Miller; and cousins, Patrick, Angie, Lori, Shanese, Nicole and Morgan Slaubaugh.

His dedication to protecting our nation will not be forgotten.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2017

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on April 27, 2017, I was unable to vote on the amendment to H.R. 1694 offered by Mr. Johnson of Georgia.

Had I been present for roll call vote 232, I would have voted yes.

CELEBRATING ZIKER CLEANERS ON THEIR 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JACKIE WALORSKI

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2017

Mrs. WALORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of Ziker Cleaners.

A staple in the northern Indiana community for generations, Ziker Cleaners represents the heart and soul of the American Dream. In 1917, Joe Ziker, an immigrant and entrepreneur, founded his small tailor shop when he was just 14 years old. Since then, Ziker Cleaners has diversified and grown into a multifaceted company serving the clothing care needs of Hoosiers across South Bend, Mishawaka, and Elkhart.

For the past century, the Ziker family business has been committed to quality, efficiency, and exceptional customer service. Ziker Cleaners' success in business and leadership in its industry are clear in its vast growth and continued innovation through decades of changes in our economy. Now with 10 store locations and four home pick-up and delivery routes, and a brand new state-of-the-art production facility, this Hoosier business continues to provide our community with the convenience and dependability the Ziker brand calls to mind.

I want to thank the Ziker family for all their hard work, dedication, and sacrifice over the years to keep their shops running strong and employing hardworking Hoosiers. Small businesses are the backbone of this country, and Ziker Cleaners is truly an inspiration to entrepreneurs everywhere. By providing good jobs for the past 100 years, Ziker Cleaners has become an essential part of our community life and local economy.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Indiana's 2nd District, I am honored to recognize Ziker Cleaners for achieving 100 years and four generations of success.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF EASTERN STAR LODGE NO. 13

HON. ROBERT C. ''BOBBY'' SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2017

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention and recognize the Eastern Star Lodge No. 13 in Hampton, Virginia. Eastern Star Lodge No. 13 is celebrating its 150th Anniversary tomorrow and has worked in continuous and faithful service to the Commonwealth of Virginia over this time.

Prince Hall Masonic lodges have a long history in the Commonwealth, tracing their history to 1775 when Prince Hall and fourteen other free blacks joined a British army lodge of Masons stationed in Boston, Massachusetts and, following their departure, formed their own lodge: African American Lodge No. 1. Prince Hall became the lodge's first Grand Master.

By establishing this organization, Prince Hall and his compatriots were, in 1775, taking some of the first steps to form one of America's first formal African-American institutions.

Organized in 1866 and charted a year later in 1867, Eastern Star Lodge No. 13 was placed at the forefront of growth and development of Prince Hall Masonry in the Commonwealth of Virginia, and in our nation. For 24 years, Eastern Star Lodge No. 13 was one of the only Prince Hall Masonic lodges in Hampton Roads, before helping to expand Prince Hall Masonry throughout the Tidewater region. More recently, resulting from a number of lodge mergers, Eastern Star Lodge No. 13 is one of the largest Subordinate Prince Hall Lodges in Virginia.

I have heard the question asked: ''when is a man a Mason?'' According to Joseph Fort Newton's ''The Builders,'' a man becomes a Mason when he has sympathy for others, the ability to empathize, when he looks for the upside in things, and when he keeps faith in himself, in his fellow men, and with his God. The real secret to Masonry, Newton writes, is the ability to give all to the world.

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

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

In this spirit, countless members of Eastern Star Lodge No. 13 have served in their community and in leadership positions. Through their service and through their commitment to their community, members of Eastern Star Lodge No. 13 have done their part to provide mentorship, dispense charity, and ''aid in the uplifting of humanity'' through their charitable endeavors.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend my enthusiastic congratulations to Mr. Antonio Hinton, Sr., who currently serves as the leader of Eastern Star Lodge No. 13 and all the members of this historic lodge on the celebration of 150 years of continuous service to Hampton and the Commonwealth of Virginia. It is my profound hope that through their work, members of Eastern Star Lodge No. 13 continue to provide support and service to their community.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF FALLEN SOLDIER ARMY CAPTAIN (CPT) RALPH JOHN HARTING III

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2017

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in memory of fallen soldier Army Captain (CPT) Ralph John Harting III, who paid the ultimate sacrifice while defending our nation on April 29, 2005, during Operation Iraqi Freedom. CPT Harting was killed when a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device was detonated by a suicide bomber as he was conducting a traffic-control-point inspection in Diyarah, Iraq. Also killed was Captain Stephen W. Frank.

CPT Harting and CPT Stephen W. Frank were among an estimated 50 people who died that day in bombings carried out by insurgents trying to disrupt the newly formed Iraqi government. CPT Harting was assigned to the 2nd Squadron, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment, Fort Irwin, California, which was attached to the 155th Brigade Combat Team (BCT) from Mississippi.

CPT Harting was born in Pontiac, Michigan and raised in Union Lake. Jay, as he was known to family and friends, applied to all four service academies and was accepted at each one. He enrolled at the U.S. Military Academy in West Point, New York. CPT Harting graduated with a mechanical engineering degree in 1998. CPT Harting and CPT Frank were classmates in college as well as Michigan natives.

At the time of his death, CPT Harting was survived by his wife, Jennifer, a 2-year-old daughter, a 1-year-old son, and an infant son who was born shortly after his death.

When the Frank family learned of the death of their son and CPT Harting, they invited the Harting family over to share stories.

''We talked about how we wished it was us to go first,'' Sue Frank told the Detroit Free Press. ''We were glad that the boys were not alone when they died. It was a comforting conversation, and we had an immediate bonding over the most tragic thing that could happen in your life. It's good to know that the Hartings are only two miles away.''

CPT Harting and CPT Frank are both buried at the West Point Cemetery which is on the grounds of the U.S. Military Academy in West Point, New York.

CPT Harting and CPT Frank will always be remembered for their devotion to our nation and for paying the ultimate sacrifice to protect America.

HONORING DIGNITY HEALTH'S MERCY MEDICAL CENTER

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2017

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dignity Health's Mercy Medical Center in Merced as this year's recipient of the Merced College President's Medallion. Dignity Health is one of the largest health systems in the nation, with 400 care sites across a 22 state network, including 39 hospitals. Through teamwork, innovation, faith and compassion, they strive to keep every patient happy and healthy. The Mercy Medical Center in Merced has provided a resource for all its residents by enhancing and creating the health care system of the future.

Founded in 1831 by Catherine McAuley in Dublin, Ireland, The Sisters of Mercy promised to serve people who suffered from sickness, poverty, and lack of education. After arriving in San Francisco, California in 1854, eight Sisters began to care for residents of a city who were struck by cholera, typhoid and influenza and founded St. Mary's Hospital, which is the oldest continuously operating hospital in the city. These facilities later expanded and were renamed to Catholic Healthcare West in order to serve a growing population, while still maintaining their vow to serve the community, and keeping a respect for humanity at the forefront of modern medicine. In 2012, Catholic Healthcare West changed their name to Dignity Health, demonstrating the respect and promise to provide health care and helping everyone achieve healthy and meaningful lives.

Although Dignity Health's headquarters are in San Francisco, their commitment to provide health care for everyone and their compassion towards their patients continues to be demonstrated throughout the nation and in Merced. In the fall of 1999, two hospitals in Merced County began discussions with the intent of finding the best direction to meet the health care needs of their citizens. They agreed to build a single hospital, Mercy Medical Center, to support the addition of more advanced medical services that were not available locally. Thanks to this expansion, not only were they able to bring more resources to the area, but also recruit additional clinical and medical staff to the Merced region as well.

Mercy doctors, employees, and volunteers have consistently met the health care needs of all patients, regardless of their background or circumstances. With the newest Mercy Medical Center established in 2012, I look forward to witnessing the benefits that it will bring to Merced and its surrounding communities.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring the achievements of Dignity Health's Mercy Medical Center. Their long history has exhibited the dedication that they have in caring for all patients, and has demonstrated their commitment to enriching the lives of Merced's students in the future. For these reasons, it is fitting and appropriate that Dignity Health's Mercy Medical Center receives the President's Medallion from Merced College; one of their highest honors and most distinct privileges. I know the service they provide will inspire future generations who wish to work in the medical and health care field to deliver the same quality and excellence that community members have come to appreciate, and rely upon.

MAINE SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL EXCELS IN WE THE PEOPLE COMPETITION

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2017

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the students and teachers from Maine South High School in Park Ridge, Illinois who recently participated in the 30th Annual We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution national academic competition and placed tenth in the nation. The We the People program is sponsored by the Center for Civic Education and is the most extensive program in the nation educating students about the history and principles of U.S. constitutional democracy.

The national competition takes the form of a simulated congressional hearing during which students demonstrate their knowledge and skills as they evaluate, take, and defend positions on historical and contemporary constitutional issues. Independent studies show that We the People students benefit greatly from this experience. I would like to commend the teachers, Andrew Trenkle and Kevin Hansen, for their dedication and expertise in the classroom. The following are the names of the students from their constitution team:

Cardella Alison, Margaret Bono, Kathryn Boyce, Gracie DeRosa, Lily Dysart, Anna Ebacher, Maria Francque, Katherine Heyde, Maria Iatrides, Grace Janes, Ann Kapustiak, Julia Klages, Dominika Kolendo, Garrett Kreger, Alexander Krysl, Maura Lally, Catherine Martin, Sydney Mathias, Thomas Ng, William Olafsson, Marc Piarowski, Mary Pat Roche, Shannon Ryan, Jill Steffen, Daniel Touhy, Peyton Turner, Emerson Uhlig, Elaina Wilkens, Kristin Woo, Isis Zaki.

Mr. Speaker, with many reports and studies documenting a lack of education among the public of some of our most basic constitutional principles and institutions, the need for effective civic education programs in the schools is quite evident. The We the People program is an important part of the solution to this problem. I salute these young constitutional experts on their performance and wish them success in the years ahead.

HONORING DONNA & ABE BARTELL

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2017

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker. I rise today to honor two members of the community who have made some remarkable contributions to the Beth El Synagogue Center, Donna and Abe Bartell.

After being introduced on a blind date in 1993, Donna and Abe married in 1995. Having lived in Rhode Island and Bayside, Queens, Donna and Abe settled in New Rochelle in 2001 with their two-year-old daughter Hannah. That same year, their twin sons Stephen and Jesse were born. When choosing a synagogue, Donna gave Abe no choices. They would join a Conservative shul, and since they lived in New Rochelle, they were zoned to attend a New Rochelle synagogue. The obvious and only choice was Beth El Synagogue Center. Beth El quickly became the family's second home, a home which shared and celebrated Jesse's and Stephen's bris and the children's bnei mitzvahs. Hannah, Stephen, and Jesse all attended the Beth El Nursery School, the amazing Day Camp, and, after spending Kindergarten through fifth grade at Schechter Westchester, they moved on to the Beth El Religious School and became active in Beth El's USY chapter.

Donna has served on numerous committees at Beth El. She has enjoyed working on youth activities and organizing meals when Beth El hosts the USY Kinnus. Donna has served as co-chair of the Membership Committee and Couples Club. She has also been on the Nursery School Board.

Abe has served as a member of the Nursery School Board, Day Camp Board, Religious School Board, and Board of Trustees. He has been a member of numerous committees and chaired several, including the Nominating Committee, Catering and Kiddush Committee, and the Youth Services Committee. He has co-led many High Holiday Junior Congregation Services and Havurah Services as half of the now famous Dan & Abe Show.

This year, Beth El is honoring Donna and Abe at their 63rd Annual Gala for all of their contributions to the Synagogue. They are most deserving of the recognition. Congratulations to Donna and Abe on receiving this wonderful honor.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF GARFIELD

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2017

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the outstanding achievements of the great town of Garfield as they celebrate their 100th Anniversary this Sunday, April 30, 2017.

March 15, 1898 was the day that Garfield broke away from the Township of Saddle River and first became a borough. The State Legislature set Garfield's boundaries which still exist today. Finally the big day on April 19, 1917, the borough became the City of Garfield which we have all come to know.

Today we like to thank Gilbert D. Bogart, the man who is credited as the founder of modern day Garfield. Since 1972, Garfield has been governed by a City Manager and five council members, one of who is selected by their Council colleagues to be Mayor. The residents of Garfield are some of the most involved citizens, and elect all members of the City Council.

The 1,333 acres of land that make up Garfield are arguably the most diverse acres in the 9th congressional district. With over 20 places of worship, a YMCA, Boys and Girls club, Senior Citizen centers, and a public library the City of Garfield is a place for anyone to feel accepted and welcomed.

The City of Garfield has been essential to the growth and development of Bergen County and the State of New Jersey overall. In fact, Garfield has experienced many of the major milestones in our nation's history: including the Revolutionary War and the Civil War. Today, the City of Garfield is led by City Manager Thomas J. Duch, and Mayor Richard Rigoglioso, both lifelong residents, who have spent most of their lives dedicated to Garfield.

I have the great honor of representing the residents of Garfield in Congress. This is a city where people work hard to support their family and their community, a town where the history is long and storied.

Since 2012 when I started representing Garfield in my congressional district I have learned so much about the City. When I visit Garfield I see some of the most hardworking, caring, and welcoming people that I have ever met. I know I can always count on the City of Garfield to be one of the friendliest communities in the 9th district.

The job of a United States Congressman involves much that is rewarding, yet nothing compares to recognizing and commemorating 100 years of history in Garfield, NJ.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues to celebrate 100 years of service, dedication, and excellence from the residents of Garfield

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF DR. JOSEPH A. OVICK, ED.D

HON. MARK DeSAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2017

Mr. DESAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and service of Dr. Joseph A. Ovick, former Superintendent of Schools for Contra Costa County.

Dr. Ovick was an educator for 45 years. He began his career as a special education teacher in Santa Clara County which was followed by serving in the county as a public school assistant principal, principal, and director of special education. He later joined the Contra Costa County Office of Education (CCCOE), where he worked as director of special education, assistant superintendent for student services, and associate superintendent for business.

In 1996, he was elected county superintendent of schools. He was well-known for developing strong coalitions of educators, community members, and legislators in support of public schools, while always making it a point to visit countless classrooms throughout the county.

Dr. Ovick's achievements in and out of the classroom did not go unrecognized. In 2005, Dr. Ovick was awarded the President's Circle Award for Outstanding Service to Education and the Community from the Diablo Valley College Foundation, as well as the Government Service Award in Recognition of Outstanding Community Service from Congressman George Miller. In 2008, the East Bay Leadership Foundation named Dr. Ovick Citizen of the Year, East Bay Awards. In 2006, he won the Association of California School Administrators (ACSA), Region 6, Superintendent of the Year Award, and in 2010 he earned the ACSA, Region 6, Ferd Kiesel Memorial Distinguished Service Award.

Additionally, in 2008, the Contra Costa County Board of Education unanimously voted to honor Dr. Ovick by dedicating CCCOE's community school in Brentwood as the ''Joseph A. Ovick School'' because of his longtime advocacy for the needs of all students—especially those most at risk and with special needs.

Community service was also an important part of Dr. Ovick's life. He was an active member of the Pleasant Hill Rotary Club, and served as a member on both the local Boys' and Girls' Clubs and Junior Achievement USA.

Dr. Ovick was an inspiration and a friend. He passed away unexpectedly on March 30, 2017. I and the community will miss him greatly.

RECOGNIZING MR. JOHN BROWN FOR HIS RETIREMENT AND SERVICE TO ROCK ISLAND

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2017

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize John Brown, who is retiring as the Rock Island County Deputy Clerk. Mr. Brown has honorably served Rock Island County in various levels of government and public service for the past 40 years and he will be greatly missed.

Mr. Brown began his career in public service as a Democratic Precinct Committeeman in 1978. Since then, he has served as the Deputy County Clerk under Karen Kinney, Dick Leibovitz and John Gianulis, in addition to serving as the Rock Island Township Supervisor from 1997 to 2013.

Mr. Brown has dedicated his career to ensuring our local institutions are accessible, and striving to improve the lives of all individuals within our community. He has lead projects to improve early voting locations and accessibility, same day voter registration, as well as created initiatives to hire bilingual individuals to ensure all of our constituents are able to be

heard. All the work Mr. Brown has done to improve our county and his passion for helping people will be not be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank Mr. Brown for his commitment to public service and for all of the work he has done to better our community. I congratulate him again on his well-earned retirement and wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF FALLEN MISSISSIPPI SOLDIER MARINE CORPS MASTER SERGEANT (MSGT) SCOTT EUGENE PRUITT

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2017

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in memory of Marine Corps Master Sergeant (MSgt) Scott Eugene Pruitt who paid the ultimate sacrifice while defending our nation on April 28, 2012, during Operation Enduring Freedom. MSgt Pruitt was killed in action by enemy fire when his vehicle was struck by a roadside improvised explosive device while conducting combat operations in Nimroz Province, Afghanistan. This was his first deployment.

MSgt Pruitt, a Gautier native, was assigned to I Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters Group, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, California. MSgt Pruitt was a financial management Marine for 18 years and also an instructor with the Marine Corps Combat Service Support Schools. He volunteered to go on deployment with his junior Marines.

MSgt Pruitt was honored for his sacrifice by family, friends, and fellow service members during a memorial service held at the base auditorium at Camp Johnson, a satellite installation of Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune on May 31, 2012.

''He not only wanted to deploy as a Marine,'' said Lydia Hobson, MSgt Pruitt's mother, ''but as a human being. He wanted to help the people and children over there. When he got to Afghanistan, he asked me to send him crayons and coloring books for the children in the hospital because they didn't have the things American children had. He was a great man.''

''Pruitt never stopped surprising me,'' retired Master Sergeant Ron Scott, one of Pruitt's mentors said. ''I had a special bond with him. He grew from this young, wide-eyed kid to someone I called a brother.''

MSgt Pruitt was awarded the Bronze Star and Purple Heart for his service and sacrifice. He was also recognized by the Marine Corps Combat Service Support School ''Wall of Heroes'' where his memorial frame was placed.

The Mississippi Department of Transportation has designated a section of U.S. Highway 90 in Gautier as the Scott E. Pruitt Memorial Highway.

MSgt Pruitt is survived by his daughters Jennifer and Jordyn, and his fiancée, Trisha Lane.

MSgt Pruitt's dedication to protecting our nation will always be remembered.

HONORING BOWIE STATE UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT DR. MICKEY L. BURNIM

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2017

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, on April 22, Bowie State University celebrated the leadership and career of its ninth president, Dr. Mickey Burnim, at its annual Founders Gala. The annual Founders Gala marks the anniversary of the founding of the school in 1865 that would later become Bowie State University. While I was, unfortunately, unable to join the celebration in person, I want to express my great thanks to Dr. Burnim for all he has achieved during his tenure and congratulate him on being honored at this year's gala. I also join in wishing him well on his upcoming retirement.

When Dr. Burnim steps down as President of Bowie State University, he will complete eleven very successful years leading one of Maryland's great institutions of higher education and one of our nation's oldest and most illustrious historically black universities. Having come to Bowie State after serving as Chancellor of Elizabeth City State University in North Carolina and as Provost and Vice Chancellor of North Carolina Central University, Dr. Burnim brought to his presidency an already long and distinguished career in university administration. At a time when higher education costs are rising, Bowie State has been recognized for its outstanding value, including being ranked by The Economist for having the best higher education value in Maryland. An economist by training, Dr. Burnim has recognized the criticality of securing a sound fiscal future for the University, and during his time in office he took steps to put Bowie State on a solid footing for long-term expansion. With new resources secured, one of the focuses of his tenure has been the construction of new campus buildings, including a new student center, a performing arts center, and a new $107 million facility for the study and practice of Science, Mathematics, and Nursing. Recognizing how important it is to connect graduates with career opportunities and to foster young entrepreneurs, Dr. Burnim worked with the City of Bowie to launch the Bowie Business Innovation Center on campus. Under his leadership, Bowie State has continued to expand the programs it offers and to conduct groundbreaking research across a number of disciplines. I am very proud to represent Bowie State University in Congress.

Since its founding as the Baltimore Normal School after the Civil War, Bowie State University has served as an important nexus of education and opportunity for African Americans, and after 152 years it has grown to become one of our country's great universities and educates students from all backgrounds. Bowie State joined the University System of Maryland in 1988 and, along with the other institutions of higher education across our state, helps make Maryland one of the best places to pursue study in the country and, indeed, the world. Within the University System of Maryland, Bowie State has earned a reputation for leading in the fields of science, technology, engineering, the arts, and mathematics—or 'STEAM'—and creating innovative interdisciplinary programs that bring them all together to prepare students for success in emerging industries of the twenty-first century economy. It was Dr. Burnim who led Bowie State's effort to adopt the Education Innovation Initiative (EI^2), a STEAM-enrichment program that makes early career pathway exposure accessible to under-represented students throughout Prince George's County.

Dr. Mickey Burnim has been instrumental to the University's achievements and its strong trajectory for growth in the years ahead. I have been honored to work with him to ensure that Bowie State has had a partner in the federal government, and I thank him for all his hard work over the past eleven years as President and throughout his four decades in higher education. I wish him all the best, and I join in celebrating his very successful tenure that has made a real difference in the lives of tens of thousands of students across Maryland and the United States.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2017

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and missed the vote.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 232.

HONORING JENNIFER ''JENNY'' ALPERS

HON. VICKY HARTZLER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2017

Mrs. HARTZLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jennifer ''Jenny'' Alpers, a dedicated public servant to the citizens of Missouri. Jenny tirelessly worked alongside me as a legislative aide during my time as a Missouri State Representative to serve the good people of the 124th District. My appreciation to her cannot be understated. She helped constituents navigate the state bureaucracy, greeted visitors who came into my office, and advised me on important legislation facing Missouri at that time. Her service as a one-woman office staff was no easy task, but she worked with poise and efficiency.

Like many hardworking Missourians, Jenny and her late husband, Gary, worked on their family farm and raised two wonderful daughters, Jennifer and Ashley. Both daughters married great guys, Scott and Billy, and she has been blessed with three incredible grandchildren: Jordyn, Brady, and Wil. Continuing her love of serving others, she is active in her local church and community.

Mr. Speaker, I cannot think of an individual more deserving of this special recognition than Jenny herself. She never sought the limelight but instead did what all good Missourians do

by pulling up her sleeves and working to help her family, her friends, and even complete strangers. A retirement celebration for Jenny will be held on May 8, 2017 in the Missouri State Capitol, where many of her current and former colleagues and friends will be present to thank her for all she has done to better our great state. I ask all my colleagues to join me in applauding the years of service and commitment of Jenny. We are blessed to have such dedicated citizens like her serving us, and I wish her the best in the years to come. I thank Jenny, and God's blessings to her.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF FALLEN SOLDIER ARMY CAPTAIN (CPT) STEPHEN W. FRANK

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2017

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in memory of fallen soldier Army Captain (CPT) Stephen W. Frank who paid the ultimate sacrifice while defending our nation on April 29, 2005, during Operation Iraqi Freedom III. CPT Frank was killed when a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device detonated as he was conducting a traffic-control-point inspection in Diyarah, Iraq. Also killed was Captain Ralph J. Harting, III. They were among an estimated 50 people to die that day in bombings carried out by insurgents trying to disrupt Iraq's newly formed government.

CPT Frank was assigned to the 2nd Squadron, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment, Fort Irwin, California, which was attached to the 155th Brigade Combat Team (BCT) from Mississippi. CPT Frank was born in Lyndhurst, Ohio and then raised in Lansing, Michigan. He graduated from Haslett High School. CPT Frank earned a geography degree from the U.S. Military Academy in West Point, NY. CPT Frank and CPT Harting, a Michigan native, were college classmates.

Shortly after learning of their son's death, CPT Frank's parents, Bill and Sue Frank, invited the Hartings to their home to trade stories and photos of their sons.

''We talked about how we wished it was us to go first,'' Sue Frank told the Detroit Free Press. ''We were glad that the boys were not alone when they died. It was a comforting conversation, and we had an immediate bonding over the most tragic thing that could happen in your life. It's good to know that the Hartings are only two miles away.''

A memorial service was held at Fort Irwin, California, where both men were based. CPT Frank and CPT Harting were buried in a May 14 ceremony at West Point.

CPT Frank's survivors included his wife, Laurel, a 2-year-old son, and his parents, Bill and Sue Frank.

The sacrifice of these brave soldiers will always be remembered.

RECOGNIZING DR. MARK J. CRAWFORD ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2017

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Dr. Mark J. Crawford for his service to Western New York as an educator and public servant. He will be retiring from his position as Superintendent of the West Seneca Central School District, and I want to commemorate his hard work, dedication, and impact on our community.

Dr. Crawford began his educational career in Western New York, earning a bachelor's and a master's degree from Canisius College, and a doctorate from the University of Buffalo. In 1974, he began his career teaching at Our Lady of Perpetual Help School. Throughout his 43-year career in education, Dr. Crawford took on many different roles. He taught Regents Social Studies, served as the Dean of Discipline, Headmaster, and Principal at a number of our local schools including, Nardin Academy, Casey Middle School, and Northwood Elementary. In addition, Dr. Crawford served as an adjunct professor of graduate education at D'Youville College, helping to educate the future teachers of Western New York. For the past 13 years, he was Superintendent at Dryden Central School District, Hamburg Central Schools, and most recently, West Seneca Central School District.

In addition to his dedication to education, Mark is actively involved in the local community and serves as a member of the West Seneca Chamber of Commerce, member emeritus of the West Seneca Rotary Club, and Trustee Emeritus of the Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural Site Foundation Board of Trustees.

Furthermore, Dr. Crawford has expanded his community involvement beyond Western New York to Rwanda. Eight years ago, he traveled with the directors of the Summer Institute for Human Rights and Genocide Studies, and ever since has actively supported the organization.

Dr. Crawford has been serving the youth of Western New York for over four decades, and his commitment and dedication as an educator and public servant has had an immeasurable impact on our community.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me a few moments to honor Dr. Mark J. Crawford and recognize all that he has done for the City of West Seneca and the entire Western New York community. I know that you'll join me, and all of our colleagues, in wishing Mark, his wife, and their entire family the very best of good health and happiness in the months and years to come.

APPOINTMENT OF MS. JEANETTE S. JAMES TO THE NATIONAL COMMISSION ON MILITARY, NATIONAL, AND PUBLIC SERVICE

HON. MAC THORNBERRY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2017

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to section 553(b) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (Pub. L. 114–328), on March 31, 2017, I appointed Ms. Jeanette S. James to serve as a member of the National Commission on Military, National, and Public Service. Ms. James served 12 years as part of the staff of the House Armed Services Committee, leading the Subcommittee on Military Personnel for three years until her retirement in 2017. Prior to joining the committee staff, James served in the Army Nurses Corps for 31 years, rising to the rank of Colonel and commanding the medical department activity at Fort Drum. Ms. James was recently awarded the Army Distinguished Civilian Service Award, which is the highest honorary award that the Secretary of the Army may grant to a private citizen.

As the Chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, I have come to trust Jeanette's advice on matters that affect our troops and their families. For nearly a decade and a half, Jeanette has approached some of the Department of Defense's most difficult and controversial issues with the same precision, compassion, and dedication she showed to her patients during her 31 years as an Army nurse.

Jeanette has spent 43 years in public service, in which time she has made a real difference for our country and our military. Our troops are healthier and better cared for, their families are more secure, and our policies are better informed because of her service. I can think of few people more qualified to serve on this National Commission to review and reform the Selective Service process than someone who has dedicated her life to serving her nation with the utmost dedication and distinction for more than four decades.

HONORING TRIS & SAM BERGER

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2017

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker. I rise today to honor two individuals who through their dedication and commitment have become synonymous with the Beth El Synagogue Center in Scarsdale, Tris and Sam Berger.

In 1994, Tris and Sam Berger moved to Scarsdale from New York City and immediately joined Beth El Synagogue Center. Their daughter Yael (Yali) was born in 1996 and their son Kenny arrived in 2000.

Tris, a San Diego native, became a bat mitzvah and was confirmed at Temple Beth Israel, the largest and oldest Reform Temple in San Diego. Sam was raised outside Philadelphia, where his parents were founding

members of Temple Israel of Upper Darby and subsequently members of Temple Beth Sholom, in Elkins Park, PA. Both have had extremely successful careers at Price Waterhouse, among other institutions, and both have maintained an active community focused schedule outside of work. Tris has been involved in Beth El's Centennial Celebration Committees and co-chaired the Intergenerational Kallah. She was an area chair and divisional chair for UJA Scarsdale Woman's Philanthropy and currently chairs the Employment and Self Sufficiency Task Committee as part of the Caring Commission at UJA. She is also a member of the UJA Board of Directors. Sam has remained actively involved with the HR Committee, various search committees and on the Board of Trustees. He eventually became a Vice President and then Executive Vice President of Beth El. He assumed the position of President of 2014 and hasn't look back since. As President, Sam and his officers and other volunteers led the shul through the emotional retirement of our beloved rabbi of 43 years, Rabbi Melvin Sirner, to the exciting hiring of new senior rabbi, Rabbi David Schuck.

Tris and Sam have become part of the very fabric of Beth El and their contributions have been many. This year, Beth El is honoring Tris and Sam at their 63rd Annual Gala on March 19th. They could not have honored two more deserving individuals. Congratulations to Tris and Sam on this wonderful occasion.

HONORING DR. MARY PAPAZIAN

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2017

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I, along with my colleagues, Representative ANNA ESHOO and Representative RO KHANNA, rise today to recognize Dr. Mary Papazian on her inauguration as the 30th President of San Jose State University (SJSU). Dr. Papazian is the first person of Armenian-American descent and the third female to serve as SJSU's president in its 160-year history.

Dr. Papazian was born, raised and attended schools in Southern California. She eventually followed in her parent's footsteps by matriculating at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), where she earned a Bachelor's, Master's and doctoral degrees in English literature.

Dr. Papazian has gone on to enjoy a distinguished academic career spanning nearly three decades; She began her academic career at Oakland University in Rochester, Michigan, where she served as an assistant, associate and tenured professor of English and subsequently as Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Science.

Dr. Papazian subsequently moved to Montclair State University in New Jersey, where she served as Dean of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences before transitioning to the position of Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs at Lehman College of The City University of New York (CUNY).

In 2012, Dr. Papazian was appointed President of Southern Connecticut State University (SCSU) in New Haven, Connecticut, where she served with distinction for four and a half years before departing to assume the SJSU presidency in July 2016.

Dr. Papazian's accomplishments at SCSU included strengthening programs supporting the successful transition of first-year and transfer students, engaging SCSU actively in its community, completing a comprehensive master facilities plan, and establishing a strategic vision for what will be SCSU's next decade, and for its first-ever comprehensive philanthropic campaign.

Dr. Papazian and her husband, Dr. Dennis R. Papazian, professor emeritus of history and the founding director of the Armenian Research Center at the University of Michigan, Dearborn, have two adult daughters; Dr. Papazian has been and remains active in local and global Armenian affairs.

In word and deed, Dr. Papazian demonstrates an abiding commitment to student success, the professional development of faculty and staff members, the intrinsic value of education, and the interests of the broader community.

On behalf of the people of the 17th, 18th and 19th Congressional Districts of California, we extend our sincere congratulations to Dr. Mary Papazian of San Jose State University for this outstanding achievement.

JIM NATHAN OF LEE HEALTH

HON. FRANCIS ROONEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2017

Mr. FRANCIS ROONEY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Jim Nathan, a leader in Southwest Florida who has helped define our community-centered health system.

Forty-two years ago Jim Nathan interviewed at Lee Memorial Hospital. He expected to complete a one-year administrative residency and then return back to Cincinnati. However, after more than four decades later, he is still in Fort Myers serving the healthcare needs of our community.

I thank Jim Nathan for his decades of service and success to Southwest Florida, and I wish him well in his endeavors. I know Lee Health will continue to be caring people, inspiring health.

REFLECTING ON PRESIDENT TRUMP'S FIRST 100 DAYS

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2017

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, as you may know, this week marks the end of the first 100 days of the Trump Administration. It's an important time to reflect on the legislative progress of a new President and the path forward for our country. Today, I'm disappointed to report that this President has broken every important promise that Candidate Trump made to the American people.

As a Member of Congress, my top priority is to represent the best interests of my constituents. When leaders from either party, Republican or Democrat, propose REAL solutions to the challenges my constituents face, I want to work with them. So when President Trump said he had a plan to improve our healthcare system with more affordable "insurance for everybody," I was ready to see what he had to offer. When President Trump promised to create 25 million jobs across the country, I wanted to see his plans on day one. When the President said he would restore a government by the people, I wanted to believe him.

I am truly disappointed to report today that President Trump not only failed to follow through on any of his biggest promises, but he has failed to make any real effort to even address the big issues he promised to tackle.

After 100 days in the White House, President Trump has not put forth a single job-creation bill. Instead of draining the swamp, President Trump has filled his cabinet with lobbyists and insiders. Instead of offering a healthcare plan to insure everybody, President Trump has proposed a plan that would eliminate insurance coverage for 24 million Americans.

For Americans struggling to pay their bills or afford their health premiums, empty rhetoric is not going to cut it. Not when my constituents' health, their jobs, and their futures are on the line.

In the state of Alabama, ten hospitals have closed in the past six years as residents struggle to afford care for themselves and their families. When it comes to healthcare reform, the stakes for my constituents could not be higher.

But instead of following through on his promise of healthcare for everybody, President Trump has pushed a plan in Congress that asks my constituents to pay more for less. The Congressional Budget Office estimates that TrumpCare would increase premium costs in some of the counties in my district by thousands of dollars. That's not healthcare for everybody—that's healthcare for the privileged few.

My district has a 10 percent unemployment rate. So when the President said he had a plan to create 25 million jobs over the next decade, the stakes, again, could not be higher.

But rather than helping to find employment for those Americans who want to rejoin our workforce, President Trump's proposed budget slashes jobs training and guts funding for infrastructure programs.

I come from a district where most constituents have never been to Washington, D.C. So when a candidate promises to bring their voice to our nation's capital, it means something.

But instead of working to drain the swamp, President Trump is leading the least transparent administration since the days of Richard Nixon. Rather than opening up our democracy, President Trump has become the first President in decades to keep his tax returns hidden, leaving the public in the dark when it comes to any potential conflicts of interest.

So what has President Trump's administration accomplished in its first 100 days in office? In his budget, President Trump has proposed cutting programs that seniors rely on

like Meals on Wheels, and he has eliminated programs our rural areas depend on for infrastructure investment like the Appalachian Regional Commission.

In his first 100 days, President Trump has put the programs and policies most important to working families on the chopping block. I want the President to deliver on his promises to increase employment and reduce the cost of healthcare for everyone. But what our nation has witnessed so far is an assault on working families and policies that undermine our core democratic values.

Mr. Speaker, as we mark the President's first 100 days in office, I implore my colleagues to put aside the empty promises and actually work with Democrats to put forth smart and sensible legislation that moves our country forward and benefits all Americans. I truly hope that after 100 days of broken promises, this Administration will refocus its agenda on helping America's families rather than Washington's special interests. My constituents can't afford another three years of big talk and no action.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF FALLEN MISSISSIPPI SOLDIER ARMY SERGEANT (SGT) ANTHONY O'NEAL MAGEE

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2017

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in memory of fallen Mississippi soldier Army Sergeant (SGT) Anthony O'Neal Magee who paid the ultimate sacrifice while defending our nation on April 27, 2010, during Operation Iraqi Freedom. SGT Magee died at Landstul Regional Medical Center, Germany of wounds sustained at Forward Operating Base Kalsu, Iskandariyah. SGT Magee was wounded when enemy forces attacked his unit with indirect fire.

SGT Magee, a Hattiesburg native, was assigned to the Company A, 2nd Battalion, 69th Armor Regiment, 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, Fort Benning, Georgia.

SGT Magee graduated from Hattiesburg High School in 2000. His ninth grade algebra teacher, Leisha Weathersby, shared with the Associated Press that he was a sincere, hard-working young man. ''It was an honor to teach him, and I wish I had 101 students like him.''

SGT Magee was married to Courtney Magee for two months prior to his death. ''He was a great man with a big heart,'' Courtney said to the Associated Press. ''Whoever needed help, he was there to help them. He touched a lot of people's lives because he had such a big heart.''

SGT Magee's uncle, Dennis Davis, said he was one of the nicest young men with whom you would ever want to come in contact.

At SGT Magee's memorial service at Forward Operating Base (FOB) Kalsu's chapel, soldiers of the 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, gathered to remember their fallen comrade. Colonel Robert Ashe, commander of the 2nd Battalion, 69th Armor Regiment, said tireless efforts were taken to save his life by other soldiers and later at the FOB Kalsu aid station. COL Ashe said his family members were able to say goodbye to SGT Magee because of this concerted effort to save his life.

Our nation is blessed to have soldiers like SGT Magee who bravely fought to protect America.

RECOGNIZING KING'S HAWAIIAN

HON. DOUG COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2017

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize King's Hawaiian as Georgia's 2017 Manufacturer of the Year. King's Hawaiian joined the Hall County community in 2011, and today employs 650 friends and neighbors at its Georgia facility.

I have visited the King's Hawaiian plant in Oakwood and can testify to its efficiency and professionalism. However, what struck me the most was the overarching culture of positivity and respect among King's Hawaiian employees.

While the operation's vision and growth both stand out from a business perspective, King's Hawaiian has also become a community partner and leader in Hall County.

King's Hawaiian strongly supports Lanier Technical College and the Hall County School System. It invests in Leadership Hall and Youth Leadership Hall. Additionally, King's Hawaiian provides dinner rolls to several local charities and engages the community through a variety of events.

Additionally, King's Hawaiian continues to look for ways to maximize its positive presence in Georgia, collaborating with our poultry industry and some of Georgia's brightest agriculture minds.

For all of these reasons, King's Hawaiian deserves the honor of being Georgia's Manufacturer of the Year, and I am proud that they call northeast Georgia home.

IN RECOGNITION OF ST. JOHN PROVIDENCE HEALTH SYSTEM FOR BEING NAMED HUMANITARIAN OF THE YEAR

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2017

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize St. John Providence Health System for receiving the Chaldean American Chamber of Commerce's Humanitarian of the Year Award. The physicians and staff of St. John Providence provide lifesaving medical care to southeast Michigan and the Chaldean community.

Founded in 1999 after a merger of several local hospital systems, St. John Providence Health System operates four hospitals and 125 medical centers that collectively act as the largest provider of inpatient medical care in southeast Michigan. These facilities offer services including advanced treatments for cancer, neurological diseases and other specialized care. SJP also offers special assistance to improve the quality of care for the Chaldean community, including Arabic signage, cultural programming and Middle Eastern food options. They also partner with Medical Emergency Relief for Christian Iraqis, an organization that provides medical services and supplies to Iraqi Christians in need. Additionally, SJP has collaborated extensively with the Chaldean American Association for Health Professionals, helping them sponsor continuing medical education for medical professionals and working with local churches to increase access to preventative care.

St. John Providence Health System has provided world-class medical care to the southeast Michigan community since its formation. Its comprehensive offering of advanced medical services, as well as its specialized outreach to the wide variety of ethnic groups in southeast Michigan, has helped SJP's hospital services and patient outcomes rank among the best in the country. Its unique approach to care allows it to continue serving the specific medical needs of Chaldeans and other patients, and it is my hope that SJP and its affiliates continue to be a model for healthcare delivery to these groups in the coming years.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring St. John Providence Health System for its world-class healthcare and service it provides to southeast Michigan. SJP serves patients well through its suite of offerings in southeast Michigan.

INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO COMMISSION A STATUE OF ELIE WIESEL TO BE PLACED IN THE CAPITOL

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2017

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of legislation I introduced earlier today with Congresswoman ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN to commission a statue or bust of Elie Wiesel to be installed in the Capitol.

This legislation is especially timely as we commemorate Yom Ha'Shoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day, this week.

If enacted, this legislation would direct the Joint Committee on the Library to obtain a statue or bust of Elie Wiesel for placement in the United States Capitol.

Elie Wiesel was born in Romania in 1928. In 1944, at the age of fifteen, Wiesel was deported to Auschwitz, and later to Buchenwald where he was released in April 1945.

Following the war, Wiesel became a journalist and wrote about his experiences during the Holocaust. His memoir, Night, has been translated into over 30 languages. Throughout his life, he fought vocally against indifference, intolerance, and injustice. Wiesel received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1986.

Elie Wiesel was one of the greatest moral forces in the world. He was in the same class as Nelson Mandela, Dr. Martin Luther King,

Jr., and Mahatma Gandhi. Wiesel was brilliant, pure, honest, and courageous.

I met Elie Wiesel when I was a Tennessee State Senator and he was honored at Vanderbilt. It was particularly special for me to meet Elie Wiesel as he was the inspiration for my passing legislation to create the Tennessee Holocaust Commission in 1984.

Elie Wiesel made it his life's work to remind and educate others on the horrors of the Holocaust. He spent his life encouraging others to learn from this tragic chapter in the history of humanity. He continually told people to never forget.

This addition to the Capitol would be a continuous reminder to ''never forget.''

His voice was strong and is sorely missed. He was one of my heroes.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

RECOGNIZING 75 YEARS OF THE KENNETT, MO BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2017

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Kennett Board of Public Works 75th year of service as a municipally owned utility to the citizens of Kennett, Missouri. In Missouri's Eighth Congressional District we are thankful to have a public power utility that provides Electric, Natural Gas, Water, Sewer, Internet and Economic Development services to their customers.

Throughout their 75 years, the Kennett Board of Public Works has made it their mission to provide the best possible service at the lowest possible rates for their customers in the Bootheel. With the guidance of their wise and dedicated board members, along with the management of the utility, they have been very successful in accomplishing their mission.

As we celebrate the Kennett Board of Public Works 75th year of service as a municipally owned utility to the citizens of Kennett, Missouri, it is my pleasure to recognize the organization and their efforts before the House of Representatives and thank them for their commitment to their community in Missouri's Bootheel.

HONORING BOB & RUTH LEWIS

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2017

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, as Young Israel of New Rochelle in my district celebrates its 50th Anniversary at its current location, there could not be a more fitting couple to honor at the celebration than Bob and Ruth Lewis.

Ten years after its founding on Coligni Avenue in south New Rochelle, YINR moved to 1228 North Avenue in June 1967. One month later in July, 1967 Ruth and Bob joined that small group of congregants and since their arrival, the Lewises have been a significant presence in our community. Early on, Ruth with Rita Steimmauer Schiller prepared Shabbos kiddush and Bob corralled Jewish passersby to complete the sparse Friday night and Shabbos morning minyanim. Ruth was the head and motivating force of the committee for the formation of our eruv. Bob was a YINR vice president and a member of the search committee that hired Rabbi Fink. The Lewises have hosted the Bonnie Crest Friday night minyan since 1987. ''Dr. Ruth'', an internist and renowned endocrinologist has consulted on many of the more complicated medical problems of our members. 'Dr. Bob', an OB-GYN, has delivered a number of the YINR offspring.

Of all their accomplishments, the Lewises feel their greatest achievement has been their three daughters, Debbie, Adina, and Beth who have spent virtually their entire lives in New Rochelle and with their husbands have produced their remarkable eleven grandchildren. Debbie with her husband David Isaac, and Adina with her husband, Lawrence Garbuz, following their parents' example, have become valued, effective, respected members of our New Rochelle community. Beth and her husband, Yoel Greenbaum are highly thought of in their Teaneck community.

Bob and Ruth have been cornerstones of the YINR and New Rochelle community, and their commitment to their family, friends, and fellow congregants is inspiring. On this special occasion, I want to take the opportunity to thank Bob and Ruth for all that they have done, and congratulate them on this wonderful and well deserved honor.

PRESIDENT TRUMP'S TAX PLAN

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2017

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak for one minute on President Trump's Tax Cut Plan,

As a member of the House Budget Committee, I would participate in any Committee's markup of a tax reform bill,

President Trump's much anticipated tax plan is another disappointment; a poor work product; something he should have been ashamed to put his name on; and it reveals yet again what many warned about before the election,

This tax plan would receive a failing grade in any school of business.

A one page federal tax cut plan—really is an insult to the American People.

This plan shows no command of the facts regarding our nation's very complex tax system.

Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin set out a test for tax reform that, ''there will be no absolute tax cut for the upper class.''

But the president's tax plan has failed this test miserably by providing a huge tax cut for the wealthy while middle income families would receive very little benefit.

In fact, Trump's tax plan provides a huge tax benefit for him personally. Using his 2005 tax return numbers, President Trump would save about $28.6 million in taxes under his plan.

About $27 million of those savings is due to the reduction of the passthrough income rate to 15 percent.

President Trump's tax proposal blows a hole in the nation's deficit.

It's become painfully obvious that the deficit only matters when a Democrat is President.

The plan is not revenue neutral.

In fact, early press reports indicate that the Trump proposal is likely to add several trillions of dollars to our deficit.

Busting the deficit the way the Trump tax plan would do puts immediate pressure on our other obligations—including guaranteed Medicare benefits.

The President can't pretend to protect Medicare, then leave beneficiaries completely exposed by draining our coffers.

For some context, these tax cuts could fund Medicare for the next 75 years or more.

You have to question the priorities of the President—is he working to keep his promises to hardworking Americans, or is he abandoning those promises in favor of enriching the wealthy.

Democrats know that the Middle Class deserves the tax cut, not Donald Trump and his Cabinet.

We would focus on growing our economy from the middle out, instead of trickle-down economics from the top down.

The middle class does not need to deal with the consequence of a massive tax cut for the wealthy.

I ask my colleagues join me in opposing any burdensome tax cut plan that hurts working families.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF FALLEN MISSISSIPPI SOLDIER ARMY STAFF SERGEANT (SSG) JEFFREY FRANCIS DAYTON

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2017

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in memory of Army Staff Sergeant (SSG) Jeffrey Francis Dayton who paid the ultimate sacrifice while defending our nation on April, 29, 2004, during Operation Iraqi Freedom. SSG Dayton was one of eight soldiers killed by a car bomb as his unit was doing a dismounted improvised explosive device sweep in Baghdad, Iraq.

SSG Dayton was assigned to the 4th Battalion, 27th Field Artillery Regiment, 1st Armored Division, Baumholder, Germany. SSG Dayton entered the Army in February 1998. His family says SSG Dayton was always drawn to ''all things Army.'' He was the sixth child of Jim and Shelia Dayton. His nickname was ''Six.'' He had another nickname in the Army. Everyone in his unit called him ''Sunshine'' because of his friendly disposition and upbeat personality.

SSG Dayton's brother, John Dayton, was serving with the Air Force in the Middle East at the time of his brother's death. John immediately requested to leave his post to escort his little brother's body home. He did not want his brother to make the long journey home

alone. As John made his way with Jeffrey's body through airports in Frankfurt, Germany, Atlanta, and Memphis, he was amazed at the outpouring of respect he received. He shared his story with Kevin Wood, author of an article on 40 Days of Honor, a blog initiated by the Northeast Mississippi Daily Journal.

''During the mission to escort my brother's body back home, the most difficult of any mission ever assigned to me, several people approached me in airports and thanked me for my service,'' John said. ''I politely thanked them, but inside I felt hollow, and guilty. It just didn't seem right that my little brother died protecting others and they were thanking me.''

When SSG Dayton's body arrived in Columbus, MS, the Columbus Police Department cleared the roads and posted an officer at each intersection. Each police officer saluted SSG Dayton.

SSG Dayton is buried in Corinth, MS, in the closest military cemetery to his Caledonia home. Today, a monument stands in his honor as well in honor of SSGT Brian Freeman, who also gave his life to protect our freedoms.

SSG Dayton is survived by his parents, James and Shelia Dayton, his wife Helen, and siblings; John and Jim Dayton, Joe Galbraith, Jay and Jeremy Dayton, and his sister, Joanna Gilford.

HONORING ANDREW MALCOLM

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2017

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Andrew Malcolm, a long-time, talented member of my staff who transitions this week from my office after more than seven years of dedicated service to Oregon's Second Congressional District.

Growing up in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, Andrew earned a degree in politics from Princeton, where he graduated Summa Cum Laude in 2009. Throughout school he had a keen eye on politics. He served as a congressional page during high school and in college he interned in the George W. Bush White House. It was also at Princeton that he met his wonderful wife Liz and I was glad to be present for their wedding nearly two years ago in her home state of Illinois.

Despite his East Coast upbringing, Andrew dove right into being an adopted Oregonian, answering those that asked, ''I am not from Oregon, but I've spent a lot of time there.'' This started early on when Andrew jumped at a short notice opportunity to spend a couple days in Central Oregon and get some in-district experience. Now the Congressional schedule is a bit fluid at times and those couple days morphed into a couple weeks, while Liz was probably wondering if he'd gotten lost in the wilderness.

It might have been the beautiful landscapes, or maybe the Oregon pinots, craft beer and Pendleton whiskey, but no matter the reason Andrew fell in love with all that Oregon has to offer and adopted it as his second home state.

As an East Coaster learning the ways of the Pacific Northwest, it wasn't all smooth sailing. In fact, much like the east coast ships crossing the Columbia bar for the first time, his initial experience in Oregon's fashion waters was a bit rough. Arriving to his interview in boat shoes, he quickly learned they were well out of the norm for Oregonians, and probably shouldn't be seen in them around the district.

Moving deftly past that faux pas, Andrew rose swiftly through the ranks in my office, from Legislative Correspondent and Legislative Assistant, to Press Secretary and Deputy Chief of Staff. Along the way he's helped contribute to some historic moments for Oregon and our nation.

When Andrew's first tour of duty out in Oregon came to an end, we'd taken back the majority in the House. Andrew found himself in the middle of the action helping staff the transition effort for House Republicans heading into the 112th Congress.

Andrew also played an instrumental role last fall as we worked all the angles and were successful in achieving the chair of the Energy and Commerce Committee—a first in Oregon history.

Perhaps the toughest work, however, was done daily. Dealing with the press on Capitol Hill is a challenging enough job, but there may be no more challenging job than being press secretary to a Member of Congress who was a press secretary to a Member of Congress. Andrew took this in stride, and tackled it with dedicated skill.

Weighing in at over 70,000 square miles, Oregon's Second District is vast and diverse. There are five distinct television markets covered by nearly a dozen stations and numerous radio stations and newspapers. Reporters kept Andrew on his toes with questions on a wide range of policy issues. Whether we were working to put people back to work in the woods, or fighting for veterans' access to the care they deserve, Andrew easily distilled complex policy down for the public, sometimes in as little as 140 characters.

While Andrew is departing as a formal member of my staff, he will always be a valued member of Team Walden. We will miss his quick wit and dedicated intellect, but know they will continue to be an asset to him into the future.

As Andrew moves on to the next stage of his professional career, I am reminded of a piece of advice from President Theodore Roosevelt. ''Life is a great adventure . . . accept it in such a spirit.'' Throughout his time in my office, Andrew has done just that. Jumping at opportunities and taking on new responsibilities with tenacity and a high degree of respect and appreciation for the work we do here in Congress, and the people we serve.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in thanking Andrew for his dedication and service to the great state of Oregon and our nation, and wish him and Liz the very best of luck for the next chapter of their lives.

CONGRATULATING THE HISTORICAL MARKER DEDICATION OF THE OLD SMITH POINT SCHOOLHOUSE/CHURCH

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2017

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Smith Point Community Church on its dedication as a new Texas Historical Marker.

There is over one hundred years of church history wrapped up in what was once known as the ''Old Smith Point Schoolhouse/Church.'' The Old Smith Point Baptist Church was established in the late 1800's by a group of pastors from the neighboring county that were concerned about the lack of a church in Chambers County. They agreed to be circuit pastors and take turns preaching under a stand of trees, where the church now stands. In 1937, the county built the building that is used as the current sanctuary, which served a multi-purpose as both a church and the first school in Chambers County. In 1948 the church reorganized and hired its first pastor, L.J. Hand who served the people of the Smith Point Community part time. In 1956, P.L. Smith was hired as the church's first full time pastor.

In 1960, the county sold the building to the church for one dollar and the promise that the church would build two public restrooms. At the same time, six lots of land right next to the building were gifted to the church by E.J. Rosenquest. The building was renovated, under then pastor J.R. Gibson, with additional classrooms and the public restrooms as promised. The church wanted to build a parsonage for their pastor, but had no money or resources to do so. They prayed to God and asked him to provide everything they needed in order to get the parsonage built. Hurricane Carla occurred in 1961 literally raining wood and debris on Smith Point. Those pieces of wood from the hurricane were used to build the same parsonage that is still used today.

In 2007, the church's name was changed to Smith Point Community Church and still serves the residents of Chambers County with guidance by Reverend Michael K. Graves.

There is an abundant amount of local history and perseverance behind this church. I am proud to have such history in my District. Once again, I congratulate Smith Point Community Church and its dedication as a new Texas Historical Marker.

IN MEMORY OF NHON H.T. NGUYEN

HON. ALAN S. LOWENTHAL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2017

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, after a life of service to both the Republic of Vietnam and to the Vietnamese American community in Southern California, Nhon H.T. Nguyen passed away April 18, 2017 at the age of 91.

Nhon was born in 1927 in Hue, Vietnam. She joined the military finance administration in 1950 and transferred to service at the Nguyen Tri Phuong Military Hospital in Hue in 1957, where she was eventually promoted to the rank of First Lieutenant.

It was during her service at the hospital that she witnessed the sacrifices and loss of disabled soldiers, which motivated her to dedicate her life to serve disabled veterans, war widows, and children of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Vietnam.

In 1967, Nhon transferred to the Women Military Institute and Training Center, where she rose to the rank of Captain and was appointed to serving in the Women Military Bureau at the Joint General Staff of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Vietnam. Two years later, she was promoted to the rank of Major and named as the Head of the Research Department. In 1972, she transferred to the Republic of Vietnam Air Force and was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

In early 1975, she was honored by the Republic of Vietnam with the Knight Decoration of the National Order of Vietnam (De Ngu Dang Bao Quoc Huan Chuong) for her twenty-five years of service to the armed forces.

Following the Fall of Saigon on April 30, 1975, the Communist government imprisoned her in numerous ''re-education camps'' such as Long Giao, Quang Trung, Hoc Mon, Z30D, Ham Tan, and Long Thanh, where she was forced to perform harsh labor for four years.

In 1990, Nhon and her family resettled in the United States under the HO2 program (Humanitarian Operation), and they have been living in Orange County, California since.

Shortly after arriving in the United States, she joined the Former Political Prisoners Mutual Assistance Association, providing help to resettle South Vietnam veterans to the U.S.

In 1996, she joined the Republic of Vietnam Disabled Veterans and Widows Relief Association as the Secretary General. After a decade of service, she was unanimously elected President of the organization by all its members in 2006.

Under her leadership as President, the RVN Disabled Veterans and Widows Relief Association, in partnership with SBTN and Asia Entertainment, organized a total of ten ''Cam On Anh'' Benefit Concerts, with all of the proceeds going toward assisting disabled South Vietnam veterans, widows and their children who are still in Vietnam.

Along with her lifelong career of military and charitable service, Nhon was an outstanding Vietnamese Girl Scout and a Scout Leader, joining Girl Scouting in 1941.

Despite the difficult circumstances during the war and being in military service, she always lived her life embodying the Scouting values and helping younger Scouts whenever necessary.

She also became a founding member and advisor in 2004 of the Lang Bach Hop Quang Te Scouters Association of Southern California.

For her merits and contributions to the Vietnamese Scouting Movement, the International Central Committee of Vietnamese Scouting awarded Nhon the Bach Hop Medal in 2012 and the Bac Dau Medal in 2016—the two highest awards given by the organization.

When asked in a 2011 interview what motivated her to continue her volunteer work to support disabled RVN veterans in Vietnam, she said ''I feel happy when I am able to join the Vietnamese community and organizations in organizing the Cam On Anh Benefit Concert because of the fraternal love and brotherhood. As soldiers, that sentiment is very strong. I imagine the happy moment when they receive our assistance, when their children have a little bit more to eat, to wear, and their family feels a little bit more warmhearted when they see fellow compatriots overseas are still thinking of them and their sacrifices.''

Nhon is survived by her children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren.

CONGRATULATING RICHARD ''RICK'' LEDGETT ON HIS RETIREMENT AS THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY

HON. DEVIN NUNES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2017

Mr. NUNES. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Ranking Member SCHIFF and myself, I rise today to congratulate Richard ''Rick'' Ledgett on his retirement as the Deputy Director of the National Security Agency (NSA). With 40 years of government service, Rick has dedicatedly served his country, the NSA, and the Intelligence Community. Before beginning his tenure at the NSA, Rick spent 11 years in the United States Army working as a SIGINTer.

At the NSA for the past 29 years, Rick has held a variety of operational, management, and technical leadership positions, including director of the agency's Threat Operations Center (NTOC) from 2012–2013 and most recently, serving as the agency's Deputy Director.

Prior to his appointment at NTOC, Rick served in both the collection and cyber mission areas of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence and was appointed as the DNI's first National Intelligence Manager for cyber.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, we would like to wish Rick Ledgett happiness, success, and good health as he begins retirement and to thank him for his service to his country, the NSA, and the U.S. Intelligence Community. Rick, best wishes on your retirement.

RECOGNIZING THE DILLARD HOUSE 100TH ANNIVERSARY IN DILLARD, GEORGIA

HON. DOUG COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2017

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th Anniversary of the Dillard House Restaurant and Inn. This milestone is a testament to the hard work and dedication of the Dillard family, who have owned and operated the charming mountain escape since the early nineteenth century. The Dillard House has served travelers and locals alike by providing a dynamic getaway experience, with farm-to-table dining, outdoor family recreation, beautiful vineyards, and breathtaking views.

The Dillard family first came to Georgia in 1794 and played an integral role in the early development and success of Dillard, Georgia. By contributing to an array of businesses and even lending its name to the Town, the Dillard family has stood as a pillar of the community generation after generation.

The Dillard House is a unique piece of history that continues to expand, accommodating larger groups and providing more activities, while remaining loyal to its northeast Georgia roots. The Dillard family embodies the true meaning of southern hospitality and has served hundreds of thousands of patrons throughout the last century. Over the years, the Dillard House has become a landmark establishment in the Ninth District and the premiere northeast Georgia dining experience.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to celebrate with the Dillard family and to recognize their success before you today.

IN RECOGNITION OF VICTOR SAROKI FOR BEING NAMED THE CHALDEAN AMERICAN BUSINESS PERSON OF THE YEAR

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2017

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Victor Saroki for being named the Chaldean American Business Person of the Year by the Chaldean American Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Saroki is a renowned architect who has helped design and restore many of the iconic buildings in southeast Michigan.

After graduating from Lawrence Technological University, Mr. Saroki founded Saroki Architecture with his wife Michelle in 1983. The firm, based out of Birmingham, Michigan, has established a reputation as an exceptional architecture and interiors firm as a result of its successful work on high-profile projects in southeast Michigan. Under Mr. Saroki's leadership, the firm has designed the expansion of the Townsend Hotel in Birmingham, ABC Harley-Davidson and St. Thomas Chaldean Catholic Church. These projects have been met with widespread acclaim and have helped earn the firm more than 60 design awards. Additionally, Mr. Saroki is active in the community, having served on numerous nonprofits and community associations.

Mr. Saroki's entrepreneurship and leadership has been instrumental in helping strengthen the southeast Michigan community. His firm has received numerous plaudits for its work, having been named the 2007 Firm of the Year Award by the American Institute of Architects' Michigan chapter, as well as receiving recognition from the Construction Institute of Michigan and numerous Birmingham

Historic Preservation Awards. Additionally, Mr. Saroki has also been named to the American Institute of Architects' College of Fellows. This widespread recognition is a testament to the high quality of Mr. Saroki's architecture and designs. Mr. Saroki's work with the community at large has also been impactful. As a board member of the Chaldean Community Cultural Center and other civic groups, his work has played an important role in improving the quality of life for the Chaldean community. These accomplishments are worthy of recognition, and it is my hope that Mr. Saroki and his firm continue their excellent work in the coming years.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Victor Saroki for receiving the Chaldean American Business Person of the Year. His distinguished career and community activism have served southeast Michigan well.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2017

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and missed Roll Call vote numbers 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on vote 231, 232 and 233. I would have voted "nay" on votes 229, 230 and 234.

HONORING SUSAN LURIE

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 28, 2017

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a member of the community who has been instrumental in the success of the Westchester Jewish Center for many years, Susan Lurie. The WJC is honoring Susan at their 66th Annual Spring Gala this year, and I cannot think of a more deserving honoree.

Susan has been part of the Larchmont/Mamaroneck community for over 30 years. She became Executive Director of the Westchester Jewish Center 16 years ago after receiving a call from a congregant at WJC who was on the search committee for a new director there. What has kept Susan at WJC for all this time has been the interesting and diverse work; but even more than that has been the relationships and the feeling of home and family for so many congregants.

Susan has been involved in every facet of WJC life. Over the years, Susan and the WJC leaders have worked together implementing innovative methods and programs such as a major building campaign and construction and the development of a strategic plan to make the many segments of synagogue life more engaging and responsive to the needs of its congregants.

As a face of WJC, Susan is always warm and welcoming. After 16 years Susan has decided to retire and she reports with great pleasure about all the congregants that have come by to see her since the announcement was made.

On this special occasion, I want to take a moment to thank Susan for all of her amazing work and congratulate her on this wonderful honor. It's much deserved.

SENATE—*Monday, May 1, 2017*

The Senate met at 3 p.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

God of our fathers and mothers, continue to lead us with the power of Your wisdom and might. Empower our Senators to live this day with honor. Increase their faith, hope, and love that they may receive Your promises and claim them to accomplish Your purposes for our world.

Lord, inspire our Senators today with the music of Your wisdom that through their labors, they may bring hope from despair and joy from sadness. Teach them to celebrate, even in the darkness, because You are the God who gives us strength to accomplish more than we can ask or imagine.

We pray in Your merciful Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. YOUNG). The majority leader is recognized.

GOVERNMENT FUNDING LEGISLATION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, the funding bill announced last night will allow us to make critical advances to rebuild our military, strengthen our border, and continue providing relief to communities that have struggled for too long against the opioid epidemic. These are important priorities for Congress and for the President. They reflect a lot of hard work. They promise to positively and meaningfully impact the lives of the men and women we represent. The funding bill also includes another critical priority I have long fought for: protecting healthcare for thousands of retired coal miners.

This legislation would allow us to take the initial step needed to begin rebuilding our military. It contains a downpayment on defense that will support forward-deployed forces in places like the Korean Peninsula and Eastern Europe and operations against adversaries like ISIL and the Taliban as we work to secure the funds that will be necessary to improve readiness and restore munitions and ammunition.

We know that more must be done to meet our global commitments, and by providing some of the resources that will be necessary for a sustained rebuilding campaign—one we can hope will earn bipartisan support—we can take an important step forward.

This legislation will also allow us to substantially strengthen the border. It contains the largest increase in border security resources in a decade, allowing us to address high-priority security needs, crack down on illegal border crossings, and strengthen the border with everything from upgraded physical infrastructure to high-tech biometric and surveillance technology. We know more must be done to secure the border, and by finally delivering more of the resources and tools necessary to secure it, we can take an important step forward.

This legislation will also allow us to fight back against the opioid and heroin crisis while bolstering medical innovation and treatments at the same time. It contains funding for programs Congress authorized last year in the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act, continued funding for the 21st Century Cures Act—also passed last year—to attack opioid abuse, plus additional funds to combat the prescription opioid and heroin crisis that has devastated communities across the Nation.

We know more must be done to heal the communities that are hurting, and by funding the fight against today's epidemic, along with a fight for tomorrow's medical solutions, we can take an important step in the right direction. My home State of Kentucky has been particularly hard-hit by this epidemic, and helping our families and communities overcome this assault remains a top priority for me.

On another priority of mine addressed in the funding bill, I am particularly proud to announce that through this legislation, we have secured a permanent extension of healthcare benefits for thousands of retired coal miners and their families in States like Kentucky. Over the past few years, I have met with numerous Kentucky miners about this important issue, and I have been proud to lead efforts to help these families keep their healthcare. Now I am pleased to report that this spending legislation incorporates language from a bill I introduced earlier this year and will enact a permanent extension of miner healthcare benefits. I am proud to have secured this important provision as we put together the final package, and I will continue to fight to provide relief for coal communities going forward.

Moreover, this funding bill also includes additional assistance for troubled coal-mining communities and dislocated coal workers, and it promotes an ''all of the above'' energy policy that prioritizes coal, natural gas, and nuclear research.

It is disappointing that our Democratic colleagues blocked last year's efforts to move individual appropriations bills under the regular order, but I am pleased that they have now agreed to a solution that will advance many of the priorities of the American people, Congress, and the President.

The funding legislation announced last night, which incorporates the 11 regular appropriations bills remaining from last year, is the product of a great deal of work in committee last year and subsequent bipartisan, bicameral discussions this year. I want to thank all of those who put in long hours and continued to negotiate in good faith so that we could arrive at this strong agreement.

In particular, I wish to recognize Chairman COCHRAN, the leadership of the House and Senate Appropriations Committees, and their staffs. They worked to ensure that the process was bipartisan and bicameral every step of the way. Because of their efforts, we now have an agreement that both sides should support.

Before we take up the bill later this week, I encourage all Senators to review the full text, which includes more information on the priorities I just mentioned, and then let's keep working together to pass it later this week.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of Calendar Nos. 39 through 51 and all nominations placed on the Secretary's desk in the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, and Navy; that the nominations be confirmed, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order; that any statements related to the nominations be printed in the RECORD; that the

President be immediately notified of the Senate's action and the Senate then resume legislative session.

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

The nominations considered and confirmed are as follows:

IN THE NAVY

The following named officers for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

To be rear admiral

Rear Adm. (lh) Richard A. Brown
Rear Adm. (lh) James S. Bynum
Rear Adm. (lh) Daryl L. Caudle
Rear Adm. (lh) Richard A. Correll
Rear Adm. (lh) Randy B. Crites
Rear Adm. (lh) Daniel H. Fillion
Rear Adm. (lh) Collin P. Green
Rear Adm. (lh) Mary M. Jackson
Rear Adm. (lh) James W. Kilby
Rear Adm. (lh) James J. Malloy
Rear Adm. (lh) John W. Tammen, Jr.

The following named officers for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

Capt. Kevin M. Jones
Capt. Thomas J. Moreau

IN THE MARINE CORPS

The following named officers for appointment in the United States Marine Corps Reserve to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

To be major general

Brig. Gen. David G. Bellon
Brig. Gen. Patrick J. Hermesmann

The following named officers for appointment in the United States Marine Corps to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

To be major general

Brig. Gen. Edward D. Banta
Brig. Gen. Robert F. Castellvi
Brig. Gen. Matthew G. Glavy
Brig. Gen. Michael S. Groen
Brig. Gen. Kevin M. Iiams
Brig. Gen. William F. Mullen, III
Brig. Gen. Gregg P. Olson
Brig. Gen. Eric M. Smith

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Marine Corps Reserve to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 12203:

To be brigadier general

Col. Michael S. Martin

The following named officers for appointment in the United States Marine Corps to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

To be brigadier general

Col. James H. Adams, III
Col. Eric E. Austin
Col. Jay M. Bargeron
Col. Michael J. Borgschulte
Col. William J. Bowers
Col. Dimitri Henry
Col. Keith D. Reventlow
Col. Roberta L. Shea
Col. Benjamin T. Watson
Col. Christian F. Wortman

IN THE ARMY

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. Bryan P. Fenton

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. Darrell K. Williams

IN THE NAVY

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be vice admiral

Rear Adm. David H. Lewis

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be vice admiral

Rear Adm. Mathias W. Winter

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

To be rear admiral

Rear Adm. (lh) Steven L. Parode

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

To be rear admiral

Rear Adm. (lh) John P. Polowczyk

The following named officers for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

To be rear admiral

Rear Adm. (lh) Jon A. Hill
Rear Adm. (lh) Gordon D. Peters

NOMINATIONS PLACED ON THE SECRETARY'S DESK

IN THE AIR FORCE

PN128 AIR FORCE nomination of Raymond C. Jones, III, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of March 27, 2017.

PN129 AIR FORCE nomination of Christopher E. Austin, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of March 27, 2017.

PN130 AIR FORCE nominations (4) beginning ROBERT D. HOUGHTELING, and ending CARL H. SPEARS, JR., which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of March 27, 2017.

PN131 AIR FORCE nominations (9) beginning LISA ANN BANYASZ, and ending JULIE L. WIBLE, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of March 27, 2017.

PN132 AIR FORCE nominations (5) beginning LORI J. BETTERS, and ending LISA S. SHEAR, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of March 27, 2017.

PN133 AIR FORCE nomination of James A. Crider, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of March 27, 2017.

PN134 AIR FORCE nominations (15) beginning JOSE E. BARRERA, and ending DAVID H. ZONIES, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of March 27, 2017.

PN135 AIR FORCE nominations (12) beginning KRISTIN L. ADER, and ending CHRISTOPHER C. VANNATTA, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of March 27, 2017.

PN136 AIR FORCE nominations (4) beginning GREGG MICHAEL CAGGIANELLI, and ending WILLIAM SCOTT WIECHER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of March 27, 2017.

PN137 AIR FORCE nominations (136) beginning PATRICK W. ALBRECHT, and ending STEPHEN S. YOON, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of March 27, 2017.

PN138 AIR FORCE nomination of Stephen N. Luker, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of March 27, 2017.

PN139 AIR FORCE nominations (55) beginning TYLER J. BANACHOWSKI, and ending MARITA N. ZGURI, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of March 27, 2017.

PN140 AIR FORCE nominations (244) beginning JONI A. ABBOTT, and ending DANIELLE C. YUEN, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of March 27, 2017.

PN141 AIR FORCE nominations (30) beginning MICHAEL J. ALFARO, and ending SARA M. WILSON, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of March 27, 2017.

PN142 AIR FORCE nominations (129) beginning JESSICA L. ABBOTT, and ending HEATH D. WRIGHT, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of March 27, 2017.

PN143 AIR FORCE nominations (13) beginning COREY R. ANDERSON, and ending ANDREW J. STOY, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of March 27, 2017.

PN144 AIR FORCE nominations (63) beginning EDWARD R. ANDERSON, III, and ending RAMON YAMBO ARIAS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of March 27, 2017.

PN174 AIR FORCE nominations (438) beginning PATRICK M. ALBRITTON, and ending RAY A. ZUNIGA, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN250 AIR FORCE nominations (5) beginning NEIL R. COPELAND, and ending OLIVIA M. VAUGHAN, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 6, 2017.

PN251 AIR FORCE nomination of Robert P. McCoy, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 6, 2017.

PN252 AIR FORCE nomination of Allen R. Henderson, Jr., which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 6, 2017.

PN253 AIR FORCE nomination of George L. Burnett, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 6, 2017.

PN254 AIR FORCE nomination of Dion R. Dixon, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 6, 2017.

PN255 AIR FORCE nomination of Rebecca A. Lipe, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 6, 2017.

PN256 AIR FORCE nomination of Michael N. Tesfay, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 6, 2017.

PN257 AIR FORCE nomination of Megan G. K. Steele, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 6, 2017.

PN258 AIR FORCE nominations (141) beginning RYAN W. ABNER, and ending BREANCA G. YOUNG, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 6, 2017.

PN259 AIR FORCE nominations (76) beginning ALLEN SETH ABRAMS, and ending THOMAS BENJAMIN WILLIAMS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 6, 2017.

PN260 AIR FORCE nominations (18) beginning CHAD A. BELLAMY, and ending ANDREW L. THORNLEY, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 6, 2017.

PN261 AIR FORCE nominations (51) beginning AIMEE L. ALVIAR, and ending DAVID A. WHITEHORN, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 6, 2017.

PN262 AIR FORCE nominations (40) beginning WILLIE J. BABOR, and ending MAUREEN SCHELLIE WOOD, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 6, 2017.

PN263 AIR FORCE nominations (6) beginning HECTOR L. COLONCOLON, and ending KEVIN L. LOCKETT, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 6, 2017.

PN264 AIR FORCE nominations (33) beginning BETH M. BAYKAN, and ending WILLIAM T. WILSON, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 6, 2017.

PN265 AIR FORCE nomination of Martin J. Hamilton, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 6, 2017.

PN266 AIR FORCE nominations (14) beginning MICHAEL A. BLACKBURN, and ending JASON S. WRACHFORD, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 6, 2017.

IN THE ARMY

PN145 ARMY nomination of Scott C. Apling, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of March 27, 2017.

PN146 ARMY nomination of Patricia L. George, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of March 27, 2017.

PN148 ARMY nomination of Adam J. Points, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of March 27, 2017.

PN149 ARMY nomination of Larry G. Workman, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of March 27, 2017.

PN150 ARMY nomination of Robert J. Dunlap, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of March 27, 2017.

PN151 ARMY nomination of Wayne O. Dehaney, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of March 27, 2017.

PN152 ARMY nomination of Johnathan T. Parchem, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of March 27, 2017.

PN153 ARMY nominations (883) beginning JACOB P. ABSALON, and ending G010445, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of March 27, 2017.

PN154 ARMY nominations (545) beginning MARK P. ADAMS, and ending G010388, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of March 27, 2017.

PN155 ARMY nominations (483) beginning AMIR A. ABUAKEEL, and ending D013352, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of March 27, 2017.

PN156 ARMY nominations (85) beginning VANESSA R. ASMUS, and ending D013007, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of March 27, 2017.

PN157 ARMY nomination of Michael C. Flynn, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of March 27, 2017.

PN158 ARMY nomination of Steve L. Martinelli, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of March 27, 2017.

PN161 ARMY nominations (127) beginning KENNETH AHORRIO, and ending PAUL W. ZIEGLER, III, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of March 27, 2017.

PN162 ARMY nominations (210) beginning TOLULOPE O. ADEYEMI, and ending D013595, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of March 27, 2017.

PN163 ARMY nominations (77) beginning PAUL J. E. AUCHINCLOSS, and ending D012628, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of March 27, 2017.

PN164 ARMY nominations (26) beginning RACHEL A. ACCIACCA, and ending LAUREN E. WHITE, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of March 27, 2017.

PN165 ARMY nomination of Christopher J. Brown, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of March 27, 2017.

PN166 ARMY nominations (2) beginning DANIEL B. KING, and ending TODD E. WAINMAN, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of March 27, 2017.

PN175 ARMY nomination of John J. Bottorff, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN176 ARMY nomination of Eugene L. Thomas, III, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN177 ARMY nomination of John T. Bleigh, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN178 ARMY nomination of Jeffrey D. Buck, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN179 ARMY nomination of Michael W. Preczewski, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN180 ARMY nominations (2) beginning CANDY BOPARAI, and ending LINCOLN F. WILLIAMS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN181 ARMY nominations (2) beginning CHARLES J. HASELBY, and ending JASON T. RAMSPOTT, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN182 ARMY nomination of Alexander M. Willard, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN183 ARMY nomination of Christopher K. Berthold, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN184 ARMY nomination of Preston H. Leonard, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN185 ARMY nomination of Nicole E. Ussery, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN186 ARMY nomination of Michael D. Baker, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN187 ARMY nomination of Bridget V. Kmetz, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN188 ARMY nominations (2) beginning VEDNER BELLOT, and ending JAMES ROBINSON, JR., which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN189 ARMY nominations (2) beginning ANGELA L. FUNARO, and ending CHAD HACKLEY, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN190 ARMY nomination of Brian R. Harki, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN191 ARMY nominations (8) beginning JONATHAN L. BOURIAQUE, and ending DAVID A. LANGER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN192 ARMY nominations (6) beginning TIMOTHY L. BAER, and ending GERALD R. WHITE, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN193 ARMY nomination of James V. Crawford, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN194 ARMY nomination of Mohammed S. Aziz, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN195 ARMY nomination of Seth C. Lydem, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN196 ARMY nomination of Christopher C. Ostby, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN197 ARMY nomination of Calvin E. Fish, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN198 ARMY nomination of Aaron E. Lane, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN199 ARMY nomination of Damien Boffardi, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN200 ARMY nomination of Randy D. Dorsey, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN201 ARMY nominations (2) beginning BENJAMIN R. SMITH, and ending STALIN R. SUBRAMANIAN, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN202 ARMY nomination of Mark W. Hopkins, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN203 ARMY nominations (7) beginning THOMAS R. MATELSKI, and ending JOSHUA H. WALKER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN204 ARMY nomination of Mark B. Howell, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN205 ARMY nomination of Julio ColonGonzalez, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN206 ARMY nominations (3) beginning JASON N. BULLOCK, and ending GERALD A. NUNZIATO, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN267 ARMY nomination of Jennifer A. McAfee, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 6, 2017.

PN268 ARMY nomination of Nina R. Copeland, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 6, 2017.

PN269 ARMY nomination of Calvin E. Townsend, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 6, 2017.

PN270 ARMY nomination of Scott A. McDonald, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 6, 2017.

PN271 ARMY nomination of Thomas P. Lukins, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 6, 2017.

PN272 ARMY nomination of Scott M. McFarland, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 6, 2017.

PN273 ARMY nomination of Jeffrey A. Miller, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 6, 2017.

PN274 ARMY nomination of Joseph M. Kilonzo, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 6, 2017.

PN275 ARMY nomination of Brandi A. Schuyler, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 6, 2017.

PN276 ARMY nomination of David J. Kaczmarek, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 6, 2017.

PN277 ARMY nomination of Jonathan A. Johnson, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 6, 2017.

PN278 ARMY nominations (22) beginning JAMES A. BENSON, and ending WILLIAM M. YANEK, II, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 6, 2017.

PN279 ARMY nomination of Crystal J. Smith, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 6, 2017.

PN280 ARMY nomination of Dana B. Love, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 6, 2017.

PN281 ARMY nomination of Douglas A. McKewan, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 6, 2017.

PN282 ARMY nomination of David M. Wallace, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 6, 2017.

PN283 ARMY nomination of Lisa M. Patton, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 6, 2017.

PN293 ARMY nomination of Basil J. Catanzaro, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 6, 2017.

IN THE MARINE CORPS

PN216 MARINE CORPS nominations (17) beginning DANIEL E. ALGER, JR., and ending JESSICA M. WALL, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN217 MARINE CORPS nominations (712) beginning ANIS A. ABUZEID, and ending CRAIG A. ZOELLNER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN218 MARINE CORPS nominations (2) beginning DANIEL W. ANNUNZIATA, and ending LEAH R. PARROTT, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN219 MARINE CORPS nomination of James R. Reusse, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN220 MARINE CORPS nominations (320) beginning JOSE M. ACEVEDO, and ending FRANCISCO X. ZAVALA, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN221 MARINE CORPS nominations (4) beginning HENRY CENTENO, JR., and ending JAMES L. SHELTON, JR., which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN222 MARINE CORPS nomination of Richard K. O'Brien, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN223 MARINE CORPS nominations (7) beginning MICHAEL J. ALLEN, and ending CHRISTOPHER T. HAMBRICK, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN224 MARINE CORPS nominations (5) beginning JEREMY T. FLANNERY, and ending MARK L. OLDROYD, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN225 MARINE CORPS nomination of Joseph W. Hockett, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN226 MARINE CORPS nominations (3) beginning FRANCISCO D. AMAYA, and ending TYSON E. PETERS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN227 MARINE CORPS nominations (8) beginning MICHAEL M. DODD, and ending ROBERT J. SNODDY, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN228 MARINE CORPS nomination of David S. Gersen, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN229 MARINE CORPS nomination of John W. Glinsky, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN230 MARINE CORPS nomination of Keith A. Stevenson, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN231 MARINE CORPS nominations (5) beginning QUENTIN R. CARRITT, and ending ERIC A. SHARPE, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN232 MARINE CORPS nominations (6) beginning ANTHONY P. GREEN, and ending MICHAEL A. YOUNG, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN234 MARINE CORPS nomination of Stuart M. Barker, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN236 MARINE CORPS nominations (4) beginning RICHARD CANEDO, and ending DAVID L. OGDEN, JR., which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN237 MARINE CORPS nomination of John E. Simpson, III, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN238 MARINE CORPS nomination of Sean T. Hays, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN239 MARINE CORPS nominations (2) beginning LUKE A. CROUSON, and ending JASON C. FLORES, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN240 MARINE CORPS nominations (2) beginning ARLINGTON A. FINCH, JR., and ending KEVIN M. TSCHERCH, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN241 MARINE CORPS nominations (95) beginning STEPHEN J. ACOSTA, and ending DONALD R. WRIGHT, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN242 MARINE CORPS nominations (7) beginning JOSHUA P. BAHR, and ending JANHENDRIK C. ZURLIPPE, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN243 MARINE CORPS nominations (3) beginning JOHN T. BROWN, JR., and ending JULIUS G. JONES, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN244 MARINE CORPS nominations (4) beginning ELI J. BRESSLER, and ending JAMES R. STRAND, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN245 MARINE CORPS nominations (6) beginning CHADWICK W. ARDIS, and ending BRAD J. WILDE, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN246 MARINE CORPS nomination of Duane A. Gumbs, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

IN THE NAVY

PN167 NAVY nomination of Aaron B. Mayer, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of March 27, 2017.

PN169 NAVY nomination of John J. Kitt, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of March 27, 2017.

PN208 NAVY nominations (51) beginning JORGE R. BALARES, JR., and ending BRANDON M. ZOSS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN209 NAVY nomination of Mary E. Linnell, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN210 NAVY nominations (15) beginning SPENCER M. BURK, and ending BRIANNA S. WHITTEMORE, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN211 NAVY nominations (5) beginning KIRK J. HIPPENSTEEL, and ending JOHN M. RUGGERO, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN213 NAVY nomination of Evita M. Salles, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN215 NAVY nomination of John P. H. Rue, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 4, 2017.

PN284 NAVY nominations (30) beginning MICHAEL W. AMECHE, and ending JOSHUA J. WHITLOW, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 6, 2017.

PN285 NAVY nominations (3) beginning RACHEL E. CARTER, and ending KEVIN D. KEITH, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 6, 2017.

PN286 NAVY nominations (7) beginning MAUER BISCOTTI, III, and ending ADAM J. SUSMARSKI, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 6, 2017.

PN287 NAVY nomination of Donald V. Wilson, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 6, 2017.

PN288 NAVY nomination of Michael A. Winslow, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 6, 2017.

PN289 NAVY nominations (5) beginning HORACIO G. TAN, and ending DERRICK A. THOMAS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 6, 2017.

PN290 NAVY nomination of Natalie C. O. Gilliver, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 6, 2017.

PN291 NAVY nomination of John F. Sharpe, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 6, 2017.

PN292 NAVY nomination of Reann S. Mommsen, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 6, 2017.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now resume legislative session.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the Clayton nomination, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Jay Clayton, of New York, to be a Member of the Securities and Exchange Commission for a term expiring June 5, 2021.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

TAX REFORM

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, last Wednesday, the Trump administration unveiled the outlines of a tax reform plan, and, predictably, the plan has met with both praise and scorn from the usual sectors. Regardless of where the people might come down on the specifics of the President's plan, those who have been proponents of tax reform—hopefully those from both parties—should be pleased to see the President of the United States fully engaged in this effort.

For 6 years now, I have been beating the drum on tax reform. I have sought to make the case for reform here on the floor, in public forums and events, and in private conversations, and I haven't been alone. Indeed, Members from both parties have acknowledged the need to fix our broken tax system and have sought to move the ball forward on reform.

One thing I have said throughout this endeavor is that tax reform, if it is going to be successful, will require Presidential leadership, and that was not a political statement on my part. With those statements, I wasn't simply calling for the election of a Republican President; on the contrary, I repeatedly implored President Obama to engage with Congress on tax reform but really to no avail.

As of now, we finally have a President who is willing to lead in this effort. Once again, regardless of where anyone stands with regard to this President or the specifics of his tax plan, the fact that he is willing to meaningfully engage with Congress and the public on these issues should be viewed as a welcome sign for all tax reform advocates, regardless of their party affiliation.

With regard to the specifics of the outline, I believe the President has laid out a set of critical core principles that should hopefully serve as guideposts as the effort moves forward. Most importantly, the plan is designed, first and foremost, to grow the economy, and it would certainly do that.

In addition, the plan would greatly simplify the Tax Code to make it fairer, particularly for individuals and families, which has been a shared goal of tax reformers from both parties and from both sides of the aisle. For instance, over two-thirds of taxpayers take the standard deduction. Those taxpayers tend to be concentrated in the middle and lower income brackets. Under the President's plan, married couples would see the standard deduction doubled, so that they would not pay taxes on the first $24,000 of income. It would reduce rates for both large and small businesses and job creators, which is also something both Republicans and Democrats have sought to accomplish in tax reform.

Overall, the President's tax plan would make our country more competitive in the international marketplace and reduce the tax burden on millions of middle-class families.

Clearly, as the effort moves forward, Congress and the administration will have to fill in the specifics. We will need to see how the numbers work out and where the votes are for any particular reform proposal. This is going to take some time, but, as the chairman of the Senate's tax-writing committee, I believe we can be ready to move in relatively short order. I intend to work closely with my colleagues on the Finance Committee, our leadership here in the Senate, leaders in the House, and, of course, the administration to finalize a reform package and get it across the finish line. The last major tax overhaul in the United States was more than 30 years ago, so we have a once-in-a-lifetime or once-in-a-generation opportunity in front of us, and I intend to do all I can to ensure that we make the most of it.

When I say ''we,'' I am not simply referring to Republicans in Congress and the White House; I am referring to anyone who recognizes the problems in our current tax system and is willing to do the necessary work to fix those problems. My hope is that this will be a bipartisan exercise. By and large, Republicans appear ready and willing to work with the President to get tax reform done, and I am working to find some willing partners among my friends on the other side of the aisle.

I have said many times that tax reform should not have to be a partisan exercise. Our current tax system imposes undue burdens and undue hardships on Republican and Democratic voters alike. Therefore, both Republicans and Democrats in Congress should be willing to relieve these hardships, and, as I have stated here on the floor on numerous occasions, I am willing to work with anyone, Republican or Democrat, to make this effort successful.

That said, I haven't been all that encouraged by the rhetoric we are hearing from our friends on the other side of the aisle on these issues. Setting aside statements we have heard about the policies in the President's plan or elsewhere, the Senate Democratic leadership at times seems bound and determined to ensure that no Member of their party engages on these issues.

Most recently, the Senate minority leader has insisted on two conditions before he will agree to work with Republicans on tax reform.

The first condition is that Republicans commit to not moving tax reform through the budget reconciliation process. This is an odd demand, one that is, quite frankly, unprecedented in the modern history of tax policy. Certainly, the reconciliation process makes it easier to move reform

through Congress on a partisan basis, but, historically speaking, most major tax bills that have moved through reconciliation have had bipartisan support. There is no reason, if agreements are reached on policy, that Democrats could not agree to support a tax reform package moved through reconciliation, so taking it categorically off the table before discussions even begin seems, at best, counterintuitive.

History tells us that reconciliation need not be partisan. In fact, when Republicans have had control of both Houses of Congress and the White House, we have enacted tax reconciliation bills that have enjoyed some Senate Democratic support.

It is also worth noting that at various points in the recent past, Republicans have stayed at the negotiating table, participating in formal and informal discussions on major policy matters with reconciliation instructions in place and without any assurances that reconciliation would not be used. Are Democrats going to be more amenable to compromising on policy if reconciliation is not on the table? It is hard to see why that would be the case. Taking reconciliation off the table would really only make it easier for Democrats to prevent any kind of tax reform from passing.

So, essentially, what some of my Democratic colleagues are saying is that before they will even enter into talks on tax reform, they want us to ensure upfront that they will have the ability to block the bill once it is brought up. As I said, that is an odd demand, and not one you would expect to hear from someone who is willing to negotiate in good faith.

My colleagues' second precondition for working with us on tax reform is that President Trump release his tax returns. Like their first demand, this one makes me doubt whether the Senate Democratic leadership really wants to be constructive on tax reform. This is a political demand, pure and simple, likely poll-tested and focus-grouped to please the Democrats' base. I don't imagine this demand is really about uncovering conflicts of interest in tax reform. If it is, it is a horribly misguided strategy.

After all, if tax reform were to succeed, the President is only one small part of the equation. There are 435 Members of the House of Representatives and 100 Senators, all of whom would be called upon to vote either for or against the tax reform bill, and whether a Member of Congress supports or opposes a particular bill, a conflict of interest could potentially influence that decision, just as one could theoretically influence a President's decision to sign or veto a bill. Yet I don't hear anyone from the other side of the aisle demanding the release of the tax returns of every Member of Congress before we can even start working on a bill. That has never been a prerequisite for working on tax legislation in the past, and it certainly should not be a prerequisite in the future.

In any event, despite these unreasonable demands, I will once again state that I am more than willing to work with my Democratic colleagues on tax reform, and I sincerely hope at least some of them will be willing to do so. I have been in the Senate for a while now. I think I have more than sufficiently demonstrated my willingness to put partisan differences aside and to reach across the aisle.

Make no mistake, I believe Republicans can move a tax reform package on a purely partisan basis. We have the procedural mechanism in place that would allow us to do that. But my strong preference would be to find a bipartisan pathway forward, and I hope that can be achieved.

Speaking more broadly, whether we move forward on a partisan or bipartisan basis, being successful on tax reform is going to require that we practice the art of the doable. There are a lot of ideas out there on tax reform and no shortage of competing interests. I have my own ideas and proposals that I have been working on for a number of years that I would like to see included in the final package. However, no idea should be considered more important than the broader goals of tax reform. That goes for my ideas and those of anyone else in Congress or in the administration.

There is a great deal of consensus among Republicans on the most important tax reform policies and principles. In fact, I would say we agree on roughly 80 percent of the key issues, which is a good starting point. I will not go into specifics today, but there are some high-profile items in the remaining 20 percent, and there are some differences of opinion regarding most of those items.

Bridging that gap and finding the path forward is going to take some serious negotiation and compromise. My hope is that people will be willing to adjust their expectations and bend on their preferences in order to achieve success in this very important endeavor. Speaking for myself, I can say that I would be willing to do so, and I have confidence that my colleagues who will also be playing leadership roles in this effort are similarly willing. Perhaps most importantly, I believe the President and his advisers in the administration are willing to make the necessary compromises to finally make tax reform a success.

This is the closest we have been to success in tax reform in the past three decades. I hope both parties, both Chambers, both sides of Pennsylvania Avenue are up to that challenge.

Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader is recognized.

GOVERNMENT FUNDING LEGISLATION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, late last night, due to the hard work and diligence of the staffs of the Appropriations Committees on both sides of the aisle in both Houses, the staff of the leadership, and so many others, we were able to come to a bipartisan agreement on a bill to fund the government through September. Most importantly, this agreement takes the threat of a government shutdown off the table. It is also a good agreement for the American people.

The bill ensures taxpayer dollars are not used to fund an ineffective border wall; it excludes over 160 poison pill riders; and it increases investments in programs that the middle class relies on, like education, infrastructure, and medical research.

It includes a permanent extension for health benefits for miners. Here, I want to praise—and I can't give enough praise—to the Senator from West Virginia, JOE MANCHIN, who was relentless even after disappointment after disappointment, at holding the Senate's feet to the fire and making sure this was done. Many miners can rest easy tonight—people who have worked so hard all their lives and had so much disappointment—because of JOE MANCHIN's work and what we put into the bill.

There is also funding to shore up Puerto Rico's Medicaid Program, and $2 billion to help States like California, West Virginia, Louisiana, and North Carolina recover from recent natural disasters.

The bill also includes a significant increase in NIH funding, which deals with cancer research and the Cancer Moonshot that both President Obama and Vice President Biden pushed for and continues onward, and a restoration of year-round Pell grants that will benefit about 1 million students. College is often the ladder up for a lot of students, and this will help them stay on that ladder.

And the bill includes significantly increased funding for infrastructure, as well as funding to combat the scourge of opioid abuse which affects all parts of the country—urban areas, suburban areas, rural areas. It affects the poor, the middle class, and the rich.

Good news: It protects 99 percent of the Environmental Protection Agency's budget so their quest to keep our

water and air clean will be able to continue. It increases funding for clean energy research as well. That is one of the great hopes for jobs in this country, as our Senator from Washington, MARIA CANTWELL, constantly reminds us.

For my home State of New York, I was particularly pleased the agreement supports critical programs that are greatly needed and very popular in my State, like the Community Development Block Grant Program, which so many smaller cities depend on; the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative to get pollution out of all the Great Lakes, Lake Ontario and Lake Erie being on the shores of New York; and the vital TIGER Grant Program, which has done so much to support infrastructure, road building, and highways throughout my State and throughout America.

As I said, the bill explicitly precludes the use of any of this funding for a border wall. This is an idea that both parties rejected. A load of Congressmen and Senators on the Republican side have said that the wall doesn't make sense. In fact, you couldn't find one Republican on the border in the States of California, Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas who supported that wall. Why? Unlike the President's promise, Mexico is not paying for it. There is no plan for the wall. We don't even know where we would build it. The Secretary of the Interior, President Trump's appointee, said: We can't build it from the U.S. side because it cuts us off from the river. Mexico will not build on their side. Where are we going to build it? In the middle of the river? And, mainly, because it is not very effective—you can tunnel under a wall.

We all want to prevent the scourge of drugs from coming across our border; so many of them come in little planes and boats. When they come by land, they are often hidden in parts of cars, in the carburetor or the exhaust tank—hidden. They will be able to come through because the wall obviously is going to have portals in it where trucks and cars can go through. So there is no money for the border wall, not one plug nickel.

We do have money, of course, for border protection, which both parties have always supported, and comprehensive immigration reform. Senator MCCAIN and I, in a bipartisan bill supported by 68 Members of this body, made sure we had very strong border protection. But it has to be smart, it has to be cost effective, and it has to work.

Early on in this debate, Democrats clearly laid out our principles and insisted there would be no poison pill riders in this bill. We were able to knock out more than 160 poison pill riders from the final agreement, including the border wall, anti-labor measures that hurt the working people of America, and efforts to defund Planned Parenthood. So many women depend on these clinics for their health. And we were able to achieve significant investments in domestic programs that help the middle class and those struggling to get to the middle class.

Of course, this bill doesn't include all the things we wanted, but that is the nature of compromise. At the end of the day, this is an agreement that reflects our basic principles—something that both Democrats and Republicans can support. It took a few extra days, but we got a very good agreement.

I want to thank my friend, the majority leader, Senator MCCONNELL. He worked very hard to get a good bill. I thank the chairmen and ranking members of the House-Senate Appropriations Committees, particularly Senator LEAHY from Vermont in our Chamber. I thank Speaker RYAN and Leader PELOSI and all of their staff for working so hard last week and over the weekend to forge an agreement.

I must tell you, and I must tell my colleagues, the negotiations between our two sides were consistently productive and always respectful. Throughout the process, both Republican and Democratic Members and staff negotiated in good faith because we all wanted to get something done. I believe this experience bodes well for the 2018 budget and future negotiations between our two parties on appropriations. If we can show the same desire to get things done—the same mutual respect, the same ability to compromise—we can get a darn good budget for the year 2018 without the specter of a government shutdown hanging over the country's head.

I wish to say one final thing. It shows that when our Republican colleagues are willing to work with us, we can get things done. All too often—particularly from the White House—this attitude is just do it our way, my way or the highway. That is what happened on the healthcare bill—no consultation with Democrats. That is what happened on this little tax plan.

When you don't do things in a bipartisan way, it is much harder to pass things. It is much harder to get a product that is at the consensus of where America is. I hope that not only will this successful negotiation on the 2017 appropriations bill be a model for the 2018 bill but a broader model that we can all work together to get things done for the country we love.

I expect we will vote on this bill later this week, and I believe it will receive overwhelming support in this Chamber.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. ERNST). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. CRAPO. Madam President, I rise today in support of Jay Clayton, who has been nominated to serve on the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. In the interest of time, I will save my longer remarks for later.

As demonstrated at the Banking Committee's nomination hearing, Mr. Clayton is eminently qualified to serve on the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, or the SEC.

He impressed both Republicans and Democrats and was voted out of committee on a bipartisan vote of 15 to 8. His extensive expertise and experience in our financial markets will be a benefit to the Commission and to the American people.

His testimony about the need to make our capital markets more attractive, which would rejuvenate their ability to invest in the United States and grow and create jobs, was well received. Additionally, he pledged to members of this committee and to the American people that he will show no favoritism to anyone.

While some have raised issues about his previous work potentially creating conflicts, Mr. Clayton is not new in this regard, nor will he be any less vigilant to ensure that he acts appropriately and ethically.

I will be supporting his nomination and look forward to having him at the SEC, where he can help protect and promote the success of our security markets and our investors.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MORAN). The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. All time is expired.

CLOTURE MOTION

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Jay Clayton, of New York, to be a Member of the Securities and Exchange Commission for a term expiring June 5, 2021.

Mitch McConnell, John Cornyn, Tom Cotton, Dan Sullivan, Shelley Moore Capito, John Barrasso, Roger F. Wicker, Mike Rounds, Orrin G. Hatch, Bill Cassidy, Pat Roberts, Mike Crapo, Lamar Alexander, Richard Burr, John Thune, Jerry Moran, James E. Risch.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. LANKFORD). By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Jay Clayton, of New York, to be a Member of the Securities and Exchange Commission for a term expiring June 5, 2021, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE), the Senator from Nevada (Mr. HELLER), and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON).

Mr. SCHUMER. I announce that the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) is necessarily absent.

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

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 60, nays 36, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 117 Ex.]

YEAS—60

Alexander	Gardner	Paul
Barrasso	Graham	Perdue
Bennet	Grassley	Portman
Blunt	Hassan	Risch
Boozman	Hatch	Roberts
Burr	Heitkamp	Rounds
Capito	Hoeven	Rubio
Carper	Inhofe	Sasse
Cassidy	Johnson	Scott
Cochran	Kennedy	Shaheen
Collins	King	Shelby
Corker	Lankford	Strange
Cornyn	Lee	Sullivan
Cotton	Manchin	Tester
Crapo	McCain	Thune
Cruz	McCaskill	Tillis
Daines	McConnell	Toomey
Enzi	Moran	Warner
Ernst	Murkowski	Wicker
Fischer	Nelson	Young

NAYS—36

Baldwin	Franken	Murray
Blumenthal	Gillibrand	Peters
Booker	Harris	Reed
Brown	Heinrich	Sanders
Cantwell	Hirono	Schatz
Cardin	Kaine	Schumer
Casey	Klobuchar	Stabenow
Coons	Leahy	Udall
Cortez Masto	Markey	Van Hollen
Donnelly	Menendez	Warren
Duckworth	Merkley	Whitehouse
Feinstein	Murphy	Wyden

NOT VOTING—4

Durbin	Heller
Flake	Isakson

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HOEVEN). On this vote, the yeas are 60, the nays are 36.

The motion is agreed to.

The assistant majority leader.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

(At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

VOTE EXPLANATION

● Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I was necessarily absent for the vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Jay Clayton to be a Member of the Securities and Exchange Commission, Executive Calendar No. 36.

On vote No. 117, had I been present, I would have voted nay on the motion to invoke cloture on Executive Calendar No. 36.●

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. CORKER. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD–423.

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

DEFENSE SECURITY COOPERATION AGENCY,
Arlington, VA.

Hon. BOB CORKER,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 17–07, concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Kenya for defense articles and services estimated to cost $253 million. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

J.W. RIXEY,
Vice Admiral, USN, Director.

Enclosures:

TRANSMITTAL NO. 17–07

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Kenya.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment* $0 million.

Other $253 million.

Total $253 million.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Maior Defense Equipment (MDE): None.

Non-MDE:

Twelve (12) MD 530F Weaponized Aircraft.

Twenty-four (24) Heavy Machine Gun Pod (HMP) 400 Systems.

Twenty-four (24) M260 Rocket Launchers.

Four thousand and thirty-two (4,032) M151 Rockets.

One thousand five hundred and thirty-six (1,536) 2.75-inch M274 Smoke signature Warhead Rockets.

Four hundred thousand (400,000) rounds of .50 Caliber Ammunition.

Also included is communications and navigation equipment, contractor logistics support, training, U.S. Government technical assistance, airframe and weapon system spare parts support. Contractor Field Service Representative (CFSR) support, and Special Airlift Assignment Mission (SAAM) flight delivery support.

(iv) Military Department: Army (UDQ).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: None.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: None.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: May 1, 2017.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Kenya—MD 530 Aircraft

The Government of Kenya has requested a possible sale of twelve (12) MD 530F weaponized aircraft to include twenty-four (24) Heavy Machine Gun Pod (HMP) 400 systems; twenty-four (24) M260 rocket launchers; four thousand and thirty-two (4,032) M151 rockets; one thousand five hundred and thirty-six (1,536) 2.75-inch M274 smoke signature warhead rockets; and four hundred thousand (400,000) rounds of .50 caliber ammunition. Also included are communications and navigation equipment, contractor logistics support, training, U.S. Government technical assistance, airframe and weapon system spare parts support, Contractor Field Service Representative (CFSR) support, and Special Assigned Airlift Mission (SAAM) flight delivery support. The total estimated cost is $253 million.

This proposed sale contributes to the foreign policy and national security of the United States by improving the security of a strong regional partner who is a regional security leader, undertaking critical operations against al-Shabaab, and a troop contributor to the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM).

The proposed sale of the MD 530F helicopters, weapons, ammunition, support items and technical support will advance Kenya's efforts to conduct scout and attack rotary wing aircraft operations in support of their AMISOM mission. The MD 530F will also replace Kenya's aging MD500 fleet, which is the current reconnaissance platform supporting Kenyan ground forces. This sale will significantly enhance the Kenyan Army's modernization efforts and increase interoperability with the U.S. Armed Forces and other partners in the region. Additionally, a strong national defense and dedicated military force will assist Kenya in its efforts to maintain stability in East Africa.

Kenya will have no difficulty absorbing this equipment into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The principal contractor will be MD Helicopters, Mesa, AZ. There are no known offset

agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will require the assignment of approximately twelve (12) additional contractor representatives in country for a period of 12 months.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

NATIONAL SEERSUCKER DAY

Mr. CASSIDY. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the seersucker manufacturers and enthusiasts across the United States. The storied history of this uniquely American fashion dates back to 1909 when Joseph Haspel designed the first seersucker suit at his Broad Street facility in New Orleans. Louisiana is proud to have played an important part in introducing the country to seersucker apparel.

During the hot summer months, Americans across the country have worn and enjoyed this lightweight cotton fabric, known for its signature pucker. Mr. Haspel said it best, ''hot is hot, no matter what you do for a living.'' In the 1990s, Members of this Chamber established Seersucker Day to honor this unique American fashion. I proudly resumed this tradition in 2014 in the U.S. House of Representatives by designating Wednesday, June 11, as National Seersucker Day. I have continued this tradition in the U.S. Senate and wish to designate Thursday, June 8, as the fourth annual National Seersucker Day. I encourage everyone to wear seersucker on this day to commemorate this iconic American clothing.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

GLACIER NATIONAL PARK

● Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, there is no place on this planet like the Crown of the Continent, Glacier National Park.

For over 100 years, families have flocked to Glacier National Park to experience the breathtaking views, unique wildlife, and the pristine landscapes that can't be found anywhere else on earth.

In fact, last year, more than 2.3 million people visited Glacier National Park to hike above Lake McDonald, bike across the Continental Divide, and experience the Going to the Sun Road.

Today we mark the next chapter of the distinctive history of Glacier National Park. Glacier National Park and Waterton Lakes National Park have collectively become the first transcontinental National Parks to secure ''dark sky'' status.

To achieve this prestigious status, Glacier National Park has retrofitted nearly 30 percent of its light fixtures and is committing to continue to identify ways to limit artificial light within the park.

By achieving this status, Glacier and Waterton Lakes National Parks have provided the public with even more reasons to explore the outdoors in northwest Montana and southwest Alberta.

Not only do dark skies play an important role in outdoor recreation and late-night stargazing, but they are critical to wildlife migrations and habitats within the parks.

This wouldn't be possible without Glacier Park superintendent Jeff Mow.

Their leadership has ushered Glacier National Park into a new era and provided millions of folks around the world with the opportunity to fall in love again with our great outdoors.

Thank you again for your outstanding work.●

TRIBUTE TO ROB OLIVER

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the distinguished career, service, and leadership of Augustana University president Rob Oliver.

His 11 years of leadership as the 23rd president of Augustana University in Sioux Falls, SD, have highlighted his servant's heart, visionary attitude, and passion for higher education. As he prepares for this next chapter in life, I would like to honor Rob's dedication and efforts to not only continue the university's rich history of providing students with a quality, liberal arts education, but also for his commitment to ensuring future students are given the opportunity to advance their studies and given the foundation to live a life of purpose at Augustana University.

President Oliver joined the university after being incredibly involved in the Sioux Falls financial, business, and philanthropic community. For many years, Rob pursued efforts to improve the economic vitality of the region and was also active as a board member and devoted volunteer for many organizations, including the board of trustees of then-Augustana College.

Rob's presidential tenure occurred during a time of uncertainty for many colleges and universities across the country. With the rising costs of higher education, enrollment challenges, nationwide economic troubles, and a growing discourse regarding the value of a college degree, many traditional institutions were struggling to chart a sustainable path forward.

However, through President Oliver's ability to inspire others, offer a strategic vision, and execute a thorough plan of action, he has responded to those difficulties and strengthened Augustana's mission to deliver a quality, well-rounded experience for students, faculty, and staff.

Under Rob's direction, Augustana has attained a number of accomplishments. Many will point to the critical investments in the Froiland Science Complex and Mikkelsen Library and others will point to record-setting monetary support and vastly increased endowment and scholarship programs as remarkable accomplishments; yet it is also worthwhile to note the university's advancement of the Civitas honors program, new academic majors and curriculum, expanded undergraduate research, and an expansion of online offerings for undergraduate, graduate, and adult students. Additionally, the Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship and the Student Success Center were created to provide important strategic partnerships and vocational engagement.

Knowing the university's ability to attract students also depends on factors and opportunities outside the scholastic realm. President Oliver's era of leadership also included growth in the performing and visual arts, study abroad programs, and the construction and renovation of first-class, athletic facilities such as Kirkeby-Over Stadium, Ronken Field, and other projects through unprecedented, charitable gifts.

The university has already seen the fruits of Rob's diligent work. With enrollment at a 26-year high, scholarships and financial aid for 100 percent of its fulltime students, two NCAA national championships, a well-respected place among the Nation's top educational institutions, and additional projects already staged for the future, there is little doubt his 25 years as part of Augustana University, whether as a trustee, member of the faculty, or finally as president, President Oliver's outstanding legacy will leave an impact for many years to come.

I wish Rob, his wife, Angela, and the entire family the very best as we celebrate his service to Augustana University and the people of South Dakota.●

RECOGNIZING HOOSIER CROSSFIT

● Mr. YOUNG. Mr. President, my home State of Indiana takes pride in its long tradition of Hoosier innovation and small business entrepreneurship. Hoosier businesses across Indiana strive to create quality products and services that become integral parts of their local communities. During National Small Business Week, I would like to take the opportunity to recognize one such small business. Located in Bloomington, IN, Hoosier CrossFit is well known for its strong commitment to its core values: community, quality, accountability, diligence, and integrity. As a member of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, I am pleased to recognize Hoosier CrossFit as one of Indiana's outstanding small businesses during National Small Business Week.

Hoosier CrossFit is owned and operated by husband and wife Shaun and

Jenna Tieman. The Tiemans, both born and raised in Indiana, are hard-working Hoosier entrepreneurs who opened Hoosier CrossFit, then an 1,800-square-foot facility with four gym members, in 2010. By 2013, Hoosier CrossFit had moved to a 5,600 square foot facility with 150 members. Today Hoosier CrossFit and the Tiemans are gearing up for yet another expansion as they plan to move their 200-member gym to a brand-new, 8,600 square foot facility in Bloomington. Hoosier CrossFit offers programs for all ages and abilities and the 200-member community spans in age from 8 years old to 75 years old.

Hoosier CrossFit is not just to be admired for its business success or the community of Hoosiers that it has inspired and brought together over the years. They are also to be commended for their community involvement, whether it be organizing its largest annual fundraiser, Murph, which honors U.S. Navy Seal Michael P. Murphy who was killed in action in Afghanistan, or raising over $30,000 for the American Red Cross and Wish for Our Heroes, Hoosier CrossFit is a small business that all Hoosiers can be proud of. I would like to extend my sincerest congratulations to the employees, owners, and entire community at Hoosier CrossFit for earning this recognition during National Small Business Week. You make our great State proud, and I look forward to watching your continued growth and success.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT

ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2017, the Secretary of the Senate, on April 28, 2017, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker had signed the following enrolled joint resolution:

H.J. Res. 99 Joint resolution making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2017, and for other purposes.

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2017, the enrolled joint resolution was signed on April 28, 2017, during the adjournment of the Senate, by the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. JOHNSON, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment:

S. 317. A bill to provide taxpayers with an annual report disclosing the cost and performance of Government programs and areas of duplication among them, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 115–34).

By Mr. ALEXANDER, from the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 652. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize a program for early detection, diagnosis, and treatment regarding deaf and hard-of-hearing newborns, infants, and young children.

S. 849. A bill to support programs for mosquito-borne and other vector-borne disease surveillance and control.

S. 916. A bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act with regard to the provision of emergency medical services.

By Mr. ALEXANDER, from the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, without amendment:

S. 920. A bill to establish a National Clinical Care Commission.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. FRANKEN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. PETERS, and Ms. HARRIS):

S. 991. A bill to prohibit drilling in the Arctic Ocean; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. TILLIS, and Mr. SULLIVAN):

S. 992. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to conduct an independent review of the deaths of certain veterans by suicide, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. LEE (for himself, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. COTTON, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. PAUL, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. SASSE, and Mr. INHOFE):

S. 993. A bill to prohibit the Federal Communications Commission from reclassifying broadband Internet access service as a telecommunications service and from imposing certain regulations on providers of such service; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. HATCH (for himself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 994. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide for the protection of community centers with religious affiliation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. CANTWELL (for herself and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. 995. A bill to provide for equitable compensation to the Spokane Tribe of Indians of the Spokane Reservation for the use of tribal land for the production of hydropower by the Grand Coulee Dam, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. HEINRICH:

S. 996. A bill to improve college affordability; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. CASEY:

S. 997. A bill to permit employees to request, and to ensure employers consider requests for, flexible work terms and conditions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. DAINES (for himself and Mr. PETERS):

S. 998. A bill to amend the Tariff Act of 1930 to protect personally identifiable information, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. REED, Mr. NELSON, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. CARDIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. HASSAN, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 999. A bill to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to permanently prohibit the conduct of offshore drilling on the outer Continental Shelf in the Mid-Atlantic, South Atlantic, North Atlantic, and Straits of Florida planning areas; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. FRANKEN (for himself, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. BROWN, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. MARKEY):

S. 1000. A bill to amend the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 to expand coverage under the Act, to increase protections for whistleblowers, to increase penalties for high gravity violations, to adjust penalties for inflation, to provide rights for victims or their family members, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. ALEXANDER (for himself, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BURR, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. COONS, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CRUZ, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SCOTT, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. WICKER, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. BOOZMAN, and Mr. HATCH):

S. Res. 148. A resolution congratulating the students, parents, teachers, and leaders of charter schools across the United States for making ongoing contributions to education, and supporting the ideals and goals of the 18th annual National Charter Schools Week, to be held May 1 through May 5, 2017; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 180

At the request of Mr. SANDERS, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 180, a bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to reform and reduce fraud and abuse in certain visa programs for aliens working temporarily in the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 307

At the request of Mrs. ERNST, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 307, a bill to enhance the database of emergency response capabilities of the Department of Defense.

S. 324

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 324, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the

provision of adult day health care services for veterans.

S. 372

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 372, a bill to amend the Tariff Act of 1930 to ensure that merchandise arriving through the mail shall be subject to review by U.S. Customs and Border Protection and to require the provision of advance electronic information on shipments of mail to U.S. Customs and Border Protection and for other purposes.

S. 384

At the request of Mr. BLUNT, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 384, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the new markets tax credit, and for other purposes.

S. 470

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 470, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to enhance the Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit and make the credit fully refundable.

S. 568

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 568, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to count a period of receipt of outpatient observation services in a hospital toward satisfying the 3-day inpatient hospital requirement for coverage of skilled nursing facility services under Medicare.

S. 593

At the request of Mrs. CAPITO, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 593, a bill to amend the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act to facilitate the establishment of additional or expanded public target ranges in certain States.

S. 652

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 652, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize a program for early detection, diagnosis, and treatment regarding deaf and hard-of-hearing newborns, infants, and young children.

S. 681

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 681, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the benefits and services provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs to women veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 720

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the names of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) and the Senator from Iowa (Mrs. ERNST) were added as cosponsors of S. 720, a bill to amend the Export Administration Act of 1979 to include in the prohibitions on boycotts against allies of the United States boycotts fostered by international governmental organizations against Israel and to direct the Export-Import Bank of the United States to oppose boycotts against Israel, and for other purposes.

S. 760

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 760, a bill to expand the Government's use and administration of data to facilitate transparency, effective governance, and innovation, and for other purposes.

S. 766

At the request of Mr. MANCHIN, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 766, a bill to amend titles 10 and 32, United States Code, to improve and enhance authorities relating to the employment, use, status, and benefits of military technicians (dual status), and for other purposes.

S. 784

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 784, a bill to provide for an increase, effective December 1, 2017, in the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 845

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 845, a bill to protect sensitive community locations from harmful immigration enforcement action, and for other purposes.

S. 849

At the request of Mr. KING, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 849, a bill to support programs for mosquito-borne and other vector-borne disease surveillance and control.

S. 856

At the request of Mrs. MCCASKILL, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) and the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) were added as cosponsors of S. 856, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 and the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act to combat campus sexual assault, and for other purposes.

S. 867

At the request of Mr. DONNELLY, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 867, a bill to provide support for law enforcement agency efforts to protect the mental health and well-being of law enforcement officers, and for other purposes.

S. 916

At the request of Mr. BENNET, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 916, a bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act with regard to the provision of emergency medical services.

S. 920

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 920, a bill to establish a National Clinical Care Commission.

S. 925

At the request of Mrs. ERNST, the names of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY), the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) and the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) were added as cosponsors of S. 925, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the ability of health care professionals to treat veterans through the use of telemedicine, and for other purposes.

S. 926

At the request of Mrs. ERNST, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 926, a bill to authorize the Global War on Terror Memorial Foundation to establish the National Global War on Terrorism Memorial as a commemorative work in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes.

S. 976

At the request of Mr. ENZI, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN), the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) and the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 976, a bill to restore States' sovereign rights to enforce State and local sales and use tax laws, and for other purposes.

S. CON. RES. 12

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the names of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) and the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. Con. Res. 12, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that those who served in the bays, harbors, and territorial seas of the Republic of Vietnam during the period beginning on January 9, 1962, and ending on May 7, 1975, should be presumed to have served in the Republic of Vietnam for all purposes under the Agent Orange Act of 1991.

S. RES. 75

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 75, a resolution recognizing the 100th anniversary of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, the largest organization of food and nutrition professionals in the world.

S. RES. 106

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 106, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate to support the territorial integrity of Georgia.

S. RES. 114

At the request of Mr. YOUNG, the names of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) and the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 114, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate on humanitarian crises in Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan, and Yemen.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. DAINES (for himself and Mr. PETERS):

S. 998. A bill to amend the Tariff Act of 1930 to protect personally identifiable information, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, in recent years the American people have lost trust in the Federal government to keep our personally identifiable information, or PII, secure. In June of 2015 the Office of Personnel Management was infiltrated with a major cyber breach, affecting more than 22 million current and former federal employees, including myself. In January of 2016, another nearly half a million Americans had their social security numbers stolen when the Internal Revenue Service was hacked.

I spent 28 years in the private sector, 12 years with a global cloud computing company. We faced cyber threats daily, and our customers expected security of their data. We delivered and not once was our data compromised. And we certainly did not give it out voluntarily. When there is an opportunity to protect our PII, we need to act on it and begin to rebuild trust with the American people.

In 1984, the public disclosure of certain manifest information was required of Customs and Border Protection (CBP). The original intent was to increase competition, to facilitate better public analysis of import trends, and to allow port authorities and transportation companies to more easily identify potential customers and changes in their industries. However, in recent years, PII of relocating individuals, bringing their home goods back to the United States, has been released, enabling identity theft, credit card fraud, and unwanted solicitations.

CBP does offer a process for consumers of shipping services to make their information confidential. However, these forms typical take two months to process and are often processed after the individual has moved.

That is why I am introducing the Moving Americans Privacy Protection Act. This legislation will simply require CBP to remove personally identifiable information from vessel manifest sheets before making them available for public disclosure. I believe the default should be to protect peoples' privacy and automatically remove this personal information, rather than requiring citizens to make a request and hope the paperwork is processed in time.

I want to thank Senator PETERS for being an original cosponsor of this bill. I ask my Senate colleagues to join us in support of this important legislation.

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

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

S. 998

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Moving Americans Privacy Protection Act''.

SEC. 2. PROTECTION OF PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION.

Paragraph (2) of section 431(c) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1431(c)(2)) is amended to read as follows:

''(2)(A) The information listed in paragraph (1) shall not be available for public disclosure if—

''(i) the Secretary of the Treasury makes an affirmative finding on a shipment-by-shipment basis that disclosure is likely to pose a threat of personal injury or property damage; or

''(ii) the information is exempt under the provisions of section 552(b)(1) of title 5 of the United States Code.

''(B) The Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection shall ensure that any personally identifiable information, including social security numbers, passport numbers, and residential addresses, are removed from any manifest signed, produced, delivered, or transmitted under this section before the manifest is disclosed to the public.''.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 148—CONGRATULATING THE STUDENTS, PARENTS, TEACHERS, AND LEADERS OF CHARTER SCHOOLS ACROSS THE UNITED STATES FOR MAKING ONGOING CONTRIBUTIONS TO EDUCATION, AND SUPPORTING THE IDEALS AND GOALS OF THE 18TH ANNUAL NATIONAL CHARTER SCHOOLS WEEK, TO BE HELD MAY 1 THROUGH MAY 5, 2017

Mr. ALEXANDER (for himself, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BURR, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. COONS, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CRUZ, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SCOTT, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. WICKER, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. BOOZMAN, and Mr. HATCH) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 148

Whereas charter schools are public schools that do not charge tuition and enroll any student who wants to attend, often through a random lottery when the demand for enrollment is outmatched by the supply of available charter school seats;

Whereas high-performing public charter schools deliver a high-quality public education and challenge all students to reach the students' potential for academic success;

Whereas public charter schools promote innovation and excellence in public education;

Whereas public charter schools throughout the United States provide millions of families with diverse and innovative educational options for children of the families;

Whereas high-performing public charter schools and charter management organizations are increasing student achievement and attendance rates at institutions of higher education;

Whereas public charter schools are authorized by a designated entity and—

(1) respond to the needs of communities, families, and students in the United States; and

(2) promote the principles of quality, accountability, choice, high performance, and innovation;

Whereas, in exchange for flexibility and autonomy, public charter schools are held accountable by the authorizers of the charter schools for improving student achievement and for sound financial and operational management;

Whereas public charter schools are required to meet the student achievement accountability requirements under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.) in the same manner as traditional public schools;

Whereas public charter schools often set higher expectations for students, beyond the requirements of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.), to ensure that the charter schools are of high quality and truly accountable to the public;

Whereas 44 States and the District of Columbia have enacted laws authorizing public charter schools;

Whereas, as of the 2016–2017 school year, more than 6,950 public charter schools served more than 3,100,000 children;

Whereas enrollment in public charter schools grew from 400,000 students in 2001 to 3,100,000 students in 2017, a sevenfold increase in 16 years;

Whereas in the United States—

(1) in 190 school districts, more than 10 percent of public school students are enrolled in public charter schools; and

(2) in 17 school districts, at least 30 percent of public school students are enrolled in public charter schools;

Whereas public charter schools improve the achievement of students enrolled in the charter schools and collaborate with traditional public schools to improve public education for all students;

Whereas public charter schools—

(1) give parents the freedom to choose public schools;

(2) routinely measure parental satisfaction levels; and

(3) must prove the ongoing success of the charter schools to parents, policymakers, and the communities served by the charter schools or risk closure;

Whereas a 2015 report from the Center for Research on Education Outcomes at Stanford University found significant improvements for students at urban charter schools, and compared to peers of traditional public schools, each year those students completed the equivalent of 28 more days of learning in reading and 40 more days of learning in mathematics;

Whereas parental demand for charter schools is high, and there was an estimated 7 percent growth in charter school enrollment between fall 2015 and fall 2016; and

Whereas the 18th annual National Charter Schools Week is scheduled to be celebrated the week of May 1 through May 5, 2017: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates the students, families, teachers, leaders, and staff of public charter schools across the United States for—

(A) making ongoing contributions to public education;

(B) making impressive strides in closing the academic achievement gap in schools in the United States, particularly in schools with some of the most disadvantaged students in both rural and urban communities; and

(C) improving and strengthening the public school system throughout the United States;

(2) supports the ideals and goals of the 18th annual National Charter Schools Week, a week-long celebration to be held May 1 through May 5, 2017, in communities throughout the United States; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to hold appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities during National Charter Schools Week to demonstrate support for public charter schools.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 209. Mr. CORNYN (for Mr. CORKER) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 371, to make technical changes and other improvements to the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 209. Mr. CORNYN (for Mr. CORKER) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 371, to make technical changes and other improvements to the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017; as follows:

On page 6, beginning on line 9, strike ''and'' and all that follows through line 17 and insert the following:

(2) by amending paragraph (1) to read as follows:

''(1) a comparison of the costs of current United Nations peacekeeping operations, including the costs incurred by the United States for such operations, and the estimated cost of such operations if implemented unilaterally by the United States;'';

(3) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (3); and

(4) by inserting after paragraph (1), as amended by paragraph (2) of this section, the following new paragraph:

''(2) an assessment of the operational, structural, and doctrinal differences between the military and civilian infrastructures of the United States and United Nations and other assumptions that impact cost estimates; and''.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF MAY 1, 2017, AS ''SILVER STAR SERVICE BANNER DAY''

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be discharged from further consideration of and the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 135.

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

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 135) expressing support for the designation of May 1, 2017, as ''Silver Star Service Banner Day.''

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 135) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of April 24, 2017, under ''Submitted Resolutions.'')

DEPARTMENT OF STATE AUTHORITIES ACT, FISCAL YEAR 2017, IMPROVEMENTS ACT

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be discharged from further consideration of S. 371 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 371) to make technical changes and other improvements to the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Corker amendment at the desk be agreed to; that the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time and passed; and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The amendment (No. 209) was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: To require that the comparative report on peacekeeping operations include an assessment of the operational, structural, and doctrinal differences between the military and civilian infrastructures of the United States and United Nations and other assumptions that impact cost estimates)

On page 6, beginning on line 9, strike ''and'' and all that follows through line 17 and insert the following:

(2) by amending paragraph (1) to read as follows:

''(1) a comparison of the costs of current United Nations peacekeeping operations, including the costs incurred by the United States for such operations, and the estimated cost of such operations if implemented unilaterally by the United States;'';

(3) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (3); and

(4) by inserting after paragraph (1), as amended by paragraph (2) of this section, the following new paragraph:

''(2) an assessment of the operational, structural, and doctrinal differences between the military and civilian infrastructures of the United States and United Nations and other assumptions that impact cost estimates; and''.

The bill (S. 371), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

S. 371

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017, Improvements Act''.

SEC. 2. OVERSIGHT BY COMMITTEES ON APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) OMNIBUS DIPLOMATIC SECURITY AND ANTITERRORISM ACT OF 1986.—Section 104(a) of the Omnibus Diplomatic Security and Antiterrorism Act of 1986, as added by section 101 of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114–323), is amended by inserting ''and the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives'' after ''appropriate congressional committees''.

(b) ANNUAL REPORT ON EMBASSY CONSTRUCTION COSTS.—Section 118(a) of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114–323) is amended by inserting ''and the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives'' after ''appropriate congressional committees''.

(c) OVERSIGHT OF AND ACCOUNTABILITY FOR PEACEKEEPER ABUSES.—Section 301(a) of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114–323) is amended by inserting ''and the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives'' after ''appropriate congressional committees''.

(d) WORKFORCE RIGHTSIZING REPORT.—Section 405(c) of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114–323) is amended by inserting ''and the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives'' after ''appropriate congressional committees''.

(e) CONSULAR IMMUNITY.—Subsection (b)(2) of section 4 of the Diplomatic Relations Act (22 U.S.C. 254c), as added by section 501 of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114–323), is amended by striking ''of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations'' and inserting ''and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Appropriations''.

(f) WESTERN HEMISPHERE DRUG POLICY COMMISSION REPORT.—Section 602(c) of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114–323) is amended—

(1) by inserting ''and the Committee on Appropriations'' after ''Committee on Foreign Affairs''; and

(2) by inserting ''and the Committee on Appropriations'' after ''Committee on Foreign Relations'';

SEC. 3. PEACEKEEPING TRAINING.

Section 301 of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114–323) is amended—

(1) in subsection (e)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking ''enhance the discovery'' and inserting ''investigate allegations'';

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking ''adequately respond to complaints about such offenses by carrying out swift and effective disciplinary action against the personnel'' and inserting ''appropriately hold accountable personnel''; and

(C) in paragraph (3), by inserting '', including compensation to victims, as appropriate'' after ''responses to such offenses'';

(2) in subsection (f)(2), by striking ''any individual who commits an act'' and inserting ''personnel who are found to have committed acts''; and

(3) in subsection (g)(1), by striking ''noteworthy''.

SEC. 4. QUALIFICATIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS SECRETARY GENERAL.

Section 310 of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114–323) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b), by striking ''The descriptions referred to in subsection (a) shall include the following elements'' and inserting ''In addition to the descriptions referred to in subsection (a), each such candidate shall be urged to describe the following''; and

(2) in subsection (c), by striking ''such l'' and inserting ''such agenda''.

SEC. 5. POLICY REGARDING THE UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL.

Section 311(a)(2) of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114–323) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (C), by striking ''; or'' and inserting a semicolon; and

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

''(E) which has been designated as a Tier 3 country in the annual Department of State Trafficking in Persons Report under the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7107); or

''(F) which is identified as having failed to prevent or address gross violations of human rights in the annual Department of State Human Rights Report under the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 and the Trade Act of 1974.''.

SEC. 6. COMPARATIVE REPORT ON PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS.

Section 313 of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114–323) is amended—

(1) by inserting ''and the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives'' after ''appropriate congressional committees'';

(2) by amending paragraph (1) to read as follows:

''(1) a comparison of the costs of current United Nations peacekeeping operations, including the costs incurred by the United States for such operations, and the estimated cost of such operations if implemented unilaterally by the United States;'';

(3) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (3); and

(4) by inserting after paragraph (1), as amended by paragraph (2) of this section, the following new paragraph:

''(2) an assessment of the operational, structural, and doctrinal differences between the military and civilian infrastructures of the United States and United Nations and other assumptions that impact cost estimates; and''.

SEC. 7. LATERAL ENTRY INTO THE FOREIGN SERVICE.

Section 404(a) of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114–323) is amended by striking ''outstanding''.

SEC. 8. COMBATING INTOLERANCE.

The section heading of section 419 of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114–323) is amended by striking ''**ANTI-SEMITISM**'' and inserting ''**INTOLERANCE**''.

SEC. 9. TECHNICAL CORRECTION REGARDING COMPLETION OF WESTERN HEMISPHERE DRUG POLICY COMMISSION REPORT.

Section 603(f)(1) of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114–323) is amended by striking ''section 362'' and inserting ''section 602(c)''.

SEC. 10. BROADCASTING BOARD OF GOVERNORS.

Section 703(b)(2) of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114–323) is amended by striking ''any significant restructuring,''.

SEC. 11. RANSOMS TO FOREIGN TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS.

Section 709(a) of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114–323) is amended by inserting '', to the extent practicable,'' before ''transmit''.

SEC. 12. RESTORATION OF TIBET REPORT.

Section 613 of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Year 2003 (Public Law 107–228, 22 U.S.C. 6901 note), as amended by section 715(b)(1) of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114–323), is further amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking ''IN GENERAL'' and inserting the following: ''POLICY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—'';

(2) by redesignating subsection (b) as paragraph (2) and moving such paragraph, as so redesignated, two ems to the right; and

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

''(b) PERIODIC REPORTS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017, Improvements Act, and annually thereafter until December 31, 2021, the President shall transmit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on—

''(1) the steps taken by the President and the Secretary in accordance with subsection (a)(1); and

''(2) the status of any discussions between the People's Republic of China and the Dalai Lama or his representatives.''.

CONGRATULATING THE STUDENTS, PARENTS, TEACHERS, AND LEADERS OF CHARTER SCHOOLS ACROSS THE UNITED STATES FOR MAKING ONGOING CONTRIBUTIONS TO EDUCATION

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 148, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 148) congratulating the students, parents, teachers, and leaders of charter schools across the United States for making ongoing contributions to education, and supporting the ideals and goals of the 18th annual National Charter Schools Week, to be held May 1 through May 5, 2017.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 148) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under ''Submitted Resolutions.'')

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, MAY 2, 2017

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m., Tuesday, May 2; further, that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; further, that following leader remarks, the Senate proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the Clayton nomination, with the time until 12:30 p.m. equally divided in the usual form; further, that the Senate recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly conference meetings; finally, that all time during recess, adjournment, morning business, and leader remarks count postcloture on the Clayton nomination.

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

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order, following the remarks of the Senator from Florida, Mr. NELSON.

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

The Senator from Florida is recognized.

GULF OF MEXICO OIL DRILLING MORATORIUM

Mr. NELSON. Mr. President, there has been a longstanding question of whether there would be drilling for oil in the eastern Gulf of Mexico off of the State of Florida.

This had been settled in law 10 years ago. Then, my colleague Senator Mel Martinez and I passed a portion of legislation called GOMESA. That portion

of the legislation put the drilling off of Florida in the eastern Gulf—everything east of a north-south line called the Military Mission Line, which is a line running south of approximately Fort Walton Beach—everything east of that is off limits in law to any kind of oil drilling activity, along with the remainder of the coast of Florida; 125 miles from the coast going all the way over to Pensacola and to the Perdido River, which is the Alabama-Florida line.

The reasons for this are many, but not the least of which is called the Military Mission Line. That area of the Gulf off of Florida is the largest testing and training area for the United States military in the world. Compared to other testing ranges, such as the Nevada Test Site—it dwarfs that site. As we can see, from north to south, we have ranges as far as 300 miles from east to west. For example, off of Naples, FL, all the way west to the Military Mission Line is approximately 250 miles. That has been needed by our U.S. military because of the testing and training.

It has been doubted over the years as the relentless pursuit of oil drilling by the oil industry has tried to erode into that, and that is why, in a bipartisan way, Senator Martinez and I put in law for the period of years through 2022, from when we passed this back in 2006, it off limits.

The question is, What is coming afterward? Well, of course if it is up to the Department of Defense, there will be no oil drilling activity. That is what I wanted to bring to the attention of the Senate today.

Two previous Secretaries of Defense in Republican administrations, including Secretary Rumsfeld, have written letters to state the policy that any oil-related activity in that testing and training range would be incompatible with the mission of the testing and training of the U.S. military.

The reason I am bringing this to the attention of the Senate today is that a letter signed by the Acting Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness has just come into my possession. A gentleman named Mr. A.M. Kurta writes:

I have been asked to respond to your letter—

This is to Congressman MATT GAETZ—

on behalf of the Secretary of Defense.

This is regarding the maintaining of the moratorium on oil and gas activities in the Gulf of Mexico beyond the year 2022. The letter states:

The Department of Defense (DoD) cannot overstate the vital importance of maintaining this moratorium.

Why is that? The letter goes on to explain not only the necessity of which so many of our bases in the area—Tyndall Air Force Base in Panama City, all the testing and training of the F–22, the training of our pilots there; Eglin Air Force Base, the testing and the training of the pilots for the F–35. Remember, the F–35 is being sold to many foreign nations, the testing and training of those pilots, as well, but now, with new technologies—I quote from the letter:

Emerging technologies such as hypersonics, autonomous systems, and advanced sub-surface systems will require enlarged testing and training footprints, and increased DoD reliance on the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act's moratorium beyond 2022. The moratorium is essential for developing and sustaining our nation's future combat capabilities.

So I think it is pretty clear.

There is one other issue. This all follows the fact that this Senator filed a bill last January to extend this moratorium. I will point out that just recently a bipartisan delegation from Florida—a majority of the Members of the Florida delegation, bipartisan—signed a letter to the Department of the Interior and the Department of Defense requesting the extension of this moratorium in law past the year 2022. The response from the Department of Defense has come today.

There is one further issue, and that is, if it is off limits to oil drilling in law, is there any question that it ought to be off limits to seismic testing? To the author of the original legislation 10 years ago, that should be clear, but—therefore we ought to clarify it. The request of the Department of Defense is:

[A] question arose concerning whether Congress intended the moratorium to prohibit even geological and geophysical survey activities in the eastern Gulf. We would welcome clarification from Congress concerning this matter.

So it will be this Senator's intent, joining in a bipartisan way with colleagues from Florida, to get that clarification in extending the moratorium.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the letter be printed in the RECORD.

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

WASHINGTON, DC, APRIL 26, 2017.

Hon. MATT GAETZ,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE GAETZ: Thank you for your letter dated March 24, 2017, regarding maintaining the moratorium on oil and gas activities in the Gulf of Mexico beyond 2022. Since military readiness falls under my purview, I have been asked to respond to your letter on behalf of the Secretary of Defense. The Department of Defense (DoD) cannot overstate the vital importance of maintaining this moratorium.

National security and energy security are inextricably linked and the DoD fully supports the development of our nation's domestic energy resources in a manner that is compatible with military testing, training, and operations. As mentioned in your letter, the complex of eastern Gulf of Mexico operating areas and warning areas provides critical opportunities for advanced weapons testing and joint training exercises. The moratorium on oil and gas ''leasing, pre-leasing, and other related activities'' ensures that these vital military readiness activities may be conducted without interference and is critical to their continuation. Emerging technologies such as hypersonics, autonomous systems, and advanced sub-surface systems will require enlarged testing and training footprints, and increased DoD reliance on the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act's moratorium beyond 2022. The moratorium is essential for developing and sustaining our nation's future combat capabilities.

Since signing the 1983 ''Memorandum of Agreement Between the Department of Defense and the Department of the Interior on Mutual Concerns on the Outer Continental Shelf,'' the two departments have worked cooperatively to ensure offshore resource development is compatible with military readiness activities. During recent discussions between the DoD and the Department of the Interior's Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, a question arose concerning whether Congress intended the moratorium to prohibit even geological and geophysical survey activities in the eastern Gulf. We would welcome clarification from Congress concerning this matter.

On behalf of the Secretary, I appreciate your interest in sustaining our testing and training activities in the eastern Gulf of Mexico.

Sincerely,

A.M. KURTA,
Performing the Duties of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness.

Mr. NELSON. Mr. President, in conclusion, we can't have oil drilling, not only for our national security and the testing and training of our most sophisticated weapons systems in the Gulf off of Florida, but also we couldn't stand it if we had another oil spill that would do to us what the last one did. It was a spill way far west off of Louisiana, but it drifted to the east and blackened the sugary white sands of Pensacola Beach and Destin Beach, and there were tar balls as far east as Panama City Beach. Because of that, we lost an entire season of our guests, our tourists. They did not come to the Gulf Coast of Florida, not just in the Florida panhandle but all the way south down the Gulf to Naples and to Marco Island—a $60 billion per year tourism industry for Florida's economy. We can't suffer that kind of shock again.

So whether it be the degradation of the environment, the messing up of the training and testing of our U.S. military and their largest testing and training range, or the devastating economic loss to Florida of its tourism industry—for all those reasons, we need to pass this legislation. It will be coming forth in a bipartisan fashion.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until 10 a.m. tomorrow.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 6:49 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, May 2, 2017, at 10 a.m.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate May 01, 2017:

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral

REAR ADM. (LH) RICHARD A. BROWN
REAR ADM. (LH) JAMES S. BYNUM
REAR ADM. (LH) DARYL L. CAUDLE
REAR ADM. (LH) RICHARD A. CORRELL
REAR ADM. (LH) RANDY B. CRITES
REAR ADM. (LH) DANIEL H. FILLION
REAR ADM. (LH) COLLIN P. GREEN
REAR ADM. (LH) MARY M. JACKSON
REAR ADM. (LH) JAMES W. KILBY
REAR ADM. (LH) JAMES J. MALLOY
REAR ADM. (LH) JOHN W. TAMMEN, JR.

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. KEVIN M. JONES
CAPT. THOMAS J. MOREAU

IN THE MARINE CORPS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS RESERVE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. DAVID G. BELLON
BRIG. GEN. PATRICK J. HERMESMANN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. EDWARD D. BANTA
BRIG. GEN. ROBERT F. CASTELLVI
BRIG. GEN. MATTHEW G. GLAVY
BRIG. GEN. MICHAEL S. GROEN
BRIG. GEN. KEVIN M. IIAMS
BRIG. GEN. WILLIAM F. MULLEN III
BRIG. GEN. GREGG P. OLSON
BRIG. GEN. ERIC M. SMITH

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS RESERVE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be brigadier general

COL. MICHAEL S. MARTIN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be brigadier general

COL. JAMES H. ADAMS III
COL. ERIC E. AUSTIN
COL. JAY M. BARGERON
COL. MICHAEL J. BORGSCHULTE
COL. WILLIAM J. BOWERS
COL. DIMITRI HENRY
COL. KEITH D. REVENTLOW
COL. ROBERTA L. SHEA
COL. BENJAMIN T. WATSON
COL. CHRISTIAN F. WORTMAN

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. BRYAN P. FENTON

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. DARRELL K. WILLIAMS

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be vice admiral

REAR ADM. DAVID H. LEWIS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be vice admiral

REAR ADM. MATHIAS W. WINTER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral

REAR ADM. (LH) STEVEN L. PARODE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral

REAR ADM. (LH) JOHN P. POLOWCZYK

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral

REAR ADM. (LH) JON A. HILL
REAR ADM. (LH) GORDON D. PETERS

IN THE AIR FORCE

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF RAYMOND C. JONES III, TO BE MAJOR.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF CHRISTOPHER E. AUSTIN, TO BE COLONEL.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ROBERT D. HOUGHTELING AND ENDING WITH CARL H. SPEARS, JR., WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MARCH 27, 2017.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH LISA ANN BANYASZ AND ENDING WITH JULIE L. WIBLE, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MARCH 27, 2017.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH LORI J. BETTERS AND ENDING WITH LISA S. SHEAR, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MARCH 27, 2017.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF JAMES A. CRIDER, TO BE COLONEL.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JOSE E. BARRERA AND ENDING WITH DAVID H. ZONIES, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MARCH 27, 2017.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH KRISTIN L. ADER AND ENDING WITH CHRISTOPHER C. VANNATTA, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MARCH 27, 2017.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH GREGG MICHAEL CAGGIANELLI AND ENDING WITH WILLIAM SCOTT WIECHER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MARCH 27, 2017.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH PATRICK W. ALBRECHT AND ENDING WITH STEPHEN S. YOON, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MARCH 27, 2017.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF STEPHEN N. LUKER, TO BE MAJOR.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH TYLER J. BANACHOWSKI AND ENDING WITH MARITA N. ZGURI, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MARCH 27, 2017.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JONI A. ABBOTT AND ENDING WITH DANIELLE C. YUEN, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MARCH 27, 2017.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MICHAEL J. ALFARO AND ENDING WITH SARA M. WILSON, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MARCH 27, 2017.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JESSICA L. ABBOTT AND ENDING WITH HEATH D. WRIGHT, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MARCH 27, 2017.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH COREY R. ANDERSON AND ENDING WITH ANDREW J. STOY, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MARCH 27, 2017.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH EDWARD R. ANDERSON III AND ENDING WITH RAMON YAMBO ARIAS, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MARCH 27, 2017.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH PATRICK M. ALBRITTON AND ENDING WITH RAY A. ZUNIGA, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 4, 2017.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH NEIL R. COPELAND AND ENDING WITH OLIVIA M. VAUGHAN, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 6, 2017.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF ROBERT P. MCCOY, TO BE COLONEL.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF ALLEN R. HENDERSON, JR., TO BE COLONEL.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF GEORGE L. BURNETT, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL .

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF DION R. DIXON, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF REBECCA A. LIPE, TO BE MAJOR.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF MICHAEL N. TESFAY, TO BE MAJOR.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF MEGAN G. K. STEELE, TO BE MAJOR.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH RYAN W. ABNER AND ENDING WITH BREANCA G. YOUNG, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 6, 2017.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ALLEN SETH ABRAMS AND ENDING WITH THOMAS BENJAMIN WILLIAMS, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 6, 2017.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH CHAD A. BELLAMY AND ENDING WITH ANDREW L. THORNLEY, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 6, 2017.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH AIMEE L. ALVIAR AND ENDING WITH DAVID A. WHITEHORN, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 6, 2017.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH WILLIE J. BABOR AND ENDING WITH MAUREEN SCHELLIE WOOD, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 6, 2017.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH HECTOR L. COLONCOLON AND ENDING WITH KEVIN L. LOCKETT, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 6, 2017.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH BETH M. BAYKAN AND ENDING WITH WILLIAM T. WILSON, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 6, 2017.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF MARTIN J. HAMILTON, TO BE COLONEL.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MICHAEL A. BLACKBURN AND ENDING WITH JASON S. WRACHFORD, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 6, 2017.

IN THE ARMY

ARMY NOMINATION OF SCOTT C. APLING, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF PATRICIA L. GEORGE, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF ADAM J. POINTS, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF LARRY G. WORKMAN, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF ROBERT J. DUNLAP, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF WAYNE O. DEHANEY, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF JOHNATHAN T. PARCHEM, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JACOB P. ABSALON AND ENDING WITH G010445, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MARCH 27, 2017.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MARK P. ADAMS AND ENDING WITH G010388, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MARCH 27, 2017.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH AMIR A. ABUAKEEL AND ENDING WITH D013352, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MARCH 27, 2017.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH VANESSA R. ASMUS AND ENDING WITH D013007, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MARCH 27, 2017.

ARMY NOMINATION OF MICHAEL C. FLYNN, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF STEVE L. MARTINELLI, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH KENNETH AHORRIO AND ENDING WITH PAUL W. ZIEGLER III, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MARCH 27, 2017.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH TOLULOPE O. ADEYEMI AND ENDING WITH D013595, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MARCH 27, 2017.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH PAUL J. E. AUCHINCLOSS AND ENDING WITH D012628, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MARCH 27, 2017.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH RACHEL A. ACCIACCA AND ENDING WITH LAUREN E. WHITE, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MARCH 27, 2017.

ARMY NOMINATION OF CHRISTOPHER J. BROWN, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH DANIEL B. KING AND ENDING WITH TODD E. WAINMAN, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MARCH 27, 2017.

ARMY NOMINATION OF JOHN J. BOTTORFF, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF EUGENE L. THOMAS III, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF JOHN T. BLEIGH, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF JEFFREY D. BUCK, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF MICHAEL W. PRECZEWSKI, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH CANDY BOPARAI AND ENDING WITH LINCOLN F. WILLIAMS, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 4, 2017.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH CHARLES J. HASELBY AND ENDING WITH JASON T. RAMSPOTT, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 4, 2017.

ARMY NOMINATION OF ALEXANDER M. WILLARD, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF CHRISTOPHER K. BERTHOLD, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF PRESTON H. LEONARD, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF NICOLE E. USSERY, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF MICHAEL D. BAKER, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF BRIDGET V. KMETZ, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH VEDNER BELLOT AND ENDING WITH JAMES ROBINSON, JR., WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 4, 2017.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ANGELA L. FUNARO AND ENDING WITH CHAD HACKLEY, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 4, 2017.

ARMY NOMINATION OF BRIAN R. HARKI, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JONATHAN L. BOURIAQUE AND ENDING WITH DAVID A. LANGER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 4, 2017.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH TIMOTHY L. BAER AND ENDING WITH GERALD R. WHITE, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 4, 2017.

ARMY NOMINATION OF JAMES V. CRAWFORD, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF MOHAMMED S. AZIZ, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF SETH C. LYDEM, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF CHRISTOPHER C. OSTBY, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF CALVIN E. FISH, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF AARON E. LANE, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF DAMIEN BOFFARDI, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF RANDY D. DORSEY, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH BENJAMIN R. SMITH AND ENDING WITH STALIN R. SUBRAMANIAN, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 4, 2017.

ARMY NOMINATION OF MARK W. HOPKINS, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH THOMAS R. MATELSKI AND ENDING WITH JOSHUA H. WALKER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 4, 2017.

ARMY NOMINATION OF MARK B. HOWELL, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF JULIO COLONGONZALEZ, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JASON N. BULLOCK AND ENDING WITH GERALD A. NUNZIATO, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 4, 2017.

ARMY NOMINATION OF JENNIFER A. MCAFEE, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF NINA R. COPELAND, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF CALVIN E. TOWNSEND, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF SCOTT A. MCDONALD, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF THOMAS P. LUKINS, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF SCOTT M. MCFARLAND, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF JEFFREY A. MILLER, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF JOSEPH M. KILONZO, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF BRANDI A. SCHUYLER, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF DAVID J. KACZMAREK, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF JONATHAN A. JOHNSON, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JAMES A. BENSON AND ENDING WITH WILLIAM M. YANEK II, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 6, 2017.

ARMY NOMINATION OF CRYSTAL J. SMITH, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF DANA B. LOVE, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF DOUGLAS A. MCKEWAN, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF DAVID M. WALLACE, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF LISA M. PATTON, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF BASIL J. CATANZARO, TO BE COLONEL.

IN THE MARINE CORPS

MARINE CORPS NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH DANIEL E. ALGER, JR. AND ENDING WITH JESSICA M. WALL, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 4, 2017.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ANIS A. ABUZEID AND ENDING WITH CRAIG A. ZOELLNER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 4, 2017.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH DANIEL W. ANNUNZIATA AND ENDING WITH LEAH R. PARROTT, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 4, 2017.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATION OF JAMES R. REUSSE, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JOSE M. ACEVEDO AND ENDING WITH FRANCISCO X. ZAVALA, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 4, 2017.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH HENRY CENTENO, JR. AND ENDING WITH JAMES L. SHELTON, JR., WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 4, 2017.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATION OF RICHARD K. O'BRIEN, TO BE MAJOR.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MICHAEL J. ALLEN AND ENDING WITH CHRISTOPHER T. HAMBRICK, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 4, 2017.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JEREMY T. FLANNERY AND ENDING WITH MARK L. OLDROYD, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 4, 2017.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATION OF JOSEPH W. HOCKETT, TO BE MAJOR.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH FRANCISCO D. AMAYA AND ENDING WITH TYSON E. PETERS, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 4, 2017.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MICHAEL M. DODD AND ENDING WITH ROBERT J. SNODDY, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 4, 2017.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATION OF DAVID S. GERSEN, TO BE MAJOR.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATION OF JOHN W. GLINSKY, TO BE MAJOR.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATION OF KEITH A. STEVENSON, TO BE MAJOR.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH QUENTIN R. CARRITT AND ENDING WITH ERIC A. SHARPE, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 4, 2017.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ANTHONY P. GREEN AND ENDING WITH MICHAEL A. YOUNG, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 4, 2017.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATION OF STUART M. BARKER, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH RICHARD CANEDO AND ENDING WITH DAVID L. OGDEN, JR., WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 4, 2017.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATION OF JOHN E. SIMPSON III, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATION OF SEAN T. HAYS, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH LUKE A. CROUSON AND ENDING WITH JASON C. FLORES, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 4, 2017.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ARLINGTON A. FINCH, JR. AND ENDING WITH KEVIN M. TSCHERCH, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 4, 2017.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH STEPHEN J. ACOSTA AND ENDING WITH DONALD R. WRIGHT, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 4, 2017.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JOSHUA P. BAHR AND ENDING WITH JANHENDRIK C. ZURLIPPE, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 4, 2017.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JOHN T. BROWN, JR. AND ENDING WITH JULIUS G. JONES, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 4, 2017.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ELI J. BRESSLER AND ENDING WITH JAMES R. STRAND, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 4, 2017.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH CHADWICK W. ARDIS AND ENDING WITH BRAD J. WILDE, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 4, 2017.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATION OF DUANE A. GUMBS, TO BE MAJOR.

IN THE NAVY

NAVY NOMINATION OF AARON B. MAYER, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATION OF JOHN J. KITT, TO BE COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JORGE R. BALARES, JR. AND ENDING WITH BRANDON M. ZOSS, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 4, 2017.

NAVY NOMINATION OF MARY E. LINNELL, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH SPENCER M. BURK AND ENDING WITH BRIANNA S. WHITTEMORE, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 4, 2017.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH KIRK J. HIPPENSTEEL AND ENDING WITH JOHN M. RUGGERO, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 4, 2017.

NAVY NOMINATION OF EVITA M. SALLES, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATION OF JOHN P. H. RUE, TO BE CAPTAIN.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MICHAEL W. AMECHE AND ENDING WITH JOSHUA J. WHITLOW, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 6, 2017.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH RACHEL E. CARTER AND ENDING WITH KEVIN D. KEITH, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 6, 2017.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MAUER BISCOTTI III AND ENDING WITH ADAM J. SUSMARSKI, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 6, 2017.

NAVY NOMINATION OF DONALD V. WILSON, TO BE COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATION OF MICHAEL A. WINSLOW, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH HORACIO G. TAN AND ENDING WITH DERRICK A. THOMAS, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON APRIL 6, 2017.

NAVY NOMINATION OF NATALIE C. O. GILLIVER, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATION OF JOHN F. SHARPE, TO BE COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATION OF REANN S. MOMMSEN, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—*Monday, May 1, 2017*

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

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
May 1, 2017.

I hereby appoint the Honorable LIZ CHENEY to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

PAUL D. RYAN,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 3, 2017, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to 1 hour and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 1:50 p.m.

THE PAGO PAGO DECLARATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from American Samoa (Mrs. RADEWAGEN) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. RADEWAGEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my appreciation and that of the Samoan people for the April 23 visit of Vice President MIKE PENCE, who was accompanied by the Second Lady and their daughters to my home district, the United States Territory of American Samoa, upon the conclusion of his historic 10-day visit to strategic Asian and Pacific partners. Upon his arrival to Pago Pago, the Vice President remarked that he was glad to be back on American soil.

This historic visit to American Samoa marks only the third time a sitting Vice President has graced our shores and follows in the footsteps of past visits from Vice Presidents Quayle in 1989 and Biden in 2016. Previous visits to our beautiful islands from White House dignitaries include First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt in 1943, President Lyndon Johnson in 1966, and President Jimmy Carter's son, Jeffrey, who represented his father at the inauguration of our first elected Governor in 1977, who happens to be my father, Peter Tali Coleman.

Madam Speaker, pursuant to legislation I introduced in February, which was enacted by Congress and signed into law by President Trump on May 31, the Vice President came to American Samoa at my humble request to dedicate our veterans clinic to the memory of the late former representative of American Samoa, Congressman Eni F.H. Faleomavaega, with whom the Vice President served the entirety of his tenure in the U.S. House of Representatives from 2003 to 2013.

While in American Samoa, the Vice President also reviewed the troops comprised of Reserve companies who are part of the 100th Battalion, 442nd Infantry of the U.S. Army based in Hawaii. Headquartered at Ft. Shafter in Honolulu, the 100th Battalion, 442nd Infantry is the only infantry unit in the entire United States Army Reserve. Samoan soldiers who are part of the battalion have fought and served bravely in conflicts from Desert Storm to Afghanistan and Iraq, and others, since the companies were relocated to American Samoa in 1980.

Madam Speaker, American Samoa takes particular pride that Vice President PENCE was able to celebrate with us the 109th anniversary of the establishment of the United States Army Reserves, which just happened to line up perfectly with his visit.

While the Vice President's journey was well covered by international and domestic media, most outlets outside of the Pacific failed to report a significant statement he made, which I have called the Pago Pago Declaration. This important statement made on our soil was well noted and well received in the Pacific Islands.

Specifically, the Vice President spoke of the challenges the U.S. faces in Asia and the Pacific and confirmed to the audience assembled that, as quoted by Radio New Zealand International and broadcast region-wide: ''We're here to stay, we're here for peace, we're here for the prosperity of all of our people, and we are proud the American flag flies in American Samoa.''

Madam Speaker, I include in the RECORD this Radio New Zealand International story.

[From Radio New Zealand, Apr. 25, 2017]

AMERICAN SAMOANS TOLD US IS COMMITTED TO REGIONAL PEACE

The United States Vice President has told American Samoans that his country is committed to peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific region.

Mike Pence made a brief stopover in the US territory yesterday where he was greeted by Governor Lobo Matalasi Moliga his wife, the Lieutenant-Governor Lemanu Peleti Mauga, Chief Justice Michael Kruse, House Speaker Savali Talavou Ale'a and congresswoman Aumua Amata Radewagen.

Secret Service agents restricted access and only a few leaders were allowed to shake hands with the Vice-President. Governor Lobo apologised to traditional leaders who weren't able to conduct a traditional ava ceremony because of security restrictions. Mr Pence, who was with his wife Karen, thanked American Samoans for their support and prayers.

He said it was an important time for the Asia-Pacific region.

Mr Pence said he was in the territory on behalf of President Donald Trump to symbolise the US commitment to the area.

''We're here to stay, we're here for peace, we're here for the prosperity of all of our people and we are proud the American flag flies in American Samoa,'' he said.

Mrs. RADEWAGEN. The People's Republic of China and other external powers are gaining visibility and influence in the region, including the neighboring Independent State of Samoa. Due to the new influence of foreign interests in the region, members of American Samoa's territorial legislature, the Fono, just days prior to the Vice President's arrival, expressed to me, during my appearance before a special joint session, their concern about the rise of foreign influences in the region. I am certain the Pago Pago Declaration will help to allay their concerns and will be welcome in capitals across the Pacific from Port Moresby to Papeete, Tahiti.

Moreover, Madam Speaker, I anticipate that the Pago Pago Declaration will be a component of the evolving Trump doctrine that is under development by the administration, which I expect will be fully articulated when the U.S. participates in the Port Moresby APEC summit in November of next year.

Madam Speaker, we, in American Samoa, recognize the strategic importance of our location in the center of the Pacific Ocean and are proud of the contributions we make to our Nation's security.

As always, we stand ready to do our part to advance the spirit of the Vice President's Pago Pago Declaration, which I expect will have a long lasting and positive effect on the region.

I want to, once again, thank the Vice President and the administration for their attention to the Pacific territories, a region that too often goes unnoticed in Washington.

MCGOVERN-DOLE INTERNATIONAL FOOD FOR EDUCATION PROGRAM

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the George McGovern-Robert Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program, one of America's signature child nutrition and food security programs.

Established by Congress in the 2002 farm bill, over the past 15 years, it has provided life-saving meals in school settings to over 14 million of the world's most vulnerable children.

Administered by the Department of Agriculture, this bipartisan-supported program provides U.S. and international organizations with U.S. commodities, grants, and technical assistance to strengthen child nutrition and education.

It receives a modest $201 million each year. Regrettably, the President's FY 2018 budget would cruelly eliminate the entire program.

McGovern-Dole is named after two Senators who worked in a bipartisan way during their long tenures in the Senate to end hunger, especially among children in the United States and around the world. They continued their work together after leaving the Senate. They are models for what can be accomplished when Members of Congress actually put petty partisanship aside and make the welfare of children and families become your number one priority. And even though George McGovern is no longer with us, Bob Dole continues to champion this cause.

On March 20, in a statement to The Washington Post, he said: ''Eliminating the McGovern-Dole program would have a disastrous effect on the planet's most vulnerable children. Without a reliable source of nutrition, these children face a lifetime of stunted physical and mental development and unrealized opportunity. This global school meals program remains one of the proudest achievements of my lifetime. It embodies the very best of America's values. Saving this program means saving lives. It's as simple as that.''

Madam Speaker, working through partners like the U.N. World Food Programme, Catholic Relief Services, World Vision, Save the Children, Counterpart International, and many more, McGovern-Dole has reduced the incidence of hunger among school-aged children. It has increased school enrollments and attendance. It has increased the support of families and communities for education, especially for girls. It is a proven success.

Instead of eliminating it, we should be strengthening and expanding it. Now, I have had the privilege of visiting some of these programs around the world. In Colombia, I visited a program in Soacha, on the outskirts of Bogota. On barren hillsides, surrounded by shanties housing thousands of internally displaced families, children were receiving a school breakfast and lunch. Mothers and grandmothers were training as cooks preparing the meals. Clearly visible in the cafeteria were USAID bags of grains, beans, and lentils.

One mother came up to me and said: ''Please thank the American people when you go back home. I couldn't feed my children. I couldn't send them to school. I was afraid my son was going to join the paramilitaries or guerrillas just to get food. Now my son is getting fed and he is staying in school. Please tell the American people thank you.''

In Nairobi, Kenya, in the largest slum in the world, I went to a McGovern-Dole breakfast and lunch program. The school principal showed me how they store and prepare U.S. commodities that feed her students and how all the students know that this program is from the American people. I ate porridge made from yellow peas grown by American farmers. The kids dug into this food like it was manna from Heaven. One little boy would take a bite and then scoop a small amount out of his bowl and put it in his pockets. He was taking food home to his younger siblings who don't get anything to eat.

Outside of Nairobi in Maasai country is a school for girls where McGovern-Dole provides a hot lunch. I helped cook and serve the meal of U.S. bulgur wheat and locally grown vegetables. One student told me how grateful she was to be able to go to school every day and eat every day. She grew up in a village over 100 miles away.

When she was 12, her father told her that she had to marry a much older man. She refused. Her father ordered her to go to her uncle's house and get his machete and bring it back to him. She knew that he was going to kill her.

She ran away, walking alone for days, because she had heard of this school. And when I met her, she was 15, healthy, and well fed, and at the top of her class. I knew I was talking to someone who will some day be a leader in her country. In the very best way, she will never forget us.

And when we take food away from children, families, and schools, those communities will never forget us either. They won't forget that we took away their children's future. I wouldn't forget it if it were my child. Would you?

Madam Speaker, there are many ways to advance U.S. national security and economic interests abroad. Education and child nutrition are very much at the top of the list. So I urge my colleagues to visit McGovern-Dole programs when they travel abroad and to support continued funding of the program in FY 2018. It is yet another way that we can all work together to end hunger now.

ATTEMPT TO REPEAL AND REPLACE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

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

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, this morning, the American public woke up to news accounts that the Trump White House and Republican leadership in Congress is going to again this week make another attempt to try and repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act.

Republican Majority Leader KEVIN MCCARTHY gave a speech in Texas a few days ago on Saturday where he promised that this is the week that the Republicans will repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act.

For those of us who were in the Chamber here just a short time ago in March when the first attempt was made to butcher the healthcare system with the so-called American Health Care Act, what we saw was the culmination of a process that was hyperpartisan starting in January in which the committees rushed through a piece of legislation without even giving the Congressional Budget Office a chance to analyze the cost and the impact in terms of the uninsured rate in America.

And then finally, as the hour approached when a vote was scheduled to take place, the facts caught up with the legislation. The Congressional Budget Office determined that 24 million Americans would lose their health coverage, that the Medicare trust fund would be weakened because of the raid on the trust fund by reducing a Medicare tax surcharge for millionaires; and it would reduce the solvency of the Medicare trust fund by 4 years, a program that is revered and probably the most popular insurance program in America in which, again, collection of healthcare stakeholders from all across the country, the American Hospital Association, the nurses, the doctors, the March of Dimes all came out universally opposing this measure.

And finally, the Quinnipiac poll showed what the American public thought of this bill. They came out with a poll that showed only 17 percent support in the American public for the Republican healthcare bill. Again, the Quinnipiac poll comes from my State, the State of Connecticut, and was very supportive and friendly in terms of its polling data in terms of the Trump campaign last year, so it is certainly not a partisan poll.

So why are we revisiting a measure which was so universally denounced and despised? Well, there has been a new amendment that has been offered in an attempt, again, within the confines of the Republican majority, to try

and win votes to pass this bill this week.

Again, they have a majority with roughly 240 seats. They need only 216, and that is really what has been the focus of the majority leader in terms of trying to line up a vote this week.

The amendment, the so-called MacArthur amendment, again, revisits some of the issues, which, again, some of the more conservative members of the Freedom Caucus were complaining about, and what it proposes to do is basically give States the ability to wipe out essential health benefits—in other words, the basic patient protections that were built into the health insurance law 8 years ago.

□ 1215

It does nothing in terms of trying to ameliorate the impact of the Medicaid cuts, which is the program for low-income and working Americans, which the ACA expanded and has done great work in terms of reducing the ranks of the uninsured. That is the measure which we now have before us this week.

Well, once again, the stakeholders who have to live with this have weighed in with their thoughts. This is what the American Hospital Association said:

''The amendment proposed this week would dramatically worsen the bill.''

Again, it is a bill that was so unpopular, poorly drafted, and not ready for prime time that the Speaker pulled it from a vote on March 24.

The American Hospital Association, which is the largest trade association for hospitals in America—they represent thousands of hospitals—have said that, in fact, this makes it even worse.

By weakening the essential health benefits—and I come from Connecticut. We know a little bit about insurance in that State. What we know is, if insurance companies can redesign healthcare plans, the essential health benefits will be the first to go. The ones that will be the first to go will be maternity care, behavioral health, and emergency coverage because those are the most expensive items that are included within the health insurance plan. I would say, well, that is true. On the other hand, those are the essential benefits that families need.

Look at what has happened since the Affordable Care Act passed in 2007 to infant mortality, for example: because of the Medicaid coverage, 57 percent of the live births in America are now women—and particularly young women—who get the benefit of Medicaid coverage. So they get prenatal care. They get the help that they need to make sure that a healthy delivery occurs. That is why infant mortality rates have been coming down in this country since the Affordable Care Act passed.

To allow States to eliminate or give insurance companies the ability to eliminate maternity care, again, is just going exactly in the opposite direction. A goal all Americans support is to reduce infant mortality and to promote healthy live births.

The American Hospital Association was joined by the American Medical Association, which is the largest trade group which represents physicians all across the country, and came out against the bill.

America should listen. The people in Congress should listen. We should not take up this bill. It is time for a true bipartisan process to improve America's healthcare bill.

Let's not vote on this this week. Let's listen to the American people.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 17 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. WEBER of Texas) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer:

We give You thanks, O God, for giving us another day.

We ask Your blessing upon this assembly and upon all to whom the authority of government is given. Help them to meet their responsibilities during these days, to attend to the immediate needs and concerns of the moment, enlightened by Your eternal spirit.

We thank You for Your gifts of patience and perseverance that have led to agreements on the funding of government. It is difficult work calling for true leadership. Continue to bless those Members who continue to work toward solutions that redound to the benefit of our Nation.

Please send Your spirit of peace upon those areas of our world where conflicts continue and threaten to break out. May all Your children learn to live in peace.

And may all that is done within the people's House be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

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

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

APPRECIATING CAPTAIN TAYLOR FORCE

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, Captain Taylor Force of South Carolina was a graduate of West Point, a veteran who had served in Afghanistan and Iraq, and he was an MBA candidate at Vanderbilt University when he was, at random, stabbed to death by a Palestinian terrorist in March of 2016 as he innocently departed from a bus as a tourist in Israel. He was only 28 years old.

His merciless murder at the hands of Palestinian terrorists is even more gruesome because of the Palestinian Authority program of paying out hundreds of millions of dollars to terrorists and their families in support of mass murder.

I am grateful to support the Taylor Force Act, legislation that restricts all aid from the Palestinian Authority until the Secretary of State confirms they do not provide financial rewards for terrorists in their murderous activities. I appreciate the leadership of Senator LINDSEY GRAHAM, Congressman DOUG LAMBORN, and Congressman LEE ZELDIN for introducing the Taylor Force Act.

As Palestinian Prime Minister Mahmoud Abbas travels to Washington to meet with President Trump on Wednesday, I am confident that President Trump will show his commitment to ending financial rewards for terrorists.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

AMERICANS LOOK TO THE STARS

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

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, human history is punctuated by explorations of the world around us. We are a nation of explorers. It is part of our national identity, and finding new

planets and looking for evidence of life beyond our Earth fascinates most Americans.

The discovery of life elsewhere in the universe would alter our priorities for space exploration and affect how we view ourselves.

In just the last two decades, we have confirmed the existence of 3,000 exoplanets, planets outside our solar system. Probing the cosmos encourages the next generation of young students to pursue careers in astronomy, astrophysics, and astrobiology.

We must continue to look at the Stars. They offer us a glimpse of the past and hope for the future.

HONORING BRAZOSWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

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

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, earlier this year, the Brazoswood High School band was awarded one of the highest honors: the Sudler Flag of Honor by the John Philip Sousa Foundation.

The Sudler Flag of Honor is given to distinguished high school bands that have demonstrated particularly high standards of excellence in concert activities over a period of several years. There is a 7-year minimum process, with countless documents, recordings, letters of recommendation, and performances at not only the State but the local level as well.

Of the nearly 50 Sudler Flags that have been awarded since 1983, almost 30 of them have gone to Texas high school bands. The Brazoswood Buccaneer Band is the most recent addition to this prestigious group, and they are the only band to have been awarded the Sudler Flag in 2017.

My sincere congratulations to the students; the alumni; the band; Mr. Brian Casey, the band director; and the principal, Rita Pintavalle, on this outstanding achievement.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WILSON of South Carolina). Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 4:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 6 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1630

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. POLIQUIN) at 4 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

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

FAIR ACCESS TO INVESTMENT RESEARCH ACT OF 2017

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 910) to direct the Securities and Exchange Commission to provide a safe harbor related to certain investment fund research reports, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 910

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Fair Access to Investment Research Act of 2017''.

SEC. 2. SAFE HARBOR FOR INVESTMENT FUND RESEARCH.

(a) EXPANSION OF THE SAFE HARBOR.—Not later than the end of the 180-day period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act, the Securities and Exchange Commission shall propose, and not later than the end of the 270-day period beginning on such date, the Commission shall adopt, upon such terms, conditions, or requirements as the Commission may determine necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, and for the promotion of capital formation, revisions to section 230.139 of title 17, Code of Federal Regulations, to provide that a covered investment fund research report that is published or distributed by a broker or dealer—

(1) shall be deemed, for purposes of sections 2(a)(10) and 5(c) of the Securities Act of 1933 (15 U.S.C. 77b(a)(10), 77e(c)), not to constitute an offer for sale or an offer to sell a security that is the subject of an offering pursuant to a registration statement that is effective, even if the broker or dealer is participating or will participate in the registered offering of the covered investment fund's securities; and

(2) shall be deemed to satisfy the conditions of subsection (a)(1) or (a)(2) of section 230.139 of title 17, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor provisions, for purposes of the Commission's rules and regulations under the Federal securities laws and the rules of any self-regulatory organization.

(b) IMPLEMENTATION OF SAFE HARBOR.—In implementing the safe harbor pursuant to subsection (a), the Commission shall—

(1) not, in the case of a covered investment fund with a class of securities in substantially continuous distribution, condition the safe harbor on whether the broker's or dealer's publication or distribution of a covered investment fund research report constitutes such broker's or dealer's initiation or reinitiation of research coverage on such covered investment fund or its securities;

(2) not—

(A) require the covered investment fund to have been registered as an investment company under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a–1 et seq.) or subject to the reporting requirements of section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78m, 78o(d)) for any period exceeding the period of time referenced under paragraph (a)(1)(i)(A)(1) of section 230.139 of title 17, Code of Federal Regulations; or

(B) impose a minimum float provision exceeding that referenced in paragraph (a)(1)(i)(A)(1)(i) of section 230.139 of title 17, Code of Federal Regulations;

(3) provide that a self-regulatory organization may not maintain or enforce any rule that would—

(A) prohibit the ability of a member to publish or distribute a covered investment fund research report solely because the member is also participating in a registered offering or other distribution of any securities of such covered investment fund; or

(B) prohibit the ability of a member to participate in a registered offering or other distribution of securities of a covered investment fund solely because the member has published or distributed a covered investment fund research report about such covered investment fund or its securities; and

(4) provide that a covered investment fund research report shall not be subject to section 24(b) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a–24(b)) or the rules and regulations thereunder, except that such report may still be subject to such section and the rules and regulations thereunder to the extent that it is otherwise not subject to the content standards in the rules of any self-regulatory organization related to research reports, including those contained in the rules governing communications with the public regarding investment companies or substantially similar standards.

(c) RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this Act shall be construed as in any way limiting—

(1) the applicability of the antifraud or antimanipulation provisions of the Federal securities laws and rules adopted thereunder to a covered investment fund research report, including section 17 of the Securities Act of 1933 (15 U.S.C. 77q), section 34(b) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a–33), and sections 9 and 10 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78i, 78j); or

(2) the authority of any self-regulatory organization to examine or supervise a member's practices in connection with such member's publication or distribution of a covered investment fund research report for compliance with applicable provisions of the Federal securities laws or self-regulatory organization rules related to research reports, including those contained in rules governing communications with the public, or to require the filing of communications with the public the purpose of which is not to provide research and analysis of covered investment funds.

(d) INTERIM EFFECTIVENESS OF SAFE HARBOR.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—From and after the 270-day period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act, if the Commission has not adopted revisions to section 230.139 of title 17, Code of Federal Regulations, as required by subsection (a), and until such time as the Commission has done so, a broker or dealer distributing or publishing a covered investment fund research report after such date shall be able to rely on the provisions of section 230.139 of title 17, Code of Federal Regulations, and the broker or dealer's publication of such report shall be deemed to satisfy the conditions of subsection (a)(1) or (a)(2) of section 230.139 of title 17, Code of Federal Regulations, if the covered investment fund that is the subject of such report satisfies the reporting history requirements (without regard to Form S–3

or Form F–3 eligibility) and minimum float provisions of such subsections for purposes of the Commission's rules and regulations under the Federal securities laws and the rules of any self-regulatory organization, as if revised and implemented in accordance with subsections (a) and (b).

(2) STATUS OF COVERED INVESTMENT FUND.—After such period and until the Commission has adopted revisions to section 230.139 and FINRA has revised rule 2210, for purposes of subsection (c)(7)(O) of such rule, a covered investment fund shall be deemed to be a security that is listed on a national securities exchange and that is not subject to section 24(b) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a–24(b)).

(3) COVERED INVESTMENT FUNDS COMMUNICATIONS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), communications that concern only covered investment funds that fall within the scope of section 24(b) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a–24(b)) shall not be required to be filed with FINRA.

(B) EXCEPTION.—FINRA may require the filing of communications with the public if the purpose of those communications is not to provide research and analysis of covered investment funds.

(e) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this Act:

(1) The term ''covered investment fund research report'' means a research report published or distributed by a broker or dealer about a covered investment fund or any securities issued by the covered investment fund, but not including a research report to the extent that it is published or distributed by the covered investment fund or any affiliate of the covered investment fund.

(2) The term ''covered investment fund'' means—

(A) an investment company registered under, or that has filed an election to be treated as a business development company under, the Investment Company Act of 1940 and that has filed a registration statement under the Securities Act of 1933 for the public offering of a class of its securities, which registration statement has been declared effective by the Commission; and

(B) a trust or other person—

(i) issuing securities in an offering registered under the Securities Act of 1933 and which class of securities is listed for trading on a national securities exchange;

(ii) the assets of which consist primarily of commodities, currencies, or derivative instruments that reference commodities or currencies, or interests in the foregoing; and

(iii) that provides in its registration statement under the Securities Act of 1933 that a class of its securities are purchased or redeemed, subject to conditions or limitations, for a ratable share of its assets.

(3) The term ''FINRA'' means the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority.

(4) The term ''research report'' has the meaning given that term under section 2(a)(3) of the Securities Act of 1933 (15 U.S.C. 77b(a)(3)), except that such term shall not include an oral communication.

(5) The term ''self-regulatory organization'' has the meaning given to that term under section 3(a)(26) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78c(a)(26)).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. FOSTER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arkansas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this bill.

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

There was no objection.

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

Today I rise in support of H.R. 910, the Fair Access to Investment Research Act, which I have had the pleasure of working on with my friend from Illinois (Mr. FOSTER) in this Congress and now-Governor Carney in the last Congress.

Mr. FOSTER, I had the pleasure to speak with Governor Carney this weekend and tell him of our great collaboration in this Congress, and he sends his warmest regards for the process.

This bill, Mr. Speaker, is a commonsense, bipartisan, bicameral effort to increase access to research and information on exchange-traded funds, or ETFs, an important and rapidly growing investment vehicle in the United States and around the world.

Before coming to Congress, I worked in the banking and investment industry for nearly three decades, and I have witnessed firsthand the explosive growth in the ETF industry. Since I started my latest firm in the late 1990s, I have seen the exchange-traded fund selection grow from about 100 funds with about $100 billion in total assets to today's 2,000 funds with about $2.4 trillion in investment assets.

However, despite this rapid growth in the popularity in the ETF market and their increasing importance to retail investors, most broker-dealers do not publish research on ETFs due to anomalies in our securities laws and regulations.

The SEC has implemented safe harbors for research in support of various asset classes, including listed stocks, corporate debt, and closed-ended funds, and Congress has provided explicit safe harbors for research related to the offerings of emerging growth company securities. However, despite their similarities to those asset classes, ETFs do not benefit from similar safe harbors.

An ETF safe harbor is also not a novel concept to the Commission, and there is bipartisan consensus that this is something that the SEC should have done years ago. In addition to providing feedback on this bill for the past 3 years, the SEC, itself, has looked at granting a safe harbor for ETF research on multiple occasions but never quite got around to it.

The Fair Access to Investment Research Act simply directs the SEC to provide a safe harbor for research reports that cover ETFs so that these reports are not considered offers under the Federal securities laws. Because ETFs are continuously brought to the market, a safe harbor is necessary for broker-dealers to publish this research.

It also holds the SEC accountable to Congress by providing an interim safe harbor if the SEC does not act within a 270-day period, which would be effective until the Commission finalizes its rules in this area.

Providing this safe harbor will increase access to investment information for consumers and improve the efficiency of our capital markets. Given the importance of ETFs to the market and to the 6 million or so U.S. households that hold ETFs, steps to facilitate research and allow investors access to this useful information are long overdue.

Mr. Speaker, we want more information for our consumers about how their investments work, how an ETF fits into their investment portfolio, how it is consistent with their time horizon and their goals, and what the transaction costs are. What are the unique strategies around that ETF? Does it, in fact, use leverage or not? All these kinds of details will help our consumers know more about these products.

As our Capital Markets Subcommittee ranking member, Mrs. MALONEY, stated so eloquently at our markup earlier this year: It makes sense to get more research out there on ETFs. After all, if you are concerned with the growth of ETFs, then the last thing you want is less research.

True it is.

This bill in no way undermines or eliminates any investor protections in the Federal securities laws or the SEC's ability to oversee the registration and sale of ETF securities explicitly, containing a rule of construction that the applicability of the antifraud and antimanipulation provisions of the Federal securities laws are in no way limited by this legislation.

This safe harbor would also only apply to bona fide research and in no way limits FINRA, the Federal securities regulators, and the SEC's ability to regulate sales and marketing literature that is used for ETFs.

I would like to thank, again, my colleagues, Mr. FOSTER and Governor Carney, Senators HELLER and PETERS for their work in the United States Senate, my chairman, the ranking member, and Mrs. MALONEY and the staff on both sides of the aisle for their hard work on this pro-consumer, commonsense proposal to make more information available to America's investing households.

In March, H.R. 910 passed the House Financial Services Committee by an overwhelmingly bipartisan vote of 56–2, and a similar version of this legislation passed the House in the last Congress by a vote of 411–6.

I urge all my colleagues to support this bill today, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I thank my colleague from Arkansas (Mr. HILL) for his years of hard bipartisan work that went into this bill.

I am proud to support this bill today because I believe that it will strengthen the abilities of investors to make informed decisions. This legislation would add transparency in the financial markets that will ultimately benefit consumers.

Exchange-traded funds are valuable and popular tools for investors to get exposure to diversified risk through a single security with low costs. My wife and I use them ourselves. They are, however, like the iPhone, very simple on the outside but incredibly complicated products on the inside. They often can be thoroughly understood only by those with the background and the time to analyze the way the ETF is constructed, as well as each of the underlying securities and the sectors they are targeting.

Retail investors and retirement savers often do not have this time and often do not have the expertise in the markets. High-quality research can help them make informed decisions about which ETFs to invest in, equipping them to make decisions on how to diversify across different sectors and indices.

ETFs are continuously issued, so they present unique potential risks to underwriting broker-dealers under the Federal securities laws.

Generally, the Federal securities laws prohibit a broker-dealer from participating in a securities offering from publishing research 15 days before or 30 days after the issuance for very good reason. This is to prevent research that could hype the security ahead of the offering or try to puff its price afterwards.

ETF pricing, however, reflects a wide variety of data across many issuers and classes of securities. Because they are continuously brought to market, it is necessary to provide a clarification in the law that research is permitted to be published continuously, because they are also continually traded on the exchanges. The antifraud provisions of the securities laws will still apply.

To be clear, this bill does not vitiate any rights of investors or responsibilities of broker dealers with respect to the accuracy and truthfulness of statements. Specifically, section 2(c)(1) provides that the antifraud and antimanipulation provisions of the securities laws are not limited by anything in this bill. Moreover, this applies only to bona fide research, and FINRA can require sales materials to be posted to the public.

Section 2(c)(2) preserves the powers of the SROs to oversee all of the practices of broker-dealers, including the publication of these reports.

Lastly, the bill provides for a statutory safe harbor should the Commission not be able to promulgate a rule in the 270-day period established by the bill. This statutory safe harbor is only available to research on funds that have been reported to the SEC for the last year, ensuring that it is true to the purpose of the bill to provide research to be used by investors for existing securities.

Statutory safe harbors exist elsewhere in the Federal securities laws, most notably section 4(a)(2) of the 1933 Act. A statutory private offering exemption can be perfected without relying on regulation D. In practice, though, that does not happen, and I trust that the SEC will prescribe an appropriate set of rules consistent with section 2(a) of this bill so that the regulatory safe harbor will be effective.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from Illinois for his comments and his constructive help on designing and completing the legislative process on this bill.

Mr. Speaker, an integral process of getting this bill completed was certainly by our staff, and I want to pay particular attention to Holli Heiles of my personal staff, who, this day, leaves the world of the personal staff and moves to the Subcommittee on Capital Markets, Securities, and Investments of the House Financial Services Committee. I want to thank Holli Heiles for her outstanding work on this bill and for her outstanding work on behalf of the people of the Second Congressional District of Arkansas, as well as to congratulate her on her move to the committee.

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

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I again thank my colleague from Arkansas (Mr. HILL) and now-Governor Carney, as well, for working on this bill over the past years. I look forward to it being signed into law.

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

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the work done together on this bill. I don't have any other speakers on this particular bill.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BACON). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 910, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

□ 1645

SMALL BUSINESS CAPITAL FORMATION ENHANCEMENT ACT

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1312) to amend the Small Business Investment Incentive Act of 1980 to require an annual review by the Securities and Exchange Commission of the annual government-business forum on capital formation that is held pursuant to such Act, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1312

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Small Business Capital Formation Enhancement Act''.

SEC. 2. ANNUAL REVIEW OF GOVERNMENT-BUSINESS FORUM ON CAPITAL FORMATION.

Section 503 of the Small Business Investment Incentive Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 80c–1) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(e) The Commission shall—

''(1) review the findings and recommendations of the forum; and

''(2) each time the forum submits a finding or recommendation to the Commission, promptly issue a public statement—

''(A) assessing the finding or recommendation of the forum; and

''(B) disclosing the action, if any, the Commission intends to take with respect to the finding or recommendation.

''(f) FORUM FINDINGS.—Nothing in this section shall require the Commission to agree to or act upon any finding or recommendation of the forum.''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL) and the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arkansas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this bill.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of H.R. 1312, the Small Business Capital Formation Enhancement Act, which would require the Securities and Exchange Commission to respond to the recommendations from its annual forum on small business capital formation.

Small businesses are the backbone of the U.S. economy, and, according to the SBA, have provided 55 percent of all jobs and 66 percent of all net new jobs over the past 40 years. These small businesses are intimately familiar with

their businesses and the regulatory environment, and who better to provide insights to regulators and lawmakers on how to best provide and promote capital formation and remove unnecessary regulatory barriers and burdens?

Nearly four decades ago, in 1980, Congress recognized the importance of our small-business owners and their having a voice and sharing their recommendations with the SEC, and Congress required the SEC to conduct an annual forum to review the current status and issues surrounding small business capital formation. But while the Commission is required to conduct this forum, its obligation goes no further.

Though the SEC often praises this small business forum and the insights and recommendations from the small business community, the SEC has no obligation to respond to or act on the forum's recommendations and findings and has rarely done so. For example, many of the provisions of the JOBS Act came from recommendations from the small business forum, but it was Congress who had to move forward with these ideas, not the SEC.

This commonsense bill introduced by Mr. POLIQUIN and Mr. VARGAS would require the SEC to formally respond to these recommendations just like they legally have to acknowledge and respond to recommendations from their Investor Advisory Committee. Similar legislation passed the House last Congress by a nearly unanimous vote, and, earlier this year, H.R. 1312 passed the House Financial Services Committee by a unanimous vote.

I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this bill, and I thank, again, my good friends from Maine and from California for their hard work on this bipartisan bill that ensures the voice of our small business community is heard.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1312, a commonsense measure that will ensure the SEC responds to recommendations that will reduce barriers to small businesses' capital formation. Access to capital is the lifeblood of every business. As ranking member of the House Small Business Committee, I hear this on a near daily basis. It is as true today as it was 65 years ago when Congress created the Small Business Administration.

Since that time, Congress has taken steps to better understand the needs of our small businesses and find ways to improve access to capital. In 1980, we created the Government-Business Forum on Small Business Capital Formation at the SEC. This body helps policymakers learn about unnecessary impediments to small business capital formation and address how they can be eliminated or reduced. However, the SEC isn't currently required to act on the forum's recommendations.

The Small Business Capital Formation Enhancement Act changes the SEC's obligation by requiring the Commission to respond to the recommendations made by the annual Government-Business Forum. This bill is modeled after a similar provision in the Dodd-Frank Act requiring the SEC to respond to the recommendation of the Investor Advisory Committee.

However, there are important distinctions between the recommendations of the IAC and the forum. Specifically, the IAC is limited by statute to 23 members. By contrast, the forum is open to all public and private participants. As a result, the IAC has only issued 12 recommendations since its first meeting in 2012. During the same timeframe, the forum issued 98 recommendations.

While I understand the desire to have the SEC respond to each of the forum's recommendations, I would remind my colleagues that the SEC has the important duty to police our financial markets. Therefore, I hope my colleagues will remember these additional duties and set appropriate funding levels for the SEC to ensure agency resources are not being diverted from its crucial examination and enforcement activities.

I would like to thank Mr. POLIQUIN and Mr. VARGAS for crafting this bipartisan bill to ensure that the voice of our small business community is heard.

Mr. Speaker, I urge Members to support this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, again, I appreciate the gentlewoman from New York's views and her helpful work on this legislation.

We have lost over the last 20 years some 50 percent of our public companies. When I was getting out of college, one of the great dreams in business would be that you could have a company that was so successful that you could go public. Over the years, obviously that process has made it more and more difficult for our entrepreneurs to pursue their dream of a public company.

So what better way to make sure their voice about our rules, our laws, the process of being public, and the process of registering and disclosing is all made in a way that does not discourage our entrepreneurs and our small-business people from pursuing that dream of going public.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Maine (Mr. POLIQUIN), my distinguished friend who serves on the House Financial Services Committee and is a gentleman who is a voice for small business at every meeting of the House Financial Services Committee.

Mr. POLIQUIN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman, and I appreciate it very much. I do want to thank the Congresswoman from New York and also Congressman JUAN VARGAS of California who stepped up as the lead cosponsor of this legislation.

As Mr. HILL mentioned a moment ago, about two-thirds of our new jobs in the last decade have been created by small business. This is the bloodline of our economy, and certainly in Maine, Mr. Speaker, where we are a State and a district of small businesses, this is very particular to my interest.

Those of us who have run small businesses know that one of the biggest challenges you have is how to borrow money—access to capital—because unless you have access to capital and unless you have the funds you need to grow and expand, you can't create new opportunities and new jobs for our kids and our grandkids. So access to capital is absolutely critical when it comes to growing our economy and providing more opportunities for the next generation.

As has already been said today, the SEC holds these annual forums where small-business leaders who are on the ground creating jobs and those in the public sector get together, and they review and explore new ways and better ways to change the regulations and the rules we have in this country such that access to capital is enhanced.

What better idea; what more common sense do we need than to have a bill, H.R. 1312, that I am very proud to sponsor, that requires the SEC to assess every recommendation by this forum every year—not necessarily act upon it, but take it off the shelf, assess it, and determine if action should be taken.

I want to thank all the folks who have participated in our forums over the years, both the public and the private sector, and I ask, Mr. Speaker, that all my colleagues in this House, Republicans and Democrats, please support H.R. 1312.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1312, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

U.S. TERRITORIES INVESTOR PROTECTION ACT OF 2017

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1366) to amend the Investment Company Act of 1940 to terminate an exemption for companies located in Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and any other possession of the United States.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1366

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''U.S. Territories Investor Protection Act of 2017''.

SEC. 2. TERMINATION OF EXEMPTION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 6(a) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a–6(a)) is amended by striking paragraph (1).

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE AND SAFE HARBOR.—

(1) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) SAFE HARBOR.—With respect to a company that is exempt under section 6(a)(1) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a–6(a)(1)) on the day before the date of the enactment of this Act, the amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect on the date that is 3 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(3) EXTENSION OF SAFE HARBOR.—The Securities and Exchange Commission, by rule and regulation upon its own motion, or by order upon application, may conditionally or unconditionally, under section 6(c) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a–6(c)), further delay the effective date for a company described in paragraph (2) for a maximum of 3 years following the initial 3-year period if, before the end of the initial 3-year period, the Commission determines that such a rule, regulation, motion, or order is necessary or appropriate in the public interest and for the protection of investors.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL) and the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arkansas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on this bill.

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

There was no objection.

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

Today I rise in support of H.R. 1366, the U.S. Territories Investor Protection Act, and I thank my friend and colleague from New York for her exceptional efforts in designing and bringing this bill to us today.

H.R. 1366 repeals a provision in the Investment Company Act of 1940 that exempts investment companies in Puerto Rico, Guam, and other U.S. territories from registering with the Securities and Exchange Commission, the SEC, so that they have to play by the same rules as their mainland counterparts.

When Congress first enacted the Investment Company Act in the 1940s, a nonregistration exemption for investment companies in the noncontiguous territories made a lot of sense as it was extremely expensive and difficult for the SEC to send staff to travel to these territories and inspect the local companies. In fact, Mr. Speaker, back in the 1940s, Eastern Air Lines bragged of their 6-hour-and-10-minute service between New York and San Juan one way for $1,700 in today's money. So, in fact, it was challenging to get to the territories.

But with all the significant advances in technology and travel, these logistical barriers no longer exist. As such, this bill repeals this archaic exemption and provides a reasonable and safe harbor to allow those companies currently subject to the exemption to transition.

Similar legislation passed the House in the last Congress by voice vote, and, earlier this year, H.R. 1366 passed the House Financial Services Committee by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1700

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1366, legislation that will close a loophole in our securities laws and better protect the investors and retirees of the U.S. territories.

The Investment Company Act of 1940 governs investment companies, such as mutual funds, closed-end funds, and ETFs. Its purpose is to protect investors and provide oversight of these companies. In doing so, it regulates various transactions among affiliates, sets leverage limits, outlines record-keeping requirements, and describes how securities may be redeemed.

These matters sound technical, but they provide fundamental protections to most U.S. investors. I say ''most'' because, due to a historical artifact, all funds located in and sold only to residents of U.S. territories are exempted.

The reason is, in 1940, territories like Puerto Rico were considered to be too distant from Washington, D.C. Obviously, modern air travel makes that a nonissue today, as regulators routinely travel to Hawaii and Alaska to conduct oversight. In addition, many of these financial products are now traded electronically, truly eliminating the need to visit in person.

The consequence of exemption falls squarely on the residents of U.S. territories. Investment companies can sell products to them without the important oversight, disclosure, and conflict-of-interest requirements to which mainland companies are subject.

As a result, many investors and retirees have been subject to investment losses, some resulting from behavior that would have been prohibited if the 1940 act applied to the island's investment companies.

To address this matter, H.R. 1366, the U.S. Territories Investor Protection Act, applies the 1940 act to currently exempt investment companies that are located, organized in, and sold to residents of these territories.

I would like to point out that this bill is identical to legislation that passed the House last Congress twice with overwhelming bipartisan support.

In order to permit investment companies to comply with the legislation, it provides for a 3-year compliance period, with an option, at the approval of the SEC, for an additional 3 years. This time period balances the need to bring the investor protections of the 1940 act to the territories with enough time for affected entities to fully understand and comply with the 1940 act.

It is important to note that if investment companies need further relief from any specific requirement of the 1940 act, they are able to request such relief through the SEC under existing law. Earlier this year, past SEC Chair White testified that the exemption should be removed.

I want to thank Congressman DUFFY and Congressman MACARTHUR, two of my colleagues from the Puerto Rico Task Force, for cosponsoring this bill. I also want to thank Puerto Rico's new Member of Congress, JENNIFFER GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN, for cosponsoring it as well; and Senators HATCH and MENENDEZ, who have put forward a companion bill in the Senate. All of this support means a great deal to me and to those investors on the island.

Finally, I want to thank Chairman HENSARLING and Ranking Member WATERS for working with me throughout the last 2 years in a highly productive manner. We met with stakeholders, heard their concerns, and fine-tuned the bill. I am confident we developed an approach that would apply the 1940 act in a manner that is sensitive to investors and investment companies alike.

Mr. Speaker, I urge Members to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I want to thank my friend from New York for her leadership and her voice on behalf of Puerto Rico and the islands in this regard, and for her long public service and particular leadership in this time of important change in Puerto Rico.

Recently, Mr. Speaker, I had the opportunity to take an all-too-quick trip

to San Juan to assess the current economic conditions on the island. It was too brief in that it was less than a day, which seems completely unfair to any visitor to the beautiful island of Puerto Rico.

I want to thank my host, our distinguished delegate from the Commonwealth, JENNIFFER GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN for hosting me on that visit. I thank her for her cosponsorship on this bill and her leadership on the island here in Congress. We are grateful to have her as a new Member of this body.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Puerto Rico (Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN).

Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of the U.S. Territories Investor Protection Act. I am a cosponsor of this bill, and I thank Representative VELÁZQUEZ for introducing H.R. 1366 and the Members who have joined in supporting this important legislation.

The U.S. Territories Investor Protection Act will close a loophole in the current law. By passing this bill, Congress will bring to Puerto Rico's investors the same protections enjoyed by investors residing in the 50 States.

Under current law, investment funds that are located and organized in the U.S. territories and sell to only residents of the territories are exempted from the Investment Company Act of 1940, which governs entities, such as mutual and exchange-traded funds.

Because of this exemption, investment companies located in the U.S. territories can sell their products to territory residents while not being subjected to the oversight, disclosure, and conflict-of-interest requirements that govern investment companies located in the States. As a result, investors residing in Puerto Rico and the other territories have experienced investment losses, some of which likely would have been prohibited had the 1940 act applied to the territories.

For example, UBS operating in Puerto Rico served as an adviser to Puerto Rico's Employees Retirement System and, in 2008, led the underwriting of a $2.9 billion bond issue for the government pension agency. UBS then placed $1.7 billion of those funds into UBS-managed mutual funds that UBS then sold exclusively to customers on the island. This investment would have been forbidden by the Investment Company Act if these funds were sold in the States.

The Puerto Rican investors holding these bonds have suffered massive losses and are claiming that UBS did not properly disclose the risks of these funds. On the island, hundreds of these customers have filed arbitration claims with the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority and seek more than $1.1 billion in damages. UBS continues to lose these cases for failing its fiduciary responsibilities.

Today's vote on H.R. 1366 will help end such outrageous investment abuse and gives Congress another opportunity to align the laws governing Puerto Rico and the other territories with the laws governing the 50 States.

H.R. 1366 will remove the territories' exemption and make the Investment Company Act of 1940 apply to companies that are located, organized in, and sell to residents of the territories.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote in support of H.R. 1366, the U.S. Territories Investor Protection Act.

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

Closing the U.S. territories loophole in the Investment Company Act of 1940 will give millions of investors and retirees—mostly in Puerto Rico—the peace of mind that their hard-earned money will receive the same level of protection afforded to those on the mainland.

I want to thank the chairman, the ranking member, and all the cosponsors for their hard work in bringing this bipartisan legislation to the floor.

Mr. Speaker, I urge Members to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MCCLINTOCK). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1366.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

FOLLOW THE RULES ACT

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 657) to amend title 5, United States Code, to extend certain protections against prohibited personnel practices, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 657

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Follow the Rules Act''.

SEC. 2. PROHIBITED PERSONNEL ACTION BASED ON ORDERING INDIVIDUAL TO VIOLATE RULE OR REGULATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (D) of section 2302(b)(9) of title 5, United States Code, is amended by inserting '', rule, or regulation'' after ''law''.

(b) TECHNICAL CORRECTION.—Such subparagraph is further amended by striking ''for''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. COMER) and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 657, the Follow the Rules Act, introduced by Congressman SEAN DUFFY of Wisconsin.

Less than 1 month ago marked the 28th anniversary of the Whistleblower Protection Act of 1989. That bill was a landmark accomplishment establishing enforcement mechanisms to protect those who help identify waste, fraud, and abuse in the Federal Government. It also protects those who, in good conscience, refuse orders that could violate the law.

Last year, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit considered the case of Dr. Timothy Rainey. Dr. Rainey, an employee of the State Department, refused an order to violate the Federal Acquisition Regulation.

Dr. Rainey's supervisors subsequently took away his responsibilities as a contracting officer representative. He argued it was because of his refusal to obey the order. Thus, the Federal Circuit considered whether Federal managers can retaliate against employees who refuse to obey an order that would violate a government rule or regulation rather than a statute.

Unfortunately, the Federal Circuit has a record of misinterpreting the law on whistleblowers. That is precisely what happened here. The court held such employees were not protected. Ironically, the court relied on a significant 2015 Supreme Court decision, DHS v. MacLean, which reaffirmed the protections of the Whistleblower Protection Act.

The Federal Circuit's decision puts Federal employees in an impossible situation. It forces them to choose between following their superior's orders or following the agency's rules or regulations. In many ways, an agency's rules and regulations are the standing orders of the head of the agency.

My colleague, Representative DUFFY, introduced the Follow the Rules Act to fix this problem. H.R. 657 makes clear that employees are protected from retaliation for disobeying orders that would violate an agency rule or regulation. Refusing to obey such orders is exactly the type of action for which Federal employees should be protected from retaliation.

This legislation has bipartisan, bicameral support. It passed the House by voice vote near the end of the last Congress.

□ 1715

I hope that this legislation will be signed into law this Congress and Federal employees will be protected in trying to do the right thing. I thank Representative DUFFY for his leadership on this issue.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

When we are going to pass a bill on a bipartisan basis, it might be useful to acknowledge the bill has a Democratic cosponsor. I am proud to be the lead cosponsor with Congressman DUFFY on the Follow the Rules Act—in fact, he asked me to play that role—and I rise clearly in strong support of the legislation which will protect, critically, whistleblowers who disclose waste, fraud, and abuse.

I want to thank my colleague, Representative DUFFY, for working with me in a bipartisan way on this important bill. We initially introduced the bill together in the 114th Congress, and it passed the House without opposition. Unfortunately, the Senate did not act. Hopefully, this Congress we will be able to persuade the Senate to enact this important protection.

This bill would clarify that, under the Whistleblower Protection Act, an employee who refuses to obey an order that would require the employee to violate a law, rule, or regulation is protected.

Congressman DUFFY and I introduced the bill to address a misinterpretation of the Whistleblower Protection Act by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit in the case of Rainey v. MSPB in 2016, as my colleague from Kentucky suggested. In that case, a contracting officer, Dr. Timothy Rainey, was ordered by his supervisor to tell a contractor to rehire a terminated subcontractor. Dr. Rainey, in principle, refused because carrying out that order would have required him to violate the Federal Acquisition Regulation by improperly interfering with the contractor's personnel decisions and requiring the contractor to act contrary to the terms of the contract.

What reward did Dr. Rainey get for doing the right thing? He was stripped of his duties and given a negative performance rating.

The Federal circuit, God knoweth how, held that an employee who refuses to obey an order is protected only if the order would violate a law, a statute, but not if the order would violate a rule or a regulation. Talk about looking at angels on the head of a pin. The court's ruling was contrary, clearly, to the Whistleblower Protection Act and the intent of this Congress.

In enacting the Whistleblower Protection Act, Congress clearly intended that protections granted to government employees who blow the whistle on waste, fraud, and abuse be construed broadly. We clearly had in mind not only laws, but rules and regulations as well.

Congress and the American people rely on whistleblowers to make government efficient, honest, and effective, and we in Congress want to support those people. As a member of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, I rely on whistleblowers to help us with our oversight and reform work. Without them, rooting out mismanagement, abuse, and corruption would be very difficult.

The underlying principle of the Whistleblower Protection Act is that employees should be protected from retaliation if they do the right thing, even if it means disobeying orders from their superiors. Given the Trump administration's attacks on the Federal workforce, it is especially important now, more than ever, for this Congress to uphold whistleblower protections for all of our public servants.

We cannot tolerate the issuance of gag orders to silence dissent, and we cannot permit the firing of agency employees who have differing political views from our own or who might object to administration actions. If the administration and my colleagues are serious about draining the swamp, we need to do all we can to ensure that Federal employees are allowed to perform their jobs free from political pressure to violate laws, rules, and regulations.

Protecting whistleblowers has been and should continue to be a bipartisan—indeed, nonpartisan—issue and something on which we can find common ground. I urge my colleagues to support the passage of this important bipartisan legislation. I am proud to cosponsor it with my friend, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. DUFFY).

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

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GROTHMAN).

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, those of us in this institution talk about we are a country of laws. However, over time, more and more of the statements that we have to live by are not laws. They are rules and regulations. Therefore, when the Whistleblower Protection Act was passed in 1989, I am not sure at the time whether it was intended to cover rules and regulations, but, as a practical matter, I think Federal employees will run into problems in which they are asked to disobey rules and regulations even more than statutory laws themselves.

On June 7 of last year, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit ruled in Rainey v. Merit Systems Protection Board that, while laws were covered by the Whistleblower Protection Act, rules and regulations were not, at least if you weren't a Federal employee.

Why is it relevant that we have to make up for the problems caused by this decision? Dr. Timothy Rainey was a State Department employee who, while serving as a contracting officer in 2013, was ordered by his superior to violate the Federal Acquisition Regulation. Dr. Rainey refused and was subsequently removed from his duties.

When Dr. Rainey invoked the right-to-disobey provision of the Whistleblower Protection Act, the Merit Systems Protection Board ruled the law only protected him from violating Federal laws, but such protections don't apply to rules or regulations. Dr. Rainey appealed the case, and the U.S. Court of Appeals upheld the Protection Board ruling and, in doing so, exposed a glaring inconsistency in the application of the act.

What does this mean? Federal whistleblowers play an important role in exposing mismanagement, the rampant mismanagement at Federal agencies, and supporting the oversight work of Congress. Critical to them is the Whistleblower Protection Act which provides Federal workers with certain legal safeguards to disclose information that an employee reasonably believes evidences gross mismanagement, waste of funds, abuse of authority, or a violation of the law.

This ruling will take away the protections when they stand up to bad actors in the Federal workforce. In effect, this ruling will give permission to supervisors in positions of authority to force Federal workers to violate the rules and regulations that Congress, through law, directs the agencies implement.

Regardless of your opinion about certain rules, we should not leave, exposed, Federal workers who are just trying to follow the rules instead of obeying supervisors who want them to disobey the rules and regulations. The bipartisan Follow the Rules Act, which I am an original cosponsor of, will close this loophole created by the court's ruling and ensure that Federal employees have protections for refusing to violate the rules and regulations in addition to the law.

I ask support for this bill.

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I agree with my friend from Wisconsin. I think he laid out the case very well.

I think the ruling of the circuit court in many ways tells us about the perils of a very juridical view of what a statute is all about. To refuse to take into account context, history, legislative history, and congressional intent that is reflected often in the kind of debate we are having here on the floor I think is not in the spirit of trying to interpret the laws as Congress intends them. Sooner or later I think Congress

is going to have to address this kind of fundamentalist, originalist approach to laws that I think is nonsensical and leads to this kind of cherry-picking about what it was Congress intended to protect.

I agree with my friend from Wisconsin. I think this bill is necessary because we have to clarify the law, apparently, for the courts and protect people like Dr. Rainey.

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

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. COMER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 657, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

400 YEARS OF AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY COMMISSION ACT

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1242) to establish the 400 Years of African-American History Commission, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1242

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''400 Years of African-American History Commission Act''.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) COMMEMORATION.—The term ''commemoration'' means the commemoration of the 400th anniversary of the arrival of Africans in the English colonies, at Point Comfort, Virginia, in 1619.

(2) COMMISSION.—The term ''Commission'' means the 400 Years of African-American History Commission established by section 3(a).

(3) SECRETARY.—The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of the Interior.

SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—There is established a commission, to be known as the ''400 Years of African-American History Commission''.

(b) MEMBERSHIP.—

(1) COMPOSITION.—The Commission shall be composed of 15 members, of whom—

(A) three members shall be appointed by the Secretary after considering recommendations of Governors, including the Governor of Virginia;

(B) six members shall be appointed by the Secretary after considering recommendations of civil rights organizations and historical organizations;

(C) one member shall be an employee of the National Park Service having experience relative to the historical and cultural resources related to the commemoration, to be appointed by the Secretary;

(D) two members shall be appointed by the Secretary after considering the recommendations of the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution; and

(E) three members shall be individuals who have an interest in, support for, and expertise appropriate to the commemoration, appointed by the Secretary after considering the recommendations of Members of Congress.

(2) TIME OF APPOINTMENT.—Each appointment of an initial member of the Commission shall be made before the expiration of the 120-day period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act.

(3) TERM; VACANCIES.—

(A) TERM.—A member of the Commission shall be appointed for the life of the Commission.

(B) VACANCIES.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—A vacancy on the Commission shall be filled in the same manner in which the original appointment was made.

(ii) PARTIAL TERM.—A member appointed to fill a vacancy on the Commission shall serve for the remainder of the term for which the predecessor of the member was appointed.

(C) CONTINUATION OF MEMBERSHIP.—If a member of the Commission was appointed to the Commission as an employee of the National Park Service, and ceases to be an employee of the National Park Service, that member may continue to serve on the Commission for not longer than the 30-day period beginning on the date on which that member ceases to be an employee of the National Park Service.

(c) DUTIES.—The Commission shall—

(1) plan, develop, and carry out programs and activities throughout the United States—

(A) appropriate for the commemoration;

(B) to recognize and highlight the resilience and contributions of African-Americans since 1619;

(C) to acknowledge the impact that slavery and laws that enforced racial discrimination had on the United States; and

(D) to educate the public about—

(i) the arrival of Africans in the United States; and

(ii) the contributions of African-Americans to the United States;

(2) encourage civic, patriotic, historical, educational, artistic, religious, economic, and other organizations throughout the United States to organize and participate in anniversary activities to expand understanding and appreciation of—

(A) the significance of the arrival of Africans in the United States; and

(B) the contributions of African-Americans to the United States;

(3) provide technical assistance to States, localities, and nonprofit organizations to further the commemoration;

(4) coordinate and facilitate for the public scholarly research on, publication about, and interpretation of—

(A) the arrival of Africans in the United States; and

(B) the contributions of African-Americans to the United States;

(5) ensure that the commemoration provides a lasting legacy and long-term public benefit by assisting in the development of appropriate programs; and

(6) help ensure that the observances of the commemoration are inclusive and appropriately recognize the experiences and heritage of all individuals present at the arrival of Africans in the United States.

SEC. 4. COMMISSION MEETINGS.

(a) INITIAL MEETING.—Not later than 30 days after the date on which all members of the Commission have been appointed, the Commission shall hold the initial meeting of the Commission.

(b) MEETINGS.—The Commission shall meet—

(1) at least three times each year; or

(2) at the call of the Chairperson or the majority of the members of the Commission.

(c) QUORUM.—A majority of the voting members shall constitute a quorum, but a lesser number may hold meetings.

(d) CHAIRPERSON AND VICE CHAIRPERSON.—

(1) ELECTION.—The Commission shall elect the Chairperson and the Vice Chairperson of the Commission on an annual basis.

(2) ABSENCE OF THE CHAIRPERSON.—The Vice Chairperson shall serve as the Chairperson in the absence of the Chairperson.

(e) VOTING.—The Commission shall act only on an affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the Commission.

SEC. 5. COMMISSION POWERS.

(a) GIFTS.—The Commission may solicit, accept, use, and dispose of gifts, bequests, or devises of money or other property for aiding or facilitating the work of the Commission.

(b) APPOINTMENT OF ADVISORY COMMITTEES.—The Commission may appoint such advisory committees as the Commission determines to be necessary to carry out this Act.

(c) AUTHORIZATION OF ACTION.—The Commission may authorize any member or employee of the Commission to take any action that the Commission is authorized to take under this Act.

(d) PROCUREMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commission may procure supplies, services, and property, and make or enter into contracts, leases, or other legal agreements, to carry out this Act (except that a contract, lease, or other legal agreement made or entered into by the Commission shall not extend beyond the date of termination of the Commission).

(2) LIMITATION.—The Commission may not purchase real property.

(e) POSTAL SERVICES.—The Commission may use the United States mails in the same manner and under the same conditions as other agencies of the Federal Government.

(f) GRANTS AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Commission may—

(1) provide grants in amounts not to exceed $20,000 per grant to communities and nonprofit organizations for use in developing programs to assist in the commemoration;

(2) provide grants to research and scholarly organizations to research, publish, or distribute information relating to the arrival of Africans in the United States; and

(3) provide technical assistance to States, localities, and nonprofit organizations to further the commemoration.

SEC. 6. COMMISSION PERSONNEL MATTERS.

(a) COMPENSATION OF MEMBERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), a member of the Commission shall serve without compensation.

(2) FEDERAL EMPLOYEES.—A member of the Commission who is an officer or employee of the Federal Government shall serve without compensation other than the compensation received for the services of the member as an officer or employee of the Federal Government.

(b) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—A member of the Commission shall be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, at rates authorized for an employee of an agency under subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code, while away from the home or regular place of business of the member in the performance of the duties of the Commission.

(c) DIRECTOR AND STAFF.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Chairperson of the Commission may, without regard to the civil service laws (including regulations), nominate an executive director to enable the Commission to perform the duties of the Commission.

(2) CONFIRMATION OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.—The employment of an executive director shall be subject to confirmation by the Commission.

(d) COMPENSATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the Commission may fix the compensation of the executive director and other personnel without regard to the provisions of chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of title 5, United States Code, relating to classification of positions and General Schedule pay rates.

(2) MAXIMUM RATE OF PAY.—The rate of pay for the executive director and other personnel shall not exceed the rate payable for level V of the Executive Schedule under section 5316 of title 5, United States Code.

(e) DETAIL OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES.—

(1) FEDERAL EMPLOYEES.—

(A) DETAIL.—At the request of the Commission, the head of any Federal agency may detail, on a reimbursable or nonreimbursable basis, any of the personnel of the agency to the Commission to assist the Commission in carrying out the duties of the Commission under this Act.

(B) CIVIL SERVICE STATUS.—The detail of an employee under subparagraph (A) shall be without interruption or loss of civil service status or privilege.

(2) STATE EMPLOYEES.—The Commission may—

(A) accept the services of personnel detailed from the State; and

(B) reimburse the State for services of detailed personnel.

(f) PROCUREMENT OF TEMPORARY AND INTERMITTENT SERVICES.—The Chairperson of the Commission may procure temporary and intermittent services in accordance with section 3109(b) of title 5, United States Code, at rates for individuals that do not exceed the daily equivalent of the annual rate of basic pay prescribed for level V of the Executive Schedule under section 5316 of such title.

(g) VOLUNTEER AND UNCOMPENSATED SERVICES.—Notwithstanding section 1342 of title 31, United States Code, the Commission may accept and use such voluntary and uncompensated services as the Commission determines to be necessary.

(h) SUPPORT SERVICES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall provide to the Commission, on a reimbursable basis, such administrative support services as the Commission may request.

(2) REIMBURSEMENT.—Any reimbursement under this paragraph shall be credited to the appropriation, fund, or account used for paying the amounts reimbursed.

(i) NO EFFECT ON AUTHORITY.—Nothing in this section supersedes the authority of the National Park Service with respect to the commemoration.

SEC. 7. PLANS; REPORTS.

(a) STRATEGIC PLAN.—The Commission shall prepare a strategic plan for the activities of the Commission carried out under this Act.

(b) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than July 1, 2020, the Commission shall complete and submit to Congress a final report that contains—

(1) a summary of the activities of the Commission;

(2) a final accounting of funds received and expended by the Commission; and

(3) the findings and recommendations of the Commission.

SEC. 8. TERMINATION OF COMMISSION.

(a) DATE OF TERMINATION.—The Commission shall terminate on July 1, 2020.

(b) TRANSFER OF DOCUMENTS AND MATERIALS.—Before the date of termination specified in subsection (a), the Commission shall transfer all documents and materials of the Commission to the National Archives or another appropriate Federal entity.

SEC. 9. EXPENDITURES OF COMMISSION.

All expenditures of the Commission shall be made solely from donated funds.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. COMER) and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

I rise today in support of H.R. 1242, the 400 Years of African-American History Commission Act, introduced by Congressman BOBBY SCOTT of Virginia.

H.R. 1242 establishes a historical commission commemorating the 400th anniversary of the arrival of Africans in Virginia in 1619. The bill creates a commission to plan programs and activities in 2019 to recognize the arrival, influence, and historical importance of Africans in America.

Congress has previously established similar commissions to celebrate historical anniversaries. For example, there was a commission on the 400th anniversary of the founding of Jamestown, Virginia, and the 450th anniversary of the founding of St. Augustine, Florida.

As we reach the 400th anniversary of the arrival of Africans in Virginia, establishing this commission allows for the opportunity to acknowledge the horrible impact slavery has had in America. This is an opportunity to commemorate the resilience and contributions of African Americans in our country. While that chapter in our history is a painful one, this is a story that must be told to acknowledge how profoundly unrecognizable our Nation would be without the contribution of African Americans.

The commission will work with State and local groups to coordinate the commemoration and public education. The commission will be funded by private donations, not taxpayer dollars, and will terminate shortly after the anniversary activities conclude. The bill authorizes the commission to provide grants to further the historical and cultural activities carried out in commemoration of the anniversary.

The Committee on Oversight and Government Reform approved this bill on March 28, 2017.

I thank Congressman SCOTT for his leadership on this legislation.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I rise today in strong support of H.R. 1242, the 400 Years of African-American History Commission Act, introduced by my friend and colleague from Virginia, BOBBY SCOTT. Senator TIM KAINE of Virginia has introduced a companion bill in the Senate.

In the 400 years since the first Africans arrived at Point Comfort, Virginia, African Americans have made an indelible contribution to our Nation. They have been pioneers in the arts and sciences. They have led the charge for civil rights and spoken out against injustice against anybody. They have also ascended to the highest level of politics, athletics, and business, and sacrificed for our country in every military engagement from the American Revolution to the present-day fight against terrorism.

African Americans have played a crucial role in the establishment and evolution of our Nation:

Crispus Attucks, a Black man, became the first casualty of the American Revolution in my hometown of Boston when he confronted British soldiers in what became known as the Boston Massacre.

James Armistead, a slave who fed false information to the British, helped the Patriots' cause to secure victory in the Battle of Yorktown.

Abolitionists, from Sojourner Truth to Frederick Douglass to Harriet Tubman spoke out against slavery and fought to realize the meaning of Thomas Jefferson's founding creed that all men are created equal.

And African Americans helped our country awaken its collective consciousness during the epochal civil rights movement, with the courageous actions of so many from Rosa Parks in the Montgomery bus boycott to the persevering spirit of our colleague JOHN LEWIS and the Freedom Riders, and the bold vision, of course, of Martin Luther King, Jr., that ''injustice anywhere threatens justice everywhere.''

The bill before us today would recognize those accomplishments while acknowledging the sorry, tragic history

of slavery in America and the subsequent era of discrimination and economic deprivation after the Civil War. H.R. 1242 would establish a commission charged with celebrating the rich history of African Americans in the United States.

Along with States, community groups, and nonprofit organizations, the commission would plan and execute anniversary activities throughout the Nation and encourage the publication and distribution of scholarly research on African-American history.

I urge all of my colleagues to support H.R. 1242.

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

□ 1730

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

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire as to how much time is remaining on this side?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Virginia has 17½ minutes remaining.

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I yield the balance of my time to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT), my friend and the author of this bill.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1242, the 400 Years of African-American History Commission Act, which was introduced earlier this year by Senators TIM KAINE, MARK WARNER, ROY BLUNT, and CORY BOOKER. I was proud to introduce the House version, which has the support of Representatives TAYLOR, RICHMOND, WITTMAN, BEYER, MCEACHIN, LEWIS, COMSTOCK, CONNOLLY, GRIFFITH, GOODLATTE, and many others.

I would like to thank Chairman CHAFFETZ, Ranking Member CUMMINGS, Mr. COMER, and Mr. CONNOLLY for their assistance in bringing the bill to the floor today.

This bill would establish a commission to begin the planning of programs and activities across our Nation to recognize the contributions of African Americans since their first arrival as African slaves in the English colonies at Point Comfort, Virginia, in 1619, almost 400 years ago.

Slavery was an abhorrent institution, but the history of Virginia and our Nation cannot be fully understood without first recognizing the role played by the slave trade. This institution was the foundation of the colonial and early American agricultural system. The 20 slaves who arrived at Point Comfort in Hampton, Virginia, in 1619 were the first on record to be forcibly settled as involuntary laborers in the English colonies.

This bill will establish a commission to recognize and highlight the resilience and contributions of African Americans since 1619. From enduring slavery to fighting in the Civil War, to working against the oppressive Jim Crow laws, to struggling through the civil rights movement, the rich history of African Americans in the United States and their contributions to our Nation began hundreds of years ago. Obviously, this history does not end there.

The commission established by this bill will be charged with the important task of planning, developing, and implementing a series of programs and activities throughout 2019 to tell the full story of African Americans over the last 400 years. This 15-member commission will include historical experts instead of politicians. Therefore, the true legacy of African Americans will be truthfully told.

It would be a great disservice not only to African Americans, but to all Americans, if we fail to appropriately recognize this important milestone in our Nation's history.

Mr. Speaker, I again thank the chairman and ranking member of the committee, Mr. COMER and Mr. CONNOLLY, for their leadership in bringing this bill to the floor.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my friend BOBBY SCOTT for his leadership. This is an incredible service, not only to my Commonwealth of Virginia and his, but, frankly, to all Americans. This isn't just an issue for African Americans or some subgroup. All of us are formed from our history, as we know from the popularity of the opening of the new African-American museum here in Washington, which is an incredible contribution, I think, to our Nation's culture and our discussion.

Mr. Speaker, I have no other speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1242, "400 Years of African-American History Commission Act", which establishes the 400 Years of African-American History Commission to develop and carry out activities throughout the United States to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the arrival of Africans in the English colonies at Point Comfort, Virginia, in 1619.

Through this bill, the commission must:

1. Plan programs to acknowledge the impact that slavery and laws that enforced racial discrimination had on the United States;

2. Encourage civic, patriotic, historical, educational, artistic, religious, and economic organizations to organize and participate in anniversary activities;

3. Assist states, localities, and nonprofit organizations to further the commemoration; and

4. Coordinate for the public scholarly research on the arrival of Africans in the United States and their contributions to this country.

The commission may provide:

1. Grants to communities and nonprofit organizations for the development of programs;

2. Grants to research and scholarly organizations to research, publish, or distribute information relating to the arrival of Africans in the United States; and

3. Technical assistance to states, localities, and nonprofit organizations to further the commemoration.

The commission must prepare a strategic plan and submit a final report to Congress that contains a summary of its activities, an accounting of its received and expended funds, and its recommendations.

The commission would submit a final report to the Congress and terminate on July 1, 2020.

H.R. 1242 would authorize the appropriation of the necessary amounts for those purposes.

The commission would consist of 15 members who would serve without pay but would be reimbursed for travel expenses.

CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 1242 would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2028. Enacting H.R. 1242 would not affect revenues.

H.R. 1242 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

August of 2019 will mark 400 years since the first documented arrival of Africans who came to English America by way of Point Comfort, Va.

Not only is it appropriate to establish a commission that would recognize the contributions of African Americans, but it is historically significant to acknowledge that the "20 and odd" Africans (as it was recorded) were the first recorded group of Africans to be sold as involuntary laborers or indentured servants in the English colonies.

The commission would be charged with highlighting the resilience and contributions of African Americans, as well as acknowledging the painful impact that slavery and other atrocities have had on our nation.

African Americans have contributed to the economic, academic, social, cultural and moral well-being of this nation.

Could we claim America as the most innovative nation on earth without the invention of the modern traffic light, the perfection of the carbon filament or the use of the mathematics that propelled Apollo astronauts to the moon?

African-American culture is American culture, and African-American discoveries are American discoveries. Without the accomplishments of African Americans, the United States could not boast the ingenuity and cultural richness that we cherish.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. COMER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1242, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 33 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1830

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. HOLDING) at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1180, WORKING FAMILIES FLEXIBILITY ACT OF 2017; PROVIDING FOR PROCEEDINGS DURING THE PERIOD FROM MAY 5, 2017, THROUGH MAY 15, 2017; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 115–106) on the resolution (H. Res. 299) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1180) to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide compensatory time for employees in the private sector; providing for proceedings during the period from May 5, 2017, through May 15, 2017; and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

H.R. 910, by the yeas and nays;

H.R. 1312, by the yeas and nays; and

H.R. 657, by the yeas and nays.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

FAIR ACCESS TO INVESTMENT RESEARCH ACT OF 2017

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 910) to direct the Securities and Exchange Commission to provide a safe harbor related to certain investment fund research reports, and for other purposes, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 405, nays 2, not voting 23, as follows:

[Roll No. 237]

YEAS—405

Abraham
Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Allen
Amash
Babin
Bacon
Banks (IN)
Barletta
Barr
Barragán
Barton
Bass
Beatty
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (MI)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Blum
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bost
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady (TX)
Brat
Bridenstine
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Brown (MD)
Brownley (CA)
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burgess
Bustos
Butterfield
Byrne
Calvert
Capuano
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson (IN)
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chabot
Cheney
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coffman
Cohen
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Comer
Comstock
Conaway
Connolly
Cook
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Costello (PA)
Courtney
Cramer
Crawford
Crist
Crowley
Culberson
Cummings
Curbelo (FL)
Davidson
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
Davis, Rodney
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Demings
Denham
Dent
DeSantis
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Donovan
Doyle, Michael F.
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Dunn
Ellison
Emmer
Engel
Eshoo
Espaillat
Estes (KS)
Esty (CT)
Evans
Farenthold
Faso
Ferguson
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flores
Fortenberry
Foster
Foxx
Frankel (FL)
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gabbard
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garrett
Gibbs
Gohmert
Gonzalez (TX)
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gottheimer
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffith
Grijalva
Grothman
Guthrie
Gutiérrez
Hanabusa
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings
Heck
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Hice, Jody B.
Higgins (LA)
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes
Holding
Hollingsworth
Hoyer
Hudson
Huizenga
Hunter
Issa
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Jeffries
Jenkins (KS)
Jenkins (WV)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kihuen
Kilmer
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kinzinger
Knight
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
Kustoff (TN)
Labrador
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
Lawson (FL)
Lee
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (MN)
Lieu, Ted
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren
Long
Loudermilk
Love
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lujan Grisham, M.
Luján, Ben Ray
Lynch
MacArthur
Maloney, Sean
Marchant
Marshall
Massie
Mast
Matsui
McCarthy
McCaul
McClintock
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
McSally
Meadows
Meehan
Meeks
Messer
Mitchell
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Moore
Moulton
Mullin
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (PA)
Napolitano
Neal
Noem
Nolan
Norcross
Nunes
O'Halleran
O'Rourke
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pascrell
Paulsen
Payne
Pearce
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters
Peterson
Pingree
Pittenger
Pocan
Poe (TX)
Poliquin
Polis
Posey
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Ratcliffe
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Richmond
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rokita
Rooney, Francis
Ros-Lehtinen
Rosen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Rouzer
Roybal-Allard
Royce (CA)
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Russell
Rutherford
Sánchez
Sanford
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sinema
Sires
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Soto
Speier
Stefanik
Stewart
Stivers
Suozzi
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Titus
Tonko
Torres
Trott
Tsongas
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walker
Walorski
Walters, Mimi
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters, Maxine
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Yarmuth
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IA)
Zeldin

NAYS—2

Huffman
Nadler

NOT VOTING—23

Amodei
Arrington
Brady (PA)
Chaffetz
Conyers
Cuellar
Deutch
Duncan (TN)
Hultgren
Hurd
Jones
Kildee
Lawrence
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Marino
Meng
Newhouse
Olson
Rohrabacher
Rooney, Thomas J.
Ryan (OH)
Slaughter
Smith (MO)

□ 1854

Mr. HUFFMAN changed his vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

Mr. GROTHMAN changed his vote from ''nay'' to ''yea.''

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. ARRINGTON. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted ''Yea'' on rollcall No. 237.

SMALL BUSINESS CAPITAL FORMATION ENHANCEMENT ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHIMKUS). The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1312) to amend the Small Business Investment

Incentive Act of 1980 to require an annual review by the Securities and Exchange Commission of the annual government-business forum on capital formation that is held pursuant to such Act, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 406, nays 0, not voting 24, as follows:

[Roll No. 238]

YEAS—406

Abraham
Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Allen
Amash
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Banks (IN)
Barletta
Barr
Barragán
Barton
Bass
Beatty
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (MI)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Blum
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bost
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady (TX)
Brat
Bridenstine
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Brown (MD)
Brownley (CA)
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burgess
Bustos
Butterfield
Byrne
Calvert
Capuano
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson (IN)
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chabot
Cheney
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coffman
Cohen
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Comer
Comstock
Conaway
Connolly
Cook
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Costello (PA)
Courtney
Cramer
Crawford
Crist
Crowley
Culberson
Cummings
Curbelo (FL)
Davidson
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
Davis, Rodney
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Demings
Denham
Dent
DeSantis
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Donovan
Doyle, Michael F.
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Dunn
Ellison
Emmer
Engel
Eshoo
Espaillat
Estes (KS)
Esty (CT)
Evans
Farenthold
Faso
Ferguson
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flores
Fortenberry
Foster
Foxx
Frankel (FL)
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gabbard
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garrett
Gibbs
Gohmert
Gonzalez (TX)
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gottheimer
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffith
Grijalva
Grothman
Guthrie
Gutiérrez
Hanabusa
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings
Heck
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Hice, Jody B.
Higgins (LA)
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes
Holding
Hollingsworth
Hoyer
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga
Hunter
Issa
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Jeffries
Jenkins (KS)
Jenkins (WV)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kihuen
Kilmer
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kinzinger
Knight
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
Kustoff (TN)
Labrador
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
Lawson (FL)
Lee
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (MN)
Lieu, Ted
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren
Long
Loudermilk
Love
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lujan Grisham, M.
Luján, Ben Ray
Lynch
Maloney, Sean
Marchant
Marshall
Massie
Mast
Matsui
McCarthy
McCaul
McClintock
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
McSally
Meadows
Meehan
Meeks
Messer
Mitchell
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Moore
Moulton
Mullin
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (PA)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Noem
Nolan
Norcross
Nunes
O'Halleran
O'Rourke
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pascrell
Paulsen
Payne
Pearce
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters
Peterson
Pingree
Pittenger
Pocan
Poe (TX)
Poliquin
Polis
Posey
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Ratcliffe
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Richmond
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rokita
Rooney, Francis
Ros-Lehtinen
Rosen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Rouzer
Roybal-Allard
Royce (CA)
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Russell
Rutherford
Sánchez
Sanford
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sinema
Sires
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Soto
Speier
Stefanik
Stewart
Stivers
Suozzi
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Titus
Tonko
Torres
Trott
Tsongas
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walorski
Walters, Mimi
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters, Maxine
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Yarmuth
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IA)
Zeldin

NOT VOTING—24

Amodei
Brady (PA)
Chaffetz
Conyers
Cuellar
Deutch
Duncan (TN)
Hultgren
Hurd
Jones
Kildee
Lawrence
MacArthur
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Marino
Meng
Newhouse
Olson
Rohrabacher
Rooney, Thomas J.
Ryan (OH)
Slaughter
Smith (MO)
Walker

□ 1904

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

FOLLOW THE RULES ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 657) to amend title 5, United States Code, to extend certain protections against prohibited personnel practices, and for other purposes, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. COMER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 407, nays 0, not voting 23, as follows:

[Roll No. 239]

YEAS—407

Abraham
Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Allen
Amash
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Banks (IN)
Barletta
Barr
Barragán
Barton
Bass
Beatty
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (MI)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Blum
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bost
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady (TX)
Brat
Bridenstine
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Brown (MD)
Brownley (CA)
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burgess
Bustos
Butterfield
Byrne
Calvert
Capuano
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson (IN)
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chabot
Cheney
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coffman
Cohen
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Comer
Comstock
Conaway
Connolly
Cook
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Costello (PA)
Courtney
Cramer
Crawford
Crist
Crowley
Culberson
Cummings
Curbelo (FL)
Davidson
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
Davis, Rodney
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Demings
Denham
Dent
DeSantis
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Donovan
Doyle, Michael F.
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Dunn
Ellison
Emmer
Engel
Eshoo
Espaillat
Estes (KS)
Esty (CT)
Evans
Farenthold
Faso
Ferguson
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flores
Fortenberry
Foster
Foxx
Frankel (FL)
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gabbard
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garrett
Gibbs
Gohmert
Gonzalez (TX)
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gottheimer
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffith
Grijalva
Grothman
Guthrie
Gutiérrez
Hanabusa
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings
Heck
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Hice, Jody B.
Higgins (LA)
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes
Holding
Hollingsworth
Hoyer
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga
Hunter
Issa
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Jeffries
Jenkins (KS)
Jenkins (WV)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kihuen
Kilmer
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kinzinger
Knight
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
Kustoff (TN)
Labrador

LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (MN)
Lieu, Ted
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren
Long
Loudermilk
Love
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lujan Grisham, M.
Luján, Ben Ray
Lynch
MacArthur
Maloney, Sean
Marchant
Marshall
Massie
Mast
Matsui
McCarthy
McCaul
McClintock
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
McSally
Meadows
Meehan
Meeks
Messer
Mitchell
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Moore
Moulton
Mullin
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (PA)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Noem
Nolan
Norcross
Nunes
O'Halleran
O'Rourke
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pascrell
Paulsen
Payne
Pearce
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters
Peterson
Pingree
Pittenger
Pocan
Poe (TX)
Poliquin
Polis
Posey
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Ratcliffe
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Richmond
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rokita
Rooney, Francis
Ros-Lehtinen
Rosen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Rouzer
Roybal-Allard
Royce (CA)
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Russell
Rutherford
Sánchez
Sanford
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sinema
Sires
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Soto
Speier
Stefanik
Stewart
Stivers
Suozzi
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (CA)
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Tonko
Torres
Trott
Tsongas
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wagner
Walden
Walker
Walorski
Walters, Mimi
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters, Maxine
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Yarmuth
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IA)
Zeldin

NOT VOTING—23

Amodei
Brady (PA)
Chaffetz
Conyers
Cuellar
Deutch
Duncan (TN)
Hultgren
Hurd
Jones
Kildee
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Marino
Meng
Newhouse
Olson
Rohrabacher
Rooney, Thomas J.
Ryan (OH)
Slaughter
Smith (MO)
Tipton
Walberg

□ 1911

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, May 1, I was delayed in my travels back to Washington due to a delayed flight.

If I had been present, I would have voted: "Yea," on rollcall 237, passage of H.R. 910—Fair Access to Investment Research Act of 2017; "Yea," on rollcall 238, passage of H.R. 1312—Small Business Capital Formation Enhancement Act; and "Yea," on rollcall 239, passage of H.R. 657—Follow the Rules Act.

RECOGNIZING MEG DALY

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

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Meg Daly, who is the founder of The Underline, a wonderful 10-mile linear park and urban trail in my congressional district that will serve to connect hundreds of Americans across Miami-Dade County through safe, alternative methods of transportation.

In 2013, Meg had an unfortunate accident that broke both of her arms. Since she couldn't drive herself to attend physical therapy, she took the Metrorail near her home and walked underneath the train tracks to reach her destination. That is when Meg took notice of the underutilized land right below the Metrorail and envisioned its transformative potential for community mobility, positive economic impact, and enhanced quality of life.

The Underline counts with overwhelming support across Miami-Dade, providing for a safe and healthy space for our community members to express themselves. From free yoga classes to artistic festivals to projects to restore Miami's urban green space, each day The Underline is getting closer to becoming what Meg has envisioned.

Congratulations to one of our community's leaders, Meg Daly.

□ 1915

DISABILITY DISCHARGE OF PARENT PLUS LOANS

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

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, today I introduced the PLUS Loan Disability Forgiveness Act, a bill to relieve the burden of student loan debt on parents whose children become permanently disabled. While most student loans are forgiven if a student becomes totally and permanently disabled, parent PLUS loans are not.

It is simply wrong that a parent struggling with a child's disability is not afforded the same loan forgiveness as other borrowers. My bill would extend disability discharge to parent PLUS loans. It would allow families to focus on healing, not servicing debt. It would help lighten the $1.4 trillion owed by student borrowers and their families.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting these parents, who are just trying to help their children succeed.

MODERN DAY SLAVERY IN LIBYA

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, after the United States toppled the Government of Libya, the nation became a failed state, one that is a brothel of slavery. Fleeing persecution from terrorists and vast famine, west Africans hand their life savings over to drivers who will take them to Niger, then off to Europe. But these refugees are labor trafficked as slaves to Libya instead. They are bound to the slave block and sold at the auction of slavery.

The slave drivers force them to work inside private prisons for little or no food. Meanwhile, the slave masters demand ransoms from the families. If the families don't pay the ransom, the refugees are sold again to larger prisons and the demand doubles. If the ransom is never paid, the slaves are eventually murdered.

Mr. Speaker, human slavery still exists in north Africa, and it is a scourge on humanity. But the United States should be very careful about taking out a regime like it did in Libya without understanding the long-term consequences like what happened in Libya.

And that is just the way it is.

PRESIDENT OBAMA'S LEGACY

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

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI. Mr. Speaker, one of the most important parts of President Obama's legacy is the recognition that Americans should not be discriminated against based on preexisting conditions. This principle was enshrined in law by the Affordable Care Act, and now millions of Americans across the political spectrum support these vital protections. Even yesterday, President Trump, an avowed opponent of the Affordable Care Act, stated unequivocally that he was opposed to discrimination based on preexisting conditions.

The bill under consideration by this House, the American Health Care Act, does not represent that same bipartisan principle. My colleagues are advancing a measure that would let States turn back the clock for millions of Americans and begin that discrimination again.

Today, I urge my colleagues to oppose this bill for the sake of all those it would harm. For the sake of anyone who has survived cancer, battled diabetes, or was simply born a woman, I urge you, vote ''no.''

NATIONAL CHARTER SCHOOL WEEK

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

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize National Charter Schools Week and the 25th anniversary of the opening of the very first charter school.

With nearly 3 million students attending public charter schools across the country, 43 States, and the District of Columbia, it is the fastest growing choice option in public education. Minnesota is a leader in developing new innovative ways to educate our students and was the very first State to allow charter schools. Today, Minnesota has 164 charter schools that serve about 57,000 students in kindergarten through the 12th grade. Our State usually ranks among the top in having charter school friendly laws and developing high quality and independent charter school options.

As co-chair of the Charter School Caucus, I believe it is important that we do continue to create and develop this educational option. America will continue to lead the world in innovation and ideas if our students receive the best education possible from early childhood all the way through graduate school, and that means ensuring a child's ZIP Code does not determine the outcome of their education and the quality of their education.

TELL ME IT ISN'T SO

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, a few of us were at the United Nations this morning and this afternoon, and what we heard most was the importance of empowering women in developing countries who have experienced violence, sexual violence. Tell me it isn't so that the President of the United States has discontinued Let Girls Learn, fostered and supported by Mrs. Obama, which is an important key element of the Peace Corps, which is attempting to help these girls learn and empower them.

Tell me it isn't so that the President of the United States, not recognizing the Constitution and freedom of speech, is trying to expand or change the libel laws that if you don't like what they say about you as a politician, you can undermine and you can charge First Amendment privilege, First Amendment press, and others with a violation of those laws.

Tell me it isn't so that America is going back on her values and her commitment to helping people around the world, particularly vulnerable women and children, and, of course, denigrating the First Amendment and the freedom of the press. Tell me it isn't so.

FLEXIBILITY FOR WORKERS

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

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1180, the Working Families Flexibility Act, introduced by my friend, the gentlewoman from Alabama (Mrs. ROBY). The House will be considering the bill later this week to give private sector employees the same flexibility offered to many local, State, and Federal Government workers that have had it for many years now.

The legislation will give employees the option of choosing to receive compensatory time off from their employers instead of overtime wages. It does not change the 40-hour workweek, and it does not weaken employee protections. We are simply giving American workers more choice.

The bill does not allow for employees to coerce anyone into choosing one option over another. It would be a voluntary decision made between the employer and the employee. Everyone needs flexibility in their schedule to balance between work and personal time, and we should be giving American workers the option to choose what is most important to them: overtime wages or time off. It should be their decision, not the government's.

I urge my colleagues to join me in support of H.R. 1180, the Working Families Flexibility Act.

PRESIDENT TRUMP'S BROKEN PROMISES

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

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, add job creation and infrastructure to the list of President Trump's broken promises. After 102 days in office, the so-called ''greatest jobs President that God ever created'' has failed to present a single job or infrastructure bill.

At the same time, his slash-and-burn budget would cut investments in job growth and infrastructure, imposing a $2.4 billion cut on the U.S. Department of Transportation. Included in those cuts are drastic reductions of the Federal support for Amtrak and the outright elimination of the TIGER grant program.

The President's budget proposal also phases out the New Starts grant program, making critical infrastructure projects, including New Jersey and New York's Gateway Program ineligible for Federal funding needed to move forward.

As I speak, New Jersey rail commuters are probably facing massive delays and disruptions to their already nightmarish commute. President Trump's proposed cuts to vital Federal infrastructure programs will only make the problem worse. It has been an ugly 102 days for President Trump, and, unless he tackles jobs and infrastructure, as promised, it is going to get uglier.

HONORING MILITARY APPRECIATION MONTH

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on May 1 to recognize Silver Star Service Banner Day. Today is a day when we honor the service and sacrifice of our Active-Duty men and women from all branches of the service from all wars. Silver Star Service Banner Day started in 2007 and is sponsored by the Silver Star Families of America, which is dedicated to supporting and assisting wounded, ill, injured, and dying Active-Duty veterans and their families.

May is also National Military Appreciation Month. All month long, we have the opportunity to honor, remember, recognize, and appreciate those who serve and have served. Our military men and women continue to play a major role in the development of our country documented through a history of uncompromising honor, dedication to duty, and genuine love of country.

Personally, I am a proud military dad, as my son Logan continues to serve in the United States Army and my daughter-in-law, Carley, is now a veteran. Mr. Speaker, we are the home of the free because of the brave, and I want to thank all who serve this great Nation.

Mr. Speaker, only two individuals have ever offered to willingly die for you. One was Jesus Christ and the other was the American soldier. One died for your soul, the other died for your freedom.

THANK YOU TO CONGRESSWOMAN ROS-LEHTINEN

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, as the senior woman in the U.S. House, I wanted to say thank you to Congresswoman ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN, the senior Republican woman in the House, and to say with poignance I received her decision recently to retire from our beloved House.

ILEANA has been the first Cuban American elected to Congress, the first Latina elected to Congress, and the first Republican woman from Florida to be elected to Congress. She ably chaired the Committee on Foreign Affairs during her tenure, and there were

many sessions when new Speakers were sworn in when she and I tabulated the results of that very important election.

I can remember when her children were born. I can always say she handled her service with great distinction, with great honor, with great humor, and she made friends on both sides of the aisle. I am glad that she is staying through the remainder of this session, but I must say that this House will lose a spark of brilliance and of wit when she chooses to leave us. I will also say that it has been a particular joy to serve with her because no matter what the issue, no matter what the time of year, no matter what the hour of day, she always approached her position with great professionalism.

I regret her leaving, but I know her service has made a difference. For women across America, since she first arrived in 1989, our numbers have quintupled. We now have over 100 women who serve in this House with distinction, and she has helped blaze that path.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve my opportunity to say more about her in the days ahead.

□ 1930

ELECTRIC RELIABILITY AND FOREST PROTECTION

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, with all of the wildfires we have in the West each year in the summer and the fall, did you know that if a utility has a right-of-way through Federal forests, through the Forest Service, it can still take months for these utilities to receive Forest Service approval to remove trees from transmission line rights-of-way even if the trees are already in contact with electric transmission lines?

We have had blackouts for large portions of several States that have happened from this; and the power lines, when they contact a tree, can start more wildfires even. Yet, still it takes months sometimes to get the Forest Service to approve the utilities to go out there and do a commonsense removal of these trees and other material.

Well, we have a remedy that passed last week in the Natural Resources Committee. Working with my colleague, Representative KURT SCHRADER from Oregon, we passed H.R. 1873 through committee to streamline the red tape to have preapproval for utilities to be able to do the necessary and commonsense work through these already existing transmission rights-of-way through our forests, preventing fire, preventing blackouts, and just good common sense.

GI INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

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

Mr. YOHO. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this time to highlight H.R. 758, the GI Internship Program Act. I am a cosponsor of this important legislation with my colleague from Illinois, BRAD SCHNEIDER. If implemented, this bill would expand the use of the existing post-9/11 GI Bill benefits to include internships as an option in place of a traditional degree program.

The GI Internship Program Act would allow veterans to gain practical skills and work experience to help ease their transition back into the civilian workforce. Under current law, the post-9/11 GI Bill only allocates money to veterans for traditional postsecondary education in the classroom, but for many veterans this is a path not meant for them.

For example, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, there were over 300,000 unfilled manufacturing jobs at the end of 2016. This gap could be filled by the veterans who use their post-9/11 GI benefits as a stipend to support them while receiving on-the-job training as high-skilled technical workers.

Further, these jobs can be filled at no additional cost to the employer because the cost would be covered by the preexisting GI Bill. This bill would allow businesses all over the U.S., both large and small, to meet their employment needs and help our skilled veterans to enter the civilian workforce.

As long as employers comply with the program and intend to hire the veterans after the internship is over, the veterans will continue to receive funding. This bill is a win for American job growth and, most importantly, a win for our veterans.

I urge my colleagues to support this commonsense measure.

JOB FLEXIBILITY FOR WORKING FAMILIES

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. RUTHERFORD). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2017, the gentlewoman from Alabama (Mrs. ROBY) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. ROBY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on the topic of my Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

Mrs. ROBY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1180, the Working Families Flexibility Act.

I would love to take credit for this idea. It is not my own. It is a bill that has been carried by other Members on several occasions. I have had the privilege to carry this bill the last few Congresses, and I am excited that we are going to debate this bill tomorrow and, God willing, have a vote on it.

The Working Families Flexibility Act is a simple amendment to the Fair Labor Standards Act. The Fair Labor Standards Act has been the law of the land since 1938.

In 1985, the Fair Labor Standards Act was amended to allow compensatory time. That is paid time off in lieu of cash wages for overtime for public sector employees. But, oddly enough, private sector employees were left out of the equation.

This bill, H.R. 1180, simply provides that the private sector can have access to compensatory time in lieu of cash wages for overtime. This doesn't eliminate overtime, but, rather, gives flexibility in the workplace for hardworking Americans to make a decision about how to use their time.

Every time an hourly wage employee works an hour of overtime, they would be eligible for an hour and a half of paid leave only if the employer first offers this as a benefit, but, most importantly, that the employee elects voluntarily to choose compensatory time over cash payments for overtime.

Congress cannot legislate another hour in the day, but what we can do is provide flexibility for hardworking moms and dads all over this country that may want to use their accrued overtime to coach a soccer game, help with an aging parent, take their child to the pediatrician, or, quite frankly, accrue the time to go on a mission trip somewhere. But this is an opportunity for us to provide this benefit for employees all over this country, like I said, hardworking men and women that just want flexibility.

It is voluntary. It must be done through a written agreement between the employer and the employee. But, most importantly, outside of being voluntary, the employee can opt out at any time. The employee can cash out, so to speak. There are cash-out provisions in this bill.

So if the arrangement between the employer and the employee is not working out, meaning the employee can't find the appropriate time to utilize the compensatory time, the employee can say: Do you know what? I would rather have my cash payments for overtime.

And within 30 days the employer must provide those cash payments that that employee has rightfully earned.

I just think this is a great opportunity for us to provide this benefit to so many folks out there who are just trying to balance their life and work, their children, their parents, and all of the things that come with that. As a

working mom, I certainly can relate to all of the pushes and pulls that parents have on them in wanting to just provide for their family. Again, at the end of the day, this time belongs to that individual, therefore, he or she ought to be able to make a decision about how to use their time.

I have several Members who are here tonight that are going to speak on this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. WAGNER). I thank her so much for her willingness to speak on this issue.

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Alabama for yielding, my good friend, MARTHA ROBY, who has been such a leader on this issue. It has been my great privilege to be a sponsor of the Working Families Flexibility Act in the 113th Congress, in the 114th Congress, and now again in the 115th Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Working Families Flexibility Act of 2017, which will remove a Federal restriction on private sector employees who would like the option of comp time compensation in lieu of cash for their overtime work, the same as public sector employees. Mr. Speaker, we are talking about a voluntary choice made by employees for cash overtime or for comp time.

The last thing our Federal Government should be doing is dictating how our small-business employees and entrepreneur compensation operates. Mr. Speaker, in November, Missourians and many Americans spoke loud and clear: it is time to get government out of the pocketbooks and off of the backs of hardworking Americans.

Americans are also desperate for job flexibility. I know I was also as a working mom when I worked at Ralston Purina in St. Louis, Missouri. They want to have a better balance of obligations of their day-to-day jobs while taking care of family and family matters.

The Working Families Flexibility Act will help us do just that. For the past 30 years, public sector employees have enjoyed the benefit of choosing voluntary paid time off, or comp time, instead of cash wages as compensation for working overtime hours. Private sector workers, who make up an incredibly large portion of our economy, should also reap this benefit. It is simply common sense.

Amending this overtime restriction through this legislation will help bring our workforce standards into the 21st century and allow our workers to do their jobs while still providing them with the voluntary flexibility to raise a family, pursue a college degree, care for aging parents, or tend to the day-to-day obligations that come their way.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the Working Families Flexibility Act, as it safeguards workers' time and wages, and protects their use of the comp time they have earned. Most importantly, as we work each day to get our economy back on track, this legislation empowers the American worker with more options and flexibility that will ultimately lead to a better quality of life.

Mrs. ROBY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for taking the time to speak on this bill. I appreciate her willingness to speak on behalf of the Working Families Flexibility Act. In doing so, she is speaking on behalf of so many hardworking American families.

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure. And I must say, since we do have time, that her being a champion of this in the last three Congresses that I have had the pleasure of working—and my constituents in Missouri's Second District have sent me—it is wonderful to see a working mom like her, who is juggling all of those day-to-day needs, to stand up for private sector workers who deserve the same kinds of options and flexibility that our public service has enjoyed for some 30 years. So I thank her for being a champion in this way. She is a wonderful legislator and a wonderful mother, too.

Mrs. ROBY. Mr. Speaker, it is now my privilege to yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCARTHY), our majority leader. During my time in Congress, I don't know anyone who has been a stronger champion for finding ways to help families using conservative, commonsense ideas.

Mr. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, Congresswoman MARTHA ROBY is an amazing woman. She is a Congresswoman, she is an attorney, she is a wife, but, most importantly, she is a mother to two beautiful children. She has the same concerns and the same challenges that everybody else across this country has: Does she have enough time? Does she have the flexibility?

Just going through her own life, listening to her constituents, she came forth with this bill. She has worked hard to bring the Working Families Flexibility Act to this floor. She has done it before, and it passed in this House. One of the things I admire most about her is she does not give up. Because it is not about her; it is about the rest of America, and it is also about fairness.

In 1978, Congress granted this choice to government employees. Twenty-nine years later, it is past time we end the double standard and offer the same deals to workers in the private sector.

You can work and work overtime, but then you have the choice if you want to take that in pay, or would you like to have comp time?

Maybe there is a child sick, or maybe you have a family member that comes down with a disease, or another choice. You can go and spend time. You get to direct it. I think that is great policy. That is why government workers have it.

But why can't they have the same standards in the private sector?

Do you know what would happen?

Higher productivity. It would actually move America's economy.

Why?

Because the individual has choice.

Instead of being concerned and worried about something that is happening away that you need to be at, you put that time in. And instead of taking the money, you put it into flexibility.

□ 1945

When we look at the future and think about the economy we want to have, yes, we want great employees; we want happy employees; we want employees with great productivity. But we don't want that just to happen in government. We want the private sector to have the same fairness that government has.

It is a great idea. But I will tell you, the work that Congresswoman MARTHA ROBY has done has led this charge. It has passed this House before, and we are going to find time in a very busy week to have the flexibility to do this bill tomorrow because you know what? The rest of America is waiting for it.

I want to congratulate Congresswoman ROBY for her work on it, for not giving up, for listening to constituents across this country, but also for every working family in the private sector to let them have a choice to have the flexibility to be where they need to be after they put the overtime in. It is only fair, and, to me, it is the American way to solve a problem.

Mrs. ROBY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the leader for bringing this bill to the floor and giving it the recognition and the time that it deserves. I appreciate the leader taking his time to be here and speak on behalf of the Working Families Flexibility Act.

I would like to turn now to my friend and my colleague, also from Missouri (VICKY HARTZLER). I just want to point out, though, as I move to her comments, we have to recognize that the workforce has changed. More than 70 percent of mothers today work outside of the home, and the gentlewoman here is certainly one of those who understands that as she has worked so hard and now Tiffany is about to graduate from high school. It seems like yesterday that we were bringing our babies to the floor together.

But 70 percent of mothers today work outside of the home. Fifty years ago, that number was less than 30 percent. So the workforce has changed tremendously, but our policies have not kept up with that change.

I yield to the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. HARTZLER).

Mrs. HARTZLER. Mr. Speaker, thank you very much. I appreciate the

gentlewoman championing this issue, and we have brought our kids here and know the challenges of juggling work and family—and we are not alone. As you said, many, many families in this country are facing these same challenges, and that is why I am so excited about your bill and so proud to sponsor it and stand with you tonight.

The family is really the foundation of our country, and to have strong families, we need to be able to make ways to encourage them to be together, especially for those special, special events. I know there are many, many moms and dads out there working today who would love to be able to have the flexibility of the workplace where they can take off and spend some time with their kids at the soccer game, or when they get that phone call from the school that their child is sick, please come pick them up, to be able to have that flexibility to do that and to take them to the doctor or to stay home with them if they are sick. Then, as families age, many families need to be with their parent or need to go to the doctor with them.

These are just commonsense things to allow that flexibility where you could work some overtime and choose, instead of having the extra money, you could choose to be able to use that to spend time with your family, those people that mean the most to you. That is just precious. It is priceless to be able to do that. And it is really sad now that, in our country, only half of the American workers have this option, and they are workers who work for the government. But yet, if you work for that small business in town or that manufacturer making a product and shipping it overseas, proud, made in U.S.A., sorry. Our government right now says, the Fair Labor Standards Act says, you don't get that option, but if you work for the Federal Government then you would, and that is just not fair.

So I applaud you for drafting this bill so that every American family would have the option to be able to spend time with those people that mean the most to them. It is just common sense. The time has well passed for us to pass this.

I just commend you for putting this forth again. I am very excited about this bill, proud to stand alongside you and look forward to what I believe should be—should be—a unanimous vote tomorrow because this is such a great bill.

So thank you so much for allowing me to come down and to share my support, and the people of the Fourth District of Missouri would just love to have this. Keep up the great work. We will look forward to bringing this across the finish line.

Mrs. ROBY. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentlewoman and all of her comments and her support as a working mom who understands all of the pushes and pulls that so many American families face.

I want to spend a little bit of time, while I have the opportunity, to talk about some of the myths about the Working Families Flexibility Act. There is so much misinformation, false information that is out there about this bill.

Trust me, we are on social media responding to the information that is being put out there that is incorrect because we want to make sure people understand. This bill is not intended to hurt people. It is intended to help people and offer a much-needed benefit to provide people flexibility in the workforce.

The first myth I want to address is that this will result in employees working longer hours for less pay. The fact is that the Working Families Flexibility Act safeguards workers' time and wages. Receiving paid time off or compensatory time for working overtime hours under this bill is completely voluntary. An employee who prefers to receive cash payments for overtime hours worked is always free to do so.

Employers and employees are required to complete a written comp time agreement, a voluntary written agreement, and an employee can withdraw from this agreement at any time and receive cash wages for accrued comp time.

Comp time is accrued at the same rate as overtime cash wages, so employees who work more than the 40-hour week will accrue paid time off at a rate time and a half for the overtime hours worked. Workers can cash out—meaning, say ''I want the money instead of the time''—whenever they choose, and employers are required to provide those cash wages that that employee has accrued within 30 days of receiving that employee's request.

Another myth is that the Working Families Flexibility Act will allow employers to control when workers use their comp time. The fact is that the Working Families Flexibility Act protects employees' use of the compensatory time that they have earned. The Working Families Flexibility Act allows workers to use their comp time whenever they choose as long as they provide reasonable notice and the leave is not overly disruptive.

The unduly disrupt provision included in H.R. 1180, the Working Families Flexibility Act, is the same standard used today for public employees who are using this benefit to receive comp time, and this has worked for over 30 years. As my colleagues have already stated, this is a matter of fairness. If it is good enough for government employees, it should be good enough for private sector employees as well.

All existing labor enforcement remedies, including action by the Department of Labor, are available if a worker believes he or she has been unfairly treated. I can't put enough emphasis on this, that the anticoercion, the anti-intimidation provisions that are currently a part of the law, of course, apply to the Working Families Flexibility Act. And it even promotes greater workplace flexibility while protecting the needs of the employer, but the employee is very protected from that type of behavior and coercion by the employer.

I have some other myths and facts that I am going to go over, but I see that the chairwoman of the Education and the Workforce Committee has joined us. I really appreciate the gentlewoman, the chairwoman, and all the work that she has done to support the working Families Flexibility Act.

I yield to the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX).

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congresswoman ROBY for leading this Special Order, but a special thanks to you for introducing H.R. 1180, the Working Families Flexibility Act of 2017. Everyone in the private sector, men and women, are grateful to you for doing this.

I may repeat some of the things that some of my colleagues have already said, but, Mr. Speaker, they bear repeating.

This proposal, this bill, is about freedom, flexibility, and fairness. Workers, not the Federal Government, should have the freedom to choose what is best for them and their families. Hard-working men and women need more flexibility to balance work, life, and family, and there should be fair workforce policies that don't put private sector employees at a disadvantage to those in the public sector.

Across the country, there are moms and dads who wish they had more flexibility to make their child's baseball game or dance recital, students who can't find enough time to study for college finals while working full time, and individuals who are struggling to care for an aging relative. There are many workers who want flexible work arrangements instead of rigid 9 to 5 schedules so they can attend to their personal needs.

This bill will improve the quality of life of many Americans by offering workers eligible for overtime pay a choice between paid time off and cash wages. Outdated Federal labor rules currently prohibit private sector workers from exercising this choice.

More than 30 years ago, Republicans and Democrats amended the law to give public sector workers the option of comp time. This was a positive step, but it created double standards. It is time to ease this double standard by leveling the playing field between private sector employees and government workers when it comes to workplace flexibility. That is exactly what this

bill does. It is a commonsense idea that should receive the support of workers on both sides of the aisle.

As my colleague from Alabama said, the decision to choose comp time is completely voluntary and requires a written agreement between the worker and employer. Those who want to continue receiving cash wages as overtime pay are always free to do so. It also explicitly prohibits employers from coercing workers into electing comp time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill is, again, about fairness, and it is so difficult for me to understand how Democrats would be opposed to that. We should have the same rules in the private sector as we do in the public sector. I think that Democrats have run out of excuses not to provide workers this choice. All we are doing here is giving a choice.

No one, Republican nor Democrat, should think they know what is best for individual workers and their families.

Mr. Speaker, when we vote on this bill this week, I hope all of our colleagues will come to their senses and see that they are discriminating against the private sector by denying them the opportunity to take their overtime as comp time and that they will vote with us.

Again, I thank my colleague from Alabama for her leadership on this Special Order, but particularly her willingness to introduce this bill and take the lead in promoting it.

Mrs. ROBY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairwoman, and again, I appreciate her leadership for moving this bill through committee and for getting it ready through the Rules Committee so that we can be here on the floor tomorrow. Again, I appreciate her leadership on this and many, many other issues that she does on a daily basis to fight for Americans, in this case, Americans that are subject to the provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act that would benefit from this amendment in the private sector.

□ 2000

I want to go back. I have two more myths that I would like to address.

Here is the myth: the Working Families Flexibility Act will allow employers to force workers to take comp time instead of cash payments for overtime.

The fact is that the Working Families Flexibility Act prohibits worker coercion. The decision to use compensatory time is completely voluntary. An employee who prefers to receive cash payments for overtime hours worked is always free to do that. It explicitly prohibits an employer from directly or indirectly intimidating, threatening, or coercing; or attempting to intimidate, threaten, or coerce an employee into taking or not taking compensatory time.

An employer who violates these anticoercion provisions will be liable to the affected employee for double damages which includes both the amount of the comp time and an equal amount in cash wages.

In addition to new provisions prohibiting coercion, H.R. 1180 ensures all existing enforcement remedies, including action by the Department of Labor, and are available to workers if an employer fails to pay cash wages for the overtime hours worked.

Myth: this bill is unnecessary because current law already allows for workplace flexibility. The fact is that the Working Families Flexibility Act empowers workers with more options. Under the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, private sector employees may only use paid time off during the same paid period in which it is accrued. Paid time off cannot be saved by the employee for future use outside of that pay period.

The law currently allows public sector employees to accrue comp time to be used at their discretion so long as reasonable notice is given and the leave does not unduly disrupt the workplace.

My amendment to the Fair Labor Standards Act, the Working Families Flexibility Act, H.R. 1180, provides private sector employees with comp time benefits similar to what is already available in the public sector.

Here is how it works: an hourly wage employee would be able to voluntarily enter into an agreement with their employer to put all of some of their accrued overtime towards paid time off instead of cash wages. A working dad could use the time-and-a-half overtime he has earned to take a paid hour and a half off of work. No employee, again, could ever be forced to take the paid time off, just like no business would be forced to offer this benefit.

Upon introducing this bill 4 years ago, I heard from a very special lady named Karen DeLoach. She worked as a bookkeeper in an accounting firm of my hometown, Montgomery, Alabama. Like most in her line of work, Karen would put in many hours during the busy season and build up a lot of overtime. Karen once approached her boss and said: Well, can I accrue my overtime to use as paid leave rather than taking the cash payments? Because, see, Karen gave her time to serve on a mission trip in Nicaragua every summer, and she wanted to do so and go on her church's mission trip without interrupting her regular paycheck.

Montgomery, Alabama, is the State capital, and Karen had heard her State employee friends talk about how they swapped their overtime pay for comp time in their jobs. She never imagined that a similar arrangement at the private business at which she worked would be against the law, but that is what her boss informed her. He wanted to give it to her, but he couldn't under the law. To his credit, he wanted to offer it to her, but he wasn't about to break the law.

Karen's story isn't unique. As I have already referenced, just think of all the parents in this country with young kids or caring for elderly parents or a military family with one or both of the parents deployed or about to deploy. They need time to get ready to take care of their responsibilities.

So the Working Families Flexibility Act is not going to end or solve the debt crisis or fix ObamaCare or simplify the Tax Code. I am proud of our ongoing efforts here in Congress to repeal and replace ObamaCare, to put forth a tax policy that is fair, flatter, and simpler, and to continue to cut out wasteful spending. This bill doesn't solve those problems.

But the fact that we can't solve those problems overnight shouldn't stop us here in the House of Representatives from doing what we can do right now to help make life a little easier for working moms and dads. That is what the Working Families Flexibility Act does, helping Americans better balance the demands of family and work.

I want to thank all those Members who have come here to the floor tonight to speak on this bill. As a working mom myself, I certainly understand all too well how challenging it can be to balance our responsibilities.

Again, I have sponsored this bill this Congress, of course, and the past two before that. I have heard criticism from labor unions and their allies saying that this bill is somehow antiunion or antiworker. This is just simply untrue.

Of course, many in Big Labor will reflexively attack any proposal that would change a single word of the Fair Labor Standards Act. Ironically here, labor unions, see, they oppose this, but they themselves can and often do negotiate similar agreements for their members already.

That seems a bit unfair. So it is okay for those who are members of unions to negotiate similar compensatory time arrangements, it is okay for those who work in the public sector under the law to utilize compensatory time, but it is just not good enough for the hourly wage employee in the private sector. That is more than unfair.

The legislation is completely voluntary for both the employer and the employee. It does not affect the 40-hour workweek or change the way overtime is calculated. It strengthens provisions for workers and increases penalties for abuse. It contains strong anticoercion provisions that would prohibit an employer from directly or indirectly trying to intimidate or coerce workers into taking comp time.

Workers have the option under the Working Families Flexibility Act to cash out at any time. If for some reason this agreement, this voluntary agreement, just isn't working out, an

employee can always take the cash, no questions asked.

And, finally, for workers represented by a labor union, any comp time arrangement would have to be negotiated under this bill as part of the collective bargaining agreement, just as they already do.

Mr. Speaker, as I finish tonight, I just want to say again, as a mom, a working mom, a family where both parents work outside of the home, I certainly understand for some of us the time, our time, the time that has been accrued by an hourly wage employee, is more important than the cash wages. That may not be true for everybody. That remains in that the employee can determine what he or she wants to do with their time.

Again, I am grateful for the many people who have worked so hard on this bill over the years. I am grateful for the opportunity to represent Alabama's Second District and to represent so many hardworking American families here tonight in this hour.

I look forward to the debate tomorrow here on the floor on this bill. I would urge all of my colleagues to please vote in favor of H.R. 1180, the Working Families Flexibility Act.

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

CELEBRATING NATIONAL CHARTER SCHOOLS WEEK AND SUCCESS ACADEMY

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate National Charter Schools Week, I want to highlight my recent visit to Success Academy Harlem 1, which is 1 of 41 charter schools in the largest and highest performing public charter school network in New York City.

Success Academy current serves 14,000 students and has more than 16,000 families on its wait list. Founded in 2006, Harlem 1 is Success Academy's first school, and founder Eva Moskowitz served as its first principal.

With a focus on developing the whole child, Success Academy aims to make its schools joyful places of learning. I am here to tell you that these schools are getting results, and they are joyful.

Five of the top five schools in the State of New York in math and two of the top five schools in English are Success Academy schools.

Every student in every school deserves an excellent education, but unfortunately we are falling far short of that goal as a nation. Thankfully, innovative charter schools like Success Academy Harlem 1 are providing thousands of families with new hope and opportunity.

THE FIRST 100 DAYS OF THE TRUMP PRESIDENCY AND ITS IMPACT ON MINORITY COMMUNITIES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2017, the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Ms. PLASKETT) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise today to coanchor this CBC Special Order hour with my esteemed colleague from Texas (Mr. VEASEY). For the next 60 minutes, we have a chance to speak directly to the American people on issues of great importance to the Congressional Black Caucus, Congress, the constituents we represent, and all Americans.

This evening, the chair of the Congressional Black Caucus, the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. RICHMOND), my friend and colleague, I first thank him for his continued leadership of the caucus and on issues impacting Black America and other minority communities across this great Nation.

I would also like to thank the gentleman from Texas (Mr. VEASEY), my colleague, for joining me in chairing this evening's Special Order hour, and my other CBC colleagues who are joining us to speak on important issues.

Mr. Speaker, we are here tonight to address the first 100 days of the Trump Presidency and its impact on minority communities like the district I represent and those of my fellow CBC colleagues. Specifically, we will highlight 100 actions taken by this administration in the last 100 days with less than positive impact to the communities we represent.

The President hails his first 100 days as the most successful in the history of the United States. These actions, however, do not spell success for low income and minority communities. Actions that, in turn, roll back Department of Justice protections designed to ensure police accountability; actions that threaten to further restrict voting rights and undermine the public education system; actions that threaten access to quality affordable health care for millions of Americans, including children, seniors, and those with preexisting medical conditions; actions that propose gutting programs, HUD, and others that provide housing assistance for extremely low-income families and the homeless; mean-spirited actions that break up families and make immigrant communities less safe; and actions that roll back important environmental protections which serve to, among other things, ensure safe air and drinking waters in communities like Flint, Michigan, and mitigating the effects of climate change in vulnerable coastal communities like my home district of the United States Virgin Islands.

Mr. Speaker, the Congressional Black Caucus has reached out to President Trump and is willing to work with his administration to continue to build upon the greatness of this country—and not just for the privileged few but for all.

As representatives of a congressional district that is home to the only HBCU outside the continental United States, I take exception to the administration's Education Secretary viewing HBCUs as pioneers for school choice, even though these institutions were founded because White colleges and universities refused to admit Black students.

This statement illustrates a lack of understanding of the history of the African Americans and the Black community. President Trump's proposed budget for the Department of Education plans to eliminate afterschool and teacher-support programs, as well as slashing funding for Federal supplemental education opportunity grants, Pell grants, and instead divert Federal funds to private school vouchers. This plan would be devastating to communities like my home district where almost one-third of the children live below the poverty line and where public schools are already struggling to make the best with limited funds and resources.

□ 2015

President Trump's budget proposal would also cut the Department of Health and Human Services' budget by $12.6 billion, a 16 percent cut. In my home district of the United States Virgin Islands, HHS funds critical early childhood education; and nutrition programs provide assistance to seniors, low-income families, and funding for mental health programs.

Mr. Speaker, these and other actions that my colleagues will speak about are not to criticize the President, but more to highlight the importance of funding of these programs and, more importantly, highlighting how important these programs and government functions are to American families and to the safety and progress of our communities. America, stay woke. There are still more than 1,300 days to go.

I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. VEASEY).

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands for all of her hard work on this Special Order hour. I enjoy coanchoring with the gentlewoman because of her commitment and wanting to get out these important messages.

I think the message we want to talk about today is the first 100 days. I don't know about you all, but I am disappointed in these first 100 days.

There were a lot of things that we were told were going to happen, and many of those things just hadn't happened. There has been a lot of flip-flopping. I know that you have seen that.

We saw it on Syria. We saw it on NATO. We saw it on many other things that there was a whole lot of talk that happened in 2016, but there ain't a whole lot of walking that has happened in 2017 as far as follow-up is concerned. That is the sort of thing that all Americans should be worried about in these first 100 days that ended on Saturday.

Many of us hoped that the rhetoric, that the foolishness, the tweeting, that those types of things would stop. That hasn't stopped.

A lot of us actually hoped that—hey, if you want to talk about bringing some jobs back to somebody, I am for bringing jobs back. I am more committed to jobs and having jobs here in this country, and he hasn't done anything when it comes to jobs.

There has been absolutely no follow-up whatsoever when it comes to helping the American man and woman reopen factories, when it comes to helping the American man and woman help pay for their child care. When it comes to things like Davis-Bacon and putting more money on the table at the end of the night and in the bank accounts, absolutely nothing has been done, and that is what we should be concerned about.

The President promised on the campaign trail that he was going to help these hardworking Americans that I talked about earlier. One of the things that he talked about was the Buy American, Hire American. Ain't nothing happening on that. We know that not only did Trump fail to deliver on these promises, but that he has actually worked against the best interests of American workers.

He has also gone on to contradict himself on his commitment to job training. Instead of investing in job training and these crucial programs, the Trump administration has proposed $2.5 billion in cuts for the Department of Labor. We have, by many estimates, about a half a million or more jobs in this country that are high-skilled manufacturing jobs that we can't fill. These are jobs that could fill factories back up in the Rust Belt. These are jobs that could fill factories back up in Texas. These are jobs that could be filled up in other parts of the country.

You want to cut back on job training when we need to be training people for these new jobs? These are new manufacturing jobs that deal with robots, deal with programmers and different areas like that where the young people don't necessarily have the skills that they need to be competitive.

You hear about these companies that have come to America, they locate here—foreign car manufacturers, for instance—and they have to work with the local community colleges to get the kids on par to work these new manufacturing jobs. Now is not the time to cut back on job training. So that is what bothers me in these first 100 days.

The administration has rolled back worker protections that keep Americans safe while on the job. Last month, President Trump changed the law so that employers now only have 6 months to report workplace injuries and illnesses instead of the previously required 5-year reporting window. Scaling back the requirement does not allow the Department of Labor to get a full picture of a given workplace. It makes it more difficult to spot a trend of endangering employees.

Trump also gutted another worker protection that would have made it harder for companies to secure Federal contracts if they have a history of labor law violations. That protection is now gone. It is gone. It has disappeared.

Above all else, President Trump has still not put forward a single, concrete, job-creating bill like he pledged. He betrayed his promise to make rebuilding America's infrastructure a top priority of this administration. He has failed to mention a word about protecting the Davis-Bacon Act which, as you know, would ensure that workers are paid fairly should an infrastructure bill come together.

Again, when you are talking about money, I mean that is a very serious topic. Money decides whether or not you can pay your bills, whether or not you can put food on the table, whether or not you can buy your kids clothes, whether or not you can make the car payment.

The Davis-Bacon Act is a basic fundamental. If you cannot protect that, those prevailing wages that give people the opportunity to earn a good income, again, then you are just talking and you ain't walking. That is what I am worried about in these first 100 days.

You are going to hear a lot from the Congressional Black Caucus tonight about how the President has failed to deliver on so many of his campaign promises, how he is trying to take away health care from 24 million Americans. High-risk pools are absolutely terrible.

One of the things the Obama administration did was it gave people who have preexisting conditions the chance to have affordable healthcare insurance. Thinking about taking insurance away from 24 million people, thinking about taking those protections from individual families that have those preexisting conditions, I think, is absolutely terrible.

There are just so many policies that actually directly affect the American family. Remember, the very first day—and there have been so many bad things that have happened in these 100 days that we don't even have enough time to cover all of them tonight, but you probably remember the very first day, the first-time home-buyer program was suspended.

There is nothing that exemplifies what it means to be American as it means to own a home. That is the first day, the first action, the most antiworker, most antifamily action that anyone could take—got rid of the first-time home-buyer program. He got rid of the first-time home-buyer program that helped individuals have a piece of the American Dream: homeownership.

We have seen the statistics about what homeownership means to the American family, what that means for the stability of American families, kids being able to have that backyard to play in, being able to go to that neighborhood school, to have that home to call your own to raise your family. It is so much more than just a home. It is really the foundation of who we are as Americans.

Getting rid of the first-time home-buyer program, that is not doing anything to help American families. That is not doing anything to help American workers.

I am glad that we have so many great voices here tonight within the CBC that are going to talk about these first 100 days and about the failings of these first 100 days and about how the people that were there, the people that thought that there were going to be some real changes, how they have been misled. They have been misled.

They have been taken down this road, and it is not a road of prosperity. It is a road of less prosperity. It is a road of dismay, despair, less money, more expensive insurance, no insurance, and it is going to hurt the American worker and the American family.

So I just really appreciate everything that the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Ms. PLASKETT) is doing today and hope that we can continue to get the media and the newspapers and the cable TV news people out here to really focus in and hone in on some of these problems that we are seeing coming out of the White House at 1600 Pennsylvania.

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, I think the gentleman from Texas (Mr. VEASEY) is correct about staying focused and, in the lexicon of the young people, to stay woke about what is happening.

The gentleman from Texas (Mr. VEASEY) gave some great examples about some of the things that happened in this first 100 days that should make us aware how this is, in some ways, an assault on distressed communities, on minority communities. The gentleman from Texas (Mr. VEASEY) spoke to some of them.

One of the things I wanted to highlight is a booklet that the Congressional Black Caucus has put out about 100 actions that have taken place in these 100 days:

President Trump's proposed budget would eliminate the Economic Development Administration at the Department of Commerce. In 2015, EDA invested 38 percent of its funds in highly

distressed areas, including communities with high minority populations, such as the gentleman from Texas' and mine.

President Trump's proposed budget would eliminate the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund. People ask, What is that? This is an organization which channels investments into communities in need of capital for housing, small businesses, and community facilities. That is its sole function.

President Trump said that the private sector already did a good job making investments in these communities, which demonstrates how out of touch and ill-informed he and his administration are. His administration needs to tell him and give him the facts about what is going on in minority and underdeveloped communities.

As we will hear from our colleagues, there are areas in which environmental protection and climate change, social justice for environmental justice needs to take place. President Trump's proposed budget would cut environmental protection agencies, environmental justice programs that work to ensure the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, and national origin or income with the respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies. It would simply cut it out of place.

The proposed budget would cut the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's coastal programs, which would affect populations, including minorities living along the Gulf Coast and other coastal areas.

At this time, we have other members of the Congressional Black Caucus that are here to talk about environmental justice.

This freshman Member has really stepped in and just taken a hold of actions and demonstrating a love for his constituents in coming here this evening and wanting to address environmental justice areas.

I yield to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. MCEACHIN).

Mr. MCEACHIN. Mr. Speaker, every Monday, Representatives PLASKETT and VEASEY lead our Caucus' discussion on issues of great importance to the American people, and I am glad to be joining them this evening to discuss a critical priority that is often overlooked: environmental justice.

Our country is built upon ideals like liberty, justice, equal protection for all Americans, yet we still fall short on those goals in important ways. While I believe we are making progress, this is a critical moment.

Over the last 100 days, we have seen how eager the new administration is to undo our recent achievements, from selecting EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt, a man who does not believe in climate change, to overturning critical antipollution protections.

The Trump administration has shown a dangerous contempt for proven science. The administration has even favorably discussed pulling the United States from a global climate change prevention pact, a move that could have disastrous, unknowable consequences for every generation to come.

Mr. Speaker, the list goes on and on and on; but at this point, Mr. Speaker, before I continue, I want to bring forward my good friend—he has got a fabulous first name like I do—Congressman DONALD PAYNE, Jr. He is from the 10th Congressional District of New Jersey. He is a fierce advocate for environmental justice in his hometown of Newark. I thank the Congressman. His voice and advocacy will help us move toward sounder policies and more just outcomes, and I look forward to working with the gentleman.

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE).

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, let me first thank the gentleman from the Commonwealth of Virginia (Mr. MCEACHIN). It is the birthplace of my mother: Dinwiddie County, Virginia. My grandfather was a small-time tobacco farmer, and I learned to cut tobacco at 8 years old.

I am from Newark, New Jersey, the Garden State. We didn't raise much tobacco there in the Garden State, but my friends used think I was going on vacation when I would leave. I said I wasn't going on vacation; I was going to work. That is what we did for the summer. It was a great experience, and I always have great, great memories of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

□ 2030

Mr. Speaker, last month, as part of a partnership with the National Newspaper Publishers Association, I wrote an op-ed on environmental justice issues. I will repeat what I wrote then, which is that environmental justice should be a national priority, not a problem confined to minority communities.

African-American communities are disproportionately burdened with pollutants. Across the Nation, communities of color suffer from higher rates of exposure to air pollution, higher rates of lead poisoning, and higher rates of water pollution.

Every single day, children in my home city of Newark, New Jersey, are exposed to harmful levels of pollution from the port and other sources that rob them of their health, just because of where they live.

One in four Newark children has asthma. The hospitalization rate for Newark children is 30 times the rate of the national average. Asthma is the leading cause of absenteeism in school-age children in the city of Newark, New Jersey.

Yet, too often, environmental justice is an afterthought, or often it is missing entirely in the discussion of the challenges facing African Americans.

The Trump administration threatens to make the problem even worse. President Trump has prioritized rolling back environmental regulations, from emissions rules for power plants to the mandate that Federal decisionmaking must be taken into consideration on climate change impacts.

President Trump proposed slashing the EPA's budget by 31 percent, cutting enforcement of the Agency's clean air laws by $129 million.

With threats of excessive cuts to the EPA, air quality across the Nation may even be worse than expected. In the American Lung Association's ''State of the Air'' report, my district and many other metropolitan areas ranked as having the most polluted air in the country. However, only one-third of counties have ozone or particulate pollution air monitors. We must fight to ensure that funding for air monitors are for all our communities.

So what can we do to protect our communities from environmental degradation?

The Newark City Council has been a leader in that area and has passed a first-in-the-nation ordinance requiring developers to request environmental permits to inform the city of any environmental impacts. As a result, decisionmakers and the public will be able to make informed decisions about sustainable development. Other municipalities would be smart to follow Newark's lead.

Last November, I joined Amy Goldsmith and Kim Gaddy of the Clean Water Action and the Coalition for Healthy Ports for an environmental justice tour of the Port of New York and New Jersey. We were also joined by Congressman FRANK PALLONE from New Jersey. Organizations like theirs are doing excellent work in the fight against health-threatening pollution. Expanding partnerships on the environmental justice initiatives must be a central part of our strategy to secure environmental protections.

To those listening at home: I encourage you to make it clear to your elected officials that you will hold them accountable for any efforts to dismantle environmental protections and any failures to fight for environmental justice.

And to my colleague from Virginia, it is really noteworthy that you have taken the lead on this issue. As I stated in my presentation, Newark, New Jersey, is 30 times greater propensity for asthma in children than the national average. I mean, that is almost criminal.

And we as a home, myself, not just have heard about it, but have lived it. My middle son—I am the father of triplets. My middle son has grown up with

asthma; the days we had to keep him inside. He has been fortunate to have not—knock on wood—have many instances throughout his childhood of asthma attacks, but the one that I did see really brought me to tears.

To know that there are numbers of children throughout this country who don't have the opportunity to go to the doctor, who rush to the hospital with asthma attacks, and who, God forbid, sometimes don't make it to the doctor is just—to think that that could be my boy brings tears to my heart.

So I am willing to make this fight not for just my son, but for the hundreds of thousands of children throughout this country who suffer from this disease, and make sure that the EPA stays intact to fight these dreaded diseases, especially in minority communities, in our young people, and throughout the country.

I will close with the drinking water issue in Flint. The Congressional Black Caucus went out to Flint when the issue first came up. Ms. PELOSI was there as well, and we talked to the people of Flint and heard firsthand their heartbreak and not being able to think they could trust anyone. Their government had let them down, had lied to them, had given them poison to drink and said it is okay. It looked like rusty water, but they told them that it was fine to use it for baths or whatever.

So I am sitting there on that stage listening to all this and I am thinking in the back of my head: I am from Newark, New Jersey, the third oldest city in this country's history. So Flint, Michigan, can't be that old because Lewis and Clark went West.

So the third oldest city, what were my pipes like? What was the condition of my water system?

And I went back and I saw several mayors from my district, and I said: I suggest you start looking at your water systems.

And that was on a Friday. That Tuesday we got a report from the Newark school system. They found lead in the drinking water in 44 schools in Newark that next—not even a week.

So we know how important these issues are, and we will continue to fight for what is right in our communities. I appreciate the opportunity and your leadership on this issue.

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. EVANS), from the great city of Philadelphia.

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, I thank my great colleague from the Virgin Islands for the great introduction. I really appreciate her leadership, and my colleague from Texas' leadership.

This discussion that we have been having is relating to the President's 100 days. And I think it is 102 at this particular point.

The question that I and members of the Congressional Black Caucus have constantly been raising is: What do we have to lose with President Trump's cuts to the EPA?

As I always said: What don't we have to lose?

We have a lot to lose.

In the time that I met with the organization in my community—a number of organizations—called Mothers for Clean Air, they were extremely concerned about the cuts to the EPA. The President's budget cuts $2.6 billion from the EPA budget. They were concerned about the impact that that would have. As a matter of fact, I talked to a mother who talked about her twins and what kind of effect that would have.

The President wants to cut programs like Pollution Prevention Programs, Lead Risk Reduction Programs—which has been a problem in the case of the city of Philadelphia, a problem that we thought we dealt with, but with a cut on the lead reduction program, that would just reinforce the program—the Water Quality Research Programs, and the Environmental Education Programs.

Who do you want to help when you cut 31 percent of the EPA budget?

No one. The cuts would be horrendous and have a dangerous negative impact on not only our communities of color, but everyone nationwide.

Two weeks ago I sent a letter to EPA Administrator Pruitt outlining how the plan to cut fundamental EPA programs would have a negative impact on our children and most vulnerable in Philadelphia, all across the State and the Nation.

Last week marks 3 weeks—3 years, I should say, since the city of Flint, Michigan, decided to switch their water supply from the Detroit area water system to the Flint River water system, which resulted in lead contamination within the city. It is 3 years later and, sadly, not much has changed for the communities in Flint. Three days is too long to go without clean drinking water. Three years is simply heartbreaking.

Mr. President, we have seen how various communities across the U.S. are at greater risk of health problems due to overexposure to unsafe drinking water. Now is no time to cut funding for Americans in need.

As Questlove says: ''Without science, we are truly operating blindly.''

The cuts to the EPA would have an increasingly harmful impact, especially for communities of color and hardworking families who do not have the means nor the resources to fight back against their local governments about the safety of the water they drink or question old paint in their house.

According to the State Department of Health, in 2014, more than 10 percent of the children from Philadelphia had elevated levels of lead in their blood because they were exposed to lead-based paint. Exposure to lead-based paint is a chronic problem that goes undiscussed too often.

No level is safe for our children to be exposed to, just as no level of lead is safe for our children to drink.

Yet, the President says rather boldly that things are moving in the right direction. I would like to know what community he is talking about. He clearly couldn't be talking about the community that I am from.

Now, more than ever, we need to keep the resistance alive, speak up and speak out for our communities at risk. I will not stand silent while the vital EPA programs that protect and enhance the lives of all Americans are at risk of being cut. Together, we are the voice of the people, so there is no way we will be silent. We will continue this message.

Ms. PLASKETT. I thank the gentleman, Congressman EVANS, for keeping us focused and giving us the information we need to understand what real communities are going through and the environmental justice that we need to be fighting for in this administration. I appreciate that so much.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. MCEACHIN), who has been the person who was at the forefront of this evening, bringing issues of environmental justice to our minds and exposing and explaining to the American people the assault on environmental justice that is taking place right now, and appealing to President Trump to be mindful of those communities who are going to be affected by the cuts and by other interest groups that are going after the basic needs that Americans have to stay healthy and stay alive.

□ 2045

Mr. MCEACHIN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the Congresswoman.

As has been demonstrated tonight, on nearly every facet of environmental policy, we are in danger of backsliding irreparably. I want to talk about an area where that danger is especially great and where stakes are especially high. Today, and for much of our history, certain communities have been the victims of profound environmental injustice. Lower income, rural, tribal, and especially minority communities are at an increased risk of exposure to the negative impacts of pollution and climate change.

For far too long, communities of color have been on the front lines of environmental and economic injustice, shouldering the health burdens of living in areas with higher rates of dangerous fossil fuel pollution and lower rates of income and employment.

Mr. Speaker, an African-American child born in the United States has twice the chance of developing asthma than a White child and is four times

more likely to die from an asthma attack. This is not a coincidental statistic ginned up for shock and awe but the day-to-day reality that African-American families across the United States have been dealing with for decades.

Rooted in America's legacy of segregation and redlining communities of color while simultaneously restricting their government services, employment opportunities, and environmental protections, African-American families have historically borne the brunt of the worst health impacts of polluting industries and have received dwindling economic opportunities due to systemic racism. This is why we see coal plants, oil refineries, and natural gas plants, which spew some of the most toxic substances around into the air and contaminate water supplies, are frequently located in communities of color—communities that have little political or economic power to protect themselves.

These disparities, Mr. Speaker, are unacceptable, and they did not arise in a vacuum. In many cases, they have been the avoidable results of government action or inaction. For example, according to the FY 2015 Annual Environmental Justice Progress Report, ''Many low-income, minority, and tribal communities are disproportionately impacted by air pollution and are not able to participate in environmental decisions due to barriers preventing them from meaningfully engaging in the political process.''

These voices deserve to be heard. Their silence—particularly their enforced silence—is unacceptable, and it is incompatible with our, small D, democratic values. The practical consequences of that silence are dire: poorer public health, diminished economic opportunity, and decreased quality of life.

To address these grave human and civil rights issues, the environmental justice movement was born—a movement grounded in the belief that all citizens, regardless of race, ethnicity, or socioeconomic class, should share fairly in the benefits of environmental resources and the burdens of environmental hazards.

As policymakers, Mr. Speaker, we have a responsibility to embrace that vision—to correct and prevent environmental injustice. We can and we must do better. It is not enough to avoid repeating past mistakes. True equity requires a recognition that some communities have been hurt much more and, as a result, need more resources and targeted assistance. If we succeed—if we achieve equitable policies that promote environmental justice—our world will become a more fair, more liveable, and more sustainable place. But if we fail, public health will suffer. People will lead shorter and harder lives. None of us should be willing to accept that outcome.

Mr. Speaker, I think it is worth noting that the environmental justice movement began in 1982, when North Carolina established a toxic waste landfill in Warren County—a poor, rural, majority African-American locality—over the objections of the residents. In the more than 20 years since, many environmental justice organizations have formed. During the Clinton administration, the pursuit of environmental justice became a Federal priority.

Sadly, though, these improvements have not been enough to fix longstanding problems, and, again, the progress we have made is under grave threat. Left unchecked, this administration would devastate communities of color and many other vulnerable groups as well.

Today, the Trump administration is rolling back budgets, cutting offices, obscuring scientific information, and attacking legislation aimed at curbing environmental justice. That is why, on March 7, we witnessed the resignation of Mr. Mustafa Ali from his post as leader of the Environmental Protection Agency's Environmental Justice Program. For more than two decades, Mr. Ali helped lead our Nation's efforts to secure justice and positive change for vulnerable communities that have seen their public health threatened and the quality of their air, water, and land degraded.

In his letter, Mr. Ali said: ''Communities of color, low-income communities, and indigenous populations are still struggling to receive equal protections before the law.

''These communities, both rural and urban, often live in areas with toxic levels of air pollution, crumbling or nonexistent water and sewer infrastructure, lead in the drinking water, brownfields from vacant former industrial and commercial sites, Superfund and other hazardous waste sites, as well as other sources of exposure to pollutants.

''Despite the many challenges we face regarding the impacts of pollution and a changing climate, we have just as many effective tools and programs with long track records of assisting vulnerable communities in meeting their goals of improving public health and enhancing the environmental quality of their local communities.''

Mr. Speaker, I know my Democratic colleagues are eager to use these tools to secure just outcomes and better lives for the people we represent. Mr. Speaker, I urge my friends in the majority to join with us.

Mr. Speaker, in concluding, I would like to thank my colleagues for joining me this evening to discuss environmental justice.

Together, we have amplified a simple truth: regardless of the color of your skin, how much money you make, or where you live, every American is entitled to clean air, clean water, and access to our public lands. Again, when we fail to achieve those goals, public health suffers, quality of life suffers, and people lead shorter and harder lives.

We know that climate change is real. We know that it is being caused by human activity. If we fail to act, we know that there are going to be terrible consequences for the entire human community. We also know that vulnerable populations and marginalized communities are poised to suffer the most—just as they have in the past. That kind of environmental injustice has a long history, and it must stop.

That is why, this past week, I announced the creation of the United for Climate and Environmental Justice Task Force alongside my colleagues, Congresswoman JAYAPAL from Washington State and Congresswoman BARRAGÁN from California. We are going to fight every day to prevent climate change and to mitigate its worst effects. We are going to advocate for policies that correct and prevent environmental injustice. We are going to defend every American's right to clean air, safe water, and healthy communities. I think I can speak for all three of us when I say that we look forward to working with you all.

Millions of working families are counting on us, Mr. Speaker, as their Representatives in the House and the Senate to serve them and to make wise decisions to improve their lives. We must confront environmental and economic injustices through fierce participation in the planning processes in at-risk areas moving forward. That means demanding more stringent environmental compliance and enforcement that protect communities of color from fossil fuel pollution and demanding greater investments in clean energy deployment in historically African-American communities that will create union and family-wage jobs with upward mobility.

I know my colleagues on this side of the aisle are committed to making this change, and I challenge our friends in the majority to join us. I urge them to support greater transparency, objectivity, and outreach in environmental policymaking. I urge them to support processes that improve two-way communication between decisionmakers and the people their decisions affect. I urge them to help ensure that the decisionmakers are confronting the full effects of their choices—including how consequences are distributed and by whom they are borne.

Protecting the environment, Mr. Speaker—creation care—is my passion. I commit to you that I will continue fighting each and every day to address climate change and sea level rise, push for renewable energy and green technologies, and do everything I can to

leave this planet a better place for future generations.

Mr. Speaker, I am an Eagle Scout, and I know that we are supposed to leave the campground better than the way we found it. The time is now to continue fighting for perhaps the most important issue of the 21st century—the environment.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Ms. PLASKETT) for her indulgence.

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. MCEACHIN for his passion and for his commitment to these issues of environmental justice.

Particularly in the Virgin Islands, we know that climate change is real. We feel it, and we see it in how we operate and how our environment is changing, whether it be mosquitoes and Zika, before that chikungunya and dengue. We know that the effects of climate change are impacting our health and impacting the livelihoods of our environment.

The Congressional Black Caucus supports policies that ensure that all Americans also have access to a clean and healthy environment. Studies have long shown an unsettling correlation between race and the location of hazardous waste facilities. For example, a 1983 Government Accountability Office study found that 75 percent of hazardous waste landfills in eight southeastern States were located in predominantly poor and minority communities.

The places where minorities live, work, and learn are significantly compromised by air, water, land, soil, noise, and light pollutants. Black Americans and other minorities are predisposed to health issues directly linked to environmental and toxic waste. We cannot take away funding to support the eradication of these health hazards. We must continue to push for that.

We are not here as the Congressional Black Caucus simply to disparage our President. We are not here to point out his fallacies. But we would be doing a grave disservice to the people that we represent, not just minorities but all Americans, if we do not stand up and discuss the issues that are of grave concern to us, to ask for support and funding, to ask that there not be a rollback on many of the gains that we have had that have supported and helped our community.

At the beginning of the 115th Congress, the Congressional Black Caucus launched: ''What Did Trump Do?'' It was a rapid-response messaging document we used to inform our external stakeholders. This ''What Did Trump Do?'' is a special #staywoke edition. We are listing 100 actions President Trump and his administration have taken over the last 100 days. It was developed by 78 million Americans that the CBC collectively represent, including 17 million African Americans, as well as millions of Americans we do not represent.

We want this information to be before the American people to show that work must still be done. We talked about environmental areas. I am going to list some of the things that have happened in the 100 days that we need to be cognizant of, that we need to make sure that these things do not take place, and that they not become embedded in this great America in which we live.

On February 28, Attorney General Sessions said that the DOJ would pull back from using its legal authority to monitor police departments responsible for repeated instances of police misconduct and abuses by backing away from legal commitment first enacted into law by Representative JOHN CONYERS as part of the 1994 crime reform legislation. Sessions sent a signal to the African-American community that the police misconduct laws will not be equally and fully enforced. On that same day, the President signed a bill that rolled back a regulation restricting gun purchases by the mentally ill through a use of background checks.

Attorney General Sessions rescinded the Obama-era order to reduce the use of privately operated prisons. The use of privately operated prisons creates a financial incentive to lock people up using African Americans, Latinos, and poor people. In addition, in comparison to the government-operated prisons, privately operated prisons are less safe and secure for both staff and inmates, don't provide the same level of rehabilitative services like educational programs and job trainings which increase the likelihood that those who are released from prison will return to a life of crime.

Finally, although privately operated prisons are said to be more cost effective than government prisons, they are not because those that are in those prisons will continue to, in many instances, come back causing a burden not just on the American people and taxpayers but on the families and the communities in which those individuals reside.

Other things that have happened in these first 100 days: President Trump appointed Candace E. Jackson as Acting Assistant Secretary for civil rights at the Department of Education. Ms. Jackson once said that affirmative action promotes racial discrimination and claims she was discriminated against for being White. Secretary DeVos hired Robert Eitel, an official with deep ties to the for-profit college industry, to be a Special Assistant to the Department of Education. This hire presents a serious conflict of interest and raises questions about whether Eitel can put students' needs above the interest of his former colleagues.

President Trump's proposed budget for the Department of Education hurts low-income students from pre-K through college by undermining public education through the elimination of afterschool and teacher-support programs and diverting Federal funds to private school vouchers, eliminating support for college students, gutting Federal workstudy, and slashing critical funding for Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants and Pell grants.

All of these cuts would have severe consequences for our Nation's students—not just African Americans but Latinos and students in large urban areas. No afterschool programs, no support for teachers—what will our children do?

□ 2100

What will those families do that need those children and that support?

On March 9, EPA Administrator Pruitt said that he did not think that carbon dioxide was the primary driver of global warming even though that is the public position of EPA, NOAA, and NASA.

We can go on and on. We have a document with over 100 actions that have been taken in the last 100 days.

In housing and homeownership, President Trump's proposed budget would cut the Department of Housing and Urban Development by $6 billion. HUD is responsible for providing housing assistance to extremely low-income families and the homeless and reinvesting in American cities and counties.

Those same proposed budgets would end the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program, which assists families with energy costs, including home energy bills, energy crises, weatherization, and energy-related home repair.

These are some of the many examples of what has happened. We give these examples not merely to degrade what has happened with this administration, but to show that work must still be done and that we, as Americans, must stay woke to what is happening in this country. We must keep our eyes vigilant and on the prize and ensure that Americans will see what is really happening and not be moved by the media, by the tweets, but see actual facts.

We are working in real facts here to let you know what needs to be done and that we, the Congressional Black Caucus, as Members of Congress, are asking our colleagues across the aisle and in the Democratic Caucus to support us and to support the issues that are relevant not just to African Americans, but to all Americans this day.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include any extraneous material on the subject of this Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LEWIS of Minnesota). Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands?

There was no objection.

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

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to expose the cavalier disregard of environmental justice by our President during his first 100 days in office. In a short period of time, President Donald J. Trump made clear his agenda—anti-climate, anti-science, and anti-fact. The current administration has already taken significant steps, in lock-step with Congressional Republicans, to roll back and erase the progress made by the Obama Administration to protect our health, our public lands, and our precious environment.

Since taking office, President Trump has signed a number of executive orders reversing many of President Obama's environmental protections—promoting cleaner air, cleaner water, and more sustainable energy production. The current White House is on a fast-track to derail decades of progress and set our nation back in the effort to combat climate change. The Clean Power Plan, which established comprehensive carbon emission standards and put the United States at the forefront of global environmental stewardship, was one of Trump's first targets. Instead of investing in technological and scientific innovation to make America a leader in greener, cleaner, sustainable energy production and consumption, President Trump has used his office to support the interests of corporations and interests in big oil and dirty coal on the backs of hard-working Americans.

Furthermore, the current administration has promulgated efforts to expand environmentally detrimental offshore drilling, allow the dumping of mining waste, and potentially force an exit from the 2015 Paris Agreement which brought the world's powers together in agreement to curb our collective carbon emissions.

The proposed budget goes even further in rejecting evidenced-based policy-making. From proposals to cripple the Environmental Protection Agency and zero-out critical programs at the Department of Energy like ARPA–E, this administration has abandoned our nation's effort to protect our planet and be a global leader.

Our administration's blatant disregard toward the health, economic, and national security risks associated with global climate change is shortsighted and will only further endanger Americans' health, security, and economic stability. While we will all suffer from the consequences of short-sighted federal policy, the heaviest burden is bound to fall on those already marginalized.

Minorities and working class families are already struggling to make ends meet, but study after study shows that they are the most vulnerable to environmental injustices. Subject to downwind and downstream pollution, children and families who are economically disadvantaged often lack the political voice to keep industries from polluting their communities and frequently bear the brunt of deregulatory regimes. Take Flint, Michigan for example, where young children have been exposed to toxic levels of lead from their drinking water. That is wrong and should be unheard of in the world's most powerful nation.

I urge my colleagues to consider the kind of country we want our children to live in. Where is the freedom in living in a community where there is no access to clean drinking water, or a city where children are forced to stay inside because the air is so polluted? We can and must do better, Mr. Speaker. The actions the President has set forth thus far do nothing to Make America Great Again; rather, his first one hundred days has only made America more polluted, less safe, and less secure.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to stand firm in their resolve to hold this and future administrations accountable to keeping our air clean, our water safe, and our environment sustainable for future generations. We have far too much to lose, Mr. Speaker, and future generations deserve our better judgement.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, thank you, Congressman VEASEY, Congressman MCEACHIN and Congresswoman PLASKETT, for organizing tonight's special order hour on environmental justice and Trump's 100 days: ''What do we have to lose?'' I'd also like to thank Chair RICHMOND for his tireless leadership as the CBC continues to be the conscience of the Congress.

Mr. Speaker, we have a lot to lose under this administration—who at every turn—wants to roll back protections for our communities and for our environment. And make no mistake: communities of color are most impacted by these decisions and often bear the brunt of climate change and pollution.

In my home district, West Oakland residents are disproportionately exposed to dirty air pollution that is 90 times higher than the average Californian. 90 times. As a result, many West Oakland residents experience more asthma attacks, heart failures and strokes. On average, West Oakland residents have a higher death rate than other Californians just because of where they live. This is a shame and a disgrace. But these inequalities are not new.

In 2013, the American Academy of Allergy and Asthma found that one in six African American children and one in nine Latino children suffered from asthma compared to just 1 in 15 white children. These numbers are unacceptable and they should be a wake-up call to all of us to do more to fight for environmental justice. But with the current administration we must be ready for an uphill battle.

Last weekend marked President Trump's 100 days in office—which is really just 100 days of chaos, corruption, and dysfunction. In fact, the Trump administration has shown in the past 100 days that they are more committed to padding their pockets than protecting our planet. In three months, they have:

Approved the Keystone pipeline

Approved the Dakota Access Pipeline

Proposed devastating cuts to the EPA

And allowed dumping of coal mining waste into our streams.

And with every executive order rolling back President Obama's progress on climate change issues, the current administration lives up to its belief that saving our planet is ''a waste of [America's] money.'' But I stand here today to say ''Not on our watch.''

Our children's air, drinking water and futures depend on our ability to hold corporations accountable for their emissions and waste.

For some in our country, this is literally a matter of life and death, as communities of color are more likely to live near polluting facilities or be ignored when they notice high levels of lead in their water systems. We are all connected to our environment. It impacts everyone. It is time we recognize that an injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.

Mr. Speaker, the past 100 days have shown us that this will be a long and arduous battle. But we cannot afford to get tired—our very existence is at stake. We must continue to build a movement that can fight back against the constant attacks on our communities and on our planet. That's why we're here today as members of the Congressional Black Caucus: to show unified resistance by fighting for our communities, our environment, and especially our planet.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. MARINO (at the request of Mr. MCCARTHY) for today on account of a family medical issue.

SENATE ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The Speaker announced his signature to an enrolled bill of the Senate of the following title:

S. 496. An act to repeal the rule issued by the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration entitled ''Metropolitan Planning Organization Coordination and Planning Area Reform''.

JOINT RESOLUTION PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, reported that on April 28, 2017, she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following joint resolution:

H.J. Res. 99. Making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2017, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 3 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, May 2, 2017, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

1221. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of

Health and Human Services, transmitting the Assisted Outpatient Treatment Pilot Program for Fiscal Year 2016 Report to Congress, pursuant to Public Law 113-93, Sec. 224; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1222. A letter from the Director, International Cooperation, Office of the Under Secretary for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics, Department of Defense, transmitting Transmittal No. 05-17, informing of an intent to sign the Memorandum of Agreement Between the Department of Defense of the United States of America and the Kingdom of Sweden, pursuant to Section 27(f) of the Arms Export Control Act and Executive Order 13637; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. HENSARLING: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 910. A bill to direct the Securities and Exchange Commission to provide a safe harbor related to certain investment fund research reports, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 115–102). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HENSARLING: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 1366. A bill to amend the Investment Company Act of 1940 to terminate an exemption for companies located in Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and any other possession of the United States (Rept. 115–103). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HENSARLING: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 1312. A bill to amend the Small Business Investment Incentive Act of 1980 to require an annual review by the Securities and Exchange Commission of the annual government-business forum on capital formation that is held pursuant to such Act; with an amendment (Rept. 115–104). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. CHAFFETZ: Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. H.R. 1242. A bill to establish the 400 Years of African-American History Commission, and for other purposes (Rept. 115–105). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. BYRNE: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 299. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1180) to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide compensatory time for employees in the private sector; providing for proceedings during the period from May 5, 2017, through May 15, 2017; and for other purposes (Rept. 115–106). Referred to the House Calendar.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. AGUILAR:

H.R. 2258. A bill to require that certain standards for commercial driver's licenses applicable to former members of the armed services or reserves also apply to current members of the armed services or reserves; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. POE of Texas (for himself and Mr. KENNEDY):

H.R. 2259. A bill to amend the Peace Corps Act to expand services and benefits for volunteers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Oversight and Government Reform, and Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CARBAJAL:

H.R. 2260. A bill to improve college affordability; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ (for herself and Mr. BUCHANAN):

H.R. 2261. A bill to improve the ability of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the Coast Guard, and coastal States to sustain healthy ocean and coastal ecosystems by maintaining and sustaining their capabilities relating to oil spill preparedness, prevention, response, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committees on Natural Resources, and Science, Space, and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. BEATTY (for herself, Ms. NORTON, Ms. KAPTUR, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. BROWN of Maryland, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Mr. VEASEY, Ms. LEE, Mr. MCEACHIN, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Ms. JACKSON LEE, and Mr. RICHMOND):

H.R. 2262. A bill to amend the Fair Credit Reporting Act to require certain consumer reporting agencies to include a credit score when providing consumers with a free annual consumer report; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. BILIRAKIS (for himself, Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico, Mrs. RADEWAGEN, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. SABLAN, and Ms. PLASKETT):

H.R. 2263. A bill to provide for greater transparency and information with respect to Federal expenditures under the Medicaid and CHIP programs in the territories of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. CICILLINE (for himself, Mr. REED, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. POCAN, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. DOGGETT, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. SCHRADER, Mrs. BUSTOS, and Ms. TENNEY):

H.R. 2264. A bill to improve the competitiveness of United States manufacturing by designating and supporting manufacturing communities; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. COLLINS of New York (for himself and Mr. SWALWELL of California):

H.R. 2265. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow small businesses to defer the payment of certain employment taxes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. CONYERS (for himself, Mr. GOODLATTE, Mr. MARINO, and Mr. CICILLINE):

H.R. 2266. A bill to amend title 28 of the United States Code to authorize the appointment of additional bankruptcy judges; and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CROWLEY (for himself and Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania):

H.R. 2267. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the distribution of additional residency positions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. DAVIS of California (for herself, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. KINZINGER, and Ms. JENKINS of Kansas):

H.R. 2268. A bill to authorize the Administrator of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention of the Department of Justice to award grants to local educational agencies to establish, expand, and support programs to train school staff to recognize and respond to signs of labor and sex trafficking and to provide classroom curricula to students on how to avoid becoming victims of labor and sex trafficking; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois (for himself and Mr. PETERS):

H.R. 2269. A bill to require the Administrator of General Services to issue guidance relating to the procurement of reclaimed refrigerants; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. LANGEVIN (for himself, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI, and Mr. ROSKAM):

H.R. 2270. A bill to amend section 437(d) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide for repayment by the Secretary of loans to parents of disabled students; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York:

H.R. 2271. A bill to permit employees to request, and to ensure employers consider requests for, flexible work terms and conditions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committees on Oversight and Government Reform, House Administration, and the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. PALLONE (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. PASCRELL, Ms. TSONGAS, Ms. NORTON, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. KEATING, Mr. BEYER, Mr. SERRANO, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. TONKO, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. POCAN, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SIRES, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mrs. DEMINGS, Ms. MENG, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. NORCROSS, and Mr. HASTINGS):

H.R. 2272. A bill to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to permanently prohibit the conduct of offshore drilling on the outer Continental Shelf in the Mid-Atlantic, South Atlantic, North Atlantic, and Straits of Florida planning areas; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. PERRY (for himself, Ms. NORTON, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. COOPER, Mr. COHEN, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. STEWART, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr.

DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. O'ROURKE, and Mr. JONES):

H.R. 2273. A bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to exclude cannabidiol and cannabidiol-rich plants from the definition of marihuana, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, and Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. PETERS:

H.R. 2274. A bill to amend the Federal Power Act to provide for extended periods relating to preliminary permits and commencement of construction, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. POLIS:

H.R. 2275. A bill to require employers to provide pay stubs, codify the Executive order relating to Government contracting, provide greater oversight of executive compensation and restrictions on sales of stocks, clarify the definition of a supervisor, and enhance penalties for violations of workforce safety and standards; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committees on Financial Services, and Oversight and Government Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. RICE of South Carolina (for himself, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, and Ms. JENKINS of Kansas):

H.R. 2276. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for treatment of audiologists as physicians for purposes of furnishing audiology services under the Medicare program, to improve access to the audiology services available for coverage under the Medicare program and to enable beneficiaries to have their choice of a qualified audiologist to provide such services, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. SLAUGHTER:

H.R. 2277. A bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to prohibit Members of Congress from receiving a discounted price in certain private offerings of securities; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. TIPTON:

H.R. 2278. A bill to extend the authorization of the Uranium Mill Tailing Radiation Control Act of 1978 relating to the disposal site in Mesa County, Colorado; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. TSONGAS (for herself, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. MOULTON, and Mr. FARENTHOLD):

H.R. 2279. A bill to award a gold medal on behalf of the Congress to the U.S. Air Forces Escape and Evasion Society, in recognition of the ceaseless efforts of American aircrew members to escape captivity and evade capture by the enemy forces in occupied countries during our foreign wars, and the brave resistance organizations and patriotic nationals of those foreign countries who assisted them; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on House Administration, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. FOSTER (for himself, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. NORTON, Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas, and Ms. VELÁZQUEZ):

H. Res. 300. A resolution encouraging greater public-private sector collaboration to promote financial literacy for students and young adults; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. RYAN of Ohio (for himself and Mr. JOYCE of Ohio):

H. Res. 301. A resolution expressing support for designation of May 30 as ''National Bartter Syndrome Day''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. VEASEY:

H. Res. 302. A resolution expressing support for designation of May 2017 as ''Health and Fitness Month''; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

MEMORIALS

Under clause 3 of rule XII, memorials were presented and referred as follows:

27. The SPEAKER presented a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Idaho, relative to House Joint Memorial No. 9, calling upon the U.S. Air Force, the Administration and Congress to thoroughly and conscientiously evaluate the utility and efficacy of basing a squadron of F-35 Lightning II Joint Strike Fighter aircraft at Gowen Field in Boise, Idaho, to facilitate a continued flying mission for the Idaho Air National Guard; to the Committee on Armed Services.

28. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Idaho, relative to House Joint Memorial No. 7, urging President Trump, Secretary Price and Congress to take the following action: Allow individual states to once again serve as the primary regulator of health insurance plans and immediately permit the free market availability and sale of nonsubsidized health insurance plans in accordance with state-established statutes, regulations and rules governing such plans; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

29. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Idaho, relative to House Joint Memorial No. 2, supporting actions by the Governor and the Attorney General to oppose passage and introduction of salmon or steelhead above Hells Canyon Dam, that are necessary to protect Idaho's sovereignty, including its waters and property rights; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

30. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Idaho, relative to House Joint Memorial No. 4, encouraging western states and the federal government to establish cooperative and coordinated efforts with the State of Idaho to prevent, to whatever extent possible, through efforts including inspections, decontamination policies, enforcement of invasive species laws and rapid response protocols, further spread of the dreissenid mussels, and containment where established, until such time as viable tools for eradication are discovered; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

31. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Idaho, relative to House Joint Memorial No. 8, urging Congress to appropriate $8 million of the authorized $20 million for FY 2018 to the four Northwest states of Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington, according to the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act (WIIN); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

32. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Idaho, relative to House Joint Memorial No. 6, urging that United States farmers, ranchers and food processors be enabled to compete freely and trade fairly in foreign and domestic markets on a strictly level playing field; jointly to the Committees on Agriculture and Education and the Workforce.

33. Also, a memorial of the Legislature of the State of Idaho, relative to House Joint Memorial No. 3, supporting the Department of Energy, the Administration and Congress to identify, commit and sustain the necessary funding to allow the Department of Energy to continue to make progress at meeting its cleanup milestones to benefit the citizens of Idaho and its environment; jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Science, Space, and Technology.

PRIVATE BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

Mr. PERLMUTTER introduced a bill (H.R. 2280) for the relief of Arturo Hernandez-Garcia; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. AGUILAR:

H.R. 2258.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, section 8, clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. POE of Texas:

H.R. 2259.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. CARBAJAL:

H.R. 2260.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1.

By Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ:

H.R. 2261.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution:

''The Congress shall have Power . . . To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.''

By Mrs. BEATTY:

H.R. 2262.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

''To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes;''

By Mr. BILIRAKIS:

H.R. 2263.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

By Mr. CICILLINE:

H.R. 2264.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8
By Mr. COLLINS of New York:
H.R. 2265.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.
By Mr. CONYERS:
H.R. 2266.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 4.
By Mr. CROWLEY:
H.R. 2267.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution
By Mrs. DAVIS of California:
H.R. 2268.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.
By Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois:
H.R. 2269.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 7 of the United States Constitution.
By Mr. LANGEVIN:
H.R. 2270.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3
By Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York:
H.R. 2271.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 3
By Mr. PALLONE:
H.R. 2272.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3
By Mr. PERRY:
H.R. 2273.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1 Section 8 of the United States Constitution
By Mr. PETERS:
H.R. 2274.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8
By Mr. POLIS:
H.R. 2275.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution
By Mr. RICE of South Carolina:
H.R. 2276.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8: The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises, to pay the debts and provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States
By Ms. SLAUGHTER:
H.R. 2277.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I of the Constitution of the United States
By Mr. TIPTON:
H.R. 2278.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 4 Section 3 Clause 2: The Congress shall have Power to dispose of and make all needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory or other Property belonging to the United States; and nothing in this Constitution shall be so construed as to Prejudice any Claims of the United States, or of any particular State.
By Ms. TSONGAS:
H.R. 2279.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution
By Mr. PERLMUTTER:
H.R. 2280.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 36: Mr. WEBER of Texas.
H.R. 37: Mr. WEBER of Texas.
H.R. 38: Mr. POLIQUIN and Mr. ESTES of Kansas.
H.R. 60: Mr. TIPTON, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, and Mr. LANGEVIN.
H.R. 116: Mr. TIPTON.
H.R. 453: Mr. NOLAN.
H.R. 519: Mr. PERLMUTTER.
H.R. 544: Mr. COURTNEY.
H.R. 559: Mr. FRANCIS ROONEY of Florida.
H.R. 619: Mr. CRAWFORD.
H.R. 669: Mr. NOLAN.
H.R. 721: Mr. LAWSON of Florida.
H.R. 747: Mr. SMITH of Missouri, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. STIVERS, Ms. MCCOLLUM, and Mr. DENHAM.
H.R. 749: Mr. FORTENBERRY.
H.R. 750: Ms. LOFGREN and Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 807: Mr. CONNOLLY.
H.R. 809: Mr. GOSAR.
H.R. 820: Mr. ROSKAM, Mr. PETERSON, and Mr. DONOVAN.
H.R. 910: Mr. MESSER.
H.R. 919: Mr. SMUCKER.
H.R. 1002: Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 1005: Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Mr. WITTMAN, and Ms. GABBARD.
H.R. 1014: Mr. RASKIN.
H.R. 1017: Ms. ESTY of Connecticut, Mr. PAULSEN, and Mr. CONNOLLY.
H.R. 1035: Mr. BACON.
H.R. 1038: Mr. DUNN and Mr. SHIMKUS.
H.R. 1046: Mr. BYRNE.
H.R. 1057: Mr. DELANEY, Mr. JENKINS of West Virginia, Mr. GRAVES of Georgia, and Mr. JONES.
H.R. 1058: Mr. STEWART.
H.R. 1098: Mr. PAYNE.
H.R. 1114: Ms. BARRAGÁN and Mr. ENGEL.
H.R. 1141: Mrs. BEATTY.
H.R. 1148: Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, and Mr. DUNN.
H.R. 1149: Mr. OLSON.
H.R. 1164: Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mrs. BLACKBURN, and Mr. ROKITA.
H.R. 1200: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana, Mr. COFFMAN, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. FORTENBERRY, and Mr. ROUZER.
H.R. 1204: Mr. LATTA and Mr. HUFFMAN.
H.R. 1206: Mr. ENGEL.
H.R. 1212: Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. PALAZZO, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, and Mrs. WALORSKI.
H.R. 1231: Mr. QUIGLEY.
H.R. 1235: Ms. JUDY CHU of California and Mr. RICHMOND.
H.R. 1242: Mr. GUTIÉRREZ, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Mr. COHEN, Mr. NOLAN, Mr. PAYNE, and Mr. BACON.
H.R. 1267: Mr. WALZ.
H.R. 1318: Mr. WALZ and Mrs. MURPHY of Florida.
H.R. 1322: Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico.
H.R. 1361: Mr. MEEHAN, Ms. LOFGREN, and Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 1363: Ms. SHEA-PORTER.
H.R. 1366: Mr. MESSER and Ms. PLASKETT.
H.R. 1406: Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. POCAN, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. TITUS, and Mr. COFFMAN.
H.R. 1421: Mr. POCAN.
H.R. 1447: Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. COFFMAN, and Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI.
H.R. 1472: Ms. LOFGREN.
H.R. 1478: Ms. MOORE and Ms. SLAUGHTER.
H.R. 1484: Mr. O'HALLERAN.
H.R. 1552: Mr. MITCHELL.
H.R. 1565: Mr. TAYLOR.
H.R. 1600: Mr. COFFMAN.
H.R. 1625: Mr. MCGOVERN, Mrs. WAGNER, and Mr. KEATING.
H.R. 1629: Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.R. 1635: Mr. WALBERG.
H.R. 1639: Mr. BACON and Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire.
H.R. 1663: Mr. BARR.
H.R. 1676: Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. CONNOLLY, and Ms. JENKINS of Kansas.
H.R. 1677: Mr. KNIGHT and Mr. ROSS.
H.R. 1698: Mr. KNIGHT, Mr. BABIN, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. BLUM, Mr. BRIDENSTINE, Mr. BANKS of Indiana, Mr. KILMER, Mr. REED, and Mr. CONAWAY.
H.R. 1699: Mr. WILLIAMS, Mr. BYRNE, and Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 1727: Ms. ESHOO.
H.R. 1730: Ms. ROSEN, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mrs. BLACK, and Mr. CURBELO of Florida.
H.R. 1777: Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. MAST, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana, Ms. SLAUGHTER, and Mr. COLLINS of New York.
H.R. 1811: Mr. HUDSON, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. HURD, Mr. BARR, Mr. DONOVAN, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. MAST, Mr. RUSSELL, Mr. SMUCKER, Mr. GAETZ, Mr. ROUZER, and Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana.
H.R. 1812: Ms. LOFGREN.
H.R. 1825: Mr. KILDEE, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. SHUSTER, and Mr. LIPINSKI.
H.R. 1828: Mr. FORTENBERRY.
H.R. 1844: Ms. DELBENE, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. BRIDENSTINE, and Mr. THOMPSON of California.
H.R. 1848: Mr. YOUNG of Iowa.
H.R. 1854: Mr. DONOVAN.
H.R. 1857: Mr. EVANS.
H.R. 1861: Mr. WESTERMAN.
H.R. 1872: Mr. MOULTON, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Ms. LEE, Ms. SLAUGHTER, and Mr. SMITH of Washington.
H.R. 1874: Mr. POCAN.
H.R. 1885: Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.R. 1886: Mr. SERRANO.
H.R. 1902: Mrs. TORRES.
H.R. 1904: Mr. YOHO.
H.R. 1928: Mr. WITTMAN and Mr. FRANKS of Arizona.
H.R. 1953: Mr. CONNOLLY.
H.R. 1960: Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia.
H.R. 1969: Mr. KENNEDY.
H.R. 1988: Mr. CALVERT, Mr. VALADAO, and Mr. MCCLINTOCK.
H.R. 1999: Mr. DONOVAN.
H.R. 2004: Mr. ABRAHAM, Ms. STEFANIK, and Mr. LATTA.

H.R. 2029: Mr. WEBSTER of Florida.
H.R. 2031: Mr. GARRETT.
H.R. 2059: Mr. KENNEDY.
H.R. 2105: Mr. LUCAS.
H.R. 2119: Mr. ELLISON and Mr. LOWENTHAL.
H.R. 2167: Mr. GARRETT.
H.R. 2168: Mr. SWALWELL of California and Mr. POSEY.
H.R. 2175: Mr. HASTINGS.
H.R. 2176: Mr. HASTINGS.
H.R. 2192: Mr. SMUCKER, Mr. FARENTHOLD, and Mr. MAST.
H.R. 2197: Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania and Mr. TAKANO.
H.R. 2214: Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas.
H.R. 2220: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 2226: Mr. ARRINGTON and Ms. TENNEY.
H.R. 2248: Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.
H.R. 2250: Mr. DOGGETT.
H.J. Res. 6: Mr. FASO.
H. Con. Res. 8: Mr. MAST and Mr. WELCH.
H. Con. Res. 41: Mr. DEFAZIO and Mr. SHIMKUS.
H. Res. 21: Mr. FORTENBERRY.
H. Res. 30: Mr. MCGOVERN and Mr. LEVIN.
H. Res. 69: Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee and Mr. RUSH.
H. Res. 165: Mr. MARSHALL.
H. Res. 218: Ms. MATSUI.
H. Res. 220: Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. ESPAILLAT, and Ms. TITUS.
H. Res. 239: Mr. DONOVAN, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mrs. TORRES, and Mr. THOMAS J. ROONEY of Florida.
H. Res. 256: Mr. KNIGHT.
H. Res. 259: Ms. KELLY of Illinois and Mr. MOULTON.
H. Res. 288: Mrs. COMSTOCK.
H. Res. 295: Ms. NORTON, Mr. PAYNE, and Mr. HASTINGS.

CONGRESSIONAL EARMARKS, LIMITED TAX BENEFITS, OR LIMITED TARIFF BENEFITS

Under clause 9 of rule XXI, lists or statements on congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits were submitted as follows:

OFFERED BY MR. WALDEN

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Energy and Commerce in H.R. 2192 do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN RECOGNITION OF LIEUTENANT JASON MARTIN

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 2017

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, today I honor Lieutenant Jason Martin of the Springfield Township Ambulance Corps. Lieutenant Martin grew up around the ambulance corps—often acting as a patient in training exercises when he was young. He has demonstrated his devotion for protecting his community through his work.

As a pillar of Springfield Township, Lieutenant Martin has rightly been nominated as EMT of the Year as part of the 25th Annual Springfield Loyalty Day.

I thank Lieutenant Martin for his service.

TRIBUTE TO DONALD WATERS

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 2017

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Donald Waters of Cumberland, Iowa, for receiving the 2016 Top Soybean Producer Award in the United States. This honor is given by Asgrow, a division of the Monsanto Corporation. Asgrow started the national yield competition in 2012 to encourage soybean growers to increase their yield limits.

By using the Asgrow brand, Donald achieved a yield of 87.6 bushels per acre. He competed with farmers from 21 states across the country. The competition is open to all farmers who use the Asgrow brand. Jesse Hamonic, DeKalb/Asgrow Brand Lead said he is proud of Donald's management skills in achieving this high yield record.

Mr. Speaker, I commend and congratulate Donald for receiving this outstanding award and for his many years of dedicated and devoted service to the agriculture community. I am proud to represent him in the United States Congress. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Donald for his many accomplishments and in wishing him nothing but continued success.

RECOGNIZING RABBI MICHAEL SCHWAB

HON. BRADLEY SCOTT SCHNEIDER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 2017

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of my dear friend, Rabbi Michael Schwab of North Suburban Synagogue Beth El in Highland Park, IL, and the celebration of his thirteenth year of service to the congregation and our community.

I met Rabbi Schwab when he first came to our community and immediately appreciated his compassion, his spirit and his ability to make all around him feel special. Over the years, I have come to further appreciate his leadership and wisdom, often turning to him, for guidance.

Rabbi Schwab leads by example through his keen understanding of Jewish values, strong advocacy for the importance of the U.S.-Israel relationship, and unwavering dedication for his community.

Born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Rabbi Schwab began his studies at Rutgers University, and later received his ordination from the Jewish Theological Seminary of America and MA in Jewish Education from the William Davidson Graduate School of Education. Beyond the classroom, he gained additional experience through the Clinical Pastoral Education Program at Penn Foundation for Mental Health and time studying in Israel at the Hebrew University, Machon Schechter and the Conservative Yeshiva.

As a Chicago Global Justice Fellow for American Jewish World Service, Rabbi Schwab is a tireless protector and promoter of human rights, and he shares his views on ethical issues as a scholar for Jewish Values Online. He is an engaged member of the community, serving on the AIPAC National Council, the Chicago Board of Rabbis Executive Council, as a member of the Board of Directors of Solomon Schechter Day School, among others.

Through North Suburban Synagogue Beth El, Rabbi Schwab serves over 1,100 families. This synagogue was founded in 1948 as the first Conservative congregation on the North Shore of Chicago.

Rabbi Schwab is married to Erica, a behavioral therapist and teacher of children with developmental disabilities, and they are the proud parents of four children: Ari, Liana, Noa and Miri.

On behalf of Illinois's Tenth Congressional District, I congratulate Rabbi Schwab for his service and look forward to his continued contributions to the life of our community.

CONGRATULATING PALATINE

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 2017

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Palatine on being named one of the safest cities in the United States. The Village of Palatine was named the fifty-first safest city on Neighborhood Scout's list of America's 100 Safest Cities.

Working together, law enforcement, local officials, and the community have made Palatine a safer place to live, work, and raise a family. The residents of Palatine should never underestimate the impact that each citizen's positive actions can have. Every day there are members of the community helping to change lives, while also inspiring their peers to do the same.

I would be remiss to not also mention the wonderful job of the Palatine Police and Fire Departments. Day in and day out the men and women of the Palatine Police and Fire Departments risk their lives to protect their community. Their bravery and courage are very deserving of our recognition and admiration and I am pleased to see their service has led to Palatine being named one of the safest cities in America.

Mr. Speaker and Distinguished Colleagues, please join me in recognizing the Village of Palatine, Illinois and congratulating them on being named one of the safest cities in America.

A TRIBUTE TO BURBANK TEMPLE EMANU EL'S 70TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 2017

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Burbank Temple Emanu El upon its 70th Anniversary. The Burbank Temple Emanu El (BTEE) is a progressive-minded, egalitarian synagogue serving Burbank and the greater San Fernando Valley. Its rich history steeps in the tenets and traditions of American Conservative Judaism dating back to 1947. Since its founding, BTEE has fostered a vibrant Jewish presence in our community and has grown from a one-room nursery on Grismer Avenue to a full-service temple with numerous programs and activities for all ages.

Today, BTEE is equipped with an award-winning Early Childhood Center, Hebrew School, and Adult Education program and encourages member participation throughout the year with weekly services, holy celebrations, simchas, and service projects. Members can also engage in tikkun olam (fixing the world) through the Temple's Social Action Committee which strengthens the congregation's ties with the surrounding community.

The time, energy, and care that this temple has given to its members and the community are extraordinary and would not be possible without the dedicated and exceptional clergy, leadership, volunteers and staff of BTEE. At this time, I ask all Members to join with me in congratulating Burbank Temple Emanu El upon 70 years of service to the Burbank community.

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

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

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF MR. STAN GOOCH AND THE IMPACT HE HAD ON BOY'S BASKETBALL IN MICHIGAN

HON. DANIEL T. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 2017

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask the United States House of Representatives join me in recognizing Mr. Stan Gooch, of Grand Blanc, for his tremendous, lasting impact in the field of basketball in the Flint area, as well as the State of Michigan as a whole. Anyone who knew Stan will tell you that he was much more than a coach to our community. He was a man who loved his players and truly loved the game of basketball. As the Member of Congress representing the Fifth District of Michigan, I am honored to recognize his life and to have represented Stan.

In 2008, Stan was inducted into the National High School Athletic Coaches Hall of Fame after building a legendary basketball program over the span of 41 years, retiring in 2000. Throughout his four decade-long career, he established himself as a genius coaching high school basketball and was recognized and respected for his skills by colleagues. During his career, he led his Flint Central basketball team to three straight Class A State Championships, from 1981 to 1983. This success, many of his fans believe, is attributed to a coaching system of 'organized chaos.'

Former players saw him as ''one of the greatest high school coaches in this area.'' Not only was he inducted into the National High School Athletic Coaches Hall of Fame, Stan's stellar career gained him entrance into the Greater Flint Area Sports Hall of Fame, the Michigan Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Fame, and the Michigan High School Coaches Association Hall of Fame. It is worth noting, though, that he went beyond simply being his players' coach. He established himself as a mentor to several of the young men he coached, staying in their lives even after high school. He was also responsible for molding some of these high school students into successful, professional athletes.

For these and many other reasons, I feel compelled to honor the life of Stan Gooch. I hope that his legacy, as a coach and a man, will never be forgotten.

TRIBUTE TO THE 2017 EARLHAM HIGH SCHOOL JAZZ BAND

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 2017

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the Earlham High School Jazz Band for being named the Iowa Class 2A State Jazz Band Champions.

I would like to congratulate each member of the band:

Band Members:

Austin Griswold—Alto Saxophone, Eva Fisk—Alto Saxophone, Garret Taylor—Tenor Saxophone, Kaylee Hohertz—Tenor Saxophone, Kaylie Johnson—Tenor Saxophone, John Tibben—Baritone Saxophone, Tate Rasmussen—Trombone, Natassja Reed—Trombone, Joshua Woolcott—Trombone, Jake Willem—Trombone, Gabe LeGrand—Trombone, McKenzie Von Rentzell—Trumpet, Kelsey Tibbs—Trumpet, Nick Coon—Trumpet, Ehlana Brown—Trumpet, Garion Brown—Trumpet, Haley LeGrand—Trumpet, Grant Becker—Guitar, Stephen Woolcott—Bass, Harrison Miller—Drums, Clay Griswold—Drums, Ashlynne Cutting—Piano, Elisabeth Evans—Vibes.

Director: Nate Sletten.

Mr. Speaker, the band's success this year is a testament of their hard work, perseverance, and teamwork. I ask that all of my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating these young men and women and their director for being crowned the 2017 Iowa Class 2A Jazz Band Champions and in wishing them all nothing but continued success.

HONORING RETIRING BURBANK MAYOR HARRY KLEIN

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 2017

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mayor Harry Klein who is retiring after serving the City of Burbank as their mayor for 26 years.

Mayor Klein was first appointed mayor in 1991 after the previous mayor resigned due to health concerns. He was subsequently elected to six consecutive terms starting in 1993. He has been a resident of Burbank since 1964 and raised three children in the community. He now has seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

As the Mayor of Burbank, Harry has been especially active on infrastructure issues, a priority for the residents of Burbank. He was instrumental in paving sidewalks all throughout the community. He also prioritized the installation of street lights in Burbank, significantly increasing the walkability and safety of the city.

Mayor Klein has represented the interests of the residents of Burbank very well over these 26 years. He personally answered his constituents' phone calls and did his absolute best to solve whatever problems they had. In his city of 29,000 he knows many residents by name and will speak with them on the street whenever he can. Just recently I witnessed the love that residents have for Harry as they greeted him at Opening Day at Burbank American and Burbank National Little Leagues.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mayor Harry Klein for his public service and congratulate him on his achievements. He is well deserving of praise for the energy he has dedicated to improving the lives of the residents of Burbank. I wish him the best in his retirement.

HASSON REDDICK FIRST ROUND NFL DRAFT PICK

HON. DWIGHT EVANS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 2017

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, right now, the NHL playoffs are going on but my Philadelphia Flyers are sitting in the penalty box, and as NBA teams seek the title in the NBA playoffs, sadly the Sixers have fouled out. But Philadelphians fear not! Hasson Reddick, a proud member of the Temple football team gives us all something to cheer for—because not only did he graduate already but he was picked in the First Round of the NFL DRAFT at number 13—lucky number 13.

I want to extend my congratulations to Hasson Reddick. Hasson Reddick graduated from Temple University in Philadelphia with a degree in Criminal Justice in December 2016. As you know, the NFL draft was in the City of Philadelphia last week and Line Backer Hasson Reddick was a first round draft pick at number 13.

Hasson Reddick grew up in Camden, New Jersey. His mom is an educator at a Head Start in New Jersey and always stressed the importance of getting a good education. Education was always her top priority for her son. Hasson Reddick's father would practice football with his son early in the morning every day.

Hasson Reddick started as a walk-on at Temple and was a part of the team for his entire collegiate career. Hasson Reddick is the true embodiment of perseverance. He is an example of persistence, keeping at a dream and not taking the word ''no'' for an answer.

Hasson Reddick has not only made his family and friends proud but he has made the City of Philadelphia and the City of Camden proud. Congrats again, way to set a wonderful example for our neighborhoods.

HONORING GARY THOMAS

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 2017

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, we rise today in memory of Judge Gary Thomas, who passed away on April 3, 2017, after a lifetime of service to his community.

A graduate of the University of San Francisco and the University of San Francisco School of Law, Judge Thomas joined the California Bar in 1962. From 1962 to 1968, Judge Thomas was also a member of the United States Air Force Reserve. A San Rafael resident, Judge Thomas spent his professional life serving Marin County, first as a county prosecutor, then as an assistant district attorney, then as a Judge appointed in 1972 by Governor Ronald Reagan, where he was reelected by the public several times.

Mr. Thomas was paralyzed during the 1970 shootout at the Marin County Civic Center when he was prosecuting a case of a San Quentin inmate who was charged with assaulting a prison guard. During the trial, the defendant's brother, along with others, took

Judge Thomas, Judge Harold Haley, and three female jurors, hostage. During the escape, a gunfight began. With bravery and courage, Judge Thomas was able to grab one of the assailant's guns to protect himself and the other hostages. Judge Thomas was shot near his spine which left him paralyzed from the waist down. Judge Thomas returned to work five weeks later. Related to the injury, he would suffer from kidney problems, pneumonia, and other complications throughout his life; but he continued to serve on the bench until 1999, showing strength and resilience few will ever know.

Mr. Speaker, the depth of Judge Thomas's service to his local community as well as his commitment to his family and the judiciary has left a positive legacy to many, and he will be dearly missed. It is therefore appropriate that we pay tribute to him today and honor his memory.

HONORING COACH CRAIG ENGELBRECHT FOR HIS INDUCTION INTO THE MISSOURI BASKETBALL COACHES ASSOCIATION HALL OF FAME ON SATURDAY, APRIL 22, 2017

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 2017

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a constituent of Missouri's Third District, Coach Craig Engelbrecht, who was inducted into the Missouri Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Fame on Saturday, April 22, 2017 at the Missouri Sports Hall of Fame in Springfield, MO. Coach Engelbrecht dedicated 33 years of his life as an educator at Eugene High School, and has spent 27 of those years coaching. Coach Engelbrecht recently celebrated his 500th varsity win, and is deserving of membership in the Hall of Fame.

Coach Engelbrecht's childhood was spent in the Eugene area and he always wanted to return to that area to plant his roots. He grew up in a family that served the community by working in the school system. His mother taught in Russellville for 31 years and his Father was a custodian after a career at MFA Feed Mill in Eugene. After graduating from high school in 1979, Coach Engelbrecht spent his college years at University of Central Missouri in Warrensburg. In 1983, he graduated with his degree in Physical Education and a minor in speech/drama.

In 1984, Coach Engelbrecht started his teaching career at Russellville and shortly thereafter began his coaching career. During his time at Eugene, he taught many subjects including English, Speech, and Drama, and was even responsible for putting on the annual spring play with his students. Eventually, Coach Engelbrecht began teaching Physical Education, and knowing the importance of being physically active, he always encouraged his students to participate in all activities and classes.

In 1990, Coach Engelbrecht became the head varsity boys basketball coach. He knew it was vitally important to establish a stable and hard-working program that would lay the groundwork for success on the court. The mantra for the Eugene basketball team is this: ''we play hard, we play smart, we play together, and we play fast.'' Coach Engelbrecht encourages his teams to use this mantra on the basketball court and in real life. He has instilled in his students and players a mentality to never quit and to always strive to achieve their goals. Coach Engelbrecht has built many relationships with his students and enjoys seeing many of them take his words of encouragement to heart and apply it to their daily lives. Additionally, he enjoys seeing former students and players begin basketball coaching and refereeing careers of their own.

Coach Engelbrecht's family is involved in the education field as well. The Eldon Career Center is currently under the direction of his wife, Kelli. The Eldon School District is where his son, Christian, is a paraprofessional. His daughter, Katelyn has played basketball and after her graduation will attend college at her father's alma mater, University of Central Missouri—Warrensburg.

Throughout his 33 year career in education, Coach Engelbrecht has seen God take care of him. He acknowledges the great support system he has and knows that without that support, he would not have achieved his level of success on the basketball court.

With his retirement from teaching, Coach Engelbrecht will be able to spend more time with his family. Kelli, Christian, and Katelyn will enjoy the additional moments they have with their beloved father. Despite his retirement from teaching, Coach Engelbrecht has not decided to hang up his coaching jersey just yet as he is continues to coach boys varsity basketball at Eugene High School.

I ask you to join me in recognizing Coach Craig Engelbrecht on this induction into the Missouri Sports Hall of Fame by the Missouri Basketball Coaches Association and on his retirement from teaching after 33 years of improving the daily lives of all those at Eugene High School, whether it be in the classroom or in the gym.

TRIBUTE TO CINDY AND DICK RYBA

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 2017

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Cindy and Dick Ryba of Treynor, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. They celebrated their anniversary on March 31, 2017.

Cindy and Dick's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies our Iowa values. As they reflect on their 50th anniversary, may their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 50th year together and I wish them many more. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion and in wishing them both nothing but continued success.

HONORING FIRST STATE BANK IN ST. CHARLES FOR ITS 150TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 2017

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a business in my district, First State Bank in St. Charles on its 150th Anniversary. This celebration will be held on May 10, 2017.

In 1867, First State Bank planted its roots on Main Street in St. Charles, Missouri. First State Bank has been successful for one and a half centuries, because, among other things, customer satisfaction is a top priority and ownership of the bank is shared only between local shareholders and bank employees. Since its humble beginning, First State Bank has been an independent and locally-owned community bank serving St. Charles and St. Louis residents and businesses. First State Bank's fundamental approach to customer service is simple; treat every customer like a person, not just a number. This personalized service shows the dedication this bank has to its customers and the community. First State Bank prides itself as an ESOP (Employee Stock Ownership Plan) business, which allows for the employees to own part of the bank. As a bank that is privately-held, the institution answers only to its employees and local, private stockholders. This means that decisions can be made that are in the best interest of the customers and the local community.

The growth of First State Bank has been steady and with that growth it now has 224 employees. In 2016 alone, it hired 48 new employees. First State Bank strives to maintain a philosophy to ignite energy and improve customer service and increase employee retention. This philosophy encourages the employees in four areas when it comes to serving the customers: play, make their day, be there, and to choose their attitudes.

The commitment that First State Bank has to the community is commendable. Over 66 local and national non-profit organizations benefit from charitable donations by First State Bank. Employees are encouraged to volunteer and have committed their time and talents to 32 local non-profit boards. Other organizations that appreciate First State Bank's generous employees are Oasis Food Pantry and Habitat for Humanity. Additionally, ''Team FSB'' willingly coordinates school supplies, winter coats, food drives, and collects monetary donations for various non-profits throughout the year.

I ask you to join me in recognizing First State Bank on their 150th Anniversary. First State Bank is truly a community bank.

IN RECOGNITION OF SERGEANT DAVID WELSH

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 2017

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, today I honor Sergeant David Welsh of the Springfield Township Police Department. Sergeant Welsh has demonstrated a steadfast devotion to the community through his work, often putting his own safety at risk in order protect others. Sergeant Welsh also served his country and community as a member of the United States Coast Guard Reserve for over 20 years.

As a pillar of Springfield Township, Sergeant Welsh has rightly been nominated as Officer of the Year as part of the 25th Annual Springfield Loyalty Day.

I thank Sergeant Welsh for his service.

30 YEARS OF SERVICE—REVEREND ANZALONE

HON. VICKY HARTZLER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 2017

Mrs. HARTZLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Reverend Alan Anzalone, born in Kansas City and raised in Deepwater, Missouri. Alan has dedicated 30 years of service to Brownington Baptist Church.

From an early age, Alan committed himself to bettering his community, helping those in need and setting an example for his peers through excelling in academics, athletics and school spirit. At age 17, Alan answered his calling from God and became Pastor of his church. Not only has he led followers to the Faith but he has also guided the renovation of the Church over the years to better suit the community's needs. I am honored to share my gratitude and respect for Reverend Alan Anzalone, and his generosity and service are an inspiration to us all.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE JOHNSON

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 2017

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, on April 20, I attended a meeting at the White House to discuss important issues and policy to my home state with President Donald Trump.

Because of this meeting I missed Roll Call vote 236 on H.J. Res. 99—Making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2017, and for other purposes.

Had I been present, I would have voted ''Yea'' on passage.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. JOHN FRANCIS GIONFRIDDO

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 2017

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. John Francis Gionfriddo on his graduation from George Mason University and wish him well as he begins the next chapter of his life.

Mr. Gionfriddo was born February 9, 1993 in Fairfax, Virginia to his parents Elizabeth and Joseph Gionfriddo. John was born with a congenital heart defect, and when he was just three weeks old underwent heart surgery. While doctors were able to repair his heart, John suffered complications after surgery. Since he was young, John has never been intimidated by imposed limitations with regards to his disability and has pursued friendships, work, and schooling without hesitation.

In 1997, John became a big brother to his brother Andrew, and a few years later, his youngest brother, Frank. In 2008, the Gionfriddo family relocated to England where John began high school at the International Community School in London. While living abroad, John enjoyed traveling throughout Europe with his parents and brothers. In 2011, the Gionfriddo family returned to the United States where John attended Herndon High School. Eager to gain professional experience, John began an internship at Dranesville Elementary School as an Assistant to the Librarian, a position he proudly holds to this day.

In 2013, John graduated from Herndon High School and enrolled in the George Mason University Learning into Future Environments (LIFE) Program, a postsecondary education program for young adults with intellectual disabilities. John was extremely active on campus, joining the Special Olympics Basketball Team and serving as a Member of the Best Buddies Program.

Dedicated to expanding his professional skills, John participated in the Congressional Internship Program for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities, and as a result, joined my team in September 2015 where he spent three semesters as a Congressional Intern in my Washington, D.C. Office. In this role, John was responsible for supply inventory, organizing and assigning mail, and assisting staff with day-to-day projects. John's eagerness to help others, dedication to his work, and positive outlook on life were invaluable to my team.

In his free time, John enjoys walking the family dog, Lily, listening to a variety of music, spending time at the family cabin in Pennsylvania, drinking coffee and eating out with family and friends. Throughout his life, John has been dedicated to helping others. In 2014, he was awarded the Jeff Watkins Volunteer of the Summer Award for his work with Fairfax County's Summer Therapeutic Recreation Program. He also serves on the advisory board for The Institute on Disability (IOD) at the University of New Hampshire's film project, ''Intelligent Lives''.

On May 20, 2017, John will graduate from the George Mason University LIFE Program, an incredible accomplishment. Following graduation, John will begin an exciting career helping others at SourceAmerica, a company dedicated to creating jobs for individuals with disabilities. While we are disappointed Mr. Gionfriddo's time with our office has come to an end, we are excited as he begins this next chapter in his life.

While Mr. Gionfriddo may have joined my office to gain work experience and learn about government, it was truly John who taught my team about compassion, dedication, and what it means to help others. The sky is the limit for John, and I cannot wait to see what he accomplishes in the future.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Mr. John Francis Gionfriddo on his college graduation and wishing him well as he embarks on the next chapter of his life.

TRIBUTE TO JANET AND RICHARD MOORE

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 2017

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Janet and Richard Moore of Council Bluffs, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. They were married on April 2, 1967.

Janet and Richard's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies our Iowa values. As they reflect on their 50th anniversary, may their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 50th year together and I wish them many more. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion and in wishing them both nothing but continued success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 2017

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, April 28, 2017, I was not present for roll call votes 235, 236 and 237. Had I been present for these votes, I would have voted: Nay on roll call vote 235; Yea on roll call vote 236; and Yea on roll call vote 237.

TRIBUTE TO MARK BRANDENBURG

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 2017

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Mark

Brandenburg of Council Bluffs, Iowa, for being inducted into the Thomas Jefferson High School Hall of Fame. Mark is a 1973 graduate of Thomas Jefferson High School in Council Bluffs.

Mark attended Iowa Western Community College and received a degree in mathematics. After graduation, he moved on to earn a bachelor's degree in Management and Human Resources from Bellevue University. Mark's career began at the Omaha Public Power District but he was just getting started. He was eventually elected to the Council Bluffs Community School District Board, served two terms as a State Representative in the Iowa House of Representatives, and currently serves as the Pottawattamie County Recorder. Mark is active in the Council Bluffs community and has worked with the Iowa Western Community College Alumni Association, the Union Pacific Railroad Museum Board, the Senior Center Board, and the Heartland Chapter of the American Red Cross.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud and congratulate Mark on his induction into the Hall of Fame at Thomas Jefferson High School. I am proud to represent him in the United States Congress. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Mark and in wishing him nothing but continued success.

RECOGNIZING GREG MARIUS

HON. ADRIANO ESPAILLAT

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 2017

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Greg Marius.

Known affectionately as ''the Commissioner'', Mr. Marius founded the Entertainer's Basketball Classic (EBC) at Holcombe Rucker Park in Harlem in 1982. Originally conceived of as a way for rival hip-hop crews to establish blacktop bragging rights, the EBC has evolved into the world's premier streetball basketball showcase.

A highlight on the City's summer calendar for decades, the EBC pits playground standouts against the country's most talented professional players, all provided free of charge to the delight of thousands of exuberant fans. NBA stars like LeBron James, Kevin Durant, and Vince Carter have all played in the tournament, facing off against the best streetballers Harlem has to offer.

As one of the first people to connect basketball and hip-hop music, Mr. Marius created an all-inclusive atmosphere that celebrated the game, its culture, and its fans. Through his aggressive promotion, Mr. Marius enlisted hip-hop stars like Jay-Z, Sean ''Diddy'' Combs, Fat Joe, and others to sponsor teams, helping to attract corporate sponsors like Reebok and Gatorade and raise the profile of the EBC to an unprecedented level.

By remaining committed to keeping the EBC in Harlem, Mr. Marius had a far-reaching impact on our community. A lifelong Harlem resident, he often spoke of how fortunate he was to create memories in the neighborhood where he grew up. He also prided himself on keeping alive the legacy of Holcombe Rucker, the park's namesake who founded his own tournament in 1946 that provided neighborhood youths a positive outlet to keep them off the streets.

Further, by taking a touring version of the EBC on the road to other cities Mr. Marius played an integral role in broadening streetball's audience. Without Greg Marius, it is safe to say that New York City, specifically Holcombe Rucker Park in Harlem, would not be the international symbol of basketball prowess that it is today.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay remembrance to Mr. Marius and ask that we continue to carry along his legacy and love for streetball in Harlem.

TRIBUTE TO ROSE AND LOUIS STORTENBECKER

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 2017

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Rose and Louis Stortenbecker of Council Bluffs, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. They celebrated their anniversary on April 2, 2017.

Rose and Louis' lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies our Iowa values. As they reflect on their 50th anniversary, may their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 50th year together and I wish them many more. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion and in wishing them both nothing but continued success.

IN RECOGNITION OF DANIEL McGONIGAL

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 2017

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, today I honor Daniel McGonigal of the Springfield Township Fire Company. Daniel joined the Company in 2013. Two years later, he decided to also answer the call to service for his country and joined the U.S. Navy. Despite his full-time service to the nation, Daniel does his most to help the Fire Company and his community when he returns home on leave.

As a pillar of Springfield Township, Daniel has rightly been nominated as VFW Firefighter of the Year as part of the 25th Annual Springfield Loyalty Day.

I thank Daniel for his service.

HONORING THE DEFENDERS OF BATAAN AND CORREGIDOR AND REMEMBERING THE FALL OF BATAAN AND CORREGIDOR IN MAY 1942

HON. DAVID B. McKINLEY

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 2017

Mr. McKINLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Defenders of Bataan and Corregidor in remembrance of the 75th Anniversary of the fall of Bataan and Corregidor in May of 1942. From December 8, 1941 until May 6, 1942 American soldiers, marines, sailors, nurses and airmen fought along-side the members of Philippine army in defense of the Philippine Archipelago.

On December 8, 1941, a day after the infamous attack on Pearl Harbor, bombs were dropped on Clark Field, starting what would become known as the Philippine Campaign or the Battle of the Philippines.

On April 9, 1942, after fighting for four months without reinforcements and supplies, Major General Edward King, Jr. surrendered the forces under his command on the Bataan Peninsula. Upon surrender of the American and Filipino forces, the Japanese encountered twice as many captives as reports had estimated, thus creating an enormous logistical challenge—the transport and movement of over 60,000 starving, sick, and debilitated prisoners and over 38,000 equally weakened civilian noncombatants that had been caught up in the battle. The prisoners and refugees had to be moved north to get them out of the way of the final Japanese assault on Corregidor, but there was simply not enough mechanized transport to move the masses of wounded, sick, and weakened prisoners. The Japanese solution was to force march the 60,000 prisoners north from Mariveles to San Fernando and from Capas to Camp O'Donnell—a distance of approximately 66 miles.

This has become known as the Bataan Death March. Starting on April 9, 1942 and lasting for seven days, credible sources report widely differing prisoner of war casualties—from 5,000 to 18,000 Filipino deaths and 500 to 650 American deaths—that resulted. Forced to march without food or water, many simply could not continue. Prisoners were bayoneted, shot or buried alive if they could not walk. If any tried to escape they were shot.

The final assault on American and Filipino forces in defense of the Philippines came on May 5, 1942 with an assault on the island of Corregidor and ended on May 8, 1942—when General Jonathan M. Wainwright surrendered forces under his command to the Japanese commander, Lt. General Masaharu Homma of the 14th Japanese Army, thus ending the Battle for the Philippines.

For the next three and a half years Americans were held by the Japanese in the Philippines, Formosa, Korea, China and Japan in POW camps and forced to work for Japanese companies in support of the Japanese war effort. When Japan finally surrendered, American forces sent to Japan found these men and women emaciated—some weighing as little as a third of their normal weight. Suffering

for three and a half years, these men and women endured unspeakable hardships and atrocities at the hands of their captors.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring and remembering those who suffered so much in the name of freedom during World War II on this, the 75th Anniversary of the Bataan Death March and the Battle for the Philippines. We are eternally grateful for men such as Ed Jackfert of Wellsburg, West Virginia—who is still with us—as well as those who have recently passed such as Joe Vater, Abie Abraham and Lester Tenney. These men were part of the Greatest Generation and fought in defense of their country during World War II.

BUILDING SAFETY MONTH

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 2017

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, today marks the beginning of Building Safety Month, and I would like to recognize the men and women of the International Code Council who have dedicated their livelihoods to ensuring the safety of Americans both in their homes and workplaces.

Building safety and fire prevention officials, architects, engineers, builders, and others in the construction industry work year-round to ensure the safe construction of buildings. It is through their efforts that our nation continues to address critical safety issues in the built environment that affect our citizens, both, in everyday life and in times of natural disaster.

These individuals, who are dedicated members of the International Code Council, develop and implement the highest quality codes to protect Americans in the buildings where we work, live, and play. The International Codes, the most widely adopted building safety and fire prevention codes in the nation, are used by most U.S. cities, counties, and by all 50 states. These modem building safety codes also include safeguards to protect the public from natural disasters, such as hurricanes, snowstorms, tornadoes, wildland fires, and earthquakes.

Each year, in observance of Building Safety Month, Americans are asked to consider projects to improve building safety at home and in the community, and to acknowledge the essential services provided to all of us by local and state building departments and federal agencies in protecting life and property. Building Safety Month, which is sponsored by the International Code Council, reminds the public about the critical role of our communities' largely unsung heroes of public safety—our local code officials—who help prevent countless fires and accidents. ''Code officials: Partners in Community Safety and Economic Growth,'' the theme for Building Safety Month 2017, encourages all Americans to raise awareness of the importance of building safety.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in thanking the International Code Council as they recognize Building Safety Month.

TRIBUTE TO TRUDY EVANS

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 2017

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Trudy Evans of Council Bluffs, Iowa, for being inducted into the Thomas Jefferson High School Hall of Fame. Trudy is a 1966 graduate of Thomas Jefferson High School in Council Bluffs.

Trudy was the first member of her extended family to graduate from college when she graduated from the University of Iowa, going on to have a distinguished career in the Council Bluffs Community School District. She served in a number of positions throughout her career including: as a curriculum strategist, a Talented and Gifted program teacher, the principal of Pusey, Lewis & Clark, Crescent, Rue, and Washington elementary schools, and finally as a teacher at the Tinley Early Childhood Center. Trudy has been recognized for her outstanding contributions as an educator, receiving the Elementary Excellence in Teaching Math Award and the Council Bluffs Teacher of the Year award. She was also a finalist for the Iowa Teacher of the Year. Even with her busy schedule, Trudy still finds time to volunteer in her community with the Muddy Paws Second Chance organization, Children's Theater in Council Bluffs, and is a member of St. Peter's Catholic Church.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud and congratulate Trudy on her induction into the Thomas Jefferson High School Hall of Fame. I am proud to represent her in the United States Congress I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Trudy on this outstanding accomplishment and in wishing her nothing but continued success.

IN HONOR OF THE TUSKEGEE AIRMEN MEMORIAL DAY FLY IN 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 2017

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention to recognize the 50th Anniversary of the Tuskegee Airmen Memorial Day Fly In. The first black combat aviation unit comprised of pilots and supporter personnel trained at Tuskegee Army Air Field.

The Tuskegee Airmen Memorial Day Fly In honors the Tuskegee Airmen, the widowers and family members of the Tuskegee Airmen and talented and enthusiastic individuals all focused on the goal of honoring the heroic Tuskegee Airmen.

In 1940, the military selected Tuskegee Institute to train pilots because of its commitment to aeronautical training, its facilities, engineering and technical instructors and its suitable climate for year-round flying.

In May of 1940, the first Civilian Pilot Training Program students completed their training. ''The Tuskegee Experience'' later grew to become a center for African-American aviation during World War II.

These brave airmen overcame segregation and prejudice to become one of the most respected fighter groups of WWII paving the way for full integration of the U.S. military. The Tuskegee Airmen exemplify the State of Alabama's priority of Public Service Excellence.

This commemoration of their legacy comes directly from the efforts and determination of over 16,000 courageous men and women and recognizes the fortitude of these individuals to stand strong in the face of adversity.

Their accomplishments gave way to the continuation on a grand scale through the introduction of American youth to the world of aviation, technology, engineering and math through local and national programs and activities.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing today, May 19–20, 2017, as Tuskegee Airmen Memorial Day Fly In 50th Anniversary.

IMPORTANCE OF WORK SAFETY

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 2017

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the men and women who have lost their lives at work due to unsafe work conditions. In 2015, 4,836 workers were killed on the job. That's 4,836 reasons to remember the importance of work safety.

This week in Missouri's 7th Congressional District the Mid America Safety Health & Environmental Conference is being held by the Missouri Association of Manufacturers. This conference is designed to provide general work safety training while also discussing the importance of safe work environments.

As those who have lost loved ones gather at the conference this week, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration will have a memorial service acknowledging those families as well as the many other families who have lost loved ones due to unsafe work conditions.

I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring the men and women and who have lost their lives due to unsafe work conditions and the families who have lost their loved ones because of this.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF WARRENVILLE, ILLINOIS

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 2017

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the incorporation of Warrenville, Illinois.

Warrenville, whose motto is ''For a Visit, Or a Lifetime'', is a model for other cities and towns to follow, through its continued dedication to building a friendly and welcoming community for residents and visitors alike.

In the years since its first permanent settlers, Julius and Daniel Warren, and its incorporation, Warrenville has become a center of culture and commerce, serving as a home to families, businesses, professionals, churches and organizations that have made this a vibrant and thriving community. Warrenville's first major establishment was a tavern created by Julius Warren. This legacy of brewing has been kept alive by the craft brewing company, Two Brothers Brewing, who are one of the most popular Illinois brewing companies in the United States. Warrenville also boasts a multitude of parks; and youth and family friendly activities make this a great place to work, live, and raise a family. The city is also a shining example of fiscal responsibility, as it has no bonded debt. This fact should make residents, employers, and civil servants tremendously proud.

On the occasion of this 50th Anniversary, we join together to celebrate Warrenville's legacy of growth and prosperity and to look ahead to the opportunities facing this great village and our nation. Today both marks 50 years of working together to build a brighter future, and reminds us that our work continues.

Mr. Speaker and Distinguished Colleagues, please join me in recognizing the 50th Anniversary of the incorporation of Warrenville, Illinois, and wishing her residents a very successful year ahead.

TRIBUTE TO SHIRLEY AND ELVIN BREACH

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 2017

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Shirley and Elvin Breach of Atlantic, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary. They celebrated their anniversary on February 16, 2017 and were married at the Little Brown Church in Nashua, Iowa.

Shirley and Elvin's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies our Iowa values. As they reflect on their 60th anniversary, may their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 60th year together and I wish them many more. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion and in wishing them both nothing but continued success.

IN RECOGNITION OF ROBIN SPROUL FOR HER OUTSTANDING CAREER WITH ABC NEWS

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 2017

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Robin Sproul for her work with ABC News as she prepares to begin the next chapter in her storied career. For the past 41 years, Ms. Sproul has had an accomplished career as a journalist with ABC and has helped make it a world-class news organization that maintains the highest standards of professionalism. In sum, she has become one of Washington's most respected journalists.

Ms. Sproul began her career as a news assignment manager WMAL-Radio in Washington, D.C. in 1976. She then joined ABC News in 1981 as a Washington bureau chief for ABC News Radio, covering election analysis and political conventions. In addition to these responsibilities, Ms. Sproul produced U.S. radio coverage of military operations, including missions in the Persian Gulf. In 1993, she was named vice president and Washington bureau chief for ABC News, where she supervised and directed the organization's TV, radio and digital coverage of Washington, D.C. Ms. Sproul excelled in her role covering national news and events and also served as the organization's liaison with the federal government. In 2014, she was promoted to Vice President of Public Affairs for ABC News, where she focused on the network's political debates and external relations in Washington, D.C.

Ms. Sproul has had an outstanding tenure at ABC and was critical to the growth and success of the organization. Throughout her career, Ms. Sproul has earned numerous honors for her balanced and comprehensive coverage of important events. She was a member of the ABC News team to win an Emmy for their coverage of President Barack Obama's Inauguration. In addition, Ms. Sproul has won George Foster Peabody Awards for coverage of September 11 attacks and coverage of U.S. military actions in the Persian Gulf. These accolades underscore her commitment to honest and accessible coverage of the news, as well as the respect she has among her industry peers. Through it all, Ms. Sproul recognized the importance of mentoring, especially other women. Breaking many glass ceilings herself, she has always practiced women supporting women. She will be missed as she moves on to a new stage in her career.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Robin Sproul for her work with ABC News. Her hard work, knowledge and professionalism have been vital to making ABC News the organization that exists today.

TRIBUTE TO PATSY AND PAUL O'NEILL

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 2017

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Patsy and Paul O'Neill of Neola, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. They were married on March 29, 1967 at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Council Bluffs, Iowa.

Patsy and Paul's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies our Iowa values. As they reflect on their 50th anniversary, may their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 50th year together and I wish them many more. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion and in wishing them both nothing but continued success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 2017

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, regretfully, I missed votes on H.J. Res. 99 as I was at the White House for the signing of an executive order on offshore energy resources. American energy policy is critically important to my district. I look forward to being part of future work in the House on fiscally responsible spending measures. Had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 235, and YEA on Roll Call No. 236.

HONORING RETIRING ORLAND PARK MAYOR DAN McLAUGHLIN

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 2017

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mayor Dan McLaughlin who served the Village of Orland Park as an elected official for 34 years.

Dan McLaughlin was elected mayor of the village six times beginning in 1993. Prior to his election as mayor he served eight years as a Orland Park Trustee, starting his service to the community in 1983.

During his 34 years serving Orland Park, Dan McLaughlin has seen the population of the village expand from around 25,000 to nearly 59,000. As mayor, he helped drive significant commercial and public infrastructure development. He recently oversaw the construction of the ''Main Street Triangle,'' a 27-acre site in the center of the community. This includes the 108,000-square-foot University of Chicago Medicine Center for Advanced Care. Significant improvements to La Grange Road were also completed under Mayor McLaughlin.

Dan McLaughlin has been a champion of veterans during his public service, honoring those who have served our nation. He was also instrumental in Orland Park's Special Recreation programs for the handicapped and was a leader in open lands preservation.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mayor Dan McLaughlin for his public service and thank him for all that he has done for Orland Park and the region. I wish him the best in all his future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO THE CITY OF URBANDALE

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 2017

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the City of Urbandale, Iowa, on the 100th anniversary of the city's incorporation.

The City of Urbandale was first incorporated on April 16, 1917. Many early residents found employment in several local coal mines until those were closed by the late 1940s. Urbandale was also a ''street car suburb,'' where residents could commute to their jobs in the city via a street car on the ''Urbandale Line'' until they were replaced by Trolley buses in the early 1950s. Over the decades the town saw homes go up, restaurants and business open and flourish, and people from all over pass through its streets, from presidential candidates to its most famous visitor, Pope John Paul II, when he held mass at Living History Farms in 1979. At its core, Urbandale is an Iowa town where you want to raise your family. At its inception, only 298 people called it home. Today, Urbandale houses over 40,000 residents.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to represent the citizens of Urbandale in the United States Congress and I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion and in wishing the City of Urbandale nothing but continued success.

IN HONOR OF ERNEST ''ERNIE'' DiPIETRO

HON. ELIZABETH H. ESTY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 1, 2017

Ms. ESTY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to honor a dear friend, Ernest ''Ernie'' DiPietro. Ernie passed away on April 24th at the age of 73. Ernie dedicated his life to public service, leaving behind a legacy in Cheshire, Connecticut that will never be forgotten.

Ernie was born in Chicago, Illinois on February 27, 1944. He graduated from Croft High School in Waterbury, before going on to earn his Bachelor's Degree at the University of New England, and his Master's Degree at the University of Hartford. Ernie proudly served our country in the U.S. Army Reserves during the Vietnam War. Reflecting his commitment to all who have served in the Armed Forces, Ernie served as American Legion Commander for Storrs Post 92 of Cheshire, enhancing the lives of our veterans, military, and their families, both at home and abroad.

A committed educator, Ernie taught for the Wolcott Public School System and was a member of the Mattatuck Community College faculty. Ernie will always be remembered by friends and family for his great passion for politics and the nearly three decades that he led the Cheshire Democratic Party. I am grateful for his many years of friendship and his guidance to me and so many others who have served our beloved town.

Ernie's involvement and leadership in numerous social organizations has made an immeasurable impact on the Cheshire community. Ernie was a co-marshal for Cheshire's Memorial Day parade, as well as an integral member of the Cheshire Veterans Council. Fellow member of the Cheshire Veterans Council, Leslie Marinaro, remembers Ernie's years of dedication fondly, stating, ''Ernie's footprint will remain forever in Cheshire and among our veterans.'' In addition, Ernie was active in many other organizations, including the Cheshire Kiwanis Club, Cheshire Land Trust, Cheshire Historical Society, and the Friends of Cheshire Library.

Ernie was also a devoted family man. He loved his wonderful wife of 46 years, Carol, who shared his passion for politics and public service. Ernie will also be missed by his brother-in-law, cousins, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews, and his many friends.

I had the great fortune to know Ernie DiPietro and call him my friend. His warm heart, sense of humor, infectious smile, and love of life touched all who knew him. He truly left the world a better place.

Ernie's life embodied the spirit of civic engagement that strengthens our communities, and makes our country a better place. His contributions to the Town of Cheshire, the State of Connecticut, and to the United States of America will not be forgotten. Ernie, we love you and miss you.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, May 2, 2017 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MAY 3

10 a.m.
Committee on Armed Services
Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities
To hold hearings to examine Department of Defense laboratories and their contributions to military operations and readiness.
SR–222

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings to examine investing in America's broadband infrastructure, focusing on exploring ways to reduce barriers to deployment.
SR–253

Committee on Environment and Public Works
To hold hearings to examine infrastructure project streamlining and efficiency, focusing on achieving faster, better, and cheaper results.
SD–406

Committee on Foreign Relations
Subcommittee on Multilateral International Development, Multilateral Institutions, and International Economic, Energy, and Environmental Policy
To hold hearings to examine global philanthropy and remittances and international development.
SD–419

Committee on the Judiciary
To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Federal Bureau of Investigation.
SD–226

10:30 a.m.
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Department of Defense
To hold hearings to examine defense innovation and research funding.
SD–192

Committee on the Budget
To hold hearings to examine the economy and private sector growth.
SD–608

2:30 p.m.
Committee on Armed Services
Subcommittee on Personnel
To hold hearings to examine building a flexible personnel system (F.A.S.T. Force) for a modern military.
SR–222

MAY 4

Time to be announced
Committee on the Judiciary
Business meeting to consider S. 139, to implement the use of Rapid DNA instruments to inform decisions about pretrial release or detention and their conditions, to solve and prevent violent crimes and other crimes, to exonerate the innocent, to prevent DNA analysis backlogs, and S. 534, to prevent the sexual abuse of minors and amateur athletes by requiring the prompt reporting of sexual abuse to law enforcement authorities.
TBA

9:30 a.m.
Committee on Armed Services
To hold hearings to examine United States Special Operations Command.
SD–G50

10 a.m.
Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
To hold hearings to examine reauthorization of the National Flood Insurance Program.
SD–538

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
To hold hearings to examine the threat posed by electromagnetic pulse and

policy options to protect energy infrastructure and to improve capabilities for adequate system restoration.
SD–366

Committee on Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine international development, focusing on value added through private sector engagement.
SD–419

10:30 a.m.
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies
To hold hearings to examine telemedicine in the Department of Veterans Affairs, focusing on leveraging technology to increase access, improve health outcomes, and lower costs.
SD–124

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Subcommittee on Aviation Operations, Safety, and Security
To hold hearings to examine questions, answers, and perspectives on the current state of airline travel.
SR–253

2 p.m.
Select Committee on Intelligence
To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.
SH–219

MAY 8

2:30 p.m.
Committee on the Judiciary
Subcommittee on Crime and Terrorism
To hold hearings to examine Russian interference in the 2016 United States election.
SD–226

MAY 10

2:30 p.m.
Committee on Indian Affairs
To hold hearings to examine S. 772, to amend the PROTECT Act to make Indian tribes eligible for AMBER Alert grants, and S. 825, to provide for the conveyance of certain property to the Southeast Alaska Regional Health Consortium located in Sitka, Alaska.
SD–628

Special Committee on Aging
To hold hearings to examine aging with community, focusing on building connections that last a lifetime.
SD–562

POSTPONEMENTS

MAY 4

2:30 p.m.
Committee on Armed Services
Subcommittee on Strategic Forces
To hold hearings to examine ballistic missile defense policies and programs.
SR–232A

SENATE—*Tuesday, May 2, 2017*

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

God of love and laughter, we thank You for all of Your benefits. Your mercies to us are new each day. You send the sunshine and the rain. You provide us with seed time and harvest. You protect us from dangers and inspire us with Your abiding presence.

Lord, thank You for providing our lawmakers with the gift of Your peace, even in the midst of life's storms. Supply all their needs from the abundance of Your celestial riches. Transform their gratitude into service to those who must daily experience the pain of privation and despair. Help us all to express our faith in You with deeds of love.

And, Lord, please be with the Larkin family during this season of grief.

We pray in Your merciful Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SASSE). The majority leader is recognized.

GOVERNMENT FUNDING LEGISLATION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, yesterday, after months of committee work and bicameral negotiations, the government funding agreement that abides by the spending caps set in the bipartisan Budget Act of 2015 was filed over in the House. This legislation will promote a number of American and conservative priorities.

It will help to strengthen the border with the largest border security funding increase in a decade.

It will help to strengthen the military with funding for a pay raise for our troops, along with a critically needed downpayment on the long overdue task of rebuilding our military.

It will help to streamline the Federal bureaucracy with the elimination or consolidation of more than 150 government programs and initiatives.

It contains many other conservative wins, too, like freezing funding for the IRS, cutting funding for the EPA, prohibiting funding for President Obama's climate slush fund, and prohibiting a taxpayer bailout of ObamaCare's risk corridors. It maintains the Hyde Amendment, will help veterans, and will fund implementation of the law that shifts control of education back to parents, States, and local school districts.

Additionally, this legislation will provide more of the resources we need to help communities across our country that continue to suffer from the opioid epidemic. It also permanently extends healthcare for thousands of retired coal miners from States like Kentucky—something for which I have fought for a long time and something I was proud to secure in this bill, as we put together the final package.

Each of these measures is included in the funding bill we will take up later this week.

I wish to commend President Trump and his team, including Director Mulvaney, Secretary Mattis, and Secretary Kelly, for quickly identifying national security priorities and working with the Republican Congress to enact some of them. Secretary Mattis has made clear that rebuilding our military and restoring combat readiness for today and tomorrow will require a multiyear, bipartisan commitment to meet the needs of the force. The additional contingency operations funding provided in this legislation represents an important first step toward meeting that goal.

While this funding bill is the product of bipartisan negotiations, it delivers some important conservative wins, including critical steps forward on defense and border security. Senators should continue reviewing the bill text now so that we can pass it without delay after we receive it from the House.

NOMINATION OF JAY CLAYTON

Mr. MCCONNELL. Now, Mr. President, on another matter, Senators voted on a bipartisan basis yesterday to advance Jay Clayton's nomination to the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, and soon we will take another vote to confirm him.

As Chairman CRAPO noted at Clayton's confirmation hearing, this nominee has an impressive background. His extensive work in the private sector will serve him well as he looks to strengthen our financial markets, thereby supporting American businesses, boosting job creation, and spurring economic growth. I appreciate Mr. Clayton's willingness to take on this important task, as well as his vision, which he outlined at his hearing, to promote fair and transparent practices at the SEC.

I look forward to his confirmation and to his leadership at this agency.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader is recognized.

GOVERNMENT FUNDING LEGISLATION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, first, I wish to respond to the President's latest tweets about the bipartisan, bicameral deal we just reached to fund the government through September.

Members of both parties worked very hard to come to this agreement. There was a real spirit of cooperation. I thank Majority Leader MCCONNELL and Speaker RYAN and Leader PELOSI, as well as Senators COCHRAN and LEAHY and Congress Members FRELINGHUYSEN and LOWEY, all who worked together often until the wee hours of the morning to make this happen. We all spent a lot of time working on it, and I think we got a very good outcome. So when the President threw cold water on this deal and actually recommended a government shutdown, I was deeply disappointed. Here we saw Democrats and Republicans working together in the best traditions of the Senate, and the President disparages it in a way that is destructive, essentially saying: Let's have a shutdown.

The President has been complaining about the lack of bipartisanship in Washington. Well, this deal is exactly how Washington should work when it is bipartisan. Both parties negotiated and came to an agreement on a piece of legislation we each can support. It is truly a shame that the President is degrading it because he didn't get 100 percent of what he wanted. Bipartisanship is best summed up by the Rolling Stones:

You can't always get what you want—or at least everything you want.

THE PRESIDENT'S TAX PLAN

Mr. SCHUMER. On taxes, Mr. President, yesterday, Secretary Mnuchin, in an appearance at the Milken Institute Conference, admitted that the administration plans to go it alone on taxes. He said they are trying to design their proposal to fit into the rules of reconciliation so they need only Republican votes to pass their tax cut.

The message was clear as day. The President is not interested in working with Democrats to craft a proposal that both parties can support. He is just going to pass his plan with Republican votes or not pass it at all. What that means is that the Trump tax plan likely will not have to change much from the 200-word outline that they put out last week, and that means the Trump tax plan will benefit the incredibly wealthy and the special interests while leaving the middle-class, working Americans with crumbs, at best.

We Democrats support tax relief, so long as it is aimed at the middle class and those struggling to get there. Those are the folks who really need the help. College is getting ever more expensive. Take-home pay is being squeezed in so many different directions. The middle class and those working to get there should be able to keep more of what they make, but the Trump tax plan seems designed to benefit his Cabinet and the incredibly wealthy on Wall Street, not Main Street and the middle class.

There are many wealthy people doing very well in America. God bless them. Their lifestyles are getting better every year. Their incomes are getting better every day. They don't need the help, but the middle class does. But in the Trump plan, taxes on the very wealthy and big corporations would go down, while tax deductions that benefit the middle class would go away. For example, President Trump campaigned on getting rid of the carried interest loophole. Instead, his plan keeps the carried interest loophole and creates an even bigger loophole for the wealthiest by allowing the so-called passthrough entities, which include wealthy businessmen like President Trump, to pay just 15 percent. So with this 15-percent passthrough, hedge fund managers, corporate lawyers, and big business CEOs who make millions of dollars every year would pay 15 percent, while their workers will pay 20, 25, 30 percent.

To add insult to injury, the Trump tax plan would repeal the estate tax, a tax on estates only of over $10 million—very wealthy people. How many of us have a $10 million estate? And it would result in the 5,200 wealthiest families in America each year—or estates in America—receiving an average $3 million windfall. While the Trump plan eliminates taxes for the very wealthy, it also eliminates tax breaks that are most beneficial to the middle class, like the State and local deduction. The loss of this deduction for those who use it would cost New Yorkers an average of $4,500 a year.

The middle class has seen rising expenses and virtually stagnant incomes. They need tax relief, not the loss of key tax deductions that helped put a few more dollars in their pockets. And the biggest danger for the middle class might be what happens after the Trump tax plan gets passed, if that happens.

A tax cut for the wealthy of the size President Trump is proposing would explode the deficit, costing between $5.5 trillion and $7 trillion over 10 years, by some estimates. The Republicans might be willing to ignore the debt and deficit now in order to get their tax cut. But make no mistake about it, a few years down the line, they will start howling about the deficit again and say: Oh, we have no choice but to cut Social Security and Medicare to make up for the massive debt they created with their tax cut. This has been the nefarious goal of the hard right for decades.

In fact, the same story played out during the Bush years. President Bush passed a big tax break, primarily for the wealthy. It racked up debt, and then he pursued deep cuts to the social safety net to try to balance the ledger. He might have gotten it, but Democrats stood in his way. This could be deja vu all over again.

In sum, the very wealthy get a huge tax break while the middle class gets very little. And down the road, programs like Social Security and Medicare—so crucial to the middle class—would be endangered.

If this administration wants to pursue such a plan all on their own, that is their choice, but as we saw with healthcare, the go-it-alone approach doesn't guarantee success. What it does guarantee is a very partisan bill that will benefit the very wealthy and the special interests—a bill that I predict will be very, very unpopular with the American people.

Thank you, Mr. President.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the Clayton nomination, which the clerk will report.

The assistant bill clerk read the nomination of Jay Clayton, of New York, to be a Member of the Securities and Exchange Commission for a term expiring June 5, 2021.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the time until 12:30 p.m. will be equally divided in the usual form.

The Senator from Wyoming.

THE PRESIDENT'S FIRST ONE HUNDRED DAYS

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, over the weekend, President Trump celebrated 100 days that he has been in office as President of the United States. Newspapers and magazines and pundits on television were all talking about what the President has accomplished in those first 100 days.

From what I heard talking to people at home in Wyoming this past weekend, his first 100 days has been a huge success. People tell me that they think America is finally headed in the right direction again. I had a lot of people tell me they feel as if they have actually gotten a new spring in their step as a result of the Presidential election last year and President Trump taking office.

The other day when I was home, I was in line at the gas station behind a guy. A friend of his came and said: Hey, how are you doing? The guy said: Great. We are hiring again.

That is the kind of confidence that is happening all around Wyoming. The polling company Gallup says that it is happening not just in Wyoming but all across the country. For 24 straight weeks, more Americans have been more optimistic than pessimistic about the economy. As soon as Donald Trump was elected President, economic confidence soared, and it has stayed positive ever since. Gallup said that this is the exact opposite of what they had seen in the previous 8 years; that is, during the whole Obama administration, during the entire so-called economic recovery.

In another poll released last week, Gallup said that people are also less worried that they will lose the job they have. They found that American workers are less concerned about being laid off from their job than at any time since Gallup started asking questions way back in 1975. That is more than 40 years ago.

Why are people optimistic now? I think it is because they see that President Trump and the Republicans in Congress are serious about improving the economy. They see that we are serious about giving relief to Americans who have been getting buried under an avalanche of redtape. They see that the President is off to a very fast start in the White House.

Just look at what we have already done to help relieve the burdens on Americans. Congress has rolled back 13 different midnight regulations that President Obama tried to sneak through at the last minute. We struck down a stream buffer rule that was meant to block coal mining. We got rid of a rule that puts Americans at a competitive disadvantage when they are trying to develop energy resources overseas. We got rid of a regulation that took the control of local energy issues away from the State officials; we got rid of that regulation. And we got rid of one of the regulations that gave more control to Washington and less to States. These were regulations that harmed Americans and wiped out American jobs. Now those regulations are gone.

We have more that we can do to roll back terrible regulations like these. I have introduced a resolution to block another damaging rule that has come out by the Bureau of Land Management, which has to do with the Obama administration rules on methane that is produced at oil and gas wells. The new regulations created confusion by duplicating other rules that were already on the books.

That was the problem with so many of these regulations coming out by the Obama administration as they left office: regulation on top of regulation causing costs and confusion. They added costs that discourage energy production and kill energy jobs.

I hope that we can have a vote on this resolution very soon and get rid of this unnecessary red tape.

As active as Congress has been getting rid of these unfair, last-minute rules, President Trump has been even more active. He has already signed at least 30 Executive orders to help clear a path for the American economy to take off again. He signed a major Executive order promoting American energy independence. This has been an enormous shift away from the Obama-era approach of disruptive regulations, restrictions, and Washington overreach. All of these regulations did more to harm hard-working Americans than they did to actually help the environment. From now on, Washington will be looking for ways to protect our environment while helping our economy to grow.

Just last week, President Trump took another important step to keep his promises. He eased restrictions on drilling for oil and gas in offshore areas, like the Arctic and the Atlantic Oceans. These places have great potential for producing the energy America needs. President Trump is helping to create certainty that those resources will be available if we need them.

President Obama couldn't imagine that it was possible to have responsible energy development in America. President Trump knows differently. He knows it is possible. He knows that American workers can do the job. He knows that America will be stronger because of it. I think that is the kind of thing the American people mean when they tell me that they feel they have a spring in their step.

I can also tell you that this is just the beginning. Remember when President Obama bragged that he had a pen and a phone? Well, President Trump has proved that he has a whole drawer full of pens, and he intends to keep using them to help get the American economy growing again. He wants to hear more people saying that things are great; we are hiring again. That is what the President has been doing, and it is what Congress is doing. These are the kinds of things that will get this country back on track when it comes to our energy policy.

In Wyoming and in much of the country, energy means jobs. Our goal should be to make American energy as clean as we can, as fast as we can without raising costs on American families. All of us should be able to agree on that. It is time to restore that balance to America's energy policy. President Trump is dedicated to getting that balance right.

Republicans in Congress are dedicated to getting the economy back in gear, and I hope that more Democrats will join us with their ideas and with their support. That is what the American people want, and it is what they voted for. It is why people are confident and why they see better days ahead for this great country.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I rise to discuss an issue of extraordinary importance to the people of Louisiana and to many Americans. Yet again, Americans are witnessing a dramatic, rumor-filled guessing game. I am not talking about the latest new release from Netflix, I am talking about the reauthorization of the extremely important National Flood Insurance Program—we call it the NFIP, which I can assure you has played more like an episode of ''Veep'' than ''House of Cards'' for the audience that watches it unfold every few years.

I am sorry to say, Congress has repeatedly and consistently mangled the reauthorization of this essential Federal program. In 2010, the NFIP expired four times—not once, not twice but four times, for a total of 53 days, which injected uncertainty throughout a fragile housing market that had just been devastated 2 years previously.

That was inexcusable. Local economies felt the sting of 1,400 home closing delays or cancellations per day that the program was expired. Now, along with many of the program's stakeholders and participants, I believe it is crucial that we avoid this type of congressionally imposed delay.

Congress should extend the program. Let me say that again. Congress should extend the National Flood Insurance Program for a multiyear reauthorization before the September 30 deadline of this year. Our economy demands it. Many Americans may remember when the Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act was signed into law in 2012. I was not in the Senate then. I was State Treasurer in Louisiana, but I certainly remember it.

In an effort to bring the program closer to solvency after Superstorm Sandy, policyholders, as a result of Biggert-Waters, saw their premiums quickly rise to ''actuarial levels.'' For policyholders in my home State of Louisiana, this meant unaffordable levels. It doesn't do any good to offer Americans insurance they cannot afford. That is what Biggert-Waters did, just like the Affordable Care Act.

FEMA's mishandling of Biggert-Waters implementation resulted in truly inaccurate rate hikes that placed the viability of the entire National Flood Insurance Program at risk. I even remember the local news stations in Louisiana, like WWL and WBRZ, broadcasting horror stories of exponential rate hikes as a result of Biggert-Waters, hitting hardest in South Louisiana's middle-class neighborhoods.

Residents of St. Charles Parish and Lafourche Parish—in my State we call our counties parishes. We are the only one in America, only State in America, Louisiana, that does it. We do it right. Everybody else does it wrong. I remember residents of St. Charles Parish and Lafourche Parish sending in copies of their house keys to congressional representatives to give to FEMA because they could not afford the flood insurance.

They were required to carry it. Therefore, they were just going to turn their home over. This was a sign that the government might as well take their homes because the insurance rates were so unaffordable.

In this way, Biggert-Waters also made their homes unsalable. Going forward with the extension of the National Flood Insurance Program, we have to find a way to deal with the solvency of the NFIP that is responsible. At the same time, we cannot move the program from red to black entirely on the backs of policyholders. It just will not work.

What do we need to do? We need to examine how FEMA spends every single dollar of premiums paid by policyholders into the system—every single dollar. We need to find solutions to improve the functionality and efficiency of the National Flood Insurance Program and to ensure that those who are mandated to carry flood insurance actually purchase flood insurance.

It is clear to the policyholders in Louisiana that the NFIP has to do a better job also in one other respect. That is by giving our local officials a seat at the table. It is not written in the Constitution that flood policy and flood mapping has to originate and end with the Federal bureaucracy in Washington, DC.

In fact, flood mapping and flood policy will benefit from having our local officials participate with a seat at the table. Our local levee boards and levee districts in Louisiana, along with the families who have lived on the land being insured for generations, know every single ditch, every single drainage canal from St. Tammany Parish to Terrebonne Parish. The NFIP bureaucrats ought to be asking them for guidance when rewriting flood maps and flood policy, not the other way around.

Instead, our folks only get invited to the dance after all the decisions have been made in Washington, when the cow is already out of the barn. I believe this is a commonsense principle that ought to be included in legislation to ultimately extend and reform the program: give our local officials who know the land best a seat at the table, not perfunctory, a real seat at the table, to contribute to flood mapping and flood policy. The NFIP will be better for it.

FEMA's mission, as we all know, is to lead America, to prepare for, prevent, respond to, and recover from disaster. That is why FEMA exists. The flood program is an extension of that mission. That is why, when consultants who work for FEMA—I am talking about contractors, I am talking about engineers, I am talking about lawyers, consultants who spend taxpayer money and are paid with taxpayer money working for FEMA, both contractors and subcontractors, if you wish to call them that, with the National Flood Insurance Program's Write Your Own Program, lose focus sometimes in helping flood victims.

Let me say that again. We spend millions of taxpayer dollars through the National Flood Insurance Program paying consultants, contractors, lawyers, engineers to help administer the program and adjust claims. When it works, it is a beautiful thing. When it doesn't work, it is an unmitigated disaster and is unfair to every taxpayer who put up his or her hard-earned money and every policyholder of the National Flood Insurance Program. On occasions it has not worked.

The vast majority of consultants do a fine job, but some don't. Those who have abused the program should be fired. That is why I am introducing a bill. It is called the National Flood Insurance Program Consultant Accountability Act. It is real simple. It will give the FEMA Administrator the authority to fire any consultant, contractor, lawyer, engineer, whomever, who engage in conduct detrimental to the mission of the National Flood Insurance Program.

The bill will be fair. It will have an appeals process to ensure that good consultants are not penalized for being falsely accused, but this is a simple, commonsense reform that frankly should have been put in place years ago. If a consultant commits activity that in the opinion of the FEMA Administrator is detrimental to a program—for example, if he falsifies an engineering report that shows flooding caused the insured's damage, if he falsifies a report to say it didn't cause damage—then that consultant should be fired. This bill is going to give the FEMA Administrator the authority to do it.

I believe the proper tools are not in place to hold government accountants accountable and to throw out bad actors. They are just not. During the Sandy recovery, major media reports claimed several firms actually altered engineering reports tied to flood insurance claims. The altered reports—engineering reports that originally said a flood caused the insured's damage and therefore the insured should be paid, those engineering reports were altered to say flooding did not contribute to the damage.

These altered reports—intentionally altered—cost families the insurance payments they deserved and delayed their recovery. These were Americans who did the right thing. They bought flood insurance, and because of some consultants working for the NFIP, they were not allowed, at least initially, to recover. Only one engineering company was actually convicted of wrongdoing, but a number participated. Many of those who participated in this tomfoolery are still participating in the program and are still receiving taxpayer funding to contract with FEMA.

On March 14, the head of FEMA's National Flood Insurance Program, Mr. Roy Wright, testified before the Banking Committee, on which I sit. He has testified that he can only fire contractors from participating in the National Flood Insurance Program if they are debarred, disbarred, or criminally convicted. He can't just pick up the phone and correct the situation.

If he sees a consultant misbehaving, not acting in the best interest of the National Flood Insurance Program or the insured or the American taxpayer, he can't do a doggone thing about it, according to Mr. Wright's testimony, unless they are actually criminally convicted or disbarred, if they happen to be a lawyer.

This bill is going to let the FEMA Administrator do something about it. There is nothing like a good firing every now and then to shake up an organization.

The NFIP is responsible for administering insurance payouts for the 29,600 flood insurance claims—30,000 flood insurance claims—in my State submitted for the historic, ''once in a thousand years'' flood that occurred in Louisiana last August and last March.

FEMA and its consultants and its contractors will be aiding in paying out, I hope, more than $2.4 billion in taxpayer money. Louisiana's insured and the American taxpayers need to know that these consultants can be trusted and are highly regarded by their peers.

As a member of the Senate Banking Committee, I plan to include this bill and other types of commonsense reforms during the reauthorization process of the National Flood Insurance Program, and I hope to do so on a bipartisan basis.

I encourage my colleagues not to play politics with this legislation. I encourage my colleagues not to play politics with the National Flood Insurance Program. It is central to the success of the American economy.

Let's try to work to avoid partisan battles and develop a National Flood Insurance Program that makes sense for the policyholders and for the American taxpayer.

I am not naive. I know that different coalitions and special interest groups, armed with their lobbyists, descend on the Hill. I hope we won't forget the people back home—in my hometown and in the Presiding Officer's hometown—who will feel the repercussions of our legislative actions with respect to this important program.

I am very much looking forward to working with my colleagues on the Banking Committee to make this a successful reauthorization of the National Flood Insurance Program for the 5.5 million Americans who rely on it.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. FLAKE). The Senator from Arkansas.

CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW ACT

Mr. COTTON. Mr. President, I want to take this opportunity to highlight what I consider an unsung achievement of this administration and this Congress—the slow but steady rollback of

the last administration's midnight regulations.

The numbers are impressive. Using the Congressional Review Act, we have repealed 13 regulations so far, which adds up to a $3.6 billion reduction in regulatory costs. To put it in more human terms, we have saved the American people 4.2 million hours of paperwork, which I can tell you is more than welcome news in Arkansas.

The other thing about these resolutions we have passed is that they are permanent. We haven't simply put these regulations on pause for a future President to revive them with a pen and phone. No, we have outlawed them forever. Any President who wants to reimpose them and their huge costs will have to pass a new law to do so, making the rules we live under and the people who make them accountable to the voters. That is a bit of a foreign concept to the people in Washington these days. But the way I see it, that is all the more reason to celebrate what we have achieved.

I know the other side will say: This is a dark day for America. To hear them tell it, blotting out all these regulations will leave a dark stain on our law books. To them, this rollback is a throwback to a dangerous, rough-and-tumble era—one filled with dirty air, dirty water, and a frighteningly low quality of life. But it just ain't so.

Stop and take a look at the regulations we have repealed, and then ask yourself: Why should Washington decide how we evaluate our teachers? Shouldn't parents, States, and cities do that? Why shouldn't States be able to test for drugs before handing out unemployment insurance? Is that such an unreasonable request? Why are bureaucrats who are sitting in an office thousands of miles away managing our land and wildlife? Shouldn't it be the people who live right there?

Why should Federal bureaucrats be able to override a law duly passed by Congress and signed by the President? Do any of these regulations add much to our quality of life?

Is this really about protecting the public interest? Or is it more about rewarding special interests? In fact, I can understand why liberals are bewildered at the idea that all these rules are hurting jobs, because these rules certainly are creating jobs—for lawyers and lobbyists. If there had been a bill, it would have been called ''The American Bar Association Full Employment Act.''

That, perhaps, is the real issue here. It is not a question of whether we are going to live under rules. We have rules—plenty of them. The question is this: What kinds of rules are we going to live under? Are we going to pass laws that impose costs on rural America, only to add more wealth to urban America? Are we going to kill blue-collar jobs so we can create more white-collar jobs? Or are we going to pass laws that help all Americans in all walks of life, as we should?

When you look at things this way, I would say we have scored a pretty impressive victory, indeed, over these last 3 months.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Republican whip.

TRAGEDY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, first, I would like to offer a brief word on some tragic events that occurred in my State over the last few days.

Yesterday, at the University of Texas in Austin, a man wielding a knife began attacking students on campus. He injured three and tragically killed another. My prayers are with the entire UT community, particularly the friends and families of those injured and the student who lost his life.

This was a senseless act of violence, and it is abhorrent. We don't yet know the details for why this deranged individual acted the way he did. Local officials are still gathering details about the case.

I am grateful to the University of Texas police for quickly apprehending the suspect and stopping further loss of life and injury. I offer them and the rest of the law enforcement community in Austin, around the State, and around the Nation my support as they seek justice and continue to protect, in this instance, one of the State's flagship institutions of higher learning.

DEADLY STORMS IN EAST TEXAS

Mr. President, many are aware that major storms ripped through parts of East Texas, including Van Zandt, Henderson, Rains, and Hopkins Counties, last weekend. On Saturday afternoon and evening, four tornadoes tore through the area, leaving a lot of damage in its wake, particularly in the town of Canton, in Van Zandt County. Dozens of people were injured and taken to the hospital, and, tragically, four people died.

I plan to speak to the mayor of Canton and to Judge Kirkpatrick, the Van Zandt County judge, later today to offer them my condolences but more importantly, perhaps, to offer our help in addition to our prayers.

I know they are working as hard as they can to continue to assess the damage done and to find a way forward to help bring assistance to those most in need.

I am particularly grateful and impressed by the work of local leaders across my great State and around the country who step up at a time of crisis like this and organizations like the American Red Cross, which always seem to show up to offer a helping hand, as well as local schools and churches that have come together to lend a hand in this area during such a difficult time. Some have lost their own homes, vehicles, and, of course, loved ones.

As I said, my thoughts and prayers are with all of them, and I stand ready to work alongside them in this resilient part of my great State as they recover from these deadly storms.

GOVERNMENT FUNDING LEGISLATION

Mr. President, as we all know by now, over the weekend an agreement was finally reached on the funding bill to keep the U.S. Government open and to provide much needed, long-term funding to our Federal agencies.

I am particularly glad we found a way forward. Now, that is not synonymous with saying I like everything in the bill, but a piece of legislation like this is inherently a compromise. Compromise means that usually people on both ends of the negotiation are not entirely happy because they have had to give up something in order to get something. This is the process, and we have to build consensus, even on controversial topics like this funding bill.

The agreed to bill consists of the 11 remaining appropriations bills, with additional funding set aside for our military, disaster relief, and border security. I, for one, have been encouraged to hear folks from both sides of the aisle—Republicans and Democrats alike—make clear that we actually agree more than we disagree when it comes to securing our border.

President Trump has made no secret of his position. He said from the beginning that border security would be a top priority for him. Coming from a border State, as does the Presiding Officer, we all understand particularly well how important this is to our communities along the border but also to our States and to the entire country.

I have been glad to read press reports and hear the minority leader, Senator SCHUMER, among others, talk about how providing more resources to secure our borders is necessary to keep us safe and to stem the tide of illegal drugs, illegal immigration, and contraband entering our country.

In fact, last week, the Senator from New York, the minority leader, said: ''Democrats have always been for border security.'' Well, I was glad to hear him say that.

Last month during the State work period, I had the chance to speak to hundreds of my constituents from all across the State—10 cities in all. Part of that time was spent visiting with folks who live and work along the U.S.-Mexico border, specifically in Laredo and in the town of Mission, near McAllen.

All along the border, we talked about the significant ties between the United States and Mexico, how Mexico is Texas' largest trading partner, and how Texas farmers, ranchers, and manufacturers rely greatly on trade with our southern neighbor. They pointed out that the U.S. Chamber of Commerce has actually issued a chart that documents that 5 million American jobs depend on binational trade with Mexico. I

think most people are unaware of that or don't pay enough attention to the fact that our economies are inextricably tied together.

During my visit to the border, I was fortunate enough to have the chance to talk about our mutual security concerns with Governor Cabeza de Vaca, the Governor of Tamaulipas, a State that shares its northern border with Texas.

I am grateful to Mexican leaders like the Governor and my friend Ambassador Gutierrez, the new Mexican Ambassador to the United States, who share our vision for a more secure border and more robust trade at the same time. They are not mutually exclusive. It is important that we have both—security and trade.

It goes without saying that free trade has been a cornerstone of the economy in Texas, adding billions to our economy annually and bolstering our relationship with our partner to the south. In other words, free-trade agreements, particularly NAFTA, or the North American Free Trade Agreement, are particularly important to many of my State's leading industries, such as agriculture and energy.

As I said, bilateral trade with Mexico supports 5 million jobs across our entire country, and this has led to a vibrant border, from El Paso, out in West Texas, and all the way to Brownsville in the south. Of course, like anything that is 20-plus years old, there is room for it to be updated and improved, and NAFTA is no different. I hope in moving forward that the President will work with us to modernize NAFTA.

As we consider this Omnibus appropriations bill and specifically more resources to enhance security along the border, I think we can all agree that our approach should be twofold: We must devote resources to not only enhance border security but also to fix aging infrastructure at our ports of entry. Fortunately, this bill does exactly that. It contains the most robust border security funding in 10 years, and that includes funding for infrastructure upgrades, increasing technology along the border, and improving TSA screening at airports too.

I am glad we found a way to fund the government and to actually govern while doing more for our national defense and security, particularly security along the border. But let's not lose sight of the ultimate aim here: Our country needs long-term, sustainable funding for our government, particularly for our national security, so they can plan and prepare in the years ahead, and the stop-start and short-term continuing resolutions or the threat of a government shutdown does not facilitate that sort of planning and preparation. That is how the appropriations process was designed to work best, and that is what I hope we are all working toward—a restoration of the normal appropriations process, with no more of these narratives about shutdowns.

We weren't elected, in my view—certainly not given the majority here in the Senate and in the House, as well as the President in the White House—to shut down the government; we were elected to govern. Yes, governing is hard. It is hard by design. It is hard for anything to navigate the maze of the legislature and this legislative process. It is hard to get people to agree in the House and then the Senate and then to get the signature of the President of the United States. But that is the way our Founding Fathers designed our constitutional system.

I think most of our colleagues in this Chamber would agree that we want to provide more stability, not less. It is important for our economy, if we want to see our economy grow.

I just heard from folks who visited my office. They said the political instability of rules changing from one administration to the next with Executive orders and the like really is a deterrent to investment because they don't know whether the business model they are employing today will be viewed the same way tomorrow with a new administration. So we need to provide more stability by getting back to the consensus-building process that is legislating, and we need to do away with short-term continuing resolutions and funding that actually hurts us strategically.

I know my family and most folks I know take a look at their budget. They consider what they want to do with it, including the things they absolutely have to pay for, and then from there decide if they have anything left for a vacation or if they want to save more or if they need to make an improvement in their home down the road. That is how we responsibly prepare for tomorrow in our personal lives, and governing is no different in that sense. That is how we can do better by the generations coming after us in the Senate—by putting our country on a budget and sticking to it. This bill, while not perfect, is a step in that direction. It complies with the budget caps of the Budget Control Act of 2011, which has kept discretionary spending roughly flat since 2011. That is an amazing accomplishment in many ways.

But if you look at the rest of what Congress does not appropriate—the so-called mandatory or entitlement spending—it has been going up, and it will go up next year 5.5 percent.

The fact is, until we have the courage to come to grips with all of the money the Federal Government spends so we can prioritize it in a fiscally responsible way—we will never adequately fund our military and we will never adequately fund our other national priorities as long as Congress and the White House are left with 70 percent of that spending untouchable because of the politics involved. I hope some day we will have the courage to deal with that.

Mr. President, just a couple other thoughts before I close. I hear people from time to time talk about whether a government shutdown is one of those tactics or tools one might use in a negotiation to actually gain advantage. I happen to think that a government shutdown is basically an abdication of our responsibility, particularly if we are in the majority.

On what basis would we argue to voters: Look, elect me, and I will shut down the government. Our voters, the people who elected Republican majorities in both Houses and elected this President, did not vote for us in order to shut down the government; they voted for us to govern, as hard as it is. As I said a moment ago, it is hard by design. People get frustrated. People don't get everything they want the first time they try to get it. Sometimes people just give up, which is what shutting down the government is—it is giving up.

I hear other people talk about things like the filibuster. It is important to recognize there are basically two types of things we do here in the Senate. One is that we take up the nominations of the President's nominees, as we did with Judge Gorsuch to the Supreme Court. We do that for his Cabinet and the like. Basically, there are two choices there: yes or no.

We have decided together that all of the President's Cabinet nominees and now all of the judges will get an up-or-down vote. So we have eliminated the so-called filibuster, or the 60-vote requirement, when it comes to nominations because you can't offer an amendment to a nomination. You can't shape it in order to try to develop consensus. So I think there is a good argument that we should never have headed down the road of a filibuster of nominees. They need to get a majority vote, and if they do, then they are going to be confirmed.

Legislation is fundamentally different. We have 535 Members of Congress, all of us coming with different experience and different points of view. Again, the Founding Fathers made it hard for us to build sufficient consensus in order for us to govern this big country of ours, some 320 million people. What they understood fundamentally was that the only way that happens is when we are forced to govern by consensus; that is, to build sufficient votes in order to have some stability and durability in the laws we pass. Laws having to do with Medicare and Social Security were controversial in their day, but there was bipartisan consensus that supported them, and that is why they remain durable to this day.

I have heard people recently—actually since the election and actually as

recently as today—say ''Well, maybe we ought to do away with the 60-vote cloture requirement,'' which is another way of saying ''Let's do away with the filibuster on legislation.'' Well, I think I know how Members of the Senate feel about that, by and large. If I am not mistaken, the Senator from Maine, our friend Ms. COLLINS, and others led an effort to get 61 signatures from Senators saying they didn't believe we should ever do away with the legislative filibuster, and I agree with that. It is very important that in a country as big and diverse as ours, with 535 Members of Congress, that we be forced or strongly encouraged, at least, to build consensus before we pass laws that are going to govern this great and vast country of ours. That is why the cloture requirement or the filibuster requirement is still important. It may be frustrating, it may take longer to get things done, but once we get them done by bipartisan consensus, then they are durable and they will last even beyond the next President and the next administration.

There is another reason it is important to keep the filibuster requirement on legislation. That is because when we are in the minority, as Republicans have been from time to time—when the majority can't get the 60 votes because there is sufficient dissension and different points of view that deny 60 votes, then legislation can't pass because we can't cut off debate under the cloture rule.

I have in my hand a document with 15 examples of bills that our Democratic friends, when they were in the majority, supported but that failed to reach the 60-vote threshold because Republicans were not convinced, and thus cloture was not achieved and the bills were not passed. I can think of tax increases. I can think of card check in the labor law environment. I can think of measures with regard to climate change, which remains politically controversial—not the fact of climate change but, rather, what government should do to respond to it. There are examples like that and others where Republicans, even when we were in the minority, were able to stop and force a more extended conversation, to force greater effort at consensus building before we passed legislation that might have such a dramatic impact on our great country.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that this document be printed in the RECORD at the conclusion of my remarks.

Mr. President, we will continue to debate this appropriations bill this week. My hope is that we will pass it by Thursday and we will move on to our other business. I know the House of Representatives is revisiting the healthcare bill that will, once passed the House, come to the Senate, and the Senate will have an opportunity to weigh in on that, and then the consensus building will continue until we ultimately get it to the President for his signature.

Shortly behind that is going to be a pro-growth tax reform bill, which is going to be an important element of what we do this year to help get our economy growing and back on track. Again, this is something on which no individual has all the good ideas, and we are going to have to work together to get it done. I think it is very important that we get the funding of the government behind us so we can move on to healthcare reform, so we can move on to tax reform.

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

WHY THE SENATE LEGISLATIVE FILIBUSTER PROTECTS AMERICANS

FIFTEEN EXAMPLES OF DEMOCRATIC BILLS WITH MAJORITY SUPPORT THAT FAILED TO REACH THE 60-VOTE THRESHOLD

S. 3036: Climate Security Act (Cap and Trade)—Vote: 48–36 (Jun. 6, 2008)

S. 3044: Consumer-First Energy Act (Increased taxes on energy producers)—Vote: 51–43 (Jun. 10, 2008)

S. 3268: Stop Excessive Energy Speculation Act (Imposed new regulations on energy trading)—Vote: 50–43 (Jul. 25, 2008)

S. 3816: Creating American Jobs and Ending Offshoring Act (Protectionist trade policies)—Vote: 53–45 (Sept. 28, 2010)

S. 1323: Sense of the Senate regarding the budget (Resolution expressing the need to increase taxes)—Vote: 51–49 (Jul. 13, 2011)

S. 1660: American Jobs Act of 2011 (Democratic stimulus bill/Tax Hike)—Vote: 50–49 (Oct. 11 2011)

S. 2204: Repeal Big Oil Tax Subsidies Act (Raised taxes on energy producers)—Vote: 51–47 (Mar. 29 2012)

S. 2230: Paying a Fair Share Act of 2012 (''Buffet Rule'' Tax Hike)—Vote: 56–42 (Apr. 16, 2012)

S. 2237: Small Business Jobs and Tax Relief Act (Democratic stimulus bill/Tax hike)—Vote: 53–44 (Jul. 12, 2012); Vote: 57–41 (Jul. 12 2012)

S. 3369: DISCLOSE Act of 2012 (Political free speech restrictions)—Vote: 51–44 (Jul. 16, 2012); Vote: 53–45 (Jul. 17, 2012)

S. 3364: Bring Home Jobs Act (Raised taxes on American-based global businesses)—Vote: 56–42 (Jul. 19, 2012)

S. 388: American Family Economic Protection Act (Dem. sequester alternative: raised taxes and cut defense spending)—Vote: 51–49 (Feb. 28, 2013)

S. 1845: Emergency Unemployment Compensation Extension Act (Extend length of unemployment benefits, adding billions to the deficit)—Vote: 52–48 (Jan. 14, 2014); Vote: 55–45 (Jan. 14, 2014); Vote: 58–40 (Feb. 6, 2014); Vote: 55–43 (Feb. 6, 2014)

S. 2223: Minimum Wage Fairness Act (Raised the minimum wage to $10.10)—Vote: 54–42 (Apr. 30, 2014)

S. 2569: Bring Jobs Home Act (Raise taxes on American-based global businesses)—Vote: 54–42 (Jul. 30, 2014)

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. STRANGE). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Ms. WARREN. Mr. President, when he was running for President, Donald Trump laid out a pretty clear vision of how he would deal with Wall Street. He said: ''Wall Street has caused tremendous problems for us.'' He claimed he wasn't ''going to let Wall Street get away with murder,'' and he called out Goldman Sachs as the prime example of a big bank that has too much influence over the political process. That was really powerful stuff.

When Candidate Trump became President Trump, he seemed to forget every scrap of his tough-on-Wall Street talk. Within weeks of taking office, he turned over his administration's economic agenda to none other than Goldman Sachs. His senior strategist, Steve Bannon, spent half a decade at Goldman Sachs as an investment banker. His National Economic Council Director, Gary Cohn, came directly from Goldman Sachs, where he spent 25 years and rose to become President of the bank. His Secretary of the Treasury, Steve Mnuchin, spent 17 years at Goldman Sachs before leaving to start his own hedge fund, which brings us to Jay Clayton, President Trump's nominee to run the Securities and Exchange Commission. To be fair, Mr. Clayton never worked at Goldman Sachs, he just worked for Goldman Sachs, taking their money and representing them for years as a lawyer at a major New York City law firm.

So here we are, just over 8 years after Wall Street triggered a financial crisis and brought the economy to its knees, and President Trump has put the Goldman Sachs gang in charge of holding Wall Street accountable. Trump's betrayal of his campaign promises on Wall Street is shameful, but it is also dangerous, especially when it comes to picking the person to lead the SEC. The SEC is supposed to be the cop on the beat for Wall Street. That is why Congress created it in the 1930s, after fraud and other misconduct on Wall Street led to an enormous stock market crash and the Great Depression. Congress gave the SEC the authority to oversee financial markets and to hold companies and individuals accountable when they defrauded investors.

When the SEC doesn't do its job, the consequences can be devastating. Look at what happened the last time the SEC was under Republican control in the years leading up to the 2008 crisis. The SEC was asleep at the switch. While Wall Street flooded the market with dangerous securities and lied to investors, the SEC heard nothing, saw nothing, stopped nothing. The Republican-led SEC did nothing. When the

whole market blew up, it was ordinary investors and working families who got asked to bail out Wall Street.

So what kind of SEC Chairman would Mr. Clayton be? Let's start by looking at how he would lead the SEC's enforcement efforts against Wall Street, how he would be as a cop on the beat. Under ethics rules, for the first half of his term, Mr. Clayton cannot participate in any enforcement action that involves one of his former clients. That means he cannot take part in any case against Goldman Sachs. OK. But there is more. Goldman Sachs is just one of his former big bank clients. Mr. Clayton also can't take action against Deutsche Bank or against UBS or against Barclays. These are some of Wall Street's biggest and most egregious repeat offenders, and Mr. Clayton would be barred from enforcing the law against them.

That is not all. Ethics rules also prevent Mr. Clayton from participating in any enforcement case against a party that is represented by his former law firm, Sullivan and Cromwell. Sullivan and Cromwell is a premier Wall Street firm, with a long client list that includes big banks like JPMorgan Chase and the credit rating agency Moody's. That means there will likely be even more cases against top Wall Street firms that Mr. Clayton can't work on.

Here is why that matters so much. For most enforcement actions, it takes a majority vote of the five SEC Commissioners. In other words, it takes three people to advance an enforcement action. In a number of recent cases, the two Democrats have voted for stronger enforcement and the two Republicans have voted against it. If the Chairman can't vote—and Mr. Clayton can't vote if some of the biggest and most disreputable banks are involved—then the Commission is likely to come up short of the necessary three votes. You know what that means. It means the banks walk free. Confirming Mr. Clayton to run the SEC will almost certainly result in weaker enforcement against the major players on Wall Street.

Mr. Clayton is also likely to pursue a Wall Street-friendly agenda when it comes to the SEC's rulemaking responsibilities. When he testified before me and before other members of the Banking Committee, Mr. Clayton refused to commit to completing the rules that Congress asked the SEC to write all the way back in 2010 as part of its postcrisis financial reforms. Mr. Clayton even refused to commit to implementing and enforcing some of the postcrisis rules that the SEC has already finalized and put in place.

I don't have any faith that Mr. Clayton will be the kind of tough, independent leader we need at the SEC. His nomination is just one more broken promise, one more time that Donald Trump has put Wall Street ahead of the interests of the American people. The last time a Republican President led us down this path, it resulted in the worst financial crash of our lifetime. We can't go down that path again.

I will be voting against Mr. Clayton's nomination, and I urge my colleagues to do the same.

Thank you, Mr. President.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. SCOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that at 5:20 p.m. today, all postcloture time on the Clayton nomination be considered expired and the Senate proceed to vote on the nomination with no intervening action or debate. I further ask that, if confirmed, the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action and that the Senate proceed to a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

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

RECESS

Mr. SCOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in recess as under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 12:28 p.m., recessed until 2:15 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. PORTMAN).

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I rise in opposition to the nomination of Jay Clayton to serve as Chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission. Americans deserve a Chair who will run the SEC on their behalf, not for the benefit of Wall Street banks and big corporations. Far too many folks in this town have collective amnesia about the costs of the last financial crisis: $19 trillion lost in household wealth, 8 million jobs lost, more than 15 million foreclosures, hundreds and hundreds of them in the Presiding Officer's and my State.

Those numbers don't seem to get better as time goes by. All over the country, in Ohio and elsewhere, families want strong rules that prevent banks from doing as they please, enriching themselves at the expense of others and then handing the bill to American taxpayers. The most basic duty of the Chair of the SEC is leading his fellow Commissioners through tough issues and policing Wall Street.

Mr. Clayton will fall woefully short. His law firm, his former clients will create a steady stream of conflicts of interest, forcing him to recuse himself in cases involving former clients for 2 of the 4 years he would serve as Chair.

He will be sitting on the sidelines on potential enforcement actions because of his representation in the work he did prior to being at the SEC. That is not draining the swamp. Goldman Sachs, Deutsche Bank, Royal Bank of Canada, UBS—he will have to recuse himself on all of those cases. That does not sound like someone who will be in there fighting for the American people or working to protect America's financial markets.

It is not a theoretical concern. Former Chair White faced conflicts and recusals in more than four dozen enforcement investigations in her first 2 years. In those cases, big banks, like Bank of America, used those recusals to their advantage when the Commission was deadlocked. That undermines the Commission's authority. That is why I opposed Ms. White for her position—one of the same reasons I am opposing Mr. Clayton. Instead of confirming the same kind of nominees we have had in the past, with dozens of conflicts of interest and recusals, we should be considering someone who actually will work to protect investors.

At his hearing, Mr. Clayton failed to provide clear answers to questions about how he would approach enforcement matters. He gave empty answers about punishing bad actors and individual accountability.

Accounting fraud, selling toxic derivatives, and corporate foreign corruption usually involve senior management and happen because the tone from the top allows it to happen. Mr. Clayton does not see it that way. He spent his career representing—excuse me—protecting Wall Street banks. That history guides his view on how SEC enforcement should work.

According to Mr. Clayton, the SEC should proceed with caution, even before opening an investigation. That is not his job. His job is to open investigations when it looks like there is wrongdoing. He says it would have serious adverse impacts on respondents. He has it totally backward. Not investigating companies that may be committing fraud or other abuses because it might create problems for them—how about the American public?

How about the neighborhood I live in in Cleveland, OH, 44105? That ZIP Code had more foreclosures than any ZIP Code in the United States in 2007. That is partly because of a lack of enforcement at the SEC. I see it up close. I

know what that means to our communities. I know what it means to our country.

Acting Chair Piwowar began undermining the SEC's enforcement division in his first month on the job. He reversed steps taken by the two previous Chairs that empowered the SEC's enforcement staff to open and pursue investigations.

I am concerned about Dodd-Frank rules. If he is confirmed, he will have to answer for the unilateral rollback of final Wall Street reform rules that this acting SEC Chair, Mr. Piwowar, has already undertaken. Wall Street reform rules requiring disclosure of CEO-to-worker pay ratios—all the kinds of things that this Congress overwhelmingly decided Congress should do and the SEC should do.

For years, Congress has funded the SEC below the levels requested, despite more responsibilities and increasing marketplace complexity and sophistication. I am concerned about Mr. Clayton's likely behavior in that regard also.

Last, public service is important. It is valuable. It should not be viewed as a chance to push the favorite policies of big corporations. That is what we have seen too often in this town.

This nominee, Mr. Clayton, who comes from Wall Street, who is part of Wall Street, we know from past experience will protect Wall Street at the SEC—the wrong thing to do. From his background, his answers to the questions in the committee's hearing and questions for the record, I am not convinced that Mr. Clayton comes close to being the best person for the job. I will oppose his nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from South Dakota.

AGRICULTURE

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, the past 8 years have been tough on Americans. Despite the fact that the recession officially ended in June of 2009, the economy never really rebounded. President Obama presided over the weakest economic recovery in 60 years. His Presidency was characterized by poor economic growth, a dearth of jobs and opportunities, and almost nonexistent wage increases.

In 2016, the economy grew at a dismal 1.6 percent, far below the level of growth displayed by a healthy economy. Typically 3 to 3½ percent is the average, going back to World War II. The GDP report for the first quarter of this year underscored the need to implement the kind of pro-growth policies that were lacking during the Obama years. Republicans in Congress and the White House have already acted to repeal a number of burdensome Obama regulations that were foisted onto the American people near the end of his Presidency. We plan to keep up our efforts.

Getting rid of unnecessary regulations will go a long way toward freeing up businesses to grow and create jobs and put more money in Americans pockets. Of course, repealing burdensome regulations is just one of the things we need to get our economy healthy again. Fixing our broken Tax Code is another. As a member of the tax-writing Senate Finance Committee, I will be introducing tax reform legislation in the near future, targeted primarily for Main Street businesses that pay taxes at the individual rate.

I am looking forward to working on comprehensive tax reform with Chairman HATCH and the rest of my colleagues on the Finance Committee as we move forward this year. It is critical that passthrough businesses, which are the main focus of my bill, are not left behind in this effort.

Today, I want to talk about spurring growth in a specific sector of our economy, one that is very important to my home state; that is, the agricultural sector. Like so many other Americans, farmers and ranchers in South Dakota and across the country have had a rough time of it over the past few years. Market prices for farm and ranch products have been on a steady decline since 2013, and net farm income has dropped substantially as a result of that. Worse, there is little expectation that prices will improve over the next few years, which means farmers' and ranchers' incomes are likely to continue to decrease.

Farmers are struggling to repay their debts. Between 2014 and 2016, the delinquency rates on farm non-real estate loans more than doubled. Delinquencies on farm real estate loans rose from $1.18 billion in 2014 to $1.66 billion in 2016. While these numbers are not all-time highs, the increases are disturbing and show no signs of reversing any time soon.

Farming and ranching are not just careers in South Dakota; they are a way of life, one that connects communities and families to the land and one generation to the next. Nearly 3,000 South Dakota farm families have been honored as operating century farms, meaning the same family has operated at least 80 acres of that farm for 100 years or more. But in today's weak agricultural economy, many families are afraid they will be the ones to lose the farm or ranch that has been in their family for generations. That would be a loss not just for them but for our country.

Few of us understand the sacrifices that go into this way of life. When we pick up a gallon of milk or a loaf of bread at the grocery store, we don't think of the farmer who rose long before the Sun and finished his day long after the Sun had set. Our country is made stronger by the hard work, fierce dedication, and unconquerable spirit of America's farmers.

We need to make a concerted effort to help farmers meet the challenges they are facing right now so that America can continue to help feed the world and Americans can continue to have access to the home-grown products they depend upon.

So how do we do that? One thing we can do that would immediately improve agricultural prices would be to quickly negotiate new bilateral trade agreements. Agriculture is heavily dependent upon trade, and in today's economic climate, we cannot afford to have our agricultural exports restricted by inadequate trade policies.

U.S. farmers have lost ground internationally. Our current share of the global grain market is just 30 percent, down from 65 percent in the mid-1970s. We need to take steps to level the playing field for American farmers and ranchers so they can be more competitive internationally. I have encouraged the President to start by negotiating a bilateral trade agreement with Japan.

Japan is one of our most important trading partners, but U.S. farmers too often face hefty tariffs on the products they sell in Japan. U.S. negotiators made important progress toward reducing these barriers during the Trans-Pacific Partnership negotiations.

We need to build on the work they did and negotiate a bilateral agreement with Japan as soon as possible. This would benefit a wide variety of American producers, including South Dakota beef producers who currently face a massive 38.5-percent tariff on the beef they sell in Japan.

Trade agreements would help tremendously, but there is more we need to do to ensure the long-term sustainability of production agriculture in the United States.

Every 5 years, Congress has the opportunity to reset Federal farm policy when it passes the farm bill. The current farm bill expires in 2018, and it is not too early to start the drafting process for the next bill.

I served on the Agriculture Committee in the House and now serve on the Senate Agriculture Committee under the strong leadership of my friend from Kansas, Chairmanship PAT ROBERTS. I will be working on my fourth farm bill, and I take this responsibility very seriously.

I spend a lot of time talking to farmers and ranchers while I am back home in South Dakota, and I have been developing legislation based on the feedback they give me about Federal programs. I have already introduced two key proposals that I hope will be part of the final farm bill that we pass next year, and I will be introducing several more farm bill legislative proposals this year.

All farmers are familiar with the Conservation Reserve Program, or CRP, which provides incentives for farmers to take environmentally sensitive land out of production for 10 to 15 years. But a lot of farmers have told

me that they don't want to retire portions of their land for a decade or more. To address this, I am proposing a new program that would reduce operating costs by providing a modest rental payment and increasing crop insurance premium discounts.

The program I am proposing, the Soil Health and Income Protection Program, would provide a new, short-term option for farmers that would allow them to take their worst performing cropland out of production for 3 to 5 years, instead of the 10 to 15 years required by CRP rules. This program would result in improved soil health and reduced crop insurance costs, and it would provide beneficial areas for wildlife while also improving the bottom line for participating farms.

The other key proposal I have introduced would make a number of revisions and management improvements to the CRP program and other U.S. Department of Agriculture easement programs.

CRP plays a very significant role in South Dakota's economy, as it provides a major portion of the habitat for the Chinese ringneck pheasant, which brings more than $250 million each year to my State's rural areas, towns, and cities. Unfortunately, farmers have spent years frustrated by some of the ways the Department of Agriculture has managed this program.

We need to make sure that Federal farm programs don't discourage farmers and ranchers from participating, especially in times like these, when these programs are sorely needed to provide valuable safety net assistance and to help protect soil and water.

My conservation program legislation addresses major concerns that farmers have with CRP and other USDA conservation programs by allowing commonsense use and management of land enrolled in these programs, which improves these programs for farmers and at the same time saves taxpayers' money.

My legislation also expands the CRP acreage cap by 25 percent and uses historical acreage averages to make sure CRP will be available in States that have used it and that need it the most. Above all, the acres enrolled in CRP and other easement programs must be effectively used and managed to maximize their usefulness and effectiveness for land and water conservation and wildlife, and I will work to make that happen.

In addition, both of my legislative proposals contain provisions to provide additional support to young, beginning, and socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers, as well as to military veterans. We need to ensure that young and beginning farmers and ranchers and others have opportunities to succeed, especially now, when even seasoned farmers are struggling.

Along with trade agreements and the farm bill, there are other things we can do to help farmers and ranchers and small businesses. This year, we plan to take up major reform of our broken, bloated Tax Code. Making sure that we consider the needs of farmers and ranchers during this debate will be one of my priorities.

We can also help farmers and ranchers by removing burdensome government regulations that do little to help the environment but force farmers to spend untold hours and dollars on compliance.

One example of this kind of burdensome regulation is the so-called waters of the United States rule, something with which every farmer and rancher is familiar. This EPA regulation improperly used the Clean Water Act to justify expanding the EPA's regulatory authority to waters like small wetlands, creeks, stock ponds, and ditches. The rule specifically targeted the Prairie Pothole Region, which covers five States, including nearly all of eastern South Dakota. I am grateful that the President chose to protect farmers and ranchers by announcing a review of this rule in February of this year.

We could further support American farmers by removing yet another unnecessary regulatory hurdle, and that is the Reid vapor pressure regulation, which restricts the sale of E15 fuel during the summer driving season.

Providing a waiver for E15, as enjoyed by other fuels, is a bipartisan, no-cost way to roll back regulation and grant consumers real choice at the pumps, as well as to help our farmers.

Our Nation and the world depend on American farmers and ranchers. We need to make sure they can sustain their operations and continue to efficiently feed America and the world.

I look forward to continuing our work on tax, trade, regulatory, and farm bill policies that support farmers and ranchers in South Dakota and throughout our country.

When agriculture does well, I would argue, our national economy does well.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

MONTANA AG SUMMIT

Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, I have some good news from Montana. A week ago yesterday, the U.S. Senate voted to confirm former Georgia Governor Sonny Perdue to be our next Secretary of Agriculture. When we met prior to his confirmation hearing, Secretary Perdue and I discussed Montana ag and the need to expand agricultural access to foreign markets. I know he will prioritize the ag industry during his time in office, and I am pleased to share that I will be hosting the Secretary in Montana for the Montana Ag Summit that is going to be held in Great Falls at the end of this month.

Back in March, during the Secretary's confirmation hearing, I extended an invitation to join us in Montana's Golden Triangle as we discuss the issue of strengthening international relationships for Montana's agriculture. The Golden Triangle is where my great-great-grandmother homesteaded as she moved from Minnesota—a Norwegian immigrant—to Montana.

At the Ag Summit, we will showcase the technological advancements that are changing the way we produce crops and livestock, promote the next generation of ag producers, and discuss the challenges ag producers face as a result of our Federal policies and regulations. The Montana Ag Summit will bring together leaders from across the agricultural industry to hear from our keynote speakers, which include Secretary Perdue and my colleague and friend and the chairman of the U.S. Senate Ag Committee, Senator PAT ROBERTS from Kansas. Nothing takes the place of hearing directly from Montanans and seeing our great State with your own eyes.

I have been a strong advocate for Montana ag since coming to Washington, DC, and it is a privilege to serve as Montana's only representative on the U.S. Senate Ag Committee. Whenever I get the chance, I talk about Montana's ag industry and advocate for regulation reform and for additional opportunities for our ag producers to compete on a level playing field.

Another critical issue for farmers and ranchers in Montana and around the Nation is opening up more market opportunities for the ag industry. In fact, earlier this past month, 38 of my colleagues and I wrote to President Trump asking him to prioritize reopening China's markets to U.S. beef in his discussions with Chinese President Xi Jinping. China is Montana's third leading trade partner after Canada and South Korea.

It is important to remember that 95 percent of the world's consumers live outside of the United States. While the Chinese ban on U.S. beef imports was lifted last fall, more needs to be done to actually see U.S. beef on the shelves of Chinese grocery stores. You see, China is the second largest beef import market in the world.

I can say it was an honor to personally present some of Miles City's famous and finest beef to Chinese Premier Li Keqiang from Fred Wacker's ranch out of Miles City. I will get Montana beef in China if I have to take it over myself.

Montana's No. 1 industry and economic driver is agriculture. With over

27,000 farms in the State, Montana ag is nearly $5 billion strong. By the way, Montana is now the leading pulse crop producer in the Nation.

Last week, President Trump unveiled his tax reform plan, which, among many proposals, includes a full repeal of the death tax—a full, permanent repeal of the death tax. This is a tax that directly impacts many Montana farm and ranch families. In fact, I heard a story from a Montana rancher a couple of weeks ago of his having the sudden, unexpected passing of his mother and his father. It is a multigenerational ranch operation in Montana that had a huge tax liability—in the millions of dollars—that it had to pay to the IRS because of the death tax.

I have been calling for a repeal of the death tax since I first came to Washington, DC—one of the most immoral taxes on the books—because I understand how these taxes can cause family farms and family ranches to break up and to be sold off.

The bottom line is this. You cannot feed a nation without farmers and ranchers, and you cannot have opportunity economies without actual opportunities to meet the needs of not only our State, of not only our Nation but of the world.

As the U.S. Congress and the Trump administration continue to work together, I am excited to see that ag is a priority. I look forward to working with my colleagues in the U.S. Senate, as well as in the Trump administration, to advance policies and solutions to the barriers that our Nation's ag producers face, and I really look forward to the upcoming Montana Ag Summit in Great Falls later this month.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HOEVEN). The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, I rise today to speak in opposition to the confirmation of Jay Clayton as Chair of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

Just 100 days into the Trump administration, the truth is becoming crystal clear to the American people: There is no ''America first'' policy, and there certainly is no ''middle class first'' policy. There is just one policy, and that is a ''Wall Street first'' policy. It is a policy designed to steer even more wealth and more power to those who are plenty wealthy and plenty powerful, a policy built on the misguided view that our economy does better when banks do as they please, when CEOs receive runaway pay, and when bigger profits never translate into bigger paychecks for workers. That is why we have seen no Executive orders designed to hold big banks accountable, no Executive orders designed to protect borrowers from abusive student loan companies, no Executive orders helping more workers save for retirement. Instead, we see the administration rolling back protections for consumers and students and seniors, actively exploring how to put taxpayers back on the hook for Wall Street's recklessness, and ordering oversight agencies to, quite simply, conduct less oversight.

There is no greater example of the Trump administration's ''Wall Street first'' policy than its decision to nominate Jay Clayton as the Chair of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

The SEC is our Federal Government's cop on the Wall Street beat. And let's remember why we have a Securities and Exchange Commission and why it needs to be the cop on the beat. In 1929, the stock market crashed, and our Nation was sent into a deep and devastating depression. That is why President Franklin Roosevelt signed financial reforms into law aimed at curbing rampant speculation and risky behavior on Wall Street, and the creation of the Securities and Exchange Commission was one of those reforms.

The SEC was designed to enact safeguards and promote fairness in our markets, to protect investors and prosecute fraud, and to ensure that our businesses have access to capital so they can grow and create jobs. When we have a watchdog ensuring that everyone plays by the rules, risk is more distributed, markets are more stable, and capital is more available.

The American people know all too well what happens when we take our eyes off of Wall Street. Not even a decade has passed since the worst financial collapse in 80 years put taxpayers on the line for billions of dollars—billions of dollars—in bailouts.

In the years leading up to the crash, our regulators, including the SEC, turned a blind eye to excessive risk-taking and corporate misconduct. We needed a cop on the beat, but instead we had a regulator asleep at the switch. As a result, we suffered a crisis that cost 8.5 million Americans their jobs and 10 million Americans their homes—8.5 million Americans their jobs and 10 million Americans their homes—a crisis that destroyed $19 trillion in household wealth and left small businesses devastated nationwide, a crisis that sank local and State governments into a sea of red ink. And, of course, it left us with the great recession. It took us years to dig this economy out of that ditch. Now, after all we have been through, is it really time to go easier on Wall Street?

Since the financial crisis, the SEC has been instrumental in reshaping the rules of the road and holding corporation wrongdoers accountable. Now, less than a decade since that devastating crisis, this administration wants to give the keys to the castle to one of Wall Street's most loyal guardians.

We need someone at the helm willing to root out bad behavior in our financial sector, but Mr. Clayton is not that someone. He is no expert in enforcing the law. Indeed, Mr. Clayton has made a career out of fighting the SEC and other financial regulators on behalf of Wall Street's biggest institutions. His resume is built around defending Wall Street's most notorious offenders from ever being held accountable.

Let me again remind my colleagues that the SEC was not created to be Wall Street's support group in Washington. Investors and the American public at large deserve an SEC Chair who will fight to hold firms accountable, who will prosecute misconduct and wrongdoing, and who will improve investor protections. Mr. Clayton has not met that burden.

There are three reasons why I am concerned that an SEC led by Mr. Clayton would be an SEC that bends the rules for corporations and ignores the needs of hard-working Americans.

First is Mr. Clayton's singular focus on corporate bottom lines. When asked to lay out his vision for the agency, Mr. Clayton offered no path to preventing another financial crisis. He provided no commitment to strengthening the agency's enforcement abilities, and he callously overlooked investor protections. Mr. Clayton failed to give an iota of support to anything other than boosting corporate bottom lines. He spoke exclusively about reducing compliance and registration costs for companies, and that is all fine, but not at the expense of critical investor protections and of healthy, stable, and fair markets for the economy at large.

Let's remember why this is important. Without strong protections and disclosures, we will sacrifice investor confidence. And when we sacrifice investor confidence, less capital will flow through our markets. When less capital flows through markets, businesses will struggle to grow and to innovate. In other words, a stable and fair financial sector is vital to our economy as a whole.

My second concern involves Mr. Clayton's potential conflicts of interest. Mr. Clayton has spent his entire career representing big players on Wall Street before, during, and after the crisis. His work has undoubtedly produced many conflicts of interest. As a result, Mr. Clayton will be forced to sit out of numerous important decisions integral to the role of the SEC Chair. This is a problem because the SEC currently has just two Commissioners. The absence of Mr. Clayton could very well undermine the agency's ability to prosecute wrongdoing on Wall Street.

Finally, I was alarmed by Mr. Clayton's refusal to answer any questions of substance during his confirmation hearing.

When asked if he would implement congressionally mandated rules, like the provision I wrote into Dodd-Frank requiring corporations to disclose how much money CEOs make in comparison to their employees, Mr. Clayton gave no straight answer.

When asked if he would fairly consider the 1.2 million comments—the greatest number of comments ever received on any SEC rulemaking process by the SEC—urging that companies disclose their political spending, Mr. Clayton gave no straight answer.

Finally, when asked if he would restore the subpoena power of the SEC attorneys so that they can initiate investigations, Mr. Clayton showed his true colors. When it comes to enforcement at the SEC, he said we had to be ''mindful that even the commencement of an investigation can have significant adverse impacts'' on public companies. So instead of explaining his vision as SEC's Chair and the SEC's role as a cop on the beat, he said the agency should consider a company's bottom line before investigating potential wrongdoing. This, to me, is in essence what defines this nominee's approach and this administration's approach: Wall Street profits that prevail over Main Street protections, no matter the risks posed to the American people. It is precisely this kind of thinking that made our system too vulnerable to a financial crisis of epic proportions.

Given Mr. Clayton's inability and refusal to answer basic questions about important issues—like whether he would restore the authority of the Securities and Exchange Enforcement Division or implement the CEO-to-worker pay ratio rule mandated by Congress or require disclosure of corporate political spending—1.2 million citizen comments, the greatest in the history of the SEC—or ensure that retail investors receive advice that is in their best interests—I can't help but conclude that Mr. Clayton appears best suited to continue representing Wall Street rather than to working on behalf of the American people.

The President's nomination of Mr. Clayton is a bow to Wall Street and a cold shoulder to hard-working, middle-class families. I will not be voting for his confirmation.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I rise in opposition to the nomination of Jay Clayton to be Chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission, SEC.

Mr. Clayton has achieved great personal success as a corporate attorney, where for years he represented some of our Nation's largest financial institutions, such as Bear Stearns, Lehman Brothers, and Goldman Sachs. Personal success is not the same as being willing to safeguard the interests of all who participate in and rely on our capital markets, especially working-class Americans, as I believe a good SEC Chairman must. Based on Mr. Clayton's testimony and his answers to my questions and those of my colleagues on the Banking Committee, I am unable to support his confirmation.

As more and more working-class Americans know, pensions are becoming rarer, and more American families, assuming they even have extra money to spare from their paychecks, must invest in securities to save for retirement or send their kids to college. The integrity and efficiency of our capital markets then are not only of great importance to the megabanks and tycoon investors, but also to working-class Americans.

It is therefore in all of our interests to have strong and vigilant Federal financial regulators who can help ensure we avoid another financial crisis. While the megabanks have bounced back after staring into the abyss, the last financial crisis, which began in the Bush administration, had devastating consequences on working-class Americans, too many of whom lost their jobs, their nest eggs, and their homes. While the Dow Jones Industrial Average has recovered, the impacts are still felt by too many in Rhode Island and throughout the country.

While it is vitally important to help small businesses raise capital and grow their companies by actually creating jobs here in the United States, it is also equally essential that we have a strong cop on the beat that upholds and improves the integrity of our capital markets.

Initially, I was encouraged to read in Mr. Clayton's testimony before the Senate Banking Committee that ''there is zero room for bad actors in our capital markets'' and that ''I am 100 percent committed to rooting out any fraud and shady practices in our financial system.''

During his confirmation hearing, I asked Mr. Clayton if he would support my bipartisan legislation with Senator GRASSLEY that would deter fraud by increasing the statutory limits on civil monetary penalties. Our legislation responds to former SEC Chair Mary Shapiro's statement that ''the Commission's statutory authority to obtain civil monetary penalties with appropriate deterrent effect is limited in many circumstances.'' In his response to me, Mr. Clayton said, ''I am very willing to take a look at the issue and work with you on it and give you my views after I've been better educated on it.'' I accepted this response for the time being and wrote to Mr. Clayton after the hearing to ask for his thoughts on this matter now that he had time to study the issue.

He responded: ''As a general matter, I believe that the effective empowerment and functioning of the SEC Enforcement Division are fundamental to the fair and efficient functioning of our markets and the protection of investors. Under existing law, the Commission has the authority to seek civil monetary penalties in a number of circumstances. I would not want the Division or Commission to be unnecessarily or inappropriately constrained in pursuing civil monetary penalties, which can serve an important deterrent effect in appropriate circumstances. If confirmed as Chair, I will work with my fellow Commissioners and the Enforcement Division staff to enforce the law as it is written, including with respect to civil monetary penalties. I also would be willing to engage with Congress regarding any changes to the SEC's statutory authority to seek monetary penalties that Congress deems appropriate.''

I am glad Mr. Clayton agrees that penalties can serve as deterrents, and I appreciate the fact that Mr. Clayton would not want the SEC to be ''unnecessarily or inappropriately constrained in pursuing civil monetary penalties.'' Indeed, what appears to be constraining the SEC in part is exactly what former Chair Schapiro said, that penalty limits are not high enough to serve as effective deterrents. Given this, I do not understand Mr. Clayton's hesitation in clearly supporting my bipartisan legislation with Senator GRASSLEY. This does not sound like a 100 percent commitment to ''rooting out any fraud and shady practices in our financial system.''

This is just one example, but based on a review of his record and his responses to the committee's questions, I am not confident Mr. Clayton will vigorously work to protect all investors, in the same way as he throughout his career has defended the interests of his corporate and megabank clients, particularly when those interests may come into conflict, as we know they will. In my opinion, there should be no question of an SEC chairman's willingness to stand up and fight for working-class Americans and mom-and-pop investors.

Indeed, as Senator BROWN, the ranking member of the Senate Banking Committee, has stated himself, ''it's not the first time we've seen a nominee like Mr. Clayton. I was concerned about Mary Jo White's conflicts and corporate law background. She was conflicted in dozens of high-profile cases, and then a month after stepping down as Chair, she returned to her old law firm. As a lawyer might say—that's bad precedent.''

What we need is a strong SEC Chair that will vigorously protect and defend the interests of all American investors. I hope he proves me wrong, but based on the record before me, I am not convinced Mr. Clayton is up to this task, and therefore, I cannot vote to confirm him.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, I oppose the confirmation of Jay Clayton to be a member of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

When the stock market crashed in 1929, public confidence in the markets plummeted as well. Investors large and small lost their life's savings. Congress responded with laws to help rebuild public faith in the markets. Thus in the wake of the Great Depression, Congress created the Securities and Exchange Commission to protect investors and maintain fair, orderly, and efficient markets.

Congress designed the SEC to see that investors and the markets have reliable information and clear rules for honest dealing. The SEC's job is to make sure that brokers, dealers, and exchanges put investors' interests first. The SEC ensures that companies offering securities for investment tell the public the truth about their businesses, the securities they are selling, and the risks involved.

Congress took pains to create the SEC to have some distance from Wall Street. The law provides that no Commissioner can engage in any business or employment other than serving as Commissioner. The law prohibits any Commissioner from participating in any stock transactions of a type that the Commission regulates.

Mr. Clayton has extensive experience working in capital markets. He has represented a long list of financial firms. His numerous conflicts may make him captive to the industry that President Trump nominated him to police. One of his better-known clients is Goldman Sachs. The Department of Justice found that Goldman Sachs falsely assured investors that sound mortgages backed securities that Goldman sold, when Goldman knew that these securities were full of mortgages that were likely to fail.

During his confirmation hearing, I asked Mr. Clayton about Goldman Sachs' $5 billion settlement with the Department of Justice. I asked Mr. Clayton if he felt that Goldman Sachs had been engaged in shady practices, but Mr. Clayton said only that he felt the case stood on its own. I cannot comprehend why Mr. Clayton demurred on this topic. We should all be able to agree that if a firm pays $5 billion in a settlement, it was engaged in shady practices, to say the least.

Duriing Mr. Clayton's confirmation hearing, he said that he is ''100 percent committed to rooting out any fraud and shady practices in our financial system.'' If he is confirmed, I hope he stands by that pledge.

The SEC, investors, and the American people need an independent voice. They need a politically independent voice, as well as a voice that can be independent enough to make tough enforcement decisions about the financial firms it regulates. I have serious doubts that Mr. Clayton can be that voice; thus I oppose his nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Virginia.

GOVERNMENT FUNDING LEGISLATION

Mr. KAINE. Mr. President, I rise to talk about the short-term budget resolution we will be voting on within the next couple of days and a quote the President made this morning.

The bipartisan agreement we are going to tackle on the floor to extend the Federal budget past the CR deadline through the end of September is salutary. It is salutary because the two Houses worked together to find an agreement.

I can see things in the agreement I like, and I can see things in the agreement I don't like. That is the nature of budget agreements. My principal disappointment with the agreement is that we should have done it in December. I will actually give credit to my Senate colleagues on both sides of the aisle. We were ready to do this deal in December. The Appropriations Committees in both Houses had met. We were ready to do a deal that would then give everybody in government—but, more importantly, all of our citizens and all of our businesses—some certainty about what would happen between that vote in December and the end of the fiscal year, September 30.

The incoming administration, not yet in office, dispatched the Vice President and others to the Hill and said: Don't do a budget. Don't do the omnibus bill. We want to have the ability to work on it ourselves.

I think this was against the better judgment of both sides in the Senate. A decision was made: We won't do an omnibus bill in December. We recessed on the 10th. We had plenty of time to get work done. Instead, we would do a CR through April 28.

I think my colleagues were right to want to do it in December. Nevertheless, we put everybody through the hoops of this: Is there going to be a shutdown, or what are we going to do?

Now, apparently, we will have a deal. We will discuss it, and I hope we will vote in favor of it.

We could have gotten the same deal in December. We would have given people more certainty. They could have adjusted. We could have not frightened people about a shutdown and done other productive work. Nevertheless, we have a deal which I plan to support.

But I was very interested this morning—very interested and, I will be blunt, very disturbed—with the President's words. At 8:07 this morning, he put out a tweet about the deal, about a bipartisan deal reached by two Republican Houses, with Democrats included—as we ought to be, because we represent a lot of the American public. This is the quote:

Either elect more Republican Senators in 2018 or change the rules now to 51%. Our country needs a good ''shutdown'' in September to fix mess!

So what I want to talk about today is whether there is a good shutdown of the government of the United States—whether there is such a thing as a good shutdown. Is it right for the President of the United States to hope for a good shutdown of the government of the greatest Nation on Earth?

I can't imagine that a CEO—any CEO we would admire—would call for a shutdown of his own company. That is what President Trump now is. He is the Commander in Chief and the Chief Executive of the government of the greatest Nation on Earth. He apparently believes there could be a good shutdown of this government in September.

I want to take us back to the fall of 2013. In the fall of 2013, the government was shut down for about 16 days in October. It was my first year as a Senator. That was bad. It was bad in Virginia, a State with 170,000 Federal employees, who didn't know whether or not there would be work to do, when they would return to work, or whether they would be paid for those days. It was bad for veterans whose claims to get a disability benefit were already too backed up and who couldn't get their calls and questions answered. It was bad for veterans whose requests for medical appointments were already too backed up and, in the uncertainty of a shutdown, they didn't know when they would be resolved. It was in October, which is the high season of tourism in Virginia. It was bad for one of my smallest communities, Accomack County, on the Eastern Shore of Virginia, which is adjacent to the Chincoteague National Seashore. They count on October tourism as a huge part of their local economy, but when the Federal parks shut down, it was bad for their economy. It was bad for economies near Shenandoah National Park to have that park shut down in the heart of fall leaf season, which is the time they count on to help their small businesses succeed. It was bad for people on military bases, when DOD civilians were being furloughed—civilians like nurses at hospitals, and childcare workers who provide childcare to military families on military bases. They didn't know when they would be reopening. I see nothing good about a shutdown of the Government of the United States.

In fact, it was the first Republican President in the address at Gettysburg who said: The question that we always have to grapple with is whether government by, of, and for the people shall perish from the Earth. I think the answer to that question is that it should not perish from the Earth—not for a year, not for a month, not for a week, not for a day, not for an hour. There should not be a shutdown of the government of the United States. There is no such thing as a good shutdown.

So I just wanted to come to the floor today and be very, very blunt. On behalf of anybody in Virginia and in this country who is afraid of how a government shutdown could impact them or their communities; on behalf of troops, veterans, military families, and members of our Department of Defense who keep us safe every day; on behalf of veterans who fought for this country and who need the Federal Government to cut the backlog on disability claims or medical appointments at the VA; on behalf of every senior citizen or disabled person who has a case awaiting resolution by Social Security or Medicare or CMS; on behalf of 170,000 Federal employees living in Virginia and the people and communities they serve; on behalf of cities and counties around Virginia that rely on Federal support for infrastructure projects, economic development assistance, opioid prevention efforts, export promotion, and so many other critical programs; on behalf of Virginians struggling with disease and illness who pray for lifesaving cures developed through federally funded medical research; on behalf of our dynamic businesses and all of their workers, who need certainty from Washington in order to create jobs and expand the economy; on behalf of Virginia students and families who rely on Head Start Programs or rely on federally funded work study programs so they can work their way through college; on behalf of all Virginians and all Americans who deserve to have clean water, breathable air, beautiful open space, safe food and drugs, violence-free communities, a functional immigration system, and protection from cyber threats; and on behalf of the reputation of this Nation and the values that we proudly claim as American values, I will do anything and everything in my power as a U.S. Senator to stop any Trump shutdown, to stop any good shutdown of the government of the greatest Nation on this Earth, either now or during September or during the remainder of his term. I call on all of my colleagues to take a similar pledge.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

SPACE WEATHER RESEARCH AND FORECASTING ACT

Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, I rise today to ask for Senate approval of legislation that I sponsored, along with my friend and colleague from across the aisle, Senator CORY GARDNER of Colorado.

Earlier this year, we introduced the Space Weather Research and Forecasting Act with Senators Booker, Wicker, and Klobuchar, and it went on to pass unanimously by the full Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation in January.

Space weather, which includes solar flares and coronal mass ejections caused by the constantly changing conditions in the Sun's magnetic fields, regularly hurls ionized gas toward the Earth. This can potentially devastate our infrastructure and significantly disrupt our economy. The chances of Earth being hit by a severe space weather event are roughly the same as a magnitude 8 earthquake striking the United States, but the impact to our way of life would be absolutely catastrophic.

According to NASA, Earth was narrowly missed by a large space weather event in 2012, which could have resulted in a worst-case scenario impact to Earth. A report by Lloyd's of London estimates that a worst-case scenario space weather event could cost up to $2.6 trillion and impact as many as 40 million people by causing outages at electric utilities, disrupting GPS communication networks, and forcing airlines to reroute air traffic.

The potential disruption to these critical sectors of our economy makes space weather a threat we must understand better. Scientists across the globe, including in my home State of Michigan, are working to improve our understanding of space weather and how outputs from the Sun interact with the Earth's magnetic field and atmosphere. For years, NASA, NOAA, the National Science Foundation, and the Department of Defense have funded this critical research.

The work of scientists and engineers at these agencies and universities across the country will help us better predict solar events and improve our ability to protect the infrastructure of the United States. But as we increasingly realize the magnitude of this threat, we need national leadership to focus our resources, coordinate planning, and prepare for space weather events.

This bipartisan legislation sets national priorities to increase and improve space weather observations, science, and forecasting abilities. This research will improve our efforts to predict and to mitigate the effects of space weather events on Earth and in space.

Space weather is not science fiction. If we don't prepare ourselves, the impact could be catastrophic. But by learning to make better predictions, issue more effective warnings, and take precautions for when that inevitable day comes to pass, we can prevent space weather from wreaking costly havoc or disrupting our daily lives.

It is imperative that we invest in science and technologies to better understand space weather. It is imperative that we act on that knowledge and understanding to protect our critical infrastructure. It is, therefore, imperative that we move quickly to sign into law the Space Weather Research and Forecasting Act.

As in legislative session, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 29, S. 141.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 141) to improve understanding and forecasting of space weather events, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Space Weather Research and Forecasting Act''.

SEC. 2. SPACE WEATHER.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle VI of title 51, United States Code, is amended by adding after chapter 605 the following:

''CHAPTER 607—SPACE WEATHER

''60701. Space weather.
''60702. Observations and forecasting.
''60703. Research and technology.
''60704. Space weather data.

''§ 60701. Space weather

''(a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

''(1) Space weather events pose a significant threat to humans working in the space environment and to modern technological systems.

''(2) The effects of severe space weather events on the electric power grid, satellites and satellite communications and information, airline operations, astronauts living and working in space, and space-based position, navigation, and timing systems could have significant societal, economic, national security, and health impacts.

''(3) Earth and space observations provide crucial data necessary to predict and warn about space weather events.

''(4) Clear roles and accountability of Federal departments and agencies are critical for an efficient and effective response to threats posed by space weather.

''(5) In October 2015, the National Science and Technology Council published a National Space Weather Strategy and a National Space Weather Action Plan seeking to integrate national space weather efforts and add new capabilities to meet increasing demand for space weather information.

''(b) FEDERAL AGENCY ROLES.—

''(1) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

''(A) the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration provides operational space weather forecasting and monitoring for civil applications, maintains ground and space-based assets to provide observations needed for forecasting, prediction, and warnings, and develops requirements for space weather forecasting technologies and science;

''(B) the Department of Defense provides operational space weather forecasting, monitoring, and research for the department's unique missions and applications;

''(C) the National Aeronautics and Space Administration provides increased understanding of the fundamental physics of the Sun-Earth

system through space-based observations and modeling, develops new space-based technologies and missions, and monitors space weather for NASA's space missions;

''(D) the National Science Foundation provides increased understanding of the Sun-Earth system through ground-based measurements, technologies, and modeling;

''(E) the Department of the Interior collects, distributes, and archives operational ground-based magnetometer data in the United States and its territories, and works with the international community to improve global geophysical monitoring and develops crustal conductivity models to assess and mitigate risk from space weather induced electric ground currents; and

''(F) the Federal Aviation Administration provides operational requirements for space weather services in support of aviation and for coordination of these requirements with the International Civil Aviation Organization, integrates space weather data and products into the Next Generation Air Transportation System, and conducts real-time monitoring of the charged particle radiation environment to protect the health and safety of crew and passengers during space weather events.

''(2) OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY.—The Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy shall—

''(A) coordinate the development and implementation of Federal Government activities to improve the Nation's ability to prepare, avoid, mitigate, respond to, and recover from potentially devastating impacts of space weather events; and

''(B) coordinate the activities of the space weather interagency working group established under subsection (c).

''(c) SPACE WEATHER INTERAGENCY WORKING GROUP.—In order to continue coordination of executive branch efforts to understand, prepare, coordinate, and plan for space weather, the National Science and Technology Council shall establish an interagency working group on space weather.

''(d) MEMBERSHIP.—In order to understand and respond to the adverse effects of space weather, the interagency working group established under subsection (c) shall leverage capabilities across participating Federal agencies, including—

''(1) the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration;

''(2) the National Aeronautics and Space Administration;

''(3) the National Science Foundation;

''(4) the Department of Defense;

''(5) the Department of the Interior;

''(6) the Department of Homeland Security;

''(7) the Department of Energy;

''(8) the Department of Transportation, including the Federal Aviation Administration; and

''(9) the Department of State.

''(e) INTERAGENCY AGREEMENTS.—

''(1) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the interagency collaboration between the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration on terrestrial weather observations provides—

''(A) an effective mechanism for improving weather and climate data collection while avoiding unnecessary duplication of capabilities across Federal agencies; and

''(B) an agency collaboration model that could benefit space weather observations.

''(2) INTERAGENCY AGREEMENTS.—The Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration shall enter into one or more interagency agreements providing for cooperation and collaboration in the development of space weather spacecraft, instruments, and technologies in accordance with this chapter.

''§ 60702. Observations and forecasting

''(a) POLICY.—It is the policy of the United States to establish and sustain a baseline capability for space weather observations.

''(b) INTEGRATED STRATEGY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy, in coordination with the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the Director of the National Science Foundation, and the Secretary of Defense, and in consultation with the academic and commercial communities, shall develop an integrated strategy for solar and solar wind observations beyond the lifetime of current assets, that considers—

''(A) the provision of solar wind measurements and other measurements essential to space weather forecasting; and

''(B) the provision of solar and space weather measurements important for scientific purposes.

''(2) CONSIDERATIONS.—In developing the strategy under paragraph (1), the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy shall consider small satellite options, hosted payloads, commercial options, international options, and prize authority.

''(c) CRITICAL OBSERVATIONS.—In order to sustain current space-based observational capabilities, the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration shall—

''(1) in cooperation with the European Space Agency, maintain operations of the Solar and Heliospheric Observatory/Large Angle and Spectrometric Coronagraph (referred to in this section as 'SOHO/LASCO') for as long as the satellite continues to deliver quality observations; and

''(2) prioritize the reception of LASCO data.

''(d) ADDITIONAL CAPABILITY FOR SOLAR IMAGING.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration shall secure reliable secondary capability for near real-time coronal mass ejection imagery.

''(2) OPTIONS.—The Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, in coordination with the Secretary of Defense and the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, shall develop options to build and deploy one or more instruments for near real-time coronal mass ejection imagery.

''(3) CONSIDERATIONS.—In developing options under paragraph (2), the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration shall consider commercial solutions, prize authority, academic and international partnerships, microsatellites, ground-based instruments, and opportunities to deploy the instrument or instruments as a secondary payload on an upcoming planned launch.

''(4) COSTS.—In implementing paragraph (1), the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration shall prioritize a cost-effective solution.

''(5) OPERATIONAL PLANNING.—The Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration shall develop an operational contingency plan to provide continuous space weather forecasting in the event of a SOHO/LASCO failure.

''(6) BRIEFING.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of the Space Weather Research and Forecasting Act, the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration shall provide a briefing to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives on the options for building and deploying the instrument or instruments described in paragraph (2) and the operational contingency plan developed under paragraph (5).

''(e) FOLLOW-ON SPACE-BASED OBSERVATIONS.—The Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, in coordination with the Secretary of Defense, shall develop requirements and a plan for follow-on space-based observations for operational purposes, in accordance with the integrated strategy developed under subsection (b).

''(f) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of the Space Weather Research and Forecasting Act, the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy shall submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives a report on the integrated strategy under subsection (b), including the plans for follow-on space-based observations under subsection (e).

''(g) GROUND-BASED OBSERVATIONS.—The National Science Foundation, the Air Force, and where practicable in support of the Air Force, the Navy shall each—

''(1) maintain and improve, as necessary and advisable, ground-based observations of the Sun in order to help meet the priorities identified in section 60703(a); and

''(2) provide space weather data by means of its set of ground-based facilities, including radars, lidars, magnetometers, radio receivers, aurora and airglow imagers, spectrometers, interferometers, and solar observatories.

''(h) GROUND-BASED OBSERVATIONS DATA.—The National Science Foundation shall—

''(1) provide key data streams from the platforms described in subsection (g) for research and to support space weather model development;

''(2) develop experimental models for scientific purposes; and

''(3) support the transition of the experimental models to operations where appropriate.

''§ 60703. Research and technology

''(a) USER NEEDS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the Secretary of the Air Force, and where practicable in support of the Air Force, the Secretary of the Navy, in conjunction with the heads of other relevant Federal agencies, shall conduct a comprehensive survey to identify and prioritize the needs of space weather forecast users, including space weather data and space weather forecast data needed to improve services and inform research priorities and technology needs.

''(2) CONTENTS.—In conducting the comprehensive survey under paragraph (1), the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the Secretary of the Air Force, and where practicable in support of the Air Force, the Secretary of the Navy, at a minimum, shall—

''(A) consider the goals for forecast lead time, accuracy, coverage, timeliness, data rate, and data quality for space weather observations;

''(B) identify opportunities to address the needs identified under paragraph (1) through collaborations with academia, the private sector, and the international community;

''(C) identify opportunities for new technologies and instrumentation to address the needs identified under paragraph (1); and

''(D) publish a report on the findings under subparagraphs (A) through (C).

''(3) PUBLICATION.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Space Weather Research and Forecasting Act, the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric

Administration, the Secretary of the Air Force, and where practicable in support of the Air Force, the Secretary of the Navy, shall—

''(A) make the results of the comprehensive survey publicly available; and

''(B) notify the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives of the publication under subparagraph (A).

''(b) RESEARCH ACTIVITIES.—

''(1) BASIC RESEARCH.—The Director of the National Science Foundation, Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and Secretary of Defense shall continue to carry out basic research activities on heliophysics, geospace science, and space weather and support competitive, merit-based, peer-reviewed proposals for research, modeling, and monitoring of space weather and its impacts, including science goals outlined in Solar and Space Physics Decadal surveys conducted by the National Academy of Sciences.

''(2) MULTIDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH.—

''(A) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that the multidisciplinary nature of solar and space physics creates funding challenges that require coordination across scientific disciplines and Federal agencies.

''(B) MULTIDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH.—The Director of the National Science Foundation, the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration shall pursue multidisciplinary research in subjects that further our understanding of solar physics, space physics, and space weather.

''(C) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and Director of the National Science Foundation should support competitively awarded Heliophysics Science Centers.

''(c) SCIENCE MISSIONS.—The Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration shall seek to implement missions that meet the science objectives identified in Solar and Space Physics Decadal surveys conducted by the National Academy of Sciences.

''(d) RESEARCH TO OPERATIONS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the Director of the National Science Foundation, the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the Secretary of the Air Force, and where practicable in support of the Air Force, the Secretary of the Navy, shall—

''(A) develop a formal mechanism to transition National Aeronautics and Space Administration, National Science Foundation, Air Force, and Navy research findings, models, and capabilities, as appropriate, to National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and Department of Defense space weather operational forecasting centers; and

''(B) enhance coordination between research modeling centers and forecasting centers.

''(2) OPERATIONAL NEEDS.—The Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the Director of the National Science Foundation, shall develop a formal mechanism to communicate the operational needs of space weather forecasters to the research community.

''(e) TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT.—

''(1) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that observations and measurements closer to the Sun and advanced instrumentation would provide for more advanced warning of space weather disturbances (as defined in section 3 of the Space Weather Research and Forecasting Act).

''(2) TECHNOLOGY AND INSTRUMENTATION DEVELOPMENT.—The Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the Director of the National Science Foundation shall support the development of technologies and instrumentation to improve space weather forecasting lead-time and accuracy to meet the needs identified by the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

''§ 60704. Space weather data

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the Director of the National Science Foundation shall—

''(1) make space weather related data obtained for scientific research purposes available to space weather forecasters and operations centers; and

''(2) support model development and model applications to space weather forecasting.

''(b) RESEARCH.—The Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration shall make space weather related data obtained from operational forecasting available for scientific research.''.

(b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) REPEAL OF SECTION 809.—Section 809 of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act of 2010 (42 U.S.C. 18388) and the item relating to that section in the table of contents under section 1(b) of that Act (124 Stat. 2806) are repealed.

(2) TABLE OF CHAPTERS.—The table of chapters of title 51, United States Code, is amended by adding after the item relating to chapter 605 the following:

''607. Space weather ..... 60701''.

SEC. 3. SPACE WEATHER METRICS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) SPACE WEATHER DISTURBANCE.—The term ''space weather disturbance'' includes geo-electric fields, ionizing radiation, ionospheric disturbances, solar radio bursts, and upper atmospheric expansion.

(2) SPACE WEATHER BENCHMARK.—The term ''space weather benchmark'' means the physical characteristics and conditions describing the nature, frequency, and intensity of space weather disturbances.

(b) BENCHMARKS.—

(1) PRELIMINARY.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Space Weather Interagency Working Group, established under section 60701 of title 51, United States Code, in consultation with academic and commercial experts, shall—

(A) assess existing data, the historical record, models, and peer-reviewed studies on space weather; and

(B) develop preliminary benchmarks, based on current scientific understanding and the historical record, for measuring solar disturbances.

(2) FINAL.—Not later than 18 months after the date the preliminary benchmarks are developed under paragraph (1), the Space Weather Interagency Working Group shall publish final benchmarks.

(3) REVIEW.—The Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration shall contract with the National Academy of Sciences to review the benchmarks established under paragraph (2).

(4) REVISIONS.—The Space Weather Interagency Working Group shall update and revise the final benchmarks under paragraph (2), as necessary, based on—

(A) the results of the review under paragraph (3);

(B) any significant new data or advances in scientific understanding that become available; or

(C) the evolving needs of entities impacted by solar disturbances.

SEC. 4. PROTECTION OF CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, in consultation with the heads of other relevant Federal agencies, shall provide information about space weather hazards to the Secretary of Homeland Security for purposes of this section.

(b) CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE.—The Secretary of Homeland Security, in consultation with sector-specific agencies, the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the heads of other relevant agencies, shall—

(1) include, in meeting national critical infrastructure reporting requirements, an assessment of the vulnerability of critical infrastructure to space weather events, as described by the space weather benchmarks under section 3; and

(2) support critical infrastructure providers in managing the risks and impacts associated with space weather.

(c) PROHIBITION ON NEW REGULATORY AUTHORITY.—Nothing in subsection (b) may be construed to grant the Secretary of Homeland Security any authority to promulgate regulations that was not in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act.

(d) DEFINITION OF SECTOR-SPECIFIC AGENCY.—In this section, the term ''sector-specific agency'' has the meaning given the term in Presidential Policy Directive–21 of February 12, 2013 (Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience), or any successor.

SEC. 5. PROTECTION OF NATIONAL SECURITY ASSETS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The National Security Council, in consultation with the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, the Secretary of Defense, and the heads of other relevant Federal agencies, shall—

(1) assess the vulnerability of the national security community to space weather events, as described by the space weather benchmarks under section 3; and

(2) develop national security mechanisms to protection national security assets from space weather threats.

(b) COOPERATION.—The Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the heads of other relevant Federal agencies, shall provide information about space weather hazards to the National Security Council, Director of National Intelligence, and heads of Defense Agencies for purposes of this section.

SEC. 6. ENSURING THE SAFETY OF CIVIL AVIATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration, in consultation with the heads of other relevant Federal agencies, shall—

(1) assess the safety implications and vulnerability of the national airspace system by space weather events, as described by the space weather benchmarks under section 3;

(2) assess methods to mitigate the safety implications and effects of space weather on aviation communication systems, aircraft navigation systems, satellite and ground-based navigation systems, and potential health effects of radiation exposure; and

(3) assess options for incorporating space weather into operational training for pilots, cabin crew, dispatchers, air traffic controllers, meteorologists, and engineers.

(b) SPACE WEATHER COMMUNICATION.—The Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration, in consultation with the heads of other relevant Federal agencies, shall develop methods to increase the interaction between the aviation community and the space weather research and service provider community.

Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported substitute amendment be considered and agreed to; that the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time and passed; and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The committee-reported amendment in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

The bill (S. 141), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. STRANGE). The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. JOHNSON). Without objection, it is so ordered.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR—Continued

NATIONAL CHARTER SCHOOLS WEEK

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, I am here today to celebrate the 18th Annual National Charter Schools Week and thank the students, parents, and teachers from charter schools across the United States for their ongoing contributions to education. Senator BENNET of Colorado and I introduced a resolution marking this event, which the Senate approved yesterday.

Let me tell you my favorite story about charter schools. It was 24 years ago, 1992. I was in my last month as U.S. Secretary of Education, and as my last official act, I wrote a letter to every school superintendent in the country asking them to consider replicating the early success of the State of Minnesota in creating charter schools. There were about a dozen of them then, and they were created by the Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party of Minnesota. That was consistent with what President George H.W. Bush and I had been encouraging, which was what we called start-from-scratch schools—schools that gave teachers more freedom and parents more choices. We thought that could improve education in the country and might lead to what we call new American schools.

The first charter schools were created in the State of Minnesota nearly a quarter of a century ago, led by the Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party, and there were about a dozen of them. Since then, there has been broad bipartisan, mainstream support for charter schools.

Let's remember that charter schools are public schools. They are simply public schools which are freer from government rules, Federal rules, State rules, and union rules and which give teachers more freedom to teach the children who are presented to them and parents more freedom to choose those public schools.

Some of those who supported the creation of charter schools include Albert Shanker, the late head of the American Federation of Teachers. In 1997, President Clinton said: We need 3,000 charter schools by the year 2002. George W. Bush, in the No Child Left Behind legislation, supported charter schools. President Obama was a strong supporter of charter schools while he was in office. His first U.S. Secretary of Education, Arne Duncan, called himself a ''strong supporter'' of charter schools. President Obama's second U.S. Education Secretary, John King, founded a charter school and ran a system of charter schools. Secretary Betsy DeVos, the current Secretary of Education, has spent most of her life as a strong supporter of charter schools. In 1994, 1998, 2001, and 2015, the U.S. Congress supported charter schools by large margins and in a bipartisan manner. Over 44 States and the District of Columbia have created an environment through their laws for charter schools.

In 30 years, public charter schools have grown from a dozen in Minnesota to more than 6,900 today. Today, charter schools are serving over 3.1 million students. Over 6 percent of all public school students in America today now attend charter schools, and another 1 million students are on waiting lists for charter schools. This past year saw an estimated enrollment increase of over 200,000 students, representing a 7-percent growth in just one school year.

Over half of the students served by these institutions are eligible for free or reduced-priced lunches, over half are students of color, and 17 percent are limited English proficient—all higher percentages than those served in traditional public schools.

As I said earlier, charter schools are about freedom for teachers, choices for parents, and more and better opportunities for students. Charter schools enable people. They enable parents to help their children get a real opportunity by choosing better schools or at least schools that fit them better and help them succeed. They enable students to learn and succeed. They enable teachers to succeed by giving them the freedom to use their first-hand knowledge. They enable administrators to succeed by ending bureaucratic mandates and giving them a chance to use their own good judgment.

In amending the No Child Left Behind Act, which we called the Every Student Succeeds Act, we made a number of changes to strengthen and expand the Federal Charter Schools Program, which since 1994 has given grants to States to start new charter schools.

ESSA, as we call it, made improvements to that program to ensure that those funds are used as effectively as possible to increase the number of high-quality charter schools. Specifically, ESSA invests more Federal funds in the replication and expansion of high-quality charter schools with a proven record of success, while still giving States the flexibility to invest in innovative new methods. ESSA continues Federal support for nonprofit organizations which help charter schools find suitable facilities, while also encouraging States to assist charter schools in this task.

Now these hard-working and creative educators who are seeking to open charter schools have greater flexibility in how they use Federal startup funds—for example, by allowing them to use the funds for transportation or facilities improvement, if that is what they decide is the best use of those funds for their children and their community.

Finally, the Every Student Succeeds Act encourages States to provide charter schools with the support they need to be successful and to hold them accountable when they fail to demonstrate positive results.

Charter schools are public schools stripped of many Federal, State, and union rules and constraints that are placed on traditional public schools. The money the State would ordinarily spend on the district school follows each child to the charter school instead.

Across Tennessee, more than 30,000 students now have that same opportunity to attend one of 107 charter schools, and they are thriving as a result. A recent study by Stanford University found that on average, Tennessee students attending charter schools gained the equivalent of 86 additional days of instruction in reading and 72 additional days of instruction in math each year than did students attending traditional district schools. In other words, they make almost a year and a half's worth of progress in a single school year.

More than 80 percent of students attending charter schools in Tennessee are low income, and more than 94 percent are African American or Hispanic. In other words, charter schools in Tennessee are making a difference for those students who have traditionally been least well-served by our Nation's public schools. That is a worthy event to celebrate in this 18th annual National Charter Schools Week, to celebrate how charter schools have grown from a dozen start-from-scratch schools in the State of Minnesota 25 years ago to more than 6,900 today.

I thank the Presiding Officer.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. SCHATZ. Mr. President, Scott Pruitt, Mike Flynn, Betsy DeVos—there is a pattern here. This administration keeps choosing people who seem like the wrong fit to run their agency, and now we are about to add Jay Clayton to the list.

He is different in a lot of ways. I met with him. He is a good person. He is a sensible person desiring to be a public servant, and he is a very smart lawyer. But he is not the right candidate to lead the SEC because it is on the frontlines of making sure that Wall Street follows the rules. And that is the No. 1 issue here because Mr. Clayton has too many ties to the industry that he would be in charge of overseeing.

Wall Street is full of his friends and business contacts, and there is nothing wrong with that, generally. We need lawyers in the securities industry. We need honorable people who help companies to do an IPO, but that doesn't mean that individual is appropriate to be in charge of the SEC and in charge of reining in Wall Street. That causes the problem.

I do not question Mr. Clayton's integrity. I have no doubt that he is a good person. But how can we say that the best person to hold Wall Street in check is someone with strong ties to the big banks, someone who has built his career there, who very well may go back to his old law firm in a few years?

I talked with Mr. Clayton at his confirmation hearing about whether he would go back to Wall Street after his time at the SEC ended, and he said he couldn't rule it out. That is just one of several concerns that I have. If we look at Mr. Clayton's statements about the SEC, it is clear that he is not the right person to be the cop on the Wall Street beat.

He has talked about ''monitoring'' the financial sector; that is the word he used—''monitoring.'' But the United States does not need someone to ''monitor'' Wall Street. We need someone who will aggressively enforce the rules, to make sure we don't have a repeat of 2008, when the big banks made so many bad and reckless decisions that our economy failed.

We have a very short memory in Washington about what happened to our country less than 10 years ago, but the rest of the country remembers. There are far too many communities still working to recover from the great recession.

Now is not the time to walk back the small steps toward progress we have made in protecting the economy from bad actors on Wall Street. But I am afraid this is what could happen under this administration, including if Mr. Clayton should be confirmed.

In his confirmation hearing, he said he wants to lighten the penalties companies face when they get into trouble with the SEC, and that is not something I can support. We cannot expect big banks and investment firms to play by the rules when they know they can pay a small fine and keep behaving badly as a cost of doing business. Regulation and enforcement has a cost, but that cost is meant to put the burden on the actors who are causing the problem instead of allowing the burden to fall on the rest of us—to fall on American families.

The cost is there, one way or the other. The question is, Who should pay it?

Even if the Senate disagrees on enforcement and regulation, I hope we can agree that conflicts of interest have gone too far. This administration has diminished the meaning of public service in the context of conflicts of interest. Instead of looking out for conflicts of interest, it has leaned into them. Instead of protecting the country from corruption, it is putting our country in real danger. And at some point, it is up to the Senate to be a Senate—to do something. We have to decide where to draw the line. How long do we let this go on?

I am a ''no'' on Mr. Clayton's nomination. I urge all Senators who care about ending conflicts of interest and putting a tough cop on the Wall Street beat to join me and vote no on this nomination.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Idaho.

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, I rise today in support of Mr. Jay Clayton, who has been nominated to serve on the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

On January 4, 2017, then President-elect Trump announced his intention to nominate Jay Clayton to be the next chairman of the SEC. He noted that ''Jay Clayton is a highly talented expert on many aspects of financial and regulatory law, and he will ensure our financial institutions can thrive and create jobs while playing by the rules.''

This sentiment was proven by Mr. Clayton's testimony and interactions during his nomination hearing. In fact, he passed out of the Banking Committee by a vote of 15-to-8, with bipartisan support.

Mr. Clayton is a highly regarded and exceptionally qualified candidate. As a partner at a prominent law firm, he built a reputation as a highly skilled financial markets expert, representing clients of all types and sizes, both domestically and internationally. He has also invested in a younger generation of lawyers, passing on his knowledge as an adjunct professor at the University of Pennsylvania.

Throughout the nomination process, Mr. Clayton has proved his dedication to unbiased and fair conduct.

Mr. Clayton's comments, experience, and actions provide me with confidence that he will lead the SEC with the highest integrity and effectiveness.

The SEC has an important three-part mission: to protect investors, maintain fair, orderly, and efficient markets, and to facilitate capital formation. At his nomination hearing, Mr. Clayton echoed the importance of the SEC's mission and how the SEC can do more to ensure that our markets remain the envy of the world.

Although the United States capital markets remain the most robust in the world, they have been challenged by competition from abroad. During his hearing, Mr. Clayton observed that our capital markets have become less attractive to businesses than they ever have been before. Capital markets drive innovation and job creation, and access to them is the lifeblood of our economy.

The JOBS Act helped revitalize primary markets, and both Congress and the SEC should continue to find ways to help companies go public and allow investors to share in their successes. Mr. Clayton pledged to do just that. He committed to working with his fellow Commissioners, with SEC staff, with Congress, and with the President to support and defend our capital markets.

Mr. Clayton also repeatedly committed at his nomination hearing that he would protect investors. He stated that he is ''100 percent committed to rooting out any fraud and shady practices in our financial system.''

During the Banking Committee's hearings on Mr. Clayton, some raised the concern that he previously represented many firms on Wall Street and that he would continue to look out for their best interests. He appropriately responded by pledging to the American people that he will show no favoritism to anyone and maintain a high degree of transparency.

Given Mr. Clayton's strong qualifications and his pledge to work to improve capital formation and uphold investor protections, I urge my colleagues to support his nomination. Congress and the SEC, led by Mr. Clayton and the American people, can ensure that the U.S. financial system and markets remain the preferred destination for investors throughout the world. I urge all of my colleagues to vote yes on the nomination of Mr. Jay Clayton.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak for up to 5 minutes and delay the vote until 5:25 p.m., until the completion of my remarks.

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

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I appreciate the Presiding Officer's forbearance and also the cooperation always of the chairman of the Banking Committee, Senator CRAPO. We had a good hearing today on reinsurance and on European Union issues on insurance regulation. I appreciated the work we were able to do there and the work we are doing on Russian sanctions, which is increasingly important, as we see, as the clear links between Russia and the American elections are becoming clearer. The links are becoming clearer and clearer to Senators in both parties.

I rise in opposition to the nomination of Jay Clayton to the Securities and Exchange Commission. We have seen this movie before, where we nominate someone to chair the Securities and Exchange Commission who starts off almost handcuffed with their hands behind their back because he has—as did his predecessor—far too many conflicts of interest, far too many demands for recusal, far too many cases he has worked on.

We hear of a President who talks about draining the swamp, who wants regulators and people in Washington who don't have conflicts of interest and who can look at this in a fairminded, clear-eyed way. Instead, we see a White House that is full of Goldman Sachs former officials. In fact, the White House on some days looks like a retreat of Goldman Sachs executives. That is a long way from clearing the swamp.

What we are seeing in the case of Mr. Clayton—and we had a good meeting with him, and I thought his testimony was pretty good—is that he is smart, he is educated, he knows these issues well, but he is going to have to recuse himself because of conflicts with UBS, Deutsche Bank, and Goldman Sachs. He has worked on so many of these cases as a Wall Street lawyer for so many years that at this Securities and Exchange Commission—where the President still hasn't appointed a Democrat, which really he is supposed to do but hasn't seemed to have gotten around to it—that we are going to see all kinds of opportunities for mischief, we are going to see all kinds of delays and tie votes, and we will see an inability for the SEC to operate when they should.

I oppose the confirmation of Jay Clayton. I think he is capable, but he will not serve this country well. He will not keep corporations and, especially, banks honest on all kinds of corporate governance issues. He will not be as supportive of the investor public because of these recusals and conflicts that he faces. I think it is a bad idea, again. I opposed the previous Democratic nominee for this job because she had far too many recusals and conflicts that she had to do. I think this is a mistake to do this again.

I ask my colleagues to vote no, to oppose the confirmation of Jay Clayton to the Securities and Exchange Commission.

I yield back my time.

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

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON).

Mr. SCHUMER. I announce that the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) is necessarily absent.

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

The result was announced—yeas 61, nays 37, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 118 Ex.]

YEAS—61

Alexander	Gardner	Perdue
Barrasso	Graham	Portman
Bennet	Grassley	Risch
Blunt	Hatch	Roberts
Boozman	Heitkamp	Rounds
Burr	Heller	Rubio
Capito	Hoeven	Sasse
Carper	Inhofe	Scott
Cassidy	Johnson	Shaheen
Cochran	Kennedy	Shelby
Collins	King	Strange
Corker	Lankford	Sullivan
Cornyn	Lee	Tester
Cotton	Manchin	Thune
Crapo	McCain	Tillis
Cruz	McCaskill	Toomey
Daines	McConnell	Warner
Enzi	Moran	Wicker
Ernst	Murkowski	Young
Fischer	Nelson	
Flake	Paul	

NAYS—37

Baldwin	Gillibrand	Peters
Blumenthal	Harris	Reed
Booker	Hassan	Sanders
Brown	Heinrich	Schatz
Cantwell	Hirono	Schumer
Cardin	Kaine	Stabenow
Casey	Klobuchar	Udall
Coons	Leahy	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Markey	Warren
Donnelly	Menendez	Whitehouse
Duckworth	Merkley	Wyden
Feinstein	Murphy	
Franken	Murray	

NOT VOTING—2

Durbin	Isakson

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

(At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

● Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I was necessarily absent for the votes on the nomination of Jay Clayton to be a Member of the Securities and Exchange Commission, Executive Calendar No. 36.

On vote No. 118, had I been present, I would have voted nay on the confirmation of the Clayton nomination, Executive Calendar No. 36.●

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 9066

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, May 6, 2017, marks a 75-year-old moral stain on Oregon's history. On this day in 1942, the city of Portland was declared free of all Japanese Americans.

As part of the Nation's response to the bombing of Pearl Harbor, President Franklin Roosevelt issued Executive Order 9066 in February 1942. In doing so, the President authorized the removal of anybody deemed ''threatening.'' The President's action was based in fear and prejudice rather than any actual threat, and many Japanese Americans paid the price as innocent people were separated from their families and traumatized.

The United States would ultimately incarcerate more than 120,000 U.S. citizens and lawful permanent residents of Japanese ancestry. The Federal Government deemed Japanese Americans who lived on the west coast a ''threat,'' putting my State of Oregon on the frontlines of this injustice.

Forced out of their homes and businesses, many of Oregon's Japanese American families moved into the animal stalls of what was then the Pacific International Livestock and Exposition Center in north Portland. Eventually, a total of 3,700 men, women, and children from Oregon and parts of Washington were held at the center. These families were later sent off with thousands of other Japanese Americans to quickly erected camps across the United States.

Despite the anti-Japanese fever burning across the United States, thousands of Japanese Americans were serving valiantly on the battlefields of Europe. We throw around the word ''patriot'' a lot these days, but I can't think of a more patriotic story than those Japanese Americans who signed up to defend the same country that had locked up their families.

Units like the famed 442nd and men like my friend and former colleague

Senator Dan Inouye displayed an exceptional degree of courage and valor abroad. Back home, Japanese American civil rights leaders like Minoru Yasui and Fred Korematsu were challenging the prejudices that led to Executive Order 9066, the internment, and other injustices faced by Japanese Americans and permanent residents.

As the son of Jewish parents who fled Nazi Germany, I feel especially compelled today to remind my colleagues and my countrymen of this dark chapter in our Nation's history. It is especially important to recall this history today because it seems some Americans have slipped back into an era of fear-mongering, bigotry, and hate.

I have seen countless expressions of kindness and decency in my years representing Oregon, which is why I have faith that people across our State and the country will continue to stand up and say ''no more.'' That is why I also want to honor the truly courageous Japanese Americans and others who fought the pain and fear caused by Executive Order 9066. They were on the right side of the argument then and now.

Finally, I would like to recognize the Oregon Nikkei Endowment for all its work to bring us together to reflect on this day. Thank you to all the partners who have and will continue to fight for the rights of every American. I stand with them in solidarity today and always.

TRIBUTE TO HENSON MOORE

Mr. CASSIDY. Mr. President, Today I wish to honor Congressman Henson Moore and recognize his years of service, including his leadership on the Battle of New Orleans Bicentennial Commission.

Raised in Hackberry, LA, Henson moved to Baton Rouge where he graduated from Baton Rouge High School and later Louisiana State University, LSU. He also received his law degree in 1965 and master's degree in 1973 from LSU. Henson honorably served in the Army from 1965 to 1967 and, in 1974, was elected to Congress where he represented Louisiana's Sixth Congressional District for 12 years.

In 1987, Henson was named commissioner of the Panama Canal Consultative Committee by President Reagan. In 1989, he was named Deputy Secretary at the Department of Energy and, in 1992, was named White House Deputy Chief of Staff for President George H.W. Bush.

Following his retirement as president and CEO of American Forest and Paper Association in 2006, Henson and his wife, Carolyn, returned to Baton Rouge.

Henson's public service and involvement with numerous for-profit and nonprofit boards has earned him many noteworthy honors and awards, among them the Secretary Gold Medal, U.S. Department of Energy, induction into the Louisiana Political Hall of Fame, induction into the LSU Alumni Association Hall of Distinction, and the chancellor's Sesquicentennial Service Award. More recently, he was honored as the 2011 LSU Alumnus of the Year. Henson also served as chairman of the Forever LSU Campaign, the most successful fundraising effort in the university's history, and in 2014 was named chairman of the Battle of New Orleans Bicentennial Commission.

Fought on January 8, 1815, the Battle of New Orleans was the final major battle of the War of 1812 and a decisive victory for the United States. As chairman of the Bicentennial Commission, Henson planned and ran a number of activities throughout the New Orleans area. The commission and chairman were all volunteers; they received no money in exchange for their work, and there was no State money used for this commission. In his address on the bicentennial, Henson joked, ''When the Legislature created the Bicentennial Commission, it had the foresight to provide no money and no staff but a lot of obstruction.'' The bicentennial commission was tasked with commemorating a significant moment in both U.S. and Louisiana history. Under Henson Moore's leadership, that mission was achieved.

I would like to honor and congratulate Henson for his work on both the bicentennial commission and for his service to our country and the State of Louisiana.

TRIBUTE TO DR. GEORGE E. KELLER II

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. President, it is my honor today to recognize Dr. George E. Keller II for his outstanding achievements in the areas of engineering, innovation, and leadership. Dr. Keller was born and raised in Charleston, WV, and has a bachelor's degree from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and a master's degree and Ph.D. in chemical engineering from Pennsylvania State University. Dr. Keller's wisdom is evidenced in his personal life as he has been married to his wife, Judy Keller, for decades, allowing for his legacy to live on through his many children and grandchildren.

Dr. Keller served as a lecturer in President Eisenhower's ''Atoms for Peace Program'' in Chemical and Nuclear Engineering from 1958 to 1959. He went on to have an illustrious and highly accomplished 36-year career at the Union Carbide Corporation in research and development at the South Charleston Technical Center and achieved national and international accolades for pioneering contribution in separation science, reaction engineering, catalysis, and novel process technology development.

After retiring from the Union Carbide Corporation, Dr. Keller became the cofounder and vice president of New Carbon, LLC, with the purpose of commercializing various aspects of the WVU Chemical Engineering Department's coal to advanced carbon products programs. Dr. Keller also inspired leadership under the BIDCO organization for local economic development, which ultimately led to the birth of the Mid-Atlantic Technology Research & Innovation Center, MATRIC, Inc., in 2003. Dr. Keller served as MATRIC vice chairman until 2014, as well as MATRIC's chief engineer. He currently serves on the MATRIC board of directors and continues service as the company's chief engineer.

In 1988, Dr. Keller was elected to the National Academy of Engineering, NARE, for his invention and insightful analysis of novel separation processes. Recently, Dr. Keller was recognized as ''one of the nation's top 100 chemical engineers of the modern era'' by the premier industry association, the American Institute of Chemical Engineers, AIChE.

He is a recipient of many prestigious awards including the Chemical Pioneer Award by the American Institute of Chemists for his breakthrough work in long-range hydrocarbon technology, as well as the Institute Lecture Award, the Clarence Gerhold Award, and the Institute Award for Excellence in Industrial Gases Technology, all awarded by the AIChE. The Chemical Engineering Magazine awarded Dr. Keller's team with the Kirkpatrick Honor Award for the most innovative chemical technology successfully commercialized in the world: development of highly efficient pressure-swing parametric pumping for gas-gas separations. Pennsylvania State University also awarded Dr. Keller with the Outstanding Engineering Alumnus Award in 1989.

Dr. George Keller has coauthored and edited more than 35 publications in refereed journals and is the coauthor of two major books in the area of industrial separations. He also holds 21 U.S. patents in key technologies. Dr. Keller has lectured at more than 30 universities around the world and has served as chairman for many prestigious international conferences. At West Virginia University, Dr. Keller serves as chair of the visiting committee of the College of Engineering and Mineral Resources, as well as a longtime member of the visiting committees of several chemical engineering departments at WVU, Virginia Tech, Penn State, University of Wisconsin, University of Texas, and University of Virginia. He has also served on the National Research Council's board on chemical science and technology, BCST, and as an adjunct professor of chemical engineering at WVU and Virginia Tech.

In addition to Dr. George Keller's many awards, honors, and service, he

also has an abundance of major technical accomplishments. Dr. Keller was a pioneer in discovering ways for converting methane to hydrocarbon feedstock for the chemical industry and was awarded by the American Institute of Chemists for doing so.

When Dr. Keller joined Union Carbide in 1961, he was a trailblazer in implementing amongst the first computer-controlled pilot plants in the industry worldwide. Under his leadership, the separations and process fundamentals skill center developed such disparate processes as the most advanced technology for producing oxygen via miniature adsorption units in the homes of people with severe lung problems in the 1970s, creating a better and longer life for countless millions around the world, and the world's largest commercial pervaporation facility in the 1990s.

Dr. Keller's personal expertise in membranes, adsorption, distillation, and extraction operations has resulted in reducing the generation of process wastes, developing more cost-effective ways to treat industrial waste streams, and, in some cases, resulted in recovery of valuable coproducts from traditional waste streams. In addition to his Carbide contributions, Dr. Keller has also worked on several next-generation technologies for carbon capture from fossil fuel combustion. His work in this area will be impactful for years to come, especially in industries touched by the development of shale gas in the United States.

Dr. Keller has recruited exceptional, diverse talent to WV and to Union Carbide, including over 100 of the world's premier doctoral-level engineers and scientists. He has served and continues to serve as an excellent mentor to countless individuals. In turn, this aspect of Dr. Keller's efforts paid exceptionally rich dividends to Union Carbide and West Virginia in developing and sustaining a world-class, market-driven, R&D technical center at South Charleston for many decades. This culture still lives on today at MATRIC. The company is a growing multidivisional company with long-term strategy levering both market opportunity and its own internal expertise. It is noteworthy that MATRIC has delivered more than $95 million to the West Virginia economy that would never have existed without exceptional leaders like George Keller.

It is with great respect that I ask my colleagues in the U.S. Senate to recognize the accomplishments and dedication of Dr. George E. Keller II. Dr. Keller is an excellent example of perseverance and commitment to innovation, enhancing the lives of others and inspiring the next generation of scientists and engineers.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO DAVID HOLT

● Mr. KING. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize David Holt, who has been a town manager in Maine since 1976, serving four communities.

In 1999, David received the Linc Stackpole Manager of the Year Award, chosen by his peers in the Maine Town and City Managers Association in recognition of his exemplary leadership qualities, professional ethics, and commitment to public service. Over the past 40 years, David has been a mentor, trusted adviser, and role model to many younger managers.

David was raised in rural western Maine, the son of a farmer. This upbringing instilled a strong work ethic in him at a young age and an appreciation for preserving the natural environment, as well as empathy for the hard-working people of Maine. He has a strong intellect, a keen sense of humor, and is gifted writer, chronicling his life and times in his book of autobiographical short stories ''Man about Town.''

He got involved in local government early by being elected as the youngest member of the board of selectmen in his hometown of Greenwood at the age of 18. His interest in public service was kindled by this experience, and he later attended the University of Maine where he received a degree in public management.

David served as the first town manager of the town of Princeton. While there, he developed an airport by receiving grants to move the historic train station to be reused as a terminal building. These efforts resulted in the establishment of regular air service with a local carrier, promoting economic development and easy access to the area by sportsmen. He enlisted the Maine National Guard to do their summer training session in Princeton, and with the work of hundreds of military personnel with heavy equipment, a new mile-long major access road to the airport from Route 1 was completed in just 2 weeks.

While serving in the town of Dexter, he prepared successful applications to the Community Development Block Grant Program that resulted in the renovation of the entire downtown area by adding new decorative streetlights, improved sidewalks, better drainage, and related road work. This effort revitalized the downtown area and spurred private investment in the Main Street buildings.

In the town of Standish, he worked extensively on the growth management plan, which established a roadmap for future community development.

In the town of Norway, where he has served for the past 28 years, David has worked diligently to ensure that the town stays in sound financial condition, as well as keeping the Main Street economically and culturally vibrant. He instituted a sidewalk building program that has resulted in Norway becoming one of Maine's most walkable communities. Perhaps his crowning achievements were the successful grant application and efforts to save the town's historic opera house. David will be long remembered in all the towns he has served for his commitment to community betterment and his forward-thinking positive management style.●

RECOGNIZING FIN FUN MERMAID TAILS

● Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, the American dream is alive and well today. Entrepreneurs across this country are innovators, leaders, and visionaries who exemplify many of the characteristics that make this country great. Idaho's small businesses and the entrepreneurs behind them share a dedication to producing the highest quality products and services. Hard work, dedication, and passion are among some of the other traits that successful entrepreneurs share, whether they be from Idaho or anywhere else in our great country. All of these qualities are on display in this month's Small Business of the Month. As chairman of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, it is my pleasure to recognize Fin Fun Mermaid Tails as the Senate Small Business of the Month for May 2017.

Fin Fun got its start in 2009 when its founder, Karen Browning, was asked by her granddaughter to design and make a mermaid tail. Even with over 50 years of experience sewing, she was not sure she could complete her granddaughter's request. With some creativity and ingenuity, Mrs. Browning designed the mermaid fins out of spandex swimsuit material and a rigid body for the fin. The design proved so popular that, when Emily and her sister, Sarah, swam with the fins on at the local pool, all their friends asked where they could get a tail of their own. Mrs. Browning began selling the product on eBay and Etsy in 2010. With demand increasing, Mrs. Browning's sons, Eric and Steve Browning, returned to Idaho to run the Fin Fun business. Sales of Fin Fun products increased dramatically since its opening, from selling 200 mermaid tails per month in 2011 to more than 500,000 in 2016.

Fin Fun offers a number of products including their famous mermaid tails, patented Monofin, swimwear, animal blankets, pool toys, and other accessories. In 2012, Eric and Steve Browning took over the day-to-day operations of the company as the founders Jerry and Karen went on a mission for their church. In 2015, Fin Fun purchased a 10,000-square-foot building located on the Lewisville Highway, where the company continues to grow.

In that same year, Fin Fun was highlighted by various media outlets, including the Wall Street Journal. In 2016, the company was named to Inc. 500's fastest growing companies list, as the 119th fastest growing company with 3,000 percent growth over a 3-year period. Through the leadership of Eric and Steve Browning and the success of Fin Fun, the company has created more than 75 full-time and part-time jobs within the Idaho Falls area.

As a family-run business, Fin Fun continues to set an example by donating a percentage of its profits to more than 18 charitable organizations annually, in addition to providing employment and support to the local community. Fin Fun is the manifestation of the entrepreneurial spirit that epitomizes the essence of the great State of Idaho. I would like to extend my sincerest congratulations to the employees and owners of Fin Fun Mermaid for being selected as the May 2017 Small Business of the Month. You make our great State proud, and I look forward to watching your continued growth and success.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Ridgway, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

In executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 10:02 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

S .496. An act to repeal the rule issued by the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration entitled ''Metropolitan Planning Organization Coordination and Planning Area Reform''.

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

At 11:43 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 657. An act to amend title 5, United States Code, to extend certain protections against prohibited personnel practices, and for other purposes.

H.R. 910. An act to direct the Securities and Exchange Commission to provide a safe harbor related to certain investment fund research reports, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1242. An act to establish the 400 Years of African-American History Commission, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1312. An act to amend the Small Business Investment Incentive Act of 1980 to require an annual review by the Securities and Exchange Commission of the annual government-business forum on capital formation that is held pursuant to such Act.

H.R. 1366. An act to amend the Investment Company Act of 1940 to terminate an exemption for companies located in Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and any other possession of the United States.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 657. An act to amend title 5, United States Code, to extend certain protections against prohibited personnel practices, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 910. An act to direct the Securities and Exchange Commission to provide a safe harbor related to certain investment fund research reports, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 1312. An act to amend the Small Business Investment Incentive Act of 1980 to require an annual review by the Securities and Exchange Commission of the annual government-business forum on capital formation that is held pursuant to such Act; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

ENROLLED BILL PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on today, May 2, 2017, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bill:

S. 496. An act to repeal the rule issued by the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration entitled ''Metropolitan Planning Organization Coordination and Planning Area Reform''.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. CRAPO (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. CASSIDY, and Mr. ALEXANDER):

S. 1001. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to modernize payments for ambulatory surgical centers under the Medicare program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MORAN (for himself, Mr. TESTER, Ms. HEITKAMP, and Mr. TILLIS):

S. 1002. A bill to enhance the ability of community financial institutions to foster economic growth and serve their communities, boost small businesses, increase individual savings, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

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

S. 1003. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to add standards for drug compendia for physician use for purposes of Medicaid payment for certain drugs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. KAINE (for himself, Mr. PORTMAN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. YOUNG, and Ms. HASSAN):

S. 1004. A bill to amend the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 to support innovative approaches to career and technical education and redesign the high school experience for students by providing students with equitable access to rigorous, engaging, and relevant real world education through partnerships with business and industry and higher education that prepare students to graduate from high school and enroll into postsecondary education without the need for remediation and with the ability to use knowledge to solve complex problems, think critically, communicate effectively, collaborate with others, and develop academic mindsets; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. WYDEN:

S. 1005. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modernize the tax treatment of derivatives and their underlying investments, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BROWN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. COONS, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. FRANKEN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. HARRIS, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. HEITKAMP, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. KAINE, Mr. KING, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. MARKEY, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MURPHY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. NELSON, Mr. PETERS, Mr. REED, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. SCHUMER, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. TESTER, Mr. UDALL, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WARNER, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 1006. A bill to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, gender identity, and sexual orientation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GARDNER (for himself, Mr. HATCH, Mr. HELLER, Mr. SULLIVAN, and Mr. DAINES):

S. 1007. A bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to develop a strategy to relocate the headquarters of the Bureau of Land Management from Washington, DC, to a western State in a manner that will save the maximum amount of taxpayer money practicable, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. GARDNER (for himself, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. HATCH, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. LEE, Mr. JOHNSON, Ms. BALDWIN, and Mr. WARNER):

S. 1008. A bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to exclude cannabidiol and cannabidiol-rich plants from the definition of marihuana, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KING (for himself and Mr. FRANKEN):

S. 1009. A bill to amend the Natural Gas Act to require the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and the Secretary of Energy to consider certain factors in making a public interest determination under that Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. LEAHY, and Mr. HATCH):

S. 1010. A bill to amend title 17, United States Code, to provide additional responsibilities for the Register of Copyrights, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. WARNER, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mr. COONS):

S. 1011. A bill to prevent the Iranian Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps from using Mahan Air for material support for terrorist activities; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

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

S. 1012. A bill to provide for drought preparedness measures in the State of New Mexico, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. WICKER (for himself and Mr. COONS):

S. Res. 149. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of World Malaria Day; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 54

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 54, a bill to prohibit the creation of an immigration-related registry program that classifies people on the basis of religion, race, age, gender, ethnicity, national origin, nationality, or citizenship.

S. 66

At the request of Mr. HELLER, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 66, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to permit certain retired members of the uniformed services who have a service-connected disability to receive both disability compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs for their disability and either retired pay by reason of their years of military service or Combat-Related Special Compensation, and for other purposes.

S. 139

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 139, a bill to implement the use of Rapid DNA instruments to inform decisions about pretrial release or detention and their conditions, to solve and prevent violent crimes and other crimes, to exonerate the innocent, to prevent DNA analysis backlogs, and for other purposes.

S. 200

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 200, a bill to prohibit the conduct of a first-use nuclear strike absent a declaration of war by Congress.

S. 236

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 236, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reform taxation of alcoholic beverages.

S. 352

At the request of Mr. CORKER, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 352, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Master Sergeant Rodrick ''Roddie'' Edmonds in recognition of his heroic actions during World War II.

S. 482

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 482, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to treat certain amounts paid for physical activity, fitness, and exercise as amounts paid for medical care.

S. 563

At the request of Mr. HELLER, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 563, a bill to amend the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 to require that certain buildings and personal property be covered by flood insurance, and for other purposes.

S. 593

At the request of Mr. BENNET, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 593, a bill to amend the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act to facilitate the establishment of additional or expanded public target ranges in certain States.

S. 662

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the names of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY), the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) and the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) were added as cosponsors of S. 662, a bill to provide incentives for hate crime reporting, grants for State-run hate crime hotlines, a Federal private right of action for victims of hate crimes, and additional penalties for individuals convicted under the Matthew Shephard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act.

S. 682

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 682, a bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to provide for the purchase of paper United States savings bonds with tax refunds.

S. 722

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 722, a bill to impose sanctions with respect to Iran in relation to Iran's ballistic missile program, support for acts of international terrorism, and violations of human rights, and for other purposes.

S. 733

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 733, a bill to protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing, and shooting, and for other purposes.

S. 766

At the request of Mr. MANCHIN, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 766, a bill to amend titles 10 and 32, United States Code, to improve and enhance authorities relating to the employment, use, status, and benefits of military technicians (dual status), and for other purposes.

S. 819

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. DONNELLY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 819, a bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide more effective remedies to victims of discrimination in the payment of wages on the basis of sex, and for other purposes.

S. 978

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 978, a bill to direct the Secretary of Education to establish an award program recognizing excellence exhibited by public school system employees providing services to students in prekindergarten through higher education.

S. 992

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) were added as cosponsors of S. 992, a bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to conduct an independent review of the deaths of certain veterans by suicide, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 40

At the request of Mr. MURPHY, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) were added as cosponsors of S.J. Res. 40, a joint resolution to provide limitations on the transfer of air-to-ground munitions from the United States to Saudi Arabia.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. KAINE (for himself, Mr. PORTMAN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. YOUNG, and Ms. HASSAN):

S. 1004. A bill to amend the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 to support innovative approaches to career and technical education and redesign the high school experience for students by providing students with equitable access to rigorous, engaging, and relevant real world education through partnerships with business and industry and higher education that prepare students to graduate from high school and enroll into postsecondary education without the need for remediation and with the ability to use knowledge to solve complex problems, think critically, communicate effectively, collaborate with others, and develop academic mindsets; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. KAINE. Mr. President. In today's increasingly competitive global market, it is more important than ever that students develop the right skills and knowledge to succeed in postsecondary education and enter the workforce. Our nation's future depends on providing students with an engaging experience that is relevant to the workforce and integrates partnerships with industry and higher education. Unfortunately, many high schools currently lack these opportunities, leaving students unprepared for 21st century careers. In fact, nearly 80 percent of college instructors and 60 percent of employers indicate that public high schools fall short in preparing students for postsecondary education.

The cornerstone of high-quality career and technical education, CTE, is a strong focus on academics. The National Research Center for Career and Technical Education conducted a four-year longitudinal study in three states and found that students participating in CTE programs or career pathways outperformed their peers on the number of credits they earned in science, technology, engineering and math, STEM, and AP classes. These students also earned higher grade point averages in their CTE classes. Nonetheless, CTE is often overlooked in discussions on increasing relevancy and rigor in our nation's schools.

That is why I am introducing with my colleagues, Senators PORTMAN, BALDWIN, CAPITO, and YOUNG, the CTE Excellence and Equity Act. This bipartisan legislation supports funding for innovation in career and technical education to help redesign the high school experience for historically underserved students. The bill would support the integration of rigorous academics with CTE in courses. It would also authorize grants to partnerships among school districts, employers, and institutions of higher education in Virginia and other states that help students earn industry recognized credentials or credit toward a postsecondary degree or certificate. The bill also places an emphasis on understanding the relevance of coursework in the context of a future career by placing an emphasis on teaching workplace skills through job shadowing, internships, and apprenticeships. Preparing our students for the careers of tomorrow puts them in the pipeline for the good-paying jobs that are the future of our workforce.

CTE programs are critical components to every student's education. I am pleased to be introducing this bipartisan legislation to strengthen CTE programs in high school so that students are better prepared for postsecondary studies and the workforce. I hope that my colleagues consider this legislation as we move to reauthorize the Carl D. Perkins CTE Act.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. LEAHY, and Mr. HATCH):

S. 1010. A bill to amend title 17, United States Code, to provide additional responsibilities for the Register of Copyrights, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

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

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

S. 1010

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Register of Copyrights Selection and Accountability Act of 2017''.

SEC. 2. REGISTER OF COPYRIGHTS.

(a) AMENDMENTS.—Section 701 of title 17, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking ''(a) All administrative'' and inserting the following:

''(a) REGISTER AND DIRECTOR.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—All administrative'';

(B) by striking ''director'' and inserting ''Director'';

(C) by inserting after the first sentence the following: ''The Register of Copyrights shall be a citizen of the United States with a professional background and experience in copyright law, shall be capable of identifying and supervising a Chief Information Officer or other similar official responsible for managing modern information technology systems, and shall be appointed by the President from the individuals recommended under paragraph (6), by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.''; and

(D) in the last sentence, by striking ''shall be appointed'' and all that follows through ''and shall act'' and inserting ''shall act'';

(2) in subsection (b), by redesignating paragraphs (1) through (5) as subparagraphs (A) through (E), respectively, and adjusting the margins accordingly;

(3) by redesignating subsection (b) as paragraph (2), and adjusting the margins accordingly;

(4) in paragraph (2), as so redesignated, by inserting ''DUTIES.—'' before ''In addition'';

(5) by inserting after paragraph (2) the following:

''(3) OATH.—The Register of Copyrights shall, before taking office, take an oath to discharge faithfully the duties of the Copyright Office described in paragraph (2).

''(4) REMOVAL.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Register of Copyrights may be removed from office by the President.

''(B) NOTIFICATION.—The President shall provide notification to both Houses of Congress of a removal under subparagraph (A).

''(5) TERM OF OFFICE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B), the Register of Copyrights—

''(i) shall be appointed for a term of 10 years; and

''(ii) may serve until a successor is appointed, confirmed, and taken the oath of office.

''(B) LIMITATION.—The Register of Copyrights may not continue to serve after the date on which Congress adjourns sine die after the date on which the 10-year period described in subparagraph (A)(i) ends.

''(C) REAPPOINTMENT.—An individual appointed to the position of Register of Copyrights, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, may be reappointed to that position in accordance with the requirements of this section.

''(6) PANEL FOR REGISTER OF COPYRIGHTS RECOMMENDATIONS.—There is established a panel to recommend a list of at least 3 individuals to the President for appointment as the Register of Copyrights. The panel shall be composed of the following:

''(A) The Speaker of the House of Representatives.

''(B) The President pro tempore of the Senate.

''(C) The majority and minority leaders of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

''(D) The Librarian of Congress.'';

(6) by redesignating subsections (c) through (f) as subsections (b) through (e), respectively;

(7) in subsection (b), as so redesignated, by inserting ''SEAL.—'' before ''The Register'';

(8) in subsection (c), as so redesignated, by inserting ''ANNUAL REPORT.—'' before ''The Register'';

(9) in subsection (d), as so redesignated, by inserting ''APPLICABILITY OF TITLE 5.—'' before ''Except as provided''; and

(10) in subsection (e), as so redesignated, by inserting ''COMPENSATION.—'' before ''The Register''.

(b) APPLICABILITY.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to any vacancy for the Register of Copyrights after January 1, 2017. If a Register of Copyrights is appointed during the period beginning on January 1, 2017 and ending on the day before the date of the enactment of this Act, that Register shall meet the requirements of the amendments made by this Act or shall be replaced in accordance with such amendments.

SEC. 3. CONSTRUCTION.

Nothing in this Act may be construed to impact the mandatory deposit requirements in title 17, United States Code.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. WARNER, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mr. COONS):

S. 1011. A bill to prevent the Iranian Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps

from using Mahan Air for material support for terrorist activities; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

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

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

S. 1011

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Mahan Air and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2017''.

SEC. 2. REPORT ON AIRPORTS USED BY MAHAN AIR.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter through 2020, the Secretary of Homeland Security, in consultation with the Secretary of Transportation, the Secretary of State, the Secretary of the Treasury, and the Director of National Intelligence, shall submit to Congress a report that includes—

(1) a list of all airports at which aircraft owned or controlled by Mahan Air have landed during the 2 years preceding the submission of the report; and

(2) for each such airport—

(A) an assessment of whether aircraft owned or controlled by Mahan Air continue to conduct operations at that airport;

(B) an assessment of whether any of the landings of aircraft owned or controlled by Mahan Air were necessitated by an emergency situation;

(C) a determination regarding whether additional security measures should be imposed on flights to the United States that originate from that airport; and

(D) an explanation of the rationale for that determination.

(b) FORM OF REPORT.—Each report required by subsection (a) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

(c) PUBLICATION OF LIST.—The list required by subsection (a)(1) shall be publicly and prominently posted on the website of the Department of Homeland Security on the date on which the report required by subsection (a) is submitted to Congress.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 149—SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF WORLD MALARIA DAY

Mr. WICKER (for himself and Mr. COONS) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 149

Whereas April 25 of each year is recognized internationally as World Malaria Day;

Whereas malaria is a leading cause of death and disease in many developing countries, despite being preventable and treatable;

Whereas fighting malaria is in the national interest of the United States because reducing the risk of malaria protects members of the Armed Forces and other people of the United States serving overseas in malaria-endemic regions, and reducing malaria deaths helps to lower risks of instability in less developed countries;

Whereas United States support for efforts to fight malaria—

(1) is in the diplomatic and moral interests of the United States;

(2) generates goodwill toward the United States; and

(3) highlights the values of the people of the United States through the work of governmental, nongovernmental, and faith-based organizations of the United States;

Whereas, in 2015, 91 countries and areas had ongoing malaria transmissions;

Whereas nearly ½ of the population of the world is at risk for malaria, with sub-Saharan African carrying a disproportionately high burden, with 90 percent of malaria cases and 92 percent of malaria deaths in the world;

Whereas young children and pregnant women are particularly vulnerable to, and disproportionately affected by, malaria;

Whereas malaria greatly affects the health of children, since children under the age of 5 account for an estimated 70 percent of malaria deaths each year;

Whereas the World Malaria Report 2016 by the World Health Organization states that, in 2015, approximately 429,000 people died of malaria, which is a 50-percent decrease since 2000;

Whereas the United States Government has played a leading role in the recent progress made toward reducing the global burden of malaria, particularly through the President's Malaria Initiative and the contribution of the United States to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria; and

Whereas the United States Government is pursuing a comprehensive approach to ending malaria deaths through the President's Malaria Initiative, which is led by the United States Agency for International Development and implemented with assistance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Department of State, the Department of Health and Human Services, the National Institutes of Health, the Department of Defense, and private sector entities: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of World Malaria Day;

(2) recognizes the importance of reducing malaria prevalence and deaths to improve overall child and maternal health, especially in sub-Saharan Africa;

(3) commends the recent progress made toward reducing global malaria morbidity, mortality, and prevalence, particularly through the efforts of the President's Malaria Initiative and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria;

(4) welcomes ongoing public-private partnerships to research and develop more effective and affordable tools for malaria diagnosis, treatment, and vaccination;

(5) recognizes the goals, priorities, and authorities to combat malaria set forth in the Tom Lantos and Henry J. Hyde United States Global Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria Reauthorization Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–293; 122 Stat. 2918);

(6) supports continued leadership by the United States in bilateral, multilateral, and private sector efforts to combat malaria and to work with developing countries to create long-term strategies to increase ownership over malaria programs; and

(7) encourages other members of the international community to sustain and increase their support for, and financial contributions to, efforts to combat malaria worldwide.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. SCOTT. Mr. President, I have 6 requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority leaders.

Pursuant to Rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 2, 2017, at 9:30 a.m.

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 2, 2017, at 10 a.m. to conduct a hearing entitled ''Examining the U.S.-EU Covered Agreement.''

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate in order to hold a hearing on Tuesday, May 2, 2017, at 10 a.m. in Room 366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Senate Select Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 2, 2017, at 10 a.m., to hold a hearing entitled ''Nominations.''

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 2, 2017, at 10:30 a.m., in room SD–226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Senate Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the 115th Congress of the U.S. Senate on Tuesday, May 2, 2017, at 2 p.m.

MODERNIZING GOVERNMENT TRAVEL ACT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 40, H.R. 274.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 274) to provide for reimbursement for the use of modern travel services by Federal employees traveling on official Government business, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be

considered read a third time and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The bill (H.R. 274) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

DHS SAVE ACT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 41, H.R. 366.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 366) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to direct the Under Secretary for Management of the Department of Homeland Security to make certain improvements in managing the Department's vehicle fleet, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with amendments, as follows:

(The part of the bill intended to be stricken is shown in boldface brackets and the parts of the bill intended to be inserted are shown in italics.)

H.R. 366

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''DHS Stop Asset and Vehicle Excess Act'' or the ''DHS SAVE Act''.

SEC. 2. DHS VEHICLE FLEETS.

Section 701 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 341) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(5), by inserting ''vehicle fleets (under subsection (c)),'' after ''equipment,'';

(2) by redesignating subsections (c) and (d) as subsections (d) and (e), respectively; and

(3) by inserting after subsection (b) the following new subsection:

''(c) VEHICLE FLEETS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out responsibilities regarding vehicle fleets pursuant to subsection (a)(5), the Under Secretary for Management shall be responsible for overseeing and managing vehicle fleets throughout the Department. The Under Secretary shall also be responsible for the following:

''(A) Ensuring that components are in compliance with Federal law, Federal regulations, executive branch guidance, and Department policy (including associated guidance) relating to fleet management and use of vehicles from home to work.

''(B) Developing and distributing a standardized vehicle allocation methodology and fleet management plan for components to use to determine optimal fleet size in accordance with paragraph (4).

''(C) Ensuring that components formally document fleet management decisions.

''(D) Approving component fleet management plans, vehicle leases, and vehicle acquisitions.

''(2) COMPONENT RESPONSIBILITIES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Component heads—

''(i) shall—

''(I) comply with Federal law, Federal regulations, executive branch guidance, and Department policy (including associated guidance) relating to fleet management and use of vehicles from home to work;

''(II) ensure that data related to fleet management is accurate and reliable;

''(III) use such data to develop a vehicle allocation tool derived by using the standardized vehicle allocation methodology provided by the Under Secretary for Management to determine the optimal fleet size for the next fiscal year and a fleet management plan; and

''(IV) use vehicle allocation methodologies and fleet management plans to develop annual requests for funding to support vehicle fleets pursuant to paragraph (6); and

''(ii) may not, except as provided in subparagraph (B), lease or acquire new vehicles or replace existing vehicles without prior approval from the Under Secretary for Management pursuant to paragraph (5)(B).

''(B) EXCEPTION REGARDING CERTAIN LEASING AND ACQUISITIONS.—If exigent circumstances warrant such, a component head may lease or acquire a new vehicle or replace an existing vehicle without prior approval from the Under Secretary for Management. If under such exigent circumstances a component head so leases, acquires, or replaces a vehicle, such component head shall provide to the Under Secretary an explanation of such circumstances.

''(3) ONGOING OVERSIGHT.—

''(A) QUARTERLY MONITORING.—In accordance with paragraph (4), the Under Secretary for Management shall collect, on a quarterly basis, information regarding component vehicle fleets, including information on fleet size, composition, cost, and vehicle utilization.

''(B) AUTOMATED INFORMATION.—The Under Secretary for Management shall seek to achieve a capability to collect, on a quarterly basis, automated information regarding component vehicle fleets, including the number of trips, miles driven, hours and days used, and the associated costs of such mileage for leased vehicles.

''(C) MONITORING.—The Under Secretary for Management shall track and monitor component information provided pursuant to subparagraph (A) and, as appropriate, subparagraph (B), to ensure that component vehicle fleets are the optimal fleet size and cost effective. The Under Secretary shall use such information to inform the annual component fleet analyses referred to in paragraph (4).

''(4) ANNUAL REVIEW OF COMPONENT FLEET ANALYSES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—To determine the optimal fleet size and associated resources needed for each fiscal year beginning with fiscal year 2018, component heads shall annually submit to the Under Secretary for Management a vehicle allocation tool and fleet management plan using information described in paragraph (3)(A). Such tools and plans may be submitted in classified form if a component head determines that such is necessary to protect operations or mission requirements.

''(B) VEHICLE ALLOCATION TOOL.—Component heads *shall* develop a vehicle allocation tool in accordance with subclause (III) of paragraph (2)(A)(i) that includes an analysis of the following:

''(i) Vehicle utilization data, including the number of trips, miles driven, hours and days used, and the associated costs of such mileage for leased vehicles, in accordance with such paragraph.

''(ii) The role of vehicle fleets in supporting mission requirements for each component.

''(iii) Any other information determined relevant by such component heads.

''(C) FLEET MANAGEMENT PLANS.—Component heads shall use information described in subparagraph (B) to develop a fleet management plan for each such component. Such fleet management plans shall include the following:

''(i) A plan for how each such component may achieve optimal fleet size determined by the vehicle allocation tool required under such subparagraph, including the elimination of excess vehicles in accordance with paragraph (5), if applicable.

''(ii) A cost benefit analysis supporting such plan.

''(iii) A schedule each such component will follow to obtain optimal fleet size.

''(iv) Any other information determined relevant by component heads.

''(D) REVIEW.—The Under Secretary for Management shall review and make a determination on the results of each component's vehicle allocation tool and fleet management plan under this paragraph to ensure each such component's vehicle fleets are the optimal fleet size and that components are in compliance with applicable Federal law, Federal regulations, executive branch guidance, and Department policy (including associated guidance) pursuant to paragraph (2) relating to fleet management and use of vehicles from home to work. The Under Secretary shall use such tools and plans when reviewing annual component requests for vehicle fleet funding in accordance with paragraph (6).

''(5) GUIDANCE TO DEVELOP FLEET MANAGEMENT PLANS.—The Under Secretary for Management shall provide guidance, pursuant to paragraph (1)(B), on how component heads may achieve optimal fleet size in accordance with paragraph (4), including processes for the following:

''(A) Leasing or acquiring additional vehicles or replacing existing vehicles, if determined necessary.

''(B) Disposing of excess vehicles that the Under Secretary determines should not be reallocated under subparagraph (C).

''(C) Reallocating excess vehicles to other components that may need temporary or long-term use of additional vehicles.

''(6) ANNUAL REVIEW OF VEHICLE FLEET FUNDING REQUESTS.—As part of the annual budget process, the Under Secretary for Management shall review and make determinations regarding annual component requests for funding for vehicle fleets. If component heads have not taken steps in furtherance of achieving optimal fleet size in the prior fiscal year pursuant to paragraphs (4) and (5), the Under Secretary shall provide rescission recommendations to the Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate regarding such component vehicle fleets.

''(7) ACCOUNTABILITY FOR VEHICLE FLEET MANAGEMENT.—

''(A) PROHIBITION ON CERTAIN NEW VEHICLE LEASES AND ACQUISITIONS.—The Under Secretary for Management and component heads may not approve in any fiscal year beginning with fiscal year 2019 a vehicle lease, acquisition, or replacement request if such component heads did not comply in the prior fiscal year with paragraph (4).

''(B) PROHIBITION ON CERTAIN PERFORMANCE COMPENSATION.—No Department official with vehicle fleet management responsibilities

may receive annual performance compensation in pay in any fiscal year beginning with fiscal year 2019 if such official did not comply in the prior fiscal year with paragraph (4).

''(C) PROHIBITION ON CERTAIN CAR SERVICES.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no senior executive service official of the Department whose office has a vehicle fleet may receive access to a car service in any fiscal year beginning with fiscal year 2019 if such official did not comply in the prior fiscal year with paragraph (4).

''(8) MOTOR POOL.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Under Secretary for Management may determine the feasibility of operating a vehicle motor pool to permit components to share vehicles as necessary to support mission requirements to reduce the number of excess vehicles in the Department.

''(B) REQUIREMENTS.—The determination of feasibility of operating a vehicle motor pool under subparagraph (A) shall—

''(i) include—

''(I) regions in the United States in which multiple components with vehicle fleets are located in proximity to one another, or a significant number of employees with authorization to use vehicles are located; and

''(II) law enforcement vehicles;

''(ii) cover the National Capital Region; and

''(iii) take into account different mission requirements.

''(C) REPORT.—The Secretary shall include in the Department's next annual performance report required under current law the results of the determination under this paragraph.

''(9) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

''(A) COMPONENT HEAD.—The term 'component head' means the head of any component of the Department with a vehicle fleet.

''(B) EXCESS VEHICLE.—The term 'excess vehicle' means any vehicle that is not essential to support mission requirements of a component.

''(C) OPTIMAL FLEET SIZE.—The term 'optimal fleet size' means, with respect to a particular component, the appropriate number of vehicles to support mission requirements of such component.

''(D) VEHICLE FLEET.—The term 'vehicle fleet' means all owned, commercially leased, or Government-leased vehicles of the Department or of a component of the Department, as the case may be, including vehicles used for law enforcement and other purposes.''.

[SEC. 3. GAO REPORT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL REVIEW.

(a) GAO REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a report on the following:

(1) The status of efforts at achieving a capability to collect automated information as required under subsection (c)(3) of section 701 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 341), as added by section 2 of this Act, and any challenges that remain with respect to achieving the capability to collect, assess, and report vehicle fleet (as such term in defined in subsection (c)(9) of such section 701) data for the purpose of determining vehicle utilization.

(2) The extent to which the Under Secretary for Management has identified and addressed any relevant security concerns, including cybersecurity risks, related to such automation.

(3) The extent to which the Under Secretary collects, assesses, and reports on vehicle fleet event data recorder data.

(b) INSPECTOR GENERAL REVIEW.—The Inspector General of the Department of Homeland Security shall—

(1) review implementation of subsection (c)(4) of section 701 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 341), as added by section 2 of this Act, for fiscal years 2018 and 2020, and shall provide, upon request, to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate information regarding any such review; and

(2) submit to the committees specified in paragraph (1) a report, not later than 6 months after completion of the second review required under such paragraph, regarding the effectiveness of such subsection with respect to cost avoidance, savings realized, and component operations.**]**

SEC. 3. INSPECTOR GENERAL REVIEW.

The Inspector General of the Department of Homeland Security shall—

(1) conduct a review of the implementation of subsection (c)(4) of section 701 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 341), as added by section 2 of this Act, for fiscal year 2019, which shall include analysis of the effectiveness of such subsection (c)(4) with respect to cost avoidance, savings realized, and component operations; and

(2) provide, upon request, to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives information regarding the review required under paragraph (1).

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported amendments be considered and agreed to, the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time and passed, and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The committee-reported amendments were agreed to.

The amendments were ordered to be engrossed, and the bill to be read a third time.

The bill was read the third time.

The bill (H.R. 366), as amended, was passed.

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL SAFE DIGGING MONTH

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be discharged from further consideration of and the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 137.

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

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 137) supporting the goals and ideals of National Safe Digging Month.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 137) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of April 24, 2017, under ''Submitted Resolutions.'')

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF WORLD MALARIA DAY

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 149, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 149) supporting the goals and ideals of World Malaria Day.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I know of no further debate on the measure.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there is no further debate, the question is on agreeing to the resolution.

The resolution (S. Res. 149) was agreed to.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the preamble be agreed to and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under ''Submitted Resolutions.'')

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, MAY 3, 2017

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 9:30 a.m., Wednesday, May 3; further, that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; finally, that following leader remarks, the Senate be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, for the information of all Senators, we expect to have a rollcall vote on the motion to proceed to H.J. Res. 66, the

States' savings CRA resolution of disapproval, between 10:30 and 11 a.m. tomorrow morning.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. MCCONNELL. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 5:59 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, May 3, 2017, at 9:30 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

MARSHALL BILLINGSLEA, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR TERRORIST FINANCING, DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY, VICE DANIEL L. GLASER.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

RUSSELL VOUGHT, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET, VICE BRIAN C. DEESE.

CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate May 2, 2017:

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

JAY CLAYTON, OF NEW YORK, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION FOR A TERM EXPIRING JUNE 5, 2021.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—*Tuesday, May 2, 2017*

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

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
May 2, 2017.

I hereby appoint the Honorable CHARLES J. FLEISCHMANN to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

PAUL D. RYAN,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 3, 2017, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to 1 hour and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m.

U.S. NEEDS A NEW POLICY ON TIBET

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, in 2002, Congress passed the Tibetan Policy Act to support the aspirations of the Tibetan people to safeguard their distinct identity. The law laid out steps to protect the distinct religious, cultural, and linguistic identity of Tibet and to press for improved respect for the human rights of the Tibetan people—a dialogue between His Holiness the Dalai Lama and the Chinese Government, the immediate and unconditional release of Tibetan prisoners of conscience, establishing a U.S. consular office in Lhasa, and requesting that the 11th Panchen Lama be allowed to pursue his religious studies without Chinese Government interference.

Mr. Speaker, these were basic, commonsense steps, yet 15 years later there is little progress. The Chinese-Tibet dialogue has been suspended since 2010.

There are hundreds of Tibetan prisoners of conscience. Many are monks. Some like Tenzin Delek Rinpoche have died in custody.

There is still no U.S. consular office in Lhasa, a major problem for U.S. officials trying to respond to emergencies like the 2015 earthquake that trapped dozens of our citizens in the Tibetan Autonomous Region. And the Chinese Government, officially atheist, has declared that it will decide who will be reincarnated as the next Dalai Lama.

Mr. Speaker, I want to express my concern for the well-being of the missing 11th Panchen Lama, the second highest leader in the Tibetan religion. Twenty-two years ago, Gedhun Choekyi Nyima was detained by Chinese authorities when he was just 6 years old and just 3 days after the Dalai Lama declared him to be the reincarnated Panchen Lama. Today, he is one of the world's longest serving political prisoners. China has refused to provide any details of his whereabouts.

Let me be clear. The Chinese Government does not have the right or the authority to name the reincarnated religious leaders of Tibet, not the Panchen Lama and not the next Dalai Lama.

Mr. Speaker, I constantly receive reports from Tibet of human rights abuses and affronts to basic human dignity, like the demolition of buildings and forced eviction of religious people from the famous Buddhist Institute of Larung Gar or the restrictions that keep Tibetans from traveling around their own country, much less abroad.

We need to rethink U.S. policy toward Tibet. For years, China has faced no consequences for its failure to respect the fundamental rights of the Tibetan people. This must change.

Along with a bipartisan group of Members of Congress, I have introduced H.R. 1872, the Reciprocal Access to Tibet Act. This bill imposes consequences for just one aspect of China's bad behavior: its restrictions on travel to areas in China where ethnic Tibetans live.

U.S. diplomats, journalists, and tourists have to get a special permit to enter the Tibet Autonomous Region, and travel to other Tibetan areas is also tightly controlled. But under H.R. 1872, no senior leader responsible for designing or implementing travel restrictions to Tibetan areas would be eligible to enter the United States.

The rationale for the bill is simple. The basis of diplomatic law is mutual access and reciprocity. But while the Chinese enjoy broad access to the United States, the same is not true for U.S. diplomats, journalists, or tourists going to Tibet, including Tibetan Americans trying to visit their place of origin. This is simply unacceptable. If China wants its citizens and officials to travel freely in the U.S., Americans must be able to travel freely in China, including Tibet.

Allowing travel to Tibet is only one step China needs to take. It must also remove the obstacles to freedom of movement for Tibetans within China and abroad. China can't have it both ways. Either Tibetans are Chinese citizens or they are not. If they are, they must enjoy the same rights and privileges as other Chinese citizens.

China also must permit His Holiness the Dalai Lama to return to Tibet for a visit if he so desires. He is a man of peace who will soon turn 82 years old. He should be able to visit his homeland.

China also should demonstrate true respect for the human rights and religious freedom of the Tibetan people. A first step would be to permit an independent international investigation into the July 2015 death, in custody, of revered lama Tenzin Delek Rinpoche.

On our side, the new Trump administration needs to appoint the Special Coordinator for Tibetan Issues as quickly as possible. To make progress, we need someone in charge. They must insist that China restart the dialogue to lead a negotiated agreement in Tibet.

They should develop a list of Chinese officials subject to sanction under the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act. No one responsible for torture and extrajudicial killings or for significant corruption should benefit from coming to our country and doing business here.

They should publicly engage the Dalai Lama and the democratically elected leader of the Tibetan people. The State Department should take every opportunity to benefit from the Dalai Lama's knowledge and decades of reflections.

The Secretary of State should highlight the democratic practices of the Tibetan people and meet personally with the Sikyong, Dr. Lobsang Sangay, and the administration should also engage other governments to create a group of friends of Tibet. It is time to pursue a coordinated international action in support of the Tibetan people.

Mr. Speaker, time may be running out for the Tibetan people. All those who say they believe in the rights of Tibetans must move beyond words to concrete actions.

I urge my colleagues to cosponsor H.R. 1872, the Reciprocal Access to Tibet Act, and to support additional measures to protect all that is unique about Tibet and its people.

SUPPORTING TIBET

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) for 5 minutes.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about something that I hold near and dear to my heart: the plight of the people of Tibet and of His Holiness the Dalai Lama.

The forced exile of His Holiness is a source of profound sorrow for the people of Tibet. For over 60 years, the Communist regime in Beijing has refused to allow this kind, compassionate man to come home, while systematically persecuting the Tibetan people, denying them even the most basic human rights and freedom, and implementing policies designed to wipe out the culture of Tibet.

In 2007, I authored legislation that paved the way for Congress to award the Congressional Medal of Honor to the Dalai Lama. A decade later, I am concerned that issues in Tibet are being pushed to the sidelines, a mistake that could have profound consequences not only for Tibet, but for the entire Asian Continent.

Known as the ''Roof of the World,'' the Tibetan plateau is the source of many of Asia's major rivers, making the Chinese regime's threat to Tibet's stability a strategically important security issue for the entire region.

Last month, I was proud to join Congressman MCGOVERN in sending a letter in support of the appointment of a Special Coordinator for Tibetan Issues at the State Department. I am also proud to cosponsor Mr. MCGOVERN's bill, the Reciprocal Access to Tibet Act, which is designed to help stop China's destabilizing behavior in Tibet by revoking the visa of any Chinese official found to be responsible for restricting the access of U.S. citizens to Tibet.

Last week, I had the pleasure of meeting with Richard Gere, an activist who helps to bring more attention and awareness to this very important matter. As His Holiness has said: ''In the practice of tolerance, one's enemy is the best teacher.''

It is essential, Mr. Speaker, that we in Congress advocate on behalf of the people of Tibet and join forces to combat the Chinese regime's increasing aggression.

ISRAEL'S 69TH INDEPENDENCE DAY

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, today marks the democratic Jewish State of Israel's 69th Independence Day.

For the Jewish people to have not only survived the Holocaust and the Nazi effort to eradicate them from the planet and then to establish a state of their own in their historical and biblical homeland is nothing short of a miracle. And in just seven decades, not only has Israel arisen, it has thrived, becoming one of the world's great democracies and the epicenter of high tech all over the world.

I am frequently asked: Why Israel? Why do I so strongly support Israel and the U.S.-Israel alliance? It is because, in Israel, I see a nation and a people who share the same ideals and the same values that we in America have: two societies committed to freedom, committed to democracy, and that understand the need to protect those ideals. Simply put, Mr. Speaker, defending Israel's right to exist is defending the values that we cherish so greatly and our way of life that we hold dear.

So to Prime Minister Netanyahu and to the people of Israel, I wish you all the very best on all that you have accomplished and achieved, and may the Jewish state be blessed with peace and security for many years to come.

I also want to extend a heartfelt thank-you to the Falic family—Simon, Jana, and Tila Falic—for their kind invitation to celebrate this momentous occasion in south Florida. I know how deeply the Falics care for the U.S.-Israel alliance and just how much they have done for that partnership as well as for south Florida's Jewish community, so I am sure that those events were great. Thank you to the Falic family.

I wish all who celebrated this morning at the Hebrew Academy in Miami Beach, located in my congressional district, a very happy new year. I know that last night's ceremony to commemorate Israel's Memorial Day meant so much to the community. How special is it, Mr. Speaker, that Israel commemorates their fallen the night before they celebrate what their fallen helped to establish and to protect?

I hope that all of my colleagues will join me in sending our friends in Israel warm wishes today.

Mazel tov.

CONGRESS' COMMITMENT TO GOVERN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) for 5 minutes.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, yesterday evening I began my remarks by saying, ''Say it is not so''; and I rise again this morning, as we begin our journey on ensuring that the government does not shut down and again rebutting TrumpCare that is so devastating, to say, ''Say it is not so.''

This morning we rose to headlines of the President of the United States saying that the government needs a shutdown in September. I am glad Democrats recognize that we do not represent just Democrats. We represent the entire Nation, and we owe them a commitment to govern, and that is what we will do.

We now will face another attempt to repeal the Affordable Care Act, ObamaCare. I am glad that Democrats have come together around common sense and the responsibility of serving not only the healthy, but the sick.

Last evening, in a very emotional testimony, one of our late-night hosts who entertains America every night, gave an emotional statement about his infant son who was receiving heart surgery. In his tears, his excitement for the success, but also his pain that people who did not have money, as we debate this frivolous healthcare bill, will be subject to the dangers and the devastation and the potential death of a child they love.

Say it is not so.

And I remember when we started the Affordable Care Act, as a member of the Judiciary Committee—all committees were involved in this process. I remember us holding Democratic hearings to listen to families who were suffering and were the brunt of not having health insurance:

The father who had a medical student son who was interning in Atlanta who had to drive with great fury to pick him up to be able to take him back to Washington, D.C., when he had an immediate attack of an appendix, laying him on his back seat because the insurance that the young man had only covered him in the city of Washington, D.C., where he was going to medical school.

Or I remember the mother whose son was a drug abuser—but a lawyer, got himself back on track but suffered from hepatitis—whose son died in the emergency room because he did not have the medical coverage as he was getting his life back to help stabilize him, died in that medical condition and in that emergency room.

Those are just a few stories of those who died because they did not have health insurance pre the Affordable Care Act.

□ 1015

Now, today we come with a bill that is going to eviscerate the sick people with preexisting diseases—it is not like the Affordable Care Act—and literally throw them under the bus. Because what they are doing is taking away essential services and saying that there is no room at the inn for those with preexisting conditions, such as diabetes, asthma, allergic conditions, heart disease, cancer, leukemia, or a baby that is born with a heart defect.

It is tragic that the bill they are putting on the floor is taking away essential services, like mental health, substance abuse, hospitalization, maternity; and they are throwing them to

the States. If your State will do it, so what. I live in a State—as we all do, we love our State—they are facing fiscal crisis.

Do you think they are going to take the sickest?

No, they are not.

Twenty-four million people will still lose their insurance. Hardworking families will have no health insurance. Those with preexisting conditions, under the Trump plan, still remain in the darkness of corners, not helped, and ready to die.

What family wants to subject their loved one to a place where they have no hope?

Then, of course, there is the horrific age tax. The premiums for those between age 50 and 64, hardworking Americans, just because they have reached a certain age, their premiums will shoot through the roof. These are people who have made and built this country with their hands and their minds, our mothers and fathers, and even ourselves. How tragic it is to be able to have these kinds of conditions. Then, of course, it will shorten the life of the Medicare trust and literally implode that.

This is governing?

I don't think so. I don't think so. And I, for one, am not going to stand for it because it is important that our people understand that we govern as Democrats.

As we put this bill on the floor to keep from closing this government, let me just say to you quickly that we have upped the NIH—the National Institutes of Health—with $2 billion. We have preserved the yearlong Pell, and we have funded housing so people don't have to be thrown out of housing.

Mr. Speaker, Democrats know how to govern and save this country. I don't know what this person is doing at all.

CONGRATULATING PENN STATE ON CHILD MALTREATMENT STUDIES CENTER

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, roughly 2 million children experience maltreatment each year in the United States. Children who experience maltreatment face the possibility of a lifetime struggle with mental, emotional, behavioral, and physical health difficulties.

Thankfully, the National Institutes of Health recognizes the need for critical research on the topic and solicited a competitive process to fund an academic institution to study this for the first time ever.

Proudly, it chose Penn State University. Penn State was selected based on scientific merit to establish the Center for Healthy Children. It will receive a grant of $7.7 million over 5 years, and Penn State has committed $3.4 million in funding, bringing the total to more than $11 million.

Mr. Speaker, this is the first national center for child maltreatment studies. The award announcement came in April during National Child Abuse Prevention Month. The research generated will impact lives nationwide and throughout the world.

Penn State president, Eric Barron, noted that they recruited the best and the brightest researchers to work on this issue. The faculty will conduct cutting-edge research focused on the detection, treatment, and prevention of child abuse, and for training the next generation of scientists and child advocates.

Leading the research project is Jennie Noll, professor of human development and family studies at Penn State College of Health and Human Development and director of the Child Maltreatment Solutions Network. A team of distinguished researchers will work with Noll on the project.

Noll said:

''It is an incredible honor to be selected by the NIH as an organization that has the capacity to make a tangible impact on the lives of children. I'm inspired to be working with this incredibly talented group of world-renowned researchers as we forge this vital path ahead.''

Mr. Speaker, more than 1,500 U.S. children die annually from child abuse. That number is similar to the mortality rate from all forms of pediatric cancer combined. Roughly 40 percent of child maltreatment deaths result from abusive head trauma. That is heartbreaking, and it is wrong.

So I congratulate Penn State University for leading the effort nationally to fully research this critical issue. Together, we can help all children see a better future.

THANKING JONI L. IVEY FOR HER SERVICE TO THE CITIZENS OF VIRGINIA'S THIRD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

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

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a remarkable woman who has dedicated the last 40 years of her life to serving the citizens of the Commonwealth of Virginia—my friend, closest adviser, and chief of staff, Joni Ivey.

Joni was born and raised in Newport News, Virginia. She grew up in Newsome Park and was one of seven children of Willie and Carnetta Ivey. She graduated from Carver High School in 1971, the last graduating class of the segregated high school that was closed when local schools were racially integrated. Joni went on to attend Christopher Newport University and graduated from Norfolk State University.

I first met Joni in 1976, when she was working on Reverend Henry Maxwell's unsuccessful campaign for the Newport News City Council. I was impressed with her work ethic, her dedication to her community, and her political acumen. I was so impressed that I asked her to serve on my first campaign for the House of Delegates in 1977. That started a 40-year friendship and working relationship that took us to the House of Delegates after that election to the Virginia Senate in 1983, and ultimately to the United States Congress in 1993.

Joni has served alongside me every step of the way and has been a selfless, behind-the-scenes public servant for the citizens of Virginia. Serving the public and helping those most in need has always driven her. Her passion in this regard has helped ground me and our staff to focus on what we can do every day we are fortunate enough to be in a position to make better the lives of those we serve.

Joni's commitment to this ideal is not just at work. Joni spends nearly every waking moment of her free time outside of the office helping others, either through her involvement in her church, Ivy Baptist Church in Newport News, or work with the local NAACP where she once served as branch president, by tutoring young people in Newport News, working with the local food bank, or through her service in The Links, Incorporated. Joni has always given back to her community.

Even with all that she does in her community, she always has time for her family. She is a proud aunt to her nieces and nephews, a dedicated daughter to her mother, and a caring sister to her siblings.

Over the last 40 years, she has also mentored hundreds of members of our staff and helped guide them in their careers. Thanks in part to her leadership with my office, a vast majority of our current and former permanent staff members got their start in our office as interns or fellows and grew into talented and instrumental staffers. Joni showed them how they could make a real difference working in government. Her dedication to our staff has helped make me a more effective legislator, and I am forever grateful for that.

Mr. Speaker, Joni LaVerne Ivey retires from her service to the United States House of Representatives and to my office this week. This will be a hard-earned and well-deserved retirement, and I know that she will remain as active in Newport News and around Hampton Roads as she is now, but perhaps a little less restrained now that she no longer has to worry about me or our office.

I know Joni has never sought public recognition for her hard work, but on

behalf of our entire current and former staff and the citizens of the Third Congressional District of Virginia, I thank her for her dedicated and selfless service to our community, our Commonwealth, and our Nation.

STRENGTHENING THE PEACE CORPS

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, at the young age of 23, Nick Castle knew he had a higher calling. So directly following his graduation, he headed overseas to China to teach English, volunteering in the Peace Corps.

Sadly, Nick became seriously ill after becoming an ambassador abroad. He was the victim of an inefficient, underequipped, and unresponsive Peace Corps-led medical team in China.

After he reported that he was ill, he was prescribed a broad antibiotic. Nick quickly began to experience drastic weight loss, but he was reassured he was okay. As the weeks progressed, he was confined to his bed, too ill to even stand up. But his doctor never recommended that he go to the hospital.

After experiencing dangerously low blood pressure, Nick was finally sent to a hospital. As the ambulance made its way to him, it got lost on the winding roads in the remote area of China. Before the ambulance could get Nick to the hospital, he stopped breathing. Nick died a few weeks later in early 2013.

A 2014 Peace Corps Inspector General report found that Nick was the victim of medical negligence. ''Failures and delays in treatment'' were exposed, ultimately leading to Nick's death. Investigations revealed that the Peace Corps medical team misdiagnosed his illness.

This heartbreaking death of a young man serving our country and the world could have been avoided had the Peace Corps staff been properly trained, equipped, and had a responsive team.

Unfortunately, Nick's case is representative of a broader problem: Peace Corps volunteers struggle to access quality medical treatment when they are abroad in remote areas of the world. And when they return to America, then they face a red-taped, bureaucratic nightmare.

They are covered by the Peace Corps for 3 months while they wait on the Department of Labor to determine that their illnesses or injuries are service-related. But the Department often takes much longer than 3 months to make that determination, forcing those Peace Corps volunteers to pay out of pocket for costly medical expenses. When attempting to get medical coverage through the Department of Labor, many are faced with costly personal expenses.

So, Mr. Speaker, Congressman KENNEDY and I have sponsored H.R. 2259, the Sam Farr Peace Corps Enhancement Act. Sam Farr was a Peace Corps volunteer and a Member of Congress. This act seeks to improve and strengthen the health, safety, and well-being of current and returning Peace Corps volunteers. It requires that Peace Corps volunteers have access to a qualified Peace Corps medical officer and medical facilities while they are at posts overseas. And when those volunteers return home, it extends their Peace Corps coverage for up to 6 months while they wait on the Department of Labor to determine coverage. It enhances access to health care for returning Peace Corps volunteers as well, and it expands and improves provisions of the Kate Puzey Peace Corps Volunteer Protection Act, enhancing the ability to assist and protect volunteers that have experienced sexual assault, among other issues, while in lands across the seas.

Mr. Speaker, Peace Corps volunteers are America's angels abroad. They are some of the best that we have. They are the spirit of humanitarian assistance. They work in remote areas of the world helping others—areas of the world that many Americans can't find on a map.

So America must make sure to take care of these amazing people when they serve in lands far away so that there are no more deaths like Nick Castle's.

And that is just the way it is.

RECOGNIZING PENN MEDICINE'S MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS

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

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the incredible actions of a group of individuals in my community.

On April 3, 2017, an amazing physician and amazing mother, Amy Reed, experienced what should have been a catastrophic cardiac arrest at Penn Medicine's community radiology center in Yardley, Pennsylvania. Yet, because of the amazing efforts of a series of professionals, Amy survived this event.

I would like to recognize the following individuals:

The advanced life support paramedics from the Yardley-Newtown area, Mr. Mark Horner and Mr. Chris Adams;

St. Mary Medical Center's cardiac surgeon, Dr. Veluz, and the entire cardiac surgery, anesthesia, and perfusion team at the St. Mary Medical Center in Langhorne, Pennsylvania;

The PennSTAR trauma critical care air rescue helicopter crew, Ms. Shiloh Kramer, Mr. John Goddard, and Mr. George Huey;

Cardiac critical care nurses, Ms. Coleen Nicolosi, Ms. Darian Parkinson, and Ms. Laura Glorioso-Moyer, who took intensive care of Dr. Reed in her initial resuscitation.

Thereafter, a corps of highly specialized surgical critical care nurses played an intensive role in her ongoing recovery. Mr. David Alfano, Ms. Carrie Brewster, Ms. Rachael Coyle, Ms. Catherine DeLaurentis, Mr. Michael Duca, Ms. Christina Felix, Ms. Cortney Johnson, Ms. Anita McAlee, Ms. Erin McCormick, Mr. Sebastian Romagnano, Ms. Lina Sivadasan, Ms. Christine Steffon, Ms. Joann Vernon, Ms. Gina Vizzarri, Ms. Meghan Welsh, and Ms. Danielle Wright all are to be commended for their professionalism and extreme skill in recovering Dr. Reed and giving her a second chance at life.

After 5 days in a coma, Amy has emerged and is neurologically intact. The actions of these professionals led to Amy's life being saved. Their conduct can only be characterized as heroic.

Amy is loved by family and many friends in Bucks County, and by many thousands more across the United States for her role as a champion and a spokeswoman for women's health and patient safety. And because of the efforts of the medical professionals who saved her life, I have the opportunity to continue working with Amy to advance her crucial mission.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 31 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

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

PRAYER

Reverend Ric Metzgar, Sr., The Church of God, Essex, Maryland, offered the following prayer:

My heavenly Father, You are the composer of my life. Thank you for orchestrating my direction today.

I recognize You as the source of life and love. Hear the prayers of this House, both for the good of the Nation and the good of humanity and around the world. Help this House to discern Your will in our day.

Strengthen all of us and help us to show forth the fruits of Your spirit of love, joy, peace, and generosity as we go about our work. Grant us a spirit of compassion and cooperation.

We ask Your blessings for all those who have chosen to take up this difficult task of governing, not only those

who are elected but also those who serve as staffers, interns, and volunteers here and around our great Nation.

We look to Your Scriptures that tell us ''Balance and scales belong to the Lord; all weights of justice belong to You.'' And as Jeremiah 29:7 exhorts us to:

Seek the peace of the city and our Nation. Pray to the Lord for it; for in its peace, you will have peace.

May the peace that passes all understanding guide our hearts and our minds in the days to come.

This we pray in Your matchless name, thanking You for being the architect of our lives.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mr. KENNEDY led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

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

WELCOMING REVEREND RIC METZGAR, SR.

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. RUPPERSBERGER) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to introduce and welcome to Washington, Maryland State Delegate Ric Metzgar, a friend for a long time, Second District resident, who has been representing eastern Baltimore County in the Maryland General Assembly since 2015. He has been serving his community far longer.

Delegate Metzgar has lived in Essex for most of his life, graduating from Kenwood High School before attending Northwest Bible College. His father worked for the Glenn L. Martin airplane community, and his mother owned a drycleaning business.

Delegate Metzgar managed a local car dealership and a diner, and, as an ordained minister, he has served as a ministry leader and Sunday school director for several local churches. He founded Gateway Pastors and Churches Association.

In Annapolis, Delegate Metzgar serves on the Health and Government Operations Committee as well as the Maryland Veterans Caucus. His volunteer efforts within his community are unending.

Delegate Metzgar has long served as chair of the Essex Christmas parade and co-chair of the massive Essex Day Festival. He is a member of the board of directors for the Heritage Society of Essex and Middle River.

Delegate Metzgar is married with two children and two grandchildren. I am honored to call Delegate Metzgar a friend and constituent of the Second Congressional District of Maryland, and I offer sincere thanks on behalf of this entire body for his delivery of today's opening player.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS WEEK

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, this week marks National Small Business Week, a time to recognize the remarkable contributions small businesses make creating jobs.

In South Carolina, small businesses represent 99 percent of our State's businesses, employing 47 percent of our citizens. I am grateful for the input from the National Federation of Independent Business, NFIB, led by Ben Homeyer; the State Chamber of Commerce led by Ted Pitts; and local chambers from Barnwell to Blythewood and from North Augusta to northeast Columbia, promoting every corner of the district.

When I meet with members of the small-business community of South Carolina, I learn how government regulations and government overreach threaten their businesses and reduce job opportunities.

I support President Trump's commitment to creating jobs and how, in only 100 days, his administration has proven to be a champion of small business by cutting harmful regulations and outlining tax reform.

I appreciate the leadership of the small-business administrator, Linda McMahon, and her advocacy for the 29 small businesses nationwide.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH FUNDING

(Mr. HIGGINS of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, President Trump wanted to cut $1.2 billion from the National Institutes of Health and the National Cancer Institute. Instead, Congress will exert its independence by rejecting the President's cut and will instead increase National Institutes of Health's funding by $2 billion.

My community of Buffalo, New York, is home to America's first cancer center, Roswell Park Cancer Institute. Roswell Park is a national leader in NIH-funded research for immunotherapy.

Immunotherapy uses drugs and vaccines to unleash the cancer-killing potential of the body's own immune system. Immunotherapy has the potential for longer remission and is an alternative to debilitating chemotherapy.

Because of this congressional action, Roswell Park Cancer Institute's clinical trials and immunotherapy will continue, and the potential for tens of millions more in NIH research funding over the next 5 years is a reality.

This is good for the good that it will do in advancing this promising research and is good for Buffalo and the continued growth of the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus.

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION WHISTLEBLOWER

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

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, according to Kuauhtemoc Rodriguez, called K-Rod, a VA employee at the medical center in Phoenix, Arizona—yes, that famous VA hospital—he has been threatened and harassed by the VA for speaking up about excessive wait times for vets to see doctors.

In October of 2016, the VA's inspector general released a report of misconduct on the Phoenix hospital based on information provided by Mr. Rodriguez. Mr. Rodriguez alleged that more than 90 veterans had been waiting over 400 days to see a doctor, 5 of whom died before they could see the doctor. These accusations are very disturbing.

But Mr. Rodriguez' discovery did not earn him a medal or a plaque, just threats and harassment by the VA. They even moved his desk to a closet.

There are many folks at the VA who genuinely care about our veterans in this country, like K-Rod, but there seems to be a culture problem at the VA that must be addressed from the top down.

Fix the problem rather than attack whistleblowers. No veteran should ever wait to see a doctor for over a year. That is shameful.

And that is just the way it is.

FULLY CODIFYING CIVIL RIGHTS PROTECTIONS FOR THE LGBTQ COMMUNITY

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

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. Speaker, I stand proudly today with my colleagues to reintroduce the Equality Act, a bill that would finally fully codify civil rights protections for the LGBTQ community.

It is unthinkable to me that this bill finds opposition in this Chamber, where we stand less than a mile from a sacred American promise that is etched in stone above the doors of the Supreme Court: ''Equal justice under law.'' There is no asterisk. There is no condition or compromise. No caveat. It is a promise that is afforded to each of us; that no one—man, woman, political candidate, or President—can look us in the eye and say that you do not count or you are unworthy.

Some of the most shameful moments of our Nation's history have come when we have broken that promise, when we say that everyone matters except you. Every life counts except yours.

It is time for this body to take a stand and say everyone counts in this country today, on our watch today.

ACKNOWLEDGING THE IMPORTANT ROLE SMALL BUSINESSES PLAY IN OUR COMMUNITIES

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today during Small Business Week to acknowledge the important role small businesses play in our communities nationwide. I am proud to be the product of a small-business family.

Small businesses are responsible for creating 63 percent of new jobs, and they employ more than 47 percent of the employees in the private sector.

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is also marking the week with events hosted by the Small Business Development Center. From workshops to webinars, there is information for those looking to start a small business and those looking to grow their businesses. Even long-time small-business owners can get advice on how to continue to thrive or find a renewed sense of direction.

Pennsylvania Small Business Week recognizes the significant contributions of our small businesses and highlights the resources available to support their growth in the Keystone State.

The Nation has celebrated Small Business Week each year since 1963. I would like to congratulate all the small-business owners for the role they play in employing our neighbors, serving our communities, and creating two out of every three new jobs in the United States.

HONORING THE BROTHERS OF KAPPA ALPHA PSI

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

Mr. LAWSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the brothers of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated, during their annual James ''Biff'' Carter Kappas on Capitol Hill Legislative Policy Conference.

Each year, donning their crimson blazers, they come to Capitol Hill to raise awareness around many of the key issues facing the African-American and other communities in this country.

Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity represents over 150,000 members from all 50 states, several U.S. territories, and six countries around the globe. These distinguished men of achievement are leaders in their respected communities, in the boardrooms, classrooms and academia, public service, and every field of human endeavor.

Today, it is with great humility and commitment to improving our communities that my brothers in the bond come to Washington for the Kappas on Capitol Hill Legislative Policy Conference.

As I see the brothers in their red blazers walk these hallowed halls, bringing their professional expertise, wisdom gained through experience, and passion for their communities to Washington, my heart beams with pride.

Mr. Speaker, now, more than ever, we need leaders in our communities to raise their voices to raise awareness about the issues that are confronting our communities back home. Today, I am proud of my brothers in Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated, for coming to Congress today to ensure that we never forget how decisions on issues like health care, higher education, job creation, and veteran benefits are affecting our communities at home.

RECOGNIZING 93Q MORNING DJ KEVIN KLINE

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

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I have had many heroes since I moved to Houston: Neil Armstrong, Earl Campbell, Nolan Ryan. My newest hero is a good friend, 93Q morning disc jockey Kevin Kline.

Kevin and his wife, Trish, have watched a teenage friend, Chelsey, die from cancer. They turned that pain into extreme good. They started the Snowdrop Foundation to stop kids dying from cancer like Chelsey. They have used long runs to raise over $1 million for Snowdrop.

Movie hero Forrest Gump ran for 3 years, 2 months, and 15 days. Recently in Italy, our real-life hero Kevin ran for 178.5 miles in 47 hours and 28 minutes.

Naval aviators are given call signs. Tom Cruise was Maverick. I was Pistol. By the powers vested in me by the 93Q's Tim Tuttle and Erica Rico, Kevin Kline's on-air call sign is now and forever Gump Man.

I hope Gump Man is smiling. I know Chelsey and her friends are smiling in heaven.

□ 1215

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH FUNDING

(Mrs. DAVIS of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, recently I met with leaders of the San Diego medical research community who had a unified message: We need to end the cuts in research that have slowed medical innovation for the last decade.

This year I was proud to lead the bipartisan effort, along with over 200 of my colleagues, to push for an additional $2 billion in funding for the National Institutes of Health.

This is a very personal issue. Almost all of us know someone who is struggling with a disease where NIH funding is used to find a cure. That person could be a mother, father, family friend, or even more heart-wrenching, a child.

I am thrilled that the spending bill before us this week avoids the cuts proposed by President Trump and actually increases NIH funding by $2 billion. We have seen what can happen when leadership takes a bipartisan approach: top priorities like medical research actually get funded.

This isn't the bill that I would have written, but it is a compromise that I am very happy to vote for. Let's hope that Speaker RYAN has learned from this experience and will work with us on health care, on transportation, and other priorities moving forward.

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR JOHN JACOBSON

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

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember the life of a true American hero, a dedicated veteran, and a successful businessman.

Major John Jacobson enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1940 and fought in World War II, where he served as quartermaster to General George Patton.

After his military career, he moved to Kansas and built a Fortune 500 company and became a leader in the meatpacking industry.

After retiring and moving to coastal Alabama in 1999, Major Jacobson became a local celebrity. Mr. Jack, as he was affectionately known, spent much of his time working with local veterans organizations where he would speak with school groups about World War II and the sacrifice our veterans make.

Sadly, he recently passed away at the age of 106, making him one of the country's oldest World War II veterans.

Mr. Speaker, all you need to know about Major Jacobson is that he lived his life by a simple motto: Another day to live is another day to serve.

To his family, thank you for sharing Mr. Jack with all of us. He made our community, the United States, and the world a better place.

ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE MODERN STATE OF ISRAEL

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

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 69th anniversary of the founding of the modern State of Israel. Like our own country, our friend and ally has a deep commitment to meeting human needs around the world.

Throughout its history, Israel has been a leader in humanitarian assistance. Israel established the very first field hospital in Haiti after the devastating earthquake in 2010 and rebuilt villages ravaged by cyclones in Fiji. Israel sent over 100 tons of supplies to aid Indonesia and Sri Lanka after the 2004 tsunami, and dispatched doctors to Greece to care for refugees fleeing the horrors of war in Syria.

When Israeli soldiers reported wounded Syrians arriving at their border, medics from the Israeli military were dispatched and over 3,000 Syrians were treated by Israeli doctors.

Today, as we celebrate Israel's proud history and the bond between our nations, we are reminded of the importance of looking beyond our own borders and our proud shared history of welcoming those fleeing persecution from all around the globe. We renew our shared commitment to helping those in need in every corner of the world.

COMMUNITY BANKS: THE HUB OF ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

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

Mr. ARRINGTON. Mr. Speaker, community banks are an integral part of Main Street America, making up over 50 percent of banks and rural communities like the ones I represent. They are indeed the hub of economic activity for west Texas. They employ nearly 20,000 folks in my district and provide vital services to families, small businesses, and ag producers.

Why in the world do we want to hamstring them with onerous and unnecessary regulations that make it harder for them to serve their communities?

That is exactly what I believe we have done with Dodd-Frank.

Each day that goes by, another community bank goes out of business. As many of my colleagues have pointed out, Dodd-Frank didn't end too big to fail, but it did create too small to succeed.

Dodd-Frank didn't protect consumers. It created new layers of bureaucracy, paperwork, confusion, and limited services for consumers.

Mr. Speaker, it is time that Congress act on this opportunity to pass the CHOICE Act before it is too late for our community banks and for our rural communities to choose between relationship banking and transactional banking.

COMBATING OPIOID CRISIS

(Ms. TSONGAS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. TSONGAS. Mr. Speaker, Police Chief William Taylor of my hometown of Lowell, Massachusetts, said:

''Each day two to three people overdose from opioids in Lowell. . . . The introduction of illicit fentanyl has been the game changer. . . .''

In 2015, Massachusetts ranked second nationally per capita in deaths from synthetic opioids like fentanyl, which can be up to 50 times stronger than heroin. But Massachusetts is far from alone. Between 2014 and 2015, nationwide deaths involving synthetic opioids tragically rose 72 percent.

That is why I partnered with Representative BRIAN FITZPATRICK to introduce the INTERDICT Act, which would provide U.S. Customs and Border Protection with enhanced chemical screening devices and scientific support to detect and intercept synthetic opioids like fentanyl.

I thank Representative FITZPATRICK and our Senate counterparts for their partnership, and I urge all our colleagues to support the INTERDICT Act.

To effectively combat the nationwide opioid crisis requires a comprehensive, cooperative, fully funded effort. The INTERDICT Act would be a powerful tool in eliminating synthetic opioids from the equation.

KAPPA DAY ON THE HILL

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

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, more than ever before, we need leaders from across the Nation to raise our voices, elevate our awareness, and come to Washington, as stated in the First Amendment, to petition the government for a redress of our grievances.

Now, more than ever, we need the people most affected by the decisions that are being made in this hallowed place, the people's House, and at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue to make sure that this representative government is indeed being held accountable for both its actions and inactions.

On this special day, I am proud of my brothers in Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, and I am honored to welcome them back to Washington for their annual visit.

I stand with my brothers to ensure that we never forget how our decisions on issues like health care, education, housing, jobs, voting rights, and even the use of military force are more than just political or policy judgments. They have life-and-death consequences for real people in the communities that we represent and across this great country as well.

I thank my Kappa brothers for their steadfast friendship, support, and devotion to advancing freedom and equality for every American.

KAPPAS ON THE HILL

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

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my brothers of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated, during the annual James ''Biff'' Carter Kappas on the Capitol Hill Legislative Policy Conference. I knew Biff Carter personally.

Each year, Kappas from all over the country flock to Capitol Hill to raise awareness around the key issues that are affecting our communities. These men are leaders in religious, business, legal, academia, and community service institutions, as well as others.

Mr. Speaker, I have committed my life to public service for over 52 years. I have been honored to serve my constituents in this esteemed body. But one of my proudest moments in public

service is when I committed myself to a life of honorable achievement in every field of human endeavor—the day I joined Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated.

Today I am proud as I see brothers in their red blazers walk these hallowed Halls, bringing their professional expertise and wisdom gained through experience and passion for their communities to Washington, D.C., the Nation, and the world.

REMEMBERING FORMER BOULDER CITY MAYOR ROBERT STANLEY FERRARO

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

Ms. ROSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember and commemorate the life of Robert Stanley Ferraro, a pillar in our community and one of the longest serving public officials in Nevada history who passed away last week at the age of 81.

Robert Ferraro served on the Boulder City Council for 31 years and was Boulder City's first elected mayor, and successfully stood for election nine times. He knocked on every voter's door and provided leadership to one of the most unique communities in our State.

Bob led the effort to maintain Boulder City's character as a special community and to be the clean, green Boulder City that many of my constituents call home and thousands visit each year.

He was named Nevada Public Official of the Year in 1986, Community Leader of the Year in 2001, and led a life that was a true American success story coming from humble beginnings to being one of the great civic leaders of our State.

Bob will be greatly missed, and my thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends today.

HONORING THE LIFE OF REVEREND DR. NORMAN LEE ROBINSON

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

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Reverend Dr. N.L. Robinson, the longtime pastor of Mount Olive Baptist Church who passed away last Friday.

Reverend Robinson proudly served our Nation in the Army during World War II and was honorably discharged on November 25, 1945. It was during his time of service that he found spiritual enlightenment in Jesus Christ and his passion to serve the community.

After leaving the Army, Reverend Robinson worked for the Dallas Housing Authority from 1946 until he retired in 1976.

A graduate of the Southern Bible Institute of Dallas, Dr. Robinson began his ministry at St. John Missionary Baptist Church in Grand Prairie in 1962, and he was also the pastor very briefly at the Lucille Baptist Church in Palmer, Texas, before jointing Mount Olive in 1966.

Under his guidance, Mount Olive grew to become a 12,000-member church. I will tell you, Mr. Speaker, that everybody, from the workers that built the cars at the General Motors plant in Arlington to one of the past mayors of Arlington, has been a member at that church throughout time.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Reverend N.L. Robinson, whose spiritual leadership touched so many lives in the Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington community.

□ 1230

SMALL BUSINESSES ARE THE ECONOMIC ENGINES OF OUR ECONOMY

(Ms. ADAMS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, small businesses are the economic engines of our economy.

There are over 800,000 small businesses in North Carolina, generating $800 million annually, accounting for half of all private sector employment in our State, and regularly creating more than 20,000 jobs a year.

We have seen a 38 percent increase in minority-owned businesses in the last decade, and across the U.S., 85 million people rely on 25 million small businesses for employment.

As vice ranking member of the Small Business Committee and ranking member on the Investigations, Oversight and Regulations Subcommittee, I recognize the impact that small businesses have on our communities. Lawmakers must continue to encourage innovation and support legislation that allows local companies to grow.

I am proud to introduce the Score Act of 2017 during the 54th annual National Small Business Week, legislation that authorizes the SCORE program, connecting experienced businessowners with budding entrepreneurs for advice and mentorship, and it ensures its funding for at least 3 years.

Small businesses make the American Dream possible, and I am committed to standing up and speaking out on their behalf.

KAPPAS DAY ON THE HILL

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

Mr. MCEACHIN. Mr. Speaker, I, too, rise today to recognize my brothers of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated, during the annual James ''Biff'' Carter Kappas on Capitol Hill Legislative Policy Conference.

Each year, my brothers come to Capitol Hill with their crimson blazers to raise awareness around the key issues that affect our communities.

I had the privilege of joining this noble clan of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated, right here in Washington, D.C., at American University, where we chartered the Kappa Chi chapter of the Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity. It was in the fall of 1980 that I was allowed to cross the burning sands and commit myself to a life of honorable achievement in every field of human endeavor.

Mr. Speaker, today I am proud because now, more than ever, we need the leaders in our communities to raise their voices, raise awareness, and come to Washington, D.C., as advocates on behalf of their communities, as it says in the First Amendment, ''to petition the government for a redress of their grievances.''

I am proud of the brothers of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated, for coming to Congress today, as they do each spring.

DISCRIMINATION IS WRONG

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

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, today I am proud to help bring forth the Equality Act, with 194 original cosponsors on both sides of the aisle. The principle behind the Equality Act is simple: discrimination is wrong, no matter what form it takes, no matter who it targets.

This is a principle that Americans overwhelmingly choose to embrace and live by. We see it in the way we treat our LGBT employees, friends, neighbors, and family. It is apparent in the outpouring of joy and celebration we witnessed at the Supreme Court's historic marriage equality ruling 2 years ago.

But sadly, our laws have not yet caught up with our values. It is still legal in a majority of States to fire somebody just because they are gay. That is not just a theoretical concern. It means real harm and real hardship for countless Americans.

For LGBT Americans who are fired or turned away from a doctor's office or told they are not wanted in their neighborhood, many of them have nowhere to go for legal recourse. We are better than that as a nation. It is time we showed that.

We are a nation that prides ourselves on our commitment to equality under the law. So I call upon this Congress to pass the Equality Act and put an end to legal discrimination against lesbian,

gay, bisexual, and transgender Americans once and for all.

RESIGNATION AS MEMBER OF COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation as a member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 2, 2017.

Hon. PAUL D. RYAN,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER RYAN: Respectfully, I write to tender my resignation as a member of the House Committee on Education and the Workforce. It has been an honor to serve in this capacity.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

STEVEN D. RUSSELL,
Member of Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resignation is accepted.

There was no objection.

ELECTING A MEMBER TO CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the House Republican Conference, I offer a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 303

Resolved, That the following named Member be, and is hereby, elected to the following standing committees of the House of Representatives:

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE: Mr. Estes of Kansas.

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS: Mr. Estes of Kansas.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1180, WORKING FAMILIES FLEXIBILITY ACT OF 2017; PROVIDING FOR PROCEEDINGS DURING THE PERIOD FROM MAY 5, 2017, THROUGH MAY 15, 2017; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 299 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 299

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 1180) to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide compensatory time for employees in the private sector. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. In lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Education and the Workforce now printed in the bill, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 115-15 shall be considered as adopted. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, and on any further amendment thereto, to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce; and (2) one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

SEC. 2. On any legislative day during the period from May 5, 2017, through May 15, 2017—

(a) the Journal of the proceedings of the previous day shall be considered as approved; and

(b) the Chair may at any time declare the House adjourned to meet at a date and time, within the limits of clause 4, section 5, article I of the Constitution, to be announced by the Chair in declaring the adjournment.

SEC. 3. The Speaker may appoint Members to perform the duties of the Chair for the duration of the period addressed by section 2 of this resolution as though under clause 8(a) of rule I.

SEC. 4. It shall be in order at any time on the legislative day of May 4, 2017, or May 5, 2017, for the Speaker to entertain motions that the House suspend the rules as though under clause 1 of rule XV. The Speaker or his designee shall consult with the Minority Leader or her designee on the designation of any matter for consideration pursuant to this section.

SEC. 5. The requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII for a two-thirds vote to consider a report from the Committee on Rules on the same day it is presented to the House is waived with respect to any resolution reported through the legislative day of May 5, 2017.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Alabama is recognized for 1 hour.

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

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 299 provides for the consideration of H.R. 1180, the Working Families Flexibility Act. This resolution provides for a closed rule since no amendments were submitted to the Rules Committee.

Mr. Speaker, the workforce of the 21st century is a lot different from the workforce of the thirties and forties when many of our Nation's labor laws were first written. As such, many of these laws are outdated and out of touch with the realities facing today's workers.

For example, in nearly half of two-parent households, both Mom and Dad work full time. That is up from roughly 30 percent in 1970. Meanwhile, millennials now represent the majority of the workforce.

Given the changes in the workforce, there are new challenges related to the work-family balance. From children's field trips, to taking care of an elderly family member, to a single parent juggling different tasks while their spouse is on a military deployment, the demands are greater than ever. That is where the Working Families Flexibility Act comes in.

This commonsense bill would improve the quality of life for many hard-working men and women by removing outdated Federal restrictions imposed solely on the private sector.

Already, workers in the public sector at the Federal, State, and local level have the ability to take comp time in lieu of overtime pay if they prefer. This bill would give that same option to workers in the private sector.

Here is how it would work. An employee and their employer would come together and mutually agree to enter an arrangement where the employee would receive time and a half in time off or comp time instead of time-and-a-half overtime pay. In other words, employees would have the choice between paid time off and cash wages for working overtime.

As I mentioned, this provision is already available for workers in the public sector. That is because, in 1985, Congress amended the Fair Labor Standards Act to give public sector employees greater flexibility. In fact, in a report filed by the House Education and the Workforce Committee more than 30 years ago, our Democratic colleagues wrote that this change in law recognized the ''mutual benefits'' of comp time for State and local governments and outlined the ''freedom and flexibility'' comp time would offer public sector workers.

Shouldn't workers in the private sector be entitled to the same freedom and flexibility given to government workers?

Now, I know some of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle will say this bill is somehow bad for workers. That could not be further from the truth. Let me clear up some of the false information put out by union bosses and special interest groups.

First, this proposal is completely voluntary. Both an employee and an employer would have to agree to a comp time agreement, and their agreement would have to be put in writing.

Second, no employer can coerce or intimidate their employees into taking comp time. An employee who feels they have been mistreated can file a charge

with the Department of Labor, at no cost, or they can bring their own legal action. Employers who take advantage of their employees would face the same penalties as they would for other wage violations.

Now, as a labor and employment attorney, I have been a part of these kind of legal matters in the past, and I can honestly say that no sensible employer would take advantage of an employee and risk double damages, exorbitant attorney fees, and a legal battle with the Federal Government.

Third, employees have control over when to use their comp time, as long as reasonable notice is given and the request doesn't unduly disrupt the workplace. This is the same standard used in the public sector, and it is the same standard used under the Family and Medical Leave Act. I imagine it is also the same standard used in each of our congressional offices.

Fourth, this bill includes a 5-year sunset that would require Congress to come back and reaffirm this law after reviewing the impact of comp time. This would give us the ability to change the law based on the real-world impact.

Fifth, the bill would set the maximum comp time accrual amount at 160 hours, which is less than what is allowed in the public sector. This provision was actually included after Democrats expressed concerns that workers would accrue too much comp time.

Sixth, an employee has the right to cash out their comp time at any time and for any reason. This is a decision that the employee alone can make. Additionally, at the end of the year, employees would receive a cash payment for any unused hours.

Finally, this is not a far-fetched or radical idea. In fact, President Bill Clinton had his own comp time proposal during his Presidency.

So this bill is great for workers and actually gives them greater choice and flexibility in the workplace. In fact, our committee, the Committee on Education and the Workforce, heard a real-life example of how comp time would make life easier for families during a recent hearing on the bill. We heard about a clerical worker for a mental health company who recently found out she was pregnant and was putting in a lot of overtime during a transition to a new computer system. This mom-to-be simply wanted to waive the overtime pay and, instead, be credited the time for maternity leave.

As her human resources professional testified: ''I had to explain to her that we were unable to do so because it was against the law. It was difficult conveying this message to this single mom-to-be who felt she should be allowed the option to choose for herself whether to take the overtime pay or paid leave when her child was born.''

□ 1245

That is why this bill is necessary, for people like this working mom. That is how this bill will make a real difference.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I know comp time won't work for every worker or family, so if an employee wants to continue receiving time-and-a-half overtime pay, then they can continue to do so and this bill will have no impact on them. But this bill would create a new option for employees to better meet the needs of the 21st century workforce. Workers today want and need the type of freedom and flexibility that this bill provides. This bill would allow a working mom or dad to put in a little extra time at work in order to have that time off to attend a child's baseball game, dance recital, or field trip. This is all about freedom, flexibility, fairness, and choice.

Certainly, more work and changes will be needed as we adapt to the workforce of the 21st century, and I look forward to learning more about proposals from my colleagues on the other side of the aisle. But the simple fact that there are other proposals out there should not stop us from passing this commonsense bill to give working families the flexibility they need and deserve.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support House Resolution 299 and the underlying bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. I thank the gentleman for yielding me the customary 30 minutes.

Over the last several months, I have heard from thousands of my constituents over the phone, by email, and record numbers at townhalls. Frankly, the overwhelming message is frustration with the Trump administration and Republicans in Congress—no calls to pass this bill, which every group that advocates for workers' rights and unions opposes. The people in my district say that, to the contrary, Republicans continue to put the priorities of the few over the priorities of hard-working Americans.

People are frustrated that, instead of working with Democrats, Republicans are focused on gutting healthcare coverage, increasing premiums, and stripping away workers' rights. People in my district, across my State, and across the country are worried. The members of our immigrant community—our neighbors, family, and friends—will continue to be demonized by the President of the United States. So while I don't expect this kind of rhetoric or policies to change overnight, I feel it is important to share these concerns with this body.

Now, earlier this week, frankly, I was encouraged. There were some signs of positivity. Congressional Democrats and Republicans announced a bipartisan funding bill through the end of the year that shows a bright spot of what we can do together when we try. I hope we can all agree that a government shutdown would be catastrophic. In my district alone, I am reminded of the devastating impact of congressional inaction when I hosted a townhall in Estes Park just last week. The government shutdown in 2013, right during tourist season, cost our small and vibrant town nearly half a million dollars in tax revenue and millions of dollars in sales, threatening the existence of many Main Street businesses that rely on that tourism revenue and keeping Rocky Mountain National Park open. Estes Park sits at the entrance of Rocky Mountain National Park, and Rocky Mountain National Park was closed for most of the 16-day shutdown a few years ago.

But somehow, despite those obvious economic indicators in jobs, Donald Trump tweeted just this morning that our country ''needs a good shutdown.''

What does that even mean?

We need a good shutdown like we need a root canal. It would put people in my district out of work and cost the private sector millions of jobs.

But I am hopeful now that we will avoid a shutdown; that, thankfully, the spending bill, through 2017, prohibits funding on a new border wall. It minimizes cuts to the Environmental Protection Agency, allowing them to continue their work to keep our air and our water clean; and Planned Parenthood will continue to receive Federal funding.

Now, that being said, of course, that budget isn't perfect, and we will have the chance to debate it on the floor. The Republicans insist on massive government deficit spending for increased military spending that digs our mountain of debt for the next generation even bigger. The tax-and-spend Republicans continue to spend hand over fist and increase the deficit at the cost of the next generation of Americans.

Now, the bill before us, the Working Families Flexibility Act, is another example of Republicans putting ideology and special interests over the needs of workers and American families. The trend isn't new. It comes out of the typical playbook we have seen for decades.

In fact, this very bill has been introduced multiple times over the past 22 years, never with any success. Nearly identical bills were introduced in 1995, 1997, 1999, 2001, 2003, 2008, 2009, 2013, 2015, and now 2017. That is 10 times over 22 years. Each time, the bill never becomes law, and it won't become law now either. But that is how the Republicans want to spend their time in this body when we actually have important things to discuss that could become law, like fixing our broken immigration system.

This bill somehow claims to provide employees with more flexibility, but

the only flexibility are for the bosses. Instead of receiving overtime, workers would receive comp time; so their paychecks won't get anything out of extra time worked. It is important to note that this legislation applies to the private sector and only to employees subject to overtime provisions in the Fair Labor Standards Act. The current overtime threshold is set at just under $24,000, so only employees that make less than $24,000 are affected by this bill. We have tried mightily to increase that threshold to keep up with inflation, but we have met resistance by the Republicans every step of the way.

In 2017, the Federal poverty level for a family of four is about $24,000. So we are talking about only giving overtime to families that are below the poverty level. These families rely on that overtime to pay their bills, to pay their rent, and to put food on the table. These are the families who would benefit most from receiving overtime pay. In fact, a recent study by the Economic Policy Institute showed that 40 percent of people making less than $22,500 a year worked some overtime hours and needed that income to get by. This same 40 percent are the very people who would lose out under the Republican bill today.

My Republican colleagues claim that no one is forcing workers to accept comp time instead of overtime pay, and comp time is technically optional. But this argument represents how out of touch Republicans are with the real-life workforce conditions and actual working families.

In practice, the power differential between employers and employees means that many employees would feel obligated to accept comp time instead of overtime pay, even if that is not what works best for them. Especially in nonunion workplaces, employees could feel pressure to go along with their employers' demand or risk not even being offered overtime or comp time in the future.

Now, Republicans have also made the argument that public sector workers receive comp time. They are right. But that is not apples to apples. Public sector union membership is around 34 percent, and public sector employees have vast protections that private sector employees lack. As an example, public sector workers can't be fired except for good cause, and they have administrative appeal rights. They can't be discriminated against based on their desire to take overtime pay instead of comp time. Nonunionized private sector workers can be legally discriminated against in assigning their hours based on their decisions to take comp time versus overtime pay.

If the Republicans want to enlarge this discussion to include providing additional workplace protections to workers in the private sector, we are happy to have that discussion both on the committee where I serve with my colleague, Mr. BYRNE, as well as on the floor of the House.

Republicans somehow argue that this bill provides flexibility for workers to get time off, but I will remind my colleagues that nothing in the current Fair Labor Standards Act prevents employers from offering time off right now. In fact, the Fair Labor Standards Act allows the ultimate flexibility. Employers can already provide paid or unpaid leave on sick days, maternity, and paternity under the FLSA. They don't need this legislation to provide them flexibility. They just need to do the right thing.

This bill also ignores the fact that not all businesses are successful. Before coming to Congress, I started several businesses. I know this firsthand. A statistic is that 59 percent of restaurant businesses go out of business within 3 years. I am zero for two. I tried starting two restaurants. They both failed. Maybe that means if I try again someday, I will be finally due for a success.

But what is important is that when something goes out of business, we don't leave the employees in the lurch. What you are effectively doing here by deferring the overtime pay into potential future time off, if the company goes out of business, that employee would have to get in line with other creditors and risk never being paid. That is not a theoretical risk. The majority of new businesses don't last 10 years. They go out of business. Depriving people of the payment for the work they have done already is not the right way to treat workers in those businesses, and it is not their fault when the bad decision is made by their bosses.

In our committee markup of the bill, my Democratic colleagues offered a number of amendments to improve the legislation. Representative BONAMICI offered an amendment that would allow comp time to earn interest before workers' use. Under the current way this bill is written, low-wage workers are being asked to give an interest-free loan to the company. That doesn't make sense. The amendment didn't pass. If employees receive overtime pay, they should receive interest on it as well.

Representative WILSON offered an amendment that would exempt workers who are earning less than 2½ times the minimum wage, so the employees earning the very least wouldn't be subject to the law and could actually rely on their overtime pay. Again, that amendment was rejected by Republicans.

Representative BLUNT ROCHESTER on the committee offered an amendment that would limit the bill so only workers eligible for at least 7 days of paid sick leave receive comp time. Yet, again, Republicans rejected this amendment.

In total, committee Democrats offered eight amendments to try to improve this bill. Every single one was rejected.

Instead of bringing forward the same, tired, 22-year-old policies that I certainly don't hear my constituents requesting, Democrats have offered real solutions that benefit working families. Working families would benefit from an increase in the overtime salary threshold. Last year, the Department of Labor proposed an increase to that threshold, and 248,000 workers in Colorado alone would have benefited under that rule.

Democrats continue to write bills that provide commonsense solutions. We have offered legislation that would provide up to 12 weeks of partial-paid parental leave. Only 14 percent of the workforce has paid family leave through their employers. As a parent of a 5- and a 2-year-old, I know how important that is to be able to spend time with your newborn kids.

Democrats have also introduced a bill that would allow employees to earn up to 7 sick days per year. That would be a tremendous help to the 4 in 10 private sector employees who don't have access to any paid sick leave at all under current law.

Democrats have also offered legislation to combat pay discrimination. In 2017, women working full time are still paid 80 cents on the dollar compared to what men make. Democrats have offered legislation that I am proud to cosponsor that would address that kind of pay disparity. Those are the kinds of bills that the American people need, that workers need, and that we need to help lift people out of poverty and into the middle class.

Today, House Democrats introduced the Equality Act. I was proud to join so many of my colleagues in a bipartisan bill to prohibit discrimination based on gender identity and sexual orientation. Sadly, in many States, it is still legal to fire someone just because they are gay. The Equality Act would finally extend Federal workplace discrimination protections to LGBT Americans in all 50 States and the territories.

Finally, House Democrats will soon be introducing the bill that would raise the minimum wage. In my home State of Colorado, voters chose to raise the wage last November, and many other States have minimum wages higher than the Federal minimum wage. But it shouldn't come down to what State you live in to determine if you even earn enough to put food on the table and pay your rent. It is long past time we update the Federal minimum wage, and the Raise the Wage Act would do just that.

Yet, again, we are offering many solutions that we would love to discuss and love to vote on, and, instead, the Republicans are offering a bill to strip existing rights away from workers.

Mr. Speaker, the bill before us represents the same old policies the Republicans have offered for decades. They have never succeeded, and they won't succeed now. This time around, they are offering a bill that might be great for some of the bosses, but it undermines the lives of hardworking Americans that keep our country going.

Mr. Speaker, I oppose the Working Families Flexibility Act and the rule before us, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, the gentleman referred to an old playbook being used here. He is right. It is an old playbook. It is a playbook that was used by House Democrats in 1985, by President Bill Clinton during the 1990s. This is not a partisan playbook. This is actually—or used to be, actually—a bipartisan idea to give workers flexibility in the use of their time. That doesn't sound radical to me. It is not radical at all.

What has changed is Democrats used to be for this, and now, for whatever reason, they are not. They would rather lock workers into these restrictive arrangements where you have working mothers, like the one I used in my initial remarks, who can't get their flexible time off that they want because we do not allow them to do that under the Federal Labor Standards Act.

Comp time is just not technically optional, as my friend said, under this law. It is optional by law. It is a voluntary thing by law. There is no question about that. Employers cannot coerce or intimidate an employee to do that under this law. It is strictly prohibited, and there are serious legal repercussions for an employer who attempts to do that.

There are no differences in the protections for someone under this bill and the protections that public employees have when they seek to have this sort of flextime under the laws that pertain to them. It is the same protection. So it doesn't matter whether you are in the private sector or the public sector; under this bill, you are going to be protected.

□ 1300

Let me tell you something, as someone who has practiced in this area. It is not an idle threat to an employer to face a regulatory proceeding from the Wage and Hour Division of the Department of Labor or to face a private lawsuit. Those are a big deal. If you lose, you have to not only pay double damages, you have got to pay the employees' attorneys fees, which can be significant. No sensible employer is going to go out there and intimidate and coerce and think they can get away with it. They can't.

Wages, under our bankruptcy laws, are the first priority of what is paid out during the winding up of a bankruptcy proceeding. Before any other creditor is paid, wages get paid. In my experience, I don't remember wages ever not being paid in a bankruptcy. That is always assumed. They get taken care of quickly. Most employers do the right thing.

My friend talked about employers needing to do the right thing. Most employers do the right thing. Just like I know my colleague, when he had a business in the private sector, did the right thing by his employees. Most employers do. Yet too often in this body, we act as if the assumption is that employers are going to do the wrong thing, and then we come down with this heavy-handed overregulation, punitive approach that restricts the freedom of both employers and—let's get back to it—the workers themselves to work these things out.

This is a commonsense solution to a real problem in the new workplace of the 21st century, where most moms and dads are working and where we have this new millennial generation that wants flexibility. They expect it. When you go to them and tell them: Oh, you can't have it because it is a Federal law, they don't understand.

I have got to tell you, Mr. Speaker, I don't understand. Yes, I understand that this law was put together in the 1930s. Maybe it made sense for the workplace in the thirties, but it doesn't make sense for the workplace of the 21st century.

I am disappointed in my colleagues who used to be in favor of these sorts of flexible arrangements and no longer favor it, but I get that. I hope that the rest of us will use our common sense and use what we all know is really happening in the workplace today and support this very important bill.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I have a document from 1997 from then-President Bill Clinton who opposed a bill that is basically identical to this one in its current form. The President said he would veto this bill, if passed, because he said this bill purports to give working families greater flexibility, but, in reality, it grants employers more rights at the expense of working people.

I hope my friends on the other side of the aisle stop using President Clinton's good name in vain in passage of a bill that is nearly identical to the one that he threatened to veto.

Of course, Democrats want to talk about flexibility. President Clinton, myself, and Democrats of the Education and the Workforce Committee are happy to do that, if there is a way to provide workers with real choices to protect workers against employee abuse in making their decisions, but the current bill, and the same bill that President Clinton opposed, fails in that regard and fails to give employees the rights that they deserve to exercise their comp time.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. ADAMS).

Ms. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. POLIS) for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to express my strong opposition to H.R. 1180.

H.R. 1180 encourages overwork by encouraging workers to spend more time at work in order to earn paid time off, which employers may or may not allow them to use in the future.

Many hardworking families throughout the 12th District of North Carolina need overtime pay just to make ends meet each month. They should not be compelled by their employer to accept comp time when their monthly budget depends on how much overtime they receive in their paycheck. Overtime pay can be the difference between paying for sending a child to college or going into debt. Parents who earn an hourly wage need overtime, not comp time, to care for their families.

Nothing in the Working Families Flexibility Act strengthens existing workplace protections or promotes workplace flexibility. That is why I offered an amendment last week when H.R. 1180 was considered in committee to exempt comp time arrangements from mandatory arbitration agreements.

This amendment would have ensured protections for employees that H.R. 1180 seek to take away. Unfortunately, the majority decided not to support my amendment or any other amendments offered by my fellow Democrats on the Education and the Workforce Committee.

Instead of today's bill, the House should consider legislation that would create good jobs with family sustaining wages and benefits. I strongly oppose H.R. 1180, and I encourage by colleagues to vote ''no'' on this bill.

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

My colleague from North Carolina and I worked together on many things, and I have great respect for her, but I think her argument ignores a very important fact about this bill, and that is that you can't be coerced into doing this. You have to do it voluntarily.

If you would rather get your time and a half in pay, that is your decision. You are going to get it. The law requires that. There is nothing that forces anybody to get that.

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

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the Statement of Administration Policy from President William Jefferson Clinton from 1997, in which President Clinton lays out the criteria, by and large, which is still the criteria

under which Democrats would support a comp time flexibility bill, had the Republicans been at all serious about actually passing one into law rather than just passing a symbolic bill that they have passed for 22 years.

[From the American Presidency Project, John T. Woolley & Gerhard Peters, Santa Barbara, CA]

WILLIAM J. CLINTON: STATEMENT OF ADMINISTRATION POLICY: H.R. 1—WORKING FAMILIES FLEXIBILITY ACT OF 1997, MARCH 19, 1997

(HOUSE) (BALLENGER (R) NC AND 99 OTHERS)

The President will veto H.R. 1 if it is passed in its current form. The President will not sign H.R. 1, or any other comp time legislation, unless it adheres to three fundamental principles: (1) real choice for workers; (2) real protection against employer abuse; and (3) preservation of workers' rights.

H.R. 1 purports to give working families greater flexibility. In reality, it grants employers more rights at the expense of working people:

H.R. 1 fails to offer workers real choice. In particular, H.R. 1 would allow an employer to decide when a worker could use his or her compensatory time-off by disapproving such time-off if the employer claims it would ''unduly disrupt'' its operations. In addition, H.R. 1 would permit an employer to ''cash out'' a worker's earned compensatory time over 80 hours.

H.R. 1 fails to protect workers against employer abuse. For example, H.R. 1 offers inadequate protections for vulnerable workers and part-time, seasonal, and temporary employees, including garment and construction workers, and those who are employed in industries with histories of Fair Labor Standards Act violations. H.R. 1 also fails to prohibit employers from substituting compensatory time-off for paid vacation or sick leave benefits. Furthermore, H.R. 1 lacks meaningful remedies for workers when employers penalize them for electing to receive overtime pay in lieu of compensatory time-off. In addition, H.R. 1 contains inadequate worker safeguards in cases where an employer goes bankrupt or out-of-business.

H.R. 1 fails to preserve workers' rights. Workers who take compensatory time-off can be forced to work additional overtime in the same week—even on the weekend—without being paid overtime premium pay.

The Administration supports the substitute amendment to be offered by Representative George Miller, although procedural obstacles in the House have prevented the amendment from addressing all of the important issues that need to be treated, including expansion of Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA). The Administration strongly believes that any legislation to authorize compensatory time under the Fair Labor Standards Act should be linked to expansion of the FMLA. Expanding the FMLA to give working families greater flexibility to foster the education of their children or provide routine health care for their children or elderly relatives will go a long way toward achieving the stated goals of H.R. 1.

The Miller amendment, however, would ensure real employee choice, by adding crucial provisions not found in H.R. 1. For example, employers that adopt comp time programs would have to make comp time available to similarly-situated employees on a fair and non-discriminatory basis. Working families are guaranteed real protection against possible comp time abuse through the Miller amendment.

Furthermore, the Miller amendment would preclude employers from using comp time to modify or reduce existing paid leave plans. It would entitle employees choosing comp time to get regular statements of their accrual and use of comp time; put a reasonable limit on the number of hours of comp time that can be accrued; and allow employees to seek damages when they incur costs because an employer wrongfully denies them use of the comp time they earned. The Secretary of Labor would have the authority to bar employers with a pattern and practice of comp time abuse from continuing to offer comp time. H.R. 1 has none of these protections. These are all improvements to H.R. 1 that guarantee the legislation enhances rather than decreases flexibility for America's working families.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. BROWN).

Mr. BROWN of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague from Colorado (Mr. POLIS) for yielding.

I rise today in opposition to this so-called Working Families Flexibility Act, a bill that would hurt, not help, working people.

This bill would ensure workers have less time, less flexibility, and less money. Under this proposal, workers would forego the overtime they earn today in exchange for comp time in the future, except workers can't choose when they can use that time.

There is nothing stopping a boss from denying a worker from using their comp time to care for a sick child or attend a school event. The only thing that this bill does is provide more flexibility for bosses, while taking away hard-earned overtime pay that many workers rely on to make ends meet.

This is an attempt to undermine hard-fought, 80-year-old worker protections guaranteed by the Fair Labor Standards Act. If Congress wanted to give working families more flexibility, we should give them earned paid sick days, combat pay discrimination, give them a say in their work schedules, and raise the minimum wage. These are the policies that working families truly need to thrive.

They are popular, commonsense ideas that, unlike this bill, don't force workers into choosing between time and money. Families depend on both. Let's work together to support real flexibility for working families.

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

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. DINGELL).

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the rule and underlying bill, and I thank my colleague from Colorado for yielding.

Contrary to its name, the Working Families Flexibility Act provides no flexibility for working families but makes it harder to plan financially at a time when wages have stagnated and American workers are working harder than ever.

The 40-hour workweek is a long established American way of life—a way of life won by hardworking American men and women. This legislation aims to undermine the Fair Labor Standards Act and the 40-hour workweek by handing even more power over to employers by giving them the right to not pay for overtime hours.

This legislation amounts to a handout for large American companies at the expense of their workers. Hardworking Americans can't afford to loan their bosses overtime pay for months at a time. Employees would also find themselves at a disadvantage if they wanted to get paid for overtime instead of opting for comp time. Companies would find it in their financial interest to select comp time workers instead of workers who want overtime pay. This isn't the flexibility that American workers need.

The bill is right about one thing: American workers do deserve an update to the FLSA. If they really want to talk about helping American working families gain more flexibility in the workplace, Congress should be taking up bills on paid sick days, paid family and medical leave, and a real increase in wages.

I urge my colleagues to vote ''no'' on this bill.

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

Mr. Speaker, I think my friends on the other side of the aisle don't understand how this works. An employee comes to their supervisor or the person who runs the HR office in the company and says: I would like to get some comp time in return for the overtime I am getting ready to work because I have got a specific reason to want to use it. The employer says: Okay, when do you want to get the overtime and when do you want to take the comp time? They work that out.

The employer has the responsibility for having the system and the paperwork for showing that they have complied with the law. From an employer's point of view, that is an extra burden. It is really not in the interest of an employer to do this. An employer would really prefer to say: Look, I don't want to have to do this, because if I make a mistake, I am going to get in trouble with either a private lawsuit or the Department of Labor. So it is really better for the employer not to have this option because it is not going to be an option in which they can make a mistake.

This is for that employee to get the comp time so they can have some flexibility in their schedule. That is who it is for. If they don't want to use it, they don't have to use it. They can still be paid the time and a half that they are paid today. No one can coerce them. The law says you can't do that, and there are real penalties for it.

To the contrary, when we are hearing that somehow this is something for the

employers, no, it is not. This is for the workers—the new workers of the 21st century, who sometimes I think we have forgotten about when we have these debates in this body.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, while we are debating a rule for a bill that would strip workers of their overtime pay, since President Trump took office, dangerous bills like this are more likely to become law.

Just a few weeks ago, President Trump signed a bill into law that strips the American people of our online privacy, allowing internet service providers to sell yours and my sensitive information to the highest bidder without our permission.

This information includes location, financial and health data, information about our children—even pictures of our children—Social Security numbers, web browsing history, app usage history, content of communication: emails, video chats. It is simply wrong.

For this reason, when we defeat the previous question, I will offer an amendment to the rule to bring up Representative JACKY ROSEN's bill, H.R. 1868, which would reinstate the Federal Communication Commission's internet privacy rule.

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, sometimes you need a redo or a retake. When this body narrowly passed the bill that President Trump signed that took all of our private data and allowed internet service providers to sell it without our permission, it was a mistake. Hopefully enough Members of this body have since realized it is a mistake and they will now change their vote and support defeating the previous question allowing for immediate consideration of Representative ROSEN's bill to protect our privacy.

As we know, broadband access through internet access providers is a critical way to have access to a world of information and commerce, but the price of that access should not be all of your private information, including your kids' photographs and birthdays and your Social Security number.

Under the bill that became law, everything you enter on the internet on any site, regardless of their privacy policy, would be owned by your broadband provider and be able to be sold by your broadband provider without your consent.

That is simply wrong for America; it is wrong for consumers; it is wrong for innovation. It casts a shadow over the entire internet ecosytem, which not only has brought so much enjoyment to so many but has created millions of jobs in my district and across our country.

□ 1315

If we can defeat the previous question, we can do a redo on this bill. We can pass H.R. 1868, which would reinstate a rule that has broad, popular support. I haven't heard a single constituent of mine say that they don't want their broadband privacy protected, and I have had hundreds of them say that they do want their broadband privacy protected.

I am hoping that, since my Republican friends have now had the chance to have townhalls and to listen to their constituents, they will agree that we should reinstate the Federal Communications' internet privacy rule to protect our privacy subject to the terms of use; information can be sold if you consent for it to be sold, but without your consent, all the information you enter on the internet should not be the property of the broadband provider for their use and for sale. It is common sense. The vast majority of the American public agrees. I think it is time to call the question on Congress to see if we can get Congress to agree.

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

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

I would say to my colleague and to the House, I did indeed have 11 townhalls 2 weeks ago after the bill he references passed. It didn't come up one time because the American people understand what that was all about, that there were two different Federal agencies battling over something, and it didn't even solve the problem. The agency that put that regulation out didn't have the authority to do it, and it didn't solve the problem. The American people are sick and tired of agencies that don't have the authority to go out there and they do something, and it doesn't solve the problem.

If we want to get to the issue that my friend wants to get to, which I think is important, we ought to get to, let's work together in a bipartisan fashion and come up with a bipartisan, comprehensive bill that addresses that. I would really like to be a part of that.

But that is not what we are here today about. We are here today about this bill to provide flexibility to working people in the 21st century, particularly millennials.

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

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

I am surprised that people in Alabama weren't clamoring to protect their online privacy at the gentleman's townhall meetings. I will certainly take him at his word. Perhaps it is because they were so concerned with Republican attempts to increase their healthcare insurance rates by 15 to 20 percent, Republican attempts to raise their taxes, and Republican spending that will increase the deficit by $12 billion in this continuing resolution that were brought before us. Maybe they were so overwhelmed by the Republican efforts to get rid of their health care, increase the deficit, spend more money, and take away their rights that they didn't get down their list of concerns to broadband privacy.

Certainly in my district, Mr. Speaker, dozens of constituents in my townhalls—both Republican and Democratic constituents—brought this issue up as a way of arguing how out of touch House and Senate Republicans are to say that, at this time in our Nation's history, what we need is less privacy, not more. I think that there are a lot of things that people are concerned about, and that is certainly one of them.

This debate is about that, frankly, Mr. Speaker, because, if we defeat the previous question, I will be bringing forth Ms. ROSEN's bill. Members of this House will have an opportunity to vote on bringing up Ms. ROSEN's bill to protect our broadband privacy.

Mr. Speaker, the more work, less pay bill before us is yet another example by Republicans to roll back workers' rights under the guise of doing the opposite. Again, if the Republicans have a sincere desire to actually enhance and improve workers' rights, then we are all for that. The labor movement is for that. Let's talk about that. But don't pretend like you have the voices and concerns of workers in mind when workers' advocacy groups say you are stripping away their rights. We are happy to have that discussion.

In many ways, the veto statement from President Clinton in 1997 still lays out as relevant, today, some of the very criteria the Democrats would want to see in a bill that we could support that would empower workers to choose additional comp time, a concept that many Democrats support.

I wish we were working to protect American families today. But instead of collaborating with Democrats to produce a bill that actually accomplishes the stated goal of increasing worker flexibility, instead, the Republicans have chosen to move forward with their 22-year-old bill that weakens the 40-hour workweek, that President Clinton threatened to veto, that hasn't become law and won't become law, just perhaps as a check-off box rather than to do anything to actually empower workers to choose comp time instead of overtime. They are just checking the box for the big bosses and moving on to the next item without seeing this through into law.

There are a lot of bipartisan bills this body could be taking up this week.

Frankly, one of them is Representative ROSEN's bill that I will be bringing up when we defeat the previous question, but, sadly, this bill is not one of them. I am very disappointed that even in the majority, even in the governing capacity, even controlling the House, the Senate, and the Presidency, Republicans are wasting time on what we around here call messaging bills rather than real bills to address issues that Americans want us to work on, like bringing down the cost of college, fixing our broken immigration system, rebuilding our crumbling roads and bridges, or reforming our complicated tax system to make it more friendly for growth in our country.

Mr. Speaker, I support legislation that puts the needs of workers first, but this bill before us does the opposite. This legislation lifts up the big bosses with the hope that a worker may or may not see a benefit down the line without interest if the company stays in business. It is the wrong way to go about it. I oppose the rule. I oppose the underlying bill. I urge a ''no'' vote.

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

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

I thank Congresswoman ROBY for being the sponsor of this bill and bringing it forward. As a young woman herself, she understands what's going on in the workplace with people her age and how they try to juggle all the demands of their time. She has come up with a very commonsense approach to how we can deal with this in a way that makes sense for everybody.

We just heard a lot about the labor movement and big bosses. I got transported back in my mind. You would have thought we were in the 1930s and 1940s. I don't know if my colleague from Colorado has been paying attention, but union membership is at its lowest level since the 1940s right now because, even after 8 years of the most pro-union administration in decades, union membership continues to fall, and it continues to fall because workers in America aren't buying what they are selling because a lot of what they are selling is exactly what we hear is the opposition to this bill, which is: Let's limit people; let's restrict people; let's come up with all these things to tell them what they can't do instead of telling them what they can.

What the American people want, what I heard in my townhall meetings, they want the government off their back so that they can make their own choices and live their lives the way they want to live them. This is really true with the millennial generation.

I have four children who are adults right now. They are millennials. They really want to have flexibility in their lives, and this bill, Congresswoman ROBY's bill, gets a little way toward that. I don't see why we would be against trying to give not just young workers, but all workers, that flexibility.

I have heard the arguments, and I have heard them several times now. I have just got to tell you, they make no sense to me. Perhaps they are something that made sense 50, 60, 70 years ago, but they don't make any sense in 2017. It is a different time. It is a different day. Let's give the workers of America some freedom and flexibility because that is what they really want.

Mr. Speaker, I again urge my colleagues to support House Resolution 299 and the underlying bill.

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

AN AMENDMENT TO H. RES. 299 OFFERED BY MR. POLIS

At the end of the resolution, add the following new sections:

SEC. 6. Immediately upon adoption of this resolution the Speaker shall, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1868) to provide that providers of broadband Internet access service shall be subject to the privacy rules adopted by the Federal Communications Commission on October 27, 2016. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such .amendments as may have been adopted. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions. If the Committee of the Whole rises and reports that it has come to no resolution on the bill, then on the next legislative day the House shall, immediately after the third daily order of business under clause 1 of rule XIV, resolve into the Committee of the Whole for further consideration of the bill.

SEC. 7. Clause 1(c) of rule XIX shall not apply to the consideration of H.R. 1868.

THE VOTE ON THE PREVIOUS QUESTION: WHAT IT REALLY MEANS

This vote, the vote on whether to order the previous question on a special rule, is not merely a procedural vote. A vote against ordering the previous question is a vote against the Republican majority agenda and a vote to allow the Democratic minority to offer an alternative plan. It is a vote about what the House should be debating.

Mr. Clarence Cannon's Precedents of the House of Representatives (VI, 308–311), describes the vote on the previous question on the rule as ''a motion to direct or control the consideration of the subject before the House being made by the Member in charge.'' To defeat the previous question is to give the opposition a chance to decide the subject before the House. Cannon cites the Speaker's ruling of January 13, 1920, to the effect that ''the refusal of the House to sustain the demand for the previous question passes the control of the resolution to the opposition'' in order to offer an amendment. On March 15, 1909, a member of the majority party offered a rule resolution. The House defeated the previous question and a member of the opposition rose to a parliamentary inquiry, asking who was entitled to recognition. Speaker Joseph G. Cannon (R–Illinois) said: ''The previous question having been refused, the gentleman from New York, Mr. Fitzgerald, who had asked the gentleman to yield to him for an amendment, is entitled to the first recognition.''

The Republican majority may say ''the vote on the previous question is simply a vote on whether to proceed to an immediate vote on adopting the resolution . . . [and] has no substantive legislative or policy implications whatsoever.'' But that is not what they have always said. Listen to the Republican Leadership Manual on the Legislative Process in the United States House of Representatives, (6th edition, page 135). Here's how the Republicans describe the previous question vote in their own manual: ''Although it is generally not possible to amend the rule because the majority Member controlling the time will not yield for the purpose of offering an a amendment, the same result may be achieved by voting down the previous question on the rule . . . When the motion for the previous question is defeated, control of the time passes to the Member who led the opposition to ordering the previous question. That Member, because he then controls the time, may offer an amendment to the rule, or yield for the purpose of amendment.''

In Deschler's Procedure in the U.S. House of Representatives, the subchapter titled ''Amending Special Rules'' states: ''a refusal to order the previous question on such a rule [a special rule reported from the Committee on Rules] opens the resolution to amendment and further debate.'' (Chapter 21, section 21.2) Section 21.3 continues: ''Upon rejection of the motion for the previous question on a resolution reported from the Committee on Rules, control shifts to the Member leading the opposition to the previous question, who may offer a proper amendment or motion and who controls the time for debate thereon.''

Clearly, the vote on the previous question on a rule does have substantive policy implications. It is one of the only available tools for those who oppose the Republican majority's agenda and allows those with alternative views the opportunity to offer an alternative plan.

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

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

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

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

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 2, 2017.

Hon. PAUL D. RYAN,
Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on May 2, 2017, at 11:26 a.m.:

That the Senate passed S. 371.

With best wishes, I am,
Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

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

DISASTER DECLARATION IMPROVEMENT ACT

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1665) to ensure that the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency considers severe local impact in making a recommendation to the President for a major disaster declaration, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1665

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Disaster Declaration Improvement Act''.

SEC. 2. LOCAL IMPACT.

In making recommendations to the President regarding a major disaster declaration, the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency shall give greater weight and consideration to severe local impact or recent multiple disasters. Further, the Administrator shall make corresponding adjustments to the Agency's policies and regulations regarding such consideration. Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this section, the Administrator shall report to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate on the changes made to regulations and policies and the number of declarations that have been declared based on the new criteria.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BARLETTA) and the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. JOHNSON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 1665, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

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

The purpose of H.R. 1665 is to ensure that, in making a recommendation to the President for a major disaster declaration, the Administrator of FEMA looks at the intensity of the impact in a localized area as well as the impact on other recent disasters.

My colleagues from Illinois are to be commended for working so persistently on this bipartisan piece of legislation. Their Illinois districts have been impacted by several devastating disasters, but each time the communities were told that the damage was not severe enough to warrant Federal disaster assistance.

In recent years, there has been more evidence of devastated small and rural communities not receiving disaster assistance in a fair manner compared to other larger communities and neighboring States. I know all too well how devastating this can be for those affected by disaster, as I am dealing with a similar issue in northeastern Pennsylvania.

In March, much of the area I represent was hit with a crippling snowstorm that dumped as much as 30 inches of snow or more. Municipalities had to exhaust much of their yearly budgets on snow removal efforts and emergency services. However, due to the fact that the statewide threshold needed for Pennsylvania to request reimbursement funding from the Federal Government was not met, local municipalities were left with massive holes in their budgets.

This bill helps ensure the severe, remote, and localized impact endured by communities like those in Pennsylvania and Illinois get due consideration and they get the help they need when disaster strikes. The House adopted similar language last year when it passed the FEMA Disaster Assistance Reform Act.

Again, thank you to the gentleman and gentlewoman from Illinois for working with the subcommittee on this legislation to address the concerns of their constituents and other communities in this situation. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

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

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1665, the Disaster Declaration Improvement Act, as amended, which will ensure that the severity and number of recent disasters are afforded greater weight by FEMA when making disaster declaration recommendations to the President.

This bill addresses an unfair situation where small and rural communities located in States with large populations are seemingly denied Federal disaster assistance because of the State's large population. We have seen instances where a storm inflicts similar damage in two communities of similar size located in different States, but the State with a lower population receives a disaster declaration while the State with a larger population does not receive the disaster declaration.

For example, in 2013, several counties in Illinois were hit by a tornado causing 6 deaths, at least 180 injured, and widespread damage. The same storm system produced tornadoes and caused damage in the smaller neighboring States of Missouri and Kentucky, both of which received disaster declarations, while the State of Illinois did not.

To be clear, the Stafford Act prohibits the denial of disaster assistance to a State or local community based on income or population. However, given some of the examples, it appears that that is precisely what is occurring. It is time for this to stop and to treat all small and rural communities fairly.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this measure, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RODNEY DAVIS).

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman BARLETTA and Ranking Member JOHNSON. I also look over this House floor and thank my colleague, Mrs. BUSTOS, from Illinois, for joining me in this effort because, if you travel to my district or Mrs. BUSTOS' district in central and, in my case, southern Illinois and you ask my constituents about their opinion of FEMA's disaster declaration process, they are going to tell you that it is broken.

□ 1330

You don't have to look any further than the State of Illinois to see how FEMA's public assistance formula is failing hardworking families across this country because it simply does not put all communities on a level playing field.

In 2012, tornadoes devastated Harrisburg in southern Illinois, but the State was denied public assistance while Missouri and Kentucky received aid due to the damage inflicted by the exact same storm. Just a few short years ago, the towns of Gifford and Washington in central Illinois were denied public assistance as well, despite those communities suffering millions in damage.

And just last year, Illinois was once again denied public assistance following extensive damage done in late December 2015 and early January 2016 caused by severe storms and flooding in the central and southern parts of our State.

Under existing regulations, FEMA currently takes into account several factors when determining the need for public and individual assistance. However, there is currently no standard to determine which factor is more important than another during the disaster declaration process. This leads to highly subjective and uncertain processes that leave States and communities in limbo for weeks as their application is considered.

By working with the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee last year during the markup of the FEMA Disaster Assistance Reform Act, we were successful in including important language based on legislation I introduced that requires the administrator of FEMA, when making recommendations to the President regarding a disaster declaration, to ''give greater weight and consideration to severe local impact.'' This bill ultimately passed out of the House under suspension last Congress, but, unfortunately, the bill died in the Senate.

This Congress, I have introduced this language again, along with my friend and colleague from Illinois (Mrs. BUSTOS), as the Disaster Declaration Improvement Act.

Passing this bill will have a real impact on States like Illinois, where a large portion of the population is concentrated in a small northeastern corner of our State. Because of the population density in the northern part of my State, rural parts, where I live and where I represent, are having to meet an arbitrarily high standard in order to qualify for a disaster declaration. Enacting this language is going to help level the playing field and help ensure rural areas are given a fair chance when disaster happens and help is needed.

During our March markup of this bill, we also added important language that strengthens the bill by way of an amendment offered by my friend, the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. GRAVES). This language also requires FEMA to place more consideration on recent multiple disasters, to take into account the cumulative impact such events can have. So I want to thank Chairman GRAVES for working with my office on including this language and for being a cosponsor of my bill.

I also want to express my personal gratitude to Chairman SHUSTER and Ranking Member DEFAZIO for working with us during the last Congress and this Congress, and for moving this bill so early. Again, I want to especially thank Chairman BARLETTA for being a cosponsor of this bill.

Mr. Speaker, central and southern Illinois just experienced another flooding event this past weekend. And while it is not yet clear what the damage is, it is clear that Congress must act to ensure that folks get a fair shake if it is determined that Federal assistance is needed.

I urge a ''yes'' vote.

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. BUSTOS).

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I also want to thank my colleague, Congressman RODNEY DAVIS, for working with me to advance this long overdue legislation, which we call the Disaster Declaration Improvement Act.

This bill seeks to bring fairness to the Federal Emergency Management Agency's disaster declaration process.

Right now, if a tornado, a flood, or any other natural disaster strikes a small town, like many of the ones I represent in the State of Illinois, FEMA's current per capita formula leaves much of rural America behind. That is because FEMA's current disaster assessment rules fail to take into account localized impacts on Main Streets and agricultural communities throughout our Nation.

This has left hardworking families in Illinois and rural States throughout the United States without access to the Federal relief they so badly need under these circumstances.

For instance, in my district, the city of Pekin was denied FEMA disaster recovery funding following a deadly tornado that had winds up to 120 miles per hour that ripped through the town in November of 2013.

Gary and Selena Cleer were in church on that Sunday afternoon when this tornado hit. They took shelter along with the rest of the congregation in the hallway to protect themselves. Finally, and with God's blessing, they were able to drive safely home, and they didn't even recognize what was in front of them. Much of their roof was gone, their garage had been torn away, and their battered car lay among all of the rubble.

The tornado destroyed about 200 other structures in this town of only 35,000 people. But this community received no public assistance dollars—zero. This was a direct result of FEMA's disaster declaration formula, which, again, makes it unnecessarily difficult for Illinois' smaller communities to receive the help that they need.

Mr. Speaker, we are not asking for a handout for rural America. In fact, in the Midwest, we are as resilient as they come, but we are certainly asking for a fair shake and the opportunity for all of our families to get the help that they need in a time of crisis.

A few million dollars of damage can devastate a smaller town or a rural community. That is why FEMA must give greater weight to the local impact of a disaster when making these decisions about the need for Federal assistance.

Our bill fixes an unfair formula that hurts too many of our smaller towns and villages across Illinois and across America. This bill had been included in the FEMA Disaster Assistance Reform Act of 2015, but it sat in the Senate without any action. Today we are working together to pass it once again because we can't solve this problem by ignoring it. I urge our friends in the Senate to take action.

With new flooding, damaging roads and infrastructure in places like Pekin, Peoria, and in southern Illinois where my friend, MIKE BOST, serves and where RODNEY DAVIS serves, I urge my colleagues to join us in supporting this bill so that we can help ensure that hardworking families from the heartland have the support they need to get back on their feet after a disaster.

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. BOST).

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend for yielding.

As we speak, communities in southern Illinois are contending with rising flood waters.

While we may not be able to prevent the water rising, there is a lot that we can do to help our communities rebuild following a disaster. Unfortunately, too many rural areas find that the help that they need is not there for them because of arbitrary Federal rules.

In my district, rural communities suffered significant damage from the 2015 holiday floods, but did not qualify for assistance because of these rigid rules. This legislation addresses these problems and ends the unfair treatment of rural areas.

It is better to ensure that FEMA gives greater weight to localized disasters when determining assistance.

I support the legislation authorized by my friend and Illinois colleague, RODNEY DAVIS, and cosponsored by CHERI BUSTOS, because the victims shouldn't be punished for living in a small town in a rural area.

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

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. LAHOOD).

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1665, the Disaster Declaration Improvement Act. I thank my colleagues, Mr. BARLETTA and Mr. RODNEY DAVIS, for their leadership on this important issue.

Rural areas are the heart of not only my district, but of America as a whole. They are the source of food and resources, and are home to millions of American families. When natural disasters come to these communities, we should be doing everything in our power to help them get back on their

feet. Instead, the regulatory regime forces these areas to meet a higher and unfair threshold in order to get the FEMA resources that they need.

My district faced this problem back in 2013, after a tornado swept through Washington, Illinois, destroying nearly 1,000 homes. This was a massive loss, but FEMA's formula for public assistance kept Washington from getting the assistance it needed to repair the public infrastructure damaged by the storm. While individuals could get some relief for personal property, this damage to infrastructure affects every member of the community.

This is why I am a proud cosponsor and supporter of H.R. 1665, the Disaster Declaration Improvement Act. This bill will change and modernize FEMA's formula so that it is easier for rural areas and areas with lower population density to get the support and assistance they need after a disaster.

I urge my colleagues to vote for its passage today to ensure that all Americans, regardless of the town they live in, can know that help will be on the way after such tragic events happen.

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. GRAVES).

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I want to commend the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RODNEY DAVIS) and the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. BUSTOS) for coming together to work in a bipartisan manner to address a problem that affects not just Illinois, but affects, I think, all 50 States. It is an issue where we have watched FEMA, in many cases, make decisions that appear to be arbitrary in terms of declaring a disaster in some areas, not in others.

What this legislation does, very simply, is it requires that FEMA take into consideration the true localized impacts of a disaster. And in line with what the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RODNEY DAVIS) noted earlier, we did an amendment in the committee that also looked at, or required, FEMA to consider multiple impacts in an area.

I am from south Louisiana. In the last several months, we have had police shootings, we have had one of the most costly floods in U.S. history, we have had tornadoes, and we have had another flood in north Louisiana. In fact, there were two floods, as I recall. One of them was a 500-year flood, and the second was a 1,000-year flood. It makes me question how old I am sometimes.

But what this does is it requires that FEMA look at localized impacts, and that they take into consideration the cumulative impacts of various disasters and incidents in an area. FEMA is not there and the Federal Government is not there to take care of every problem and every disaster that States and municipalities have.

But in many cases that we have seen historically, they have missed opportunities. I think we have seen incredible burdens borne by local governments, and they have had disasters that far exceeded their capabilities.

I want to, again, commend the gentleman and gentlewoman from Illinois for offering this commonsense legislation, and I urge all Members to support the bill.

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

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote ''yes'' on H.R. 1665, as amended, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BARLETTA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1665, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

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

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

FEMA ACCOUNTABILITY, MODERNIZATION AND TRANSPARENCY ACT OF 2017

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1679) to ensure that the Federal Emergency Management Agency's current efforts to modernize its grant management system includes applicant accessibility and transparency, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1679

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''FEMA Accountability, Modernization and Transparency Act of 2017''.

SEC. 2. REQUIREMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency shall ensure the ongoing modernization of the grant systems for the administration of assistance under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.) includes the following:

(1) An online interface, including online assistance, for applicants to complete application forms, submit materials, and access the status of applications.

(2) Mechanisms to eliminate duplication of benefits.

(3) If appropriate, enable the sharing of information among agencies and with State, local, and tribal governments, to eliminate the need to file multiple applications and speed disaster recovery.

(4) Any additional tools the Administrator determines will improve the implementation of this section.

(b) IMPLEMENTATION.—To the extent practicable, the Administrator shall deliver the system capabilities described in subsection (a) in increments or iterations as working components for applicant use.

SEC. 3. NO ADDITIONAL FUNDS AUTHORIZED.

No additional funds are authorized to carry out the requirements of this Act. Such requirements shall be carried out using amounts otherwise authorized.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BARLETTA) and the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. JOHNSON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

□ 1345

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include any extraneous material on H.R. 1679.

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

There was no objection.

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

The purpose of H.R. 1679, the FEMA Accountability, Modernization and Transparency Act of 2017, is to enhance FEMA grant applicants' access to information.

I commend my colleague from Louisiana for working so hard for the people of his State to tackle the challenges those communities and individuals have been facing in the wake of last August's floods and other disasters.

On average, FEMA distributes almost $6 billion a year in assistance to individuals, communities, and organizations impacted by disasters. That taxpayer money must be managed in an efficient and transparent way to prevent duplication and provide disaster survivors with needed access and visibility.

More efficient and transparent delivery of disaster assistance will help speed disaster recovery and reduce the administrative burden on applicants. This legislation requires the FEMA Administrator to include online access and information sharing as the agency modernizes its disaster grant delivery system.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of H.R. 1679, the FEMA Accountability, Modernization and Transparency Act of 2017. Our State and local partners are the first responders to any emergency disaster or terrorist attack. They do an outstanding job, given their limited resources and irregular nature of the events to which they respond.

We need to make sure that our partners, States, local governments, first responders, and nonprofits have access to the latest equipment, technology, training, and other resources needed to address any gaps in preparedness and to ensure that they remain as responsive as possible in an emergency. To assist them in their efforts, the Department of Homeland Security provides several discrete types of preparedness grants to help our partners meet the core capabilities needed to prepare our Nation for any hazard.

FEMA's 2016 National Preparedness Report found that much more work is needed in areas such as cybersecurity, economic recovery, housing, infrastructure systems, and supply chain integrity and security in order to meet our goal of being prepared and resilient.

Despite the valuable benefits these grants provide, President Trump proposed to cut funding for these grants in his so-called skinny budget. President Trump has proposed prioritizing a border wall over the lives and safety of our residents. I am pleased to note that this week Congress will be voting on an omnibus fiscal year 2017 appropriations bill that funds these programs at sufficient levels.

Since 2015, FEMA has been modernizing its management of these grant programs by making information technology platforms more user friendly. As FEMA continues to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of its grants management, this bill will ensure that FEMA ensures that the system is more accessible and transparent to applicants.

The bill requires FEMA to include mechanisms to eliminate duplication of benefits and enable the sharing of information among agencies and with State, local, and tribal governments, where appropriate, while FEMA continues its modernization efforts.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this measure, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. GRAVES).

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the subcommittee chairman and ranking member for their assistance, and I also want to thank our lead cosponsor, Mr. SIRES of New Jersey.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation is an unfortunate situation, that Congress actually has to step in. I want to give you a little bit of background.

In August of last year, we had once again what was known as the fourth most costly flood disaster in U.S. history. We had areas of south Louisiana that actually experienced over 32 inches of rain within about a 36-hour period. By comparison, the average American, as I recall, receives somewhere between 26 and 28 inches of rain in a year, and we received that in approximately 36 hours—an extraordinary rainfall event.

As you can imagine, in a 1,000-year flood event, you had thousands and thousands of people that were flooded, people living well outside of the floodplain. So, yes, there were thousands of people that were seeking assistance, trying to do everything from buy clothes to buy food, essential needs.

We assisted thousands of constituents trying to get information and answers from FEMA, but the way that the process worked is that you had to call an 800 number. If someone answered, they would log on a computer system and update the constituent on what their status is: if they received the application, if additional information was needed, if they were approved or denied.

I, myself, on many occasions called the 800 number just to see how long it would take to get through. In some cases no one would answer. In other cases, the questions couldn't be answered.

It is a very simple situation here, Mr. Speaker. This bill simply requires that FEMA establish an online database that citizens of this country can access directly. I can go right now and I can look at hotel reservations; I can look at airline reservations, train reservations. You can do virtually anything online. You can pay your utility bills. You can call an Uber. But with FEMA, they had thousands of employees that were there to answer phones to simply log on to the system.

There is no need for that step to be there. It is more efficient to get people direct access. I would rather see those FEMA employees helping us recover.

So I will say it again. I am disappointed that this takes an act of Congress. This is common sense, and you are seeing this type of innovation and utilization of technology happen all across the marketplace. Unfortunately, Congress has to intervene here, albeit in a bipartisan way, to make sure that Americans are getting the service that they deserve and to make sure that our taxpayer dollars are being used in an efficient way.

Once again, I want to thank the subcommittee chairman, Mr. BARLETTA, Ranking Member JOHNSON, and I want to especially thank the lead cosponsor on this legislation, Mr. SIRES of New Jersey, who I know has gone through extraordinary challenges in New Jersey with the 2012 Hurricane Sandy impacts on his State.

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

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote ''yes'' on H.R. 1679, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BARLETTA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1679.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

ROBERT T. STAFFORD DISASTER RELIEF AND EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE ACT AMENDMENT

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1678) to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act concerning the statute of limitations for actions to recover disaster or emergency assistance payments, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1678

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

SECTION 1. STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 705 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5205) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(1)—

(A) by striking ''Except'' and inserting ''Notwithstanding section 3716(e) of title 31, United States Code, and except''; and

(B) by striking ''report for the disaster or emergency'' and inserting ''report for project completion as certified by the grantee''; and

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1) by striking ''report for the disaster or emergency'' and inserting ''report for project completion as certified by the grantee''; and

(B) in paragraph (3) by inserting ''for project completion as certified by the grantee'' after ''final expenditure report''.

(b) APPLICABILITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—With respect to disaster or emergency assistance provided to a State or local government on or after January 1, 2004—

(A) no administrative action may be taken to recover a payment of such assistance after the date of enactment of this Act if the action is prohibited under section 705(a)(1) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5205(a)(1)), as amended by subsection (a); and

(B) any administrative action to recover a payment of such assistance that is pending on such date of enactment shall be terminated if the action is prohibited under section 705(a)(1) of that Act, as amended by subsection (a).

(2) LIMITATION.—This section, including the amendments made by this section, may not be construed to invalidate or otherwise affect any administration action completed before the date of enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BARLETTA) and the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. JOHNSON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 1678, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

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

The purpose of H.R. 1678 is to establish a statute of limitations for FEMA to recover disaster assistance payments. This bill would provide some finality in disaster assistance, and it would minimize administrative costs.

This is a bipartisan issue, and I appreciate my colleagues from Florida for their continued leadership on this issue.

H.R. 1678 reinstates the 3-year statute of limitations on FEMA's ability to reclaim funds when there is no evidence of fraud, waste, or abuse.

In my district, I have seen FEMA tell a community that a project is eligible for funding, allowing the town to move forward to complete a disaster recovery project, only to have FEMA change its mind years later and take the money back. Not only is this devastating to the community and to disaster recovery, but the administrative time and red tape involved in second-guessing is a waste of taxpayer dollars.

Again, my thanks to the gentlewoman from Florida and the gentleman from Florida for their continued work on this issue and for introducing this bill.

The House adopted similar language last year when it passed the FEMA Disaster Assistance Reform Act.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1678, as amended.

I am pleased and proud to yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. FRANKEL), the author and sponsor of this legislation.

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. JOHNSON for yielding, and I also want to thank Chairmen SHUSTER and BARLETTA and Ranking Members DEFAZIO and JOHNSON for their continued support.

I have had the honor of working on this legislation with my friends from Florida: Congressmen DAN WEBSTER, BRIAN MAST, and FREDERICA WILSON.

I have said this before and I am going to say it again: Florida knows hurricanes. In 2004 and 2005, Charley, Frances, Jeanne, Wilma, and Katrina tore through our State, leaving families stranded and property damaged.

I was the mayor of the city of West Palm Beach when we saw trees crash to the ground, ripping power lines and blocking flooded streets. Water systems were compromised, and our local governments, around the clock, did a miraculous job cleaning debris, fixing broken infrastructure, and getting life back to normal. It takes a lot to get it done.

When hurricanes strike, communities are ravaged, and so are their budgets. So I want to first thank FEMA for the funding assistance it provided Florida in a great time of need. With that said, FEMA is now asking some of our cities and counties to pay back money that was given for disaster relief projects that were approved more than 10 years ago.

There is no question that FEMA should do a responsible audit and make sure that money is used properly. However, the process should not be an endless journey into the Federal bureaucracy. Our local governments cannot afford to wait an infinite number of years for FEMA to do its assessment, especially when millions of dollars are at stake.

The current practice stymies our local governments' ability to plan their future budgets, and, unlike the Federal Government, they can't run a deficit. So this bill would make sure that the process is more evenhanded, giving FEMA adequate time to review its grant payments while allowing for the financial security of our local governments.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this very good legislation, and I urge the Senate to take action.

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MAST).

Mr. MAST. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank my friend from Pennsylvania for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to recognize my committee colleagues from the great State of Florida, Ms. FRANKEL and Mr. WEBSTER, on promoting this important piece of legislation. I am very proud to be a cosponsor of this bill.

There is no question for Florida that the emergency management capabilities are among the best in the Nation, but some disasters are even beyond what we can handle and what we can handle in an effective and timely manner.

Right now in our State, we are battling wildfires across the State. We are on the eve of a brand-new hurricane season which happens year after year. These FEMA disaster relief programs are necessary, they are critical, and they are one of the most important responsibilities of the Federal Government to help States and their citizenry recover; but, unfortunately, there is an issue going on.

Many counties in south Florida are still fighting to this day with FEMA to defend the legitimacy of disaster relief aid that they received following one of the worst hurricane seasons in our State's history, where hurricane after hurricane after hurricane crossed the shores of Florida.

Mr. Speaker, victims of a disaster or a national emergency who may not even have shelter over their heads—or food or water or basic necessities—should not be victimized again by their own government just because they lack the paper trail from decades ago when they were undergoing this sort of devastation in their life. By reinstating a 3-year statute of limitations on the reclamation of funds, when there is no evidence of fraud, no evidence of waste, no evidence of abuse, this bill moves more of the onus for recordkeeping and combating fraud away from relief recipients and back to where it belongs, back on to FEMA, and during that time when it is most essential, immediately after the recovery process. Mr. Speaker, I think that is just common sense.

Once again, I fully support this bipartisan bill, and I commend Chairman SHUSTER and Chairman BARLETTA for their assistance in getting this important bill to the floor.

□ 1400

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1678, which I rise in support of, is a bill that will clarify the existing statute of limitations for public assistance provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, or FEMA, to State, tribal, and local grantees.

Pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, or the Stafford Act, FEMA provides public assistance grants to State, tribal, and local governments to assist in their recovery efforts after a disaster strikes.

Generally, FEMA approves the use for public assistance funds immediately after the disaster or while the project is being completed. This is the appropriate time to decide how a grantee should spend disaster funds.

Once the project is completed, the grantee submits documentation of completion to FEMA. However, in some instances, FEMA or the inspector general has reviewed projects many years or even a decade after the grantee has submitted project completion

documents. At times, FEMA has changed its policy determination on the appropriate use of the funds, or the inspector general has second-guessed FEMA's decision on the appropriate use of the funds. FEMA then tries to recover project funds years later.

Under this bill introduced by Congresswoman FRANKEL, FEMA may still attempt to recover funds but must do so within 3 years after the project is completed. I commend Representative FRANKEL for her commitment to address this issue. She has worked tirelessly to bring this matter to the forefront.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the measure, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I again urge my colleagues to vote ''yes'' on H.R. 1678, as amended.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BARLETTA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1678, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

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

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

Ordering the previous question on House Resolution 299;

Adopting House Resolution 299, if ordered; and

Suspending the rules and passing H.R. 1679.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1180, WORKING FAMILIES FLEXIBILITY ACT OF 2017; PROVIDING FOR PROCEEDINGS DURING THE PERIOD FROM MAY 5, 2017, THROUGH MAY 15, 2017; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on ordering the previous question on the resolution (H. Res. 299) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1180) to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide compensatory time for employees in the private sector; providing for proceedings during the period from May 5, 2017, through May 15, 2017; and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

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

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 233, nays 190, not voting 7, as follows:

[Roll No. 240]

YEAS—233

Abraham
Aderholt
Allen
Amash
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Banks (IN)
Barletta
Barr
Barton
Bergman
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (MI)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Blum
Bost
Brady (TX)
Brat
Bridenstine
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burgess
Byrne
Calvert
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Chabot
Cheney
Coffman
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Comer
Comstock
Conaway
Cook
Costello (PA)
Cramer
Crawford
Culberson
Curbelo (FL)
Davidson
Davis, Rodney
Denham
Dent
DeSantis
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Donovan
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Dunn
Emmer
Estes (KS)
Farenthold
Faso
Ferguson
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flores
Fortenberry
Foxx
Frelinghuysen
Gaetz
Gallagher
Garrett
Gibbs
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Griffith
Grothman
Guthrie
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Hice, Jody B.
Higgins (LA)
Hill
Holding
Hollingsworth
Hudson
Huizenga
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurd
Issa
Jenkins (KS)
Jenkins (WV)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Katko
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kinzinger
Knight
Kustoff (TN)
Labrador
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Latta
Lewis (MN)
LoBiondo
Long
Loudermilk
Love
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
MacArthur
Marchant
Marino
Marshall
Massie
Mast
McCarthy
McCaul
McClintock
McHenry
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McSally
Meadows
Meehan
Messer
Mitchell
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Mullin
Murphy (PA)
Newhouse
Noem
Nunes
Olson
Palazzo
Palmer
Paulsen
Pearce
Perry
Pittenger
Poe (TX)
Poliquin
Posey
Ratcliffe
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Rice (SC)
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney, Francis
Rooney, Thomas J.
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Rouzer
Royce (CA)
Russell
Rutherford
Sanford
Scalise
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smucker
Stefanik
Stewart
Stivers
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Trott
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walker
Walorski
Walters, Mimi
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IA)
Zeldin

NAYS—190

Adams
Aguilar
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady (PA)
Brown (MD)
Brownley (CA)
Bustos
Butterfield
Capuano
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson (IN)
Cartwright
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Conyers
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Crist
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (CA)
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Demings
DeSaulnier
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle, Michael F.
Ellison
Engel
Eshoo
Espaillat
Esty (CT)
Evans
Foster
Frankel (FL)
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
Gonzalez (TX)
Gottheimer
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutiérrez
Hanabusa
Hastings
Heck
Higgins (NY)
Himes
Hoyer
Huffman
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones
Kaptur
Keating
Kennedy
Khanna
Kihuen
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lieu, Ted
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lujan Grisham, M.
Luján, Ben Ray
Lynch
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Matsui
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McNerney
Meeks
Moore
Moulton
Murphy (FL)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Nolan
Norcross
O'Halleran
O'Rourke
Pallone
Panetta
Pascrell
Payne
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters
Peterson
Pingree
Pocan
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Rice (NY)
Richmond
Rosen
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Sinema
Sires
Smith (WA)
Soto
Speier
Suozzi
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tonko
Torres
Tsongas
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters, Maxine
Watson Coleman
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Yarmuth

NOT VOTING—7

Amodei
Chaffetz
Davis, Danny
Franks (AZ)
Kelly (IL)
Meng
Slaughter

□ 1429

Messrs. O'HALLERAN and BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico changed their vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

Mr. MARSHALL changed his vote from ''nay'' to ''yea.''

So the previous question was ordered.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ALLEN). The question is on the resolution.

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

RECORDED VOTE

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

A recorded vote was ordered.

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

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 231, noes 193, not voting 6, as follows:

[Roll No. 241]

AYES—231

Abraham	Garrett	Mitchell
Aderholt	Gibbs	Moolenaar
Allen	Gohmert	Mooney (WV)
Arrington	Goodlatte	Mullin
Babin	Gosar	Murphy (PA)
Bacon	Gowdy	Newhouse
Banks (IN)	Granger	Noem
Barletta	Graves (GA)	Nunes
Barr	Graves (LA)	Olson
Barton	Graves (MO)	Palazzo
Bergman	Griffith	Palmer
Biggs	Guthrie	Paulsen
Bilirakis	Harper	Pearce
Bishop (MI)	Harris	Perry
Bishop (UT)	Hartzler	Pittenger
Black	Hensarling	Poe (TX)
Blackburn	Herrera Beutler	Poliquin
Blum	Hice, Jody B.	Posey
Bost	Higgins (LA)	Ratcliffe
Brady (TX)	Hill	Reed
Brat	Holding	Reichert
Bridenstine	Hollingsworth	Renacci
Brooks (AL)	Hudson	Rice (SC)
Brooks (IN)	Huizenga	Roby
Buchanan	Hultgren	Roe (TN)
Buck	Hunter	Rogers (AL)
Bucshon	Hurd	Rogers (KY)
Budd	Issa	Rohrabacher
Burgess	Jenkins (KS)	Rokita
Byrne	Jenkins (WV)	Rooney, Francis
Calvert	Johnson (LA)	Rooney, Thomas J.
Carter (GA)	Johnson (OH)	
Carter (TX)	Johnson, Sam	Ros-Lehtinen
Chabot	Jones	Roskam
Cheney	Jordan	Ross
Coffman	Joyce (OH)	Rothfus
Cole	Katko	Rouzer
Collins (GA)	Kelly (MS)	Royce (CA)
Collins (NY)	Kelly (PA)	Russell
Comer	King (IA)	Rutherford
Comstock	King (NY)	Sanford
Conaway	Kinzinger	Scalise
Cook	Knight	Schweikert
Costello (PA)	Kustoff (TN)	Scott, Austin
Cramer	Labrador	Sensenbrenner
Crawford	LaHood	Sessions
Culberson	LaMalfa	Shimkus
Curbelo (FL)	Lamborn	Shuster
Davidson	Lance	Simpson
Davis, Rodney	Latta	Smith (MO)
Denham	Lewis (MN)	Smith (NE)
Dent	LoBiondo	Smith (NJ)
DeSantis	Long	Smith (TX)
DesJarlais	Loudermilk	Smucker
Diaz-Balart	Love	Stefanik
Donovan	Lucas	Stewart
Duffy	Luetkemeyer	Stivers
Duncan (SC)	MacArthur	Taylor
Duncan (TN)	Marchant	Tenney
Dunn	Marino	Thompson (PA)
Emmer	Marshall	Thornberry
Estes (KS)	Mast	Tiberi
Farenthold	McCarthy	Tipton
Faso	McCaul	Trott
Ferguson	McClintock	Turner
Fitzpatrick	McHenry	Upton
Fleischmann	McKinley	Valadao
Flores	McMorris Rodgers	Wagner
Fortenberry	McSally	Walberg
Foxx	Meadows	Walden
Frelinghuysen	Meehan	Walker
Gaetz	Messer	Walorski
Gallagher	Mitchell	Walters, Mimi
Weber (TX)	Wilson (SC)	Yoho
Webster (FL)	Wittman	Young (AK)
Wenstrup	Womack	Young (IA)
Westerman	Woodall	Zeldin
Williams	Yoder	

NOES—193

Adams	Fudge	Neal
Aguilar	Gabbard	Nolan
Amash	Gallego	Norcross
Barragán	Garamendi	O'Halleran
Bass	Gonzalez (TX)	O'Rourke
Beatty	Gottheimer	Pallone
Bera	Green, Al	Panetta
Beyer	Green, Gene	Pascrell
Bishop (GA)	Grijalva	Payne
Blumenauer	Gutiérrez	Pelosi
Blunt Rochester	Hanabusa	Perlmutter
Bonamici	Hastings	Peters
Boyle, Brendan F.	Heck	Peterson
	Higgins (NY)	Pingree
Brady (PA)	Himes	Pocan
Brown (MD)	Hoyer	Polis
Brownley (CA)	Huffman	Price (NC)
Bustos	Jackson Lee	Quigley
Butterfield	Jayapal	Raskin
Capuano	Jeffries	Rice (NY)
Carbajal	Johnson (GA)	Richmond
Cárdenas	Johnson, E. B.	Rosen
Carson (IN)	Kaptur	Roybal-Allard
Cartwright	Keating	Ruiz
Castor (FL)	Kelly (IL)	Ruppersberger
Castro (TX)	Kennedy	Rush
Chu, Judy	Khanna	Ryan (OH)
Cicilline	Kihuen	Sánchez
Clark (MA)	Kildee	Sarbanes
Clarke (NY)	Kilmer	Schakowsky
Clay	Kind	Schiff
Cleaver	Krishnamoorthi	Schneider
Clyburn	Kuster (NH)	Schrader
Cohen	Langevin	Scott (VA)
Connolly	Larsen (WA)	Scott, David
Conyers	Larson (CT)	Serrano
Cooper	Lawrence	Sewell (AL)
Correa	Lawson (FL)	Shea-Porter
Costa	Lee	Sherman
Courtney	Levin	Sinema
Crist	Lewis (GA)	Sires
Crowley	Lieu, Ted	Smith (WA)
Cuellar	Lipinski	Soto
Cummings	Loebsack	Speier
Davis (CA)	Lofgren	Suozzi
Davis, Danny	Lowenthal	Swalwell (CA)
DeFazio	Lowey	Takano
DeGette	Lujan Grisham, M.	Thompson (CA)
Delaney		Thompson (MS)
DeLauro	Luján, Ben Ray	Titus
DelBene	Lynch	Tonko
Demings	Maloney, Carolyn B.	Torres
DeSaulnier		Tsongas
Deutch	Maloney, Sean	Vargas
Dingell	Massie	Veasey
Doggett	Matsui	Vela
Doyle, Michael F.	McCollum	Velázquez
	McEachin	Visclosky
Ellison	McGovern	Walz
Engel	McNerney	Wasserman Schultz
Eshoo	Meeks	
Espaillat	Moore	Waters, Maxine
Esty (CT)	Moulton	Watson Coleman
Evans	Murphy (FL)	Welch
Foster	Nadler	Wilson (FL)
Frankel (FL)	Napolitano	Yarmuth

NOT VOTING—6

Amodei	Franks (AZ)	Meng
Chaffetz	Grothman	Slaughter

□ 1437

So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 241.

FEMA ACCOUNTABILITY, MODERNIZATION AND TRANSPARENCY ACT OF 2017

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee). The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1679) to ensure that the Federal Emergency Management Agency's current efforts to modernize its grant management system includes applicant accessibility and transparency, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BARLETTA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 419, nays 0, not voting 11, as follows:

[Roll No. 242]

YEAS—419

Abraham	Chu, Judy	Esty (CT)
Adams	Cicilline	Evans
Aderholt	Clark (MA)	Farenthold
Aguilar	Clarke (NY)	Faso
Allen	Clay	Ferguson
Amash	Cleaver	Fitzpatrick
Arrington	Clyburn	Fleischmann
Babin	Coffman	Flores
Bacon	Cohen	Fortenberry
Banks (IN)	Cole	Foster
Barletta	Collins (GA)	Foxx
Barr	Collins (NY)	Frankel (FL)
Barragán	Comer	Frelinghuysen
Barton	Conaway	Fudge
Bass	Connolly	Gabbard
Beatty	Conyers	Gaetz
Bera	Cook	Gallagher
Bergman	Cooper	Gallego
Beyer	Correa	Garamendi
Biggs	Costa	Garrett
Bilirakis	Costello (PA)	Gibbs
Bishop (GA)	Courtney	Gohmert
Bishop (MI)	Cramer	Gonzalez (TX)
Bishop (UT)	Crawford	Goodlatte
Black	Crist	Gosar
Blackburn	Crowley	Gottheimer
Blum	Cuellar	Gowdy
Blumenauer	Culberson	Granger
Blunt Rochester	Cummings	Graves (GA)
Bonamici	Curbelo (FL)	Graves (LA)
Bost	Davidson	Graves (MO)
Boyle, Brendan F.	Davis (CA)	Green, Al
	Davis, Danny	Green, Gene
Brady (PA)	DeFazio	Grijalva
Brady (TX)	DeGette	Grothman
Brat	Delaney	Guthrie
Bridenstine	DeLauro	Hanabusa
Brooks (AL)	DelBene	Harper
Brooks (IN)	Demings	Harris
Brown (MD)	Denham	Hartzler
Brownley (CA)	Dent	Hastings
Buchanan	DeSantis	Heck
Buck	DeSaulnier	Hensarling
Bucshon	DesJarlais	Herrera Beutler
Budd	Deutch	Hice, Jody B.
Burgess	Diaz-Balart	Higgins (LA)
Bustos	Dingell	Higgins (NY)
Butterfield	Doggett	Hill
Byrne	Donovan	Himes
Calvert	Doyle, Michael F.	Holding
Capuano		Hollingsworth
Carbajal	Duffy	Hoyer
Cárdenas	Duncan (SC)	Hudson
Carson (IN)	Duncan (TN)	Huffman
Carter (GA)	Dunn	Huizenga
Carter (TX)	Ellison	Hultgren
Cartwright	Emmer	Hunter
Castor (FL)	Engel	Hurd
Castro (TX)	Eshoo	Issa
Chabot	Espaillat	Jackson Lee
Cheney	Estes (KS)	Jayapal

Jeffries	McSally	Schiff
Jenkins (KS)	Meadows	Schneider
Jenkins (WV)	Meehan	Schrader
Johnson (GA)	Meeks	Schweikert
Johnson (LA)	Messer	Scott (VA)
Johnson (OH)	Mitchell	Scott, Austin
Johnson, E. B.	Moolenaar	Scott, David
Johnson, Sam	Mooney (WV)	Sensenbrenner
Jones	Moore	Serrano
Jordan	Moulton	Sessions
Joyce (OH)	Mullin	Sewell (AL)
Kaptur	Murphy (FL)	Shea-Porter
Katko	Murphy (PA)	Sherman
Keating	Nadler	Shimkus
Kelly (IL)	Napolitano	Shuster
Kelly (MS)	Neal	Simpson
Kelly (PA)	Newhouse	Sinema
Kennedy	Noem	Sires
Khanna	Nolan	Smith (MO)
Kihuen	Norcross	Smith (NE)
Kildee	Nunes	Smith (NJ)
Kilmer	O'Halleran	Smith (TX)
Kind	O'Rourke	Smith (WA)
King (IA)	Olson	Smucker
King (NY)	Palazzo	Soto
Kinzinger	Pallone	Speier
Knight	Palmer	Stefanik
Krishnamoorthi	Panetta	Stewart
Kuster (NH)	Pascrell	Stivers
Kustoff (TN)	Paulsen	Suozzi
Labrador	Payne	Swalwell (CA)
LaHood	Pearce	Takano
LaMalfa	Pelosi	Taylor
Lamborn	Perlmutter	Tenney
Lance	Perry	Thompson (CA)
Langevin	Peters	Thompson (MS)
Larsen (WA)	Peterson	Thompson (PA)
Larson (CT)	Pingree	Thornberry
Latta	Pittenger	Tiberi
Lawrence	Pocan	Tipton
Lawson (FL)	Poe (TX)	Titus
Lee	Poliquin	Tonko
Levin	Polis	Torres
Lewis (GA)	Posey	Trott
Lewis (MN)	Price (NC)	Tsongas
Lieu, Ted	Quigley	Turner
Lipinski	Raskin	Upton
LoBiondo	Ratcliffe	Valadao
Loebsack	Reed	Vargas
Lofgren	Reichert	Veasey
Long	Renacci	Vela
Love	Rice (NY)	Velázquez
Lowenthal	Rice (SC)	Visclosky
Lowey	Richmond	Wagner
Lucas	Roby	Walberg
Luetkemeyer	Roe (TN)	Walden
Lujan Grisham, M.	Rogers (AL)	Walker
	Rogers (KY)	Walorski
Luján, Ben Ray	Rohrabacher	Walters, Mimi
Lynch	Rokita	Walz
MacArthur	Rooney, Francis	Wasserman Schultz
Maloney, Carolyn B.	Rooney, Thomas J.	Waters, Maxine
Maloney, Sean	Ros-Lehtinen	Watson Coleman
Marchant	Rosen	Weber (TX)
Marino	Roskam	Webster (FL)
Marshall	Ross	Welch
Massie	Rothfus	Wenstrup
Mast	Rouzer	Westerman
Matsui	Roybal-Allard	Williams
McCarthy	Royce (CA)	Wilson (FL)
McCaul	Ruiz	Wilson (SC)
McClintock	Ruppersberger	Wittman
McCollum	Russell	Womack
McEachin	Rutherford	Woodall
McGovern	Ryan (OH)	Yarmuth
McHenry	Sánchez	Yoder
McKinley	Sanford	Yoho
McMorris Rodgers	Sarbanes	Young (AK)
	Scalise	Young (IA)
McNerney	Schakowsky	Zeldin

NOT VOTING—11

Amodei	Franks (AZ)	Meng
Chaffetz	Griffith	Rush
Comstock	Gutiérrez	Slaughter
Davis, Rodney	Loudermilk	

□ 1449

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 242.

KOREAN INTERDICTION AND MODERNIZATION OF SANCTIONS ACT

Mr. ROYCE of California. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1644) to enhance sanctions with respect to transactions relating to North Korea, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1644

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Korean Interdiction and Modernization of Sanctions Act''.

SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.

The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title.
Sec. 2. Table of contents.
Sec. 3. Definitions.

TITLE I—SANCTIONS TO ENFORCE AND IMPLEMENT UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL SANCTIONS AGAINST NORTH KOREA

Sec. 101. Modification and expansion of requirements for the designation of persons.
Sec. 102. Prohibition on indirect correspondent accounts.
Sec. 103. Limitations on foreign assistance to noncompliant governments.
Sec. 104. Amendments to enhance inspection authorities.
Sec. 105. Enforcing compliance with United Nations shipping sanctions against North Korea.
Sec. 106. Report on cooperation between North Korea and Iran.
Sec. 107. Report on implementation of United Nations Security Council resolutions by other governments.
Sec. 108. Briefing on measures to deny specialized financial messaging services to designated North Korean financial institutions.

TITLE II—SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES BY THE GOVERNMENT OF NORTH KOREA

Sec. 201. Sanctions for forced labor and slavery overseas of North Koreans.
Sec. 202. Modifications to sanctions suspension and waiver authorities.
Sec. 203. Reward for informants.
Sec. 204. Determination on designation of North Korea as a state sponsor of terrorism.

TITLE III—GENERAL AUTHORITIES

Sec. 301. Authority to consolidate reports.
Sec. 302. Rule of construction.
Sec. 303. Regulatory authority.
Sec. 304. Limitation on funds.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

(a) AMENDMENTS TO DEFINITIONS IN THE NORTH KOREA SANCTIONS AND POLICY ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2016.—

(1) APPLICABLE EXECUTIVE ORDER.—Section 3(1)(A) of the North Korea Sanctions and Policy Enhancement Act of 2016 (22 U.S.C. 9202(1)(A)) is amended—

(A) by striking ''or Executive Order 13694'' and inserting ''Executive Order 13694''; and

(B) by inserting ''or Executive Order 13722 (50 U.S.C. 1701 note; relating to blocking the property of the Government of North Korea and the Workers' Party of Korea, and Prohibiting Certain Transactions With Respect to North Korea),'' before ''to the extent''.

(2) APPLICABLE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION.—Section 3(2)(A) of the North Korea Sanctions and Policy Enhancement Act of 2016 (22 U.S.C. 9202(2)(A)) is amended by striking ''or 2094 (2013)'' and inserting ''2094 (2013), 2270 (2016), or 2321 (2016)''.

(3) FOREIGN PERSON.—Section 3 of the North Korea Sanctions and Policy Enhancement Act of 2016 (22 U.S.C. 9202) is amended—

(A) by redesignating paragraphs (5) through (14) as paragraphs (6) through (15), respectively; and

(B) by inserting after paragraph (4) the following new paragraph:

''(5) FOREIGN PERSON.—The term 'foreign person' means—

''(A) an individual who is not a United States citizen or an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence to the United States; or

''(B) an entity that is not a United States person.''.

(4) LUXURY GOODS.—Paragraph (9) of section 3 of the North Korea Sanctions and Policy Enhancement Act of 2016 (22 U.S.C. 9202), as redesignated by paragraph (3) of this subsection, is amended—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(B) in subparagraph (B), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

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

''(C) also includes any items so designated under an applicable United Nations Security Council resolution.''.

(5) NORTH KOREAN PERSON.—Section 3 of the North Korea Sanctions and Policy Enhancement Act of 2016 (22 U.S.C. 9202), as amended by paragraph (3) of this subsection, is further amended—

(A) by redesignating paragraphs (13) through (15) as paragraphs (14) through (16), respectively; and

(B) by inserting after paragraph (12) the following new paragraph:

''(13) NORTH KOREAN PERSON.—The term 'North Korean person' means—

''(A) a North Korean citizen or national; or

''(B) an entity owned or controlled by the Government of North Korea or by a North Korean citizen or national.''.

(b) DEFINITIONS FOR PURPOSES OF THIS ACT.—In this Act:

(1) APPLICABLE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION; LUXURY GOODS.—The terms ''applicable United Nations Security Council resolution'' and ''luxury goods'' have the meanings given those terms, respectively, in section 3 of the North Korea Sanctions and Policy Enhancement Act of 2016 (22 U.S.C. 9202), as amended by subsection (a).

(2) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES; GOVERNMENT OF NORTH KOREA; UNITED STATES PERSON.—The terms ''appropriate congressional committees'', ''Government of North Korea'', and ''United States person'' have the meanings given those terms, respectively, in section 3 of the North Korea Sanctions and Policy Enhancement Act of 2016 (22 U.S.C. 9202).

(3) FOREIGN PERSON; NORTH KOREAN PERSON.—The terms ''foreign person'' and

''North Korean person'' have the meanings given those terms, respectively, in paragraph (5) and paragraph (13) of section 3 of the North Korea Sanctions and Policy Enhancement Act of 2016 (22 U.S.C. 9202(5) and 9202(13)), as added by subsection (a).

(4) PROHIBITED WEAPONS PROGRAM.—The term ''prohibited weapons program'' means—

(A) any program related to the development of nuclear, chemical, or biological weapons, and their means of delivery, including ballistic missiles; and

(B) any program to develop related materials with respect to a program described in subparagraph (A).

TITLE I—SANCTIONS TO ENFORCE AND IMPLEMENT UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL SANCTIONS AGAINST NORTH KOREA

SEC. 101. MODIFICATION AND EXPANSION OF REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DESIGNATION OF PERSONS.

(a) EXPANSION OF MANDATORY DESIGNATIONS.—Section 104(a) of the North Korea Sanctions and Policy Enhancement Act of 2016 (22 U.S.C. 9214(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (9), by striking ''; or'' and inserting ''or any defense article or defense service (as such terms are defined in section 47 of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2794));'';

(2) by redesignating paragraph (10) as paragraph (15);

(3) by inserting after paragraph (9) the following new paragraphs:

''(10) knowingly, directly or indirectly, purchases or otherwise acquires from North Korea any significant amounts of gold, titanium ore, vanadium ore, copper, silver, nickel, zinc, or rare earth minerals;

''(11) knowingly, directly or indirectly, sells or transfers to North Korea any significant amounts of rocket, aviation, or jet fuel (except for use by a civilian passenger aircraft outside North Korea, exclusively for consumption during its flight to North Korea or its return flight);

''(12) knowingly, directly or indirectly, provides significant amounts of fuel or supplies, provides bunkering services, or facilitates a significant transaction or transactions to operate or maintain, a vessel or aircraft that is designated under an applicable Executive order or an applicable United Nations Security Council resolution, or that is owned or controlled by a person designated under an applicable Executive order or applicable United Nations Security Council resolution;

''(13) knowingly, directly or indirectly, insures, registers, facilitates the registration of, or maintains insurance or a registration for, a vessel owned or controlled by the Government of North Korea, except as specifically approved by the United Nations Security Council;

''(14) knowingly, directly or indirectly, maintains a correspondent account (as defined in section 201A(d)(1)) with any North Korean financial institution, except as specifically approved by the United Nations Security Council; or''; and

(4) in paragraph (15), as so redesignated, by striking ''(9)'' and inserting ''(14)''.

(b) EXPANSION OF ADDITIONAL DISCRETIONARY DESIGNATIONS.—Section 104(b)(1) of the North Korea Sanctions and Policy Enhancement Act of 2016 (22 U.S.C. 9214(b)(1)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''pursuant to an applicable United Nations Security Council resolution;'' and inserting the following: ''pursuant to—

''(i) an applicable United Nations Security Council resolution;

''(ii) any regulation promulgated under section 404; or

''(iii) any applicable Executive order;'';

(2) in subparagraph (B)(iii), by striking ''or'' at the end;

(3) in subparagraph (C), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(4) by adding at the end the following new subparagraphs:

''(D) knowingly, directly or indirectly, purchased or otherwise acquired from the Government of North Korea significant quantities of coal, iron, or iron ore, in excess of the limitations provided in applicable United Nations Security Council resolutions;

''(E) knowingly, directly or indirectly, purchased or otherwise acquired significant types or amounts of textiles from the Government of North Korea;

''(F) knowingly facilitated a significant transfer of funds or property of the Government of North Korea that materially contributes to any violation of an applicable United National Security Council resolution;

''(G) knowingly, directly or indirectly, facilitated a significant transfer to or from the Government of North Korea of bulk cash, precious metals, gemstones, or other stores of value not described under subsection (a)(10);

''(H) knowingly, directly or indirectly, sold, transferred, or otherwise provided significant amounts of crude oil, condensates, refined petroleum, other types of petroleum or petroleum byproducts, liquified natural gas, or other natural gas resources to the Government of North Korea (except for heavy fuel oil, gasoline, or diesel fuel for humanitarian use or as excepted under subsection (a)(11));

''(I) knowingly, directly or indirectly, engaged in, facilitated, or was responsible for the online commercial activities of the Government of North Korea, including online gambling;

''(J) knowingly, directly or indirectly, purchased or otherwise acquired fishing rights from the Government of North Korea;

''(K) knowingly, directly or indirectly, provided significant telephonic, telegraphic, telecommunications or other data services, in whole or in part, into or out of North Korea, in excess of services needed for humanitarian or diplomatic purposes (other than services that are excepted under section 203(b)(1) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1702(b)(1)));

''(L) knowingly, directly or indirectly, purchased or otherwise acquired significant types or amounts of food or agricultural products from the Government of North Korea;

''(M) knowingly, directly or indirectly, engaged in, facilitated, or was responsible for the exportation of workers from North Korea in a manner intended to generate significant revenue, directly or indirectly, for use by the Government of North Korea or by the Workers' Party of Korea;

''(N) knowingly conducted a significant transaction or transactions in North Korea's transportation, mining, energy, or financial services industries; or

''(O) except as specifically approved by the United Nations Security Council, and other than through a correspondent account as described in subsection (a)(14), knowingly facilitated the operation of any branch, subsidiary, or office of a North Korean financial institution.''.

(c) MANDATORY AND DISCRETIONARY ASSET BLOCKING.—Section 104(c) of the North Korea Sanctions and Policy Enhancement Act of 2016 (22 U.S.C. 9214(c)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''of a designated person'' and inserting ''of a person designated under subsection (a)'';

(2) by striking ''The President'' and inserting the following:

''(1) MANDATORY ASSET BLOCKING.—The President''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(2) DISCRETIONARY ASSET BLOCKING.—The President may also exercise such powers, in the same manner and to the same extent described in paragraph (1), with respect to a person designated under subsection (b).''.

(d) DESIGNATION OF ADDITIONAL PERSONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report including a determination as to whether reasonable grounds exist, and an explanation of the reasons for any determination that such grounds do not exist, to designate, pursuant to section 104 of the North Korea Sanctions and Policy Enhancement Act of 2016 (22 U.S.C. 9214), as amended by this section, each of the following:

(A) The Korea Shipowners' Protection and Indemnity Association, a North Korean insurance company, with respect to facilitating imports, exports, and reexports of arms and related materiel to and from North Korea, or for other activities prohibited by such section 104.

(B) Chinpo Shipping Company (Private) Limited, a Singapore corporation, with respect to facilitating imports, exports, and reexports of arms and related materiel to and from North Korea.

(C) The Central Bank of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, with respect to the sale of gold to, the receipt of gold from, or the import or export of gold by the Government of North Korea.

(D) Kumgang Economic Development Corporation (KKG), with respect to being an entity controlled by Bureau 39 of the Workers' Party of the Government of North Korea.

(E) Sam Pa, also known as Xu Jinghua, Xu Songhua, Sa Muxu, Samo, Sampa, or Sam King, and any entities owned or controlled by such individual, with respect to transactions with KKG.

(F) The Chamber of Commerce of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, with respect to the exportation of workers in violation of section 104(a)(5) or of section 104(b)(1)(M) of such Act, as amended by subsection (b) of this section.

(2) FORM.—The report submitted under paragraph (1) may contain a classified annex.

SEC. 102. PROHIBITION ON INDIRECT CORRESPONDENT ACCOUNTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title II of the North Korea Sanctions and Policy Enhancement Act of 2016 (22 U.S.C. 9221 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 201 the following new section:

''SEC. 201A. PROHIBITION ON INDIRECT CORRESPONDENT ACCOUNTS.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (b), if a United States financial institution has or obtains knowledge that a correspondent account established, maintained, administered, or managed by that institution for a foreign financial institution is being used by the foreign financial institution to provide significant financial services indirectly to any person, foreign government, or financial institution designated under section 104, the United States financial institution shall ensure that such correspondent account is no longer used to provide such services.

''(b) EXCEPTION.—A United States financial institution is authorized to process transfers of funds to or from North Korea, or for the direct or indirect benefit of any person, foreign government, or financial institution that is designated under section 104, only if the transfer—

''(1) arises from, and is ordinarily incident and necessary to give effect to, an underlying transaction that has been authorized by a specific or general license issued by the Secretary of the Treasury; and

''(2) does not involve debiting or crediting a North Korean account.

''(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) CORRESPONDENT ACCOUNT.—The term 'correspondent account' has the meaning given that term in section 5318A of title 31, United States Code.

''(2) UNITED STATES FINANCIAL INSTITUTION.—The term 'United States financial institution' means has the meaning given that term in section 510.310 of title 31, Code of Federal Regulations, as in effect on the date of the enactment of this section.

''(3) FOREIGN FINANCIAL INSTITUTION.—The term 'foreign financial institution' has the meaning given that term in section 1010.605 of title 31, Code of Federal Regulations, as in effect on the date of the enactment of this section.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the North Korea Sanctions and Policy Enhancement Act of 2016 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 201 the following new item:

''Sec. 201A. Prohibition on indirect correspondent accounts.''.

SEC. 103. LIMITATIONS ON FOREIGN ASSISTANCE TO NONCOMPLIANT GOVERNMENTS.

Section 203 of the North Korea Sanctions and Policy Enhancement Act of 2016 (22 U.S.C. 9223) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) in the heading, by striking ''TRANSACTIONS IN LETHAL MILITARY EQUIPMENT'' and inserting ''TRANSACTIONS IN DEFENSE ARTICLES OR DEFENSE SERVICES'';

(B) in paragraph (1), by striking ''that provides lethal military equipment to the Government of North Korea'' and inserting ''that provides to or receives from the Government of North Korea a defense article or defense service, as such terms are defined in section 47 of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2794), if the President determines that a significant type or amount of such article or service has been so provided or received''; and

(C) in paragraph (2), by striking ''1 year'' and inserting ''2 years'';

(2) in subsection (d), by striking ''or emergency'' and inserting ''maternal and child health, disease prevention and response, or''; and

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

''(e) REPORT ON ARMS TRAFFICKING INVOLVING NORTH KOREA.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this subsection, and annually thereafter for 5 years, the Secretary of State shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that specifically describes the compliance of foreign countries and other foreign jurisdictions with the requirement to curtail the trade described in subsection (b)(1).

''(2) FORM.—The report required under paragraph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may contain a classified annex.''.

SEC. 104. AMENDMENTS TO ENHANCE INSPECTION AUTHORITIES.

Title II of the North Korea Sanctions and Policy Enhancement Act of 2016 (22 U.S.C. 9221 et seq.), as amended by section 102 of this Act, is further amended by striking section 205 and inserting the following:

''SEC. 205. ENHANCED INSPECTION AUTHORITIES.

''(a) REPORT REQUIRED.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this section, and annually thereafter for 5 years, the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report—

''(A) identifying the operators of foreign sea ports and airports that knowingly—

''(i) significantly fail to implement or enforce regulations to inspect ships, aircraft, cargo, or conveyances in transit to or from North Korea, as required by applicable United Nations Security Council resolutions;

''(ii) facilitate the transfer, transshipment, or conveyance of significant types or quantities of cargo, vessels, or aircraft owned or controlled by persons designated under applicable United Nations Security Council resolutions; or

''(iii) facilitate any of the activities described in section 104(a);

''(B) describing the extent to which the requirements of applicable United Nations Security Council resolutions to de-register any vessel owned, controlled, or operated by or on behalf of the Government of North Korea have been implemented by other foreign countries;

''(C) describing the compliance of the Islamic Republic of Iran with the sanctions mandated in applicable United Nations Security Council resolutions;

''(D) identifying vessels, aircraft, and conveyances owned or controlled by the Reconnaissance General Bureau of the Workers' Party of Korea; and

''(E) describing the diplomatic and enforcement efforts by the President to secure the full implementation of the applicable United Nations Security Council resolutions, as described in subparagraphs (A) through (C).

''(2) FORM.—The report required under paragraph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may contain a classified annex.

''(b) SPECIFIC FINDINGS.—Each report required under subsection (a) shall include specific findings with respect to the following ports and airports:

''(1) The ports of Dandong, Dalian, and any other port in the People's Republic of China that the President deems appropriate.

''(2) The ports of Abadan, Bandar-e-Abbas, Chabahar, Bandar-e-Khomeini, Bushehr Port, Asaluyeh Port, Kish, Kharg Island, Bandar-e-Lenge, and Khorramshahr, and Tehran Imam Khomeini International Airport, in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

''(3) The ports of Nakhodka, Vanino, and Vladivostok, in the Russian Federation.

''(4) The ports of Latakia, Banias, and Tartous, and Damascus International Airport, in the Syrian Arab Republic.

''(c) ENHANCED SECURITY TARGETING REQUIREMENTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the Secretary of Homeland Security may, using a layered approach, require enhanced screening procedures to determine whether physical inspections are warranted of any cargo bound for or landed in the United States that—

''(A) has been transported through a sea port or airport the operator of which has been identified by the President in accordance with subsection (a)(1) as having repeatedly failed to comply with applicable United Nations Security Council resolutions;

''(B) is aboard a vessel or aircraft, or within a conveyance that has, within the last 365 days, entered the territory or waters of North Korea, or landed in any of the sea ports or airports of North Korea; or

''(C) is registered by a country or jurisdiction whose compliance has been identified by the President as deficient pursuant to subsection (a)(2).

''(2) EXCEPTION FOR FOOD, MEDICINE, AND HUMANITARIAN SHIPMENTS.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply to any vessel, aircraft, or conveyance that has entered the territory or waters of North Korea, or landed in any of the sea ports or airports of North Korea, exclusively for the purposes described in section 208(b)(3)(B), or to import food, medicine, or supplies into North Korea to meet the humanitarian needs of the North Korean people.

''(d) SEIZURE AND FORFEITURE.—A vessel, aircraft, or conveyance used to facilitate any of the activities described in section 104(a) under the jurisdiction of the United States may be seized and forfeited, or subject to forfeiture, under—

''(1) chapter 46 of title 18, United States Code; or

''(2) part V of title IV of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1581 et seq.).''.

SEC. 105. ENFORCING COMPLIANCE WITH UNITED NATIONS SHIPPING SANCTIONS AGAINST NORTH KOREA.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Ports and Waterways Safety Act (33 U.S.C. 1221 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

''SEC. 16. PROHIBITION ON ENTRY AND OPERATION.

''(a) PROHIBITION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in this section, no vessel described in subsection (b) may enter or operate in the navigable waters of the United States or transfer cargo in any port or place under the jurisdiction of the United States.

''(2) LIMITATIONS ON APPLICATION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The prohibition under paragraph (1) shall not apply with respect to—

''(i) a vessel described in subsection (b)(1), if the Secretary of State determines that—

''(I) the vessel is owned or operated by or on behalf of a country the government of which the Secretary of State determines is closely cooperating with the United States with respect to implementing the applicable United Nations Security Council resolutions (as such term is defined in section 3 of the North Korea Sanctions and Policy Enhancement Act of 2016); or

''(II) it is in the national security interest not to apply the prohibition to such vessel; or

''(ii) a vessel described in subsection (b)(2), if the Secretary of State determines that the vessel is no longer registered as described in that subsection.

''(B) NOTICE.—Not later than 15 days after making a determination under subparagraph (A), the Secretary of State shall submit to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate written notice of the determination and the basis upon which the determination was made.

''(C) PUBLICATION.—The Secretary of State shall publish a notice in the Federal Register of each determination made under subparagraph (A).

''(b) VESSELS DESCRIBED.—A vessel referred to in subsection (a) is a foreign vessel for

which a notice of arrival is required to be filed under section 4(a)(5), and that—

''(1) is on the most recent list of vessels published in Federal Register under subsection (c)(2); or

''(2) more than 180 days after the publication of such list, is knowingly registered, pursuant to the 1958 Convention on the High Seas entered into force on September 30, 1962, by a government the agents or instrumentalities of which are maintaining a registration of a vessel that is included on such list.

''(c) INFORMATION AND PUBLICATION.—The Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating, with the concurrence of the Secretary of State, shall—

''(1) maintain timely information on the registrations of all foreign vessels over 300 gross tons that are known to be—

''(A) owned or operated by or on behalf of the Government of North Korea or a North Korean person;

''(B) owned or operated by or on behalf of any country in which a sea port is located, the operator of which the President has identified in the most recent report submitted under section 205(a)(1)(A) of the North Korea Sanctions and Policy Enhancement Act of 2016; or

''(C) owned or operated by or on behalf of any country identified by the President as a country that has not complied with the applicable United Nations Security Council resolutions (as such term is defined in section 3 of such Act); and

''(2) not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this section, and periodically thereafter, publish in the Federal Register a list of the vessels described in paragraph (1).

''(d) NOTIFICATION OF GOVERNMENTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State shall notify each government, the agents or instrumentalities of which are maintaining a registration of a foreign vessel that is included on a list published under subsection (c)(2), not later than 30 days after such publication, that all vessels registered under such government's authority are subject to subsection (a).

''(2) ADDITIONAL NOTIFICATION.—In the case of a government that continues to maintain a registration for a vessel that is included on such list after receiving an initial notification under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall issue an additional notification to such government not later than 120 days after the publication of a list under subsection (c)(2).

''(e) NOTIFICATION OF VESSELS.—Upon receiving a notice of arrival under section 4(a)(5) from a vessel described in subsection (b), the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall notify the master of such vessel that the vessel may not enter or operate in the navigable waters of the United States or transfer cargo in any port or place under the jurisdiction of the United States, unless—

''(1) the Secretary of State has made a determination under subsection (a)(2); or

''(2) the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating allows provisional entry of the vessel, or transfer of cargo from the vessel, under subsection (f).

''(f) PROVISIONAL ENTRY OR CARGO TRANSFER.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating may allow provisional entry of, or transfer of cargo from, a vessel, if such entry or transfer is necessary for the safety of the vessel or persons aboard.

''(g) RIGHT OF INNOCENT PASSAGE AND RIGHT OF TRANSIT PASSAGE.—This section shall not be construed as authority to restrict the right of innocent passage or the right of transit passage as recognized under international law.

''(h) FOREIGN VESSEL DEFINED.—In this section, the term 'foreign vessel' has the meaning given that term in section 110 of title 46, United States Code.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) SPECIAL POWERS.—Section 4(b)(2) of the Ports and Waterways Safety Act (33 U.S.C. 1223(b)(2)) is amended by inserting ''or 16'' after ''section 9''.

(2) DENIAL OF ENTRY.—Section 13(e) of the Ports and Waterways Safety Act (33 U.S.C. 1232(e)) is amended by striking ''section 9'' and inserting ''section 9 or 16''.

SEC. 106. REPORT ON COOPERATION BETWEEN NORTH KOREA AND IRAN.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter for 5 years, the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that includes—

(1) an assessment of the extent of cooperation (including through the transfer of goods, services, technology, or intellectual property) between North Korea and Iran relating to their respective nuclear, ballistic missile development, chemical or biological weapons development, or conventional weapons programs;

(2) the names of any Iranian or North Korean persons that have knowingly engaged in or directed—

(A) the provision of material support to such programs; or

(B) the exchange of information between North Korea and Iran with respect to such programs;

(3) the names of any other foreign persons that have facilitated the activities described in paragraph (1); and

(4) a determination whether any of the activities described in paragraphs (1) and (2) violate United Nations Security Council Resolution 2231 (2015).

(b) FORM.—The report required under subsection (a) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may contain a classified annex.

SEC. 107. REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION OF UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS BY OTHER GOVERNMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter for 5 years, the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that evaluates the degree to which the governments of other countries have knowingly failed to—

(1) close the representative offices of persons designated under applicable United Nations Security Council resolutions;

(2) expel any North Korean nationals, including diplomats, working on behalf of such persons;

(3) prohibit the opening of new branches, subsidiaries, or representative offices of North Korean financial institutions within the jurisdictions of such governments; or

(4) expel any representatives of North Korean financial institutions.

(b) FORM.—The report required under subsection (a) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may contain a classified annex.

SEC. 108. BRIEFING ON MEASURES TO DENY SPECIALIZED FINANCIAL MESSAGING SERVICES TO DESIGNATED NORTH KOREAN FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and every 180 days thereafter for 5 years, the President shall provide to the appropriate congressional committees a briefing that includes the following information:

(1) A list of each person or foreign government the President has identified that directly provides specialized financial messaging services to, or enables or facilitates direct or indirect access to such messaging services for—

(A) any North Korean financial institution (as such term is defined in section 3 of the North Korea Sanctions and Policy Enhancement Act of 2016 (22 U.S.C. 9202)) designated under an applicable United Nations Security Council resolution; or

(B) any other North Korean person, on behalf of such a North Korean financial institution.

(2) A detailed assessment of the status of efforts by the Secretary of the Treasury to work with the relevant authorities in the home jurisdictions of such specialized financial messaging providers to end such provision or access.

(b) FORM.—The briefing required under subsection (a) may be classified.

TITLE II—SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES BY THE GOVERNMENT OF NORTH KOREA

SEC. 201. SANCTIONS FOR FORCED LABOR AND SLAVERY OVERSEAS OF NORTH KOREANS.

(a) SANCTIONS FOR TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 302(b) of the North Korea Sanctions and Policy Enhancement Act of 2016 (22 U.S.C. 9241(b)) is amended—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(3) a list of foreign persons that knowingly employ North Korean laborers, as described in section 104(b)(1)(M).''.

(2) ADDITIONAL DETERMINATIONS; REPORTS.—With respect to any country identified in section 302(b)(2) of the North Korea Sanctions and Policy Enhancement Act of 2016 (22 U.S.C. 9241(b)(2)), as amended by paragraph (1), the report required under section 302(a) of such Act shall—

(A) include a determination whether each person identified in section 302(b)(3) of such Act (as amended by paragraph (1)) who is a national or a citizen of such identified country meets the criteria for sanctions under—

(i) section 111 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7108) (relating to the prevention of trafficking in persons); or

(ii) section 104(a) or 104(b)(1) of the North Korea Sanctions and Policy Enhancement Act of 2016 (22 U.S.C. 9214(a)), as amended by section 101 of this Act;

(B) be included in the report required under section 110(b) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7107(b)) (relating to the annual report on trafficking in persons); and

(C) be considered in any determination that the government of such country has made serious and sustained efforts to eliminate severe forms of trafficking in persons, as such term is defined for purposes of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000.

(b) SANCTIONS ON FOREIGN PERSONS THAT EMPLOY NORTH KOREAN LABOR.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Title III of the North Korea Sanctions and Policy Enhancement Act of 2016 (22 U.S.C. 9241 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 302 the following new sections:

"SEC. 302A. REBUTTABLE PRESUMPTION APPLICABLE TO GOODS MADE WITH NORTH KOREAN LABOR.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (b), any significant goods, wares, articles, and merchandise mined, produced, or manufactured wholly or in part by the labor of North Korean nationals or citizens shall be deemed to be prohibited under section 307 of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1307) and shall not be entitled to entry at any of the ports of the United States.

''(b) EXCEPTION.—The prohibition described in subsection (a) shall not apply if the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection finds, by clear and convincing evidence, that the goods, wares, articles, or merchandise described in such paragraph were not produced with convict labor, forced labor, or indentured labor under penal sanctions.

"SEC. 302B. SANCTIONS ON FOREIGN PERSONS EMPLOYING NORTH KOREAN LABOR.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (c), the President shall designate any person identified under section 302(b)(3) for the imposition of sanctions under subsection (b).

''(b) IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The President shall impose the sanctions described in paragraph (2) with respect to any person designated under subsection (a).

''(2) SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.—The sanctions described in this paragraph are sanctions pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) to block and prohibit all transactions in property and interests in property of a person designated under subsection (a), if such property and interests in property are in the United States, come within the United States, or are or come within the possession or control of a United States person.

''(c) EXCEPTION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—A person may not be designated under subsection (a) if the President certifies to the appropriate congressional committees that the President has received reliable assurances from such person that—

''(A) the employment of North Korean laborers does not result in the direct or indirect transfer of convertible currency, luxury goods, or other stores of value to the Government of North Korea;

''(B) all wages and benefits are provided directly to the laborers, and are held, as applicable, in accounts within the jurisdiction in which they reside in locally denominated currency; and

''(C) the laborers are subject to working conditions consistent with international standards.

''(2) RECERTIFICATION.—Not later than 180 days after the date on which the President transmits to the appropriate congressional committees an initial certification under paragraph (1), and every 180 days thereafter, the President shall—

''(A) transmit a recertification stating that the conditions described in such paragraph continue to be met; or

''(B) if such recertification cannot be transmitted, impose the sanctions described in subsection (b) beginning on the date on which the President determines that such recertification cannot be transmitted.''.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the North Korea Sanctions and Policy Enhancement Act of 2016 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 302 the following new items:

''Sec. 302A. Rebuttable presumption applicable to goods made with North Korean labor.

''Sec. 302B. Sanctions on foreign persons employing North Korean labor.''.

SEC. 202. MODIFICATIONS TO SANCTIONS SUSPENSION AND WAIVER AUTHORITIES.

(a) EXEMPTIONS.—Section 208(a) of the North Korea Sanctions and Policy Enhancement Act of 2016 (22 U.S.C. 9228(a)) is amended in the matter preceding paragraph (1)—

(1) by inserting ''201A,'' after ''104,''; and

(2) by inserting ''302A, 302B,'' after ''209,''.

(b) HUMANITARIAN WAIVER.—Section 208(b) of the North Korea Sanctions and Policy Enhancement Act of 2016 (22 U.S.C. 9228(b)(1)) is amended—

(1) by inserting ''201A,'' after ''104,'' in each place it appears; and

(2) by inserting ''302A, 302B,'' after ''209(b),'' in each place it appears.

(c) WAIVER.—Section 208(c) of the North Korea Sanctions and Policy Enhancement Act of 2016 (22 U.S.C. 9228(c)) is amended in the matter preceding paragraph (1)—

(1) by inserting ''201A,'' after ''104,''; and

(2) by inserting ''302A, 302B,'' after ''209(b),''.

SEC. 203. REWARD FOR INFORMANTS.

Section 36(b) of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2708(b)), is amended—

(1) in paragraph (9), by striking ''or'' at the end;

(2) in paragraph (10), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new paragraphs:

''(11) the identification or location of any person who, while acting at the direction of or under the control of a foreign government, aids or abets a violation of section 1030 of title 18, United States Code; or

''(12) the disruption of financial mechanisms of any person who has engaged in the conduct described in sections 104(a) or 104(b)(1) of the North Korea Sanctions and Policy Enhancement Act of 2016 (22 U.S.C. 2914(a) or (b)(1)).''.

SEC. 204. DETERMINATION ON DESIGNATION OF NORTH KOREA AS A STATE SPONSOR OF TERRORISM.

(a) DETERMINATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a determination whether North Korea meets the criteria for designation as a state sponsor of terrorism.

(2) FORM.—The determination required by paragraph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may include a classified annex, if appropriate.

(b) STATE SPONSOR OF TERRORISM DEFINED.—For purposes of this section, the term ''state sponsor of terrorism'' means a country the government of which the Secretary of State has determined, for purposes of section 6(j) of the Export Administration Act of 1979 (50 U.S.C. 4605(j)) (as in effect pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act), section 620A of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2371), section 40 of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2780), or any other provision of law, is a government that has repeatedly provided support for acts of international terrorism.

TITLE III—GENERAL AUTHORITIES

SEC. 301. AUTHORITY TO CONSOLIDATE REPORTS.

Any reports required to be submitted to the appropriate congressional committees under this Act or any amendment made by this Act that are subject to deadlines for submission consisting of similar units of time may be consolidated into a single report that is submitted to appropriate congressional committees pursuant to the earlier of such deadlines. The consolidated reports must contain all information required under this Act or any amendment made by this Act, in addition to all other elements mandated by previous law.

SEC. 302. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.

Nothing in this Act shall be construed to limit—

(1) the authority or obligation of the President to apply the sanctions described in section 104 of the North Korea Sanctions and Policy Enhancement Act of 2016 (22 U.S.C. 9214), as amended by section 101 of this Act, with regard to persons who meet the criteria for designation under such section, or in any other provision of law; or

(2) the authorities of the President pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.).

SEC. 303. REGULATORY AUTHORITY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The President shall, not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, promulgate regulations as necessary for the implementation of this Act and the amendments made by this Act.

(b) NOTIFICATION TO CONGRESS.—Not fewer than 10 days before the promulgation of a regulation under subsection (a), the President shall notify and provide to the appropriate congressional committees the proposed regulation, specifying the provisions of this Act or the amendments made by this Act that the regulation is implementing.

SEC. 304. LIMITATION ON FUNDS.

No additional funds are authorized to carry out the requirements of this Act or of the amendments made by this Act. Such requirements shall be carried out using amounts otherwise authorized.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ROYCE of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on this measure in the RECORD.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. ROYCE of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1644, the Korean Interdiction and Modernization of Sanctions Act.

I want to begin by thanking the coauthor of this bill, Ranking Member ELIOT ENGEL, for his work on this legislation and for his steadfast leadership that he has shown on addressing this threat to national security. He has been in North Korea twice—I have been there once—and he has been focused on this for a long time.

Mr. Speaker, North Korea does, in fact, pose an immediate threat to the

national security of the United States and to our allies. Experts believe that, in less than 4 years, North Korea will have the ability probably to target the United States with a reliable intercontinental ballistic missile, one topped by a nuclear warhead.

The quick speed with which North Korea's program is advancing is a game changer for our national security. It is no wonder that former President Obama warned President Trump that North Korea would be the top threat to the United States—and this is after the program of strategic patience which President Obama deployed. That policy of strategic patience, unfortunately, has not worked out. We must move forward with something based on a plan that has worked in the past.

North Korea, now that they have conducted two nuclear weapons tests this last year and launched a total of 26 ballistic missiles, including one from a submarine, has reached the point where it is a threat to the United States. In the last 2 years alone, we have seen 49 of these tests of one kind or another as they have built out this program.

Alarmingly, with every test, North Korea gains valuable technical knowledge that has enabled it to make significant improvements to its developing arsenal. So as they march towards the day that it will have the capability of striking all 50 States with an ICBM, we have been reminded by our Chairman of the Joint Chiefs that the ''I'' in that acronym stands for ''intercontinental,'' and he says: as from that continent to this continent.

More immediately, these missiles gravely threaten our allies in South Korea and Japan, and it is a threat to the tens of thousands of U.S. servicemen serving in those countries.

North Korea has been a major proliferator, cooperating on its nuclear and missile programs with the likes of Iran, of Syria, and of Pakistan. I will remind the Members that they built a carbon copy of their nuclear program in Syria on the banks of the Euphrates River. Had it not been—had it not been—for the Israeli Defense Forces taking that facility out some years ago, we would be wrestling right now with the question of whether that facility was in the hands of al-Nusra or in the hands of ISIS or in the hands of Hezbollah. They are undermining U.S. security along with the entire global counterproliferation system, so we can only guess the extent of the damage that is being done through illicit, undetected networks.

Mr. Speaker, Congress has a chance to put North Korea policy on firmer ground, and this bill, this Korean Interdiction and Modernization of Sanctions Act, is a response to this immediate threat. It builds upon the North Korea Sanctions and Policy Enhancement Act, which was a bill authored by Mr. ENGEL and myself that was signed into law last Congress. With this law, the United States designated North Korea as a primary money laundering concern, cutting off their access to cash, and found Kim Jong-un and his top lieutenants responsible for grave human rights abuses. Indeed, the magazine The Economist accurately described North Korea as a gulag now masquerading as a country.

But at the same time, North Korea has worked over the past year to evade international sanctions with the help of a vast network of front companies, which we have now identified, and those front companies work with governments spanning the globe. Those who do business with North Korea provide it with money to fund the regime's nuclear program and fund its grotesque human rights abuses, and they must be stopped.

This bill does that by expanding sanctions to deter North Korea's nuclear programs and to enforce United Nations Security Council resolutions. Let's be clear: these are international commitments that all nations are obliged to honor, including China.

It targets those who employ North Korean slave labor overseas. Companies from Senegal to Qatar to Angola import these North Korean workers who promptly send their salary back to the regime in North Korea, earning the regime billions of dollars in hard currency each year.

This is money that Kim Jong-un uses to advance his nuclear and missile program and also pay his generals, buying their loyalty to his brutal regime. That is what the high-level defectors that I have met with say. So let's squeeze his purse.

It cracks down on North Korean shipping and the use of international ports, restricting the regime's ability to ship weapons and other banned goods.

When we discover that foreign banks have helped Kim Jong-un skirt these sanctions, as some in China have repeatedly done, then we must give those banks and businesses a stark choice: to do business with that regime in North Korea or the United States. As we have heard from the new administration, this is a key focus of theirs.

So, Mr. Speaker, this legislation gives the administration powerful new tools to protect the U.S. and our allies from the threat of North Korean nuclear missiles by going after those who enable the regime's aggression. This shows the world that Congress stands ready to help the administration work with our allies and others to counter North Korea's belligerent behavior and maintain peace and stability in Northeast Asia.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote ''yes'' on H.R. 1644, and I reserve the balance of my time.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM,
Washington, DC, April 24, 2017.

Hon. EDWARD R. ROYCE,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Affairs, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR, CHAIRMAN: I write concerning H.R. 1644, the Korean Interdiction and Modernization of Sanctions Act. As you know, the Committee on Foreign Affairs received an original referral and the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform a secondary referral when the bill was introduced on March 21, 2017. I recognize and appreciate your desire to bring this legislation before the House of Representatives in an expeditious manner, and accordingly, the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform will forego action on the bill.

The Committee takes this action with our mutual understanding that by foregoing consideration of H.R. 1644 at this time, we do not waive any jurisdiction over the subject matter contained in this or similar legislation. Further, I request your support for the appointment of conferees from the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform during any House-Senate conference convened on this or related legislation.

Finally, I would ask that a copy of our exchange of letters on this matter be included in the bill report filed by the Committee on Foreign Affairs, as well as in the Congressional Record during floor consideration, to memorialize our understanding.

Sincerely,

JASON CHAFFETZ,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
Washington, DC, April 24, 2017.

Hon. JASON CHAFFETZ,
Chairman, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you for consulting with the Foreign Affairs Committee and agreeing to be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 1644, the Korean Interdiction and Modernization of Sanctions Act, so that the bill may proceed expeditiously to the House floor.

I agree that your forgoing further action on this measure does not in any way diminish or alter the jurisdiction of your committee, or prejudice its jurisdictional prerogatives on this resolution or similar legislation in the future. I would support your effort to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees from your committee to any House-Senate conference on this legislation.

I will seek to place our letters on H.R. 1644 into the Congressional Record during floor consideration of the resolution. I appreciate your cooperation regarding this legislation and look forward to continuing to work together as this measure moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

EDWARD R. ROYCE,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS,
Washington, DC, April 25, 2017.

Hon. EDWARD R. ROYCE,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Affairs, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN ROYCE: I am writing with respect to H.R. 1644, the ''Korean Interdiction and Modernization of Sanctions Act,'' on with the Committee on Ways and Means was granted an additional referral.

In order to allow H.R. 1644 to move expeditiously to the House floor, I agree to waive formal consideration of this bill. The Committee on Ways and Means takes this action with the mutual understanding that we do not waive any jurisdiction over the subject matter contained in this or similar legislation, and the Committee will be appropriately consulted and involved as the bill or similar legislation moves forward so that we may address any remaining issues that fall within our jurisdiction. The Committee also reserves the right to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees to any House-Senate conference involving this or similar legislation, and requests your support for such request.

Finally, I would appreciate your response to this letter confirming this understanding, and would ask that a copy of our exchange of letters on this matter be included in the Congressional Record during floor consideration of H.R. 1644.

Sincerely,

KEVIN BRADY,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
Washington, DC, April 24, 2017.

Hon. KEVIN BRADY,
Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN BRADY: Thank you for consulting with the Foreign Affairs Committee and agreeing to be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 1644, the Korean Interdiction and Modernization of Sanctions Act, so that the bill may proceed expeditiously to the House floor.

I agree that your forgoing further action on this measure does not in any way diminish or alter the jurisdiction of your committee, or prejudice its jurisdictional prerogatives on this resolution or similar legislation in the future. I would support your effort to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees from your committee to any House-Senate conference on this legislation.

I will seek to place our letters on H.R. 1644 into the Congressional Record during floor consideration of the resolution. I appreciate your cooperation regarding this legislation and look forward to continuing to work together as this measure moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

EDWARD R. ROYCE,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES,
Washington, DC, April 26, 2017.

Hon. ED ROYCE,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Affairs, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN ROYCE: I am writing concerning H.R. 1644, the Korean Interdiction and Modernization of Sanctions Act.

As a result of your having consulted with the Committee on Financial Services concerning provisions in the bill that fall within our Rule X jurisdiction, I agree to forgo action on the bill so that it may proceed expeditiously to the House Floor. The Committee on Financial Services takes this action with our mutual understanding that, by foregoing consideration of H.R. 1644 at this time, we do not waive any jurisdiction over the subject matter contained in this or similar legislation, and that our Committee will be appropriately consulted and involved as this or similar legislation moves forward so that we may address any remaining issues that fall within our Rule X jurisdiction. Our Committee also reserves the right to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees to any House-Senate conference involving this or similar legislation, and requests your support for any such request.

Finally, I would appreciate your response to this letter confirming this understanding with respect to H.R. 1644 and would ask that a copy of our exchange of letters on this matter be included in the Congressional Record during floor consideration of the bill.

Sincerely,

JEB HENSARLING,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
Washington, DC, April 26, 2017.

Hon. JEB HENSARLING,
Chairman, Committee on Financial Services, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN HENSARLING: Thank you for consulting with the Foreign Affairs Committee and agreeing to be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 1644, the Korean Interdiction and Modernization of Sanctions Act, so that the bill may proceed expeditiously to the House floor.

I agree that your forgoing further action on this measure does not in any way diminish or alter the jurisdiction of your committee, or prejudice its jurisdictional prerogatives on this bill or similar legislation in the future. I would support your effort to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees from your committee to any House-Senate conference on this legislation.

I will seek to place our letters on H.R. 1644 into the Congressional Record during floor consideration of the bill. I appreciate your cooperation regarding this legislation and look forward to continuing to work together as this measure moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

EDWARD R. ROYCE,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY,
Washington, DC, April 27, 2017.

Hon. EDWARD R. ROYCE,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Affairs, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN ROYCE: I write with respect to H.R. 1644, the ''Korean Interdiction and Modernization of Sanctions Act.'' As a result of your having consulted with us on provisions within H.R. 1644 that fall within the Rule X jurisdiction of the Committee on the Judiciary, I forego any further consideration of this bill so that it may proceed expeditiously to the House floor for consideration.

The Judiciary Committee takes this action with our mutual understanding that by foregoing consideration of H.R. 1644 at this time, we do not waive any jurisdiction over subject matter contained in this or similar legislation and that our committee will be appropriately consulted and involved as this bill or similar legislation moves forward so that we may address any remaining issues in our jurisdiction. Our committee also reserves the right to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees to any House-Senate conference involving this or similar legislation and asks that you support any such request.

I would appreciate a response to this letter confirming this understanding with respect to H.R. 1644 and would ask that a copy of our exchange of letters on this matter be included in the Congressional Record during floor consideration of H.R. 1644.

Sincerely,

BOB GOODLATTE,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
Washington, DC, April 26, 2017.

Hon. BOB GOODLATTE,
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN GOODLATTE: Thank you for consulting with the Foreign Affairs Committee and agreeing to be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 1644, the Korean Interdiction and Modernization of Sanctions Act, so that the bill may proceed expeditiously to the House floor.

I agree that your forgoing further action on this measure does not in any way diminish or alter the jurisdiction of your committee, or prejudice its jurisdictional prerogatives on this bill or similar legislation in the future. I would support your effort to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees from your committee to any House-Senate conference on this legislation.

I will seek to place our letters on H.R. 1644 into the Congressional Record during floor consideration of the measure. I appreciate your cooperation regarding this legislation and look forward to continuing to work together as this measure moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

EDWARD R. ROYCE,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE,
Washington, DC, April 26, 2017.

Hon. ED ROYCE,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Affairs, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN ROYCE: I write concerning H.R. 1644, the ''Korean Interdiction and Modernization of Sanctions Act.'' This legislation includes matters that fall within the Rule X jurisdiction of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

In order to expedite Floor consideration of H.R. 1644, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure will forgo action on this bill. However, this is conditional on our mutual understanding that forgoing consideration of the bill does not prejudice the Committee with respect to the appointment of conferees or to any future jurisdictional claim over the subject matters contained in the bill or similar legislation that fall Within the Committee's Rule X jurisdiction. I request you urge the Speaker to name members of the Committee to any conference committee named to consider such provisions.

Please place a copy of this letter and your response acknowledging our jurisdictional interest into the committee report on H.R. 1644 and in the Congressional Record during House Floor consideration of the bill. Thank you for working with us on this bill, and I look forward to working with the Committee on Foreign Affairs as the bill moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

BILL SHUSTER,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
Washington, DC, April 26, 2017.

Hon. BILL SHUSTER,
Chairman, Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you for consulting with the Foreign Affairs Committee and agreeing to be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 1644, the Korean Interdiction and Modernization of Sanctions Act, so that the bill may proceed expeditiously to the House floor.

I agree that your forgoing further action on this measure does not in any way diminish or alter the jurisdiction of your committee, or prejudice its jurisdictional prerogatives on this bill or similar legislation in the future. I would support your effort to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees from your committee to any House-Senate conference on this legislation.

I will seek to place our letters on H.R. 1644 into the Congressional Record during floor consideration of the bill. I appreciate your cooperation regarding this legislation and look forward to continuing to work together as this measure moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

EDWARD R. ROYCE,
Chairman.

□ 1500

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this legislation, and let me start by thanking our chairman on the Foreign Affairs Committee, ED ROYCE from California. His personal commitment to this important issue is reflected by his long track record and leadership in crafting the legislation before us today. We have had innumerable talks about North Korea and the threat through the years. ED ROYCE has always been there at the forefront in this very important issue.

I am proud to be the lead Democratic cosponsor of the bill. We stand on the floor today speaking in a unified, bipartisan voice about the threat that North Korea and the Kim regime pose to the United States, to our friend and allies, and to peace and stability across the globe.

Already, Mr. Speaker, North Korea poses a potentially catastrophic danger to our closest allies in Northeast Asia: Japan and South Korea. With each passing day, the reclusive regime in Pyongyang continues to make progress on nuclear and ballistic missile technology that could reach American soil.

This isn't a laughing matter. This isn't a matter about something that might happen. This is a matter about something that will happen, unless we take steps to prevent it from happening.

American administrations of both parties have tried and failed to curb the dangerous behavior of the Kim regime. Before Kim, you had his father and his grandfather before him. There is plenty of blame to go around for how we got here, but rehashing past mistakes won't get us anywhere. Instead, the United States and other global powers need to focus on this challenge before it is too late.

However, I fear that the administration's inconsistency in recent weeks has thrown fuel to the fire. We have seen the White House blow hot and cold on the potential for talks with Pyongyang. We have seen careless rhetoric alienate South Korea, a critical ally whose partnership is essential in trying to contain North Korea.

One week we see saber rattling toward North Korea, including the false claim that an aircraft carrier battle group was headed toward the Korean Peninsula, and the next week, the President saying he would be ''honored'' to meet with ''smart cookie'' Kim Jong-un, the latest in a long list of totalitarian strongmen who seem to have won the President's admiration.

We are sending mixed signals, Mr. Speaker, and the world is taking notice. Inconsistency on national security matters is not a foreign policy strategy that will succeed. When America appears confused or unmoored, it emboldens our adversaries and gives our friends and allies pause. When we are talking about nuclear weapons, there is simply no margin for error.

Fortunately, in this Congress, our priorities are clear: work with China and our close partners in the region and dial up pressure on the Kim regime to return to the negotiating table.

Last year, under Chairman ROYCE's leadership, we passed a sanctions bill that President Obama signed into law.

Kim Jong-un is exceedingly crafty: his regime is becoming increasingly effective at invading international sanctions.

When we make sanctions tougher, they come up with new ways to get around them: phony bank accounts, fake companies overseas, shipments under foreign flags.

We need to go back to the well to close the loopholes that the regime exploits. That is what this measure does. It dials up sanctions on those who do business with the Kim regime, hopefully, making them think twice before providing cover to one of the most brutal human rights abusers in the world and the nuclear ambitions of the leader of that country.

If you buy certain materials like metals or minerals from North Korea, if you sell fuel that the North Korean military can use, if you have a role in maintaining overseas bank accounts or insuring the ships Pyongyang uses to evade the law, then you are going to get caught up in these new sanctions.

If you ignore the U.N.'s limits on important North Korean coal or iron, or try to buy cheap textiles or fishing rights from the government, or help the Kim regime conduct business online, you will be subject to additional scrutiny with this legislation.

With this bill, we will target those who use North Korean forced labor, a gross human rights abuse and a cash cow for the regime. We will consider limiting certain types of assistance to countries buying or selling American equipment to Pyongyang.

In light of the recent public assassination of Kim's half brother, and other nefarious activities, we require the State Department to take a hard look at whether North Korea should be put back on the State Sponsors of Terrorism list.

The Kim regime must be made to understand that we will not back down in our effort to cut off support for its dangerous activities. Every time they cut another corner, we will put up another roadblock. We will come after them again and again until they realize there is no option but to sit down and negotiate.

As we have seen, it won't be an easy process. Making real progress on complex global issues rarely is. Reckless threats and bombastic talk usually make matters worse, especially when you are dealing with an unpredictable and impulsive leader.

The stakes are very high. No one wants to see war on the Korean Peninsula, least of all the 25 million people in Seoul and the nearly 30,000 United States troops who are in Pyongyang's sights every single day.

We need to remain focused, with clarity of purpose, in order to get the results we all want. This bipartisan bill builds on our record in the House of grappling with this challenge. I am glad to join with Chairman ROYCE in this effort. I fully support this bill.

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

Mr. ROYCE of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT), a senior member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1644, the Korean Interdiction and Modernization of Sanctions Act.

Kim Jong-un murdered his uncle. He murdered his brother. He and his father and grandfather were responsible for the deaths of hundreds of thousands, probably millions, of their own people. Now this ruthless tyrant is trying to develop long-range nuclear weapons that very soon could reach the United States.

Let me be clear: North Korea is a threat to the security of the United States of America. It is a threat to our allies. It is a threat to the world. As long as North Korea has nuclear weapons, the world is not safe.

For far too long, we have done very little to deter the Kim regime's persistent march in the development of its nuclear weapons program. That changes today.

The Kim regime's nuclear program lives and dies by its access to hard currency. North Korea acquires that hard

currency from various sources. We know that China is the worst offender. But China is not the only bad actor. Terrorist networks around the world purchase weapons, technology, and training from North Korea. North Korea, in exchange, gets that money, the hard currency that it needs.

Autocrats like the Congo's Joseph Kabila have long reasoned that no one would actually enforce the arms embargo currently against North Korea. They continue to support the Kim regime and its nuclear program with no consequence.

This bill would put a stop to that. It requires that the President cut off bad actors from our financial system. No more transactions in dollars. No more using banks that serve U.S. customers. The Kim regime will know that we are finally serious.

I want to thank Chairman ROYCE for his leadership on this, Ranking Member ENGEL, and also Subcommittee Chairman Mr. YOHO and Ranking Member SHERMAN for their leadership.

This is critical legislation. North Korea has been getting away with murder, literally, for far too long in their own country. We need to make sure that hundreds of thousands—perhaps millions—of Americans' lives are not wiped out by North Korea sometime in the very near future if we do not push back and actually stop their nuclear weapons program, particularly the ballistic missile system that they are trying to develop.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. SHERMAN), the ranking member of the Asia and the Pacific Subcommittee of the Foreign Affairs Committee.

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1644, the Korean Interdiction and Modernization of Sanctions Act.

This bill was introduced by the chair and ranking member of the full committee, Mr. ROYCE and Mr. ENGEL; by the chair and ranking member of the Asia and the Pacific Subcommittee, Mr. YOHO; and myself. It is a clear example of the way bipartisanship should be here in the House of Representatives.

North Korea continues to act as a state sponsor of terrorism, test ballistic missiles, conduct cyber warfare, build nuclear weapons, and threaten the United States and our allies.

We need a strategy to confront North Korea. An essential part of that strategy is to confront North Korea with economic and political pressure. A key to that would be to get China fully on board and to be willing to threaten China with tariffs if China continued to serve as the lifeline for the North Korean criminal regime. In addition to working with China, we need to start modernizing our own sanctions regime to impose a greater cost on Kim Jong-un.

This bill expands the North Korea Sanctions and Policy Enhancement Act passed by this Congress in 2016 to provide expanded and mandatory and discretionary sanctions on the North Korean Government, particularly involving gold and other precious minerals, jet fuel, coal, iron ore, and textiles.

The bill requires U.S. financial institutions to ensure that no correspondent accounts are being used by foreign financial institutions to provide financial services to North Korea. It does a host of other necessary things, including requiring the State Department to submit to Congress a report detailing their decision on whether to put North Korea back on the State Sponsors of Terrorism list, and that we get that report within 90 days.

It seems clear to me that North Korea should be listed as a state sponsor of terror. We took them off the list not because they stopped engaging in international terror, but as a quid pro quo for suspending their own nuclear program, which they didn't suspend.

So why are they still off the list?

There is no doubt that North Korea has engaged in multiple acts of international terrorism, including the murder of the half brother of Kim Jong-un; the cyber attack against Sony Pictures; and although the initial action was taken decades ago, they seized Japanese civilians in order to learn Japanese manners in order to instruct their spies. They continue to hold those Japanese civilians today in a continuing act of terrorism.

Finally, the bill, requires a report from the President of cooperation between North Korea and Iran. We would suspect that North Korea, after it builds a certain cache of nuclear weapons, would be willing to sell to Iran not for millions but for billions of dollars fully assembled nuclear weapons or the fissile material to create those. This is an important thing Congress needs to address.

Mr. ROYCE of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON), a senior member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, who also chairs the Armed Services Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate Mr. ROYCE's determined leadership on this important issue of national security protecting American families.

I am in strong support of H.R. 1644, the Korean Interdiction and Modernization of Sanctions Act. In 2003, I traveled to Pyongyang, North Korea, with the ranking member, Congressman ELIOT ENGEL, in a bipartisan delegation, along with Congressman Curt Weldon, Chairman Jeff Miller, Silvestre Reyes, and Solomon Ortiz, where we saw firsthand the tyranny and oppression of the Communist regime.

Last month, the House of Representatives overwhelmingly passed H. Res. 92, a bipartisan resolution I introduced condemning the regime in North Korea for their recent ballistic missiles, and called for the consideration of all available sanctions. It passed 398–3.

Since then, North Korea has continued testing missiles and released yet another propaganda video—this one simulating the destruction of American troops, aircraft, warships, and even the U.S. Capitol Building.

After 8 years of ''strategic patience,'' I appreciate the strong leadership of President Trump and his administration, along with the Ambassador to the U.N., Nikki Haley, and also Secretary of State Rex Tillerson.

It is clear the regime in North Korea will only respond to strength, and these sanctions that are proposed in this package would effectively target the regime and any other individuals who would do business with North Korea, especially in the shipping and financial industries.

I appreciate the extraordinary leadership of Chairman ED ROYCE and Ranking Member ELIOT ENGEL on the legislation, and I urge my colleagues to vote in support.

□ 1515

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, before I call on the next speaker, I want to talk to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON). When we went on that trip to North Korea, I am sure that he will remember that he took a clandestine picture of a big billboard that was in Pyongyang showing a North Korean soldier with a bayonet sticking through an American soldier's head. So the propaganda and the anti-American rhetoric is ingrained, it is taught, and it was very disconcerting. I remember the gentleman sitting in the front of the bus very clandestinely taking that picture so no one would know. It was really a good thing to do. I want to thank the gentleman.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. ENGEL. I yield to the gentleman from South Carolina.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, it was my honor to be with Ranking Member ELIOT ENGEL.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. KEATING), the ranking member of the Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation, and Trade of the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1644, the Korean Interdiction and Modernization of Sanctions Act. I thank the chairman of the committee, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE); and the ranking member, the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL), for their leadership in this important legislation.

This legislation furthers North Korea's severe financial isolation by further targeting banks and money lenders to gain cooperation throughout the region. This bipartisan bill builds on the pressure and sanctions imposed under both the Bush and Obama administrations to strengthen our response to North Korea's continued belligerence by, number one, expanding sanctions on North Korea's government transactions involving precious metals, minerals, jet fuel, and coal; providing restrictions on U.S. foreign assistance to any country that buys or sells military equipment from North Korea; and provides increasing scrutiny of North Korean shipping vessels to target against trafficking, counterfeiting, and aspects of North Korea's illicit economy, among other things, in order to tighten sanctions in accordance with the United Nations Security Council. This vote comes at a critical juncture. Despite rounds of sanctions aimed at squeezing the faltering economy of North Korea, recent reports from the peninsula suggest that the country continues to gain sufficient traction to move forward.

North Korea poses a real and immediate threat to the stability in the region, to our allies, and to ourselves. By broadening eligibility activities to be sanctioned and extending the duration of sanctions to prevent arms trade, this bill will further leverage the North Korean economy to enhance our ability to reduce its nuclear threat. What is more, this bill will strengthen our ability to hinder trade between North Korea's strongest partners, including businesses and banks within Russia and China that are exposed to the international financial market. In the face of growing uncertainty and seeming lack of clarity surrounding the current administration's plan toward North Korea, this act demonstrates the strong, bipartisan, and resolute stance of this Congress in the face of increased provocative and aggressive actions by North Korea.

As an original sponsor of the unprecedented legislation signed into law last year that sanctioned North Korea for its egregious human rights violations, I am proud to now support this critical legislation and urge my colleagues to do the same.

Mr. ROYCE of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2½ minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE), the chairman of the Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation, and Trade of the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman and ranking member for sponsoring this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, a few years ago, North Korea ordered its missile units on standby to strike the United States. Little Kim, as I call him, and his generals convened a press conference and displayed a chart of what they called U.S. mainland strike plan.

The attack plan targeted several major United States population centers, including Austin, Texas. Mr. Speaker, I am personally offended by that. At the time of this plan, it was ridiculed by international media. After all, the administration was pursuing a passive strategic patience plan.

But now experts say that, in less than 4 years, North Korea will have intercontinental ballistic missiles capable of raining down nuclear weapons on the entire United States. North Korea is making steady progress on its nuclear program. It conducted two nuclear tests in 2016 alone.

So the time has come to tighten the noose on little Kim. We need to choke off the sources of his ill-gotten gain, and these sanctions will help do that. This bill expands sanctions to target some of the regime's most lucrative sources of revenue. It also requires the State Department to reassess whether North Korea should be placed back on the State Sponsors of Terrorism list. I think that is long overdue.

Little Kim has earned the distinction of being a worldwide terrorist. So little Kim means it when he says he wants to destroy the United States. He even wants to put ICBMs in submarines and send them off the coast of California. He cannot be allowed to do this mischief. He needs to know the United States means it when we say that we will protect the American people.

And that is just the way it is.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY), my friend, co-chair of the Korea Caucus, and a respected member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend from New York, our very distinguished ranking member.

I rise today in support of H.R. 1644, the Korean Interdiction and Modernization of Sanctions Act. I am pleased to cosponsor this bill, an act that updates and expands the North Korea sanctions policy that was enacted just last year. It is undeniable that North Korea's nuclear and ballistic missile programs have accelerated in recent years. In 2016 alone, the regime conducted two nuclear tests and more than 20 missile tests.

In response to this threat, the U.S. helped negotiate the passage of the U.N. Security Council Resolutions 2270 and 2231 to strengthen U.N. sanctions against the regime. H.R. 1644 builds on those Security Council resolutions by expanding mandatory and discretionary sanctions and authorizing new sanctions provisions related to evasion and the use of North Korean exported labor, correspondent banking, and trade in oil, textiles, food, and agricultural products.

For example, if someone knowingly transfers significant amounts of jet fuel to North Korea, then the President could freeze that person's assets that come within the jurisdiction of the United States. Vessels that use North Korean ports will be banned from entering U.S. waters or using U.S. ports. The bill also establishes restrictions on the use of foreign assistance to any country that violates these provisions.

I want to thank the chairman and the ranking member for their leadership and for including my amendment, which will ensure that U.S. sanctions against North Korea do not impede the provision of vital U.S. assistance to developing countries for maternal and child health, disease prevention, and response.

U.S. sanctions are necessary, but they are not a complete tool to address the threat of North Korea's impending nuclear development program. The U.S. must undertake a rigorous diplomatic effort to urge the global community, and China in particular, to use their goodwill, their leverage to enforce international sanctions and to get North Korea back to the negotiating table.

The Korean Peninsula remains one of the most dangerous flash points in the world. President Trump, sadly, I think has escalated regional tensions by sending mixed signals about the location of U.S. military assets, about his views, as the ranking member said, about Kim Jong-un, and about how best the United States ought to respond that we are going to disabuse ourselves of the previous policy which seems to mean the only policy left is kinetic, a military option. I don't think that makes anything better on the Korean Peninsula.

I thank the leaders for this effort. I think it is the right way to go. I support it fully.

Mr. ROYCE of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOHO), chairman of the Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific of the Committee on Foreign Affairs and a coauthor of this bill.

Mr. YOHO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the Korea Interdiction and Modernization of Sanctions Act, H.R. 1644, the KIMS Act.

I thank Chairman ROYCE for his leadership in guiding this bill through the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the original cosponsors of this bill, Ranking Member ENGEL and Congressman SHERMAN, who serves alongside me as the ranking member of the Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific. I also thank the chairman and ranking member for accepting my amendment to this bill that targets the ability of leaders like those of the Democratic Republic of the Congo that have been buying North Korean arms for years with impunity, supplying a means of income for the North Korean regime to fund their nuclear program and the regime of terror and provocations.

Mr. Speaker, North Korea's nuclear program has never been a bigger threat, and we need to respond with all the tools at our disposal. After all, the world community is against nuclear proliferation from any country, so the world community should support the United States preventing North Korea's nuclear program. If anything, Pyongyang has dramatically accelerated its belligerent behavior, conducting two nuclear tests and two dozen missile launches last year.

Speaking before the U.N. Security Council, Secretary Tillerson was right when he said that the threat of a North Korea nuclear attack on Seoul or Tokyo is very real. That is why it is so important that Congress, as we are doing here today, continue to apply pressure on Pyongyang, providing the administration with the tools it needs to deprive the Kim regime of the hard currency it depends on to feed its illicit weapons program.

Importantly, this measure will advance the national security interests of not just the United States and the Korean Peninsula but of the whole Asia-Pacific region and will contribute to regional security by targeting North Korea's abhorrent overseas slave labor, which is estimated at bringing in as much as $230 million each year. There are precious few nonmilitary tools left for managing the security situation on the Korean Peninsula. Financial sanctions are the most important and effective of these tools.

By advancing this legislation, the House will continue its critical work to ensure our country has the necessary authorities and mandates in place to ensure our financial measures are effective. A peaceful outcome on the peninsula depends on inflicting enough pressure on Kim to force him to make the hard but smart choices. This bill will affect him where it hurts—in his bank accounts.

Again, I commend Chairman ROYCE and Ranking Member ENGEL for their contributions and leadership on this important legislation. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CASTRO), co-chair of the Japan Caucus, a very respected member of our Committee on Foreign Affairs, and a member of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence.

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank Ranking Member ENGEL for yielding me this time. I rise in support of H.R. 1644, the Korean Interdiction and Modernization of Sanctions Act, legislation that would more effectively cut off the Kim regime's access to hard currency and equipment for its ballistic missile and nuclear programs.

This legislation updates and expands the range of sanctions available for the United States to use against persons or entities that violate existing U.S. sanction laws and United Nations Security Council resolutions regarding North Korea. The bill also requires the President to report to Congress on foreign countries' compliance with those Security Council resolutions.

The United States is determined to preserve the stability in the Asia-Pacific region. Our Nation will uphold its treaty commitments to Japan and South Korea and will defend their security in the face of the North Korean threat.

I urge my colleagues to join me and vote in favor of this legislation, which makes clear that the United States will target individuals, companies, and banks that continue to do business with North Korea.

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

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Texas (Mr. DOGGETT).

□ 1530

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, I commend the leaders of the Foreign Affairs Committee for their leadership on this important matter. We need stronger international action like this to send a message to the North Korean regime.

Our sanctions approach should be at least as strong against North Korea as it has been against Iran; and to be effective, sanctions must include all countries. Chinese trade during the last year with North Korea has actually increased. It is clear that it is shirking its responsibility. If it were to limit energy and access to hard currency reserves to North Korea, the regime would likely collapse.

Intensified sanctions of the type contemplated by this measure are particularly important because, despite all of the recent saber rattling from Donald Trump, we have no acceptable military solution. Any military attack on North Korea would result in the death of hundreds of thousands, if not millions, of the 25 million Koreans in the greater Seoul area and the over 100,000 Americans that are in that region.

Only this week, General McMaster, President Trump's national security adviser, conceded that a preventive military strike would result in a human catastrophe. We cannot eliminate the risk of North Korea, but we can better manage it, and this measure is a step in the right direction.

The arsenal of our democracy is more than just our military might. Let's apply every bit of international pressure possible and hope that the great self-described dealmaker Donald J. Trump can begin direct negotiations to secure an agreement with North Korea that achieves at least as much as President Obama did with Iran.

Mr. ROYCE of California. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, may I ask how much time is remaining on both sides?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from New York has 3½ minutes remaining. The gentleman from California has 4½ minutes remaining.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. FRANKEL), a very respected and hardworking member of the Foreign Affairs Committee.

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague from New York.

I just returned from a trip to South Korea and Japan, a bipartisan trip, where we focused on the dangers of North Korea. First, I want to just say what became very clear to us is how important our relationship is with South Korea and Japan, both economically and for our national security.

We sat in roundtable discussions with scholars, ambassadors, and military leaders from the United States, Japan, South Korea, and China; and I will tell you one thing was unanimous in the thinking: a preemptive military strike right now on our part would be catastrophic—catastrophic not only to our friends in South Korea, the millions who live there, our friends in Japan, but the hundreds of thousands of American citizens and our military personnel.

I thank our chairman and our ranking member for their good work, and I urge my colleagues to support this good bill.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time, and I want to close the way I opened. I want to again thank Chairman ROYCE for authoring this measure and for his hard work.

One of the things I have been most proud about as the ranking member of the Foreign Affairs Committee is the collaborative work that the chairman and I have done together in passing so many bills with both our names. It is what the American people want us to do, and I think the Foreign Affairs Committee is a great example of how the American people want Congress to work together. This bill is exactly a product of that, of working together.

If we want to pressure the Kim regime and if we want to prevent a potentially devastating conflict in Northeast Asia, we cannot be impulsive. The risks are too high. We need a strong, focused, and consistent policy. We need strong measures that cut off support for the Kim regime and careful diplomacy to bring the relevant players together. This bill represents an important part of such a policy.

So, again, as I said, I am glad we are advancing this measure with strong bipartisan support, and I hope the other body will take up this legislation soon.

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

Mr. ROYCE of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague, Mr. ENGEL, for his comments.

I will return to this theme about the urgent threat that the United States and our allies face here. We have listened to experts who have looked at this problem. In less than 4 years, Pyongyang may have the ability to make a reliable intercontinental ballistic missile topped by a nuclear warhead capable of targeting the continental United States. When we watch these tests and we see, from a North Korean submarine, how they are launching missiles and we watch the atomic weapons tests that they are doing, you can see how North Korea has advanced in their capabilities as they try to shrink these warheads and figure out how to put them onto an ICBM.

The problem is that, in the next few years, at the current rate of production of their nuclear material, they are going to be able to build out 100 atomic weapons for these intercontinental ballistic missiles. So the threat from North Korea is real, and real threats demand real responses.

We have tried various approaches in the past. We tried strategic patience during the last administration. I will tell you that I think Secretary Tillerson has helped devise a strategy of maximum pressure that makes a tremendous amount of sense to me, and I will share with you why I think it is very credible.

We have seen in the past, in 2005, back during Banco Delta Asia, back when North Korea was caught counterfeiting $100 U.S. bank notes, a strategy deployed that froze the capability of that regime to move forward with its nuclear weapons program. We know from talking to defectors about the impact that that had internally on North Korea because, frankly, these weapons programs are very expensive to run. It requires billions and billions of dollars every year.

North Korea doesn't really manufacture much, other than some of the clandestine missile parts and so forth that they transfer overseas and some meth and counterfeit cigarettes. All of that can be halted so that hard currency doesn't come into the hands of the regime, and, therefore, the regime will no longer have this capability.

Because it happened in 2005 and because we know of the consequences at the time, but also because of what we have seen with other nations, we should move with bipartisan legislation here.

I am going to speak for a moment about what this House of Representatives and our counterparts in the Senate did in the 1990s when it came to the issue of a regime in South Africa that had obtained a nuclear weapon and also was doubling down on their practices of apartheid in terms of the way that that regime treated its own people.

If you will recall, despite the assurances and warnings about sanctions that this was the wrong road, this House stood up, and over 80 percent of the Members here and over 80 percent of the Members in the Senate—or 75—huge bipartisan majorities of Republicans and Democrats came together with a policy that said enough—enough of the conduct of that apartheid state, enough of them developing a nuclear weapon.

It was time for the United States to lead on this, work with the international community and enforce sanctions in a way that did what? That, within a short period of time, brought the apartheid regime to offer up to the international community that atomic weapon and to say: We are done with it. And for the South African apartheid regime to say, in terms of elections: Next year we are going to hold free and fair elections in South Africa—in terms of the release of Nelson Mandela and in terms of his election to President of South Africa.

Now, when people argue with us that sanctions may not be a way forward, I would remind them that, when we unite the international community and when we speak with one voice, yes, we could see a change of conduct in this regime in North Korea. So I say this gives a powerful tool to cut off the funding by going after those who do business with the regime in violation of U.N. Security Council resolutions.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. ENGEL for his assistance in this, and I thank all of my colleagues who helped on this measure.

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

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, the era of strategic patience is over. In its place there is a need for more concerted action to counter North Korea's nuclear proliferation, its horrific human rights abuses, and its sponsorship of terrorism globally. This bill strengthens the tools the Administration can use to counter the threat posed by a nuclear armed North Korea. It targets the shipping and financial sectors and also targets those, in China and Russia and elsewhere, who profit from using North Korean slave labor. I strongly support this legislation and commend my colleagues on the House Foreign Affairs Committee—Chairman ED ROYCE and Ranking Member ELIOT ENGEL for their leadership.

The Administration must continue to uncover and sanction both Pyongyang's enablers and those it enables. We should further target with sanctions those individuals responsible for gross human rights violations inside the so-called ''hermit kingdom'' and stop money and materials from reaching terrorists and nuclear proliferators globally.

Not taking the North Korea threat seriously enough have been a bipartisan problem of the last three Administrations. I commend the Trump Administration for taking more strategic actions. The U.S. cannot sit on the sidelines while Kim Jong Un proliferates nuclear and missile technology that will threaten the United States. We cannot stand idly by while Kim Jong Un sponsors terrorism and traffics his own people for profit. We cannot be silent while an estimated 120,000 people are being held in political-prison labor camps, suffering and dying in barbaric conditions. Torture, rape, and the public executions of religious believers are part of the daily life in these camps.

North Korea's political-prisoner camps are inhumane, they are horrific, they are a crime against humanity and they must be dismantled.

We know that the threat posed by North Korea was high on the agenda of President Trump and President Xi meeting in Florida several weeks ago. As we all know, the Chinese government's actions have not always been helpful. China usually describes the China-North Korea relationship as being one of ''like lips to teeth.'' It was good to see this formula changed after the Trump-Xi meeting. Foreign Minister Wang Yi know says China's relationship with ''the Peninsula'' both North and South Korea is like lips to teeth. That is big change in rhetoric and hopefully China will no longer prop up Kim Jong Un's deliberate attempts to destabilize the Korean peninsula.

In addition to a more robust sanctions regime, the Administration should pay more attention to undermining the faith of the North Korean people in Kim Jong Un's leadership. The cult of personality that surrounds the Kim family remains a strong deterrent to protest and uprisings within North Korea. The Kim family is accorded god-like status—the cult of personality is sometimes called Juche—and it offers Kim Jong Un a 'divine mandate' to pursue nuclear weapons, national security, and human rights abuses with impunity.

More needs to be done to tarnish Kim Jong Un's image and that of the Kim family. The U.S. should be actively seeking to undermine the cult of personality and drive a wedge between North Korea elites and the Kim family. Sanctions are one way to drive such a wedge, but also needed are more radio broadcasts and USB drives with South Korean pop culture and news and information targeting North Korean military and elites. The more information the North Korean people have, the less isolated they are, the more likely they will see the Kim family as false gods.

Some of this work is being done by North Korean defectors living in South Korea. But their efforts are tiny and were not supported by the previous Administration.

The current sanctions regime is having some effect. High-level diplomats, military leaders, and the families of high-ranking officials are defecting—they are recognizing that they will be held accountable if they continue to support Kim Jong Un's barbaric regime.

Nevertheless, recent evidence shows that North Korea has become very good at evading sanctions. Last month a U.N. report made clear that North Korea is using 'increasingly sophisticated' tactics to evade existing sanctions. Money, arms, and people are moved across borders by networks of middlemen and banks to avoid detection. The U.N. report concluded that sanctions enforcement 'remains insufficient.' This legislation will expand U.S. sanctions to target those help Kim Jong Un avoid sanctions and fund his nuclear program and human rights abuses.

I urge support for the legislation offered today and commend my colleagues for bringing this important legislation before the House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1644, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. ROYCE of California. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

WORKING FAMILIES FLEXIBILITY ACT OF 2017

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 299, I call up the bill (H.R. 1180) to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide compensatory time for employees in the private sector, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 299, in lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Education and the Workforce, printed in the bill, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 115–15 is adopted, and the bill, as amended, is considered read.

The text of the bill, as amended, is as follows:

H.R. 1180

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Working Families Flexibility Act of 2017''.

SEC. 2. COMPENSATORY TIME.

Section 7 of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 207) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(s) COMPENSATORY TIME OFF FOR PRIVATE EMPLOYEES.—

''(1) GENERAL RULE.—An employee may receive, in accordance with this subsection and in lieu of monetary overtime compensation, compensatory time off at a rate not less than one and one-half hours for each hour of employment for which overtime compensation is required by this section.

''(2) CONDITIONS.—An employer may provide compensatory time to employees under paragraph (1) only if such time is provided in accordance with—

''(A) applicable provisions of a collective bargaining agreement between the employer and the labor organization that has been certified or recognized as the representative of the employees under applicable law; or

''(B) in the case of an employee who is not represented by a labor organization that has been certified or recognized as the representative of such employee under applicable law, an agreement arrived at between the employer and employee before the performance of the work and affirmed by a written or otherwise verifiable record maintained in accordance with section 11(c)—

''(i) in which the employer has offered and the employee has chosen to receive compensatory time in lieu of monetary overtime compensation; and

''(ii) entered into knowingly and voluntarily by such employee and not as a condition of employment.

No employee may receive or agree to receive compensatory time off under this subsection unless the employee has worked at least 1,000 hours for the employee's employer during a period of continuous employment with the employer in the 12-month period before the date of agreement or receipt of compensatory time off.

''(3) HOUR LIMIT.—

''(A) MAXIMUM HOURS.—An employee may accrue not more than 160 hours of compensatory time.

''(B) COMPENSATION DATE.—Not later than January 31 of each calendar year, the employee's employer shall provide monetary compensation for any unused compensatory time off accrued during the preceding calendar year that was not used prior to December 31 of the preceding year at the rate prescribed by paragraph (6). An employer may designate and communicate to the employer's employees a 12-month period other than the calendar year, in which case such compensation shall be provided not later than 31 days after the end of such 12-month period.

''(C) EXCESS OF 80 HOURS.—The employer may provide monetary compensation for an employee's unused compensatory time in excess of 80 hours at any time after giving the employee at least 30 days notice. Such compensation shall be provided at the rate prescribed by paragraph (6).

''(D) POLICY.—Except where a collective bargaining agreement provides otherwise, an employer that has adopted a policy offering compensatory time to employees may discontinue such policy upon giving employees 30 days notice.

''(E) WRITTEN REQUEST.—An employee may withdraw an agreement described in paragraph (2)(B) at any time. An employee may also request in writing that monetary compensation be provided, at any time, for all compensatory time accrued that has not yet been used. Within 30 days of receiving the written request, the employer shall provide the employee the monetary compensation due in accordance with paragraph (6).

''(4) PRIVATE EMPLOYER ACTIONS.—An employer that provides compensatory time under paragraph (1) to an employee shall not directly or indirectly intimidate, threaten, or coerce or attempt to intimidate, threaten, or coerce any employee for the purpose of—

''(A) interfering with such employee's rights under this subsection to request or not request compensatory time off in lieu of payment of monetary overtime compensation for overtime hours; or

''(B) requiring any employee to use such compensatory time.

''(5) TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT.—An employee who has accrued compensatory time off authorized to be provided under paragraph (1) shall, upon the voluntary or involuntary termination of employment, be paid for the unused compensatory time in accordance with paragraph (6).

''(6) RATE OF COMPENSATION.—

''(A) GENERAL RULE.—If compensation is to be paid to an employee for accrued compensatory time off, such compensation shall be paid at a rate of compensation not less than—

''(i) the regular rate earned by such employee when the compensatory time was accrued; or

''(ii) the regular rate earned by such employee at the time such employee received payment of such compensation,

whichever is higher.

''(B) CONSIDERATION OF PAYMENT.—Any payment owed to an employee under this subsection for unused compensatory time shall be considered unpaid overtime compensation.

''(7) USE OF TIME.—An employee—

''(A) who has accrued compensatory time off authorized to be provided under paragraph (1); and

''(B) who has requested the use of such compensatory time,

shall be permitted by the employee's employer to use such time within a reasonable period after making the request if the use of the compensatory time does not unduly disrupt the operations of the employer.

''(8) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this subsection—

''(A) the term 'employee' does not include an employee of a public agency; and

''(B) the terms 'overtime compensation' and 'compensatory time' shall have the meanings given such terms by subsection (o)(7).''.

SEC. 3. REMEDIES.

Section 16 of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 216) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b), by striking ''(b) Any employer'' and inserting ''(b) Except as provided in subsection (f), any employer''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(f) An employer that violates section 7(s)(4) shall be liable to the employee affected in the amount of the rate of compensation (determined in accordance with section 7(s)(6)(A)) for each hour of compensatory time accrued by the employee and in an additional equal amount as liquidated damages reduced by the amount of such rate of compensation for each hour of compensatory time used by such employee.''.

SEC. 4. NOTICE TO EMPLOYEES.

Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Labor shall revise the materials the Secretary provides, under regulations published in section 516.4 of title 29, Code of Federal Regulations, to employers for purposes of a notice explaining the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to employees so that such notice reflects the amendments made to such Act by this Act.

SEC. 5. GAO REPORT.

Beginning 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act and each of the 3 years thereafter, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit a report to Congress providing, with respect to the reporting period immediately prior to each such report—

(1) data concerning the extent to which employers provide compensatory time pursuant to section 7(s) of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, as added by this Act, and the extent to which employees opt to receive compensatory time;

(2) the number of complaints alleging a violation of such section filed by any employee with the Secretary of Labor;

(3) the number of enforcement actions commenced by the Secretary or commenced by the Secretary on behalf of any employee for alleged violations of such section;

(4) the disposition or status of such complaints and actions described in paragraphs (2) and (3); and

(5) an account of any unpaid wages, damages, penalties, injunctive relief, or other remedies obtained or sought by the Secretary in connection with such actions described in paragraph (3).

SEC. 6. SUNSET.

This Act and the amendments made by this Act shall cease to be in effect on the date that is 5 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from North Carolina.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 1180.

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

There was no objection.

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

Today I rise in strong support of H.R. 1180, the Working Families Flexibility Act of 2017.

Mr. Speaker, this bill is about freedom, flexibility, and fairness. The freedom for workers to choose what is best for themselves and their families, more flexibility for men and women to balance work, life, and family, and greater fairness in how Federal policies treat workers and families.

Under the legislation, private sector workers who are eligible for overtime pay would be able to choose between cash wages or paid time off. This simple choice will help improve the lives of many hardworking Americans.

This option has long been available to government workers. More than 30 years ago, Republicans and Democrats came together to amend an outdated Federal law and provide public sector employees more workplace flexibility.

□ 1545

That is why comp time is a popular benefit enjoyed today by police officers, firefighters, and other State and local government employees. But the Federal Government still denies many private sector workers the same opportunity. This double standard simply isn't fair. It is time to level the playing field for those in the private sector.

Despite what we will hear from the other side of the aisle today, all we are doing is empowering workers with a choice. For some workers, more money in the bank may be the best choice for them. Nothing—I repeat, nothing—in this bill will take away that right.

But other workers, if given the choice, would seize the opportunity to turn their overtime hours into paid time off. There are single parents who need more flexibility to spend time with their children; students who are struggling to juggle college and a full-time job; and a growing number of individuals need more time to care for an aging relative.

Time is precious, yet Democrats in Congress think the Federal Government should decide how people use it. They think they know what is best for workers and their families. In the name of protecting workers, our colleagues and their so-called progressive allies have denied workers this choice for years. They continue to ignore the bill's strong protections, including several that are more robust than what is available in the public sector.

The bill preserves the 40-hour workweek, and comp time would accrue at the same time-and-a-half rate as cash wages. The legislation also requires a written comp time agreement between each individual worker and his or her employer, or between a worker's union and employer.

Additionally, workers can cash out their comp time at any time and for any reason. Employers who force their employees into a comp time arrangement would face costly penalties, and the Department of Labor would have full authority to crack down on bad actors.

Mr. Speaker, by providing more freedom and flexibility, we can improve the quality of life of many Americans. We have an opportunity to make a positive difference in people's lives simply by getting the Federal Government out of the way and allowing individuals to choose what is best for themselves and their families.

I want to thank Representative ROBY for championing this effort, and I urge all Members to vote in favor of freedom, flexibility, and fairness for the American people by supporting H.R. 1180.

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

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 3 minutes.

Mr. Speaker, under current law, if an employee wants to work overtime, put the money in the bank where it can earn interest, and use it to cover the cost of taking some time off later with the permission of the employer, he can do that today without this bill.

But under H.R. 1180, instead of getting paid for overtime work in the next scheduled paycheck, the employee might not get paid until as much as a year later, when his employer decides to let him take that comp time.

This legislation simply weakens the protections available in the Fair Labor Standards Act—the original family-friendly workplace law—at the very moment that we really ought to be strengthening the law.

Under H.R. 1180, it would be legal to withhold workers' overtime pay for a long time. This would be otherwise a violation of the Fair Labor Standards Act.

The bill would allow you to undermine the 40-hour workweek by creating a mechanism that allows employees to earn time off to be with their families only if they spend extra time at work beyond a 40-hour workweek.

It undermines a worker's ability to earn overtime pay, which many workers rely on to send their children to college, save for retirement, or make a down payment on a house.

Because the legislation makes it cheaper for employers to assign overtime to employees who agree to accept comp time instead of actual cash wages, this legislation makes it extremely likely that the only employees who will be asked to work overtime are those who agree to get comp time instead of actual time and a half paid cash.

Furthermore, the legislation creates significant uncertainty for workers. An employer could decide that an employee cannot take comp time on the dates requested because the employer said it would be an undue disruption to business operations.

My Democratic colleagues and I are working on a Working Families Agenda with real solutions that would boost wages for working people and help them balance work and family life. An employee should be able to earn time off without sacrificing overtime pay. This is exactly what the Healthy Families Act would do. It would allow workers to earn up to 7 paid sick days.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, 92 groups that actually represent working people sent a letter urging the Committee on Education and the Workforce to oppose the legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD a letter which is led by the National Partnership for Women & Families. It points out that we should be taking up real solutions, such as legislation, to raise the minimum wage, Schedules That Work Act, family and medical leave, and other responsible solutions. These solutions would truly help working families, yet the majority has refused to support any of these initiatives.

MAY 1, 2017.

DEAR MEMBER OF CONGRESS: We, the undersigned organizations, urge you to oppose the so-called Working Families Flexibility Act (H.R. 1180/S. 801), a smoke-and-mirrors bill that would offer working people a pay cut without any guaranteed flexibility or time off. As members of Congress on both sides of the aisle acknowledge, people today are struggling to manage the demands of job and family, and to make ends meet and plan for the future. We urgently need lawmakers to update our nation's workplace policies to meet 21st century realities, but the Working Families Flexibility Act would be a grievous step in the wrong direction. It is, at best, an empty promise that would cause considerably more harm than good.

The Working Families Flexibility Act would offer a false choice between time and

pay. Supporters claim the bill would give hourly workers more flexibility and time with their loved ones by allowing them to choose paid time off, rather than time-and-a-half wages, as compensation for working more than 40 hours in one week (''comp time''). But people would only get more time with their families after spending extra hours away from them at work, and the bill does not guarantee that workers could use the time they earn when they need it. Moreover, the bill would do nothing to address the need all working people—not just those who work overtime—have for guaranteed access to paid sick days and paid family and medical leave. Too few employers provide these protections now, especially to their hourly workers.

The Fair Labor Standards Act currently allows employers to provide flexibility and time off without compromising workers' right to be paid fairly for the hours they work. The types of flexibility allowed under the FLSA include alternative start and end times, compressed or variable work hours within a week, split shifts, work at multiple locations, and paid or unpaid time off. Proponents of the Working Families Flexibility Act set up a false dichotomy that would force workers to choose between flexibility and overtime pay when, in reality, the FLSA does nothing currently to prevent employers from offering both.

The ''worker flexibility'' offered by the Working Families Flexibility Act would magnify the power imbalance between employees and employers. The proposal would give the employer, not the employee, the ''flexibility'' to decide when, and even if, comp time could be used. The bill would allow employers to deny requests if an employee's use of comp time would ''unduly disrupt'' operations, or grant leave on a day other than the one requested. This means the Working Families Flexibility Act would provide no guarantee that workers could use their earned time to care for a sick child, attend a parent-teacher conference, or help an aging parent. Employers could veto an employee's request to use their time even in cases of urgent need. The bill would also allow employers to ''cash out'' an employee's comp time in excess of 80 hours, or discontinue the comp time program altogether, with just 30 days' notice. This means an employee's carefully crafted plan to bank time for a child's birth or surgery could be thwarted by an employer's decision to cash out the employee's time.

The Working Families Flexibility Act would put workers' economic security at risk and provide an interest-free loan to employers. An employee who does not participate in an employer's comp time program could be penalized with fewer hours, bad shifts and lost overtime hours. The bill would permit employers to defer compensation for unused comp time for as long as 13 months, creating an interest-free loan for employers and hardship for workers. It also would not provide any protections for employees when firms collapse or go bankrupt, meaning workers could lose the value of their unused comp time altogether.

The Working Families Flexibility Act would provide few protections for workers and no additional resources to the U.S. Department of Labor for education, investigation and enforcement. The U.S. Department of Labor's (DOL's) Wage and Hour Division already struggles to enforce the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) with too few investigators and a small budget—and DOL is facing a draconian reduction in funding that threatens its ability to maintain current operations, let alone engage in robust enforcement. This bill would add significant new provisions to the FLSA, but it would not provide additional funds for education and enforcement efforts the new provisions would require. Workers would have few remedies in cases of employer misconduct pursuant to the bill, and would not be able to rely on an under-resourced Wage and Hour Division for assistance. Wage theft (nonpayment or underpayment of wages for hours worked) would be exacerbated because it would be easier for employers to avoid overtime compensation obligations without consequences.

Instead of wasting time on smoke and mirrors, Congress should focus on policies that would meaningfully improve people's economic security and provide the time they need. We urge Congress to adopt:

The Healthy Families Act (H.R. 1516/S. 636), which would make earned paid sick days available to millions of workers and build on the success of paid sick days laws that have been, or will soon be, implemented in seven states and 32 localities;

The Family And Medical Insurance Leave (FAMILY) Act (H.R. 947/S. 337), which would create a national paid leave insurance program—modeled on successful state programs in California, New. Jersey, Rhode Island and, soon, New York and the District of Columbia—that would allow workers to take paid time to care for a new child; care for a seriously ill family member; address their own serious health condition; or manage certain military caregiving responsibilities;

The Schedules That Work Act, which would give workers more control over their schedules and incentivize predictability and stability in shifts and work hours; and

An increase in the minimum wage, including the elimination of the sub-minimum ''tipped'' wage, which would lift millions of families out of poverty.

People simply should not have to work more than 40 hours in a week and forgo pay to earn time to care for themselves or their loved ones. We urge Congress to reject the Working Families Flexibility Act and instead adopt family friendly workplace policies that provide true flexibility—not an empty promise that would make life appreciably more difficult for people who are already struggling

Sincerely,

1,000 Days, 9to5, National Association of Working Women, 9to5 California, 9to5 Colorado, 9to5 Georgia, 9to5 Wisconsin, A Better Balance, American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL–CIO), American Association of University Women (AAUW), American Federation of Government Employees, American Federation of Teachers, (AFL–CIO), California Work & Family Coalition, Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP), Center for Popular Democracy, Coalition for Social Justice, Coalition of Labor Union Women, Coalition on Human Needs, Communications Workers of America (CWA), Connecticut Working Families Party, Connecticut Women's Education and Legal Fund (CWEALF), Daily Kos, Demos, Economic Policy Institute Policy Center, Economic Progress Institute, Faith in Public Life, Family Forward Oregon, Family Values @ Work, Feminist Majority.

Indiana Institute for Working Families, Innovation Ohio, Institute for Science and Human Values, Inc., Interfaith Worker Justice, International Brotherhood of Teamsters, International Union, United Automobile, Aerospace & Agricultural Implement Workers of America (UAW), Jewish Women International (JWI), Jews United for Justice, Jobs With Justice, Labor Project for Working Families, The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, Legal Aid at Work, Los Angeles Alliance for a New Economy (LAANE), Main Street Alliance, Maine Women's Lobby, Make it Work, McKenna Pihlaja, MomsRising.org, Mothering Justice.

National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum (NAPAWF), National Association of Social Workers (NASW), National Center for Lesbian Rights, National Coalition 100 Black Women Central Ohio Chapter, National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW), National Education Association (NEA), National Employment Law Project, National Employment Lawyers Association, National Institute for Reproductive Health, National Network to End Domestic Violence, National Partnership for Women & Families, National Women's Law Center, NC Justice Center, NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice, New Jersey Citizen Action, New Jersey Time to Care Coalition, New York Paid Leave Coalition, Ohio Domestic Violence Network, Ohio Women's Public Policy Network, OUR Walmart.

PathWays PA, People For the American Way, People's Action, PL+US Paid Leave for the U.S., Progress For All, Project IRENE, Restaurant Opportunities Center of Pennsylvania (ROC-PA), Restaurant Opportunities Centers United (ROC), Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law, Service Employees International Union (SEIU), Southwest PA National Organization for Women, The Body Is Not An Apology (TBINAA, Inc.), Texas Organizing Project, The Voter Participation Center, UltraViolet, Unitarian Universalist Women's Federation, Voices for Progress, Women Employed, Women's Foundation of Florida, Women's Law Project, Women's Voices Women Vote Action Fund, Working America, Working Partnerships USA, Young Invincibles, YWCA USA.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote ''no'' on this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 6 minutes to the gentlewoman from Alabama (Mrs. ROBY), the author of the legislation.

Mrs. ROBY. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentlewoman for yielding. Let me say how grateful I am for the leadership of Chairwoman FOXX in the Education and the Workforce Committee. She and her staff have been instrumental in advancing this bill.

I also want to thank my friend, my colleague from Alabama, BRADLEY BYRNE, who serves as the chair on the Workforce Protections Subcommittee. He has been a champion for commonsense policies in the workplace, and I appreciate his hard work.

Mr. Speaker, today's workforce is more diverse than ever, especially as it concerns working parents. More than 70 percent of mothers today work outside of the home; and that is different from 50 years ago, when that number was less than 30 percent.

But while the workforce has changed quite a bit, our policies and laws that govern the workplace have not. As a working mom myself, I understand all too well how challenging it can be to

balance career and family. Ask any working parent, and they will tell you just how precious their time is. They will tell you that they just need one more hour in the day to be able to take care of their family and all of those responsibilities that come with it.

I always say, Congress can't legislate another hour in the day, but we can update our laws to allow more choice and fairness in how employees use their time. That is why I am proud to bring to the floor H.R. 1180, the Working Families Flexibility Act.

Mr. Speaker, this bill does three important things: it removes outdated and unnecessary Federal restrictions on the use of comp time in the private sector; it provides flexibility for working moms and dads who need more time to spend taking care of their family responsibilities; and it demonstrates how commonsense conservative principles can help Americans in their everyday lives.

Here is how it works: an hourly wage employee would be able to voluntarily enter into an agreement with their employer to put a portion of their accrued overtime towards paid time off instead of extra cash. An employee could simply use the time-and-a-half overtime that they earned to take a paid hour and a half off of work instead of the extra money if that is what they wanted.

Ask yourselves: Should a working dad be forced to use up all of his vacation time in order to get involved in his child's school?

Should a military mom, with her husband deployed, have to dip into her sick leave to make sure her kids have the support they need?

Should someone with aging parents who require extra care have no option allowing them to devote more time and attention to their loved ones when they need it most?

Under the Working Families Flexibility Act, those working moms and dads could have the option of using their accrued overtime toward paid time off, allowing them to take care of these responsibilities without losing the paycheck that they count on.

Mr. Speaker, for anyone who works in the public sector, this comp time system probably sounds familiar. That is because, since 1985, government employees have had access to comp time benefits.

Why should the rules be different? If it is good enough for the government employees, why is it not good enough for the private sector?

H.R. 1180 fixes this disparity by allowing for greater choice and fairness over how workers use their time. I have sponsored this bill for three straight Congresses now, so I am well aware of the criticism from the labor unions and their allies. They try to say this bill is somehow antiunion or antiworker. This is simply untrue. Of course, the truth is, many Big Labor groups will reflexively attack any proposal that would change a single word of the Fair Labor Standards Act. Ironically, labor unions themselves can, and often do, negotiate similar agreements for their members already.

So I want to just go over a few of these criticisms quickly. Critics of this bill, as has already been stated in this debate, will tell you that it will somehow result in employees working longer hours for less pay. That is not true. The decision to receive comp time is completely voluntary. An employee who prefers to receive cash payment for overtime hours is always free to do so.

Workers can withdraw from a comp time agreement whenever they choose. An employee who changes their mind or just can't work out with their employer when to use compensatory time can say, ''You know what? I would rather have the cash payments that I accrued in my overtime,'' and the employer must provide that within 30 days.

All existing protections in the Fair Labor Standards Act are maintained, including the 40-hour workweek, and how overtime compensation is accrued.

Critics of this bill also say that it will allow employers to control when workers take their comp time. That is also not true. It is up to the employee to decide when to use his or her comp time. It is their time.

My time is running out. There are other myths, and I hope during this debate that we will be able to go through what is myth, and what is fact, and I am happy to address that at any time.

I want to thank again the chairwoman for her support, for her willingness to move this bill through committee.

We have got big issues in this country to deal with right now: health care, funding the government, tax reform. And as we continue to work on those issues—and we will—nothing should stop us from doing what we can right now to help make life a little easier for moms and dads. The Working Families Flexibility Act does that by helping Americans better balance the demands of family and work. After all, this is their time.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Oregon (Ms. BONAMICI), the vice ranking member on the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, unfortunately, too many workers in Oregon and across the country are still facing a great deal of economic uncertainty. They worry about rent payments, healthcare costs, saving for retirement, balancing family responsibilities and work, and making ends meet.

Congress should be considering policy changes that support workers, not a bill that threatens their economic security. This bill takes away overtime pay and, instead, a workers gets a vague IOU for compensatory time sometime in the future, and only if the comp time does not unduly disrupt the operations of the employer—whatever that means.

I would like to share the story of Anjeanette. She said:

> I work as a waitress in a restaurant in Gresham, Oregon, that is part of a large chain. I have three children. I have never had a single paid sick day. A few years ago, when I was working in construction, I sprained my ankle badly and couldn't go to work for a week. I didn't have any paid sick days, so I lost a whole week's pay, which meant I wasn't able to pay all of my bills and I wasn't able to pay for gas.

Anjeanette is a single mother of three sons who also struggles to care for them when they get sick. In fact, when her youngest got the flu, her older son had to stay home from school to care for him.

In May and June, we celebrate Mother's Day and Father's Day. This is a perfect time for Congress to focus on legislation that allows parents like Anjeanette to be more present in their kid's lives and still pay their bills.

Instead, this legislation would result in taking their overtime pay from their pockets. The so-called Working Families Flexibility Act is not a solution.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to reject this legislation.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. ROE), the chair of the Veterans' Affairs Committee, as well as a member of the Education and the Workforce Committee.

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1180, the Working Families Flexibility Act, and encourage all of my colleagues to do the same. This commonsense piece of legislation, sponsored by my friend and colleague from Alabama, MARTHA ROBY, would empower private sector workers with the flexibility to choose comp time as compensation for working overtime hours instead of added wages.

Specifically, the provisions of this legislation would be completely voluntary for workers, allow them to exchange their accrued time for full overtime pay at any time or for any reason, and would maintain the protections of the Fair Labor Standards Act, such as the standard 40-hour workweek.

□ 1600

Mr. Speaker, I have heard our friends on the other side of the aisle express opposition to giving private sector employees this choice. I would point out that the public sector employees have enjoyed the ability to use comp time to maintain a work-life balance for 30 years. We are simply doing the same thing for private sector employees that public sector employees have the right to do today.

H.R. 1180 would benefit workers who want more flexibility to decide where they spend the time, with their families or pursue entrepreneurial or education ambitions outside the workplace, and these individuals should be admired for their efforts.

At its most basic level, this legislation is about choice and the belief that hardworking employees know their needs better than Washington bureaucrats. House Republicans believe it is time to adapt our labor laws to meet the needs of a rapidly changing 21st century workplace instead of imposing a one-size-fits-all, Washington-knows-best model.

It is time to empower employees to make choices on what will allow them to better balance work with their personal lives. This commonsense legislation will ultimately improve not only their benefits but their lives.

I want to again encourage my colleagues to support H.R. 1180.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. DELAURO), the ranking member of the Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Subcommittee of the Appropriations Committee.

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to this bill which would give workers less flexibility and less pay. The economic challenge of our time is that people are in jobs today that just don't pay them enough to live on. They are struggling to make ends meet. This bill would make that worse.

It forces workers to decide between time-and-a-half overtime pay and paid time off when they work more than 40 hours a week. It enables employers to exert more control over employees' wages and hours that hinders a worker's ability to plan family time, to have flexible and stable schedules, and, yes, to make ends meet.

Rather than helping American workers earn better wages and more time off, this bill creates more power for employers to delay paying overtime wages for as long as 13 months. For people who need to work extra hours to pay those bills, this legislation forces them into an impossible choice between time and money with no guarantee of time off.

This bill is nothing more than a false promise of time off and a pay cut. Working Americans deserve better. We have an obligation to pursue public policy that puts workers before corporations. Instead of forcing bad choices for workers about their time off, we ought to bring the Healthy Families Act to the floor which would enable workers to earn paid sick days, because no one should have to choose between getting healthy and putting food on the table.

Instead of considering this legislation which will hurt workers and their ability to earn fair wages, we should be considering the FAMILY Act, which would create a national paid leave insurance program to allow workers to take time off while they are caring for a new child, a seriously ill family member, or their own serious health conditions.

Instead of undermining workers' schedules, we should be considering the Schedules That Work Act, which gives workers more control over their schedules, offers them real predictability and stability in their shifts and in their work hours.

These are the policies that workers need, policies that reflect the realities of working in America today, the challenges that workers face. This bill goes in the opposite direction.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to oppose it.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GROTHMAN).

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to speak as well on the Working Families Flexibility Act.

Over a period of time, a lot of the rules and regulations that this body has passed, it becomes apparent they are one-size-fits-all and lack common sense. I am glad to be a cosponsor of this bill which gives people the flexibility, if they work more than 40 hours in a week, they can take the cash if they need the cash. But for some people, either because of life circumstances or because they are just less materialistic, they don't want that cash. They would rather spend time with their family.

I think particularly in today's world where so many people live in two-parent families in which both people work, a lot of people would love to spend a day with their children instead of having their children in daycare. I think it is right that people should have the freedom to do that. We recognize for government employees we frequently have comp time in which if they work more than 40 hours a week, they can come back, spend more time with their family, or maybe just spend more time on recreation.

It is high time we give that freedom to people in the private sector, high time to put family first, and we all have to remember that even though some people always want more money, some people say there are other things in life that are more important.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), the Democratic whip.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, freedom to make less. What could be wrong with that? Freedom to make less.

Now, I am an employer, and I tell my employees, you have the freedom to either work for time and a half or just take comp time. One employee says: Well, I will work for comp time. The other employee says: Mr. Boss, you know, I need that money. Well, the person I will choose to work will be the person who will do it for comp time.

I don't know whether there is a provision to pay FICA on comp time or not in this bill, but I presume there is not. I presume there is an extraordinary saving to the employer, an incentive to the employer to choose the employee who doesn't need the extra money. Maybe their spouse makes a lot of money. Maybe not.

This is the freedom to make less bill, and I rise in opposition to it as I did when it last came to this floor. Instead of requiring employers to provide their workers with overtime, as currently amended, this bill would allow them to replace overtime with comp time.

Now, I have run a business. Most businessmen would not say it was a business because it was a law office. But I had employees, and I had to pay them. I wanted to pay them. I needed to pay them. When they worked overtime, I needed to pay them overtime. In other words, this bill provides if you work more than 40 hours a week, instead of getting time and a half for overtime, your boss can tell you no. Instead, you get paid time off, but you don't get to choose when you get to take it.

Now, if you only have one employee, that is not a problem because they have a choice. But if you have two employees and one employee makes the choice, as I pointed out, of getting comp time, such a deal for the boss.

And, yes, probably a pretty good deal for the person who can afford to just take comp time and doesn't need that time and a half.

The problem is, of course, as the previous speaker on our side said, we are having trouble getting people to a wage on which they can live and support themselves and their families. They need that time and a half.

And while we say it is voluntary and their choice, as a practical matter, as I have just pointed out, it is not.

Ms. FOXX. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. HOYER. I yield to the gentlewoman from North Carolina.

Ms. FOXX. I would like to ask the gentleman if he could point out in the bill where you cede the power to the employer because that is not in this legislation. I would love it if you would just point that out to us in the legislation.

Mr. HOYER. Where it is is not articulated in the bill, but you don't say if there are two employees in the example I have given, Madam Chair, whether or not the employer can say: Employee A, you are going to take some comp time, so would you work an hour and a half or 2 hours overtime? But Employee B, I know you can't afford to do that, you have got to be home with your child, and if you are going to work, you need the overtime to pay, perhaps, for the extra childcare.

There is nothing in your bill that precludes the employer from doing that; is there?

I yield to the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX).

Ms. FOXX. It is totally voluntary on the part of the employee.

Mr. HOYER. I understand that. My example was totally a voluntary commitment by someone who will work for comp time. This is a bill, as I said at the beginning, you can work more and get less.

Mr. Speaker, we ought to defeat this bill because employees and every employee organization that I know of has been articulating opposition to this bill because they know it will hurt employees.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 30 seconds.

Mr. Speaker, this bill strengthens protections for workers and increases penalties for abuses. It contains strong anticoercion provisions that would prohibit an employer from directly or indirectly trying to intimidate or coerce workers.

Employers found to have coerced employees would be liable to the employees for double damages. And all existing remedies, including action by the U.S. Department of Labor, are available to workers if an employer fails to pay cash wages for overtime hours.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT), the chairman of the Small Business Committee.

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Working Families Flexibility Act. I want to commend my colleague, the gentlewoman from Alabama (Mrs. ROBY), for introducing this legislation which will help private sector employees increase workplace flexibility.

This week is National Small Business Week, a time to celebrate America's 29 million small businesses which employ nearly half of the private sector workforce, and, as was mentioned, I happen to be the chairman of the House Small Business Committee.

Small businesses are run by our neighbors and families and friends, and they offer working families the chance to get ahead. Small businesses are also known for treating their employees well and providing workplace flexibility.

This bill will allow small businesses to give their hourly employees another option that public sector employees have enjoyed for many years, the choice of being paid off instead of cash wages for overtime hours worked.

While some employees may prefer wages for the overtime hours they put in, others might want to use that time to attend their child's piano recital or go to a sports event or caring for an elderly parent. This bill gives them that choice. It is the employee's choice, not the employer.

The flexibility is crucial for families where there is a single parent or both parents work full time. Importantly, this bill does not force any employee to take comp time, and it provides protections such as requiring the employer and employee to enter into a written comp time agreement.

The Working Families Flexibility Act will allow small businesses to offer their employees a new benefit. As we celebrate National Small Business Week, let's give small businesses another way to make the lives of working families a little easier.

It seems like a lot of the folks on the other side of aisle oftentimes think that small businesses are going to try to get away with anything that they can possibly get away with, that they want to exploit their workers, they are going to take advantage of them, we just can't trust them. Almost every small business in this country cares not only about their business, but they care about their employees.

Mr. Speaker, let's give them credit for something.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO), the ranking member of the Workforce Protections Subcommittee of the Education and the Workforce Committee.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to H.R. 1180 for a simple reason: the Working Families Flexibility Act does not give working families more flexibility. In fact, it gives them nothing.

The bill contains no meaningful rights for workers that they don't already have. Instead, it is employers who get the flexibility and the power to withhold overtime pay in exchange for a false promise of comp time in the future.

□ 1615

This bill takes the simple idea that workers should be paid when they work overtime and creates a more complicated system in which employers can pressure their workers to accept comp time instead of cash and then refuse to give them that comp time until it is convenient.

Even the American Sustainable Business Council opposes the bill, and I include their letter in the RECORD.

AMERICAN SUSTAINABLE
BUSINESS COUNCIL,
April 24, 2017.

Hon. VIRGINIA FOXX,
Chairman, Committee on Education and the Workforce, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.
Hon. BRADLEY BYRNE,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Workforce Protections, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.
Hon. ROBERT ''BOBBY'' SCOTT,
Ranking Member, Committee on Education and the Workforce, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.
Hon. MARK TAKANO,
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Workforce Protections, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRPERSONS FOXX AND BYRNE, AND RANKING MEMBERS SCOTT AND TAKANO: On behalf of our members and supporter organizations, the American Sustainable Business Council (ASBC) is writing to express our opposition to the Working Families Flexibility Act (H.R. 1180/S. 801) of 2017.

The misleadingly named bill, as introduced by Representative Martha Roby, is the wrong way to encourage employers to offer work-life benefits to their employees.

This bill would create a major liability on the balance sheet of small businesses whose employees have ''banked'' away their overtime comp hours. This liability then becomes a scheduling and accounting challenge when employees decide to trade in banked hours, requiring business owners to make unexpected shifts in personnel assignments and paychecks. Obviously, small businesses with fewer resources and employees would be even harder hit by these onerous logistical challenges than larger corporations.

It is important that more supporting measures are taken to ensure the success of small business. In the spirit of pursuing pro-business legislation, the Working Families Flexibility Act proves itself to be anything but flexible for employees and even more burdensome for employers. The sheer volume of tracking requirements has the potential to result in improper penalties being assessed by various government agencies. The bill will stymie, not foster, economic activity in the private sector.

In addition, this bill would create headaches for any employer who must track banked hours across multiple employees and make the required organizational rearrangements. These factors could put business owners in the position of making uncomfortable decisions regarding their employees which could, in turn, lower the morale of their workforce.

Current law does not deny employers and employees the ability to develop mutually beneficial flexible scheduling if they so choose, which makes this an unnecessary new law. If Representatives Roby is truly concerned about creating flexibility for working families, there are other, less onerous options.

The Healthy Families Act, for instance, would provide workers the right to earn up to seven earned paid sick days each year to recover from illness, to care for a family member, to seek routine medical care, or to manage other unpredictable necessities of day-to-day life. Employers who provide this type of leave already would not have to provide additional sick time. This method is a more predictable and easier approach to implement for employers.

ASBC is a growing national coalition of businesses and business organizations committed to advancing policies that support a

vibrant and sustainable economy. ASBC represents over 250,000 businesses and more than 300,000 business professionals, including industry trade associations, local and state chambers of commerce, microenterprise, social enterprise, green and sustainable business, local and community-rooted business, women and minority business leaders, and investors.

The Working Families Flexibility Act is a poorly designed bill for both employers and employees. In the interest of working families who need true flexibility, and the businesses who rely on those family members, we urge you to vote against it.

Sincerely,

RICHARD EIDLIN,
Co-Founder & Vice President of Public Policy.

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, this is a terrible deal for working families. This bill should be called the betrayal of working families act.

Mr. Speaker, I do not believe my colleagues in the majority are intentionally eroding the rights of working families. I do not believe they lack respect or compassion for the millions of hardworking Americans who feel stuck and powerless in this economy.

But I do believe that, when faced with a choice between protecting workers and rewarding corporations, they routinely fall on the side of corporate interests. The evidence is in this bill. The evidence is in their vote to roll back workplace safety reporting standards. The evidence is in their vote to block the fiduciary rule, and the evidence is in the majority's continued resistance to restoring overtime protections for millions of middle class workers.

President Trump promised to give power back to the people. This legislation betrays that promise, and it betrays the people who desperately need a voice in Washington.

I call on my colleagues to oppose H.R. 1180.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentlewoman from Kansas (Ms. JENKINS), a member of the Ways and Means Committee.

Ms. JENKINS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1180, the Working Families Flexibility Act.

Hardworking Americans who are paid hourly wages and work overtime should have the choice to receive the money or annual leave to spend how they choose. Under our outdated law, they don't have this choice today. This commonsense legislation will fix that and directly benefit workers and their families.

As a single working mom myself, I know firsthand the difficulties parents encounter when trying to balance work and family responsibilities. For hourly workers having the voluntary option to take either money or more time with their families opens up a world of possibilities for folks to spend more time with their kids, run errands, or make appointments.

This is an option provided to workers in the public sector. Why wouldn't we want to give this option to all American workers?

I support this family friendly legislation. I encourage my colleagues to support it as well.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. FRANKEL).

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to urge a ''no'' vote on this misleading name, Working Families Flexibility Act.

Quite simply, this is a bait-and-switch proposal. It awards employers flexibility, not the families who need it. It fails ordinary working men and women, like the mom who has no overtime stored up and must go into credit card debt after having a baby or the dad who has worked long, crushing overtime hours but can't afford to give up his pay in order to stay home with his ill son.

Mr. Speaker, Democrats have better solutions: 12 weeks of paid family leave, guaranteed paid sick days. These are proposals that will modernize our workplace. It will lead to better workers and stronger families.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentlewoman from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN).

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman FOXX and Chairman ROBY for the outstanding job that they have done on this.

Listening to my colleagues, you would think that there is a lack of understanding, if you will, to that old saying that women want more time.

As one of my constituents asked me today: If you pass this bill, is it going to mean that I can bank my time during tax season, take time and a half and use it to take a field trip or a school trip with my child?

I said: Absolutely. Because this is a bill that puts you in charge of how you want to be compensated for overtime work. Do you want the money? Do you want the added time so that you have control of your schedule?

Yes, this is about empowering the employee.

It is so interesting, the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 put in place something for the public sector. They forgot about the private sector. You could look at this and say, well, it is a correction within the law so that not only public sector employees, but also private sector employees have the ability to say: I choose to have more time at this point in my career. I want the flexibility.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. JAYAPAL).

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to this bill, H.R. 1180, the Working Families Flexibility Act.

There is nothing in this bill that provides any flexibility to working families. In fact, Mr. Speaker, we all seem to have names for this bill, but mine is that it should be called the employer flexibility act because that is what it really does. It gives employers flexibility to not pay for time worked. It is a smoke-and-mirrors promise that ultimately helps employers but hurts workers.

The choice between overtime pay and comp time is a false choice for workers, Mr. Speaker. We know what happens in the reality of the workplace. The vague promise of time off in the future is often never realized, and many hourly workers may feel compelled by employers to forfeit their overtime pay to accept comp time.

Workers do need more flexibility, more money, and more control over their lives, but this bill is a cruel joke on workers. At a time when America's working families are strapped for both time and money, this bill takes time away from families and offers them less money in every paycheck. In the end, there is no guarantee that employers will let their employees take the time off when they need it.

Here is the story of Camilla, from my home State of Washington. This is what she wrote:

It was my first job out of college. I was given comp time in lieu of overtime pay. I worked so much overtime that, in just over 6 months' time, I had accrued 2 weeks of comp time. When I scheduled my time off, I was told I could not take the time off, as I had not worked there for a full year. I had already purchased airfare. I ended up quitting my job.

Mr. Speaker, I urge our Republican majority to go back to the table and return with legislation that provides real flexibility to American families: raise the minimum wage; ensure that hourly workers have paid sick leave; make sure that families don't suffer from pay discrimination. That is what the American people expect us to be working on. Not false choices in the name of flexibility.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from Georgia (Mr. ALLEN).

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of H.R. 1108, the Working Families Flexibility Act.

Many Americans can relate to the difficulties of balancing work duties with family obligations. It is not always easy to attend a parent-teacher conference, care for an aging parent, or stay home with a newborn when outdated Federal laws create constant barriers to workplace flexibility.

H.R. 1180 will amend the outdated Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 and bring much-needed reform to the workplace. It will give employers the freedom to offer employees a choice between cash wages and comp time for overtime hours worked.

I emphasize this is a voluntary option, which means that employees who want to receive cash wages can continue to do so; and if they choose to accept comp time and change their mind,

it allows workers to withdraw and receive cash wages whenever they choose.

By passing this bill, American workers will gain more flexibility in the workplace, allowing them to have more time to spend with the people they love.

I urge my colleagues to support this commonsense legislation that supports our American workers.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 30 seconds.

Mr. Speaker, there was mention about the legislative history back in the 1980s. The fact is there was no mention in legislative history that Congress passed the comp time legislation to be family friendly or to provide flexibility. The legislation was passed purely to respond to States' and localities' concerns about fiscal pressures created by the Supreme Court case Garcia v. San Antonio Metropolitan Transportation Authority. So I think it ought to be clear that these are entirely different issues.

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

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to H.R. 1180, the so-called Working Families Flexibility Act.

The name of this bill is pretty deceiving. In reality, this legislation only worsens the significant problem of wage theft. Violators of our wage and hour laws do not need another way to cheat workers out of their pay, but that is exactly what H.R. 1180 gives them.

The problem of wage theft has reached epidemic proportions, and overtime violations are too common. All H.R. 1180 does is give dishonest employers who want to steal workers' paychecks any number of smoke screens—like denying requested and hard-earned time off because it would be an undue burden to business operations—to hide behind.

Further, we know from experience that significant litigation over payment of wages owed under comp time programs in the public sector exist. Yet this legislation includes no additional funding for the Department of Labor to enforce or implement these provisions.

Even worse, this legislation is being considered while President Trump has proposed a severe 21 percent budget cut to DOL. It simply makes no sense to give unscrupulous employers another mechanism for stealing workers' hard-earned paychecks while providing no additional resources for employees who need help recovering their stolen pay.

I would like to share a story from a New Yorker who has felt the direct and negative consequences of wage theft and comp time. During her 40-plus years as a secretary, word processor, and paralegal, she worked hundreds of extra hours and was frequently promised comp time. She never received it. Not once. Further, any overtime pay was usually conveniently forgotten, and she feared she would lose her job if she asked for her rightful pay or promised time off.

Rather than protect employees like this woman, H.R. 1180 will do the opposite and produce more of these unjust horrendous stories.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHIMKUS). The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentleman from New York.

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I offered an amendment during the markup of this bill which would have stopped this legislation from enabling bad actors to cheat workers out of their pay. It would have exempted willful and repeated violators of the minimum wage and overtime protections from this act, but my Republican colleagues unanimously voted against this amendment, a clear indication of where they stand on protecting hard-working Americans.

I urge my colleagues to vote ''no'' on this bill.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Alabama (Mrs. ROBY), the author of the bill.

Mrs. ROBY. Mr. Speaker, in response to the gentleman's comments that he just made, it is well worth repeating: this bill actually strengthens protections for workers and increases penalties for abuse. It contains in it strong anticoercion provisions.

We have to be factual about what is actually in the bill. This bill prohibits an employer from directly or indirectly, as suggested by the gentleman, trying to intimidate or coerce workers. Employers found to have coerced employees would be liable to those employees for double damages.

Of course, in response to the previous statements, all existing enforcement remedies, including action by the U.S. Department of Labor, are available to workers if an employer failed to pay cash wages for overtime hours or unreasonably refuses to allow workers to use their accrued comp time.

□ 1630

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the gentlewoman to show where in the bill the penalties are actually more than they are today?

Ms. FOXX. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. I yield to the gentlewoman from North Carolina.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I am happy to take the gentleman's time to explain where in the bill. It is section 4, and we will give you the text of it. Give us a second.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. And how is that different from what the Federal law is now?

Ms. FOXX. How much time, Mr. Speaker, do I have?

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, in the meanwhile, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY).

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Actually, the idea of the 40-hour day began over—yesterday makes 130 years at Haymarket Square in the city of Chicago, my hometown. And the idea is very simple: that after 40 hours of work, which is a reasonable time in most industrialized countries in the world, that people then get overtime pay. It is something that helps strengthen families and is good for workers to have money in their pockets.

But the idea here, under the guise of flexibility—which is a really nice word—is it allows employers to deny extra hours to workers who want overtime. Instead, they can pick those who are willing to work long hours without pay for promises in the future that they would be able to have comp time, that they would be able to make it up at a time of their boss' choosing. Oh, they say over a negotiation, but go ahead and try and negotiate with your employer about that.

While the majority argues that providing comp time to private sector workers creates parity between the public and private sector, workers in the public sector have many more protections than workers in the private sector right now.

Union density in the public sector is five to six times the union density of the private sector. Workers represented by unions have far more bargaining power than unrepresented workers, greatly increasing the potential for employer abuse of comp time and decreasing the employees' ability to defend themselves from such abuses.

Workers in the public sector have more job security, higher wages than their private sector counterparts. This means public sector workers are less likely to be putting their jobs at risk. So this is just a bad idea, hurts workers, hurts families, hurts the long-standing idea of the 40-hour workweek.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, the gentleman had asked a question, and we are prepared to answer on his time.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield 30 seconds to the gentlewoman from Alabama (Mrs. ROBY).

Mrs. ROBY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to point the gentleman to page 4 of the bill, in section 4, beginning on line 21: ''An employer that provides compensatory time under Paragraph 1 to employees shall not directly or indirectly intimidate, threaten, or coerce or attempt to intimidate, threaten, or coerce any employee for the purpose of . . .'' And then it goes through ''requiring any employee to use such compensatory time.''

If you turn to page 7 of the bill, under section 3, remedies, subsection F, it directly addresses the damages.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 15 seconds just to include in the RECORD section 216 of the Fair Labor Standards Act, which says essentially the same penalties are available in the present law as in the bill.

§ 216. Penalties

(a) Fines and imprisonment

Any person who willfully violates any of the provisions of section 215 of this title shall upon conviction thereof be subject to a fine of not more than $10,000, or to imprisonment for not more than six months, or both. No person shall be imprisoned under this subsection except for an offense committed after the conviction of such person for a prior offense under this subsection.

(b) Damages; right of action; attorney's fees and costs; termination of right of action

Any employer who violates the provisions of section 206 or section 207 of this title shall be liable to the employee or employees affected in the amount of their unpaid minimum wages, or their unpaid overtime compensation, as the case may be, and in an additional equal amount as liquidated damages. Any employer who violates the provisions of section 215(a)(3) of this title shall be liable for such legal or equitable relief as may be appropriate to effectuate the purposes of section 215(a)(3) of this title, including without limitation employment, reinstatement, promotion, and the payment of wages lost and an additional equal amount as liquidated damages. An action to recover the liability prescribed in either of the preceding sentences may be maintained against any employer (including a public agency) in any Federal or State court of competent jurisdiction by any one or more employees for and in behalf of himself or themselves and other employees similarly situated. No employee shall be a party plaintiff to any such action unless he gives his consent in writing to become such a party and such consent is filed in the court in which such action is brought. The court in such action shall, in addition to any judgment awarded to the plaintiff or plaintiffs, allow a reasonable attorney's fee to be paid by the defendant, and costs of the action. The right provided by this subsection to bring an action by or on behalf of any employee, and the right of any employee to become a party plaintiff to any such action, shall terminate upon the filing of a complaint by the Secretary of Labor in an action under section 217 of this title in which (1) restraint is sought of any further delay in the payment of unpaid minimum wages, or the amount of unpaid overtime compensation, as the case may be, owing to such employee under section 206 or section 207 of this title by an employer liable therefor under the provisions of this subsection or (2) legal or equitable relief is sought as a result of alleged violations of section 215(a)(3) of this title.

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 30 seconds to the gentlewoman from Alabama (Mrs. ROBY).

Mrs. ROBY. Mr. Speaker, I would just like to say in addition: You are saying that it is the same remedies under the current law. But you have to remember, the cash-out provisions are also a strengthening of employees' rights under this bill; that at any time that the employee wishes to cash out, within 30 days, the employer must honor that and provide the accrued overtime and cash wages.

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

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

I would like to point out a couple of things in response to some of what our colleagues have said. This bill is giving workers the freedom to choose. I want to reiterate that.

Our colleagues on the other side of the aisle are always big on giving women, in particular, the right to choose when it comes to abortions. This gives women and men both a right to choose when it comes to their time; and, to me, there is no more commodity more precious to us than our time.

I also want to say that our colleagues have said there are no meaningful rights that they don't already have. Well, Mr. Speaker, if the workers in the private sector already had these rights, we wouldn't be putting this law up for a vote.

Our colleague from Illinois, a few minutes ago, outlined all these wonderful benefits that the public sector employees have, and she is right. The private sector people would love to have the same rights that the public sector people have that are paid for by hard-working taxpayers.

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

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 30 seconds.

I include in the RECORD letters from AFSCME and the National Education Association in opposition to the legislation.

AFSCME,
April 4, 2017.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON WORKFORCE PROTECTIONS OF THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE: On behalf of the 1.6 million members of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), I urge you to oppose H.R. 1180, the Working Families Flexibility Act of 2017. H.R. 1180 claims to help American workers better balance the needs of family and the workplace by allowing employers to offer private-sector employees the choice of paid time off in lieu of cash wages for overtime hours worked. But contrary to its stated purposes, the proposed law will result in more overtime hours for employees for less money and without any guarantee of compensatory time when needed.

For over 80 years and counting, the Federal Labor Standards Act (FLSA) establishes the basic requirements for wage and hour protections including overtime compensation. Under FLSA, overtime compensation must be provided for covered employees working more than the maximum period of 40 hours per week. However, H.R. 1180 provides no guaranteed right for an employee to use banked compensatory time when needed, even in the case of a personal or family emergency. Instead, this legislation gives discretion to the employer to permit use of compensatory time only ''within a reasonable period after making the request if the use of the compensatory time does not unduly disrupt the operations of the employer.''

This legislation calls for an irresponsible change to the FLSA that will negatively impact worker's actual take home pay, and the valued time spent with their family when both are needed for workers' financial stability and to address family obligations. Also, if an employee's request to use comp time is denied because the employer unilaterally decides it is ''unduly disruptive'', the law provides no recourse. And then, even when provided the compensatory time, the use of that time is controlled solely by the employer. In short, employees can be denied overtime pay, and effectively be prevented from meeting their family needs.

Our experience in the public sector has revealed that employers' control over the use of compensatory time inflicts very real hardships on the public employees entitled to compensatory time for their overtime work. Employees request specific dates for valid reasons. Employees need the earned time off for milestones such as children's birthdays, family and friends' weddings, funerals, scheduled vacations and other date-specific activities.

Giving the employer veto power has been burdensome and abused by employers in the public sector and it has been cause for litigation. In theory, employees may take compensatory time within a reasonable period after making the request. In practice, it creates problems for employees denied the time when they need it and the language of the law becomes a false promise.

Balancing the demands of family and the workplace are already a challenge for far too many workers. At a time in our country when our priority should be investing in stable jobs with good wages and benefits, our attention should not be on legislation that would further hurt workers who are already subjected to very little formality with respect to an agreement to take compensatory time off in lieu of overtime pay.

Nothing in the current compensatory time-off application of the FLSA prevents employers from giving leave to employees who work long hours. Neither does the new proposal offer the critical protections workers need in the 21st century. Workers need solutions that actually help them manage work and family responsibilities; not a law that will provide less flexibility to a workforce under the guise of providing more.

H.R. 1180 attacks workers' paychecks, time off and flexibility; and AFSCME strongly opposes this bill.

Sincerely,

SCOTT FREY,
Director of Federal Government Affairs.

NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION,
May 1, 2017.

U.S. CONGRESS,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE: On behalf of the three million members of the National Education Association and the 50 million students they serve, in advance of this week's vote we urge you to vote NO on the Working Families Flexibility Act (H.R. 1180). Votes on this issue may be included in NEA's Report Card for the 115th Congress.

This deceptively named bill would hurt, not help, working families. Instead of extra

pay for overtime, low-wage workers could receive ''comp'' time—paid time off. But the employer, not the employee, would decide when time off is granted. There is no guarantee workers could take time off when they need it most—for example, to care for a sick child, attend a parent-teacher conference, help an aging parent, or other attend to other pressing responsibilities. Employers could defer compensation for unused comp time for up to 13 months, a real hardship for low-wage workers who struggle to make ends meet. Employers could also unilaterally decide to ''cash out'' comp time in excess of 80 hours or discontinue their entire comp time program with just 30 days' notice, leaving employees in the lurch.

In short, in exchange for longer hours at lower pay, workers get the possibility—but no guarantee—of extra time to care for their families or time off when they really need it.

All working people—not just those who spend more than 40 hours a week on the job—need guaranteed access to paid sick days and paid family and medical leave. Too few employers provide these protections now, especially for employees paid by the hour. Again, we urge you to vote NO on the Working Families Flexibility Act and focus instead on truly family-friendly policies that reflect the realities of the 21st century workplace.

Sincerely,

MARC EGAN,
Director of Government Relations.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I want to point out that AFSCME, the NEA, ATU, and other public service unions have written letters in opposition.

One from AFSCME: ''Our experience in the public sector has revealed that employers' control over the use of compensatory time inflicts very real hardships on public employees entitled to compensatory time for their overtime work. Employees request specific dates for valid reasons. Employees need the earned time off for milestones such as children's birthdays, family and friends' weddings. . . .''

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

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself an additional 30 seconds.

''Giving the employer veto power has been burdensome and abused by employers in the public sector and it has been cause for litigation. In theory, employees may take compensatory time within a reasonable period after making the request. In practice, it creates problems for employees denied the time when they need it and the language of the law becomes a false promise.''

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

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

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE).

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I have listened to the debate on the floor, and I want to join my fellow colleagues—women and men of the Democratic Caucus—on opposing the Working Families Flexibility Act of 2017.

I just have one anecdotal story that reflects the constituents that I represent. Take that woman who I saw—when going to my elementary schools, visiting them, I saw a mother who got up at 4 in the morning to take three buses to drop her young child off at an elementary school, and then get two buses back to work, an hourly wage maker. She does it because, one, she is supporting her child and, two, she has got to work.

This bill is a complete undermining of all of the hardworking men and women who need their money to pay a light bill, to pay rent, maybe even a mortgage, to pay the normal expenses that many take for granted. And this bill wants to substitute compensatory time for overtime pay.

So I cannot imagine that anyone with a heart would have this legislation as a substitute for this hardworking mother to be paid overtime. I just can't imagine that compensatory time off cannot pay the light bill, cannot pay rent, cannot pay healthcare costs, which we see are immediately being taken away from 24 million Americans.

So I oppose this legislation because I want to stand on the side of the hardworking mother who needs her resources for a school uniform, a school trip, a rent payment, a light bill.

Mr. Speaker, this bill should be opposed. It does not serve the American people.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time to close.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, how much time do I have remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Virginia has 6½ minutes remaining.

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

I include in the RECORD a letter from the Amalgamated Transit Union against the bill.

AMALGAMATED TRANSIT UNION,
Silver Spring, MD, May 1, 2017.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE: On behalf of the Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU), the largest labor organization representing public transit workers in the United States, I am urging you to oppose the Working Families Flexibility Act of 2017 (H.R. 1180). The title of the legislation is extremely misleading, as the bill actually provides flexibility only to employers—not workers—and hurts working families who are already struggling to make ends meet.

In response to an epidemic of workers plagued by mandatory excessive hours, Congress in 1938 made the wise decision to pass the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA), establishing the 40-hour workweek that we all take for granted today. This landmark legislation, requiring that employers pay a time-and-a-half cash premium for overtime work, serves as the only deterrent from employers demanding excessive hours by making overtime work more expensive for them. H.R. 1180 would remove this barrier.

Forced overtime is already a serious problem in the transit industry, and many of ATU's bargaining units are increasingly in the private sector and thus subject to FLSA rules. If privatized transit operations were provided with the ''flexibility'' to offer workers comp time instead of being paid time-and-a-half for overtime, we would see prolific abuse of overtime. Intercity bus operators are already exempt from FLSA overtime provisions, and as a result, there has recently been one horrific crash after another on U.S. Highways caused by driver fatigue. In fact, according to the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), driver fatigue is responsible for a staggering 36% of fatalities due to intercity bus crashes. If H.R. 1180 is passed, it would lead to widespread fatigue throughout the transit industry as well. Quite simply, more buses will be involved in crashes due to fatigued drivers, and innocent people will die.

Moreover, the so-called flexibility under this bill is one-sided, putting management in total control. Private transit companies, which generally cast safety concerns to the wind and have no regard for anything other than the bottom line, would be able to decide if a requested absence on a particular day would ''unduly disrupt'' business operations and specify an alternative date which is not at all convenient for an employee.

The need to discourage working people to the brink of exhaustion is as necessary today as it was nearly 80 years ago. America needs to maintain the disincentive for employers to force workers to spend more time away from their families. If additional hiring is needed, then workforces should be expanded. In the transportation industry, this is a matter of life and death.

H.R. 1180 is bad for workers, dangerous for transit passengers, and another example of a solution in search of a problem. Please oppose and work to defeat this ill-advised legislation.

Thank you for your consideration of our views.

Sincerely,

LAWRENCE J. HANLEY,
International President.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, under this bill, there are no advantages to the employee. Without this bill, an employee can work overtime, make the money, and then have enough money to afford to be able to take subsequent time off without pay. That is about what this bill does.

But with the bill, it allows the employers to work people overtime and avoid paying the overtime wages. The employer just lets the people take their comp time when work is slow, so the employer never has to pay the overtime.

This bill allows the employer to decide when the comp time can be taken. The employee can request, but the employer has the final word because the bill says that the comp time can be denied if the time off unduly disrupts operations.

And guess who gets to decide that measure?

Those employees who want to work extra time to make extra pay will lose that opportunity to fellow employees who agree to ingratiate themselves to the employer by saving their employer money by accepting comp time instead of overtime pay. There is no coercion. Preference is just given to those who

will accept the comp time and not the real wages.

Mr. Speaker, this bill offers nothing to the employees. It offers the employer the opportunity to avoid paying overtime. That is why all of the representatives of workers oppose the legislation, and I think we should, too.

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

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

We have heard from our colleagues that we are just not doing enough for working people, and we have also heard from our colleagues that all employers are evil people.

I tell you, Mr. Speaker, it is astonishing to me that we have as many people working in this country as we do under all these evil employers. They must have run into just the worst people in the world. I don't ever run into people like that. Everybody I know that has employees is cherishing them because they need them, and they treat them right.

They have often said there are other things that we can do. But, Mr. Speaker, we have this bill in front of us, and it gives workers something that our colleagues cannot give them: the freedom to choose and to have more time.

Edward Everett Hale said: ''I am only one; but still I am one. I cannot do everything; but still I can do something; and because I cannot do everything, I will not refuse to do the something that I can do.''

That is what this bill does. Congresswoman ROBY has introduced a bill—and many people have signed on—that will do one thing for people in the private sector. It will give them the same rights that people in the public sector have, to turn overtime into comp time.

It is a pro-worker, pro-family proposal that will make a positive difference in the lives of many Americans. The Federal Government shouldn't stand in the way of more flexibility in the workplace.

Today we have a chance to empower single parents, moms and dads with a newborn, students trying to earn a college diploma, and so many other individuals who simply need more time to meet their needs.

□ 1645

We have heard a lot of excuses from Democrats today. It is the same story we have heard for years in an effort to deny workers the freedom to do what is best for them based on their own values. However, the concerns we heard have been addressed. This bill provides very strong worker protections to ensure the decision to choose comp time is voluntary. It gives workers a choice and puts them in control of their time.

Let's vote in favor of freedom and flexibility for American workers today. Let's give private sector employees the same choice that government workers have. Let's establish fairness in our Nation's workforce policies.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to help more Americans balance the demands of work and family by supporting the Working Families Flexibility Act.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. SÁNCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition H.R. 1180, a bill that would rob workers of pay they've earned.

This proposal guts overtime protections and forces working men and women to make the false choice between time with their loved ones and a fair wage. Instead of offering ''flexibility'' to working families, employers should be following the letter of the law and pay workers fairly for the hours they work. Employers shouldn't be able to put their workers' well-being at risk under the guise of giving workers a choice.

If Republicans truly wanted to help working families, they would guarantee paid sick days and paid family leave instead of offering the ''flexibility'' for employers to choose how workers live their lives. This bill is a bait and switch that amounts to nothing more than another attack on worker's rights. I strongly oppose this bill and urge my colleagues to vote no.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, nearly ten years ago Senator Ted Kennedy and I introduced a bill called the Working Families Flexibility Act.

The bill before us today has the same name and its supporters may try to claim it fixes the same problems we were trying to fix, but, Mr. Speaker this is not Senator Kennedy's bill and in fact it bears little resemblance to the bill he and I worked on and that Sen. BOB CASEY and I have reintroduced this week.

Let me be clear, the bill before us today creates zero new rights for workers. Zero.

In fact, under this bill working families would have even less flexibility than they do now to care for a child or sick family member.

This GOP bill allows employers to withhold desperately needed overtime pay for months at a time.

It lets bosses hold back overtime earnings, and only pay them out when employees request the money they have earned.

And even if employees do ask, which is ridiculous since it is money that they earned and should not have to ask their bosses if they can get paid for work they already did—bosses are given a month to write that overtime check.

And if it wasn't clear enough that this bill is not about helping working families, this bill puts all decisions about when employees can use flex time in the hands of their bosses.

Want to take an extra week off in the summer when kids are out of school? Too bad, that doesn't fit with your boss' plans.

Even if you work hard for six months to build up that extra comp time, your employer can still deny that request.

We should be ashamed that the U.S. stands out in the world as a country that requires the least family-friendly benefits for workers. How can we call ourselves a country dedicated to family values when we don't support working families?

The real value of the minimum wage has severely eroded, and the new administration has blocked a badly needed update to our overtime protections.

We have no mandated paid parental leave. No paid sick days. No fair, predictable scheduling. No flexible work arrangements.

And American families are paying dearly for our inaction.

So let's not call this bill the Working Families Flexibility Act.

That's an insult to millions of working families across the country and it's an insult to the late-Senator Ted Kennedy who did so much for the working families of this Nation.

I urge my colleagues to oppose.

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to H.R. 1180, the Working Families Flexibility Act of 2017. This misguided legislation would undermine nearly 80 years of federal employment law guaranteeing overtime pay to employees who work more than 40 hours in a week at a given job.

Income inequality in America has increased dramatically over the last four decades while the middle class continues to shrink. The average income for the top 0.01 percent of households grew 322 percent between 1980 and 2015, compared to a 0.03 percent increase for the remaining 90 percent of households over the same period of time. Rising household expenses like childcare, healthcare, housing, and education have made it even more difficult for families to climb the rungs of the economic ladder, while approximately 47 million Americans continue to live below the federal poverty line, including over 15 million children.

Congress should focus on policies and legislation that help middle- and low-income households achieve economic mobility. Instead, H.R. 1180 would short-change hourly workers by allowing private sector employers to offer compensatory time off in place of overtime pay. By weakening existing requirements for overtime pay, employers can choose to offer overtime hours to employees who agree to receive compensatory time, while nothing in the bill guarantees that employees will be able to use their compensatory time when they wish to. Although employers are required to pay employees for any unused compensatory time, they have up to thirteen months to do so, and there are no protections for workers if the employer declares bankruptcy or permanently closes its doors.

At a time when the American Dream has become more difficult to attain, it is more critical than ever for Congress to take action that will make it easier for working parents to meet their responsibilities both at home and at work. These policies include increasing the federal minimum wage; providing households with paid sick and family leave; and ensuring workers are guaranteed stable and predictable work schedules.

I urge my colleagues to vote 'No' on H.R. 1180, the Working Families Flexibility Act of 2017.

Ms. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition of the Working Families Flexibility Act, H.R. 1180.

Mr. Speaker, the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) already allows employers to let their employees earn paid time off.

That is why the bill passed by the House earlier this week, the Working Families Flexibility Act, H.R. 1180, would hurt working families by giving workers less time off, less flexibility and less pay.

Many workers frequently rely on their overtime earnings to make ends meet to help put food on the table, keep a roof over their families' heads, and pay bills.

Instead of paying workers for their overtime work, H.R. 1180 would permit employers to replace employees' overtime pay with vague promises that employees may be able to take comp time off at some unknown point in the future.

But the employer, not the employee, would decide when that time off is granted.

This bill provides no guarantees that workers could take their earned time off when they need it.

Employers could also unilaterally decide to "cash out" comp time in excess of 80 hours or discontinue their entire comp time program with just 30 days' notice.

This means that an employee's carefully crafted plan to bank time for a child's birth or a spouse's surgery could be thwarted by an employer's decision to cash out the employee's time or end the program all together.

Mr. Speaker, this bill is a bad deal for working families. It would strip employees of rights that the FLSA has provided for nearly 75 years.

If Republicans truly care about working families, they would support and help pass the Family and Medical Insurance Leave Act (FAMILY Act), H.R. 947, which would create a national paid leave insurance program modeled after the successful programs in California, New Jersey, and Rhode Island.

If Republicans truly care about working families, they would support and help pass legislation like Schedules That Work Act introduced by Congresswoman ROSA DELAURO in the 114th Congress.

The Schedules That Work Act would give workers more control over their schedules and incentivize predictability and stability in shifts and work hours.

If Republicans truly care about working families, they would support and help pass the soon to be introduced Raise the Wage Act sponsored by Congressman BOBBY SCOTT.

The Raise the Wage Act increases minimum wage, including the elimination of subminimum "tipped" wage, which would lift 37.7 millions workers out of poverty.

People should not have to work more than 40 hours in a week and forgo pay to earn time to care for themselves or their loved ones.

I join my Democratic colleagues in fighting to protect attacks on pay and benefits for working class families instead, and will vote no on H.R. 1180.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time for debate has expired.

Pursuant to House Resolution 299, the previous question is ordered on the bill, as amended.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

MOTION TO RECOMMIT

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I have a motion to recommit at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is the gentleman opposed to the bill?

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Yes, I am opposed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion to recommit.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. Scott of Virginia moves to recommit the bill H.R. 1180 to the Committee on Education and the Workforce with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith, with the following amendment:

At the end of the bill, add the following new section:

SEC. 7. MINIMUM SICK DAYS.

This Act and the amendments made by this Act shall not apply to any employee who does not receive from his or her employer fewer than seven paid sick days, which days may be used to seek medical care for a pre-existing health condition.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Virginia is recognized for 5 minutes in support of his motion.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, this is the final amendment to the bill, which will not kill the bill nor send it back to committee. If adopted, the bill will immediately proceed to final passage, as amended.

Mr. Speaker, the underlying bill would undermine workers' access to overtime pay and provide them with no real benefit in return, and that is why all of the groups representing workers oppose it. So, instead of undermining employment protections that boost wages for working Americans such as overtime pay, we should work towards ensuring that American workers can remain healthy while on the job.

Critical to that goal is guaranteeing true workplace flexibility by ensuring that workers do not have to choose between their health and their paycheck. So, if the majority is truly concerned about American workers, then the majority should work with us to provide workers the paid time off they need to care for themselves and their families. They could easily do that by supporting the Healthy Families Act, which would give workers the right to earn up to 7 paid sick days.

This motion to recommit would protect workers by ensuring that only employees who are subjected to this comp time arrangement would be those who have at least 7 paid sick days. Providing paid sick days is not only good for working families, it is also good for business, public health, and our overall economy. Providing paid sick days decreases employee turnover and prevents illness from being spread throughout the workplace.

If we are truly concerned about workers, we should not ask them to spend more time away from their families and forfeit their overtime pay in order to take the time off when they are sick or when they need to care for a sick child.

Mr. Speaker, while we are considering this bill, we are also considering healthcare legislation that Republicans are trying to pass which would rob American families of protection under the Affordable Care Act that requires coverage for preexisting conditions.

We know that President Trump has promised to repeal the ACA on day one, and Republicans have spent 7 years complaining about the law and voting time after time to repeal all or parts of the law, but they have never developed a comprehensive proposal to actually deliver on their promises of better care at lower costs.

If we are going to make changes to the Affordable Care Act, we should improve health care for working families, not make it worse. Incredibly, every proposal the Republicans have come up with actually makes things worse.

Under the recent Republican plan, 24 million fewer people would be covered, and everybody else will pay more and get less. While their plan inflicts pain on those most in need, the wealthiest 2 percent of Americans get massive tax cuts.

Under that plan, the typical working family would suffer an increase in healthcare coverage costs of about $2,000 a year, for the average family with a head of household age 55 to 64, the bill would increase costs by over $7,000.

Recent changes in the Republican health plan would unravel many of the protections that American families currently enjoy in their healthcare coverage, including ending current protections for people with preexisting conditions. The Republican health plan would return us to the days when health insurance coverage was unaffordable for many individuals with preexisting conditions. That bill directly violates the commitment made by President Trump and House Republicans to protect individuals with preexisting conditions.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to drop their attempts to take away quality health insurance coverage for those with preexisting conditions. Instead, we should adopt this motion which takes a small step in ensuring that workers can access paid sick leave that allows them to remain healthy, including accessing medical treatment needed to treat or address preexisting conditions.

Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the motion, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I claim the time in opposition to the motion to recommit.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from North Carolina is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I oppose the motion to recommit.

For years, so-called Progressives have clung to outdated Federal workforce policies from the 1930s. Why? They think government knows what is

best for hardworking men and women in this country. This is a theme they abide by day after day.

This motion is just another attempt to deny workers the freedom to decide what is best for them and their families. Once again, Democrats are defending a double standard—yes, a double standard. They voted to give government workers a choice on comp time. Why shouldn't those in the private sector, those whose taxpayer dollars pay the salaries of government employees, receive the same choice?

It is time to eliminate this double standard. It is time to modernize our Nation's labor rules to meet the needs of the 21st century workforce. It is time for greater freedom, flexibility, and fairness for American workers.

I urge my colleagues to vote ''no'' on the motion to recommit and ''yes'' on the Working Families Flexibility Act.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the previous question is ordered on the motion to recommit.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to recommit.

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

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 and clause 9 of rule XX, this 15-minute vote on the motion to recommit will be followed by 5-minute votes on passage of the bill, if ordered; and agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal, if ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 192, nays 234, not voting 4, as follows:

[Roll No. 243]

YEAS—192

Adams
Aguilar
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Blum
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady (PA)
Brown (MD)
Brownley (CA)
Bustos
Butterfield
Capuano
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson (IN)
Cartwright
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Conyers
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Crist
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Demings
DeSaulnier
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle, Michael F.
Ellison
Engel
Eshoo
Espaillat
Esty (CT)
Evans
Foster
Frankel (FL)
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
Gonzalez (TX)
Gottheimer
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutiérrez
Hanabusa
Hastings
Heck
Higgins (NY)
Himes
Hoyer
Huffman
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kihuen
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lieu, Ted
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lujan Grisham, M.
Luján, Ben Ray
Lynch
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Matsui
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McNerney
Meeks
Moore
Moulton
Murphy (FL)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Nolan
Norcross
O'Halleran
O'Rourke
Pallone
Panetta
Pascrell
Payne
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters
Peterson
Pingree
Pocan
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Rice (NY)
Richmond
Rosen
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Sinema
Sires
Smith (WA)
Soto
Speier
Suozzi
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tonko
Torres
Tsongas
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters, Maxine
Watson Coleman
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Yarmuth

NAYS—234

Abraham
Aderholt
Allen
Amash
Amodei
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Banks (IN)
Barletta
Barr
Barton
Bergman
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (MI)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Bost
Brady (TX)
Brat
Bridenstine
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burgess
Byrne
Calvert
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Chabot
Cheney
Coffman
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Comer
Comstock
Conaway
Cook
Costello (PA)
Cramer
Crawford
Culberson
Curbelo (FL)
Davidson
Davis, Rodney
Denham
Dent
DeSantis
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Donovan
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Dunn
Emmer
Estes (KS)
Farenthold
Faso
Ferguson
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flores
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gaetz
Gallagher
Garrett
Gibbs
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Griffith
Grothman
Guthrie
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Hice, Jody B.
Higgins (LA)
Hill
Holding
Hollingsworth
Hudson
Huizenga
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurd
Issa
Jenkins (KS)
Jenkins (WV)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Katko
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kinzinger
Knight
Kustoff (TN)
Labrador
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Latta
Lewis (MN)
LoBiondo
Long
Loudermilk
Love
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
MacArthur
Marchant
Marino
Marshall
Massie
Mast
McCarthy
McCaul
McClintock
McHenry
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McSally
Meadows
Meehan
Messer
Mitchell
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Mullin
Murphy (PA)
Newhouse
Noem
Nunes
Olson
Palazzo
Palmer
Paulsen
Pearce
Perry
Pittenger
Poe (TX)
Poliquin
Posey
Ratcliffe
Reichert
Renacci
Rice (SC)
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney, Francis
Rooney, Thomas J.
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Rouzer
Royce (CA)
Russell
Rutherford
Sanford
Scalise
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smucker
Stefanik
Stewart
Stivers
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Trott
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walker
Walorski
Walters, Mimi
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IA)
Zeldin

NOT VOTING—4

Chaffetz
Meng
Reed
Slaughter

□ 1717

Messrs. WEBSTER of Florida, EMMER, MEEHAN, AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, WESTERMAN, OLSON, RUSSELL, SAM JOHNSON of Texas, Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana, Mr. PALAZZO, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Messrs. DENHAM, FORTENBERRY, and KATKO changed their vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

Messrs. DOGGETT, NEAL, and RUPPERSBERGER changed their vote from ''nay'' to ''yea.''

So the motion to recommit was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia). The question is on the passage of the bill.

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

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

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

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 229, noes 197, not voting 4, as follows:

[Roll No. 244]

AYES—229

Abraham
Aderholt
Allen
Amash
Amodei
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Banks (IN)
Barletta
Barr
Barton
Bergman
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (MI)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Blum
Bost
Brady (TX)
Brat
Bridenstine
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burgess
Byrne
Calvert
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Chabot
Cheney
Coffman
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Comer
Comstock
Conaway
Cook
Costello (PA)
Cramer
Crawford
Culberson
Curbelo (FL)
Davidson
Davis, Rodney
Denham
Dent
DeSantis
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Donovan
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Dunn
Emmer
Estes (KS)
Farenthold
Faso
Ferguson
Fleischmann
Flores
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gaetz
Gallagher
Garrett
Gibbs
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy

Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Griffith
Grothman
Guthrie
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Hice, Jody B.
Higgins (LA)
Hill
Holding
Hollingsworth
Hudson
Huizenga
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurd
Issa
Jenkins (KS)
Jenkins (WV)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
Katko
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kinzinger
Knight
Kustoff (TN)
Labrador
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Latta
Lewis (MN)
Long
Loudermilk
Love
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Marchant
Marino
Marshall
Massie
Mast
McCarthy
McCaul
McClintock
McHenry
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McSally
Meadows
Messer
Mitchell
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Mullin
Murphy (PA)
Newhouse
Noem
Nunes
Olson
Palazzo
Palmer
Paulsen
Pearce
Perry
Pittenger
Poe (TX)
Poliquin
Posey
Ratcliffe
Reichert
Renacci
Rice (SC)
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney, Francis
Rooney, Thomas J.
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Rouzer
Royce (CA)
Russell
Rutherford
Sanford
Scalise
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (TX)
Smucker
Stefanik
Stewart
Stivers
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Trott
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walker
Walorski
Walters, Mimi
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IA)
Zeldin

NOES—197

Adams
Aguilar
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady (PA)
Brown (MD)
Brownley (CA)
Bustos
Butterfield
Capuano
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson (IN)
Cartwright
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Conyers
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Crist
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Demings
DeSaulnier
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle, Michael F.
Ellison
Engel
Eshoo
Espaillat
Esty (CT)
Evans
Fitzpatrick
Foster
Frankel (FL)
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
Gonzalez (TX)
Gottheimer
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutiérrez
Hanabusa
Hastings
Heck
Higgins (NY)
Himes
Hoyer
Huffman
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Joyce (OH)
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kihuen
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lieu, Ted
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lujan Grisham, M.
Luján, Ben Ray
Lynch
MacArthur
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Matsui
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McNerney
Meehan
Meeks
Moore
Moulton
Murphy (FL)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Nolan
Norcross
O'Halleran
O'Rourke
Pallone
Panetta
Pascrell
Payne
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters
Peterson
Pingree
Pocan
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Rice (NY)
Richmond
Rosen
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Sinema
Sires
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Soto
Speier
Suozzi
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tonko
Torres
Tsongas
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters, Maxine
Watson Coleman
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Yarmuth

NOT VOTING—4

Chaffetz
Meng
Reed
Slaughter

□ 1725

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York changed her vote from ''aye'' to ''no.''

Mr. TURNER changed his vote from ''no'' to ''aye.''

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal, which the Chair will put de novo.

The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

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

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

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

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 237, noes 176, answered ''present'' 3, not voting 14, as follows:

[Roll No. 245]

AYES—237

Abraham
Adams
Aderholt
Allen
Amodei
Arrington
Bacon
Banks (IN)
Barletta
Barr
Barton
Beatty
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Brady (TX)
Bridenstine
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Brown (MD)
Buchanan
Bustos
Butterfield
Byrne
Calvert
Carson (IN)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Castro (TX)
Chabot
Cheney
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clay
Cleaver
Cole
Collins (NY)
Comstock
Cook
Cooper
Correa
Courtney
Cramer
Crawford
Cuellar
Culberson
Davidson
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Demings
Dent
DesJarlais
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Donovan
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Dunn
Ellison
Emmer
Engel
Eshoo
Espaillat
Estes (KS)
Esty (CT)
Evans
Fleischmann
Fortenberry
Foster
Frankel (FL)
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
Garrett
Goodlatte
Gowdy
Granger
Green, Al
Griffith
Grothman
Guthrie
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings
Heck
Hensarling
Higgins (LA)
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes
Hollingsworth
Huffman
Hultgren
Hunter
Issa
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Kaptur
Katko
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy
Kildee
King (IA)
King (NY)
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
Kustoff (TN)
Labrador
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Larson (CT)
Latta
Lewis (MN)
Lipinski
Long
Loudermilk
Love
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lujan Grisham, M.
Luján, Ben Ray
Marchant
Marino
Marshall
Massie
McCarthy
McCaul
McClintock
McCollum
McEachin
McHenry
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
Meadows
Meeks
Messer
Mitchell
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Moore
Moulton
Mullin
Murphy (FL)
Nadler
Napolitano
Newhouse
Nunes
O'Rourke
Olson
Palazzo
Palmer
Pascrell
Pingree
Pocan
Polis
Posey
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Renacci
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (KY)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney, Francis
Rooney, Thomas J.
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Royce (CA)
Ruppersberger
Russell
Rutherford
Scalise
Schneider
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sinema
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Speier
Stefanik
Stewart
Suozzi
Takano
Taylor
Thornberry
Tiberi
Titus
Trott
Tsongas
Wagner
Walters, Mimi
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters, Maxine
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yarmuth
Young (IA)
Zeldin

NOES—176

Aguilar
Amash
Babin
Barragán
Bass
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (MI)
Blum
Bost
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady (PA)
Brownley (CA)
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burgess
Capuano
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carter (GA)
Castor (FL)
Clarke (NY)
Clyburn
Coffman
Cohen
Collins (GA)
Comer
Conaway
Connolly
Conyers
Costa
Costello (PA)
Crist
Crowley
Cummings
Curbelo (FL)
Davis, Rodney
DeFazio
Delaney
Denham
DeSantis
DeSaulnier
Diaz-Balart
Doyle, Michael F.
Duffy
Farenthold
Faso
Fitzpatrick
Flores
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Fudge
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gibbs
Gonzalez (TX)
Gosar
Gottheimer
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Gene
Gutiérrez
Hanabusa
Herrera Beutler
Hice, Jody B.
Holding
Hoyer
Hudson
Huizenga
Hurd
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Jeffries
Jenkins (KS)
Jenkins (WV)
Johnson (OH)
Jones
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Keating
Khanna
Kihuen
Kilmer
Kind

Kinzinger	Paulsen	Smith (MO)
Knight	Payne	Soto
LaHood	Pearce	Stivers
Lance	Pelosi	Swalwell (CA)
Langevin	Perry	Tenney
Lawrence	Peters	Thompson (CA)
Lawson (FL)	Peterson	Thompson (MS)
Lee	Pittenger	Thompson (PA)
Levin	Poe (TX)	Torres
Lewis (GA)	Poliquin	Turner
Lieu, Ted	Ratcliffe	Upton
LoBiondo	Reichert	Valadao
Loebsack	Rice (NY)	Vargas
Lofgren	Richmond	Veasey
Lynch	Rogers (AL)	Vela
MacArthur	Ros-Lehtinen	Velázquez
Maloney, Sean	Rosen	Visclosky
Mast	Rouzer	Walberg
Matsui	Roybal-Allard	Walden
McGovern	Ruiz	Walker
McKinley	Rush	Walorski
McSally	Ryan (OH)	Watson Coleman
Meehan	Sánchez	Weber (TX)
Murphy (PA)	Sanford	Wilson (FL)
Neal	Sarbanes	Woodall
Noem	Schakowsky	Yoder
Nolan	Schiff	Yoho
Norcross	Schrader	Young (AK)
O'Halleran	Sewell (AL)	
Pallone	Sires	

ANSWERED ''PRESENT''—3

Grijalva	Rice (SC)	Tonko

NOT VOTING—14

Brat	Kelly (IL)	Panetta
Chaffetz	Larsen (WA)	Perlmutter
Ferguson	Maloney, Carolyn B.	Reed
Frelinghuysen	Meng	Slaughter
Gohmert		Tipton

□ 1734

So the Journal was approved.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and missed rollcall vote Nos. 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, and 245. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on votes 242 and 243. I would have voted "nay" on votes 240, 241, 244 and 245.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF SENATE AMENDMENTS TO H.R. 244, HONORING INVESTMENTS IN RECRUITING AND EMPLOYING AMERICAN MILITARY VETERANS ACT OF 2017

Mr. COLE, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 115–108) on the resolution (H. Res. 305) providing for consideration of the Senate amendments to the bill (H.R. 244) to encourage effective, voluntary investments to recruit, employ, and retain men and women who have served in the United States military with annual Federal awards to employers recognizing such efforts, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

POLL SHOWS MEDIA IS NOT MAINSTREAM

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

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the national media's continued crusade against President Trump further demonstrates that they are not mainstream.

A Morning Consult poll found that a majority of Americans believe the media is ''out of touch with everyday Americans.'' Most significantly, 37 percent said they trusted President Trump to tell the truth, while only 29 percent said the media is truthful.

The media's open hostility to the President continues to erode his credibility. A poll by the University of Virginia Center for Politics found that 88 percent of Trump voters agree with him that the media ''is the enemy of the American people.''

Let's hope the media will put aside their bias and give the President fair and objective coverage. It may be the only way for the media to rebuild their credibility.

AMERICA'S WORKERS NEED JOBS AND A RENEGOTIATED NAFTA

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, President Trump claims to have brought profound change in his first 100 days in office, but thus far, on jobs, our trade deficit continues to rise.

Rather than fulfill his promise to directly renegotiate NAFTA, the President signed another ''dodge 'em'' executive order asking for a 6-month delay by reviewing all U.S. trade agreements. That could take forever. His NAFTA backtrack presents a serious problem for Americans who continue to lose their jobs to NAFTA's broken promises.

None will be more impacted than Americans working in the automotive sector. Last year, our country's automotive trade gap with Mexico was deep in the red again. As a result, our country imported 800,000 more cars from Mexico than we exported.

This is what it looked like back in 1993. This is what it looks like today. Is it any wonder that Americans are concerned about jobs?

In agricultural trade among NAFTA partners, 2 million small-scale Mexican farmers were thrown off their farms and out of work. This fueled the immigration crisis and subwage workers across our continent as poverty continued—no different than 1993.

America's workers don't need any more studies or delays. We need jobs and a renegotiated NAFTA now.

CELEBRATING ISRAEL'S 69TH ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE

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

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate our ally Israel on its 69th anniversary of independence.

For nearly seven decades, Israel has become a beacon of promise and success amid continued challenges. Since the declaration of the State of Israel back in 1948, they have consistently shown the power of democracy and strength in a volatile part of the world. The people of Israel have also proven themselves to be loyal allies to the United States during tumultuous times, serving as a constant reaffirmation of our unbreakable bond.

Their resolve cannot be understated, either. Israel consistently keeps its citizens safe, despite security threats on a daily basis. The fact that Israel continues to flourish amid constant efforts to terrorize and daunt them is a signal of the nation's strength.

So today we join those in Israel, as well as others around the world, in celebration.

Mr. Speaker, let us continue to protect and preserve the unending and unwavering friendship and relationship between America and Israel.

WE NEED TO IMPROVE OUR HEALTHCARE SYSTEM, NOT TEAR IT DOWN

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

Mr. CÁRDENAS. Mr. Speaker, the Lord works in mysterious ways.

Any person today can go online and look at the speech that Jimmy Kimmel made live on television. He talks about his newborn little boy. He talks about how, within a few minutes, they had to whisk him over to another hospital to give him an emergency operation on his heart. He was very emotional.

But he didn't just talk about him and his wife and his little daughter and his newborn son. He talked about how no person, no family, or no child should ever have to be denied that opportunity for that lifesaving operation, especially right here in the United States of America.

Mr. Speaker, the Lord works in mysterious ways because this is the perfect time for every American to go online and look at the Jimmy Kimmel speech. It is not politics, ladies and gentlemen, it is love. It is respect not only for his little boy, but for this great country and how we can be greater. That is why we need to improve our healthcare system, not tear it down.

NATIONAL CHARTER SCHOOLS WEEK

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

Mr. BIGGS. Mr. Speaker, this week is National Charter Schools Week, and I rise to recognize Arizona's leadership amongst the charter school community.

Over this past school year, a record number of students attended 547 charter schools in Arizona; and last week, a new survey found that five of the country's top seven high schools were Arizona charter schools, including one from my own district, Arizona's Fifth Congressional District. I am extremely proud of our charter schools.

Arizona charter schools are thriving because of two decades of tireless work from advocates to give thousands of students more educational choices and opportunities to succeed. These leaders have fostered a culture that balances autonomy and accountability to prepare their students for higher education and the workforce.

As the rankings prove, Arizona's policies are drastically improving student achievement and should be emulated by the rest of the Nation.

SMALL BUSINESS WEEK

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

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today during Small Business Week in recognition of the entrepreneurs and small-business owners that form the foundation of our American economy.

More than half of all working Americans either own or are employed by small businesses.

In Congress, our job is to promote an environment where small businesses grow and succeed and communities and working families can prosper. To do that, we need to educate our kids to close the skills gap too many businesses face in trying to find the talent they need to grow their companies.

We need to reimagine and renew our crumbling infrastructure for the 21st century economy. We can help small businesses invent things here, make things here, and ship them around the world.

We need to reform our immigration system to reduce the complexity employers face when trying to legally hire talented, industrious people.

I urge my colleagues to consider this week, Small Business Week, what we can do together to support American small businesses—the greatest job creation engines of our economy.

□ 1745

CELEBRATING SMALL BUSINESS WEEK

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

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, there is no doubt that small businesses drive the American economy. Across the United States, small businesses create about two out of every three new jobs.

Since 1963, every President has designated this week National Small Business Week to celebrate these economic engines and encourage policies that allow them to thrive. When our local small businesses succeed, they create opportunity, invigorate communities, and preserve the district character of our local economy. That is why I have committed to visit 100 small businesses across my district this year and every year, to better appreciate the needs of local small businesses and help them create good-paying jobs in our community.

During my visits, I have heard common themes: a Tax Code that is too complex, burdensome one-size-fits-all regulations from Washington, and lawmakers too focused on partisan bickering rather than on working together to grow our economy.

As we turn our attention to small businesses this week, let's put these concerns at the forefront and get to work on solutions.

OPPOSE REPUBLICAN HEALTHCARE BILL

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

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, tonight I rise to speak in opposition to the Republican healthcare bill that is once again under consideration in this House.

Mr. Speaker, it feels like Groundhog Day all over again. The bill is back, and rather than coming to the table to discuss ways we can all work together to improve health care for every American, Republicans are again trying to jam through a misguided bill that would threaten the health care of thousands of Granite Staters and literally millions of Americans.

Just a few weeks ago, I joined with my colleagues to highlight a particularly egregious provision of this bill that would jeopardize access to health care for 7 million veterans. Weeks later, these provisions remain in the bill, and this is unacceptable. We had the time, and the Republicans failed to fix this.

It is wrong for America, and it is wrong for millions of veterans. I urge Members to oppose the bill.

AMERICAN HEALTH CARE ACT IS BETTER FOR AMERICANS

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

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about the good things that are going to happen on Thursday if we bring the House Republican plan to the floor.

For the first time in 6 years, we are actually going to lower premiums for Americans. We are actually going to take the problems with the ObamaCare bill, the failures of the ObamaCare bill, and correct them.

You just heard, for instance, about Jimmy Kimmel. I guess the comedian published a YouTube video. I suggest you watch the YouTube video and then just google about newborn coverage.

Mr. Speaker, we have the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act—it has been on the books for decades—that covers newborns. This is not an issue. We are a compassionate nation, Mr. Speaker. You and I were both physicians. We understand that we have to take care of Americans.

The American Health Care Act that is forthcoming from the Republicans does exactly that. It not only covers people with preexisting conditions, it adds two layers of protection for them.

So, Mr. Speaker, I urge all Americans look at it and just see how much better their health care will be and how much more affordable it will be after we pass the American Health Care Act.

PASS A HEALTHCARE BILL THAT WORKS FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

(Ms. GABBARD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. GABBARD. Mr. Speaker, I recently wrapped up a townhall tour across my district in Hawaii, visiting every single island. A common theme that I heard from folks was one of concern and questions about this Republican healthcare bill that we may be voting on later this week.

They are worried about their aging parents not being able to pay for their premiums and prescriptions and that newly added provisions that threaten those with preexisting conditions with skyrocketing costs will have such a devastating impact.

Every time we hear about the new versions and new changes to this bill, it gets worse than the one before. Among a host of new problems, the latest version strips away protections on healthcare benefits like maternity care, substance abuse, mental health services, while also expanding an already-crippling age tax against our seniors, against our kupuna.

No matter how you package it, this bill is a handout to insurance and pharmaceutical corporations while breaking the bank for those most in need of care. I urge my colleagues to stand in strong opposition to this bill and, instead, pass a healthcare bill that works for the American people.

RAISING AWARENESS OF MARINES UNITED OFFENSIVE FACEBOOK PAGE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MARSHALL). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2017, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. FRANKEL) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the topic of my Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, the women of the Democratic Women's Working Group are here today with other Members that we have invited to raise awareness about the offensive Marines United Facebook page and others like it.

On these pages, male marines posted nude or intimate photos of female servicemembers and veterans without their consent. This affected hundreds of women, with an audience of an estimated 30,000 marines with access to the Facebook page.

The Democratic women recently held a hearing on this alarming situation which, incidentally, began less than a month after the first Marine infantry unit was assigned women, and that was January 5.

At our hearing, we heard testimony from advocates for servicemembers, a former marine, and a journalist who covered this issue extensively, and most importantly, we heard from Erika Butner and Marisa Woytek, two brave, resilient marines.

Marisa is a current lance corporal. She proudly followed in her father's footsteps, and she joined the Marines because, as she stated, she wanted to be part of something bigger than herself.

Erika enlisted in the Marines for many of the same reasons in 2011, fully aware that she could be deployed to a combat zone. A lifelong patriot, she was ready, and willing to take that chance. But in her own words—little did she know that the ''war she would fight would be among her very own brothers in arms.''

At our hearing, the women described harassment and exploitation at the hands of their Marine brothers, and, quite frankly, it made us feel sick to our stomachs.

Their male counterparts put up Erika's and Marisa's photographs and made lewd and derogatory comments—asking other men to vote on whether they would ''smash or pass'' on these women, meaning would they have sexual relations with them.

The women were threatened with rape and violence, with Facebook posts like: ''We should throw marines into a tub of acid and rip-off their eyelashes.''

Sadly and shockingly, Marisa and Erika were not alone. Thousands and thousands of photos of women were shared on these Facebook pages.

I want to say to Marisa and Erika and all of these women: We share your anger and your hurt, and we are so grateful to you for coming forward with your stories.

I am a mother of a United States Marine veteran who served in both Afghanistan and Iraq—a proud mother—and I understand the selfless sacrifice a marine makes when he or she puts on their uniform. So I am outraged, as are my colleagues whom you will hear from today, that so many brave marines were subjected to this kind of harassment and exploitation while willing to sacrifice for our country. It is not only personally degrading to courageous patriots, it hurts the effectiveness of our military and the ability to recruit women.

So today's Special Order is another opportunity to amplify the voices of Marisa and Erika and to send a message that we stand with them and we will fight for their honor.

I want to thank Congresswoman JACKIE SPEIER and Congresswoman MARTHA MCSALLY, who I hope will be here with us today. They are actually, very sadly, at another hearing where the topic is sexual harassment in our military academies.

After our hearing, they went on and they introduced a bill to make it illegal for military members to share photos without consent. This is a bipartisan effort. I am proud to be a cosponsor, as are many of my colleagues, again, whom you will hear from in a few minutes; and we owe it to Erika and Marisa and all of the other women that have been subjected to this abuse to pass this legislation and to work together to change the culture of disrespect that allowed it to happen.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE), a great leader in this Congress, a member of our Appropriations and Budget Committees and Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies.

Representative LEE, we are pleased that you are with us tonight.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, let me thank Congresswoman FRANKEL for being such an exemplary chair, and also our vice chair, BRENDA LAWRENCE. You have put together quite a team and really are raising the issues that really don't get raised oftentimes on behalf of our women.

Also, to Congresswoman JACKIE SPEIER, who I believe is in a hearing right now dealing with this very, very important issue, I want to thank her and all of our women in the Democratic Women's Working Group for organizing this very important Special Order to address the nonconsensual sharing of sexual images in the United States military.

I just have to say a couple of things.

First of all, as a member of the Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Subcommittee and as a woman, I am appalled by the sharing of these private photos. It is really disgraceful. It is disgraceful that our military continues to uphold a culture of sexual harassment and disrespect toward women servicemembers.

Now, let me be clear. The attitudes towards women exposed by websites like the Facebook group Marines United are troubling and dangerous. Not only do such actions threaten our mission, they strip our brave servicemembers who are women of their dignity. No woman should have her private photos exposed on the internet, especially not by her fellow servicemembers.

I was pleased to see the recent Navy and Marine Corps decisions to make the distribution of intimate photos a criminal offense. That is a good thing. We really must do more.

Now, when questioning members of the Army, Air Force, Navy, and Marines at a subcommittee hearing, it became clear to me, based on their responses, that the culture of the military must change.

Members of the Democratic Women's Working Group continue to try to help change this culture and are committed to ensuring that that type of activity is prohibited in all branches of our military. That is why I am pleased to cosponsor Congresswomen SPEIER'S and MCSALLY'S bill, H.R. 2052, the PRIVATE Act, which is a bipartisan bill that would make it illegal within the Uniform Code of Military Justice to distribute intimate images of a person if that person had a reasonable expectation of privacy.

Now, let me be clear. The Department of Defense must expand its efforts to foster a culture of dignity and respect that the military service demands. And, Congresswoman FRANKEL, I just have to mention a conversation I overheard.

I was on a plane flying from point A to point B, and there were two marines sitting next to me, and they were talking very loudly to each other.

□ 1800

That entire time that we were on the flight, their conversation was about degrading women who were serving with them in the military. It was quite shocking. This was just their conversation in the normal course of conversation on an airplane. I was, quite frankly, shocked and disgusted.

Today's report from the Pentagon shows promising progress, though. Sexual assaults are on the decline, and servicemembers are now more likely to report attacks. But the data also reveals that two-thirds of women who do

report assaults face backlash in their unit. It comes as no surprise, then, that many victims choose to suffer in silence. That should not be.

We know that tech firms like Facebook have a role to play in helping address this kind of unacceptable behavior. Facebook's recent announcement to help prevent nonconsensual pornography is a huge advancement in combatting this epidemic—and that is what it is, an epidemic—and addressing these heinous acts.

While the new feature takes down images that are reported, this depends on users being vigilant and submitting reports. Too often people do not report such behavior. We must be clear that we do not condone this type of behavior and ensure that those with the courage to speak up do not face retaliation.

I want to make it clear. Exploiting sexual images of fellow servicemembers online is unacceptable, and it should be a crime. Rest assured, as a woman, as a mother, grandmother, daughter of a veteran, and a member of the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Subcommittee, I will work day and night to address the threats to our country and to our women servicemembers. Women in the military are critical to our national security. They should have a safe workplace free from sexual assault and harassment and intimidation.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Congresswoman FRANKEL and Congresswoman BRENDA LAWRENCE and also Congresswoman SPEIER for their leadership and for keeping this issue alive and for making sure the public understands that there are Members of Congress who have said: enough is enough.

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Very well said, Representative LEE. Mr. Speaker, I thank Ms. LEE for her excellent service and advocacy.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield the floor to the gentlewoman from the State of Michigan (Mrs. LAWRENCE), my co-chair and our vice chair of the Women's Working Group, a very illustrious Member, and she serves on the Transportation and Oversight Committees.

Mrs. LAWRENCE. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congresswoman FRANKEL for her leadership on the Women's Caucus. The Women's Caucus is a bipartisan women's committee. I was honored when I was given the opportunity to serve on this committee because I know for a fact in America, for all of the strides and accomplishments that we have had as women, that we still have so many issues and challenges that we must address.

Whenever there is an issue that disrespects or an issue that is a barrier for a woman, it is incumbent upon us to step up and to speak out because silence or turning our head is condoning the behavior.

Now, we stand here today as women, but there will be men joining us and have joined us because the behavior that we have learned about in the Marines, one of our military branches, is unacceptable.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the issue of nonconsensual activities in the U.S. military. It has been revealed that nonconsensual nude photos of servicemembers were posted to social media, and it was even enhanced by disturbing comments that were unacceptable and really disrespectful.

This offensive behavior strikes at the very heart of the Marines. The Marines, who we trust and admire and know that they go out and serve this country in so many ways, and we have such honor and respect for them—but this behavior, Mr. Speaker, undermines the trust and the confidence that the marines have in each other. The Marines stand up and, as a team and as a body and as a military, take a code that they will protect each other, and it compromises the respect that the American people have for our military.

Our servicemembers must have the confidence that their brothers and their sisters in uniform always have each other's back. There is simply no room in the military or in our society for behavior that humiliates and degrades women servicemembers. Women who are in the Marines have earned the respect of their brothers and sisters, and they deserve the trust. Many victims, just like in the civilian workforce, are afraid to report the assault. We want to encourage them to file their complaints.

I had, at one time, served my country as an EEO investigator in the private sector. As an equal employment opportunity investigator and having cases of sexual harassment, I would sit in a private counseling session with a victim as she relived it to tell me what happened and how so often they struggle with: Should I tell someone? I am embarrassed. Maybe I should have done more. Or why did I accept it?

And then some will say: I will just quit. I just don't want to go through the humiliation of telling my story. Because when you file a complaint, for it to be processed, it becomes public.

I want to say to every woman that if you really understand how inappropriate, how much you do not deserve to be treated that way, and you want to make sure that no other woman ever is treated that way, I want you to know that we as Congress will stand with you to support your right to report it, to make sure we hold those accountable who did it.

I want to say to everybody that I stand here today as a Member of Congress and as a Member of the Women's Caucus to say that you have support.

In 2015, the latest year for which military assault data is available, more than 6,000 sexual assault cases were reported. Only 10 percent of men report their sexual assaults in the military. Only 40 percent of women do the same.

Sexual assault is wrong, whether it is for a man or a woman. According to the Human Rights Watch report released in 2015, the rate of retaliation for reporting a sexual assault in the military is 12 times higher than the rate of report resulting in a conviction for the predator. We understand the problem, and we want to be a part of the solution.

Mr. Speaker, I will close with this. We stand here today knowing that we have a problem. But I am confident in my belief and trust in our military, and I am confident that the women and men in this Congress will stand together and we will fix this problem so we can continue to have our military brothers and sisters serve together without being attacked by their own.

Ms FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Representative LAWRENCE for her excellent advocacy today.

Mr. Speaker, I now want to yield the floor to the gentlewoman from New Hampshire (Ms. KUSTER), my very good friend. She is the ranking member on the Veterans Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, and chair of the bipartisan Task Force to End Sexual Violence.

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to be here tonight for this Special Order on the Marines photo sharing scandal.

I am pleased to be with you but disturbed about the underlying incident. I don't think there is anyone in this country who is watching this evening who doesn't share our sentiment. This is shocking. It is disturbing. And most importantly, it is degrading to the women in the Marines.

I have to just imagine what it would take to become a marine and to be a woman in the Marine Corps. The training, the dedication, the commitment that these people have set their lives toward serving our country.

I am very pleased to join my colleagues today to express my disappointment and, indeed, outrage at the conduct of literally thousands of marines who violated the standards of the Marine Corps and displayed dishonorable conduct and terrible judgment by distributing sexually explicit photos of Active-Duty and veteran women marines online.

The behavior on the Facebook page Marines United is wholly unacceptable and is not only morally repugnant but undermines the safety, the security of female marines and, indeed, our national security.

Women marines were, in some cases, identified by name, rank, and location. These women who are bravely serving our Nation in uniform were put at risk of blackmail, of violence to themselves, or worse. This cannot and will

not be tolerated by the United States Congress, by the leadership of the Marines, and by Americans across this country.

The Marines represent the greatest fighting force in the history of the world, and actions like this cannot be allowed to undermine their effectiveness and unit cohesion. As the founder of the bipartisan Task Force to End Sexual Violence, I join my colleagues from both sides of the aisle to understand the persistent challenges that the culture of sexual violence poses on school campuses, in the workplace, online, in the military, and throughout our society.

We are beginning to change the conversation around sexual violence and intimidation, but there is much more work to be done. I strongly support the bipartisan legislative action to back up the cultural change that we know is starting to take place.

The PRIVATE Act, led by Representative MARTHA MCSALLY, would amend the Uniform Code of Military Justice to ensure that the type of explicit sharing that was seen in the Marines United scandal is expressly prohibited.

Mr. Speaker, I want to particularly thank Representative MCSALLY and our Democratic colleague Representative JACKIE SPEIER for their leadership on the Armed Services Committee in protecting the interests of women in our military.

I know that leadership within the Marines and the Armed Forces is taking the issue of sexual harassment and sexual violence very seriously, and I appreciate their commitment to improving safety for all our servicemembers, regardless of gender. This is an issue that transcends politics. I have been encouraged by the bipartisan support that this issue has received.

I look forward to continuing to work with my colleagues to end sexual violence and intimidation in the military and, indeed, throughout our society.

Mr. Speaker, I want to just take a moment to share with you the testimony of Lance Corporal Marisa Woytek, as indicated by our leader today, Representative LOIS FRANKEL. She quoted some of the testimony, and I wanted to share a few other parts with you.

These are two marines who came and spoke to our bipartisan Women's Caucus, and they described what had happened to them; that these personal explicit pictures had been shared on the internet, that their names, their rank, their duty station, had all been shared without their consent.

□ 1815

I want to talk to you about the backlash since they had the courage to speak out, because as we investigate further in the Bipartisan Task Force to End Sexual Violence—whether it is in high schools, whether it is on college campuses, whether it is in the military—when someone has the courage to identify the harassment, sexual assault, intimidation, there is an incredible backlash on social media.

She writes:

''Within the past 24 hours alone, I have had former Marines harass me online, and say and state that they actively look for sexually explicit pictures of me. One of the former Marines who has been harassing me has also been a predator to many women online denigrating women in Marines United, and has even gone as far as saying he would throw an Active Duty female Marine 'into a barrel of acid.' ''

These are our best and brightest. These are the people that we rely upon to keep our country safe, to uphold the dignity of our values overseas.

She continues:

''Another Marine stated to me directly that he was 'passing my info around to Marines, so far the rough estimate is 3,000. Good luck ever being able to show your face again.' ''

This is a woman who has trained, who has dedicated her life, and whose family is proud to call her a marine. And I, as a Member of Congress, am proud to call her a marine. She does not deserve this in the workplace.

One last quote:

''Another former Marine asked 'Who has this bitch's pictures, I want to blast them all over.' ''

I have to ask my colleagues for a bit of personal privilege to even use that word on the floor of the House of Representatives. That is not a word that should ever be used for a marine in the United States Marine Corps.

So I think you can tell this is deeply troubling to us as Members of Congress, deeply troubling—it should be—to the leadership of the Marine Corps, all the way up to and including our Commander in Chief. This is simply unacceptable.

As members of the Bipartisan Task Force to End Sexual Violence, as members of the bipartisan Women's Caucus, as Members of the United States House of Representatives, we will not let it stand.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD testimony of a female marine.

TESTIMONY OF LANCE CORPORAL MARISA WOYTEK

My name is Marisa Woytek. I am a Lance Corporal in the United States Marine Corps. I enlisted, like many of my brothers and sisters because I wanted to be part of something bigger than myself. I joined to follow in my fathers' foot steps who served honorably in the Marine Corps.

Over the past few years of being active duty, I've experienced the amazing things the Marine Corps has to offer. I experienced, brotherhood and sisterhood, I experienced comradery, and I have many fond memories that I will carry with me until the day I die. But with the good, comes the bad. Since my first few weeks in the Marine Corps outside of boot camp, I have seen on numerous occasions the denigration of Marines, especially female Marines by fellow Marines. Some active duty and some former Marines have been posting picture women for the so called game of ''Smash or Pass'', and some have included personal and explicit pictures including these women's names, ranks, and duty station without their consent.

Since speaking out, I've received backlash on social media. Within the past 24 hours alone, I have had former Marines harass me online, and say and state that they actively look for sexually explicit pictures of me. One of the former Marines who has been harassing me has also been a predator to many women online denigrating women in Marines United, and has even gone as far as saying he would throw an active duty female Marine ''into a barrel of acid''. Another Marine stated to me directly that he was ''passing my info around to Marines, so far the rough estimate is 3,000. Good luck ever being able to show your face again''. Another former Marine asked ''Who has this bitch's pictures, I want to blast them all over''.

My brothers and sisters are why I am here today. The majority of Marines are intelligent, well rounded, and respectful people. Those Marines are who the world should be praising. The disgusting actions of a few do not define an entire branch. We must remember that the Marine Corps is an institution that prides itself in honor, courage, and commitment. Most Marines practice these values everyday, and those who do not bring dishonor to themselves and to the United States Marine Corps.

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative KUSTER for that forceful advocacy.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE), one of our greatest fighters for human rights, for women's rights; the ranking member of the Judiciary Committee's Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congresswoman FRANKEL, our chair, our leader, and all of my colleagues that appeared today. What a powerful force of women who are standing by our Marines.

Now, let me be very clear: All of our men and women in the United States Marines have earned and deserve our respect and trust. All of the women in the United States Marines deserve our trust and our respect.

So it saddens me today to have to rise and bring to the attention of so many this unbelievable abuse of the men and women—men because their reputation is tarnished, through no fault of their own, who are not affiliated with Marines United; and women who feel that their service to this Nation has been denigrated.

Let me cite for you the words of 23-year-old Erika Butner:

''As a Marine Corps veteran, I am disheartened and disgusted with this scandal.''

Victim blaming and the excuse that some are giving that boys will be boys needs to stop.

Butner says she first heard of the group in August when a friend of hers was posted to the page without her

consent. In January, she notified the Naval Criminal Investigative Service and Google about a shared drive posted to the group that contained naked photos of more than two dozen servicemembers. Comments posted to the group described the victims graphically and, in some cases, advocating that they be raped or sexually assaulted. Names, ranks, and duty stations of the victims were also shared. The Marines United page has been taken down, but there are supposed to be some 30,000 users of that site.

Can you imagine that this is my story for America: that young women marines who put on the uniform and, therefore, are willing to lay down their life and bleed for this Nation and die will be subjected to this?

So I join my colleagues in standing against it, and I ask my friends in the United States Marines—and I have many. I have staff persons who have been members of the Marines and a wounded warrior on my staff right now who loves his Marines. But enough is enough. We will not tolerate the objectification of women, we will not tolerate the nonconsensual pornography, and we will not live with sexual assault.

That is why, for starters, I am proud to be a cosponsor of Congresswoman SPEIERS' resolution for claiming April as Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month. Also, I am very pleased of the privacy bill that is being put forward to never have this occur again. Every 98 seconds another American is sexually assaulted, and there are an average of 321,500 victims per year.

So this ties very clearly into what these United States Marines, who happen to be women, are facing. This is a horrendous reality for women here in the United States, but it is a reality for women in uniform who are defending our freedom abroad. That is what I want to focus on as I complete my remarks.

These female marines go to faraway places and are in the battlefront and the battle lines, standing alongside with their male counterparts. They are expected to go through basic training without any waivers. They are expected to carry that gun without any waivers. They are expected to wear that uniform in dignity without any waivers.

Nude photographs of female marines and veterans across the military were shared on Marines United, and those photographs showed women in various stages of undress, and they were grossly obscene. Some posts on Marines United suggested sexually assaulting women marines and that women did not belong in the United States military or this particular branch.

Once again, these photos were posted without the knowledge and the consent of the women whose photos were posted. This conduct, as I said, is unacceptable.

The Marines Corps' creed of good order and discipline is being undermined when it cannot police Marines who use social media to promote anti-Semitism, sexism, and racism. These messages of hate are oppressive and demean human dignity.

Let me close by saluting our United States Marines because I do know that they have decades and centuries of laying their lives down. That is not the issue here as I stand before you today.

What the issue is, of course, is that United States Marines deserve the dignity and the respect, even if they are women and, I might say, especially because of what has occurred because they are women. They ask for no deference. They ask for no waivers. They ask for no apologies in terms of them being United States Marines. They simply want that dignity and respect that we all owe them.

I salute them and we stand alongside them.

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I think we have made it clear that when a member of the military is unfairly abused, we are all abused, we are all dishonored.

This is not a Democratic issue. This is not a Republican issue. This is an American issue.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BACON), one of our great Americans, an Air Force veteran who serves on our Armed Services Committee.

Mr. BACON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this bipartisan effort to protect victims of nonconsensual sharing of intimate media in the Armed Forces and to hold those who engage in this dishonorable practice accountable under the military law. This is a bipartisan effort, and I appreciate that. It should be. This is a terrible thing that we have to fix.

I am a five-time commander. I was on the front lines fighting this as a commander. I court-martialed those who abused others. I proudly did so. I was recognized as having the best Sexual Assault Response Program in the Air Force back in 2008 and 2009.

Also, I am proud to stand here in this bipartisan effort as a husband, a father of a daughter, and a grandfather of three little granddaughters. We have got to do better, and we stand in this together to make a difference.

Last month we observed Sexual Assault Awareness Month, and I spoke to the body on the obligation we share as elected leaders to support those who have been victims of sexual violence and exploitation. It is, therefore, fitting that we continue this campaign by turning our good words into legislative action. I want to thank my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for inviting me to speak on this subject.

As members of the Armed Forces, we are taught the values of honor, integrity, loyalty to our Constitution, to our flag, and to the Republic for which it stands. From our earliest days in uniform, we are also imbued with an unbreakable commitment and trust in each other as warriors and teammates. These are not abstract concepts of quaint notions of a bygone age. Rather, they are the foundation of combat readiness and competence under fire. Mr. Speaker, I submit these ideals are the very essence of our strength of arms as a nation.

That is why when someone in our midst betrays this trust and dishonors our code, the consequences go far beyond an individual act of depravity. It strikes at the heart of our core values and threatens the foundation of our combat readiness. And when the victims of these crimes perceive they are condoned by the very institution they serve, the damage is greater still.

That is why Congress has an obligation to act and to remove any doubt that those who traffic in intimate pictures of their teammates and wrongfully share them not only violate the bonds of human decency, but are breaking the law.

That is why I am proud to stand in a bipartisan effort and also with Representative MCSALLY and colleagues on both sides of the aisle as an original cosponsor of H.R. 2052, the PRIVATE Act, to amend the Uniform Code of Military Justice to prohibit the wrongful broadcast of intimate visual images. This is important to change the UCMJ. It will protect the victims of this crime, hold those who engage in these acts accountable, and make absolutely clear—zero doubt—to every member of the Armed Forces that such conduct is unacceptable and will be prosecuted under the law.

Those of us in the House who have served in uniform and have been entrusted with the responsibility of command know firsthand the importance of disciplined adherence to standards and of creating a climate of mutual trust that treats all members with dignity, fairness, and respect.

For those of us who have fought to enforce our laws and protect the victims of all forms of sexual assault and exploitation in the military, this is not just what is right; it is also very personal.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to stand with my fellow Members of Congress on both sides of the aisle in support of this important legislation, support for our military, support for our culture, support for the defense of our country. I thank those who are leading the effort tonight.

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative BACON, first, for his service to our country and for speaking from the heart. We are very pleased to join him in this effort.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. TORRES), who serves on the Foreign Affairs and the Natural Resources Committees.

I want to say that Representative TORRES is, like myself, the mother of a military veteran. Her son is a member of the Air Force. In bringing the gentlewoman up here, she probably experiences a lot of what I did. I think for parents whose children are in the military, man or a woman, there are so many of those times where you just dread that knock on the door.

□ 1830

You have seen your child put on uniform, and the pride that they feel. Now, could you imagine having gotten a call from your son that someone had posted a nude picture of him on a Facebook page and he was being humiliated? It is just hard to believe.

I know you are going to share some of your insight into all this. I am pleased to have you here.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. TORRES).

Mrs. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congresswoman FRANKEL and Congresswoman JACKIE SPEIER of the Democratic Women's Working Group for hosting tonight's Special Order and for their constant advocacy on behalf of the victims of the Marines United scandal.

The gentlewoman is correct. While I was not blessed with a daughter, I was blessed with three sons, one who I am proud to call a veteran of the United States Air Force.

My son Christopher was the first one to leave home, and I can't imagine, as a mother of a child who is leaving him for the first time going into basic training, receiving the types of calls that these parents must have received, completely heartbreaking.

One of the stories that my son shared with me was of a suicide that happened that involved one of his classmates, and how the parents found out about her suicide through a Facebook post because everyone was sharing a condolence note.

So these things happen; and while we cannot and may not be able to always control the actions of these young men and women, there is a basic understanding and expectation from parents like myself that when we send our boys, and our young men and our young women, daughters and sons, to the military, that they will be taken care of; and when they file a complaint, that those complaints will be taken seriously and fully investigated. They deserve nothing less.

Sexual harassment in the military certainly isn't new, but this scandal is a wake-up call that we cannot afford to ignore. The victims of Marines United don't just deserve our sympathy and our support, they deserve a commitment to doing everything that we can to finally bring an end to sexual harassment in the military in all forms.

This isn't a case of boys being boys. This is a disgusting violation of women who have taken an oath to defend our Nation.

I would like to read part of Erika Butner—corporal, U.S. Marine Corps, 2011 to 2016—part of her testimony here today.

She begins by stating her name and thanking you for the opportunity to testify at the August 8, 2011, hearing.

And she states: ''I enlisted in the United States Marine Corps knowing I could have potentially deployed to a combat zone. If presented the opportunity, I would have given my life for this country without hesitation. Never once did I think the war I'd fight would be among my very own brothers in arms.

''During the time I spent in the Marine Corps, various clothed photos of me were taken from my personal social media accounts without my consent and shared on sites that are like Marines United with great frequency. They would post my photo and caption it, 'Smash or Pass,' in other words, 'Would you have sex with this woman or not?' followed by extreme vulgar, degrading, and repulsive comments, including rape talk. My so-called brothers in arms shared clothed photographs of me on Marines United, posted my contact information, and discussed all the unspeakable things they would like to do to me.

''Comments I saw on other posts of the site included how female marines aren't 'real' marines and belong in the kitchen. One post suggested friendly fire to the women who are now being integrated into the infantry units. Another male veteran described how he would rip off an Active-Duty female's eyelashes and then throw her into a tub of acid. Many veterans think because the UCMJ does not apply to them, they're immune from legal action.

''This culture of sharing photographs has been going on long before Marines United, and even before Facebook. With the use of social media and other file-sharing sites, this behavior has developed into something that has led to harassment and the degradation of men and women servicemembers. If this behavior had not come to light, I believe it would have continued as a dark secret of the military.''

Her statement goes on. I will not read the rest of it but continue by saying that these aren't faceless strangers. They are our daughters, our sisters, and our friends. They are American heroes who volunteered to serve our country.

As a mother of a veteran, I know that our military is better than this. Our men and women in uniform represent the very best of this Nation, and I am proud to stand with my colleagues this evening in support of bringing about the changes we need to put a stop to the sharing of nonconsensual pornography in the military and, ultimately, bring an end to sexual and gender-based violence and harassment in our Armed Forces.

The next letter that I write to one of the academies recommending a young lady from my district, I want the reassurance from our military that her safety, her personal safety, will be taken seriously. And I need to have a commitment that she is just as American as any male of our military.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for this opportunity.

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for her son's service and for her service, too. I know what it is like to be the mother of a military person.

Mr. Speaker, we are waiting for—Representative MCSALLY is going to be with us in a few moments, and I thought, as we wait for her to join us—as I said, she is at a hearing now. Unfortunately, the hearing is on the topic of sexual harassment in the military academies.

I wanted to just state for the RECORD the folks who participated at our Democratic Working Women's Group hearing that we had a couple of weeks ago, we talked about Lance Corporal Marisa Woytek. We talked about Erika Butner, who is a Marine Corps veteran, and both, unfortunately, were victims of this Marines United scandal.

We also heard from James LaPorta, who is a journalist for The Daily Beast and a former U.S. Marine Corps sergeant who has covered Marines United extensively. His work has appeared in The Washington Post and the Chicago Tribune, among other national publications. During his 8 years on Active Duty, Mr. LaPorta served within the infantry and intelligence communities, deploying multiple times to the war in Afghanistan.

We also heard from Miranda Peterson. She is the executive director of Protect Our Defenders, which she joined in 2013. Protect Our Defenders' mission is to uplift and support survivors of military sexual assault, and to improve and reform the U.S. military's process for addressing rape, sexual assault, and sexual harassment.

Prior to joining Protect Our Defenders, Mrs. Peterson worked on the historic lawsuits against the Department of Defense filed on behalf of military sexual assault survivors who experienced abuse and retaliation after reporting, and which were the subject of the Oscar-nominated documentary film, ''The Invisible War.''

We also heard from Elizabeth Hillman, and she is the president of Mills College. She was invited by Representative BARBARA LEE. Elizabeth Hillman has conducted extensive research on the history of sexual violence in the military organization's culture. She is a director and past president of the National Institute of Military Justice, a nonprofit that promotes fairness

in and public understanding of military justice worldwide.

She previously served on the Response Systems to the Adult Sexual Assault Crimes Panel, an independent panel chartered by Congress to study and make recommendations about sexual assault in the U.S. military.

And of course we heard from Gloria Allred, who is a nationally renowned women's and victims' rights attorney. She was the lawyer representing Marine Corps veteran Butner and Active-Duty Marine Lance Corporal Woytek.

What treasures these activists are. They are patriots in their own way because they are defending and standing up for our patriots; and how sad that they have to spend so much of their time to do that.

Now, since this scandal broke up, there have been numerous articles written. I want to share one as we wait for Representative MCSALLY, who, herself, is a military veteran.

Thomas Brennan actually broke this story. He wrote that: ''The U.S. Department of Defense is investigating hundreds of marines who used social media to solicit and share hundreds, possibly thousands, of naked photographs of female servicemembers and veterans.'' That is just so shameful.

''Since January 30, more than two dozen women, many on Active Duty, including officers and enlisted servicemembers, have been identified by their full name, rank, and military duty station in photographs posted and linked to from a private Facebook page.'' Again, very shameful.

Mr. Speaker, I am now pleased to welcome Representative MCSALLY. I would say to you that I have been talking about you in your absence. First of all, I told the Speaker that you were, unfortunately, at a hearing on sexual harassment in the military academies.

But we are so grateful for your—first of all, for your service to our country and for your advocacy in standing up for what is right for our military men and women. Ms. MCSALLY is our lead sponsor on this PRIVATE Act, which we have had many speakers talk about.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Arizona (Ms. MCSALLY).

Ms. MCSALLY. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleague. And yes, I just came over from a hearing on the Armed Services Committee; first panel with some victims, and second panel with the superintendents of the different military academies.

□ 1845

As the only female veteran on my side of the aisle, and having been an academy graduate myself, I thought it was very important for me to be there and continue to help to lead on these issues that are near and dear to my heart. I know there has been much discussion. I want to say thank-you for helping to organize this and manage it and all the people who came down to speak on this very important issue.

As was likely mentioned before, we came upon this issue on Saturday, March 4. The Marines United Facebook page discovered individuals linked with this private group were posting nude, intimate photos of women, as well as personal information, their names, and duty stations, without their consent or their knowledge.

The next day, the NCIS started to launch an investigation and, 1 week later, discovered, unfortunately, this was not an isolated activity. Sharing intimate photos without a consent is a problem that now we are seeing in the other branches of the military.

Such degrading behavior from troops in uniform is disgusting. As a veteran and a former commander myself, it is infuriating. In some ways it is not surprising, but it is intolerable, and we rise on both sides of the aisle today to say that we are standing together to help on our part, in our appropriate role to stop this.

Our servicemembers enlist to serve this country and protect it from our enemies. They should not have to watch their backs among individuals who are to be their teammates. Sharing explicit photos of fellow servicemembers undermines women and destroys trust and morale. It decreases effectiveness of our Armed Forces, and it embarrasses America. United States troops must be warriors. What it means to be a warrior is to embody courage, commitment, honor, trust, and respect. In all the services we have our core values. They are on and off duty. That is what it means to stand up. We stand in the gap for others. We are not the perpetrators. We are supposed to be the protecters. We are supposed to be the ones who are embodying and leading in those values that we hold dear.

The unearthing of this widespread problem has highlighted the difficulty in prosecuting Active Duty military members, though, who do this, who share private, intimate photos of their teammates without consent. This action is harmful, and it destroys the bonds of trust in the unit that are so critical for our warfighting capabilities.

So to look at the UCMJ, the Uniform Code of Military Justice, again, I am pretty familiar with this having been a commander and a retired colonel. We have a couple of articles, article 133 and article 134. Article 133 is conduct unbecoming of an officer. Article 134 is what we call anything that is prejudicial to good order and discipline. This is one I would say as a commander we often use as the catchall article. When we could not prosecute someone under another article, we go to article 134 because we knew their behavior was degrading good order and discipline.

Civilian law faces challenges in prosecuting this crime. Thirty-five States and the District of Columbia have statutes against sharing private, intimate digital media without consent, but the State laws vary in their proof, the elements, and the punishment.

The Marines recently created a regulation where they can charge these Neanderthals who commit these violations, but creating regulation isn't the same thing as strengthening the law. That is why I introduced the PRIVATE Act. Again, this is a bipartisan bill. My bill provides clear, unambiguous charge that gives commanders a sharper tool in the UCMJ for targeting and prosecuting this behavior. It clearly defines this behavior as a crime, and it also addresses the issues of intent and free speech.

These actions are a symptom of a larger issue: why we must change the culture that promotes this behavior. While these blatant, disrespectful actions have been committed by a specific subset of our military, this is indicative of a larger cultural problem. I just came from speaking about that in our Air Force Academy hearings—I'm sorry, not just Air Force, all the academies.

This is not the first time that behavior like this or culture like this has really been addressed, nor will it be the last. Myself, as the first woman in the U.S. to fly in combat in a fighter aircraft and to command a squadron, I have personally experienced, confronted, and overcome sexist behavior in the military. I have been there, I have seen it, I have lived it, and, quite frankly, I am sick of it.

We need to do what we can together to stop it. We must confront the underlying issues that inculcate resentment toward women in our services. We need to address the topic now and send a clear message this behavior has no place in our military. The issue is developing at the speed of broadband, but our solutions are often stuck at the speed of bureaucracy.

I have met with the commandant of the Marine Corps, General Neller, immediately after this news broke. We had a very productive conversation, and I look forward to continuing work with him and the other service chiefs to address this issue.

We also can't allow this to turn into victim blaming, though. According to one victim who tried to have a video removed:

''I went to the police to get them to take it down, and they told me, because I didn't live in North Carolina, they couldn't do anything. I then went to his command, and they said: Why don't you stop making sex tapes?''

This is not a matter of free speech on the internet. This is a matter of military members who have infringed on the rights, the duty, and the basic respect of others. We can't afford to let another military member become a victim of this crime.

I appreciate everyone stepping up for this Special Order today. I appreciate the bipartisan support of the PRIVATE Act. It is not going to solve it by itself, but it is going to give the commanders another tool. I promise I am going to tirelessly be working and leading on this issue to protect our troops and make sure we have the best, most respected, and most trusted warfighting force.

I want to thank my colleague for giving me the opportunity to speak.

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative MCSALLY. We have come to, I think, a perfect ending here today—those of us who were here today. I know, on a bipartisan basis, we look forward to fighting for the gentlewoman for what is right and to get this bill passed.

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

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, first and foremost, I want to thank my colleagues, Rep. LOIS FRANKEL, Rep. BRENDA LAWRENCE, Rep. BARBARA LEE, Rep. ANN KUSTER, Rep. NORMA TORRES, Rep. SHEILA JACKSON LEE, Rep. DON BACON, and Rep. MARTHA MCSALLY, who spoke out during the May 2nd Special Order Hour on nonconsensual pornography in the military. It is critical that we continue to raise awareness about this topic and I am grateful to see Members from both parties coming together to fight this predatory and humiliating practice taking place in our military. I would also like to specifically thank Reps. FRANKEL and LAWRENCE for hosting the Special Order Hour on behalf of the Democratic Women's Working Group.

I am deeply passionate about stopping nonconsensual pornography in the armed services, and was disappointed to miss the Special Order Hour. I had an unavoidable conflict, since at the same time I was serving as the Ranking Member of the House Armed Services Committee Military Personnel Hearing on the Annual Report on Sexual Harassment and Violence at the Military Service Academies. During the hearing, I listened to brave testimony from military survivors of sexual assault and harassment who also suffered retaliation after they came forward. All members of the military deserve protection from sexual violence on the internet, in the academies, and every place else.

Marines United, and other incidents of nonconsensual pornography in the military, are examples of degrading behaviors that destroy careers and lives.

When these horrific incidents occur, it is not about sex or social media policy; it is evidence of a culture of rot that is allowed to spread by military leadership.

I am concerned that NCIS and military leadership is not taking this seriously—my staff found scores of nonconsensual pornography images on Tumblr in under 5 minutes with the search term "Tumblr Army naked." These attacks go well beyond just the posting of the pictures. They are widespread and involve every branch of the military and all levels of command, as shown by the charge against Master Sgt. Theophilus Thomas.

Why is it that other crimes are punished with a zero tolerance policy and the individual is removed from service, while stalking, harassment, and the destruction of your colleague's career fails to warrant the same punishment from the military? These crimes pose a serious threat to troop readiness and morale and must be treated as such.

I am proud to be a co-lead with Congresswoman MCSALLY on the PRIVATE Act, which would make posting consensually taken, but nonconsensually distributed intimate photos illegal under the UCMJ. I hope my colleagues on both sides of the aisle will join together and support the PRIVATE Act and the brave men and women who put their lives on the line in service to our country.

OUR TIME

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2017, the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. FORTENBERRY) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Mr. Speaker, before I begin my own remarks, I want to commend my colleagues for continuing to aggressively address the deep wound that so many people have experienced with this form of abuse in our military. Our military prides itself on its clear goal of protecting our Nation and doing their duty even to the point of self-sacrifice. So to think that certain members of the military would abuse others in this manner is not only unconscionable, but demands that this body act. So I want to commend my colleagues for their leadership in this regard.

Mr. Speaker, our Nation recently watched in horror as flight staff at a publicly traded airline, having failed to motivate volunteers with sufficient compensation, then called Chicago Aviation Police to forcibly remove one of the randomly selected passengers so they could seat their own employees instead. After the bloodied but unbowed victim was dragged from the flight, aircraft and airport personnel claimed they acted out of concern that they would lose their own jobs if they had not removed the passenger. The stated motive—that was later proven to be false—was that the flight was ''oversold.''

Now, Mr. Speaker, bizarrely, the airline CEO initially defended these actions. The corporation's airline personnel could have offered more money to find volunteers, but they did not choose to use that option. As a result, this airline-specific issue mushroomed into something far larger as Americans unleashed long-buried resentment against distant corporate structures that too often treat them just as incidentals.

Here is the problem, Mr. Speaker: in technocratic bureaucracy, one size fits all. Management and optimization replace the art of human interaction. When entities grow too large and too distant from the persons they are designed to serve, when technical procedures rule over prudential judgment, when process is improperly elevated to an unyielding standard, persons are not only treated like cattle by airlines, but individuals—in this age of information—sense that they no longer matter.

When you treat people as abstractions, it is easier to push them around, like data points on a spreadsheet. The broken-nosed, busted-teeth, and concussed passenger could only mutter the words: ''Just kill me, just kill me.''

One man's last stand against Leviathan. What he experienced on that airplane struck such a visceral chord with me and so many others. Indignity has its limits—even beyond the limits of the Big Money corporate public affairs teams to manage.

Mr. Speaker, last year, the United Kingdom voted to leave the European Union; and right now, similar debates are taking place across the continent most seismically perhaps in the upcoming French election.

At its core, what is at issue?

It is this: whether more and more power should be consolidated in massive and detached, centralized, and technocratic bureaucratic institutions.

Many people are demanding decentralized alternatives that better harmonize the needs of particular persons in their particular places with the shared goals of security, immigration stabilization, environmental stewardship, and economic well-being. That is what the deeper debate is in Europe and about the European Union.

At its core, Mr. Speaker, I think the issue is this: even more deeply, economic development without a soul robs us of our capacity to fully prosper. Regular people are wondering if they have a seat at the table anymore, and home-team advantage continues to seem to go to a triumvirate class of Big Business, Big Data, and Big Government—a type of transactional aristocracy disconnected from the deeper needs of persons. That is at the core of what is being debated here.

Now, Mr. Speaker, indicting large corporate and governing structures is not merely the point I am trying to make. Certain types of development that come with larger-scale entities has been very positive as goods and services and ideas freely travel at speeds across the world that were unheard of just a few years ago.

Worldwide poverty has declined significantly as underdeveloped nations use their comparative advantage on costs to lift themselves to a higher economic standing.

Moreover, the creative disruption that accompanies technological innovation has yielded new powerful tools for communications, for medicines; and in commerce, it has helped create the sharing economy.

However, a thriving marketplace needs to work for larger swaths of

America, including Nebraska, where I live, which remain distant from power centers. For more and more Americans and their families, globalized supply-side elitism has delivered downward mobility, a higher cost of living, wage stagnation, and skyrocketing inequality.

When you couple this with social fragmentation, this is a recipe for disaster, and profit-driven technocracy will not be our answer. It will not solve these challenges. Economics, Mr. Speaker, is more than math, is more than efficiency, and is more than management. It is the art of living.

Now, regarding the airlines, after much embarrassment, they settled with the passenger and instituted important reforms. Maybe this belated gesture signals that we have a better ticket forward. However, unless a new vision emerges of the proper relationship of governing economic and political systems to the persons that they serve, we will likely continue to be told: Just stay in your consumerist seat—unless we deign, yet again, to violently rip you from it.

THE DEEP STATE

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Now, Mr. Speaker, a short distance from here, right through these doors, underneath the dome of our Nation's Capitol, hang eight large paintings that represent the scenes from our Nation's beginnings. In one of these paintings, George Washington is depicted. He is resigning his commission before the Continental Congress. This painting occupies a pride of place in our Nation's Capitol because it shows a profound and historic shift in the understanding of power. General Washington won the Revolutionary War. He enjoyed the support of his Army, yet he was not tempted to use that power for his own glorification. Instead, he returned it to the people.

□ 1900

Power is a tricky thing. It can be absolutely corrupting or it can be used for great good. Exceptional persons throughout history have used power to contribute to civilization. For others, power is a weapon to kill and plunder and crush others.

In our country, America, we embrace the noble way. In our Constitution, in its deepest sense, it really is about one thing: it is about the proper positioning of power, the proper control of power, and the proper transfer of power.

Mr. Speaker, let's now fast-forward to a recent event where a prominent Washington political insider recently wrote that he prefers ''the deep state.''

Now, what is that?

Although not widely known, the term ''deep state'' refers to a group of career employees of the military, intelligence services, and other agencies of the United States Government who have inordinate but often hidden power to influence policy and society.

It is posited that the deep state is particularly successful when it comes to halting or slowing implementation of government edicts deemed threatening to prudent stability or its own existence. This deep state, though, turns sinister when it operates outside of transparency and oversight. This concealed, controlling force, unfettered, can create an entirely new anti-democratic branch of our government.

However, I want to propose something, Mr. Speaker. This discussion about the deep state is bigger than the government itself. A broader understanding of the deep state requires insight into the network of institutions that attempt to manage society in multiple ways.

Some in the media, for instance, academia, and corporations orchestrate self-reinforcing narratives of technocratic or expert superiority. Frankly, again, this is why so many people in our country feel forgotten and are suspicious of what might be called the government-corporate-cultural complex.

The notion that elites supersede the decision of voters and their elected Representatives is contrary to our democratic tradition. It is also deeply offensive to the American understanding of the source of proper governance.

On the other hand, maintaining some consistency for the sake of order has merit. Retaining career civil servants, for instance, with strong institutional knowledge and experience is necessary for the uniquely smooth and peaceful transition of power that we enjoy in this country.

Those who have committed themselves to a career of government service and risen in the ranks, those in the media who have taken a long view of civic responsibility, those in business who have achieved outcomes and wish to share them for the betterment of society, ensuring the stability and proper functioning of our Nation's core operating systems during times of disruptive change, are the persons who make up another type of body in our culture who are taking responsibility for the systems that we enjoy.

The point is any analysis of the deep state is complex. A deep state that is mysterious and enigmatic, unidentified, that effectively triumphs over the will of the people, marginalizes our voices. At the same time, political transitions without the backup of those who maintain a continuity of service can both be volatile and destabilizing. There lies the tension.

President Eisenhower warned us of the military-industrial complex. Perhaps the challenge of today's government-corporate-cultural complex is broader: a self-affirming, closed society that says there is only one way—our way—and you have to follow. Just plug into the technocracy and know your place.

Mr. Speaker, it could easily be said that George Washington was an elite of his day. Nevertheless, Americans celebrate him along with other great leaders because they attained their status through selfless service to our country and its founding ideals to a genuine civic state.

Mr. Speaker, on my desk there is a pile of letters. At one point, it approached about a foot high. It is a little smaller now, as I am digging out. I have to be honest. I am behind because I take the time to review the content of each letter that my constituents send me.

Lately, the mail has tripled, perhaps quadrupled in size due to, frankly, the present philosophical divide that is all over our country and manifested in this body in the breakneck pace of governmental action and the important questions about what Congress is doing in key policy areas such as health care and immigration.

This is no complaint. I stand in the seat formerly held by the great Midwestern populist William Jennings Bryan, and it is my duty, responsibility—all of our responsibility—to hear and read what our constituents are telling us. It is also my duty to make judgments on their behalf. I have an obligation to read and study and analyze the facts of any situation, to listen to the people who are effective, and ultimately to make a decision.

I think that the irony of this great moment, of great tension in our country, Mr. Speaker, interestingly, has brought a renewed and refreshing attentiveness to this body, to the legislative branch. There is now a very impassioned and healthy engagement with the centers of government about the very nature of power and its purpose. As Americans, we believe that power is justly derived from the dignity and right of each person. When properly exercised, that power rightly informs the State.

Vigorous interaction is beneficial to our Republic when it is cordial and constructive, when all parties in an authentic attempt seek workable consensus. This can be harmful to our Republic when interactions descend into shouting matches, rude interruptions, orchestrated ambushes, or worse, violence toward people or property.

Mr. Speaker, I have a new friend who is an ambassador here in the United States from an African country. It is a fascinating nation that rebuilt after a difficult civil war. He was kind enough to have me over for dinner recently with one of my colleagues. My colleague is a brand-new Member of Congress, and he happens to be in the other political party.

On the ride over, we talked about the very real prospect that, if we could just

have a conversation, if we just had the time or disposition to have a conversation, a genuine dialogue, then perhaps things would get a bit better in Washington.

Mr. Speaker, most of us crave dialogue. Our country needs dialogue more than ever. We have multiple new technological ways to conduct dialogue. However, we have lost touch with what genuine dialogue is. If we are racing to score points or impatiently, loudly bludgeoning each other, we are not engaging in authentic dialogue. We are engaging in monologue.

Clearly, there are many differences that cannot easily be solved here throughout America. We have to be sober about that. The tough arena of politics occupies a unique space in our country in the quest for answers, but holding it together depends upon a commitment to this ideal of the civic state, a broad attempt at friendship and goodwill to hold together the good that should be common for everyone.

Mr. Speaker, on a visit to the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland, I noticed that, among its many noteworthy qualities, the beautiful, bucolic campus reflected a dignity, a call, if you will, to something higher. This special place creates a sense of place as a message for the ages, and that used to be reflected in the great tradition of American public architecture.

In one of the Academy's halls, a United States submarine commander named Howard W. Gilmore is honored. During World War II, Gilmore ordered his submarine to the surface of the ocean. The crew came out onto the deck. Unbeknownst to them, enemy planes were in the area and they spotted the vessel and began a strafing run.

The crew of the submarine scrambled back inside to go into dive mode, but as one crew member looked back, he saw Commander Gilmore lying on the deck, wounded. Looking at his commander in the eye, he heard him say, ''Take her down.'' The commander knew he would be left behind to drown, but everyone else was saved.

Stories like this one appear repeatedly throughout our Nation's history, particularly among those who have served in the military. They detail the brave actions of honorable men and women who have served an ideal far greater than any superficial distinctions in the political debate that might separate them, the ideal that the sacrifice for just and enduring principles is a noble thing.

In this age of anxiety and petty strife, it is worth reflecting on why we now find this so hard.

In the wake of World War I, poet-politician W.B. Yeats wrote this:

Things fall apart; the centre cannot hold;
Mere anarchy is loosed upon the world,
The blood-dimmed tide is loosed, and everywhere
The ceremony of innocence is drowned;
The best lack all conviction, while the worst
Are full of passionate intensity.

Mr. Speaker, present-day Washington, as a microcosm of the Nation, routinely exhibits a lack of political community. Partisan discord and dysfunction do reflect the larger philosophical divides across America: market fundamentalists versus government fundamentalists, protectionists versus globalists, elites versus the common man—on and on and on.

We lack a unifying spirit. Part of this fracture is driven by monied interests in politics. Part of it is driven by competing world views that are earnestly derived about the core of what it means to be an American and about the core of what it means to have a functioning government for America. Part of it results from the lack of will and courage among lawmakers to move beyond these dispiriting constraints and find some higher ground.

□ 1915

But, Mr. Speaker, I will add this. Perhaps there is a silver lining. Let's think about this. On a deeper level, the vehement animosity in the Capitol and across our country could, ironically, point to something good. Washington's inability to rally around big and meaningful ideas, reflecting longstanding, again, cultural and political divides in America, it might actually signal a desire for resolution. After all, if no one cared, our situation would be far more dire.

If we can stretch to see that all of this negativity is actually a search for solidarity, then perhaps we have a shot. Indeed, there might be a chance to recapture our democratic narrative, our special American identity by embracing something larger than the insistent demands of self, party, or narrowly focused advocacy groups. We are a country whose proper aim and purpose, whose very foundation is built upon that which is good and that which is eternal: fairness, self-determination, the rule of law. Perhaps this combustible moment is actually a yearning to reconnect. Or maybe not. Perhaps it is too far gone. We have to decide.

Mr. Speaker, yet, with all these attempts at lofty sentiments here, to successfully govern requires some type of consensus around core values. And, yes, it requires sacrifice for our ideals, for each other, and for America. So that the center might hold. Right before Commander Gilmore died, he looked at his crew and said, ''Take her down.'' Perhaps the commander's advice to us today to America would be: ''Lift her up. Lift her up.''

Mr. Speaker, I had an incredible opportunity yesterday to meet hundreds of Vietnam veterans who came to our Nation's Capital on one of the honor flights from all over the State of Nebraska. I saw some people I knew, saw constituents, met many of the former troops who I had no idea they served. Isn't that the hallmark of many of our troops, doing so with a quiet selflessness, not needing to have anyone know?

But the Honor Flight actually gave them an opportunity to be welcomed home because particularly after enduring the Vietnam conflict, so many of our soldiers, so many of our troops came home to either no welcome or to, in an odd way, being blamed for the situation that they were trying to resolve. They never got a proper welcoming home.

So we spent a little time together yesterday at the Iwo Jima memorial. After a long day, they had visited the various monuments, including the Vietnam Memorial, the wall.

Of course, it was a tiring day for them, but many were, I would think it is safe to say, exhilarated by the chance to come, to be in solidarity as a community, to reconnect with the purpose of their service and perhaps, most importantly, to be welcomed home because when they got back to the Lincoln airport where I live, thousands of people were there waiting for them, chanting ''USA, USA, USA.''

Mr. Speaker, especially in times of significant duress like we are living in, I think it is particularly important to remind ourselves that America has tremendous capacity for replenishment. Unexpected opportunities give us a chance to reassess and realign in new and compelling ways, both to preserve our most valued traditions and to restore the promise of our Nation. This understanding is especially important as we confront dysfunctional government, economic stagnation, global violence, and the social fallout from the fractures and the pain in our culture.

I submit, Mr. Speaker, that one way to lift America up in this age of anxiety might be glimpsed through four mutually supporting principles: government decentralization, economic inclusion, foreign policy realism, and social conservation.

Now, what do I mean by this?

First, we should consider that a more decentralized government will restore the local source of America's strength. I am not a person who is antigovernment, but what we have done in our society is we have federalized every conceivable level of problem, and this institution ought to be about doing a couple of big things well.

We ought to respect the authority and the institutions that are closer to the people that have jurisdiction over things that they can better provide. Those closest to an opportunity or a problem ought to be the first to be empowered to seize the opportunity or solve the problem.

Economic inclusion, as well, should help America recover from a concentration of wealth and power into

fewer and fewer hands. This primarily happens through a restoration of the small business sector, giving rise to entrepreneurial momentum once again. Mr. Speaker, we are in an entrepreneurial winter. This is where most jobs come from. I am not talking about even larger small businesses. I am talking about small, microbusinesses that employ one to five persons. For the first time in America's history, the number of small businesses dying is greater than those being born.

So if you want to restore a vibrancy and create the conditions for economic inclusion, a turn of focus to the small business sector, that great gift where people are using their talents of intellect and the gift of their two hands to make things, an imprint of their own dignity, to give rise to the ability to take care of themselves and those under their authority, their employees, to create benefits for others through exchange, that reinforces a community narrative of the longing and commitment and interdependence.

Third point, foreign policy realism. Based upon authentic relationships and genuine friendships, a foreign policy realism should chart a course between passivity and ad hoc intervention. In other words, we are a globalized society. We are interconnected in extraordinary ways. We are not going to turn the clock back. We couldn't if we tried here. So isolationism is not an option. And yet, just entering into relationships that are transactional without having any authentic basis has led to the collapse of relationships and the conditions for them not to be long lasting.

Finally, social and environmental conservation preserves family life, faith life, civic life, and natural life. The ecosystem, which we all value and live, that is not a partisan issue. That is not even a bipartisan issue. These are transpartisan issues because they create the conditions in which the human heart, the human person can thrive. These are the institutions that give rise to a continuity of our great tradition, give a meaning to life and create sustainability for ourselves and our children.

We know we are confronting intensifying struggles about the direction of our country, the direction of our world. The fault lines can widen, they may widen, but we also can choose to lean into these serious challenges. We can still choose to rediscover commonsense governance, right-sized economic models, a proper foreign policy, and universal and foundational values that create the binding narrative of our country that so many persons have sacrificed for.

It is time to rediscover our purpose as a people and reclaim this sense of solidarity and to reempower our communities. As the military says: One team, one fight.

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

REPUBLICANS CAN ACCOMPLISH GREAT THINGS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MAST). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2017, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. ROHRABACHER) for 30 minutes.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Mr. Speaker, before I get into the substance of my remarks, I would like to mention a little story.

When I used to work for Ronald Reagan years ago, he also said: Well, DANA always start off with a little funny story. So I thought I would share one that Ronald Reagan loved with all of you and the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD and those watching us tonight on C–SPAN.

What it deals with is a man who was struggling, struggling to get by. He lived in an area that had very little farmland left. My relatives all came from dirt-poor farms in North Dakota. They didn't have very good land up there. They were homesteaders, and it was rough going. But they did make a go out of it. They made a living out of it. This story is about a fellow in Kentucky, a guy who wanted to be a farmer but couldn't even find any land as good as my parents ended up with when they homesteaded.

One day he found a piece of land that he knew was very fertile. What it was was an old riverbed. He decided he could plant that riverbed, and it was such good soil that he would have a great crop. Well, the trouble with it was that the riverbed was filled with tree stumps and rocks and all sorts of weeds and horrible obstructions to get anything done. He spent a year of his life cleaning out that riverbed. Every day after work, he would go and blow up the rocks, haul them out. He would get a mule team and pull the tree stumps out. He would take a machete and cut down all the weeds. The briars would scratch his body. It was a monstrous job, but he got it done and he planted a garden.

When that garden started to come in, it was so beautiful that he had to tell somebody, he had to brag to somebody. He went to the person in his little town who he respected the most. It was the preacher. He said: Preacher, I want you to come out and see this.

The preacher came out, and the preacher said: This is a miracle. Praise be to God. Look at that corn. I have never seen corn so big as that. And that watermelon, my gosh, and the berries. My goodness, I have never seen such a wonderful garden. Praise be to God.

He went through this, kept going: Thank God for this, thank God for that.

Finally, the young farmer said to him: You know, Preacher, you should have seen this when God was doing it all by himself.

Well, today, there is a lot of stuff going on in Washington, D.C. People are very active. Don't think that there is not a lot of activity. You may not be able to see it, but we in this new Congress, we are scurrying around. There are all sorts of people working on healthcare reform, tax reform. We have got the fiscal year '17 and fiscal year '18 appropriations. We have got border bills. We have got security problems and issues that are the highest order. We are working here. I believe that with the Republican Party under President Trump, we are going to accomplish great things. These are things that we are asking the help of God, but we are not waiting for God to do it.

I would like to discuss tonight a few of the creative proposals that I have made which I believe could impact and have a very positive impact on the United States of America and the American people.

First of all, I would like to talk about border security. And an issue, of course, in border security that is the number one issue that has been plaguing us for so long, so let's understand, there has been a massive flow of illegal immigrants into our country at least for the past 30 or 40 years. I trace it back, unfortunately, to the time I was in the White House. I trace it back to Ronald Reagan's amnesty of 1987.

□ 1930

Ronald Reagan was told that there would be 3 million people who would then be granted citizenship, would be brought into the core of American activity, and be made U.S. citizens. He also was promised that there would be border control if he signed on to giving amnesty to 3 million people, that no jobs would be permitted to be given to illegals from then on, and that there would be some sort of situation where we could control it so that not only illegals weren't going to be further coming across the border, but they certainly wouldn't be given benefits by our government to encourage them to cross the border.

Well, what happened?

Yes, Ronald Reagan had pity for these poor folks who came here, 3 million of them, who he was going to agree to grant citizenship to, and he did. He signed an amnesty law. And instead of 3 million, it turned out to be 11 million.

And from that moment on, those 11 million, there were none of these restrictions on jobs. We could be E-Verifying all jobs right now and cut that off. We could have done it long ago. We could have done it in the next year after that amnesty that Reagan signed. No.

There hasn't been a huge effort to make sure that we control our borders. Just the opposite. We have had administrations that undercut the border guards that control our borders.

So what have we had since 1987, especially when the word got out that we actually will provide benefits? We will actually provide health care? And we will actually provide jobs? And education for children? Anybody who could just get here, even if they are here illegally?

Well, what we have had is a huge flow into our country that has been threatening, and is threatening, to change the basic fiber of our country in the long run. But even in the short run, it has had a horrendous impact. It has had a horrible impact, for example, on the wages that ordinary Americans have. They have come in, and the middle class and lower middle class working Americans have had their wages bid down by tens of millions of people who have come in and bid down the wages of the American working people.

Now, don't anybody try to tell me, as you have heard—everyone has heard this: There are 11 million illegals in this country. They have been saying that for 20 years. Be honest with yourself, everybody. Let's talk about it. There are probably 30 million illegals in this country.

What has that caused? How has that impacted on us?

What have we seen?

We have seen an education system that has been drained of its resources so those very same working class Americans, who depended on us to make sure their children had a decent education, now have an education that is nowhere near good because the money has been drained away to take care of millions of young kids who have come here illegally.

Well, where is our allegiance?

What about the healthcare dollars that are being consumed?

Average working people know that illegal immigration to our country has hurt, yes, the education and the healthcare benefits to their own families.

Plus, we have destroyed the security of so many middle class neighborhoods where now we have—again, of course, some people don't even want to deport illegal aliens who happen to be criminals. They are talking about let's have a city in which they will not abide by the law, even to deport criminals who are here, violent criminals against our own citizens.

No, these aren't sanctuary cities that we are talking about. These are outlaw cities that don't care about the American people as much as they do about people who come here illegally.

Well, those have been some of the really negative aspects that we face. We know that.

The reason that we understand, and people have recognized this, is Donald Trump was elected President of the United States because of this issue. We know that.

The American people understand that their wages are going down, quality of life is going down, safety in their neighborhoods is going down, education for their children is going down, and health care is being torn apart. And a lot of it goes right back to a massive flow of illegals into our country.

Thus, when Donald Trump shook up the system by saying, We are going to build a wall, and we are going to prevent this massive flow of illegals into our country from continuing, that is why Donald Trump was elected.

So this out-of-control illegal immigration has got to stop. And that is one of the things that now with Donald Trump as President, and with a Republican majority, we are committed to doing.

And the first step, at least the most important step, maybe not the first one, is fulfilling Donald Trump's pledge that we are going to build a wall across our southern border that will be both symbolic and will be practical in stopping this large and massive out-of-control flow across the border.

I have a proposal that I think will go a long way in helping President Trump build that wall. My proposal called the Border Security and Immigration Enforcement Financing Act of 2017—that is the name of the bill. Again, I will say it. Border Security and Immigration Enforcement Financing Act of 2017. I am currently drafting that bill, which will be submitted as either an amendment or it will be submitted as a separate bill.

This goes a long way that will permit President Trump to keep his promise to us.

Now, why wouldn't he keep his promise to us?

Everybody has been saying: He will never find the money necessary to build that wall, so he has fed a false promise to us.

No. There are resources that are available if we use our creativity.

TED CRUZ, over in the Senate, proposed the $14 billion that we have confiscated from a Mexican cartel leader, who we now have in custody, let's use those $14 billion as a down payment. I think TED CRUZ has got a great idea there, and I think that is one idea.

My idea, which I am encompassing my legislation, is based on the idea that we have, and most people know this, 1 million legal immigrants coming into our country every year. Let me make clear what I just said. One million legal immigrants.

Republicans are not against immigrants. We are portrayed that all of the time. We support 1 million legal immigrants coming into our country every year, which happens to be more legal immigrants migrating into our country than all of the other countries of the world combined. Nobody comes even anywhere close to us in our generosity, and Republicans are in favor of that legal immigration. Because we will choose who is coming, they will benefit and help our society as a whole, and they will not especially undermine our poor and working class Americans.

Well, what does that have to do with the wall?

Well, my legislation, which I am now in the middle of writing, says this: Of that million, it recognizes there are 50,000 people who are permitted to come into our country legally every year.

And how are they selected? The rest are very carefully selected.

These are people who are selected by a lottery. That is right, a lottery. We are having a choice, just by happenstance, who we pick, of 50,000 people coming into our country. We may need them. They may be able to contribute. They may not. But we are leaving that up to a lottery.

My proposal is eliminate that 50,000. But we are not going to lower the number of legal immigrants coming into our society. We support legal immigration. In fact, those people who claim Republicans are anti-immigrant, they are the bigots. They are the ones who are proposing that we lump legal and illegal together.

So don't let anybody kid you. That is a political ploy.

So when you hear someone say, Republicans are anti-immigrant, just remember, we are prolegal immigrant. And with them trying to combine illegals with legals makes them the negative force against people who have come here from other countries legally.

So what is my proposal?

My proposal is you take the 50,000 slots that now are selected by some kind of lottery, and you say: We are going to start a pool of money. It is going to be an account that is a protected account. It can only be used for upgrading the border security of the United States, of both the border, Border Patrol, immigrations coming in, and making sure our homeland is more secure, especially on our borders.

So we take that money in the pot.

Now, where is the money coming from of that 50,000 a year?

I am proposing that we charge anyone in the world, who is not a criminal or some kind of a terrorist. That basically we permit them to put $1 million into that fund. And they will immediately be guaranteed legal status, a green card in the country, but they will be guaranteed within 2 years that they will become a U.S. citizen.

Are there 50,000 people in the world who would do that?

There sure are. We know at least that. But there may be a lot more than that.

But that would be enough for President Trump to build his wall and to make sure that we stem the flow, this massive flow of illegals into our country, and to secure our borders from

these drug cartels, et cetera, and to strengthen our Border Patrol, and to make sure that when people are coming into the country we can vet them, we have some sort of technology devices that can help us secure that radical Islamic terrorists aren't coming into our country. Yeah, we can do that if we have the resources.

President Trump wants to do it. Our country has been thwarted in the past by politicians who don't want to do it. But President Trump is committed. We need to get behind him.

My proposal would at least give us the resources to accomplish that mission. Unfortunately, of course, there are people here, power brokers here in the United States House and throughout our government, who would like to get their hands on that money and spend it on other projects, special projects that they have in mind.

Right now, the Republican Party needs to unify. We need to hear from our base.

No. The number one priority for any of the money that would be derived from offering a citizenship to people from overseas, that money should be used to control our borders and create the security of our country.

Now, by the way, why haven't we acted before?

Why is it that from 1987 on that we have had this flow and we haven't been able to stop the flow, or do what I am doing right now should have been done 10, 20 years ago? Because we have people in this country who wanted that massive flow of illegals.

There are probably 30 million illegals in our country. That is not some kind of happenstance that just happened. That wasn't an accident.

No. We have had, and, unfortunately, on the Republican side of the argument, we have had Big Business who wants cheap labor, and that has prevented the Republicans from doing what we want.

And on the liberal side, on the left-wing side, on the Democratic aisle, you have ultra-left liberals who want what? Who want to make sure that we have masses of people that they can use to try to socialize our country. Change the fundamental nature of our country because they don't like the fundamental nature of our country.

So we have a political motive and an economic motive on both sides, manipulating these poor people from around the world and threatening the well-being of those working people and those lower middle-income people in our own country who are just struggling by. We could have solved this a long time ago.

But that is what Donald Trump was all about. Donald Trump spoke to those people in Wisconsin and working class people in Pennsylvania and elsewhere and said: We are going to watch out for you. We are watching out for you from now on.

□ 1945

Now, we need to join Donald Trump. The people have spoken. We need to build that wall, build it.

I was very proud during the Reagan years that I participated. I was one of Ronald Reagan's principal speech writers, and we all remember what his most important line was. What did he do that really changed the world? He had a policy that stood firm against the Soviet Union without sending our troops into military action; and he stood, and he was strong, and he stated and he argued our case aggressively to the world.

Ronald Reagan, when he went to the Berlin Wall and he said, ''Tear down this wall,'' it changed history and made our country safe for decades ahead. I did not write those remarks, but I am very proud that I helped smuggle those remarks to the President of the United States so that he had the option of saying it. And of course, once he read those remarks, he was bound to say it, even though his senior staff tried to prevent him from doing so.

Well, I am saying this: Donald Trump, listen in. Build that wall. We are behind you. The American people are behind you. You should be as aggressive on this issue as Ronald Reagan was in ''Tear down this wall.'' Because he, too, was villainized for—they claimed he was some kind of a warmonger for even being so tough with the Soviet Union; and, of course, what he did is lead to the disintegration of the Soviet Union.

So that is my first idea.

Mr. Speaker, I have another project that I have been working on, and I know this sounds perhaps a little bit disconcerting for people because people have the idea that everyone here is left and right, and they have stereotypes of who is on the left and who is on the right.

So let me just suggest that my next proposal is something that is usually associated with the liberal left, and that is I happen to believe that we have had a tremendous waste of our resources. It has had a horrible impact on our country that we have tried to regulate adults using marijuana, and especially our efforts to stamp out any use of marijuana, which is what the policy has been for decades, in a way that has prevented us from developing the medical uses of cannabis, marijuana.

Cannabis is a plant that has enormous potential for our economy. We can't even import it now. It was used to make all of our rope. The Constitution is written on cannabis paper. There are so many uses. Our farmers aren't even permitted to grow it. And on top of that, no one has been permitted the means necessary to see if there are some medical purposes. And just now, after a few decades, we have found there are significant medical uses for marijuana.

Now, it took me a long time to get to the point where I found out where we could work, a coalition could work on both sides of the aisle to try to just look at this issue with a realistic eye.

What is going on? What is this incredible hysteria over some adult smoking marijuana in his backyard that we have to waste the resources of our police forces?

The police should be out protecting people down the street, but instead they are going into the guy's backyard to make sure that he is not smoking marijuana. And then how about the jailer? How about the judge? How about the penal system? How about all of those? How about the loss of income of that individual?

Trying to control people's personal lives, especially their consumption of cannabis, has been a horrendous failure because it has not prevented people's use, and it has been dramatically costly.

And then, of course, there is the side effect of what? There is the side effect that we are financing drug cartels throughout the world who are actually putting democracy in those countries in jeopardy, and we are financing it.

The issue isn't whether or not people should smoke marijuana or have cannabis. The issues are:

If you are going to have that cannabis, shouldn't the person selling that be accountable so that they only sell it to adults?

Shouldn't it have a label on it so that you know it is not filled with opium or poisons?

Shouldn't it be a situation where a businessman has a bank account and is taxed and regulated and is treated like any other business, responsible business? Or we can let the drug cartels have the billions of dollars that that endeavor will be bringing in every year, and which it does.

So we have financed the drug cartels overseas. We have gangs here, domestically, all tied to the fact that we are trying to control people's private behavior for their own benefit.

It is time to unshackle people. An adult in the United States has every right to make his own decision about whether or not he will consume cannabis, and that is especially true of doctors and patients. We believe, supposedly, Republicans believe in the doctor-patient relationship. We have talked about it with ObamaCare, et cetera.

Well, guess what? The doctor-patient relationship if we are saying, ''Yeah, you can do this, but you can't do anything with cannabis,'' that is not recognizing the doctor-patient relationship. So don't tell me about limited government. Don't tell me about individual freedom. Don't tell me about the doctor-patient relationship. Don't tell

me about those things if you believe that adults should not be able to use cannabis, especially for medical purposes.

And the worst part is there are some medical reasons for it. We have already seen that Israel has, by the way, legalized marijuana, and they have done great research just in recent years on the medical uses of cannabis, of marijuana.

They have found that epilepsy, children's epilepsy in particular, this will stop seizures. Yet we are denying our own people the use of this. How insane.

Yes, we need to make sure that we watch out for our people, but we do not control their lives because we know better.

This is not a nanny state, but some people, interestingly enough, on the other side of the aisle, who believe in the nanny state, are the ones who believe mostly in allowing people to use medical marijuana if that will help them.

I just will say this: we have an epidemic of opiates in this country. And one of the reasons we have that is because we have our veterans who have been given these opiates at the VA.

I just had a call yesterday from a friend whose son came back from the war, and he was in convulsions on the floor, and they couldn't help him. They took him to the VA, and they put him on opiates, and it still didn't help. Finally, after a year, the doctors pulled him aside and said: Come to my office off the campus. They gave him a prescription for medical marijuana, and the man's son hasn't had a seizure since.

So what does that mean?

So he doesn't have a seizure. You have a veteran who has been filled with opiates. So now I got a call just yesterday. This poor young man who is smoking that marijuana does not have seizures, but they have filled him with opiates. He is trying to get off the opiates, but the process they have got him going through is he has to be dry of everything, including marijuana. And as soon as that level goes down, he begins having seizures again.

And then he went a few days ago—maybe a couple of weeks ago he was at the VA hospital. They were trying to get him off these opiates. He is going to feel a seizure. He went to the car to smoke a marijuana joint and was arrested because the people at the veterans hospital who run the parking lots are Federal employees. It is Federal property.

We have had votes right here in Congress saying that if a State legalizes the use of medical marijuana, the VA in that State is permitted to let their people utilize medical marijuana, and it failed. That vote failed.

I challenge my Republican colleagues to join with the Democratic colleagues who supported that resolution last time. If you really care about these people—yes, we have an opiate, an opium-based horrendous surge going on in our country, and it is bringing down our people, our veterans in particular. Let's not eliminate if the doctor believes that medical marijuana will have an impact. Let us not outlaw that doctor from doing this. Let us also remember that we know that it can end seizures.

This poor guy who called me the other day, his son, once the medical marijuana is going down—and they won't let him do this on the campus of the VA hospital—he ends up going back into seizures.

This is a type of catch-22 when you are trying to control people's private lives. It doesn't work. It is not right. It is not right for our veterans. It is not right for our senior citizens who are sitting in the senior citizens' homes. If they would like to take a gummy that is filled with a little cannabis, so what? So what? Let them enjoy themselves a little bit, for Pete's sake, in a way that is not harmful; bring back their appetite, or whatever.

No, we are trying to control people's lives, and it is having a harmful effect on the people themselves. And think about one last note of it. Who is most hurt by this is we have people in the poorest neighborhoods of our country who end up being arrested and being frisked to see if they have got any marijuana on them.

We have armed groups who look like Army personnel coming into our cities for drug raids. The Founding Fathers never meant criminal justice to be handled at the Federal level—they never did—but now we have the equivalent of SWAT squads going in and breaking people's doors down for providing medical marijuana. This is ridiculous. And those poor people in the Black areas and the Chicano areas get arrested. They are arrested, and that follows them for the rest of their life.

I have a bill that says that it is up to the States. And I would ask all of my colleagues and the people listening tonight to support the States' rights to make this decision. This is a State issue. And I have a bill that basically says that the Federal Government shall respect State marijuana laws. And when we do that, that will be left up to the people of those States to make these decisions.

That is what our Founding Fathers wanted, and that is why things didn't go haywire back in the old days. We left it up to the States. We especially left that issue of drug enforcement, but also law enforcement, at the local level for local police.

Mr. Speaker, so those are two ideas that I thought I would share with my colleagues tonight, that I think would save billions of dollars on the wall, and trying to change our attitude, trying to stop the waste that we are wasting lives, and billions of dollars, and creating drug cartels.

When it comes to marijuana, we need to change that law and leave it up to the States. And we can then—if people need help, we are going to give it to them. But if they are adults and Americans, they have a right to run their own lives.

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

PUBLICATION OF BUDGETARY MATERIAL

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET,
Washington, DC, May 2, 2017.

ACCOUNTS IDENTIFIED FOR ADVANCE APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018

Mrs. BLACK. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to section 3(g) of H. Res. 5, I hereby submit for printing in the Congressional Record the list of programs eligible for advance appropriations for fiscal year 2018. If there are any questions, please contact Jim Bates, Chief Counsel of the Budget Committee.

ACCOUNTS IDENTIFIED FOR ADVANCE APPROPRIATIONS

ACCOUNTS IDENTIFIED FOR ADVANCE APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018

(Subject to a General Limit of $28,852,000,000)

Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education

Employment and Training Administration
Education for the Disadvantaged
School Improvement
Career, Technical, and Adult Education
Special Education

Transportation, Housing and Urban Development

Tenant-based Rental Assistance
Project-based Rental Assistance

VETERANS ACCOUNTS IDENTIFIED FOR ADVANCE APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018

(Subject to a Separate Limit of $66,385,032,000)

Military Construction, Veterans Affairs

Veterans Medical Services
Veterans Medical Support and Compliance
Veterans Medical Facilities
Veterans Medical Community Care

SENATE BILL REFERRED

A bill of the Senate of the following title was taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 371. An act to make technical changes and other improvements to the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 7 o'clock and 58 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, May 3, 2017, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

1223. A letter from the Senior Counsel, Legal Division, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting the Bureau's final rule — Prepaid Accounts Under the Electronic Fund Transfer Act (Regulation E) and the Truth in Lending Act (Regulation Z); Delay of Effective Date [Docket No.: CFPB-2017-0008] (RIN: 3170-AA69) received May 1, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

1224. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, Department of Defense, transmitting the Army's proposed Letter of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Greece, Transmittal No. 17-15, pursuant to Sec. 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1225. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, Department of Defense, transmitting the Navy's proposed Letter of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of New Zealand, Transmittal No. 17-13, pursuant to Sec. 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1226. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, Department of Defense, transmitting the Navy's proposed Letter of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Australia, Transmittal No. 17-11, pursuant to Sec. 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1227. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, Department of Defense, transmitting the Army's proposed Letter of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Slovakia, Transmittal No. 17-14, pursuant to Sec. 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1228. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, Department of Defense, transmitting the Air Force's proposed Letter of Offer and Acceptance to the NATO Support and Procurement Agency, Transmittal No. 17-19, pursuant to Sec. 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1229. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, Department of Defense, transmitting the Navy's proposed Letter of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Israel, Transmittal No. 16-87, pursuant to Sec. 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1230. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, Department of Defense, transmitting the Air Force's proposed Letter of Offer and Acceptance to the NATO Support and Procurement Agency, Transmittal No. 17-06, pursuant to Sec. 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1231. A letter from the Acting Under Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. DDTC 17-010, pursuant to Section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1232. A letter from the Acting Under Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. DDTC 16-135, pursuant to Section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1233. A letter from the Senior Vice President, Controller and Chief Accounting Officer, Federal Home Loan Bank of Boston, transmitting the 2016 management report of the Federal Home Loan Bank of Boston, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 9106(a)(1); Public Law 97-258 (as amended by Public Law 101-576, Sec. 306(a)) (104 Stat. 2854); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

1234. A letter from the Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, Federal Home Loan Bank of Chicago, transmitting the 2016 management report of the Federal Home Loan Bank of Chicago, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 9106(a)(1); Public Law 97-258 (as amended by Public Law 101-576, Sec. 306(a)) (104 Stat. 2854); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

1235. A letter from the Acting Chief, Unified Listing Team, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Endangered Species Status for Rusty Patched Bumble Bee [Docket No.: FWS-R3-ES-2015-0112; 4500030113] received April 28, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

1236. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Special Local Regulation; Red Bull Air Race — San Diego 2017; San Diego Bay, CA [Docket No.: USCG-2017-0096] (RIN: 1625-AA08) received April 28, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1237. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; Ohio River Miles 803.5 to 804.5, Henderson, KY [Docket No.: USCG-2017-0174] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received April 28, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1238. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Special Local Regulation; Ohio River MM 598-602.7, Louisville, KY [Docket No.: USCG-2017-0238] (RIN: 1625-AA08) received April 28, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1239. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Special Local Regulation; Tred Avon River, between Bellevue, MD and Oxford, MD [Docket No.: USCG-2017-0077] (RIN: 1625-AA08) received April 28, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1240. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Special Local Regulation; Lake Ferguson; Greenville, MS [Docket No.: USCG-2017-0189] (RIN: 1625-AA08) received April 28, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1241. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; 2017 Key West Paddle Classic, Key West, FL [Docket No.: USCG-2017-0066] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received April 28, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1242. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; Unexploded Ordnance Detonation; Naval Base Kitsap, Elwood Point; Bremerton, WA [Docket No.: USCG-2017-0313] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received April 28, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1243. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Special Local Regulation; Wy-Hi Rowing Regatta; Detroit River, Trenton Channel; Wyandotte, MI [Docket No.: USCG-2017-0217] (RIN: 1625-AA08) received April 28, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1244. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — 2017 Marginal Production Rates (Notice 2017-26) received April 28, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

1245. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — 2017 Section 43 Inflation Adjustment (Notice 2017-25) received April 28, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

1246. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — 2016 Section 45K(d)(2)(C) Reference Price (Notice 2017-24) received April 28, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

1247. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Fringe Benefit Aircraft Valuation Formula (Rev. Rul. 2017-10) received April 28, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

1248. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — PATH Act Amendments for Taxable Years after 2015 (Rev. Proc. 2017-33) received April 28, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

1249. A letter from the Acting Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, transmitting a report providing information regarding all applications made by the Government during calendar year 2016 for authority to conduct electronic surveillance for foreign intelligence purposes, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1807; Public Law 95-511, Sec. 107; (92 Stat. 1795) and 50 U.S.C. 1862(c); Public Law 95-511, Sec. 502(c) (as added by Public Law 109-177, Sec. 106(h)(3)); (120 Stat. 200) and 18

U.S.C. 659 note; Public Law 109-177, Sec. 307(d); (120 Stat. 240); jointly to the Committees on the Judiciary and Intelligence (Permanent Select).

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. SHUSTER: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H.R. 1679. A bill to ensure that the Federal Emergency Management Agency's current efforts to modernize its grant management system includes applicant accessibility and transparency, and for other purposes (Rept. 115–107). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. COLE: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 305. Resolution providing for consideration of the Senate amendments to the bill (H.R. 244) to encourage effective, voluntary investments to recruit, employ, and retain men and women who have served in the United States military with annual Federal awards to employers recognizing such efforts, and for other purposes (Rept. 115–108). Referred to the House Calendar.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. VELA (for himself, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. RICHMOND, Ms. MCSALLY, Mr. CORREA, and Ms. BARRAGÁN):

H.R. 2281. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to reauthorize the Border Enforcement Security Task Force program within the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. CICILLINE (for himself, Mrs. BUSTOS, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. CROWLEY, Ms. FRANKEL of Florida, Mr. CORREA, Mr. EVANS, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. BEYER, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. PETERS, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mr. AGUILAR, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. HIMES, Mr. LEVIN, Mrs. MURPHY of Florida, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Ms. MENG, Mr. RUIZ, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. O'ROURKE, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. CAPUANO, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Mr. POCAN, Mr. SOTO, Mr. BERA, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Ms. GABBARD, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. KIND, Mr. BROWN of Maryland, Mr. TAKANO, Miss RICE of New York, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. VEASEY, Mr. KILMER, Mr. LOEBSACK, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. NORCROSS, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. COOPER, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. JEFFRIES, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. DELANEY, Mr. HOYER, Mrs. TORRES, Ms. TSONGAS, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. POLIS, Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. PAYNE, Mrs. BEATTY, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico, Ms. ESTY of Connecticut, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Ms. PELOSI, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. PALLONE, Mrs. DEMINGS, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. KIHUEN, Mr. MCEACHIN, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. NEAL, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. HANABUSA, Mr. HECK, Mr. CRIST, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. VELA, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. COSTA, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. NADLER, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Ms. NORTON, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. KAPTUR, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. RUSH, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Mr. PETERSON, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California, Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. BASS, Ms. MOORE, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. MCNERNEY, Ms. LEE, Mr. LYNCH, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. WELCH, Mr. DOGGETT, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. WALZ, Mr. VISCLOSKY, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. SIRES, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. KEATING, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. SERRANO, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. NOLAN, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. COHEN, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. GUTIÉRREZ, Mr. SABLAN, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. CLAY, Mr. SCHRADER, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. BORDALLO, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. SARBANES, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. TONKO, Ms. TITUS, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. CUELLAR, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI, Ms. PLASKETT, and Mr. RICHMOND):

H.R. 2282. A bill to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, gender identity, and sexual orientation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Education and the Workforce, Financial Services, Oversight and Government Reform, and House Administration, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi (for himself, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. RICHMOND, Mr. KEATING, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. VELA, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. CORREA, Mrs. DEMINGS, Ms. BARRAGÁN, and Miss RICE of New York):

H.R. 2283. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to improve morale within the Department of Homeland Security workforce by conferring new responsibilities to the Chief Human Capital Officer, establishing an employee engagement steering committee, requiring action plans, and authorizing an annual employee award program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. LABRADOR (for himself, Mr. PEARCE, Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia, and Mr. LAMALFA):

H.R. 2284. A bill to amend title 54, United States Code, to provide for congressional and State approval of national monuments and restrictions on the use of national monuments; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. ROE of Tennessee (for himself and Mr. HOYER):

H.R. 2285. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to increase the preference given, in awarding certain allergies and reversible lower airway disorders-related grants, to States that allow trained school personnel to administer rescue medications for allergies and reversible lower airway disorders, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas (for himself, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. LOWENTHAL, and Mr. POE of Texas):

H.R. 2286. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to designate certain entities as centers of excellence for domestic maritime workforce training and education, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. TIPTON:

H.R. 2287. A bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to develop a strategy to relocate the headquarters of the Bureau of Land Management from Washington, DC, to a western State in a manner that will save the maximum amount of taxpayer money practicable, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. BOST (for himself, Ms. ESTY of Connecticut, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. WALZ, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. COFFMAN, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. WENSTRUP, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Mrs. RADEWAGEN, Mr. O'ROURKE, Mr. POLIQUIN, Miss RICE of New York, Mr. DUNN, Mr. CORREA, Mr. ARRINGTON, Mr. SABLAN, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mr. PETERS, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, Mr. BERGMAN, Mr. BANKS of Indiana, Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico, and Ms. TITUS):

H.R. 2288. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to reform the rights and processes relating to appeals of decisions regarding claims for benefits under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. COHEN (for himself, Ms. NORTON, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. LEE, and Ms. MOORE):

H.R. 2289. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax incentives for the establishment of supermarkets in certain underserved areas; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. DELAURO (for herself, Mr. COLE, Mr. MULLIN, and Ms. DEGETTE):

H.R. 2290. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to provide a standard definition of therapeutic family care services in Medicaid; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. DUFFY:

H.R. 2291. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to expand the coverage

of telehealth services under the Medicare program, to provide coverage for home-based monitoring for congestive heart failure and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease under such program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. FASO (for himself, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. MENG, Mr. NADLER, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. TONKO, Mr. DONOVAN, and Mr. COLLINS of New York):

H.R. 2292. A bill to extend a project of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission involving the Cannonsville Dam; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. HOLDING (for himself and Mr. LEVIN):

H.R. 2293. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 for purposes of the tax on private foundation excess business holdings to treat as outstanding any employee-owned stock purchased by a business enterprise pursuant to certain employee stock ownership retirement plans; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. KING of New York (for himself and Mr. PASCRELL):

H.R. 2294. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide that for purposes of computing the annuity of certain law enforcement officers, any hours worked in excess of the limitation applicable to law enforcement premium pay shall be included in such computation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. LEVIN (for himself, Mr. ELLISON, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. NADLER, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. BEYER, Mr. POCAN, Ms. NORTON, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. LEE, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. BLUMENAUER, and Ms. MCCOLLUM):

H.R. 2295. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the proper tax treatment of personal service income earned in pass-thru entities; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. MCKINLEY (for himself and Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania):

H.R. 2296. A bill to increase accountability with respect to Department of Energy carbon capture, utilization, and sequestration projects, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MEEHAN (for himself, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. NEAL, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, and Mr. KIND):

H.R. 2297. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide an exception from the passive loss rules for investments in high technology research small business pass-thru entities; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. SENSENBRENNER:

H.R. 2298. A bill to amend the Former Presidents Act of 1958 to provide that former Presidents may not receive Government funded office space, staff, or free use of the mail, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committee on Appropriations, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. TENNEY (for herself, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, and Mr. JONES):

H.R. 2299. A bill to save taxpayers money by improving the manufacturing and distribution of coins and notes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California (for herself, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. LEE, Mr. ELLISON, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, and Ms. SPEIER):

H.R. 2300. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to improve the determination of cohort default rates and provide for enhanced civil penalties, to ensure personal liability of owners, officers, and executives of institutions of higher education, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California (for herself, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. LEE, Ms. SPEIER, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, and Mr. ELLISON):

H.R. 2301. A bill to provide that chapter 1 of title 9 of the United States Code, relating to the enforcement of arbitration agreements, shall not apply to enrollment agreements made between students and certain institutions of higher education; and to prohibit limitations on the ability of students to pursue claims against certain institutions of higher education; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN (for herself, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. MACARTHUR, Mr. LANCE, Mr. SIRES, and Mr. NORCROSS):

H.R. 2302. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 259 Nassau Street, Suite 2 in Princeton, New Jersey, as the ''Dr. John F. Nash, Jr. Post Office''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York (for herself, Mr. BILIRAKIS, and Mr. PAYNE):

H. Con. Res. 51. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that the Parthenon Marbles should be returned to Greece; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. KEATING (for himself, Ms. BASS, Mr. BERA, Mr. BRAT, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. CORREA, Mr. COSTA, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. DONOVAN, Mr. ENGEL, Ms. GABBARD, Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. JONES, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. KIHUEN, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia, Mr. NEAL, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr. NOLAN, Mr. PASCRELL, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mrs. RADEWAGEN, Miss RICE of New York, Mr. RUSH, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. SERRANO, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. SIRES, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. VELA, and Mr. WENSTRUP):

H. Con. Res. 52. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that an appropriate site in the Memorial Amphitheater in Arlington National Cemetery should be provided for a memorial marker to honor the memory of those who have been awarded or are eligible for the Korean Defense Service Medal who are missing in action, are unaccounted for, or died in-theater; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BYRNE:

H. Res. 303. A resolution electing a Member to certain standing committees of the House of Representatives; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. SHEA-PORTER (for herself, Mr. ENGEL, and Mr. HARPER):

H. Res. 304. A resolution expressing support for designation of May as ''National Asthma and Allergy Awareness Month''; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. RYAN of Ohio (for himself, Mr. LIPINSKI, and Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania):

H. Res. 306. A resolution recognizing the impact of tribology on the United States economy and competitiveness in providing solutions to critical technical problems in manufacturing, energy production and use, transportation vehicles and infrastructure, greenhouse gas emissions, defense and homeland security, health care, mining safety and reliability, and space exploration, among others, and recognizing the need for increased research and development investments in tribology and related fields; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. VELA:

H.R. 2281.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8.

By Mr. CICILLINE:

H.R. 2282.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi:

H.R. 2283.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The United States Constitution Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18, that Congress shall have the power to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper.

By Mr. LABRADOR:

H.R. 2284.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 4, Section 3, Clause 2—''The Congress shall have Power to dispose of and make all needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory or other Property belonging to the United States''

By Mr. ROE of Tennessee:

H.R. 2285.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas:

H.R. 2286.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution: ''The Congress shall have Power . . . to regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.''

By Mr. TIPTON:

H.R. 2287.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

ARTICLE I, SECTION 8, CLAUSE 18

By Mr. BOST:

H.R. 2288.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. COHEN:

H.R. 2289.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 (relating to the power to interstate commerce).

By Ms. DELAURO:

H.R. 2290.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. DUFFY:

H.R. 2291.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. FASO:

H.R. 2292.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. HOLDING:

H.R. 2293.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Articlel, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. KING of New York:

H.R. 2294.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Congress shall have Power . . . To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. LEVIN:

H.R. 2295.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. MCKINLEY:

H.R. 2296.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

According to Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution: The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises, to pay the debts and provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States but all duties, imposts, and excises shall be uniform throughout.

By Mr. MEEHAN:

H.R. 2297.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to: Article I, Section 8, Clause I

By Mr. SENSENBRENNER:

H.R. 2298.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. TENNEY:

H.R. 2299.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California:

H.R. 2300.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

The Congress shall have Power to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by the Constitution In the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California:

H.R. 2301.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

The Congress shall have Power to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the. foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN:

H.R. 2302.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 7 states: ''The Congress shall have Power . . . To establish Post Offices and post Roads.''

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 36: Mr. GAETZ.

H.R. 113: Mr. CHABOT and Mr. SABLAN.

H.R. 140: Mr. OLSON.

H.R. 179: Mr. KATKO and Mr. BEYER.

H.R. 184: Mr. RUTHERFORD.

H.R. 216: Mr. MAST.

H.R. 227: Mr. WELCH, Ms. DELBENE, and Ms. HANABUSA.

H.R. 242: Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. HUFFMAN, and Ms. GABBARD.

H.R. 289: Mr. SIMPSON.

H.R. 361: Mr. OLSON.

H.R. 367: Mr. DAVIDSON.

H.R. 449: Mrs. COMSTOCK.

H.R. 489: Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. SCHRADER, and Mr. JEFFRIES.

H.R. 490: Mr. MAST, Mr. PALMER, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. EMMER, Mr. YOHO, Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia, and Mr. GROTHMAN.

H.R. 544: Mr. TAKANO, Mr. JONES, and Mr. BUTTERFIELD.

H.R. 606: Mr. HUNTER and Mr. ROYCE of California.

H.R. 613: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio.

H.R. 619: Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. TURNER, and Mr. BANKS of Indiana.

H.R. 635: Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ and Mr. BLUMENAUER.

H.R. 681: Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. GARRETT, and Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana.

H.R. 721: Mr. KINZINGER.

H.R. 731: Mr. PANETTA, Ms. LOFGREN, and Mr. THOMPSON of California.

H.R. 743: Mr. SMITH of Nebraska.

H.R. 747: Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. JORDAN, and Mr. DESAULNIER.

H.R. 750: Mr. LARSEN of Washington.

H.R. 757: Mr. DESAULNIER.

H.R. 758: Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas and Mr. KNIGHT.

H.R. 770: Mr. TIBERI.

H.R. 785: Mrs. BLACKBURN and Mr. DESANTIS.

H.R. 787: Mr. PANETTA.

H.R. 807: Mr. QUIGLEY and Mr. OLSON.

H.R. 813: Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. SLAUGHTER, and Mr. BROWN of Maryland.

H.R. 820: Mr. STIVERS, Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania, Mr. RUSH, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Mr. BISHOP of Georgia.

H.R. 849: Mr. CARTER of Georgia and Mr. ROKITA.

H.R. 852: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD and Mr. RYAN of Ohio.

H.R. 856: Mr. ENGEL.

H.R. 873: Mr. DONOVAN, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, and Mr. BOST.

H.R. 917: Mr. STIVERS.

H.R. 931: Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. MCSALLY, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, and Mr. MITCHELL.

H.R. 1022: Mr. DESAULNIER.

H.R. 1065: Mr. JORDAN.

H.R. 1090: Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Mr. CORREA, and Ms. ESTY of Connecticut.

H.R. 1114: Mr. SMITH of Washington.

H.R. 1116: Mr. VELA and Mr. CHABOT.

H.R. 1134: Mr. O'HALLERAN, Mr. VISCLOSKY, Ms. BARRAGÁN, and Ms. ROSEN.

H.R. 1136: Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. WALKER, and Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee.

H.R. 1155: Mr. BIGGS.

H.R. 1156: Mr. PETERSON, Mr. BIGGS, and Mr. COOK.

H.R. 1164: Mr. CURBELO of Florida.

H.R. 1205: Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Mr. PETERS; Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. PERLMUTTER, and Ms. JAYAPAL.

H.R. 1240: Ms. HANABUSA, Ms, BARRAGÁN, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. JONES, and Mr. LOBIONDO.

H.R. 1243: Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. COSTA, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. WILSON of Florida, and Ms. ESTY of Connecticut.

H.R. 1251: Mr. LAWSON of Florida.

H.R. 1267: Mr. MOULTON.

H.R. 1272: Mr. PALLONE.

H.R. 1279: Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN and Mr. NOLAN.

H.R. 1299: Mr. CLEAVER and Ms. DELBENE.

H.R. 1316: Mr. BROOKS of Alabama.

H.R. 1318: Mr. SMITH of Washington.

H.R. 1332: Mr. LEVIN.

H.R. 1334: Mr. ARRINGTON.

H.R. 1405: Mr. KIHUEN and Ms. TITUS.

H.R. 1421: Ms. KAPTUR.

H.R. 1422: Mr. KIND.

H.R. 1446: Mr. JEFFRIES.

H.R. 1454: Mr. WELCH.

H.R. 1456: Ms. ESTY of Connecticut, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, and Ms. BONAMICI.

H.R. 1475: Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. DESAULNIER, and Mr. SMITH of Washington.

H.R. 1481: Ms. SHEA-PORTER.
H.R. 1485: Mr. BISHOP of Michigan and Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana.
H.R. 1498: Ms. MATSUI, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, and Mr. PALLONE.
H.R. 1501: Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana.
H.R. 1516: Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire and Mrs. MURPHY of Florida.
H.R. 1530: Mr. BISHOP of Michigan.
H.R. 1542: Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. LANGEVIN, and Mr. STEWART.
H.R. 1552: Mr. JORDAN.
H.R. 1566: Ms. LOFGREN.
H.R. 1625: Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. GABBARD, Mr. COHEN, Ms. MCSALLY, Mr. COOK, Mr. GARRETT, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. ESPAILLAT, and Mr. MAST.
H.R. 1651: Mr. ROSKAM and Mr. BLUMENAUER.
H.R. 1660: Mrs. BEATTY.
H.R. 1676: Mr. HULTGREN.
H.R. 1677: Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. FRANKEL of Florida, and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.
H.R. 1683: Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. ESPAILLAT, and Mr. RASKIN.
H.R. 1697: Mr. BANKS of Indiana, Mr. BLUM, Mr. MITCHELL, and Mr. REED.
H.R. 1698: Mr. HOLDING, Mr. MOULTON, and Ms. ADAMS.
H.R. 1711: Mr. MOULTON.
H.R. 1719: Mr. NOLAN.
H.R. 1753: Mr. CICILLINE and Mr. CÁRDENAS.
H.R. 1759: Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. MCNERNEY, and Ms. SPEIER.
H.R. 1812: Mr. SMITH of Washington.
H.R. 1815: Mr. KENNEDY.
H.R. 1825: Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. RUSH, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. SCHRADER, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, and Mr. ROTHFUS.
H.R. 1836: Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York.
H.R. 1844: Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, and Mr. DELANEY.
H.R. 1847: Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Ms. JENKINS of Kansas, and Mr. MITCHELL.
H.R. 1873: Mr. JONES, Mr. AMODEI, Mr. PETERSON, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. MEADOWS, and Mr. THOMAS J. ROONEY of Florida.
H.R. 1880: Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. PINGREE, and Ms. LOFGREN.
H.R. 1884: Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. VALADAO, and Mr. BERGMAN.
H.R. 1886: Mr. GUTIÉRREZ.
H.R. 1919: Mr. COLLINS of Georgia and Mr. GRAVES of Georgia.
H.R. 1928: Mrs. DAVIS of California.
H.R. 1945: Mr. COLLINS of New York.
H.R. 1949: Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. KILDEE, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania, Ms. DELAURO, Ms. FRANKEL of Florida, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. MCNERNEY, and Ms. SINEMA.
H.R. 1953: Ms. LOFGREN and Mr. MOULTON.
H.R. 1955: Ms. TENNEY.
H.R. 1957: Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mrs. DEMINGS, Mr. SCHRADER, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. YARMUTH, Ms. SLAUGHTER, and Ms. ESTY of Connecticut.
H.R. 1972: Mr. PAULSEN.
H.R. 1993: Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. YOUNG of Iowa, and Mr. KENNEDY.
H.R. 1997: Mr. BILIRAKIS.
H.R. 2004: Mr. LUCAS.
H.R. 2012: Mr. KENNEDY.
H.R. 2016: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.
H.R. 2029: Mr. BURGESS and Mr. GOHMERT.
H.R. 2046: Mr. KENNEDY.
H.R. 2052: Ms. JENKINS of Kansas, Ms. LEE, Mrs. TORRES, and Mr. LOBIONDO.
H.R. 2063: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. NADLER, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. CICILLINE, and Mr. QUIGLEY.
H.R. 2091: Mr. HUDSON.
H.R. 2105: Ms. BONAMICI and Mr. MCNERNEY.
H.R. 2123: Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 2151: Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. DESAULNIER, Ms. SLAUGHTER, and Ms. ESTY of Connecticut.
H.R. 2155: Mr. GROTHMAN.
H.R. 2168: Mr. HILL.
H.R. 2188: Mr. BURGESS and Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana.
H.R. 2192: Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania and Mr. TROTT.
H.R. 2196: Mr. FARENTHOLD.
H.R. 2207: Mr. LOWENTHAL and Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 2210: Mr. BARLETTA, Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. MARINO, and Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 2264: Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 2266: Mr. CRIST, Mr. DESANTIS, Mr. RASKIN, and Mr. NADLER.
H.R. 2268: Mr. ROKITA.
H.J. Res. 48: Ms. SPEIER.
H. Con. Res. 41: Mr. GALLAGHER.
H. Con. Res. 45: Mr. FASO, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Mr. BACON, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. COLE, Mr. HECK, Mr. DELANEY, Mr. KEATING, and Mr. PERLMUTTER.
H. Res. 124: Mr. CICILLINE.
H. Res. 195: Mr. DONOVAN.
H. Res. 220: Ms. LOFGREN and Mr. CORREA.
H. Res. 276: Miss RICE of New York, Mr. SWALWELL of California, and Mr. LOWENTHAL.
H. Res. 277: Mr. TED LIEU of California.
H. Res. 279: Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ and Mr. LAMBORN.
H. Res. 281: Mr. COLE and Mr. SCOTT of Virginia.
H. Res. 295: Mr. SABLAN.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZE THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF KAPPA ALPHA PSI FRATERNITY, INC.

HON. CEDRIC L. RICHMOND

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 2017

Mr. RICHMOND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated.

Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated is a collegiate Greek-letter fraternity with a predominantly African-American membership. Since the fraternity's founding on January 5, 1911 on the campus of Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana, the fraternity has never limited membership based on color, creed or national origin. The fraternity has over 150,000 members with 721 undergraduate and alumni chapters in every state of the United States, and International chapters in the United Kingdom, Germany, Korea, Japan, United States Virgin Islands, Nigeria, and South Africa. Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated celebrated its 100th anniversary on January 5, 2011, and is one of only four predominantly African American collegiate fraternities to do so.

Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated was founded by ten African-American college students, the Elder Watson Diggs, Dr. Ezra Dee Alexander, Dr. Byron K. Armstrong, Attorney Henry T. Asher, Dr. Marcus P. Blakemore, Paul W. Caine, George W. Edmond, Dr. Guy L. Grant, Edward G. Irvin, John M. Lee.

The fraternity sponsors programs providing community service, social welfare and academic scholarship through the Kappa Alpha Psi Foundation and is a supporter of the United Negro College Fund and Habitat for Humanity, the Saint Jude Children's Research Hospital, the Guide Right Service Program, along with the Kappa Leadership and Development League.

In addition to the community service contributions made by Kappa men, these gentlemen also make contributions and achieve in every field of human endeavor. Kappa men are leaders in the fields of law, business, education, healthcare, athletics and entertainment. Also, eight members of the Congressional Black Caucus are proud members of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated: SANFORD D. BISHOP, Jr.; WILLIAM LACY CLAY, Jr.; JOHN CONYERS, Jr.; ALCEE L. HASTINGS; HAKEEM JEFFRIES; AL LAWSON; DONALD MCEACHIN; and BENNIE G. THOMPSON.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud the philanthropic and achieving spirit of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated. As a hard-working and generous group of men, you are admired by many for the vigor that you possess and for the service that you render to others.

CONGRATULATING WILLIAM A. SCOTT ON HIS 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. ADAM KINZINGER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 2017

Mr. KINZINGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate William A. Scott of New Brunswick, New Jersey on turning 100 this May. Mr. Scott is the grandfather of my constituent, Michael Koolidge—a fellow veteran and syndicated radio host in Rockford, Illinois.

When World War II broke out, Mr. Scott answered the call of duty and enlisted in the U.S. Navy. ''Scotty'' as his fellow sailors called him, was a Seaman Second Class and spent time working on torpedo bomber planes that were eventually deployed throughout the world in the Allied war effort. During his service, Mr. Scott was awarded the American Theater Ribbon and the World War Two Victory Medal.

Following America's victory, Mr. Scott returned to work at the Calco Chemical Company in Bound Brook, New Jersey, working there for the next several decades as a Plastics and Banbury Operator. After retirement, Mr. Scott traveled with his wife, Betty to all 48 continental states in the same car, a Volkswagen Beetle to see everything this great country of ours had to offer.

In addition to volunteering in his community for the Meadows Foundation historic preservation group, Mr. Scott has been a member of the American Legion Post 12 in Somerville, New Jersey for four decades, where he held several key positions, such as Sergeant at Arms and Honor Guard. He has continued to provide numerous memorial services for fellow veterans and servicemen during his time at the American Legion Post 12.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Sixteenth Congressional District, I would like to sincerely congratulate William, his grandson, Michael, and the rest of their family on this amazing milestone and life achievement.

CELEBRATING COMMERCE TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY LIBRARY

HON. DAVID A. TROTT

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 2017

Mr. TROTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the opening of the new Commerce Township Community Library.

Since 2005, the Commerce Township Community Library has served the residents of Commerce Township and Wolverine Lake by providing a wealth of knowledge for those of every generation.

This year, they moved to a new location, one more centrally located within our community, representing the vital role they play as an educational epicenter for residents.

Commerce Township Community Library's new location now offers a children's reading room, allowing our community's youngest minds to foster their creativity and imagination in a space created just for them.

The over 10,000 additional square feet offered by their new facility allows staff to continue to curate and grow their collection while preserving the vast knowledge already housed on their shelves.

In an age of ever-changing technology, the dedicated staff who serve at Commerce Township Community Library have ensured they continue to evolve in a 21st century world, offering eBooks, eAudiobooks, and eMagazines, along with free technology classes.

As a place of learning and discovery, I applaud the Commerce Township Community Library for the vital role they play in fostering the continued learning and intellectual growth of our entire community. I look forward to witnessing all of the great work they continue to do as they serve our community from their new facility.

ANNIVERSARY OF THE L'AMBIANCE PLAZA COLLAPSE

HON. JAMES A. HIMES

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 2017

Mr. HIMES. Mr. Speaker, April 23rd marked the thirtieth anniversary of one of the gravest tragedies in the history of the State of Connecticut: the collapse of L'Ambiance Plaza, a 16-story tower under construction in Bridgeport.

I rise today to extend my condolences and pay tribute to the 28 workers who lost their lives in the collapse, the 22 survivors whose lives were forever changed, and the countless first responders and volunteers who spent ten days searching the debris for their friends and neighbors. The victims were family in the House of Labor—a collection of carpenters, ironworkers, and pipefitters—whose tragic and preventable deaths remind us that we must never give up the fight for safer workplaces.

Today, 30 years on since this tragedy at L'Ambiance Plaza, I give my sincere thanks to the Fairfield County Labor Council, the Fairfield County Building Trades, the Connecticut State Building Trades and the Connecticut AFL–CIO—all of whom have advocated for safer construction sites and workplaces. We owe it to the victims of this disaster to advocate for measures that make Connecticut's workplaces safer and protect the good men and women of Connecticut's workforce.

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

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

RECOGNIZING DR. CLIFF L. WOOD

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 2017

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Dr. Cliff L. Wood, who will retire from his position as President of Rockland Community College in Suffern, New York, this June.

Dr. Wood has dedicated more than 50 years of service to community college education, having served in senior management positions at five institutions. In his 13 years as President of Rockland Community College, Dr. Wood has spearheaded several important initiatives including a subsidized childcare center for students and teachers and a new technology center, and has overseen growth in the College's enrollment, community involvement and workforce development. His tireless efforts at the College have helped improve the lives of thousands of students.

In addition to his work at Rockland Community College, Dr. Wood has volunteered his leadership to many organizations, including Big Brothers Big Sisters, the Rockland Holocaust Museum & Study Center, Rockland Business Association, and Rockland Economic Development Corporation. He served as President of the New York Community College Association of Presidents, and is a member of New York Governor Andrew Cuomo's Mid-Hudson Regional Economic Development Council.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Wood's many accomplishments in higher education, economic development and civic involvement have had an undeniably positive impact on the communities he has served. I commend him for his outstanding work, and I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating him for his five decades of dedicated service.

MAHAM SEWANI SELECTED TO REPRESENT TEXAS AT CONGRESS OF FUTURE MEDICAL LEADERS

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 2017

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Maham Sewani of Sugar Land, for being chosen to represent Texas as a Delegate at the Congress of Future Medical Leaders by the National Academy of Future Physicians and Medical Scientists.

Maham was nominated for this position thanks to her excellent academic record and desire to enter the medical profession. Through this program, she will meet some important leaders in the medical field, including Nobel Prize winners and top medical school deans. The Congress of Future Medical Leaders is hosted to help motivate the top students in the country to pursue their desired careers in the medical field. Maham is a student at Awty International School and a member of its debate team.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Maham Sewani for being selected for this honor. We are extremely proud and expect great things from her in the future.

IN RECOGNITION OF MATTHEW BUTSON ON HIS OFFER OF APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 2017

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding student from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am pleased to announce that Matthew Butson of Metamora, Ohio has been offered an appointment to the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.

Matthew's offer of appointment permits him to attend the United States Naval Academy this fall with the incoming Class of 2021. Attending one of our nation's military academies not only offers the opportunity to serve our country, but also guarantees a world-class education while undertaking one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of their lives.

Matthew brings an enormous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2021. While attending St. John's Jesuit High School in Toledo, Ohio, Matthew was a member of the National Honor Society, as well as serving on student council and as class vice president his senior year.

Throughout high school, Matthew participated in football and basketball, serving as co-captain of the football team his senior year. I am confident that Matthew will carry the lessons of his student and athletic leadership to the Naval Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Matthew Butson on the offer of his appointment to the United States Naval Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available. I am positive that Matthew will excel during his career at the Naval Academy, and I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to him as he begins his service to our Nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TOM MARINO

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 2017

Mr. MARINO. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to attend votes on May 1, 2017 due to a family medical issue. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: YEA for rollcall vote 237, YEA for rollcall vote 238, and YEA for rollcall vote 239.

PRESIDENT TRUMP'S FIRST 100 DAYS LEAVE AMERICA WEAKER

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 2017

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, this past Saturday marked President Donald Trump's 100th day in the White House. Over the last 100 days, Mr. Trump's policy proposals, irresponsible rhetoric, and controversial appointments have made our families and communities less secure, our businesses less confident about the future, and our nation more isolated in the world.

Despite total Republican control of Congress, President Trump has been incapable of governing responsibly. Just this week—because of Republican dithering—Congress was forced to pass another stopgap spending bill to keep the government open for just seven days, denying Americans the certainty they deserve.

The first 100 days have revealed a President who is proposing legislation and taking executive actions that hurt working Americans at every turn.

TrumpCare, the Republicans' disastrous health care bill, leaves 24 million Americans uninsured and causes out-of-pocket costs to skyrocket. It forces older Americans to pay higher premiums, rations health care for vulnerable children, seniors, and people with disabilities, and weakens the solvency of Medicare.

Huge opposition from Democrats and active, engaged citizens has stopped this legislation for now, but Mr. Trump is still working to sabotage the Affordable Care Act. He has even threatened to cause the total collapse of our health care system and undermine the coverage we all depend on for purely political purposes. That is despicable.

If working families were unsettled by Mr. Trump's threat to their health care, his proposed budget shows just how far backwards he wants to take our country. He wants to slash job training programs, hurt American seniors by cutting Meals on Wheels, slow down our communities by gutting infrastructure funding, and eliminate important investments in health research, education, and the arts and humanities. And Mr. Trump's backwards budget strips the Environmental Protection Agency of the resources it needs to protect public health and safety.

As the Ranking Member of the House Interior-Environment Appropriations Subcommittee, I know that the attack on the EPA's budget is just one part of Mr. Trump's all-out war on clean air, clean water, and our public lands. In his first 100 days, Mr. Trump and EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt have undone protections for clean water, allowed the continued use of dangerous neurotoxins, and reversed clean air rules that help stem the threat of climate change. In doing so, they have repeatedly ignored the findings of their own scientists.

Mr. Trump and Mr. Pruitt's denial of climate science and pledges to withdraw the United States from the Paris Climate Agreement are transforming our nation from the global leader

in combating climate change into an environmental rogue state. The only winners? Billionaires, the fossil fuel industry, and polluters that profit at the expense of our families, our communities, and our planet.

Billionaires and big corporations are also the big winners in Mr. Trump's so-called tax reform plan. His proposal amounts to a massive giveaway to the wealthiest Americans adding trillions to the federal debt and leaving working families holding the bag. Since Mr. Trump has broken with precedent and kept his tax returns secret, we can only speculate about how much he and his family businesses will benefit from his tax plan.

In fact, until Mr. Trump releases his tax returns, a cloud of suspicion will hang over his entire White House. Given that Russia interfered in our electoral process to help Mr. Trump win the election and his first National Security Adviser, Michael Flynn, left amid a Russia-related scandal, Americans deserve a complete and independent investigation. Yet Congressional Republicans continue to cover up for President Trump and are still blocking accountability and transparency.

Every time President Trump has made alarming decisions, from an unconstitutional ban on immigrants and refugees to attacks on women's health care at home and abroad, millions of engaged Americans have spoken up and spoken out against his dangerous and divisive policies.

In Minnesota, I have seen engaged citizens make their voices heard at my town hall meetings and vibrant demonstrations, like the Women's March, the Tax March, and the March for Science. There is a consensus among the tens of thousands of Minnesotans I have spoken to: We want America to move forward and we will work to resist and stop Trump administration policies and proposals that take our nation backwards.

After President Trump's first 100 days, it is clear that we must join together to hold his White House accountable. In the next 100 days, and all the days that follow, I will keep standing alongside my constituents fighting for the values we believe in.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 47TH ANNUAL CAP-TO-CAP PROGRAM

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 2017

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Sacramento Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce—and, in particular, Program Chair Erica Taylor—for leading the 47th Annual Capitol-to-Capitol program this year. As this delegation of business, civic and political representatives from the six-county Sacramento region concludes its program in Washington, D.C., I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing these fine Sacramentans.

For nearly 50 years, the Sacramento Metro Chamber has organized an annual delegation lobbying program in Washington, D.C. This year, over 300 leaders from the Sacramento region descended on the capital for a series of meetings, field tours, and receptions to speak collectively as a unified voice for Sacramento's business community. The delegation of volunteers organized itself into 12 policy committees covering key priority issues for the Sacramento region, such as flood protection, transportation, health care, and workforce development. I always enjoy meeting with the delegation teams and hearing about a variety of topics that are important to my hometown.

I would especially like to commend the 2017 Cap-to-Cap Chair, Erica Taylor of Golden One Credit Union. As a leader in the community, Erica spends her time serving on boards and organizations with the goal of improving Sacramento for all. She has immersed herself in Chamber activities for years, including serving as a founding member of MetroEDGE, graduating from the Chamber's Leadership Sacramento Program, and serving on the Chamber's board of directors. Outside of the Chamber, Erica currently serves on the board of directors for KVIE, the Los Rios Foundation, and Sacramento Covered. Her commitment to the Sacramento Region is clear from her extensive civic involvement, and I want to congratulate her on the impeccable job she did organizing and leading this year's Cap-to-Cap program.

Mr. Speaker, in large part due to Erica's leadership, Cap-to-Cap this year was a significant success for the Sacramento region. I am honored to recognize the Metro Chamber's delegation for its economic and civic contributions to the Sacramento Region. On behalf of the people of Sacramento and the Sixth Congressional District of California, I ask all my colleagues to join me in commending their unwavering commitment to Sacramento's growth and development.

JUN-YONG WINS TEXAS STATE BAR ESSAY CONTEST

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 2017

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Jun-Yong Kim of Katy, for placing first in the State Bar of Texas Law Day writing contest.

The theme of this year's competition was ''The 14th Amendment: Transforming American Democracy.'' Jun-Yong won first with his essay, ''Monsters of My American Dream,'' which explores the meaning of the 14th Amendment through his perspective—a South Korean immigrant. Jun-Yong represented the Katy Bar Association and will be recognized for his first place win at the Texas Law Center in Austin, TX, where he will receive a $1,000 scholarship. Jun-Yong is a student at Seven Lakes High School.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Jun-Yong for winning first place in the State Bar of Texas Law Day contest. We are very proud of his talented work and look forward to his future successes.

IN RECOGNITION OF ABIGAIL YEAGER ON HER OFFER OF APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 2017

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding student from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am pleased to announce that Abigail Yeager of Holland, Ohio has been offered an appointment to the United States Military Academy in West Point, New York.

Abigail's offer of appointment permits her to attend the United States Military Academy this fall with the incoming Class of 2021. Attending one of our nation's military academies not only offers the opportunity to serve our country, but also guarantees a world-class education while undertaking one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of their lives.

Abigail brings an enormous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2021. While attending Springfield High School in Holland, Ohio, Abigail established a tutoring program at Holland Elementary School, received a Youth Jefferson Award for Public Service, and was ranked third in her class.

Throughout high school, Abigail participated in soccer, cross-country, track and field, and swimming, earning multiple varsity letters. Abigail also served as a Student Ambassador to the Springfield Local Schools Board of Education. I am confident that Abigail will carry the lessons of her student and athletic leadership to the Military Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Abigail Yeager on her offer of appointment to the United States Military Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available. I am positive that Abigail will excel during her career at West Point, and I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to her as she begins her service to our Nation.

TO HONOR THE LIFE OF FDNY FIREFIGHTER WILLIAM TOLLEY

HON. GRACE MENG

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 2017

Ms. MENG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today along with the support of my colleague, Congressman SUOZZI, to honor the life, service, and bravery of New York City firefighter William Tolley, who was killed in the line of duty on April 20, 2017.

Congressman SUOZZI and I are saddened that New York has lost such a beloved hero. William Tolley was a courageous firefighter with Ladder Company 135 in Glendale, Queens and a respected community member on Long Island. Thousands attended his funeral at St. Martin of Tours Church in Bethpage, Long Island, and many Long Island

residents decorated their streets with red ribbons in remembrance. William's memory was also honored in Queens as the flag at the firehouse of Engine Company 286/Ladder Company 135 was flown at half-mast on the evening of his death. In addition, many Queens residents paid their respects with a makeshift memorial outside the firehouse on Myrtle Avenue. We believe that William's dedication to protecting Queens citizens from harm and his service to the Queens community will never be forgotten.

As a heroic New York City Fire Department (FDNY) veteran for fourteen years, William not only risked his life in the line of duty for his profession, but he also volunteered at the Bethpage Fire Department on Long Island. Congressman SUOZZI and I commend William's unwavering selflessness that led him to dedicate both his career and free time to protecting fellow community members.

William was not only a hero in the FDNY, but he was a beloved father, husband, brother, friend, and neighbor. Outside of the uniform, William enjoyed being the drummer in a heavy metal band and being an active presence in his daughter's school. William is survived by his wife, Marie, and his 8-year old daughter, Isabella.

Congressman SUOZZI and I offer our deepest condolences to William's family, friends, and the FDNY during this difficult time.

INTRODUCTION OF HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS THAT THE PARTHENON MARBLES SHOULD BE RETURNED TO GREECE

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 2017

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce a Concurrent Resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the Parthenon Marbles, currently held in the British Museum, should be returned to Greece. Approximately 200 years ago, while Greece was under Ottoman rule, the British nobleman Thomas Bruce, seventh Earl of Elgin, removed over 100 pieces of sculptures known as the Parthenon Marbles and transported them to the United Kingdom. The Marbles were part of a frieze that adorned the Temple of Athena. In 1816, the British Parliament voted to purchase the Marbles from Lord Elgin and they now reside in the British Museum. The other half of the Marbles that comprise the frieze are in the New Acropolis Museum in Athens alongside plaster replicas of the Marbles that were taken. Despite years of good faith efforts by the Greek Government to retain the Marbles, it has been unable to negotiate an agreement with its British counterparts to return the Marbles to Greece.

I am pleased that several Members of the British Parliament have recently expressed support for transferring ownership of the Marbles back to Greece and return these cherished artifacts to their rightful home. The Parthenon marbles are some of Greece's greatest examples of artistic expression and beauty, and should be on display in their country of origin. They are vital pieces of Greek history that belong to the Greek people. This resolution calls upon the two countries to come to an agreement to finally return these treasures to their rightful home.

I want to thank Rep. GUS BILIRAKIS, with whom I co-chair the Congressional Caucus on Hellenic Issues, and Rep. DONALD PAYNE, Jr. for joining me as co-sponsors on this important resolution. Rep. PAYNE's father and our former colleague, the late Rep. Donald Payne Sr., was a great champion in this effort to return the Parthenon Marbles to Greece. I am proud to continue to call for an agreement that will put an end to this centuries-old dispute, and I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

WELCOME ALEXANDER FANCOURT MORRIS, JR.

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 2017

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I am happy to congratulate Alex Morris, the Deputy District Director of the Second Congressional District of South Carolina, and his wife, Rebekah, on the birth of their son. Alexander Fancourt ''Court'' Morris, Jr. was born at 3:19 a.m. on Wednesday, April 12, 2017, at Palmetto Health Baptist in Columbia, South Carolina. Court weighed eight pounds and fifteen ounces and measured 21 and ¼ inches long. He is the first child for the happy couple and I look forward to watching him grow as he is raised by talented parents who will be dedicated to his well-being and bright future.

I would also like to congratulate Court's grandparents, Debra Morris of Elgin, South Carolina, and Major General Robert and Barbara Livingston of West Columbia, South Carolina. Congratulations to the entire Morris and Livingston families as they welcome their newest addition of pure pride and joy.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 2017

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and missed Roll Call vote numbers 237, 238 and 239. Had I been present, I would have voted ''aye'' on votes 237, 238 and 239.

IN RECOGNITION OF OLGA BUDKE ON HER OFFER OF APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 2017

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding student from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am pleased to announce that Olga Budke of Findlay, Ohio has been offered an appointment to the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Olga's offer of appointment permits her to attend the United States Air Force Academy this fall with the incoming Class of 2021. Attending one of our nation's military academies not only offers the opportunity to serve our country, but also guarantees a world-class education while undertaking one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of their lives.

Olga brings an enormous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2021. While attending Saint Wendelin Catholic School in Fostoria, Ohio, Olga was a member of the National Honor Society and was ranked first in her class.

Throughout high school, Olga was a USA gymnastics competitor and participated in karate, archery and cross country. She also obtained her private pilot's license. I am confident that Olga will carry the lessons of her student and athletic leadership to the Air Force Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Olga Budke on the offer of her appointment to the United States Air Force Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available. I am positive that Olga will excel during her career at the Air Force Academy, and I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to her as she begins her service to our Nation.

JOHNNY SPIRES NAMED PEARLAND POLICE CHIEF

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 2017

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Johnny Spires of Pearland, TX, for being named Police Chief of the Pearland Police Department.

Johnny has over 27 years of law enforcement experience, having worked as a police officer, Sergeant, Lieutenant and Assistant Chief of Police. As Chief, he'll oversee the budget, 17 divisions and over 200 Pearland City employees, while further strengthening community ties and ensuring its safety. His years of distinguished service in the Police Department will serve him well in his new role.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Johnny Spires, the new Police Chief of the Pearland Police Department. All of Pearland will benefit from him and his commitment to safety.

RECOGNIZING THE SALVATION ARMY OF MONROE COUNTY

HON. TIM WALBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 2017

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Salvation Army of Monroe County for 100 years of service in the community.

The Salvation Army of Monroe County actively ministers to both the physical and spiritual needs of those in our area.

Under the leadership of Maj. Louise Blessing and Lt. Karl Blessing, the organization currently provides a wide range of programs, including a food pantry, homeless shelter, youth programs, emergency assistance, casework services, worship services, and much more.

Through all these initiatives, they offer a helping hand to the most vulnerable and spread God's love in their sphere of influence.

Mr. Speaker, organizations like the Salvation Army of Monroe County are woven into the very fabric of our community. They play a critical role in rebuilding lives, restoring hope, and serving those in need.

I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the Salvation Army of Monroe County's 100 year anniversary, and I pray for many more years of fruitful contributions to the community.

H. RES. 187, RELATING TO EFFORTS TO RESPOND TO THE FAMINE IN SOUTH SUDAN

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 2017

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to thank Congresswoman BASS, for bringing forth this critical resolution. I am proud to join my colleagues today in support of H. Res. 187, Relating to efforts to respond to the famine in South Sudan.

Mr. Speaker, as many of us know, the famine in South Sudan is one of the worst humanitarian crises since World War II. Fighting and violence has forced over 3 million people from their homes, driven the South Sudanese people into famine, and threatens the country's independence. As we approach South Sudan's winter season, communities facing famine will become inaccessible to humanitarian groups as roads become flooded, proving a dire need for our support and relief.

Our responsibilities as elected officials extend much farther than the boundaries of our districts. It is our congressional responsibility to support U.S. Agency for International Development in its efforts to provide aid for those facing this devastating crisis and collaborate with relief organizations to ensure that families are receiving essential resources.

If we do not act now, we jeopardize the millions of lives, put the long term security of South Sudan on the line, and threaten our goal for global peace.

While a resolution and aid alone cannot solve this problem, it can save lives. We must continue our bipartisan efforts, and move forward to allocate $1 billion in aid to ensure that all people have access to fundamental needs.

RECOGNIZING LIEUTENANT COLONEL TRENTON J. CONNER FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE NATION

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 2017

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute the service of Lieutenant Colonel Trenton J. Conner, who has served his nation and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania admirably as Commander of the Letterkenny Munitions Center (LEMC) in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania.

Lieutenant Colonel Conner was installed as commander of LEMC in 2015, and has since led a dynamic effort to modernize both the facilities and logistical technology that allow Letterkenny to operate as one of our nation's most efficient and effectual munitions centers. His leadership has helped turn LEMC into the Army's premier munitions center, orchestrating the distribution, maintenance, and demilitarization of munitions from around the globe.

On behalf of Pennsylvania's 9th District, I want to thank Lieutenant Colonel Conner for his selfless service, and moreover highlight the sense of purpose with which he has handled every project managed in his time at Letterkenny Munitions Center. His leadership and the progressive changes he has made will live on, and it is with the utmost appreciation with which I wish him the best as he continues to serve his nation in new capacities.

As he passes the guidon, I take great pleasure in congratulating Lieutenant Colonel Conner on his prodigious accomplishments. I thank him for his tireless devotion to duty and continued service to the state and to the nation.

IN RECOGNITION OF ALLENA ROSE ON HER OFFER OF APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 2017

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding student from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am pleased to announce that Allena Rose of Toledo, Ohio has been offered an appointment to the United States Military Academy in West Point, New York.

Allena's offer of appointment permits her to attend the United States Military Academy this fall with the incoming Class of 2021. Attending one of our nation's military academies not only offers the opportunity to serve our country, but also guarantees a world-class education while undertaking one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of their lives.

Allena brings an enormous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2021. While attending Whitmer High School in Toledo, Ohio, Allena was a member of the National Honor Society, student council and was ranked in the top five percent of her class.

Throughout high school, Allena participated in varsity and club volleyball, including serving as a floor captain. Allena also participated in the Spirit Club and Mu Alpha Theta honors society. I am confident that Allena will carry the lessons of her student and athletic leadership to the Military Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Allena Rose on her offer of appointment to the United States Military Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available. I am positive that Allena will excel during her career at West Point, and I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to her as she begins her service to our Nation.

JOHN COBEAGA

HON. DINA TITUS

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 2017

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to say goodbye and Godspeed to a longtime friend, John Mitchell Cobeaga. Mitch, his wife Sylvia, and their children have lived next door to us for some thirty years. We often hid the ''presents from Santa'' in our garage until Christmas morning when the children could be surprised by shiny new bikes. His law office was also next to my congressional office in downtown Las Vegas and I often visited with him there.

Mitch was well respected for his advocacy work for fellow veterans. Mitch graduated from the U.S. Airforce Academy and was a proud member of the 20th Cadet Squadron, ''Tough Twenty Trolls.'' He became a Wild Weasel fighter pilot and flew over 100 combat missions in Vietnam. After his military service, he founded the Veterans Ask-a-Lawyer program, a free legal program to help vets in need.

Mitch also had a reputation as a hero for the little guy in the courtroom where he had a commanding presence. He contributed to many of Nevada's largest cases, including the one involving the 1988 perchlorate explosion at the Pacific Engineering and Production Company which killed two people and caused billions of dollars in damage throughout the Henderson area. His colleague Robert Murdock noted that ''he had a hand in mentoring most of the lawyers in Southern Nevada at one point or another'' and should be honored by having a courtroom named for him.

Sylvia said that Mitch will be remembered for his intelligence, sense of morality, and the importance he placed on family. And he never took himself seriously, she said. He always had time for everyone he passed in the courtroom, office, and around town. We will all miss his warm laughter, his kind words, and his sage counsel very much.

RECOGNITION OF FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH CENTRALIA

HON. A. DONALD McEACHIN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 2017

Mr. McEACHIN. Mr. Speaker, this year marks the 150th Anniversary of First Baptist Church Centralia, founded in 1867 in Chesterfield County, Virginia Originally Salem African Baptist Church, the African American congregation held its first 30 years of services under an arbor made of brush on a modest one-acre plot. The first building was officially erected in 1897 under the leadership of the Reverend T. H. Johnson, incorporating Gothic Revival and Colonial Revival style elements.

Later this building was remodeled by Reverend William Thomas into the historic building we know today as Centralia, featuring its signature twin towers. Under the leadership of Reverend Samuel Carter and Dr. Wilson E. Brown Shannon the church grew as a congregation and as a spiritual beacon for its members. Dr. Shannon extended the reach of the church by expanding the Samuel Moss Carter Family Life Center to accommodate up to 150 preschool children, banquet amenities to accommodate 750 occupants, and other family life ministry facilities including an indoor Olympic sized swimming pool.

Shortly after the groundbreaking of this highly anticipated Family Life Center, the Historic First Baptist Church Centralia was destroyed by fire on April 16, 1996. Rebuilt to original specifications in 1997 following the arson attack, a rededication ceremony was held in celebration. On November 22, 2014, the Historic First Baptist Church Centralia was designated a Chesterfield County Historic Landmark. A Virginia Historical Highway Marker was also erected in recognition of its historical and architectural significance in November 2015.

As First Baptist Church Centralia celebrates its 150th year anniversary, may your efforts and continued courage to spread the gospel of God through oratory teachings, community involvement and leadership be commended.

HONORING LOUIS FARINELLA

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 2017

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my sorrow at the loss of my friend Louis Farinella. Lou was one of the most dynamic men I know.

He worked his way up from the bottom of the Philadelphia Electric Company to the post of Administration Manager. That was a sign of his talent.

He was a Democratic Committeeman in the Ward 66 B for 45 years. He was also Chairman of the Parkwood Civic Association Zoning Committee. Those were signs of his commitment to his community.

He worked for me at the Philadelphia Democratic City Committee for 22 years. That was a sign of his loyalty.

But most of all, Lou was Florence's loving husband for 56 years. They had two children, Louis III and John and four grandchildren, John, Ryan, Tyler and Angela. He loved and was loved by his sister, Marie. Those were all signs of his heart.

Mr. Speaker, Lou probably never knew how important he was to me. But, I know it. I miss him and I ask all of my colleagues to join me in giving the condolences of the House of Representatives to his family.

KATY PRINCIPAL NAMED DISTINGUISHED PRINCIPAL FINALIST

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 2017

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Kwabena Mensah of Katy, for being named as a Texas National Distinguished Principal finalist by the Texas Elementary Principals and Supervisors Association (TEPSA).

Out of 123 nominations, only eight were selected as finalists for this prestigious honor. The National Distinguished Principal is the highest honor a principal can achieve, with the winner receiving $10,000 and a trip to Washington, DC, in the fall. Kwabena is the principal at Polly Ann McRoberts Elementary School and was chosen as a finalist for being an engaging leader who's created a unique learning environment. This year, Kwabena was named Principal of the Year at Katy Independent School District and the Texas Alliance of Black School Educators. Way to go.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Kwabena Mensah for earning this distinction. Our children benefit from his commitment to education and we thank him for his hard work.

IN RECOGNITION OF ELIZABETH SHAFFER ON HER OFFER OF APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 2017

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding student from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am pleased to announce that Elizabeth Shaffer of Hicksville, Ohio has been offered an appointment to the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Elizabeth's offer of appointment permits her to attend the United States Air Force Academy this fall with the incoming Class of 2021. Attending one of our nation's military academies not only offers the opportunity to serve our country, but also guarantees a world-class education while undertaking one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of their lives.

Elizabeth brings an enormous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2021. While attending Hicksville High School in Hicksville, Ohio, Elizabeth was a member of the National Honor Society and class president.

Throughout high school, Elizabeth served as team captain on the basketball, track, and volleyball teams, and participated in the marching band. I am confident that Elizabeth will carry the lessons of her student and athletic leadership to the Air Force Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Elizabeth Shaffer on the offer of her appointment to the United States Air Force Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available. I am positive that Elizabeth will excel during her career at the Air Force Academy, and I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to her as she begins her service to our Nation.

GIRLS OF STEEL

HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 2017

Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the Girls of Steel Robotics team on winning the Engineering Inspiration Award at the 2017 Greater Pittsburgh Regional FIRST Robotics Competition in California, PA. This award celebrates outstanding success in advancing respect and appreciation for engineering within a team's school and community, and it qualified them to attend Championships in St. Louis April 26–29, 2017 for the seventh year in a row. This was their best year at Championships, where they ranked 28 out of 68, with 6 wins, 3 losses, and 1 tie match.

I think that placing so high nationally and winning the Engineering Inspiration award at the regional competition speaks volumes about the dedication these young women have demonstrated in pursuing Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math careers, sustaining their team, and collectively spending thousands of hours doing outreach in the community. Girls of Steel are often referred to as the hometown favorite robotics group and continue to be featured in videos, print media, and blog posts. In October 2016, they were represented at The White House Frontiers Conference in Pittsburgh where President Obama recognized the Girls of Steel teams.

George Kantor, Senior Systems Scientist at Carnegie Mellon University's Field Robotics Center, won the prestigious Woodie Flowers Finalist Award at the Greater Pittsburgh Regional competition. This award is presented to mentors in the robotics competition who best lead, inspire, and empower their teams using excellent communication skills.

FIRST, which stands for ''For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology,'' is an organization dedicated to engaging students in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) fields. The FIRST Robotics Competition allows students to apply creativity and critical thinking in the demanding and

competitive field of robotics, all while instilling a strong sense of pride in the participants. Hundreds of thousands of students gain practical, team-based engineering experience through FIRST every year.

As a founder and co-chair of the Congressional Robotics Caucus, I believe competitions like these are important tools for helping young people to explore potential careers in STEM. I've witnessed firsthand the remarkable economic growth and job creation that these fields can bring in my home district, and I strongly believe that these fields are crucial to our nation's future prosperity. I want to commend organizations like FIRST for the important work they do in encouraging young people to pursue STEM careers.

Sixty-three young women from 8th through 12th grades associated with schools located in and around Pittsburgh represent this year's Girls of Steel program, and in recognition of their hard work, intelligence, and teamwork, I would like to mention each of these inspiring young ladies by name. They are Alexandria Adams, Abhi Ajay, Aeryn Anderson, Peyton Balkovec, Arushi Bandi, Emilia Bianchini, Emma Burnett, Rosy Chen, Maya Cranor, Maansi Dasari, Hope DiGioia, Riley Doyle, Sofia Heller, Kristina Hilko, Madelyn Human, Rozie Fero, Corinne Hartman, Anna Jablonowski, Caroline Kenney, Isabelle Kowenhoven, Mary Laird, Jisue Lee, Agathe Legault, Rosie Li, Alice Liu, Sally Liu, Gayathri Manchella, Eve Mango, Jordan Martinez, Maia McCabe, Svea McCann, Sree Mekala, Cheyenne Meyers, Abbey Murcek, Anna Nesbitt, Anne Kailin Northam, Jimin Oh, Helen Paulini, Lehka Pendyala, Ananya Rao, Priya Ray, Maïté Sadeh, Rachel Sadeh, Lauren Scheller-Wolf, Sarah Seay, Alexa Selwood, Swathi Senthil, Kriti Shah, Vivian Shao, Lauren Shovlin, Makayla Shreve, Amari Smith, Imani Smith, Kavya Soman, Ace Song, Adison Staskiewicz, JéanMarie Trichel, Mikayla Trost, Langley Turcsanyi, Anja Vogt, Janet Wang, Rebecca Wettergreen, and Ziya Xu.

Additionally, I want to convey my sincere appreciation to the faculty and staff of Carnegie Mellon University's Field Robotics Center, who have mentored the Girls of Steel since 2010. Because of their efforts, more young women experience real-world technological challenges and learn from some of the nation's best at solving such problems. These experiences will certainly benefit these young women in the future, no matter what careers they eventually choose to pursue.

I congratulate the Girls of Steel and wish them all continued success in their academic and professional endeavors

HONORING KATHY KRUSE

HON. JOSEPH P. KENNEDY III

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 2017

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Kathleen Kruse, a long-time member of Senator Ted Kennedy's staff and a tireless advocate for arts and cultural policy. Kathy is stepping down from her role as Vice President of Institutional Affairs and Assistant Secretary of the Board of Trustees of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, where she has served with distinction for the past seven years.

Kathy had a long and accomplished career in the Senate as the Cultural Policy Advisor and Senior Counselor for Senator Kennedy for 30 years. In this capacity and throughout her tenure, she was the staff liaison for Senator Kennedy to the Kennedy Center's Board of Trustees. During her time in the Senate, she was a fierce advocate for arts organizations nationally, authored key Kennedy Center legislation and served as a trusted liaison to and friend of the Kennedy family.

I would also like to acknowledge the generosity of Kathy's daughter, Sasha, who has supported her mother's work in public service, and shared her with us during her many late nights in the Senate and at the Kennedy Center.

Kathy is a fixture in the arts and cultural landscape in Washington, DC and across the country, and she will be dearly missed. We are certain that she will find tremendous success in her next professional ventures and that she will enjoy spending more time with her family. On behalf of the Kennedy Center's Board of Trustees, I offer my sincere gratitude to Kathy for her many contributions to the United States Congress, the Kennedy Center and our nation.

REMEMBERING FORMER BOULDER CITY MAYOR ROBERT STANLEY FERRARO

HON. JACKY ROSEN

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 2017

Ms. ROSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember and commemorate the life of Robert Stanley Ferraro, a pillar in our community and one of the longest-serving public officials in Nevada history, who passed away last week at the age of 81.

Robert Ferraro served on the Boulder City Council for 31 years and was Boulder City's first elected mayor, and successfully stood for election nine times. He knocked on every voter's door, and provided leadership to one of the most unique communities in our state.

Bob led the effort to maintain Boulder City's character as a special community, and to be the ''Clean, Green Boulder City'' that many of my constituents call home, and thousands visit each year.

He was named Nevada Public Official of the Year in 1986, Community Leader of the Year in 2001, and led a life that was a true American success story, coming from humble beginnings to be one of the great civic leaders in our state. He will be greatly missed, and my thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends.

PIMA COUNCIL ON AGING—50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 2017

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate Pima Council on Aging on its 50th anniversary of service to older adults and their families in Congressional District Three.

As one of the nation's oldest Area Agencies on Aging, Pima Council on Aging (PCOA) has advocated on behalf of older adults since the days when 30 percent of Americans aged 60 and older lived in poverty. That number has been reduced by nearly two-thirds over the past five decades, but there is much work still to be done. PCOA's efforts are tireless and they continue to be at the forefront of advocacy and services to older adults in Pima County.

The work done by PCOA and the aging services network is more critical now than ever before. Each day, up to 10,000 baby boomers are turning 65 and over the next twenty years, 75 million baby boomers will reach retirement age. In Pima County, older adults are the fastest growing portion of the population. Continuing to work towards solutions and support systems to combat pressing concerns like the fear of falling and understanding the Medicare system are paramount to PCOA's success and our communal success.

Over the years, I've come to know the organization well. Since the beginning, Marian Lupu was the zealous driving force behind better care and programs for older adults in Pima County, the State of Arizona, nationally, and even internationally. One such initiative for better care was creating one of the first case management service systems for older adults in the United States in the early 1970s. After her retirement, I've watched PCOA thrive in the Tucson community, being a staple in the community for my constituents and many others across the county. They have continued as the leading force behind services that support older adults in living with dignity and independence in Tucson and throughout Pima County.

Thank you for continuing to be a voice for change in our community. I look forward to working with PCOA in the future to advocate on behalf of older people in southern Arizona.

IN RECOGNITION OF SAMUEL KOVALESKI ON HIS OFFER OF APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES MERCHANT MARINE ACADEMY

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 2017

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding student from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am pleased to announce that

Samuel Kovaleski of Findlay, Ohio has been offered an appointment to the United States Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point, New York.

Sam's offer of appointment permits him to attend the United States Merchant Marine Academy this fall with the incoming Class of 2021. Attending one of our nation's military academies not only offers the opportunity to serve our country, but also guarantees a world-class education while undertaking one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of their lives.

Sam brings an enormous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2021. While attending Findlay High School in Findlay, Ohio, Sam was a member of the Distinguished Honor Roll and student athletic leadership team.

Throughout high school, Sam participated in football, basketball, and track, serving as co-captain of the football team his senior year. I am confident that Sam will carry the lessons of his student and athletic leadership to the Merchant Marine Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Samuel Kovaleski on the offer of his appointment to the United States Merchant Marine Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available. I am positive that Sam will excel during his career at the Merchant Marine Academy, and I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to him as he begins his service to our Nation.

TRIBUTE TO YOUNG STAFF MEMBERS FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF THE 18TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF TEXAS AND THE UNITED STATES

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 2017

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, as Members of Congress we know well, perhaps better than most, how blessed our nation is to have in reserve such exceptional young men and women who will go on to become leaders in their local communities, states, and the nation in the areas of business, education, government, philanthropy, the arts and culture, and the military.

We know this because we see them and benefit from their contributions every day. Many of them work for us in our offices as junior staff members, congressional fellows, or interns and they do amazing work for and on behalf of the constituents we are privileged to represent.

Mr. Speaker, I believe there is no higher calling than the call to serve a cause larger than ourselves. That is why I ran for public office. I was inspired to serve by President Kennedy who said, ''Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country,'' and by the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. who said:

''Everybody can be great because anybody can serve. . . . You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love.''

By this measure, there are several other great young men and women who served as volunteers this year in my offices. They may toil in obscurity but their contributions to the constituents we serve are deeply appreciated. That is why today I rise to pay tribute to four extraordinary young persons for their service to my constituents in the 18th Congressional District of Texas and to the American people. They are: Marieme Foote from Ithaca College; Naomi Mulugeta from Texas Tech University; Mitch Kuhlman, from American University; and Alexandria Johnson from the Madeira School.

Mr. Speaker, the energy, intelligence, and idealism these wonderful young people brought to my office and those interning in the offices of my colleagues help keep our democracy vibrant. The insights, skills, and knowledge of the governmental process they gain from their experiences will last a lifetime and prove invaluable to them as they go about making their mark in this world.

Because of persons like them the future of our country is bright and its best days lie ahead. I wish them all well.

Mr. Speaker, I am grateful that such thoughtful committed young men and women can be found working in my office, those of my colleagues, and in every community in America. Their good works will keep America great, good, and forever young.

SENATE—*Wednesday, May 3, 2017*

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Our Lord and God, we would not journey through this day without contact with You. Increase our faith, hope, and love, that we may receive Your promises.

Be merciful to our lawmakers and fill them with Your hope. May they be fully persuaded in their minds about receiving guidance from You for the decisions they make.

Lord, deliver them from a reluctance to respect honest differences as they remember their ultimate accountability to You. Provide them with Divine insights as they grapple with complexities that require nuanced choices. May their ultimate goal be to serve You by doing what is best for our Nation and world.

We pray in Your strong Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. PAUL). The majority leader is recognized.

GOVERNMENT FUNDING LEGISLATION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, later today, the House will vote to pass a funding agreement that advances a number of America's priorities, achieving important things that would not have been possible under the previous administration.

Let's take the border. President Trump and the Republican Congress made securing the border a priority, and this funding bill acts on it. After years of an administration that failed to get serious on border security, this bill provides the largest border security funding increase in a decade.

Passing this bill means updating physical border infrastructure. It means enhancements in surveillance technology. It means increasing support for border personnel. It means finally providing resources to end the practice of catch and release.

On securing our border, this bill obviously makes a departure from the Obama years, and it is an important step forward.

Let's take defense. President Trump and the Republican Congress made rebuilding our military a priority, and this funding bill acts on it. After years of an administration that drew down our conventional force structure and failed to address increasing threats across the globe, this bill provides a critically needed downpayment on rebuilding our military. Passing this bill means allowing our force to retain higher levels of end strength. It means funding the largest military pay raise in 6 years. It means replacing munitions used in the fight against ISIL. It means finally ignoring the Obama-era demand of requiring defense funding increases to be equally matched to nondefense increases.

On rebuilding our military, this bill obviously makes a departure from the Obama years and is another important step forward. These are notable wins, and they wouldn't have happened without this administration's tireless work in conjunction with the Republican Congress.

Of course, there is further to go in both areas. We know more work remains when it comes to strengthening our border infrastructure and stemming the tide of illegal immigration. We know more work remains when it comes to restoring our military's combat readiness and meeting the full needs of the force.

But this legislation represents a step in the right direction in both of these areas, and it advances conservative priorities in many others. It adheres to the spending caps, it reforms bureaucracy, and it consolidates, eliminates, or rescinds funds for more than 150 government programs and initiatives.

It supports the implementation of the Every Student Succeeds Act, which shifts control of education out of Washington, and it extends an important school choice program. It helps tackle terrorism, fight crime, support veterans, protect life, reform the IRS, and freeze funding for it.

It cuts funding for the EPA, prohibits funding for President Obama's climate slush fund, and advances an all-of-the-above energy policy that prioritizes research on technical advancements in nuclear, natural gas, and coal power generation.

This research funding, along with the bill's support for troubled coal mining communities and dislocated miners, is important for States like mine, as is the provision I was proud to secure that will permanently protect healthcare benefits for thousands of retired coal miners and their families.

This bill also extends resources for a pilot program I worked with Congressman HAL ROGERS to secure, which will fund the reclamation and development of abandoned mine sites.

Moreover, this bill also provides significant new resources to tackle the prescription opioid and heroin epidemic that continues to ravage communities in Kentucky and across our country.

The many achievements in this bill resulted from countless hours of committee work and bicameral negotiations. I want to recognize again the appropriators, our Members, and this Republican administration for the tireless effort that made this bill possible.

The President and his team should be commended for their efforts in working with the Republican Congress to address many important needs for our country in this bill. I look forward to the House passing the bill today so that we can take it up and send it to President Trump for his signature soon.

CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW ACT RESOLUTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Now on to the legislation we will turn to today.

In recent months, the Republican Congress has voted to provide much needed relief to the American people from Obama administration regulations pushed out the door at the eleventh hour. We have voted to eliminate 13 harmful regulations already, using the tools contained in the Congressional Review Act, and we will vote to eliminate another later today.

Too often, the Obama administration pursued regulations that grew government at the expense of jobs, wages, and economic growth. Too often, under the guise of helping ordinary Americans, the administration was really just helping to expand the reach of government.

That is certainly the case with the regulation we are considering today. President Obama's Department of Labor issued regulations that would impose new burdens on employers and employees when it comes to saving for their retirement. These regulations would give State officials the power to force employers to enroll their employees into government-run savings plans.

Though the State-run plans might not seem too bad on the surface, what

they really add up to is more government at the expense of the private sector and American workers.

They would provide government-run retirement plans with a competitive advantage over private sector workplace plans, while providing fewer basic consumer protections to the workers who would be forced to contribute to them.

As I mentioned when we voted on related regulations concerning municipalities, States always had the power to set up these plans, but until this regulation, they had to actually follow Federal laws that protect the workers who would be automatically enrolled. In other words, States preferred that the basic retirement protections that apply to those who manage private sector retirement plans not apply to the government as well.

As a coalition of employers and human resource managers recently pointed out, the Obama administration was ''encouraging State governments to provide private sector employees retirement programs that do not''—I repeat, do not—''have the same high-level protections as other private employer-sponsored plans.'' So, as they put it, ''passage of [the legislation before the Senate] would ensure that all retirement plans''—all of them—''for private sector workers are subject to equal consumer protections under the law.''

That is why we will vote today to overturn this regulation, which undermines a private retirement savings system that millions of Americans have counted on for decades. By blocking this State-run retirement regulation—as we already did with a similar regulation aimed at municipalities—we can empower families in making their own decisions when it comes to saving for the future.

So I want to recognize Senator HATCH, the Finance Committee chairman, who has been leading the charge on this important issue. We look forward to sending this resolution to the President's desk very soon.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The Senator from Utah.

CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW ACT RESOLUTION

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, as we continue this historic effort in Congress to repeal harmful regulations, I rise today in support of H.J. Res. 66.

Due to the aggressive regulatory posture taken by the Obama administration in its final months, Congress has had to spend a significant portion of time repealing regulations under the Congressional Review Act, and our level of success has been unprecedented.

Before 2017, only one CRA resolution had ever been successfully passed by Congress and signed by the President. If passed and signed, H.J. Res. 66 would be the 14th CRA resolution enacted this year. That is remarkable. It is unfortunate that we are in this situation, no doubt, but our success in rolling back harmful regulations is a positive step, in my view and in the view of so many others.

There is a growing consensus here in Washington and throughout our country that the U.S. economy—our workers, businesses, and job creators—are horribly overregulated. Regulations promulgated by the executive branch take hundreds of billions of dollars out of our economy. The resolution before us will repeal a regulation that President Obama apparently personally ordered Labor Secretary Tom Perez to draft as a gift to certain blue States.

The regulation eliminated long-standing Federal protections for the retirement savings of private sector workers, specifically giving States a ''safe harbor'' from the protection that workers have had for decades under ERISA if the State requires employers to either set up a retirement plan or enroll its employees in a State-run plan.

These State plans do not have to be portable, nor do they have to permit workers to withdraw their savings at any time. States like California, Oregon, Connecticut, Maryland, and Illinois are already using this authority to impose new mandates on both large and small employers, including startup businesses. Some of the mandates apply regardless of the size of the business.

The regulation not only encourages States to impose conflicting and burdensome mandates on private sector businesses, but it also encourages States to bar private workers' access to their retirement accounts, and it would let States invest private workers' retirement assets, ignoring provisions in Federal pension law that require prudent pension investment practices and that ban kickbacks and self-dealing.

Some States have already made it clear that once they take control of the private worker assets, they intend to invest them just like they invest their State pension plan assets.

For anyone who is following our Nation's current public pension crisis, that is not a pretty picture—and that is being kind. Put simply, States like California and Illinois shouldn't get a pass on investing potentially billions of dollars in private worker retirement assets without having to follow Federal rules requiring prudent investment practices—rules designed to protect retirement nest eggs of hard-working Americans.

I am all for increasing coverage for employees and workplace retirement programs. I have been working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to address this issue.

For example, last Congress, the Senate Finance Committee, which I chair, unanimously approved the Retirement Enhancement and Savings Act of 2016, a bipartisan bill designed to increase voluntary retirement savings.

My bill and others like it provide workable, voluntary solutions to give more workers access to retirement plans. I emphasize the word ''voluntary.'' In America, we have a voluntary defined contribution retirement system for private businesses, and the voluntary approach with appropriate incentives for workers and employers is far better than the one taken by the Obama administration and former Labor Secretary Tom Perez, which would take us down the path toward government-mandated and government-run retirement plans. That is not really hyperbole. That is essentially the stated purpose of these types of regulations.

The current retirement savings system clearly demonstrates the superiority of the free market over government mandates when it comes to government savings. Private retirement savings vehicles, like 401(k)s and IRAs that have been encouraged but not mandated by Federal laws have produced nearly $14 trillion in wealth and savings for the middle class.

Let me repeat that. Private retirement savings vehicles, with encouragements and investor protections but not mandates, have produced nearly $14 trillion in wealth and savings for middle-class Americans.

I agree that we need to enhance this system to give more workers access and incentives to participate, but there is absolutely no justification for any effort to reinvent the retirement savings system in order to give primacy to government-run plans. I can only wonder why States think they will be able to produce better results than the private retirement savings system, which has been an unqualified success. I have to wonder how some of my colleagues who value consumer financial protection, as I do, would want to see abandonment of rules, under the guise of a safe harbor, that erode protections for the savings of workers and future retirees.

We can do our part to undo this harmful regulation by passing H.J. Res 66. Toward that end, I urge all of my colleagues to vote in favor of this resolution.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader is recognized.

TRUMPCARE

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, a note on healthcare.

As the House Republican caucus continues their effort to revive TrumpCare, I just want to remind my friends in the House of a few things.

First, for all the significant changes House Republicans are proposing to the bill, it would still cause premiums and deductibles to rise, it will still jack up the costs on low-income and older Americans, and, most importantly, it doesn't change a thing about the 24 million fewer Americans who would get healthcare. It may actually increase that number, but it certainly will not decrease it.

Second, it is unwise and irresponsible to rush through a brandnew bill without a new CBO score, without committee hearings, and without any debate on the floor of the House. If this thing were so good, why wouldn't there be open debate? Why wouldn't there be discussion? I hope, if the bill gets to the Senate—I don't know if it will. I hope it doesn't, but if it does, I hope we will not mimic the House, have no committees, no hearings, no CBO score, not much debate. That would be very wrong.

Third, even if the new version of TrumpCare passes the House—we hope it doesn't—its chances for survival in the Senate are small. We don't even know if the new version would survive under the rules of reconciliation.

The amendment to allow States to drop preexisting condition requirements, for instance, very possibly violates the Byrd rule. If the moderate group in the House gets an additional amendment to deal with the very same issue, that may violate the Byrd rule as well because if Republicans try to throw money at their problem, as it has been reported, they may end up violating the budget instructions to reduce the deficit, and they will not even know if it does violate the Byrd rule because, again, they will not have a CBO score.

As my friend, the Republican Senator from South Carolina, Mr. GRAHAM, said, talking about the TrumpCare bill, ''I just don't see how you square the circle here. Some of the things the Freedom Caucus wants probably won't make it through the Senate.''

The same is true for the group of moderates who are angling for more changes to the bill right now.

The reality is, TrumpCare cannot pass the Senate. So to my moderate Republican colleagues in the House, I ask: Why would you risk a ''yes'' vote for a bill that is devastating to your constituents and has virtually a minuscule chance—probably no chance—of becoming law?

Now, we Democrats—as we have said time and time again to both the President and to our Republican colleagues—are willing to work with you on ways to improve the Affordable Care Act and our healthcare system in general. Drop repeal, and then come talk to us about finding a bipartisan way forward. We are always willing to work in a bipartisan way, but, again, to repeat, ''bipartisan'' means talking to both sides and taking things from both sides, not just throwing a bill down and saying you have to support it. That is what bipartisanship is.

CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW ACT RESOLUTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, let me talk about the retirement CRA, the vote that is coming before us quite soon.

So far this Congress, the Republican majority has passed 13 CRAs—Congressional Review Act resolutions—all on party-line votes. Far from being a major accomplishment, these CRAs just overturn rules passed at the very end of the Obama administration. To make them a major accomplishment of the first 100 days misreads what they are and history, when compared to many other Presidents. Most of them, to boot, even worse, rather than benefiting the American people, just benefit large, wealthy, special interests—not just this one but just about all of them. They are not for working people. They are not for middle-class Americans. If there is some narrow special interest that doesn't like it, then this Republican-led Congress goes along. It is not right. Let me give a few examples.

The Republicans passed a CRA that removed protections for our waters and streams from the harmful pollution that comes from the runoff of mining sites. Why? Large mining companies wanted it. The American people weren't crying out for it.

This Republican Congress passed a CRA that would make it easier for the adjudicated mentally ill to purchase firearms—a priority of the gun lobby, certainly not of the American people. They even passed a CRA that allowed large oil, mining, and gas companies to make payments to foreign governments—essentially bribes—without even having to disclose them.

That is not the America we know. That is not the Shining City on the Hill. That is not the lady in the harbor with a torch.

Today, the Republican majority is going to have a vote on another CRA. This one may be the worst of all because it would block initiatives by States to provide alternative retirement savings options for millions of Americans. Is that because Americans are clamoring: Take away my ability for retirement if my company doesn't give me one. No, we haven't heard a peep about that. It is because the private financial institutions—Wall Street—that manage retirement plans don't want to see any competition from city or State retirement plans. This is just another giveaway to the wealthy special interests that will hurt working Americans who should have more low-cost choices when it comes to their retirement.

We all know our Nation faces a serious retirement security problem. Pensions, often a guarantee for large numbers of Americans, are vanishing. New employers often don't provide pensions. Older employers' pension plans are running low. People who used to feel, when they retired, there would at least be something there so they could live their final years in dignity, are worried, as they should be. Fifty-five million working Americans do not have a way for retirement to save through their employer. That is nearly half—half—of all private sector workers aged 18 to 64. It is a huge concern.

So what did the Obama administration do in its last few months? Wisely, they said States could set up initiatives for employees to save through their employers' payroll systems. The Obama administration acted to allow States to pursue these initiatives by exempting them from overreaching Federal regulations and then provided necessary consumer protections. That is what people want. Now, maybe some of these big financial interests don't want it because the plans the States head up will be a lot cheaper than the private sector plan, but we have to adapt to the 21st century. Any way we can help people with security in their golden years with retirement savings, we should.

Here is another issue. We hear a lot from our colleagues on the other side of the aisle about States' rights. This regulation doesn't force the States to do it. It allows the States to do it. It gives them a choice. This CRA vote would re-regulate the States.

My Republican friends—who spare no opportunity to decry regulation and exhort States' rights—will impose a new regulation on States from Washington. My Republican friends talk about increasing Americans' freedom of choice in all sorts of matters. What about their choice in terms of retirement, one of the most important things to the American people. Middle-class incomes are squeezed in so many different directions. It is harder to scrape and save for retirement when the cost of college, medicine, and other essentials go up while take-home pay is stagnant. It makes sense to give Americans a choice to start saving earlier, at a lower cost, for retirement. That is

why 23 State Treasurers from States across the political spectrum—across Utah and Kentucky, our two speakers before me—have written to their Senators opposing this CRA. Red States and blue States alike want to pursue this option. Polling shows that across party lines, 77 percent of voters support State-facilitated retirement savings, but Republicans want to block it. We haven't heard one good reason—one good reason. We know the real reason. Financial institutions don't want competition, particularly if it is a little cheaper for the worker.

Another example of special interests taking hold of the Republican agenda: Almost every one of these CRAs has been at the behest of a narrow special interest over the interests of working Americans. Unfortunately, it is a metaphor for both the new Trump administration and how our Republican colleagues are marching in lockstep to support the wealthy—people doing great—over the middle class and working people who need help.

President Trump promised over and over again in his campaign to stick up for working Americans. He said he would be their voice and their champion. Since he has taken office, President Trump sure hasn't governed that way. He is pursuing policy after policy that would help the wealthy and hurt the middle class, breaking promise after promise after promise to working Americans. I ask him to veto this legislation.

Leader PELOSI and I are putting out a statement that asks just that. Stand up for working people. There is no good argument against what the Obama administration did. There is no good argument against letting workers decide on their own volition that they want a retirement plan and are willing to put some money into it.

This CRA is another test. If our President and our Republican colleagues were truly a champion of working men and women, they wouldn't support this resolution. If President Trump were truly a champion of working men and women, he would veto this resolution. We call on him to do so.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. COTTON). Without objection, it is so ordered.

REMEMBERING ROSE LANDRY LONG

Mr. CASSIDY. Mr. President, I rise to pay honor to Rose Landry Long. This past week, the State of Louisiana lost a caring mother, loving grandmother, supportive spouse, and, to me, my wife, and so many back home, a dear friend. Rose Landry Long left us too soon, but she will always be remembered. My wife Laura and I had the pleasure of knowing Rose and her wonderful family for over 10 years. We taught two of her grandchildren in our Sunday school class.

Rose was born in Natchitoches, LA, to a French-speaking Cajun family. English was her second language. She graduated from Gueydan High School and became the first person from her family to attend college. There she met her husband, Gerald Long, at Northwestern State University.

A sidenote about Gerald: He is a member of the famous Long family, which includes Huey Long, Earl Long, Speedy Long, Jimmy Long, and many others—respectively, Senators, Governors, Congressmen, and State elected officials.

When Gerald was elected to the Louisiana Senate, Rose came to Baton Rouge and befriended everyone, Republicans and Democrats alike. Just out of being so concerned and loving toward others, she quickly became the center of activity and encouragement for so many. Rose had a way of reaching out to people, connecting with them and making them understand how much she cared for them. You could see each person respond to that care and love.

Rose was a tremendous woman of God. She loved the Lord and was always interested in sharing her love for Him with others. She led Bible studies in every town in which she lived. In Baton Rouge, she led a Bible study for Senate staff, legislators' spouses, which my wife Laura attended. Her commitment to Jesus Christ was embedded in her values and made her the great woman we will remember. Her ability to pass these values to friends and family will live on as a part of her legacy.

Rose Landry Long will be remembered as a great mother, grandmother, and wife, but more than anything, as someone who served others by loving others.

Mr. President, I yield back.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Connecticut.

CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW ACT RESOLUTION

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. President, I am on the floor today to talk about the CRA resolution pending before the Senate today.

I really can't keep track of when my colleagues on the Republican side are for State innovation and when they are against State innovation.

When it comes to Medicaid, the Republicans seem to be very willing to hand a bunch of money over to the States, no strings attached, and let them figure out what to do with it. That is the essence of the bill that cuts $800 billion from Medicaid that is pending before the House of Representatives today. When it comes to retirement, right now we are engaged in a debate that would rip away from States the ability to innovate on behalf of their constituents to try to get them access to retirement savings.

I can't figure out when my Republican friends want States to innovate and when they want to take away from States the ability to deliver results to their constituents.

Let's be honest. We have a retirement crisis in this country right now. The majority of Americans barely have enough money saved to last 2 or 3 years after they retire. Everybody knows this. And the people who are affected by this retirement crisis aren't exclusively Democrats. They aren't exclusively Republicans. They aren't just liberals. They aren't just conservatives. No matter where you live, today you are more likely than not to not have enough money in order to retire. So States have figured this out. My State is one of them.

Many States have recognized that one of the biggest barriers to retirement savings today is the fact that if you work for a small employer, you probably don't have an employer-sponsored retirement plan. In fact, there are over 50 million Americans today who do not have, through their employer, a retirement plan available to them.

Why is that a big deal? Well, it is a big deal because that is the most likely way you save today. In fact, for those 50 million Americans who don't have access to retirement through their employer, only 5 percent of them are going outside of their employer to set up a retirement plan. There are a variety of reasons for that. Sometimes, people who are working for a company that doesn't offer retirement are making such a small amount of money, they simply don't have the means to save, but many more simply look at the private retirement savings industry as so convoluted and confusing, so opaque, that they don't even attempt to intersect with it.

So we know we have a problem on our hands. We know there are all these Americans who cannot get retirement through their employer, largely because they work for small employers. We know that if you don't get your retirement through your employer, you are unlikely to go out and get it on your own.

Employers would love to do more for their employees. This isn't about employers not wanting to provide a retirement plan for their employees. The problem is that for an employer who only has 3 or 4 or 5 or 10 or 15 employees, it is prohibitively expensive to provide a retirement plan.

A recent op-ed from an Oregon business owner showed that for him, it would cost about $1,100 per employee just in fees to establish a retirement plan. That is not even counting any possible contribution the employer would make. So you can see that for a small restaurant owner or a small retail grocer, they are not likely to provide a retirement plan to their six employees when it costs them $1,000 per employee to do it. Their employees are on their own. Again, very few of them are actually going and setting up their own retirement.

Why does this matter to us? Well, it matters to us first because I think we have a policy obligation to try to help people save for retirement, but it also matters to us here in Washington because to the extent people don't have retirement, they are going to be more likely dependent on the programs that are already busting our budget, like Social Security and Medicare and Medicaid. If you don't have any retirement savings, then you are going to go on Medicaid much earlier, meaning the Federal expenditure that we are all on the hook for, and all of our constituent taxpayers are on the hook for, starts getting spent earlier. So, just as a matter of fiscal prudence, we should be helping people pile up private retirement savings because it will result in less liability for public retirement programs. Yet we are not doing that.

We talk a lot about trying to help people save for retirement, but we are not passing any groundbreaking legislation that helps Americans to save for retirement. Senator ISAKSON and I have this small little bill that says on your retirement statement it should just tell you that if you continue to save at a current amount—this is for people who have employer-sponsored plans—this is how much you will get per year when you retire, just so there is some transparency, so that people can look at the amount they are putting away and be able to clearly and easily understand whether that is going to actually be able to pay for their expenses when they retire. We can't even get that piece of legislation passed through the Congress. That is just a transparency provision.

Let's be honest. The industry is not providing answers either. The industry has had decades to try to figure out how to be more relevant for individuals who don't have an employer-sponsored plan. That number is still at 5 percent. So the industry, maybe hamstrung by Federal rules or State rules, has not been able to fill this void.

So we have this massive number of people who don't have anywhere near the money necessary to retire. The Federal Government is not providing any answers and private industry is not providing enough answers, so States have begun to pick up the ball.

Here is what States are doing. I think there are about 12 States that have either adopted this kind of program that I am about to describe or are in the process of adopting it. States like Connecticut have said: OK. Here is what we are going to do. For employees who don't have an employer-sponsored plan, we are going to allow for those employees to enroll in a private retirement plan, with the State as the conduit.

If the employer can't do it because the fees are too much, then we will give those employees the option to enroll in a private retirement plan, have a portion of their earnings withheld with the State as the conduit. OK. States are deciding to do this. It is supported by constituents across the ideological spectrum. I looked at a survey the other day that said that amongst self-identified conservative voters, three-quarters of them wanted States to be able to have the ability to set up these conduit accounts for people who don't have retirement through their employer. Connecticut has done this; a handful of other States have done it.

The Federal Government needed to clarify, through regulation, how ERISA rules would apply to these State innovations. Why? Well, because ERISA is really designed to regulate the relationship between an employer and the plan they sponsor and the employee. But in the case of these State-backed retirement plans, there is no traditional employee-employer relationship between the person who is enrolled in the plan and the State of Connecticut, in this instance, which is providing the access to the private plan. So a regulation was proffered by the Obama administration that clarified that ERISA rules will not apply to these plans in the same way they apply to the traditional employer-sponsored retirement plans.

ERISA is just a mismatch for this State-based innovation. It seems like a pretty routine regulatory function—the Federal Government clarifying how ERISA rules should apply to those State-based innovations. Nobody had a problem with this, except for the big retirement companies—except for the big Wall Street companies that invented, in their minds, that they would be losing business to these State innovations whereby individuals would get enrolled in private accounts through a State-endorsed conduit.

There are two problems with that. First, the States are not running these retirement plans. All the State is doing is providing access for individuals to a privately run fund. Second, it is not taking any business away from these retirement plans because these people were not going to private retirement plans in the first place. Only 5 percent of people who did not have retirement through their employer were finding a way to a privately run plan themselves. So there was no risk that Wall Street or these big retirement funds were going to lose business.

We don't need to do this just because the big retirement companies have imagined in their minds that they are not going to have access to a set of business that they were not offering in a way that was relevant or cost-effective.

You know, Republicans are either for State-based innovation or they are not. You can't be for State-based innovation when it aligns with a special interest, and then be against it when it misaligns with a special interest. States are innovating to solve a problem that we are not solving. Connecticut—we are representative of other States that have done this.

The consequences of what we are about to do are real. You are talking about 600,000 people in my State who had access to retirement savings who will have it ripped away from them if this CRA passes. That is real. When you combine all of the States together that have passed these innovative retirement plan programs, the number is 12 million.

If your State does not want to do it, they don't have to. If Arkansas does not want to do it or Wyoming does not want to do it, if Tennessee does not want to do it, they don't have to. But why take away from the people of Connecticut the ability to set up a way for employees of very small businesses to save for retirement? Why do you care what we do in Connecticut if that is what my constituents want? Is it just because the big retirement companies told you that they were going to lose business? That is not true. But even if it is, it should be up to the people of Connecticut as to whether we innovate in a way to try to provide more retirement savings to the people of our State. It does not hurt Republican Members if Connecticut does it or California does it.

It feels as if we are scraping the bottom of the barrel when it comes to these CRAs. It feels as if we are going out and asking every special interest group whether they have any remaining problems, minor as they may be, with regulations that were passed at the end of the administration and opening the floor to any and all.

I know there are Republicans who are going to vote no. I know there are some Republicans who have a deep problem with the fact that the Congress is taking away from States the ability to innovate on the question of retirement.

I hope there are enough that this CRA goes down because the consequences to many of our States will be big. Frankly, it will chill any State's interest in trying to solve this problem because you are telegraphing that anytime a State tries to step in and deliver more access to retirement, if it slightly rubs the big retirement companies the wrong way, you are going to step in and take that power away from them.

So why would a State step in ever again to try to do something for people who need access to retirement?

If my Republican friends are coming to this floor with a really sound plan to replace the plan that we developed in Connecticut—if Republicans said: Do you know what? I don't think that it makes sense to do this in a patchwork way, this State innovating this way, this State innovating that way; we are going to come in and pass a really comprehensive approach to giving people who work for small companies access to retirement. That is a reasonable conversation to have, but you are not.

Republicans are not offering the people of my State any alternative. All they are doing is robbing from 12 million Americans the ability to get access to retirement. This is a crisis. If we are not going to deal with it and the industry is not going to deal with it, let States deal with it.

This is a terrible, terrible thing that we are doing later today. I think it is going to be a really close vote because I think there are Republicans who know it. I hope there are a few more who think about the message being sent to the States. Think about the fact that on one day you are for State-based innovation, and the next day you are against it.

We have time to allow for States to continue these innovations. I hope we will take advantage of it.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I thank the Senator from Connecticut, who frames this exactly correctly on the vote that we are about to take on a motion to proceed to yet another CRA that will be another broken promise on the part of President Trump and Republicans. President Trump said that he would help workers and put them first. But the legislation we are about to move to will get in the way of our States' efforts to expand access to retirement savings programs, which is something that so many workers in this country really need.

President Trump said that he would drain the swamp, but by rolling back this rule in question, as Republicans are proposing today, President Trump and his party are sending yet another very clear message, on top of many others in the last 100 days. They are listening to Wall Street rather than working families.

This rule—all it does is clarify an existing safe harbor that affords flexibility to States that want to give workers more options for their retirement. It is not complicated. It would do a lot of good for families across the country, including in my home State of Washington.

I will have a lot more to say this afternoon, as I know many of our colleagues will, but this is about taking away the options for people's retirement security. I hope the Senate will turn this down.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

DISAPPROVING A RULE SUBMITTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR—MOTION TO PROCEED

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to H.J. Res. 66.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to H.J. Res. 66, disapproving the rule submitted by the Department of Labor relating to savings arrangements established by States for non-governmental employees.

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

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. I announce that the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) is necessarily absent.

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

The result was announced—yeas 51, nays 48, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 119 Leg.]

YEAS—51

Alexander	Fischer	Murkowski
Barrasso	Flake	Paul
Blunt	Gardner	Perdue
Boozman	Graham	Portman
Burr	Grassley	Risch
Capito	Hatch	Roberts
Cassidy	Heller	Rounds
Cochran	Hoeven	Rubio
Collins	Inhofe	Sasse
Corker	Isakson	Scott
Cornyn	Johnson	Shelby
Cotton	Kennedy	Strange
Crapo	Lankford	Sullivan
Cruz	Lee	Thune
Daines	McCain	Tillis
Enzi	McConnell	Toomey
Ernst	Moran	Wicker

NAYS—48

Baldwin	Harris	Nelson
Bennet	Hassan	Peters
Blumenthal	Heinrich	Reed
Booker	Heitkamp	Sanders
Brown	Hirono	Schatz
Cantwell	Kaine	Schumer
Cardin	King	Shaheen
Carper	Klobuchar	Stabenow
Casey	Leahy	Tester
Coons	Manchin	Udall
Cortez Masto	Markey	Van Hollen
Donnelly	McCaskill	Warner
Duckworth	Menendez	Warren
Feinstein	Merkley	Whitehouse
Franken	Murphy	Wyden
Gillibrand	Murray	Young

NOT VOTING—1

Durbin

The motion was agreed to.

DISAPPROVING A RULE SUBMITTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the joint resolution.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (H.J. Res. 66) disapproving the rule submitted by the Department of Labor relating to savings arrangements established by States for non-governmental employees.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. PORTMAN. The Republicans yield back 4 hours of the majority's time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority has 1 hour remaining.

Mr. PORTMAN. We have 1 hour remaining. We will keep our hour.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. ERNST). If no one yields time, the time will be charged equally.

The Senator from Maine.

UPWARD BOUND PROGRAM

Mr. KING. Madam President, around here we often discuss bureaucracy and regulation and overreach and government getting out of the way. I want to point out and bring to the attention of the Senate and the American people one of the most ridiculous actions of any government at any level that I have ever encountered.

There is a wonderful program that provides support for students going on to college, particularly low-income students and particularly in rural areas. Every year our colleges and colleges across the country file applications for this program called Upward Bound. It is one of the most successful programs of the Federal Government that I have encountered. I have met the students in Maine and from other parts of the country. It is a program that helps these students make the transition from their communities to colleges and to gain a college education.

Applications are necessary, and applications have rules about the size of the paper and that kind of thing. What has happened in this case, on the application of the University of Maine at Presque Isle—affectionately called UMPI—the University of Maine at Presque filed its application, which was 65 pages. They met all the requirements, but they made a terrible mistake. The rules of the Department of Education say that the application must be double-spaced. Indeed, the application is double-spaced, except for an exhibit on page 21, which is single-spaced. It is double-spaced in the body of the application, and there was one other infographic in the application which was a space and a half—1.5 instead of 2—and the application was rejected for that reason alone.

This is preposterous. This isn't a game. This isn't ''gotcha.'' This is about real people. At the University of Maine at Presque Isle, it is 129 real people, and it is about their access to

higher education, their access to a better life, their ability to achieve success. The application of their university was rejected because this little piece on one page and a similar piece on another page was 1½ spaces instead of 2. This is nonsense. This is the kind of thing that makes people hate government. This is the kind of thing that makes people say: What are they thinking down there? What is wrong with Washington? Why can't they get something so simple as looking at the substance of the application instead of applying what can only be characterized as a bureaucratic rule?

I am not one of these people who attack bureaucrats and Federal workers. In my experience, they are good people who are trying to do the right thing, and they make enormous contributions to our country. In this case, somebody somewhere in the Department of Education made a dumb decision, and it is one that is going to impact my people in Maine. I can't just keep quiet about it.

Last week, after letters from the Maine congressional delegation, which I will place into the RECORD, the Department of Education announced: Well, it probably wasn't the right thing to do. This wasn't a very good policy. I guess we made a mistake.

The problem is, it doesn't help UMPI; it only helps people in the future. I have worked with my colleague Senator COLLINS on this. She has done research. Her office has discovered precedents where indeed this kind of thing has happened before and they fixed it. They fixed it so that the application could be considered.

By the way, the decision on these applications around the country has not been made yet. We are not prejudicing anybody. We are not making a change after the fact. All they have to do is go to page 1 of the UMPI application and read it and forget about the fact that it is 1½ spaces in this little exhibit in the middle of the double-spaced application. In fact, we can fix it. We will make this double-spaced. I feel silly even coming to the floor of the U.S. Senate talking about this double-space, 1½ spaces. What are we doing here?

Again, the reason I am so passionate about this is that these are real people's lives. These are 129 young people who will not be able to take part in this program, and very likely their entire lives can be compromised by this. This is a big deal for them. It may be a little deal for the Department of Education, but it is a big deal for the University of Maine at Presque Isle and their students.

All I am asking is for the Department of Education and the Secretary of Education to look at this obvious, ridiculous bureaucratic mistake, correct it, and correct it for those who have been prejudiced by it. It is not just the University of Maine at Presque Isle; I understand there are a number of others across the country whose applications were kicked out for similar reasons.

I understand there has to be some uniformity. It has to be written in English. It has to be on reasonable paper that you can read, and it is not to be handwritten. To reject an application involving 129 young lives in my State because a little piece out of a 65-page application has 1½ spaces instead of 2—give me a break.

This is something that can and should be fixed, and I assume and believe the Secretary of Education and the people in charge at the Department of Education will find a way to fix it and prove to the people of Maine that the government in Washington is not crazy, that we can make reasonable decisions, and that when we make a mistake—and they acknowledged last week that it was a mistake, that it was not good policy, and they have rectified it going forward. But let's admit the mistake and relieve those who have been impacted by that mistake of its weight, of the obstacle that it places in the way of young people's opportunities.

I understand that this issue has arisen in Montana, Wisconsin, Arkansas, West Virginia, New Jersey, Ohio, Washington, Delaware, Alabama, Illinois, California, New York, Massachusetts, Florida, and Maine. It is time for it to be addressed. It ought to be very simple, and it ought to be taken care of in a matter of days—not weeks or months, but in a matter of days—so that those young people and our university can plan and implement and move forward in their mission to enrich and enable the lives of our citizens.

Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the letter submitted to the Department of Education by the Maine congressional delegation on this subject.

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

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
Washington, DC, April 14, 2017.

Re University of Maine at Presque Isle's Upward Bound Grant Applications #P047A170346 and #P047A170352.

Hon. BETSY DEVOS,
Secretary, U.S. Department of Education, Washington, DC.

DEAR SECRETARY DEVOS: We are writing to support the applications submitted by the University of Maine at Presque Isle (UMPI) for two grants under the fiscal year 2017 Upward Bound Program competition and to express our strong concern that the Department of Education has determined that these applications are ineligible for consideration. As strong supporters of the TRIO programs, we were particularly troubled to learn that UMPI's applications were ruled ineligible due to an unintentional, minor formatting oversight, which UMPI has not been given an opportunity to correct. According to UMPI, the Department's decision risks, over the next five years, denying 960 disadvantaged high school students the chance to fulfill their academic potentials.

The Notice Inviting Applications for New Awards (Notice) for the Upward Bound Program competition, published in the Federal Register on October 17, 2016, includes formatting criteria not mandated by Congress. They are arbitrarily drawn, entirely unrelated to the substance of the application, and do not provide any recourse for applicants to correct minor, unintentional, non-substantive mistakes.

UMPI has applied for two Upward Bound Program grants, and both have been deemed ineligible for the same reason. We understand that the Department has relayed to UMPI that a line-spacing error, appearing within two info-graphics on two of the application's 65 pages, is the cause of the ineligibility determination, as these two pages do not comply with the Notice's double-spacing requirement. These info-graphics are intended to help the reader review the application efficiently and more easily and contain text that is 1.5 line spaced instead of double spaced. It is obvious that the figures merely supplement a well-prepared narrative. Were they removed, or were UMPI permitted to adjust the line spacing on these two pages, the application would easily warrant the Department's review. Yet unbelievably, the Department refuses to review UMPI's application and has provided no opportunity for UMPI to correct this trivial mistake. We strongly urge the Department to reconsider its decision and to allow UMPI's application to be read and scored.

We appreciate that the formatting standards issued by the Department are intended to prevent applicants from attempting to gain an unfair advantage by using clever formatting strategies. When the application is reviewed as a whole, it is clear that UMPI is not seeking to mislead the Department or to gain any unfair advantage. In fact, the error was so insignificant that UMPI could not immediately identify it and had to seek additional guidance. Now, the Department's inflexible and bureaucratic decision could result in the elimination of a longstanding, successful, and greatly needed program on the basis of a non-substantive error before the application is even read.

The Department has not identified for UMPI any other errors in its application. To deny UMPI's application a reading because two figures do not meet an arbitrary typographical format ignores the spirit of the Upward Bound Program, is antithetical to congressional intent, and would seriously jeopardize the future success of hundreds of students in Maine.

The Upward Bound Program at UMPI serves 129 high school students across Aroostook County, Maine, and has a strong and long record of success in sending local low-income, first-generation students to college. Since 1980, it has helped students with great needs access the promise of higher education.

We strongly urge the Department to apply some common sense to the Upward Bound Program competition and read and score UMPI's applications.

Sincerely,

SUSAN M. COLLINS,
U.S. Senator.
BRUCE POLIQUIN,
Member of Congress.
ANGUS S. KING, Jr.
U.S. Senator.
CHELLIE PINGREE,
Member of Congress.

Mr. KING. Madam President, I believe this is a simple case that could be easily rectified, and I am confident—I am almost confident that it will be. I trust that common sense will prevail and the well-being of our students will be put above minor technical issues in an application that is so important.

Thank you, Madam President.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

LAW DAY

Mr. KAINE. Madam President, I rise today in honor of Law Day earlier this week, May 1. Law Day is an annual tradition that is celebrated around the United States, usually at local bar association luncheons. It has been a tradition for over 40 years as a day to recognize the rule of law. The 2017 theme for Law Day was the 14th Amendment—a post-Civil War amendment, which for the first time in the Constitution defined what an American citizen was, the definition of citizenship, but it also provided a protection for all citizens as an entitlement to the privileges and immunities of all the laws in all the States, and all persons were entitled to equal protection of the laws, as well as no deprivation of life, liberty, and property without due process. It is a powerful and important amendment to the Constitution.

I want to talk about Law Day because there is a matter that is soon to be pending before the body: a proposal in President Trump's fiscal year 2018 budget to eliminate funding for the Legal Services Corporation, the effort that was begun more than four decades ago to try to provide free legal services for indigent people on matters in the civil courts that could affect their lives, liberty or property.

I will say, I am standing here as an attorney who practiced for 17 years and practiced with Central Virginia Legal Aid and saw the value of their work. I am familiar with their work across the Commonwealth and country, and I also have a bit of a personal bias that I have to disclose. My wife Anne was a Legal Aid lawyer from 1984 until 1998—14 years' worth of Central Virginia Legal Aid Society, trying cases, big and small, but also doing something I will use as a theme in my comments. She helped start an award-winning program at Central Virginia Legal Aid to get private lawyers to do voluntary work for indigent clients.

Legal Aid operates like small law firms in all these communities, but much of what they do is not just represent people in court. They bring private attorneys in who are willing to volunteer and provide them the training in cases like housing cases and others that might not normally be part of their practice. The Legal Services Corporation is very critical to the vindication of rights. There is an engraving over the Supreme Court Building across the street: ''Equal Justice Under Law.'' That is supposed to mean equal justice regardless of who you are, your gender, your race, your national origin but also whether or not you can pay. The article III branch, just like the article I or article II branches, is supposed to be open to all. So Legal Services Corporation is critical to providing legal services to people who otherwise wouldn't be able to pay it: elderly, veterans, low-income families, disabled Americans, victims of domestic violence. It does so on a fairly miniscule Federal budget.

The entire funding for legal services is less than one ten-thousandths of the Federal budget. Yet President Trump is proposing to eliminate it. Legal Services Corporation maintains 133 independent nonprofit programs in every State. My colleague from Maine was an attorney with one of those programs and is on the floor today. It funds the operation for 903 separate offices in the country. They served 1.8 million people in 2015. Of the nearly 756,000 cases that they successfully worked on and closed that year, 129,000 of the clients were people over age 60. More than 500,000 of the clients were females. Women comprised 70 percent of the Legal Services Corporation client base and 116,000 of the cases were cases about domestic violence. The offices around the country did as my wife's office did—they relied on these private attorneys, bringing in and training more than 91,000 private sector attorneys who volunteered during 2015 to help a Legal Aid client working with a local office, and they continue to do more.

They partnered recently with Microsoft to develop Pro Bono Net, a statewide legal portal for individuals to obtain direct legal assistance specific to their needs. They established the Leaders Council, comprised of leaders, not necessarily leaders in the legal community but others to promote the value of what they do. LSC in 2016 launched the Rural Summer Legal Corps—30 law students working in rural areas to address challenges these communities encounter.

It goes about its mission in an apolitical manner. Legal Services Corporation is not allowed to lobby. It works in blue and red States, works in urban and rural communities. It works everywhere and for everybody. The legal community is strongly in support of the continuance of the Legal Services Corporation—the American Bar Association and most State bars. In Virginia, just in Virginia, seven statewide bar associations have pledged their support for the continuation of Legal Aid. Many of them visited me in my office last week: Virginia State Bar, Virginia Bar Association, Virginia Trial Lawyers Association, Virginia Association of Defense Attorneys, Old Dominion Bar Association, Virginia Women's Attorneys Association, and the Virginia Hispanic Bar Association. And 160 of the Nation's top law firms have urged this body and urged the White House not to defund Legal Aid, and 185 general counsel's offices from preeminent American companies—Disney, HP, American Express, and GE—have weighed in and said we need Legal Aid.

Many of Legal Aid's clients in Virginia are veterans because we are home to such a huge number of Active-Duty servicemembers, their families, and veterans. LSC helps veterans, Active-Duty military and their families access housing, deal with consumer financial challenges, or deceptive trade practices. Central Virginia Legal Aid recently dealt with a client, an elderly disabled veteran, who received a notice of involuntary transfer or discharge because an insurance company determined that his health had stabilized, despite the fact he was not even ambulatory and incontinent as well. Central Virginia Legal Aid worked with his insurance company to demonstrate this veteran had continuing physical needs, and he needed to have in-home care without further burdening his family, and were able to find a resolution. This is the kind of case that Legal Aid works on every day.

In conclusion, I want to say this. The budget proposal that we will grapple with—my colleague from Maine, who is here, is on the Budget Committee, as well—proposes to eliminate funding for Legal Aid. That would be a very bad idea. It would not help the economy. It would hurt vulnerable people who have nowhere else to turn. I was in the Shenandoah Valley at a senior center about 10 days ago. This was the story that a local Legal Aid lawyer put on the table, as I conclude. A 90-year-old woman in Waynesboro, VA, was ripped off by a traveling salesmen who sold her $10,000 of frozen meat she could not afford—virtually all of her savings. She realized very quickly she had been bamboozled by a fast-talking salesman: Why did I do this? I can't afford it, but I have given him my money. What do I do? This is the kind of case no private lawyer will take. You are not going to be able to get a legal fee for this. This is the kind of case that involves knowledge of particular consumer protection statutes that Legal Aid is well trained to do. And the Legal Aid lawyer who was representing this 90-year-old woman who had been ripped off by somebody said: Look, if I wasn't here for this person, nobody would be here. And that is what you get when you get Legal Aid. That is what you would lose if the Legal Aid was defunded.

I just put it on the table to my colleagues. Many in this Chamber are attorneys. Many have worked directly with Legal Aid offices in their States around this country and know the value of the program. We need to make sure this program continues. In honor of Law Day this week, I just want to say, I hope my colleagues will join me in my effort.

Mr. KING. Will the Senator yield for discussion?

Mr. KAINE. I will be glad to yield.

Mr. KING. I say to the Senator from Virginia, 48 years ago this summer I joined the national legal services program and went to the State of Maine, where I served people in a very rural area with a whole range of problems. What I came to realize during that time was that the promises of our democracy, the promises inherent in the American idea, are not self-executed.

Every morning we pledge allegiance to this flag, and the last phrase is critical: ''with liberty and justice for all.'' That is a promise made to the people of this country. But the U.S. Supreme Court has found repeatedly, as the Senator knows, that you can't achieve justice if you don't have representation, particularly in an age of an overlapping and complex legal system.

So I believe this is not just another government program. This is part of the essence of the American idea. I remember being up in Maine in this small town of Skowhegan, ME. I met a woman who was visiting from England. She said: What do you do?

I said: Well, I work for this group that provides legal services to low-income people in this region.

She said: How is it funded?

I said: By the government.

She said: Do you ever have to sue the government?

I said: Yes, of course. That is one of the things that you occasionally have to do in order to protect the rights of your client.

She was amazed that in this country we would fund the legal support of people who might actually occasionally bring cases against the government itself. She thought that was wonderful and really epitomized the idealism of this country. So I commend the Senator for raising this issue during Law Day to talk about the importance of this in terms of its relationship to the overall idea of America.

We talk a lot about justice. As you point out, across the street it says: ''Equal Justice Under Law.'' But that often means you have to have competent and professional advocacy and representation. The Legal Services Corporation is not a big part of the budget. It has not grown exponentially over the years. In fact, I suspect in real dollars, it is smaller today than when I entered the service 48 years ago.

But I know it is important. It is important in Maine, with the Pine Tree Legal Assistance, the Volunteer Lawyers Project, and the volunteers from law firms around our State who volunteer to give their time for pro bono legal assistance. But the hub of it is the National Legal Services Program. To me, it epitomizes our commitment to effectuate the promises of American life, not just to talk about them but to make them real. So I commend the Senator for his comments.

Mr. KAINE. Madam President, might I respond to my colleague?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Virginia.

Mr. KAINE. I honor his service at Pine Tree Legal Assistance in Maine. We take a little bit of pride in it because he probably got a good orientation to be a great public servant by going to the University of Virginia Law School. None of the Virginia Senators were smart enough to get into the University of Virginia, but our Maine Senator was.

The Senator talks about it as related to our constitutional system. We have three branches. There is an article I branch, the legislative branch. People can participate in the article I branch by voting for Members of Congress or Senators. The article II branch is the executive branch. People can participate in the executive branch by voting. There used to be poll taxes. You could not participate if you could not pay something. Those were stricken down so everyone can participate.

The article III branch is supposed to be coequal, the judiciary. If you are on trial for a criminal offense, under many circumstances, you are entitled, constitutionally, to have an appointed attorney. But what about a civil case? What if you are threatened with the termination of your rights as a parent to ever see your child again? That is a civil case.

You are not entitled constitutionally to have an appointed attorney. But it is those kinds of cases where legal services comes in and provides an opportunity for people to participate in the article III branch.

We should not have a branch of government and block people from participating in it, without the ability to receive assistance of counsel on matters dear to your life. You are essentially blocked from participation in one of the three branches of government. That is why this is so important.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. WYDEN. Madam President, for the second time in an administration that has just crossed the 100-day threshold, Republicans in the Congress have teed up legislation that is going to make it harder for working Americans to save. This time, there is a proposal in front of us that goes after a brandnew program that my home State of Oregon is just now getting ready to launch.

Let me make my views on this proposal clear, quickly. This legislation puts the special interests before working people, and it is just that simple.

We all understand there is a savings crisis in the country. The typical American who works hard and brings home a paycheck every week or two is struggling to get money set aside for their retirement.

Just think of the economic challenges these families are up against every day. Millions of young people are buried under student debt, so the prospect of saving for retirement feels like a dream and will remain so for years and years.

Parents raising kids are faced with steep home loans and everyday bills. At the same time, it can seem as if the sticker price of a 4-year college education can match the GDP of a small island nation.

The numbers on the savings crisis are just alarming. More than half of workers approaching retirement have nothing. That means zero set aside in retirement accounts like IRAs or 401(k) plans. Tens of millions of Americans do not have access to retirement plans at work. In my view, addressing these kinds of challenges ought to be a bipartisan priority, a priority where both sides of the aisle get together and respond.

In response to this crisis, my home State, along with a few others, has looked to find a fresh approach to deal with retirement savings. We want working people and middle-income families—particularly those who don't have access to a savings plan today—to have more opportunities in the future to set money aside.

My home State found a way to do it. Oregon found a way to do it in a kind of Oregon tradition that eliminates a lot of hassle. We are one of a handful of States that has passed what is called an auto-IRA law. At home, we call it OregonSaves, and we are going to be launching it in just a few months. What it means for Oregon workers is that when you get a job, you are going to get a retirement account, so that is not really complicated. When you get a job in Oregon, you are going to get a retirement account. You can start setting aside a little bit with every paycheck.

By the way—and I want to emphasize this—it is not mandatory. People have the right to opt out. So when people say: Oh, government is going to force people to do this and that and something else, the Oregon plan is just the opposite. It is voluntary in all particulars.

What it means for business owners—particularly small business owners—is that they can offer a savings plan without crippling fees or the hassle of dealing with redtape.

OregonSaves, what we are about to bring out of the starting gate, is simple. It is easy to understand. In my view, it is exactly the kind of innovative program we need to combat the savings crisis that has hit all parts of the country.

Over the years, I have often heard Members come to the floor and glowingly describe the States as the place where the action is. They call them the laboratories of democracy. The theory, of course, is that States ought to be empowered to come up with new ways to tackle challenges.

I have to tell you, it is a headscratcher why the majority here in the Senate would want to make it harder for innovative States like Oregon to put in place a savings program that is voluntary in nature.

So after all these speeches I hear about the States and States' rights and that the States are the laboratories of democracy, when it comes to a program that is voluntary in nature, the majority here still seems to think what we ought to do is say no.

I know the Presiding Officer cares deeply about how policies relate to rural areas. This is going to be especially hard on rural parts of the country.

I talked first about this issue during a debate a few weeks ago. Several employers had written my office to say how important OregonSaves would be for them. I shared a handful of those stories on the floor, and it was striking how many of those employers said that this would be a sea change for rural businesses in terms of recruiting workers. Thanks to OregonSaves, they would be able to compete when it comes to job benefits. The bill we are considering now would put in doubt that program that employers said could make a big difference, particularly in rural areas.

OregonSaves and programs like this involve years of discussion, years of effort to work with the Department of Labor. There has been a lot of consultation between the Federal Government and the States to get the legal roadblocks out of the way. Now that work is in danger with this vote.

So, colleagues, what I would like to do in wrapping up is to just step back for a minute and talk about what this body has been working on.

Even though the majority party has unified control of the government, we are not exactly at this point churning out bill after bill—certainly not landmark legislation that responds to the challenges facing American families. Mostly to this point, there have been votes on nominations and bills tossing out a bunch of Federal rules that protect the people who have no power or clout in America.

An awfully large share of the business of this Congress comes down to taking steps like the one we are looking at today, making it harder for the American people to save. I don't think this is just a step in the wrong direction; this is a sprint in the wrong direction. That is what we are dealing with today in the Senate.

Programs like OregonSaves are a commonsense response to a national savings crisis. The Congress should not be passing legislation threatening those programs, making the savings crisis even worse in communities across the land.

I urge my colleagues to oppose this legislation.

Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum, and I ask unanimous consent that the time be equally divided between both sides.

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

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. TILLIS). Without objection, it is so ordered.

OPIOID EPIDEMIC

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, I rise to talk about an issue that affects every single Senator in this body and all of us as Americans, and that is this epidemic of drug use—opioids—which would be heroin, prescription drugs, the new synthetic heroins, like fentanyl, carfentanil, and U–4. It is devastating our communities. This is the worst drug crisis we have ever had in this country. That is my view, but it is also the view of a lot of experts. I have been involved in this issue for over 20 years, and I have never seen anything like it. That is why I have come to the floor to talk again today. This is the 34th time that I have spoken on this issue on the Senate floor in the last year or so.

I come with sadness in my heart because it is not getting better. Based on the statistics I have seen from my home State of Ohio and around the country for the first quarter of this year, it looks like the number of deaths and overdoses from drug abuse are increasing, not decreasing. Part of it is because of these new drugs coming in, particularly synthetic drugs, including fentanyl, carfentanil, and U–4—things that are produced in a laboratory by some evil scientist somewhere and shipped into our country.

So the need to act has grown only more urgent. Every day we are now losing 144 Americans to drug overdoses. Think about that. Every single day, 144 Americans are dying of drug overdoses. It has now far exceeded the number of people who are dying in car accidents in my home State of Ohio and it is exceeding that number around the country.

Millions more are not dying of overdoses but are seeing their lives and their futures ruined, and millions of us—those of us who are not drug addicted but who have friends, family, and neighbors who are—are watching loved ones as they fight this addiction. Maybe they have lost a job. Maybe they have broken relationships with families and friends. Maybe they have committed a crime like theft, shoplifting, or fraud to pay for their habit. Maybe they have just given up hope.

Just last week, I met with some community leaders from Dayton, OH. As it happens, no matter where I am in Ohio, this issue comes up and this is what they want to talk to me about. They wanted to talk about the story of Nathan Wylie.

Nathan Wylie was a happy 13-year-old boy. He was a Cincinnati Bengals fan. His goal in life was to be a professional football player. He wanted to play for the Bengals one day. He had his whole life ahead of him.

Nathan's dad, according to police reports, is a heroin user. One day a few weeks ago, Nathan got into his dad's heroin, and he overdosed. His dad took him to the fire station and first responders did what they could. They took him to Dayton Children's Hospital, but it was too late. Nathan died of an overdose at age 13.

Two weeks ago, a 14-year-old girl in Dayton was mowing the lawn at the apartment complex owned by her grandparents, and she came upon a body on the ground. It turns out that it was a 25-year-old young man who had died of an overdose.

This is what is happening in our communities.

Just a few hours after this young man who died of an overdose was discovered by this girl, Dayton Police responded to a car accident on Route 35 where a man had driven through a barrier and knocked over a street light. Police arrived and found the driver passed out with a used needle on the floor of the car. In this case they saved his life. They used this miracle drug called naloxone, or Narcan, which reduces the loss of life because it reverses the effects of overdoses. It doesn't always work, but it works the vast majority of the time if you get there in time. He was revived, and he said that he not only just used heroin, but that he was on his way to get more when he overdosed and almost died.

So I could go on. We see these headlines every day, not just in Dayton, OH, where I talked about these three cases, but all throughout our State and our country. That is why people are starting to take action to turn the tide, and I commend them for it.

Last week, more than 500 religious leaders across northeast Ohio banded

together and said: We are going to do something about this. They took to their pulpits all at once to speak about this issue. A lot of them talked about National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day, which was this past Saturday that it occurred. Father Bob Stec of St. Ambrose Parish in Brunswick, OH, gave his parishioners a three-part action plan. No. 1, get educated. Learn about these opioids. Learn about the connection between prescription drugs and heroin. With many heroin addicts, their use started with prescription drugs.

No. 2, throw out unnecessary medications from your medicine cabinets. It is unbelievable the number of people I have run into who have said they started because they took prescription drugs, and they got their prescription drugs—in one case, a young man told me—from his grandmother's medicine cabinet.

No. 3, he said, was to pray for our first responders. God bless them, because they do save lives every day—in Ohio, 16,000 lives last year. Without them, the death toll would be far higher and the damage to our community would be far greater. They are as frustrated as anybody, by the way, by this epidemic. They want to get to the bottom of it, to be able to focus more on prevention and treatment and recovery. They don't want to keep applying Narcan to the same person again and again.

So I want to thank Father Stec and all of the other religious leaders for being willing to roll up their sleeves and to get involved. If they prevented even one addiction from starting, then they have made a permanent impact on the community. I am convinced that those 500 pastors, ministers, and rabbis have saved lives.

People in Ohio are taking action in other ways too. People are forming groups, particularly parent groups. Those who have lost a child are banding together and talking about how they cannot just console one another and support one another but put in place plans to help others.

I was at a treatment center recently when there were a couple of families there, and they spoke up. They are involved in the center. They come every day. They are there because they lost a son or a daughter to overdose. God bless them for stepping forward.

The Federal Government needs to do more too. We need to take action because we can be a better partner with States, local communities, and families. It is not going to be solved in Washington. Washington is not the solution, but it is part of the solution by being a better partner. We can take best practices from around the country as an example, as we did in the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act, which passed this Chamber last year, and spread those around the country so that every community has the opportunity to make a bigger difference.

Last week I met with Governor Chris Christie of New Jersey. He has a passion for this issue. He is leading the President's Commission on Combating Drug Addiction and the Opioid Crisis. I thought it was a very good meeting. Governor Christie is serious about this. I think he is going to be a constructive partner with the Congress and with our President to help turn this tide. I am glad he was selected, and I am glad he has the Commission going.

I will tell you, though, that my message to him was twofold. One, I am glad you are doing this, but, second, let's take action. We don't need another commission to study this problem to know that this is an area where Congress and the administration can work together to take action.

In fact, this agreement that we will vote on in the Senate this afternoon and again tomorrow to fund the government between now and the year's end actually includes a lot of good legislation to help with this crisis. It fully funds the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act I talked about earlier, or CARA. This legislation is the first comprehensive reform to Federal addiction policy in 20 years. It treats addiction like a disease, which it is. It focuses on prevention, education, treatment, and recovery and helping our first responders with Narcan. It is very comprehensive because that is the only way to get at this issue—to do it in a comprehensive way.

The legislation we will vote on today and tomorrow also fully funds the 21st Century Cures Act, which includes more funding that goes directly to the States to deal with opioid addiction.

In the funding bill, we have funded the CARA programs now at over $200 million for this fiscal year. That is more than the bill authorizes, and that is good news because we need it.

It includes $103 million in grants from the Department of Justice for drug courts, veterans courts, and prescription drug monitoring programs. It also includes $114 million for Health and Human Services grants for Medicaid assistance treatment, treatment for pregnant and postpartum women, and for supplying naloxone—again, this miracle drug can actually reverse an overdose—also known as Narcan, and this will help our first responders. It also provides training for them to be able to use it effectively.

It also includes $50 million authorized by CARA for the Department of Veterans Affairs to treat and prevent opioid addiction at the VA, as well as funding CARA's recovery services—the first time any Federal law has ever focused on recovery, not just for treatment but for longer term recovery.

By the way, when there is a good recovery program, the rate of success is dramatically increased—much improved. So it is important that Congress is being a better partner with regard to recovery.

Last week, the Department of Health and Human Services also announced that $26 million will also go out as part of the Cures Act I spoke about to the State of Ohio. Every State in the Union applied for that money, and States are getting money, and it will be very helpful. I know our Governor and our legislature will put it to good use.

These are important steps. But I will tell my colleagues—and I said this to Governor Christie—that by my count, there are at least six provisions of the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act that have not been implemented yet by either the previous administration or this administration. By the way, this is 9 months after CARA was signed into law. Let's get these programs all up and going.

We haven't set up the Pain Management Best Practices Interagency Task Force yet. What does that mean? We need a strategy for figuring out what the best practices are for pain management, for opioid prescribing and alternatives to potentially addictive opioids.

This is really important. Think about it. Four to five heroin addicts started with prescription drugs. Still, when you go to the doctor and you have an injury or an accident, it is not unlikely they will give you some pills—prescription drugs—and they will be addictive.

We have to be sure we do everything we can to come up with nonaddictive forms of medication, right? If we don't do that, we will continue to have the problem. We need to stop overprescribing. We have made some progress, but not enough. When a young man or a young woman goes to get their wisdom teeth taken out, they should not be given opioids. This has happened too many times. I have met two families from Ohio, one whose loved one died from an overdose because as a teenager he went in to get his wisdom teeth taken out and was given a bunch of these pills—60 Percocets in 1 case—and then, because he got physically addicted, he ended up going to heroin as a cheaper and more accessible alternative and ended up overdosing. That shouldn't happen.

So this is an important part. It can be done right now. Let's get this up and going and let's push back on overprescribing. Let's find ways for the pharmaceutical companies to produce medication that actually is not addictive that can help with regard to pain management.

Second, we haven't started the public awareness campaign about the dangers of opioid abuse and the link between these prescription drugs and heroin and other synthetic drugs like fentanyl. Let's do it.

In the legislation we have authorized an amount of money for the Federal Government to do a national awareness campaign that lets people know about this, because most of my constituents don't know about it. When the doctor prescribes those pills, they think that because the doctor prescribed them, it must be the right thing to do. Instead of taking maybe one or two, they are fine with having their kid or their brother or sister or mother or father take the whole dose when they aren't needed, perhaps, because they don't know about the link. They don't know these pills are addictive. Just getting that information out there is going to save lives, and it is an important part of turning the tide. Let's do it. This public awareness campaign can be implemented now.

The Department of Health and Human Services has not yet released information on alternative treatment options for youth sports injuries and about how parents and kids can seek treatment if they become addicted as a result of a prescription. Why wouldn't that make sense? Let's do that. Let's do it now.

I have had, unfortunately, many instances of talking to parents about a kid who was injured in high school through a sports injury and who was prescribed opioids and, again, the parents and the kids didn't have the information to know how dangerous this can be.

There is a guy I worked with a lot on prevention who goes to colleges and high schools and talks about this. He talks about his son Tyler. He was a football player. He must have been a great kid; I wish I had met him. He had an injury, and, of course, the coach said to play through it, and the doctor said: If you take these pills, you can play through it. He became physically addicted. Again, he later turned to heroin as a less expensive alternative because the pills were too expensive. He overdosed and died. His dad, by the way, is channeling his grief into something really constructive. God bless him.

The FDA has not yet announced its action plan on approving new opioids. The legislation we wrote, the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act, says the FDA has to seek recommendations from an advisory committee before approving any new opioid, and they have to label any opioid that is going to be used by kids—label it. The FDA is also supposed to issue guidance to educate prescribers on this issue. They have not yet done that. Let's do it. That action plan of approving new opioids is something we can do. We don't need another study or a commission to do it. Let's do it.

The National Institutes of Health hasn't begun CARA's clinical research into alternatives to opioids for treating chronic pain. NIH should do that. Now, they may say after hearing this speech that they are starting to do it. That is great. Let's do it. Let's get that information out there. Let's use the NIH and all the great researchers we have there and the great tools we have there to come up with alternatives that are not addictive.

The Department of Justice has not yet expanded the prescription drug take-back program. As I mentioned, National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day was last Saturday. This is where you can dispose of your prescription drugs in a safe way. You know it is going to go into a safe receptacle where some trafficker is not going to take the drugs and spread them around our community, which, by the way, has happened. This is a really important program to get these painkillers off of the bathroom shelf. I mentioned the young man who got his grandmother's pain pills, and that is how he started his addiction.

So get them off your shelves. If you are listening today and you haven't taken this action, I urge you to do it. Somebody is going to be at your home, maybe fixing your plumbing, or somebody is helping to clean your home or something else; or kids might be in your home, or maybe some friends of your kids, and those pills are just too darn tempting. The cost of one pill is about $80 on the street. So think about that. Get rid of those pills. Take them to a drugstore where they have a receptacle now or take them to the police department where they have a receptacle. Be involved in these drug take-back programs.

Almost every community in America participated on Saturday. There were tons of drugs—and I mean tons—that were disposed of. That is a good thing and that is going to save lives, but, again, the Department of Justice can expand that program. Under our legislation, they are authorized to do it. Let's do it. This is something that can be done right now. These are steps that HHS, DOJ, and others can take right now under the authorities already given them. It will make a difference. Again, this crisis is getting worse, not better. To turn the tide, we have to do all these things and more.

I also wish to mention that in addition to these important parts of CARA and other actions the administration can take is that the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, Dr. Ben Carson, can increase access to sober housing for people coming out of treatment. I know Dr. Carson well enough to know he has a passion for this issue and he wants to address it. This is one way to address it.

Under the previous Obama administration, sober living facilities lost priority if they had a zero tolerance drug policy. To me, that makes no sense. Dr. Carson has the authority to change that and to make it easier for folks who are in recovery to stay clean over the long term. Again, I hope the administration will take that step and these other important steps. Whether it is FDA, whether it is NIH, whether it is DOJ, whether it is HHS, whether it is Housing and Urban Development, we have opportunities without new legislation. This is either already authorized or actions they can take. Let's go ahead and do it. Let's do everything we can.

None of these individually is a silver bullet. There is no silver bullet. This issue is ultimately going to be decided in our communities, in our families, and in our hearts. We all have to get involved. All these will help. All these will help to ensure that we are responding to a true crisis in our community. If we do all these things, I believe next year can be better. This year is going to be worse. All the data shows that the number of overdoses and deaths—in my State of Ohio, in your State—are increasing this year compared to the last year.

It doesn't have to be this way. All these actions taken together on prevention and education, better treatment, longer term recovery, sober housing, ensuring that we are moving away from overprescribing and providing alternatives to addictive pain medication, ensuring that we do provide our first responders with the training they need on Narcan and naloxone, to get people who are overdosing and save their lives and then get them into treatment—not just save their lives but get them into treatment. All of that together will make a difference.

I believe we can turn the tide. I believe we can save lives. I believe we cannot just save lives of those who otherwise may overdose and die as a result of their overdose, but we can help all those who are addicted—the hundreds of thousands of people in Ohio, the millions of people across our country—to be able to achieve their dreams by getting them into treatment programs.

There is good news here because there are so many examples of people who have gone into treatment and longer term recovery and turned their lives around, many of whom are now helping others to do the same, many of whom are back at work, back with their families, back being the kind of citizens who contribute to our society in so many ways. That is the hope, and that is what can happen if we work together to implement this legislation, to do everything possible to have this broad, comprehensive approach to turn the tide.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, I come to the floor with a simple question for my colleagues, especially my Republican colleagues: Why is it that

this Senate is working to pass a law which will deny millions of our fellow Americans access to the kind of retirement saving plans which we have access to as U.S. Senators? Why are we doing that?

I know all of us recognize that we have a retirement savings crisis in this country. Too many Americans are saving too little for their retirement years. We should be making it easier for people to put aside some savings for their retirement rather than making it harder. Yet this legislation will indisputably make it harder for millions of Americans to put aside the kind of savings for their retirement that Members of the U.S. Senate enjoy.

All of us know there are really about three legs to the retirement stool. The fundamental basic piece is the Social Security savings. That is the bedrock of the retirement system, but we all know that living off of a Social Security retirement benefit by itself is very difficult. After all, the average monthly Social Security benefit as of January of this year was $1,360 a month. That is the average. That means there are a lot below it and a lot above it. I can tell you, $1,360 a month and below is really difficult for somebody to get by on in terms of housing costs, medical costs, and other costs people are facing today. That is why we need to strengthen Social Security, not weaken it.

The second leg of the retirement stool for most Americans for much of our history in the postwar period was a defined benefit plan through our employers, where employers—especially large employers—would provide their employees a retirement benefit of a set amount over a fixed period of time during retirement. So that was something people could rely on. As we all know, we have seen that leg of the three-legged stool be dramatically cut down. It is not the practice of most businesses today to offer defined benefit plans.

The third leg of that stool has been personal savings, the ability of people to put aside a little money for their future. Just a few years ago, we had a big wake-up call from the General Accountability Office, where they looked at retirement around the country and concluded that almost 50 percent of households of age 55 and older have no retirement savings in vehicles such as 401(k) plans and IRAs. That same GAO report found that 57 percent of workers' entire household savings and investments was less than $25,000. More striking was that almost one-third of American workers had less than $1,000 in total savings. One-third of American workers had less than $1,000 in total savings.

We also know that 55 million Americans today do not have access to tax-benefited, tax-incentive retirement plans like 401(k)s enjoyed by those who work for major businesses. In fact, as all of us know, Members and employees of the U.S. Senate have access to 401(k) plans. If you work for a large business or a corporation of the United States, chances are you are going to get a 401(k)-type plan which allows you to deduct immediately through your paycheck funds for the purposes of your retirement savings. Of course, many businesses also have some matching and incentive for those savings.

So when we have a situation where 55 million Americans don't have access to those kind of savings plans—which are an increasingly important part of retirement security because of the fact that defined benefit retirement has gone down so dramatically—most people would ask: How do we incentivize? How do we incentivize more savings? One innovative solution is in a growing number of States, as of now, five States, including the State of Maryland. What the State of Maryland and other States determined was that it is not that small employers or medium-sized employers don't want to provide their employees with access to these plans. They do. They want to be able to offer that kind of benefit, but there is a cost, an infrastructure cost. There is a burden to providing those kind of tax-preferred vehicles for retirement savings to their employees. That is why they are not provided.

So what the States have done is, they have developed platforms which allow those small businesses or medium-sized businesses, on a totally voluntary basis, to sign up so their employees can benefit from these tax-preferred savings vehicles—just like Members of the U.S. Senate, just like most people who work for large corporations. In Maryland, we have hundreds of thousands of Marylanders who were signing up for these—a lot of people work for small businesses, a lot of people work for startups, a lot of younger workers who are mobile and going from one place to another—because this allows them, no matter which employer they go to, to make sure they can access that vehicle. All it requires is the employers to sign up for this platform which makes this retirement savings easier.

What is really strange here is that in Maryland, this has been a totally bipartisan exercise—totally bipartisan. We had Republican State senators, Democratic State senators, members of our house of delegates, our Republican Governor signing the bill because everyone recognized that this was kind of a good thing to encourage these savings opportunities to more Marylanders.

So why in the world would we, in the U.S. Senate, be passing a resolution which knocks down the ability of States to provide these kind of savings platforms? I have to say I have not heard an answer on the floor of the Senate. In fact, I have heard very few Senators coming to defend the vote we are apparently going to take at 5 o'clock.

I know for sure that Candidate Donald Trump did not campaign on the idea of making it more difficult for hard-working Americans to save for their retirement. That was not something he talked about on the campaign trail. In fact, I thought a lot of his campaign message was how he was identifying with struggling working families and wanted to make life easier for those working families. That is what States like Maryland are trying to do—make it easier for people who work for small businesses and medium-sized businesses to put aside a little bit of their savings for their retirement because, as I indicated, right now, if you look at the different pillars of retirement, you have Social Security and you have very little or a dwindling amount through a defined benefit. Really, what we are left with are personal savings.

It is pretty alarming to see people in this Senate charging ahead to try to eliminate the ability of States to do this. A few weeks ago, this Senate voted to deny municipalities the ability to do this. That was a very bad decision. Let's not compound a bad decision by taking this right away from the States. After all, I hear from my colleagues all the time that States are the laboratory of democracy. This is where experimentation should take place. This has been a successful experiment. It has been a successful experiment in five States. It also doesn't cost the Federal taxpayer one dime—not one dime. It is a very low-cost option for the States that enact these through their own democratic process in the States. As I said, this has been a bipartisan process in these States.

I really hope people will take a deeper look at what we are going to be voting on at 5 o'clock today because I have heard a lot of our colleagues on both sides of the aisle justifiably talk about the retirement crisis we have in this country. Yet this Senate is poised to vote on a piece of legislation that will make saving for retirement more difficult for tens of millions of Americans.

So exactly what is it we are going to vote on? Well, the Obama administration wanted to make it clear that States had the authority to establish these platforms to help with savings because there was some ambiguity under Federal retirement law whether States could do it. They adopted a rule that made it clear that States would have this option, and States have moved ahead. Now this Senate is talking about undoing the rule that provided clarity so the States could move forward and offer these retirement platforms.

I really hope this Senate will not vote today to take away this ability of

States to help millions of our fellow Americans provide more money for their retirement savings.

I will close where I started. How can any Member of this Senate look their constituents in the face and say to their constituents that they voted to take away a retirement savings option from their constituents when they have that savings option here as Senators? In the U.S. Senate, like a lot of other large organizations, we have retirement savings plans and we have 401(k) plans. So it is difficult to understand how in good conscience Senators who enjoy the benefit of that kind of plan can pull the plug on the ability of States to offer that same kind of savings plan—in fact, not even as good, but at least that savings platform to millions of our fellow citizens and say to small- and medium-sized businesses that want to offer this benefit but find it a little too costly—to deny them the option of signing up for these State plans.

So I hope every Senator will examine his or her conscience on this and make the decision that they want to make sure their constituents can have access to at least some kind of the same benefit they have as a U.S. Senator.

I urge my colleagues to vote against the resolution.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. COTTON). The Senator from Illinois.

Ms. DUCKWORTH. Mr. President, our Nation faces a retirement savings crisis. Too many seniors live in poverty after a lifetime of hard work, and too many people are facing retirement who have not been able to put away the adequate savings they will need. That is a problem not only on a human level and on a moral level but on an economic level.

When seniors are forced to live in poverty, that hurts all of us and is a strike against our Nation's values. As more people have to spend money to take care of their retired parents and relatives, that hurts our economy. Millions of seniors do not have family members who can spend those resources, so it is taxpayers who will have to make sure seniors have a place to live, food to eat, and medicine to keep them healthy. That is why we must do everything we can to help people save for retirement themselves and not have to rely on the taxpayer, to help them put a little bit of money away while they still can.

At the very least, the Senate should stay out of the way of our States that are taking action to address this looming crisis, but that is not what the Senate is doing here today. Instead, we are debating a resolution that would make it harder for people to save for retirement. We are debating whether to limit the ability of State governments to help people save for their retirement.

While some Americans are fortunate enough to work at companies that offer their employees retirement plans, many more do not. That is significant because research shows that the best way for people to save for retirement is through a retirement plan at work. Without one, workers are less likely to invest in an IRA or a 401(k) savings plan. That is why it is so worrisome that there are 55 million Americans right now in this country who do not have access to a retirement plan through their jobs. As the baby boomer generation approaches retirement, that is a serious problem.

President Obama proposed establishing a national individual retirement account program to help these 55 million Americans, but Republicans said no. In the absence of congressional action, both red States and blue States took the lead. They did so by coming up with a way for Americans to better save for retirement. One solution that has gained momentum over the last few years is to establish retirement programs at the State level to give people the chance to have retirement contributions deducted out of their paychecks into that plan if their company doesn't already offer a retirement program. It would give every worker across this Nation the same access to the tax breaks those lucky enough to have access to an employer-sponsored plan receive.

In my home State of Illinois, we were one of the first to do this. A few years ago, our State created the Secure Choice Program. It is an innovative program that is poised to give 1.3 million Illinoisans the opportunity to save for retirement when it launches next year. It is important to note that not only is Secure Choice innovative, it does not impose any burdensome mandates. It is optional. People can deduct up to 3 percent of their wages, and it applies only to businesses with at least 25 employees that have been in existence for 2 years. Secure Choice is also portable, so people can take their savings with them if they switch jobs. It is estimated that it will save taxpayers almost $243.8 million in the first 10 years because retirees will not need to rely as much on Medicaid spending.

It is a pragmatic solution to address a real-world problem. Other States have since followed our lead in establishing other similar programs. That is why I find it so ironic that my Republican colleagues, who frequently speak about the need to protect States' rights, are using this resolution we are voting on today to try to block States as culturally and politically different as Illinois and Arizona from offering or even having the freedom to offer these plans. Instead of allowing States to be the laboratories of democracy they so often talk about, Republicans are trying to limit States' flexibility and, in the process, increase regulatory burdens on employers. That is quite a role reversal.

Why is there this push to block the States from trying to help their residents better save for retirement? One reason could be that it would pad the financial industry's bottom line. That is because many investment brokers don't want increased competition, and they are worried that programs like Secure Choice that are run by States will offer people who are saving for retirement a better deal.

News reports have indicated that mutual fund companies are worried that they will lose customers to State-based plans, even though the entire purpose of efforts like Secure Choice is to help the millions of Americans who are not currently saving for retirement. Other news outlets have reported that financial analysts on Wall Street are worried that State plans will be transparent about hidden fees, which means that financial analysts may be forced to reveal that they are charging fees that are perhaps a little too high and will have to lower how much they charge.

Instead of encouraging greater competition that will help 55 million Americans save money for retirement, some of my colleagues are listening to Wall Street lobbyists who want less competition and who want to take away a retirement savings option from hard-working Americans. And here I was thinking that the conservatives believe competition produces better outcomes for the American people.

At the end of the day, we as Senators must do everything we can to make it easier for people to save for retirement, not harder. We must look out for the constituents who sent us here to represent them, not for Wall Street or for special interests. That is why I urge my colleagues to stand by the States that have led the Nation in creating retirement plans, States as different as Illinois, Arizona, California, Maryland, Oregon, Connecticut, Washington, and New Jersey. Please do not take the opportunity to save for retirement away from 55 million hard-working Americans.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Virginia.

COAL MINERS HEALTHCARE BENEFITS

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I rise today to join with a number of my colleagues, and I thank the Senator from Illinois for her comments on pensions, but there is another battle that a lot of us have been down here for a number of times over the last couple of years; that is, how do we make sure this country honors its promise and provides a permanent fix for our Nation's coal miners, particularly in terms of a promise that was made back in the late 1940s by then-President Truman in terms of healthcare for miners?

The last few months have been filled with an awful lot of uncertainty about whether the promise of healthcare for miners, retirees, widows, and others

would be kept. As a matter of fact, earlier this year, 22,000 coal miners or their dependents received notices that their healthcare benefits would be terminated at the end of April.

After months of uncertainty and fighting, we stand ready later this week to pass a bill that would make sure America kept its promise. We have spent a lot of time on this floor arguing for causes, but rarely in the 8 years I have been here have I seen any Member of the Senate be more engaged, more obsessed, more of a pain in the neck—and a pain in other parts of bodies—on this issue than my great friend, the Senior Senator from West Virginia, JOE MANCHIN. The truth is, without JOE's tireless work and leadership, I am not sure the miners in West Virginia or Virginia or Pennsylvania or other States that were affected would be able to look at this piece of legislation and know that their healthcare benefits are going to be maintained.

This didn't come easily. If nothing else, this shows again the power of persistence. JOE first raised this issue in July of 2015, when he introduced the Miners Protection Act. Since then, he has brought it up—I ask my colleagues to contradict me if it is not the case—in every public meeting or private meeting. Whenever there were more than two or three Senators engaged in any topic, JOE would come bursting in and say: We have to take care of the miners.

Well, there are a lot of times here in this Chamber that those kinds of efforts are not recognized or rewarded. I just wanted to be one of the first to say on behalf of all the miners in Virginia—but more importantly to the 22,000 miners who otherwise would have lost their healthcare—that many of us played some small role, but we wouldn't be having a permanent fix to the law without the absolute leadership, dedication, and determination of JOE MANCHIN.

Before I turn it over to my colleague from Pennsylvania to make a comment or two, I know that at times Senator MANCHIN, as a former Governor, has wondered: Can you really get stuff done here? Well, there are a lot of issues we still have to work on; there are a lot of things we haven't gotten done. But for a whole lot of miners, their widows, and dependents, without the Senator's leadership, America wouldn't have kept its promise. Because of his leadership and work, those miners, at least in terms of their healthcare, can rest easy.

With that, I yield the floor to my friend from Pennsylvania.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Pennsylvania.

Mr. CASEY. I thank my colleague.

Mr. President, I rise to speak about what the Senior Senator from Virginia just spoke about, and that is the miners' healthcare. We have complete action at long last. This should have been done in December, when we were pleading with the majority leader at the time to get it done then.

But we are happy we are at this point now, where one of two—one promise has been fulfilled, and that is the promise of permanent, guaranteed healthcare for thousands, tens of thousands of miners across the country. In my home State, the last count was 1,955. Let's round it off to 2,000—a lot of families. We are grateful we are at this point.

I do want to reiterate what Senator WARNER said about our colleague from West Virginia, Senator MANCHIN. He is right. JOE MANCHIN brought this up at every meeting over the course of many, many months and several years. We are grateful for the leadership he demonstrated and grateful that he kept us all focused. I thank all of our colleagues who worked on this.

I think, initially, going back years ago, before Senator MANCHIN was in the Senate, Senator Rockefeller was raising this issue. This really has been around a long time—for at least 5 years. We heard this morning from Cecil Roberts, president of the United Mine Workers of America, who talked about this 5-year fight.

I commend and salute Senator MANCHIN. I also thank the committee dynamic here, the Finance Committee—several members on the committee—with Senator WYDEN helping us get this bill, the Miners Protection Act, through the Senate Finance Committee and the leadership of Senator SCHUMER, as well, in focusing our caucus on getting this done.

I just want to make two additional points. One is a negative note, but I think it is important to point this out. There was a story yesterday in the publication, ThinkProgress. Here is what the headline was: ''Trump administration admits it used miners' healthcare as a bargaining chip.'' That was the headline. Then the subheadline was: ''Coal miners were just pawns in a larger game.'' That is what the headline and subheadline said.

I am not sure I have read a more disturbing headline in a long time, where the healthcare of coal miners—retired coal miners, who were promised this decades ago, would be used as pawns in a debate about a spending bill. Unfortunately, that is at least what has been reported. I hope we don't ever see a headline like that again.

Going forward, the problem for us now is, as much as we are happy about this current result on healthcare, we still have a lot of work to do for miners, especially when it comes to their pensions. That is the second half of the promise.

So I remind everyone again, these miners kept their promise. They kept their promise to their company to work in the darkness and danger of a coal mine, sometimes for decades, not just years. They kept their promise to their families to support them in the most difficult job imaginable. And many of them have served in combat or served in the military, in one war or another. They kept their promise to their country. It is time we fulfill the entire promise, and that means getting pensions done as well.

We are grateful to be part of this, and let's keep the momentum going for pensions for all of the retired miners.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Missouri.

Mrs. MCCASKILL. Mr. President, there is a question Americans should be asking all of us every day: Who are you fighting for? We should be asking ourselves that. Who are we fighting for?

Here is who JOE MANCHIN is fighting for—Senator MANCHIN, my colleague from West Virginia, and my other colleagues who are here on the floor: Billy Hull. He is a retired coal miner with 30 years of working at the Peabody Coal Mine near Montrose, MO. He wrote me a letter earlier, about 6 months ago, saying in part:

> My wife and I, married 59 years fall under the Patriot Coal Companies Voluntary Employees Beneficial Association. My wife Earlene is a 2 time cancer survivor and I suffered a stroke in 2012. If we lose our benefits it will be hard for us to afford our medicine cost.

So these folks were made a promise by—I am accused of being a fan girl of this guy, and I am a fan girl of Harry Truman. I think he was plain-spoken. I think he was earnest, honest, and kept people like Billy Hull in the front of his mind 24/7—good, salt-of-the-earth, hard-working people who play by the rules. Mr. Hull played by the rules. Thousands of coal miners in our State played by the rules, and their widows played by the rules.

The promise made by Harry Truman deserved to be kept. The promise deserved to be kept. So my friend, Senator JOE MANCHIN, decided he wasn't going to go with the flow around here. He was going—I think he said at one point on the floor, I think his quote was: If you don't stand up for something, we don't stand for anything. And he decided that he was going to get this done.

Now, I have to tell you the truth. For about 2 years, everywhere you went, you would walk behind JOE, and JOE would be trying to talk to somebody about the miners. After he would walk off, people would whisper: You know, it is never going to happen. We are never going to get this done. It is not going to happen.

I can't tell you how fun it is to celebrate getting something done.

We bail out everybody around here. We bail out Wall Street. We bail out banks. We bail out corporations. We

are busy figuring out how we can cut the wealthiest's taxes, as we speak. It is all about making it easier for folks who have plenty. Why is it so hard to help the people who don't have anything—who depended on a promise, just to have the basics in their lives, and put in long days of work for years as their part of that bargain?

I am so proud of JOE MANCHIN. I can't imagine how proud the coal miners in his State must be of him. I am glad we had an opportunity to stand with him as he stood for something. I am proud that we got it done.

Now we have another big task because there is another bunch of people out there; really, we are running roughshod over them, and that is a bunch of truck drivers, truck drivers in my State who have driven trucks for 35, 40, 45 years, understanding that at the end of that long period of time, they would have a pension. It is not their fault that the pension is not there for them.

I have to tell JOE that I have to sign him up. I want Senator MANCHIN as the captain of the team as we now go on to fight for the pensions these people have earned.

If we can bail out everybody we are bailing out, if we can cut taxes by $7 trillion, surely, we can find the money to make good on these promises.

Thank you, Mr. President.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Minnesota.

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Thank you, Mr. President.

I join my colleague, Senator MCCASKILL from Missouri, in her comments about the Central States Pension Fund. We have over 14,000 workers and retirees in our State affected by this as well.

But I really stand here today to thank Senator MANCHIN for his work and to thank our leaders, Senator MCCONNELL and Senator SCHUMER, as well as Chairman COCHRAN and Vice Chairman LEAHY for their ability to put partisanship aside and get this deal done. It meant everything from funding for the COPS Program to helping to combat the opioid epidemic, Capital Investment Grants, and medical research.

But for one guy here, it was all personal, and that is JOE MANCHIN. He fought long and hard to protect healthcare benefits for his coal miners. Think about this: In October, 12,500 retired coal miners and widows received notices telling them that their healthcare benefits would be cut off at the end of the year. Then, in November, another 3,600 notices went out. That is over 16,000 people.

I don't have coal miners in my State, but do you know why I knew about those notices? Because JOE MANCHIN made sure that I knew about those notices and because the other Senators who spoke here, who have coal miners in their States—they stood up and made sure we knew about those notices, and they worked tirelessly to get this done.

For me, mining is not about that black coal dust. It is about red dust. It is about iron ore. As Senator MANCHIN knows, my grandpa worked 1,500 feet underground in the mines in Minnesota. He got his first job as a teamster when he was only fifteen. He had to quit school and go to work and help raise his eight, nine brothers and sisters. One of them died. His parents died. He worked underground his whole life. He went down that shaft and that cage every single day, just to support his brothers and sisters. Then he married my grandma and supported my dad and his brother.

Do you know what? I wouldn't even be here in the Senate today if he didn't have the pension benefits that came out of the job he had—and healthcare. JOE MANCHIN understood that about the people he represents. Those miners earned those pensions, and they earned their retiree healthcare benefits. That is why what he did, and what all those Senators who represent the coal miners did, is more than just about those States and about those miners. It is about a promise we made to our workers.

As one former Congresswoman, Barbara Jordan from Texas, once said:

What Americans want is something simple. They want a country that is as good as its promise.

I thank Senator MANCHIN for fulfilling that promise.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Indiana.

Mr. DONNELLY. Mr. President, I thank my colleague from Minnesota for her wonderful remarks and for her wonderful comments about those people who go down into the mines every day.

I acknowledge the permanent healthcare fix we have for our miners and their families that was included in the fiscal year 2017 appropriations legislation. This was a promise made by Harry Truman. It was a promise that was our obligation to keep, and the keeper of the flame for making sure it got done was my colleague, Senator JOE MANCHIN from West Virginia.

As he knows, my State, the State of Indiana, the Hoosier State, has thousands of miners as well. They go to work in the dark, and they come home in the dark. They work in grueling conditions and have done so for decades. Part of it was the promise that was made to them that they and their family would have healthcare, a promise made by Harry Truman that is our obligation to keep. When the lights were starting to flicker and it was getting dimmer on this promise that it would ever be kept, we fought for years. JOE MANCHIN led the fight, led the crew, and we got this done.

It is a good example of what Congress can do when we work in a bipartisan manner. I thank all of my colleagues on both sides for being part of this. Many people worked hard to secure the passage of this fix. Part of it was an amazing group of folks who came to visit us on a constant basis, our friends from back home, the miners from Virginia and from West Virginia and from Indiana and from Ohio and from all around this country who—if you remember, my colleague JOE MANCHIN was there that hot day this summer when it was 100 degrees outside.

All of these retired miners—many in their seventies, eighties, some in their nineties—were here on one of the hottest days of the year. Under extraordinarily difficult conditions, they stayed and sat in the Sun and in the heat because, they said: We are here for our brothers and sisters. They said: We know you are here for us too.

Our leader was JOE MANCHIN. He lived this every single day, every single conversation that we had. We were in it together. We told our miners: We will never stop until we get this done, and we have the permanent healthcare fix done. It was a wonderful team to work with, but there is no question that the captain of our team was a fellow from West Virginia.

To my colleague JOE MANCHIN, we are so proud of you and so proud of you for keeping us moving forward.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia.

Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, first of all, I cannot express how humbled I am and how proud I am of all of us, and my colleagues here, my dear friend Senator WARNER. We were Governors together. We split the Virginias—Virginia and West Virginia. We worked together. He has the same constituency base I have in West Virginia, in Southwest Virginia, and all of West Virginia. He knows the mining industry. He knows the hard-working people.

To Senator DONNELLY from Indiana, we have been there together with the coal miners and the people who moved the coal and do the hard lifting. To Senator MCCASKILL from Missouri, Senator CASEY from Pennsylvania—Pennsylvania has a rich tradition in coal mining—Senator KLOBUCHAR and everyone who has spoken, and I want to thank the Presiding Officer too. He was an original cosponsor from Arkansas. So this is truly bipartisan. From Arkansas, the Presiding Officer understands hard-working people. He signed on to the bill without hesitation. I want to thank him. So it was really a team effort.

People have been talking about all of the things and the passion we have for different things. My passion comes from the people I was born and raised

and grew up with in the coal mining towns. So all I ever saw in my life was people around me who nurtured me and guided me and taught me who were truly coal miners or coal miner families. That is all I knew. My Little League coach was a coal miner. My Boy Scout leader was a coal miner. A lot of my teachers were coal miners, basically, off and on, trying to supplement their incomes. My teammates whom I played ball with through high school became coal miners. My grandfather was a coal miner. My uncle was a coal miner who lost his life in a 1968 mine explosion. My next-door neighbor in 1954—I remember I was 7 years old, and I wanted to throw a ball all the time.

I would come home from school, and Pinchy would be there. He would throw a ball with me. I can still remember this so vividly. One day I was ready to play ball and Pinchy did not come home. I asked Mercia, his wife: Mercia, where is Pinchy?

She said: JOE, honey, he is going to be a little late today.

Well, we just had a mine explosion. I did not know anything about the mine explosion, but I knew there was no Pinchy to throw a ball with. So the second day, I asked: Mercia, where is Pinchy?

Well, they still didn't know the outcome. The rescue was going on. They did not know if they lost their lives or not or what had happened. So they were still in limbo.

She said: JOE, Pinchy has to work over again tonight.

That was her explanation to me, the little boy. The third day, she—by that time they knew. She had to tell me. So she is probably—I know Mercia had to labor with this. How is she going to tell this 7-year-old neighborhood kid who played ball with Pinchy?

She said—this is a tough one. She said: He is not going to come home.

When you think about the hard-working people who suffered—she never had anything. If it was not for healthcare and if it wasn't for a pension, Mercia would have had nothing. So I know the families and I know the sacrifices. What you all saw was my passion for the people I grew up with. So when I say thank you, I thank the President for supporting miners—President Trump—I thank my Republican colleagues, and I thank all 48 Democratic Senators who never wavered.

A lot of them don't even know a coal miner. What they know today, after 5 years that we have been talking about this and working toward this, is that you would not have the country you have today if it hadn't been for those people who sacrificed, who worked hard, never asked for a thing, gave everything they could back, took care of their families but took care of their country.

Basically, the energy they produced gave us the country. People, whether in California today, wherever they may be, understand that coal miners produced the energy that allowed us to win World War I, World War II, and every war we have been in, that supported the industrial might that we have that built the middle class.

I am so thankful for all of that. I get choked up when I think about it because that is what we were fighting for. They never asked for a thing. My grandfather was run out of the mines in 1927 because he was trying to organize and say: We can't make it.

If you have ever heard the song lyric, ''I owe my soul to the company store,'' my grandfather owed his soul. He never had any money. He had script. He said: We have to do something different. We can't live like this.

They blackballed him. On Christmas Eve, 1927, my grandmother was pregnant with my uncle. She already had four children. My dad was the oldest. They came to the house and threw them out of a company house in the middle of a snowstorm. That happened in 1927.

So we know it. We lived it. In 1946, they talked about the history. In 1946, the Krug-Lewis amendment—Krug was Secretary of the Interior and John L. Lewis was at the United Mine Workers, and they said: You have to give those people something so they have something to live for. They have no health care. They have no pension. They have given you everything they have.

Harry Truman said: We are going to take care of them. You can't go on strike because if you do, our economy collapses. This is in 1946. So that is how this came about. Now, people said: Well, I have heard this. They are going to bail them out. We are not asking for a bailout. You understand, these people basically made an agreement that every ton of coal that was mined from 1946, the United Mine Workers basically, there would be an amount of money set aside that came from every sale of a ton of coal that went into this fund.

Every union contract negotiation, they contracted and they left money in their contract to pay for their benefits of healthcare and pensions and did not take money home to their families that they could have used. They made all of these sacrifices for all of these years. It wasn't their fault that the bankruptcy laws that were passed in Congress allowed companies to walk away and leave them high and dry.

It was not their fault. They did everything. So finally we have all come together to do the right thing that should have been done. It shouldn't be played politics with today. Everyone says we have winners and losers. We are all winners. If you can get something like this accomplished and be part of it, then you have to feel good about it. It gives you a reason to even be here.

That is what I am so appreciative of. I am so proud of everyone who has stood together on both sides, my colleague SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO, a dear friend of mine, a Republican. I am a Democrat. You know what, we are Americans and we are West Virginians. That is what we were fighting for. That is the winner today. The winner is this great country that basically stood up and protected the people who gave them everything they needed to be the superpower of the world. That is what we fought for.

So there is enough praise and enough accolades for everyone to take home and say: We all did it, and we all did a job well done. We do have pensions now. These are not big pensions. These are $300, $400, $500 pensions. It supplements the way of life that is not extravagant by any means. So we are going to start working as soon as this is finished this week, and next week we will start on that.

To the 22,600 miners and their families who say thank you—I have heard from most of them—to all of the people who came up here, they were coming up here, a lot of them every week driving just to be here, to be part of it and put a face, put a family, put basically the challenges they would have being able to even exist or live without this healthcare—they made it possible. I want to thank all of them.

To Cecil Roberts, president of United Mine Workers, who was so diligent on this, Phil Smith, all of the people who worked so hard, I thank them, but really thank all of our Senators and the Congressmen. My congressional delegation, I am appreciative of them, our Republicans and Democrats on the House side who voted. They are voting now as we speak. The Senate is poised tomorrow for us to vote and support this.

I know President Trump will sign it. People are saying they used it, played bargaining games with it. I am not going to get into that because I don't know how you could ever sincerely mean that you were using people's livelihoods and the healthcare for them and their families as a bargaining chip. I don't think anybody meant to do that. Maybe it came out in something that should have not been said, but with that, we have to forget all of that.

Let me just say thank you. To the Presiding Officer, to all of my colleagues, thank you. Thank you for a job not only well done but basically very appreciated that it was done, and people's lives will be different because of what we did. God bless each and every one of you. Thank you.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Hampshire.

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, I came to the floor this afternoon to speak to the CRA legislation before us

that would overturn the Department of Labor rule designed to help Americans save for retirement, but before I speak to that, I just want to join all of my colleagues on the floor in applauding what has happened to support the miners and to get them health benefits and to thank my colleague JOE MANCHIN for his leadership.

I know how personally he has fought for this, as so many people who spoke on the floor have. You know, we don't have any coal miners in New Hampshire, Joe, but we have hard workers. We have people who understand that when you make a promise to them, you need to keep that promise. Thank you for leading this fight and to everyone who made this happen because we need to reassure Americans that when we say we are going to do something, we actually follow through and we do that. So thank you for making that happen.

Now, Mr. President, it is disappointing that actually on the issue that is before the Senate right now, this effort to change the labor rule on retirement, that we are actually going to take something away from Americans. States across America have been developing and implementing innovative, low-cost retirement savings options to improve their citizens' retirement security.

That is really important at a time when we have so many people who have not been able to save for retirement, who are worried about what might happen if something happens to them and they can't work into the retirement age. Sadly, the misguided legislation that is before us would shut down these efforts and effectively take away from States the right to establish retirement options for workers.

Now, across the country we have had Republican and Democratic State treasurers join with groups, including the AARP and the Small Business Majority, to oppose this effort. I want to join them in asking two what I think are obvious questions.

First, why do the sponsors of this resolution want to deny Americans new, attractive retirement savings options?

Second, why in the world are they doing this at a time when the United States faces a growing retirement savings crisis—a crisis that threatens to strand millions of seniors without any personal savings and at risk of falling into poverty? And why do this when it doesn't include any mandates and there is no cost to taxpayers either at the Federal level or, in most States, at the State level? This is something that is paid for by people who are looking to get a pension.

Facts matter, and we shouldn't ignore them. Some 55 million Americans lack access to a workplace retirement plan, and 45 percent of households don't have any retirement account assets—zero savings. Polls show that more than three-quarters of private sector workers fear not having enough money to live comfortably in retirement.

To address this nationwide crisis, many States have stepped up to the plate, experimenting with public-private partnerships to help small businesses provide low-cost, turn-key payroll deduction options. The legislation being debated today would abruptly compromise the future of these State initiatives.

In my State of New Hampshire, nearly 99 percent of our employers are considered small businesses. That number is hard to believe. They employ over 50 percent of New Hampshire's workers. Nearly 43 percent of Granite Staters work for an employer that does not offer a retirement plan.

As the ranking member of the Small Business Committee, I talk to small business owners regularly, and as a former small business owner myself, I understand the challenges they face. For many, it is a challenge just to meet payroll and to keep the doors of their businesses open. I know that many of them would like to offer a company retirement plan because they want to do right by their employees, but they just can't afford it.

A Pew Foundation survey found that three-quarters of owners of small and medium-sized businesses across the country support the idea of these State-run options because they offer a way for employees to save for retirement at little or no cost to the employer.

So these programs are sort of like starter plans for small businesses. A company that is still trying to gain its financial footing can offer this option to its employees. Then, once the company gets on more solid ground and it needs to attract and retain talent, it can transition to a more ambitious retirement plan that allows it to contribute to its employees' retirement savings.

It is especially troubling to me that the Senate is even considering whether to deny Americans this retirement option at the same time that we are seeing leaders on the House side trying to pass a healthcare bill that would make it more expensive for many preretirement seniors and for people with preexisting conditions to purchase health coverage.

Again, I would ask: Why would we want to deny this new, innovative retirement option to millions of employees who work for small businesses without retirement plans? Why would we want to deny small businesses the choice of offering these options? Why should the Federal Government stand in the way of States and small businesses that want to take positive steps to address the retirement crisis and help their citizens?

I think this legislation is misguided. It is legislation in search of a problem, and, worse than that, it would put a massive roadblock in the way of States and small businesses that are striving to solve the real and growing problem of inadequate retirement savings.

So I urge my colleagues to really take a look at what would happen in their home States. I urge them to stand up for America's small businesses, to vote no on this legislation. Let's ensure that Americans have more, not fewer, options to save for retirement.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan.

Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, Congress has spent the first 4 months of this year using an arcane, expedited procedure to roll back policies from the previous administration, while disregarding the impact these changes will have on American workers and families.

When you hold a belief that anything done by a Federal agency is bad, cutting programs seems like progress, but, unfortunately, it is not that simple.

I am all for streamlining government and making the process of doing business easier, but some rules—rules that keep workers safe, for example, or to protect consumers or to keep our air and water clean—are protections that make sense.

In their ideological zeal, the majority has time and again made the decision to roll back important policies regardless of the impact on American people.

So far this year, just to name a few, the majority has rolled back environmental protections for clean water and allowed internet service providers to sell your personal browsing history to the highest bidder. The majority has also reversed rules that make workplaces safer and has even made it easier for corporations to bribe the governments of developing countries.

Now today, as the window closes on the majority's ability to rush through legislation under the Congressional Review Act, we are again facing a vote that could harm American families and make it harder for people to save for retirement.

As I have said on this topic before, for the people of Michigan, the American dream can take on many forms. But no matter who you are, there are a few fundamentals that I truly believe cut across the entire American society. One small piece of the American dream is the ability to retire with dignity and save enough to be able to pass along something to the next generation.

The measure under consideration today, which would repeal the Department of Labor's safe harbor for States developing retirement plans, would be a step backward, and it would make it harder for people to save for a secure retirement.

It is no secret that the American economy has changed in the last generation. One of the most profound

changes for working families has been the dramatic shift from defined benefit pension plans to defined contribution plans. Our current system of IRAs and 401(k)s work well for many people, but it is unfortunately leaving millions of Americans behind.

If you work for a large, stable employer—like those of us privileged to work for the U.S. Senate—you will more than likely have access to a retirement plan. Americans, when they have access to these types of plans, make smart, prudent financial decisions.

Over 90 percent of Americans with access to a workplace plan report saving for their retirement. But not everyone works for a large employer, and for those who do not, the system has very large, gaping holes.

Nearly 60 million working Americans do not have access to a workplace retirement plan. These are workers who are trying to put something away for a comfortable retirement and build a stable financial future for their families. They simply demand some solutions, and they certainly deserve them. Families don't care if it is a Democratic solution or a Republican solution, nor do they care if it is a Federal Government idea or their local State's idea. They simply want and need access to a plan that allows them to build a better future.

So this leads to a very important question. If the States are working to do their part to find solutions to this problem, why would we in the U.S. Senate work to block them?

These safe harbors provided by the Department of Labor are the perfect example of allowing the States to do what they do best, which is taking an active role as laboratories of democracy.

As I have said, we need big ideas, we need small ideas, and, frankly, we need all of the ideas that we can get. But I am saying here today that I am willing to work with any of my colleagues on a plan—big or small—to help Americans move toward a secure retirement.

A secure retirement cannot become a relic of the past, but this piece of the American dream will only be true for this generation of workers if we start working on these solutions now. We certainly should not stand in the way of States working on innovative ways to help the citizens of their respective States.

I urge my colleagues to vote no on the resolution.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Ms. HASSAN. Mr. President, I rise in opposition to the Congressional Review Act measure to overturn the Department of Labor's rule that gives States the flexibility to help small business workers save for retirement.

Every American who has worked hard throughout their life deserves the ability to retire, knowing that they will be financially secure. But it is clear that we are on the verge of a retirement crisis. More and more Americans are retiring every day without the economic security they need, and we are beginning to see the harmful impacts of what happens to a generation that was not afforded the opportunity to participate in a traditional pension plan.

The AARP has estimated that 55 million Americans, including roughly 230,000 Granite Staters, do not have access to a retirement plan at their workplace, and participation in retirement plans has dropped over the past several years. Few low- and middle-income families have retirement accounts. For families who fall into the lowest 25 percent of household incomes, fewer than 10 percent have retirement savings accounts. Even among families where the primary wage earners are between the ages of 56 and 61, those who are nearing retirement, the median retirement account balance for all families, regardless of income, was only $17,000—far less than what those families will need to live on in retirement. Therefore, we should be doing everything possible to support these future retirees and to look for opportunities to help them save now.

The Department of Labor rule that we are debating today supports States' efforts to enter into innovative public-private partnerships that would increase personal savings rates for employees of small businesses. The rule makes clear that small businesses will experience no operational burden for these plans, and workers have the opportunity to opt out of these plans if they choose. Already we have seen five States adopt their own plans based on this guidance, and additional States are considering similar programs that best match the retirement needs of their citizens. We are starting to see results. Research has suggested that employees with access to retirement plans from their employers are 15 times more likely to save for retirement.

Unfortunately, too many of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle are pushing this Congressional Review Act measure to roll back the progress States are making and to limit a State's ability to decide to facilitate a critical service to their citizens. If this measure passes today, the 12 million Americans who have already benefited from their States entering these partnerships will see their retirement plans impacted, and the other States considering these measures will have to stop.

As a former Governor, I understand how decisions made here in Congress have the ability to impact a State's ability to innovate and grow, and it is unacceptable that Republicans would vote to limit a State's authority to help their citizens save.

In States across this country, there is broad bipartisan support for State-facilitated retirement plans. Recent surveys have found that 80 percent of private sector workers support State-facilitated plans to help them save for retirement, and 80 percent of small business owners say they support the basic concept behind these plans. The bipartisan National Council of State Legislatures said passage of the CRA will ''result in an unwarranted preemption of state innovation'' and will ''restrict the ability of millions of hard-working Americans to save for retirement.'' The AARP has written that ''a Congressional Review Act resolution to overturn this rulemaking represents significant overreach by the federal government.''

I find great irony in the fact that many of my Republican colleagues are voting to limit the ability of States and localities to innovate and craft policies—something they often say they support in other areas.

Additionally, retirement plans sponsored by States help save taxpayer dollars. Greater retirement security would result in fewer older Americans falling into poverty, reducing the number of citizens who would be forced to access social safety net programs.

This Department of Labor rule is exactly the type of commonsense, bipartisan proposal we should all support, and I am willing to work with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle in order to address the retirement needs of Granite Staters and all Americans. Undoing the States' progress on this front by voting in favor of this measure would limit the ability of more Americans to save for their retirement.

I will vote against this measure, and I urge my colleagues to do the same.

Thank you, Mr. President.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, today I rise to express my strong opposition to H.J. Res. 66. This resolution would overturn a rule issued by the Department of Labor that is essential to providing increased access to retirement savings programs.

Among all working families in America ages 32 to 61, the median family in America had only $5,000 saved in 2013. This indicates to me that we are clearly facing a retirement savings crisis.

In California, 7.5 million workers don't have access to a retirement savings plan through their jobs, including 3.4 million women. Of those without a workplace retirement savings plan, almost 5 million are individuals of Color and over 3.5 million are Latino.

The good news is that, when a person has access to a retirement savings program through their workplace, they

are 15 times more likely to save for retirement.

In California, legislators have been working for more than 4 years to create the Secure Choice program as a way of addressing the retirement crisis we face. This program allows workers to easily save for retirement through a deduction made directly from their paycheck.

Those who need access to a workplace retirement program the most, individuals with lower incomes, are far less likely to have that access. These are the people who stand to gain the most from the Secure Choice program and lose the most by Congress halting its progress.

Let me share some examples of the people who would be impacted. Most eligible employees work for small businesses that might not be able to offer retirement savings plans on their own. Nearly half of eligible workers work in the retail, hospitality, healthcare, and manufacturing industries.

This program supports lower and middle-class workers by providing access to the tools they need to control their financial future. The average wage of workers eligible for this program is $35,000, and 80 percent of eligible workers earn less than $50,000.

We are in a time of deep income inequality and must stand up for programs that support the middle class, like Secure Choice. Nationwide, the bottom 90 percent of households have seen their income drop compared to what it was in 1970. Meanwhile, the top 1 percent has seen their household income triple.

As workers struggle to make ends meet, it is appalling to me that Congress would actively take away a key resource for financial planning.

Californians want to ensure that all employees have access to a retirement savings program. The Department of Labor's rule clears the way for California to set up programs like Secure Choice by clarifying employers' obligations to the accounts.

This rule would also help small businesses compete for qualified workers who expect and deserve access to a workplace retirement savings program. Small Business California supports the Department of Labor's rule paving the way for these programs, and opposes this resolution.

Finally, in California, our State chapter of the Chamber of Commerce specifically asked for an opinion from the Department of Labor on employer obligations. Once the Department of Labor's rule was issued, CalChamber no longer opposed the California bill.

In fact, the legislation that passed in California requires the State board to report a finalized rule from the Department of Labor. Overturning the Department of Labor's rule ignores the effort and care taken in California to craft a program that works for both employees and employers.

Nationally, almost half of working-age households do not have retirement savings accounts, and 55 million people don't have access to a workplace retirement plan. This is shocking.

According to the Economic Policy Institute, the median retirement account savings for families ages 56 to 61 was only $17,000 in 2013. This is only slightly higher than the 2016 poverty threshold for a household of two people aged 65 and older. It is inconceivable that a family could afford to finance their retirement with only $17,000 in savings.

Supporting retirement savings is not a partisan issue. In fact a bipartisan group of State treasurers oppose this resolution, as does the National Conference of State Legislatures.

We are facing a retirement savings crisis in our country, and the Department of Labor's rule is a commonsense guideline that makes it easier for individuals to save for retirement.

I strongly urge my colleagues to stand up for American workers and support their access to retirement savings programs by opposing this resolution.

Thank you.

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, while the Senate is on the topic of retirement savings, I would like to call attention to a policy that I have worked to advance for many years. I believe policies permitting the existence of pooled provider plans, which passed the Senate Finance Committee to this past September by a vote of 26 to 0, should be enacted as soon as possible to ensure the ability of Americans working for small businesses to have quality access to retirement savings.

A critical challenge in enhancing the retirement security for all Americans is expanding plan coverage among small businesses. To address this, I believe we need to make retirement plans less complicated, less intimidating, and less expensive for those entities. That is exactly what pooled provider plans accomplish.

This proposal is nonpartisan. In the past Congress alone, I held bipartisan HELP Committee roundtables with the junior Senator from Vermont and the senior Senator from Massachusetts, and in a prior Congress, I worked with Senator Harkin—all to discuss the best way to craft and implement this proposal. I am very proud of the bipartisan work that has been done to this point, and I thank my colleagues on both the HELP and Finance Committees for their support, but now it is time for the full Senate to pass the measures allowing the existence of such plans.

I look forward to the day in which the retirement gap in America is closed. I believe we will take a very large step towards closing that gap with the passage of policies that permit pooled provider plans.

Thank you.

Ms. HASSAN. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. TOOMEY). The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

THE PRESIDENT'S FIRST ONE HUNDRED DAYS

Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, reflecting on his accomplishments to date in his administration, President Trump recently said: ''I think we've done more than, perhaps, any President in the first 100 days.'' Throughout the campaign and since coming to office, President Trump has repeatedly attacked politicians who are ''all talk, no action.'' It seems to be appropriate that, now that the first 100 days have passed, we should apply the President's standard.

Over the course of the campaign, Candidate Trump promised to replace the ''very stupid people'' in our government who ''don't know how to win'' with the ''greatest minds'' and the ''best people.''

He said that the Presidency was ''going to be easy'' and that the ''jobs are coming back, folks; that's going to be easy.''

He promised a ''beautiful,'' ''terrific'' plan to provide ''such great health care at a tiny fraction of the cost, and it's going to be so easy.''

He promised to build a wall so fast that ''your head will spin'' and that Mexico would pay for it. ''Just rely on me,'' he said.

He promised to be the ''greatest jobs President that God ever created,'' to ''bring us all together,'' and to create a ''unified Nation—a Nation of love,'' he said.

He predicted: ''We're gonna win so much that you may even get tired of winning, and you'll say, please, please, it's too much winning, we can't take it anymore. Mr. President, it's too much.''

He outlined that winning plan in no other place than Gettysburg last October. There, on that hallowed ground, where Lincoln reflected on his own ''poor power'' and wondered whether the world would little note nor long remember what he said there, President Trump—the man who said: ''I alone can fix it''—outlined his 100-day action plan to make America great again and restore honesty, accountability, and change to Washington. On that day, he promised that, on his first day, 18 different accomplishments would be achieved. He delivered just two of those.

Over his first 100 days, he promised to introduce and fight to pass 10 major pieces of legislation. That included a bill to ''grow the economy 4 percent per year and create at least 25 million new jobs.'' It included a bill to ''spur $1 trillion in infrastructure investment

over 10 years.'' It included a bill to ''make 2- and 4-year college more affordable'' as well as bills to ''clean up corruption in Washington'' and ''discourage companies from laying off their workers.''

Today, more than 100 days into the Trump Presidency, where are we?

So far, the President's ''great'' team has not yet been assembled. There are 465 vacancies for which there are not even nominees yet. You cannot blame that on anything going on around here. There are 465 slots that still do not have nominees. Of the 10 pieces of legislation that he proposed on that day in Gettysburg, he has passed zero—none.

In his first 100 days, amidst the Great Depression, FDR stabilized the banks and put 250,000 Americans to work through a new Civilian Conservation Corps. Ronald Reagan rallied the country behind his agenda for taxes and spending. Facing an economic collapse—the likes of which we had not seen since the Great Depression—Barack Obama cut taxes and made historic investments in infrastructure, clean energy, and education in 100 days.

Notwithstanding this history—these facts—President Trump has repeatedly claimed in interviews and broadcasts how well the administration has done during the first 100 days. In fact, on day 90—he did not even need to get to 100—he said: ''No administration has accomplished more.'' As evidence for this claim, the President referred to the 28 bills that he has signed into law—laws to rename a VA clinic in American Samoa, laws to make it easier to hunt bears out of helicopters, to improve weather forecasts, to appoint members of the Smithsonian Board of Regents. Those were in the 28 laws. Missing from that list, however, is any legislation that fulfills a single campaign promise that he made, including his promise to repeal ObamaCare.

In the absence of fulfilling the promises that he made at Gettysburg and on the campaign trail, he has also taken credit for a series of Executive orders even though, during the campaign, he railed against President Obama for using them. Candidate Trump said: ''We have a President that can't get anything done, so he just keeps signing executive orders all over the place.'' In fact, history shows that President Obama turned to Executive orders only after years of unprecedented obstruction and after he passed legislation through this Chamber and through the House.

President Trump turned to executive orders in the first 100 days despite controlling both Houses of Congress. With a Republican President, a Republican majority in the Senate, and a Republican majority in the House, he has to revert to the very same instrument that he was so appalled by in the hands of President Obama, and he still has no major legislative accomplishments to show for it. That is not fake news. That is the truth.

While we are on the subject, it bears noting, I think, that President Obama used his Executive orders to advance rights and opportunity for the American people. President Trump has used them to discriminate against refugees and immigrants in an unconstitutional travel ban, to weaken American competitiveness by reversing fuel efficiency standards for our cars, to weaken protections for our national monuments and endanger our economy and our environment by undoing the Clean Power Plan.

Not only has President Trump failed to keep his promises—it is actually worse than that—but he has actually proposed or supported legislation that would do just the opposite of what he has promised.

Look at healthcare. I hope I am not in need of any right now. Over the course of the campaign—I do not need to tell anybody in America this; we all saw it—Candidate Trump attacked ObamaCare over and over. He described it as a ''disaster'' that is ''imploding.'' So he promised: ''On day one, we will ask Congress to immediately deliver a full repeal of ObamaCare'' and replace it with ''something terrific.'' He pledged to ''take care of everybody,'' to champion what he called the ''forgotten man,'' and he assured America that ''everybody's going to be taken care of much better than they're taken care of now.''

More than 100 days after taking office, President Trump has not only failed to fulfill that promise, failed to repeal ObamaCare—the House has not yet even had a vote on it, as far as I know—but the White House has actually helped to write—and he endorsed—a proposal that would throw 24 million people, many of them poor and middle class folks, off of their health insurance, while slashing $300 billion in taxes for the top 2 percent.

That is what is in the bill that they are considering in the House right now. That is not a healthcare bill. That is a tax cut for the wealthiest Americans that is masquerading as a healthcare bill. That is not the promise that he made to the people who voted for him. That is not the promise that he made to the forgotten man. It seems that in the first 100 days the forgotten man remains forgotten, unless by ''forgotten'' President Trump meant millionaires who can avoid dealing with America's health insurance system by paying cash for their medical expenses with their having the benefit of the tax cut that President Trump has proposed to give them.

My point—and I want to be clear about it—is not to ask the President to fulfill these promises, most of which I opposed when he was running. I am simply pointing out that what he has said is not what he has done, including his promise to build a ''great, great wall on our southern border'' and force Mexico to pay for that wall. Instead, he asked Congress for $1.4 billion in taxpayer money to start construction.

I was part of the Gang of Eight in the Senate that negotiated the immigration bill—four Democrats and four Republicans—over 8 months. We had $11 billion of border security. By the time we passed the bill in the Senate, there was $40 billion of border security in that bill. It was paid for, unlike a lot of stuff we do, and it was not the taxpayers who were paying for it. It was the immigrants who were paying for it in their fees to this country.

Why is that not a better way of doing it?

Mexico is not going to pay for it. It has said it is not going to pay for it. He continues to say that it is going to happen, but it is just another broken promise. Instead, he went to the taxpayers and hoped nobody would notice that he was asking for $1.4 billion for the wall. Fortunately, both Republicans and Democrats alike in the House of Representatives and in the Senate rejected it—in particular, Members of the House of Representatives who represent border States or represent the border, who actually know what is going on down there.

I am sad to say that this inconsistent and erratic approach has spilled over to our foreign relations. On North Korea, President Trump bragged that the United States would easily ''solve the problem''—his language—without China, which he called a currency manipulator and on which, he said, everybody in Washington was soft, and he was going to fix it. Then he sat down with Chinese President Xi for 10 minutes and ''realized it's not so easy.''

When he was running, the President said: ''Maybe NATO will dissolve, and that's OK.'' He called it ''obsolete.'' Then he sat down with the NATO Secretary General and realized that it was, in fact, ''not obsolete''—his words.

At a time when NATO faces new pressure from Russian aggression and American troops are deployed to Eastern Europe to support our partners and our allies in the region, including the soldiers whom I met 2 weeks ago from Colorado's Fourth Infantry Division, they need a steady voice and a clear vision from Washington.

We need an administration that can face reality instead of one that spins its own. This is not a campaign anymore. This is governing.

During the campaign, Donald Trump promised: ''There will be no lies. We will honor the American people with the truth and nothing else.'' Over its first 100 days, the administration has honored the American people—it has been recorded—with 488 false or misleading claims, nearly 5 a day. Some

people have actually lost count. It has honored them with 100 days of dog-and-pony shows of CEOs, campaign rallies, and photo-ops in semi-trucks on the South Lawn. It has honored the American people with empty theatrics where Donald Trump, the President, donates a portion of his salary to the National Park Service, hoping no one would notice his proposal to slash $1.4 billion in funding for the Department of the Interior.

This administration needs a reset for the next 100 days and the next 100 after that. The President needs to focus on what the American people need and what he said he would provide them instead of attacking the independent judiciary and the free press and blaming ''fake news''—his so-called fake news—in an effort to obscure a reality that he doesn't want to deal with. He needs to focus on the next generation instead of his daily approval ratings. He needs to focus on the future instead of complaining about how unexpectedly hard the job is or how great his previous life was.

And one more thing—a small thing. Candidate Trump loved to criticize President Obama for playing golf. He tweeted about it at least 26 times with lines like ''Can you believe that, with all the problems and difficulties facing the U.S., President Obama spent the day playing golf.'' Well, President Trump has spent 19 days playing golf so far—even with all of these vacancies in this administration—more than Presidents Obama, Bush, or Clinton. But that is not the only record he has broken for the first 100 days, which includes an average of more than five tweets a day, over a month he spent in this 100 days at Trump properties, and over $20 million in taxpayer dollars to finance his personal travel, which is on pace to exceed in his first year what the previous administration cost the American taxpayer in eight.

A better idea than repeating this next 100 days for the 100 days that are coming would be to actually drain the swamp, as he said during the campaign. He could start by releasing his tax returns, which during the campaign he falsely claimed he could not release because of a ''routine audit.'' There was no prohibition on his doing the same thing that every candidate in the history of America for the Presidency has done.

Now that he has put out a healthcare bill that slashes taxes by hundreds of billions of dollars for the wealthiest Americans and proposed tax reforms that would further deepen income inequality in this country, the least he could do is show the ''laid-off factory workers, and the communities crushed by our horrible and unfair trade deals'' what the President stands to gain and what they stand to lose from his proposals.

While he is doing that, he should focus on dealing with Americans' rising healthcare costs instead of trying to take health insurance away from millions of Americans, making it harder for them to see a doctor and take care of their families. He should focus on expanding opportunities in our communities with investments in infrastructure and on helping people compete in the global economy and reducing the national debt crushing the next generation of Americans. That is why he was elected President. To some degree, that is why all of us are here.

At the start of his first 100 days, President Trump promised in his inaugural address that ''America will start winning again, winning like never before.'' More than 100 days later, it is really not clear what we have won, but it is clear what we have lost—civility in our politics, facts in our policy, confidence in ourselves, and 100 days that should have been used to bring this country together to confront our great challenges.

The next 100 days must be better than the last because, as our President once said, the American people are ''tired of being ripped off by politicians that don't know what they're doing.'' On this, at least, I completely agree.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Hampshire.

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to engage in a colloquy with the Senator from Idaho.

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

NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS WEEK

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, I am pleased to come to the floor today to join my colleague, who is the chair of the Small Business Committee—and I am the ranking member—to celebrate National Small Business Week.

This is an opportunity for all Americans, regardless of party affiliation or geography, to come together and support the small businesses that drive the American economy and make such an enormous contribution to our local communities and culture.

I am pleased to be able to work with Senator RISCH. We have enjoyed a terrific working relationship. We are there, at this moment in the committee, to try to make a difference for the small businesses of not only our States of New Hampshire and Idaho but throughout the entire country.

I ask my chairman if he would like to start out and then turn it back to me, and we can talk a little bit about what we see happening on the Small Business Committee.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Idaho.

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, first of all, I want to return the sentiments of Senator SHAHEEN. There was so much written and talked about today in the meeting about the poisoned atmosphere and the lack of bipartisanship, but I can tell my colleagues that working with Senator SHAHEEN on the Small Business Committee has been an honor and a privilege, and it certainly has been anything but troublesome. We work together closely. Both of us having been Governors, we understand how important small businesses are to our States—in fact, to all the States.

With that, I would like to take a few minutes, with the concurrence of the ranking member, to honor America's small businesses and their owners and the impact they have on our economy and our communities and the vital role small businesses play in America today.

America's small businesses are truly the engine that keeps our economy running. They create two out of every three jobs in America. Let me say that again. Small businesses create two out of every three new jobs that are created in America today. Our Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship knows that Congress has a responsibility to help this engine roar by getting the government out of the way of our Nation's small businesses and thus providing small businesses with the opportunity to do what they have done to make this the greatest country in the world for the last 240 years.

We know that small businesses are vital to our economy, employing nearly half the American workforce and making up 99.7 percent of all employers in this country. It is because small businesses are so important to our economy that Washington needs to do all we can for businesses to start and, more importantly, to survive and grow.

We have seen a steady and well-documented decline in startups and a persistently low GDP over the past decade. Despite this, small businesses' optimism has hit record-high levels in recent months. Small business owners are more confident than ever. National Small Business Week—this week—is a fitting time to not only celebrate our Nation's small businesses but also to assure them that greater relief is coming.

Congress and the new administration are working hand in hand to undo the regulatory burden that has been hampering small business growth. It is no secret that the excessive regulatory burdens our Nation's entrepreneurs face places them at a disadvantage. We hear this every day from our position on the Small Business Committee. When asked what the biggest challenge they face is, it is almost always the regulatory burdens they are operating under.

America's small business owners want to comply with a reasonable and appropriate regulatory structure; however, the time and money they spend complying with layers of regulations from a myriad of agencies hampers their ability to focus on what truly matters, and that, of course, is running their business.

My Senate colleagues and I will continue to work with the administration on rolling back regulations that don't make sense. We will take a closer look at other issues facing the diverse small business community. Just last week, Senator SHAHEEN and I held a hearing on the many challenges that exist for rural entrepreneurs. As it turns out, these challenges are not much different from those that exist for entrepreneurs in more populous areas, except the challenges are amplified for business owners who operate without broadband internet or a traditional storefront on Main Street.

The shared challenges amongst most entrepreneurs, such as access to capital, trade opportunities, and cyber security threats, among others, are at the forefront of the minds of those of us in Congress who are committed to delivering the relief small business owners have been waiting for.

Despite these challenges, America's 28 million small business owners and their employees set out every day to pursue their dreams and contribute to their communities. Their entrepreneurial spirit is nothing short of inspiring.

I want to give an example from Idaho—in fact, more than one example from Idaho—but I yield to Senator SHAHEEN at this moment for her comments and perhaps to tell us a little bit about what she took away from the meeting we recently had on rural small businesses.

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, I thank Senator RISCH.

As you point out, we were both Governors, so we had a chance to see small businesses from the perspective of the States and how States can be involved in supporting small businesses. But we also have been small business owners and operators ourselves. My husband and I had a family-owned seasonal retail business, and you operated a family-run ranch in Idaho. So I am sure you share with me the challenges of small business owners, the things that kept me awake at night and that I know keep other small business owners awake: meeting payroll, balancing budgets, attracting workers, finding customers, and complying with local, State, and Federal regulations.

As you pointed out, and I certainly agree, our committee works in a bipartisan way not only on supporting public policy to help small businesses but also supporting the Small Business Administration, which has programs that help nurture our small businesses and address their unique concerns.

On Monday, I visited one of those small businesses. I was kicking off Small Business Week in New Hampshire, and I visited a company in Dover, which is a neighboring community to where I live. The company is called Popzup, spelled just like it sounds. It is a family-owned business that created an innovative microwave popcorn box without harsh chemicals, plastic, or silicon. The company's popcorn that goes in that box is environmentally friendly. It comes from American farms that don't use GMO products. It is great. They also have all of these seasonings that go on the popcorn, everything from a seasoning called Everything Bagel to one that is maple syrup. So it is a unique company.

Its founders, Julie and Marty Lapham, launched the company in 2015. They have received a lot of support from the Small Business Development Center in New Hampshire. In fact, Julie told me about preparing for a ''Shark Tank''-style competition she was participating in and how she got tremendous help from the SBDC in her presentation. She said: Without that help, I wouldn't have been able to do it. She actually won first prize in the competition—$10,000—because the SBDC had helped her sort through financing options, and she and her husband continue to work with them as they grow the company.

As we look at Small Business Week this week, it is important to also recognize the great work SBA does with outstanding entrepreneurs from all 50 States and territories.

I know you have some similar examples of small businesses in Idaho.

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, I thank Senator SHAHEEN.

We do, and I want to tell a story of an example of the inspiring spirit small businesses bring to us. This is the story of a small family business in Idaho Falls, ID, called Fin Fun. It began when its founder, Karen Browning, was asked to make a mermaid costume for her granddaughter. That doesn't sound like a very ostentatious beginning, but it was the beginning. This simple request was the catalyst of a much larger operation that experienced over a 3,000-percent growth over a 3-year period, now employing 75 full- and part-time employees in Eastern Idaho. The Browning family contributes greatly to the community and makes all of us in Idaho proud with their continued success, having been named by the SBA as Idaho's Small Business of the Year.

Stories like Fin Fun underscore the optimism that can be found in all corners of our country as small business owners everywhere take the large leap into the American dream.

I ask all Senators to join me this week in supporting and thanking the small businesses in our home States all across America. Senator SHAHEEN and I, of course, as part of the jurisdiction of our committee, have oversight responsibilities with the SBA. I have been very impressed over the years as to the focus of the SBA on small businesses.

One of the things I think Senator SHAHEEN shares with me is supporting an increase in the Office of Advocacy. We all know the Federal Government passes regulations at a stunning rate, which most people really don't completely understand. But the job of the Office of Advocacy is to act as an independent voice for small businesses when the Federal Government actually proposes a regulation. The Office of Advocacy is supposed to stand up and say: Wait a minute. Let me tell you how this is going to affect small businesses.

We all know that if the Federal Government, in any one of the agencies, enacts a regulation, it does affect businesses of different sizes differently. Indeed, if it is a large business, they generally have an army of lawyers, compliance officers, and accountants who can deal with the regulations relatively easily and absorb the cost. On the other hand, if it is a one-, two-, or three-person business, just filling out the forms the agencies require is sometimes a real burden. It is important that this Office of Advocacy in the SBA be encouraged, be expanded where possible, and be a real, true independent voice for small business in America. And I know Senator SHAHEEN shares my enthusiasm for continuing to support that enterprise within the SBA. I am always happy to work with any of my colleagues to make it easier for Americans to start and grow a business.

Happy National Small Business Week, and thank you to our Nation's entrepreneurs and small business owners who are the real backbone of our Nation and our economy.

I yield to Senator SHAHEEN.

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, I very much thank Senator RISCH. I share his enthusiasm for the Office of Advocacy and all of the programs SBA administers and appreciate the good work of the new Administrator there, Linda McMahon.

You bragged a little bit on your Small Business of the Year in Idaho, and I would like to do the same. Our New Hampshire Small Business Person of the Year is Dr. Jake Reder, who is the cofounder and CEO of Celdara Medical in Lebanon, NH.

I think it is important to point out that small businesses create 16 times per employee the number of patents that large businesses do, and Celdara Medical is a great example of that. They were founded in 2008. They are a biotech startup that identifies early-stage medical technologies and provides financing and business guidance to move lifesaving products from university laboratories to high-potential medical companies. They really show that entrepreneurship can be a positive force to cure disease and save lives.

During their startup, Celdara secured funding through the SBA's SBIR Program, the Small Business Innovation Research Program, which was extended last year—thanks in large part to the

work of the committee—for 5 years because of its great track record, enabling entrepreneurs across the country to participate in R&D to keep us at the vanguard of innovation. They were also assisted by the SCORE counseling network, which provides mentors to small businesses.

There are so many things we can do to support our small businesses, and that is the goal of the Small Business Committee. We also want to continue to support a modern and flexible SBA that can respond quickly to economic conditions that confront small businesses in this global economy.

Like you, I thank all of our colleagues who are going to help us recognize small businesses throughout the country. I also thank the Appropriations Committee for its bipartisan work on the omnibus bill to fund the SBA and our critical rural development programs. We have heard about many of them at the rural hearing you talked about. Hopefully the spirit of cooperation we share on the committee will spread throughout the Congress.

So happy Small Business Week to all of our small businesses, and I thank all of the entrepreneurs in New Hampshire and Idaho and across the country for their hard work, for their innovation, and for their grit. They have our gratitude and our respect.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I look forward to the good work we will continue to do for small businesses in this country.

Mr. RISCH. Likewise.

Mrs. SHAHEEN. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Massachusetts.

Ms. WARREN. Mr. President, we have a retirement crisis in this country. Today, among working families on the verge of retirement, about a third have no retirement savings of any kind and another third have total savings that are less than one year's annual income.

Let's be blunt. Social Security alone is not enough for a secure retirement. Hitting retirement with little or no savings means spending those last years hovering around the poverty line, with little or no money for important purchases, like dental care or hearing aids, or extras, like buying a birthday gift for a grandchild.

There are a lot of different reasons people hit retirement with no savings, but one big reason is that 55 million Americans don't have the ability to save for retirement through a workplace retirement account. For years, the Republican-controlled Congress has done nothing to help the 55 million Americans who don't have an employer-provided retirement plan to save for their retirement—nothing—so seven States have actually stepped up. They passed legislation to provide retirement accounts to their constituents, and 23 more States are currently considering proposals like this. Massachusetts has stepped up, too, passing legislation to allow workers in small, nonprofit organizations to save for retirement in a State-administered plan.

These State efforts are a big deal. The actions of just those first seven States could expand coverage to 15 million Americans who don't currently have an employer-sponsored retirement account. These efforts would go a long way toward starting to chip away at the retirement crisis in our country, and both Republicans and Democrats should be applauding the efforts of the Governors, State treasurers, and State legislatures who are doing this important work. But instead of passing legislation to incentivize States to continue their innovative work or instead of bringing up a bill on their own encouraging companies to offer retirement accounts to their workers, Republicans are voting on a bill that would pull the rug out from underneath these State plans, jeopardizing all of the States' recent progress.

Republicans are constantly saying they are the party of federalism, deregulation, and State flexibility. Over and over again for the past several months, my colleagues across the aisle have come down to the floor to overturn regulation after regulation because they claim those regulations ''limit the role of State and local governments.'' So why on Earth are they now passing a bill to run roughshod over the States?

The States certainly aren't asking them to take it up. The National Conference of State Legislatures—the bipartisan organization representing the legislatures of all 50 States—sent a letter urging Congress not to pass this bill because ''it will result in an unwarranted preemption of state innovation, will restrict the ability of millions of hardworking Americans to save for retirement, and will prove costly to federal and state budgets.'' And 23 State treasurers and top budget officials, both Democrats and Republicans, from Idaho to Mississippi, wrote urging Republican leadership to ''protect the rights of states and large municipalities to implement their own, unique approaches . . . to address this growing retirement savings crisis.''

No, the State legislatures didn't ask the Republican Congress for this bill, and the American people are certainly not calling their Senators asking that they overturn the rules to help them save for their retirement either. Seventy-two percent of Republicans and 83 percent of Democrats support the work the States are doing.

If it is not the State legislatures and it is not the State regulators and it is not the American people who want this bill passed, why are Republicans pushing it forward? Why are we voting for this legislation?

Four words—national chamber of commerce. The national chamber of commerce has been fighting tooth and nail to kill these retirement initiatives. Their armies of lobbyists are swarming over Capitol Hill. They are peddling misinformation about what these plans do, all because the giant financial firms that pump money into the national chamber of commerce are worried that the State plans will offer better investment products with lower fees for customers.

Yes, the giant financial firms are right to be worried. States probably will not award investment contracts to the companies with the highest fees or to the companies offering kickbacks and prizes to make the sale. They are going to award contracts to companies that can provide the best product at the lowest cost. That is how a competitive bidding process works.

The financial firms hiding behind the chamber of commerce don't want competitive bidding, they don't want transparency, they don't want to fight on a level playing field, and they are willing to spend a whole lot of money to make sure they don't have to. In fact, the Chamber is so serious about keeping the system rigged that they have sent letter after letter to every Member of Congress and their staff, letting them know they are watching this vote.

Just in case you can't read between the lines, for extra emphasis, in bold and underlined typeface, their letters warned that they will be ''consider[ing] . . . votes on, or in relation to, [this] resolution[] in our annual How They Voted scorecard.'' Whoa. The chamber of commerce is going to score who votes to help the big financial corporations and who doesn't, and they are going to make sure that all those potential campaign contributors know about the vote.

This is what gives Washington such a terrible reputation. The American people didn't send us here to work for giant financial institutions and their armies of lobbyists and lawyers. I don't care what kind of threats the chamber of commerce puts out; it is wrong to pass a law to kick people in the teeth when they are trying to save for their retirements. The lobbyists may be watching this vote, but the American people are watching, too, and they are ready to fight back.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. GARDNER). The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, like so many, I spent the weekend reflecting on what the past 100 days have meant. And from President Trump—aided by congressional Republicans—it has been

100 days of broken promises, 100 days of far too much division, and 100 days of attacks on women and workers and seniors. It has been 100 painful days for many, no doubt about it.

It is not surprising then that to kick off their next 100 days, President Trump and Republicans have prioritized today, sending a clear message to Wall Street that the Trump administration remains open for business and is committed to standing with them and not with working families. That can be the only possible message, since today, Senate Republicans have advanced another one of their favorite tools this Congress—yet another CRA—to thwart efforts by States to simply provide their workers access to retirement savings program.

In March, Senate Republicans voted to overturn a rule that would allow major cities the flexibility to start their own retirement savings programs. No doubt, the negative impact of this reversal has already been felt across the country. Today's effort by Republicans to target State programs would have even more far-reaching consequences now and in the long term.

If Senate Republicans jam through this CRA that is on the floor today, they will be pulling the rug out from numerous States nationwide, leaving over 15 million workers, which includes nearly 2 million workers in my home State of Washington, without any easy option to save for their retirement.

This is going to have a significant, chilling effect across our retirement system for our workers, for our Governors, for State legislators, and State treasurers.

As AARP said this week, it would send the political message that Congress is opposed to State flexibility to increase retirement savings. We would likely see a number of States delay action or legislation to offer workers more savings options because of the perceived congressional prohibition. This cannot and it should not happen.

Fifty-five million workers today in our country lack access to a workplace retirement plan through their employer. That is about one-third of all of our workers in this country. Our retirement savings gap has continued to worsen, and it is true for most States across this country. It is true for my home State of Washington, despite progress and steps in the right direction over the past few years.

Today, fewer than half of all Washington State workers participate in a retirement plan at work, and nearly 90,000 Washington small businesses offer no retirement arrangement. This is too common all across our country. Because Congress has been unable to come together to address this retirement savings crisis, States have now begun to step up to help workers save for retirement through savings programs.

As I previously talked about on the floor, these savings programs simply allow employers to automatically enroll workers while giving workers the opportunity to opt out. These programs only apply to businesses that do not currently offer retirement plans. They in no way limit an employers' ability to seek out and offer their own employer-sponsored plan.

These plans are worker and business friendly. There is little paperwork required for workers to participate in the program, and there are no added burdens to small businesses. In fact, in these programs, employers are strictly required only to serve in administrative capacity.

Last year, Democrats working with the Obama administration pushed for guidance to provide certainty to States that have launched their own retirement programs. This guidance simply clarifies an existing safe harbor allowing employers to establish payroll deduction IRAs, which gives States clarity they need that these programs will not be preempted by Federal retirement law.

This guidance merely provides flexibility to cities and States to move forward with these programs, and in fact it was requested by the States and local officials. This is pretty common sense. In fact, it is the kind of proposal that Democrats and Republicans have agreed on for several years.

As much as my colleagues on the other side of the aisle may not like to recall now, many of them have been on the record previously supporting just these kinds of efforts. Really, it is not hard to understand why. As I have said, it is very clear who President Trump and Republicans are standing with on this. Working families across our country are seeing clearly that on any chance to move the ball forward for them and their retirements, Republicans are now standing in the way and choosing instead to put the interests of Wall Street first.

This is a critical vote. Families are watching. If you say you stand with working families, you vote against this resolution. If you want to meaningfully address our retirement crisis, vote against this resolution.

I urge our colleagues to reject this harmful repeal. I urge them to stand with our States and our working families who just want to provide economic retirement security for the families in their States.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, seeing none of my Democratic colleagues on the floor seeking to speak, I ask unanimous consent to speak on the Democratic time.

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

GOVERNMENT FUNDING LEGISLATION

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, this week the Senate continues to consider the government funding bill, which I hope we will decide to vote on tomorrow afternoon. I want to highlight a few ways that this legislation is good for America. It addresses important priorities, and it is particularly good for those 28 million people I have the privilege of representing in Texas.

I know people say we don't want to do an omnibus appropriations bill, and frankly this is not the best way to do business, but when our Democratic colleagues objected to us processing individual appropriations bills, this is the only alternative, other than perhaps a continuing resolution.

A continuing resolution would continue Obama-era policies and frankly wouldn't end up saving any money because both of them are subject to the same spending caps under the Budget Control Act.

Here we are. The House will undoubtedly pass this agreed-upon bill, the first negotiated bill with the Trump White House, with a Republican majority in the House and the Senate, and with Democratic participation and input as well.

First, as I mentioned yesterday, this bill provides significant funding to shore up security at our international border with Mexico. This is a particularly important Texas issue because obviously we share a 1,200-mile common border with Mexico, but it is also a national issue. It is an important issue President Trump ran on and one of the reasons I believe he was elected.

Attention to securing the border is long overdue. I have always contended that border security is first and foremost a matter of political will because we know how to do it. The question is, Do we have the political will to accomplish it? Rio Grande Valley Border Patrol chief Manny Padilla likes to say—he served in numerous capacities all across the border, from Arizona, California, and now in the Rio Grande Valley in Texas. He likes to say that there are really three legs to the stool of border security. There is technology, there is personnel, and then there is infrastructure, what some people like to call fencing or walls. Each area along the border depends—the mixture will depend on what makes sense, what is actually effective. It is obviously important to get the advice and input of professionals of Border Patrol who work day in and day out to secure the border. With this omnibus bill, we will see the strongest increase in border security funding in nearly a decade. That

means more resources to help Customs and Border Patrol, among other agencies, to enforce our laws, keep trade flowing, and stem the tide of contraband and illegal immigration.

When we talk about border security, it is also important to recognize the important economic and trading relationship we have with Mexico. Roughly 5 million American jobs depend on binational trade with Mexico, which is another reason I have been paying such close attention to the administration's discussion about updating NAFTA and other important trading agreements. More than half of the entire border between the United States and Mexico is in Texas so this is critical to Texas and to Texans and necessary to keep our people safe.

Fortunately, this funding deal will also strengthen our Nation's defense at a time when, under the Obama administration, we saw a 20-percent cut in defense spending. As former Director of National Intelligence James Clapper liked to say—well, maybe he didn't like to say it, but he did say it: In 50 years in the intelligence community, he had never seen a more diverse array of threats in his entire career. So our country does face multiple threats all over the world.

This legislation includes more than $20 billion for defense—a real important plus-up in defense spending for the first time in a long time. This bill also includes new funding to support our military men and women deployed abroad in the fight against ISIS, for example, and it includes a pay raise for our troops as well. We have an All-Volunteer military that has been stressed—really, unlike any other time in our Nation's history—with the longest continuous time at war, particularly in Afghanistan and Iraq and now in other places around the world. So in an All-Volunteer military, it is really important for us to make sure that we treat our troops right when it comes to pay and living conditions in an All-Volunteer military.

Fortunately, this bill will also begin to tackle a major problem that I spoke about just last week; that is, our readiness—readiness of our military to face the new and evolving threats around the globe.

I would just pause here to note that some people have said we can solve the disparity in our needs or the threats and the amount we have been able to fund for national security by just tweaking the Budget Control Act of 2011. Well, the fact is, Congress only appropriates about 30 percent of the money that the Federal Government spends. Well, 70 percent is on autopilot because of the Budget Control Act. We have been able to keep discretionary spending, which includes defense spending, relatively flat since 2011, when the Budget Control Act was passed, but the fact is, mandatory spending is growing at a rate of about 5.5 percent. In my own view, we are never going to be able to fund our priorities—including national security—adequately, unless we revisit all of that 100 percent of Federal spending, which is going to take an act of political courage on the part of the President and those of us in the Congress but something we really cannot continue to put off day after day, week after week, year after year.

This Omnibus appropriation bill funds the procurement of new warships and aircraft and increases funding to help modernize our ancient nuclear deterrent programs and includes resources to counter radicalism and instability in the developing world.

I am also glad this legislation includes funds to help our veterans and their families transition into the civilian workforce, and it will better equip Texans working in military installations across the State, keep our military ready, and funds resources for the battlefield.

So while there is a finger-pointing and blame game or credit-seeking game going on here in Washington—and I guess if the blame game were an Olympic sport, Washington would win that—but this is too important to be talking about in terms of political winners and losers. The truth is, the American people will be the winner if we keep the government running, if we do our job, and particularly if those of us who are fortunate enough to be in the majority after this last election will simply govern. That is what they elected us to do, along with the President of the United States.

On a different note—I want to close on this. Yesterday, I spoke about the terrible storms and tornadoes that whipped through East Texas over the weekend. Fortunately, we were able to secure additional disaster relief funding in this omnibus package that will play a big part in helping communities rebuild, not only from floods and bad weather we have had in the past but also this current tragedy with loss of life and loss of property. It will help our communities rebuild, recover, and prepare for the next storm.

This legislation will also bring us closer to a solution to mitigate damage from hurricanes and storm surges along the gulf coast in the Gulf of Mexico. This is particularly an important issue in Houston and along that gulf coast region, which is a huge, vital economic center for our country. By funding an Army Corps of Engineer study, we can best find a way forward that keeps more Texans safe from the next big hurricane, which we know is coming, and the question is just a matter of when.

This bill also dedicates resources to improve and strengthen waterways that will help maintain Texas ship channels so they can handle more commerce and provide better flood control for susceptible areas.

I will close by pointing out that this legislation also appropriates funds for bipartisan bills we passed last year. I know frequently—if you read the newspaper or if you watch cable news—you may think that nothing ever happens here, but actually even under the Obama administration, Republicans worked in a bipartisan way to accomplish important things like the Every Student Succeeds Act, the follow-on from No Child Left Behind, and one that actually does things that conservatives think is important and pushes more authority back down to the States and out of Washington when it comes to our schools. It makes sure that the States, local school districts, parents, and teachers have a say when it comes to the best quality and the best way to teach our children in K–12 schools. So we will fund much of that effort in this legislation.

I know many of our colleagues represent areas of the country that have been devastated by the opioid crisis, as well as heroin crisis, which unfortunately seem to go hand in hand. We worked closely together, in a bipartisan way, to fund the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act signed into law last year under President Obama to help tackle the opioid epidemic running rampant throughout many parts of the country. It also includes resources that help eliminate the rape kit backlog, one that I have been working on for some time, to make sure—the Debbie Smith Act, which is in excess of $100 million that is available in funding to forensic labs all across the country to eliminate the rape kit backlog. The power of DNA testing through these rape kits to identify the perpetrator of sexual assault, as well as to exonerate the innocent, is really something to behold. So in this funding, the rape kit backlog will be reduced and we will bring to justice victims of crimes and vindicate those who were accused but who are in fact innocent.

This legislation will also help provide funds for victims of human trafficking to recover, and it will help train law enforcement to handle an active shooter situation via something we passed last year, on a bipartisan basis, called the POLICE Act. As the Presiding Officer knows, police changed their tactics when it comes to active shooters. I believe it was Columbine where the tactic was still used to surround an area near a school and to make sure nobody comes in or goes out, but our police and first responders learned to be very resourceful and innovative and indeed are training now. According to the POLICE Act, Federal funds go to State and local law enforcement and first responders to help the police train to engage an active shooter to stop the killing but also to train the first responders, typically the EMS officials, to stop the dying. So you can stop the killer,

but unless you have EMS or emergency medical service personnel trained along with the police department, you may stop the killing, but you will not stop the dying, and that is the goal of this important bill. This legislation helps fund that.

So here is the bottom line. Legislation is always a compromise, so it never ever meets anybody's individual expectations in terms of what they would want as the perfect bill, but I know people are frustrated by that because they say: Why couldn't we do more? Why couldn't we get more of what we wanted, and why did we have to give up something that other people wanted in order to agree to pass this legislation? Well, that is the way our system was designed. That is the way our Founding Fathers created the legislative branch and made it a requirement that in a country as big and diverse as ours, that we needed to build consensus in order to pass legislation, and that means Democrats and Republicans, Congress and the White House, working together to come up with an acceptable consensus product. That is what this is. It is a product of bipartisan give-and-take. It includes many conservative priorities that I like—that we have been talking about for a year—that benefit communities across my State. It provides for our national defense, and it will make our country healthier and safer, and it does that at the same time as we consolidate or eliminate more than 150 outdated and unnecessary programs and initiatives.

That is why it is important we pass this omnibus, as opposed to another continuing resolution, which, by the way, makes it nearly impossible for our national security agencies and our intelligence community to actually plan. When we fund government for a 6-month period of time, they don't know what is going to happen after that. So it is really important that we put our shoulders to the wheel and we work together, on a bipartisan basis, to give them some more certainty, to give them a longer flow of revenue, so they can do planning and spend the tax dollars that are appropriated efficiently.

An important point that has been lost as we discussed and debated this bill is, it finally sets the country in a new direction—one that leads away from the Obama administration's priorities, which existed under the continuing resolution and was reflected by endless cycles of continuing resolutions. That is the past. We entered a new era of a stronger defense, less regulations for job creators, and a more streamlined and efficient government.

This is the first major piece of bipartisan legislation negotiated with the new White House, and it proves that we can come together when we must, that we can govern, and that we can deliver results. It will also serve as a good blueprint moving forward with a carefully thought-out strategic budget as we look ahead to the fall.

This legislation isn't perfect, but it does represent progress. It does represent an important watershed with this new administration, where we have all come together and reached agreement on a piece of legislation that we feel is beneficial to the entire country. If we are not going to engage in that sort of activity, but we are just going to vote no on everything because it is not perfect, we are not going to be able to make that kind of progress that we are all, I believe, committed to making on behalf of the people we represent.

Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I am here to talk about 55 million Americans who presently lack the authority to save for retirement directly from their paychecks. I am here to talk about preserving, protecting, strengthening retirement savings for all Americans, and I am here to talk about providing State and local governments with the tools they need to expand access to retirement savings accounts in order to reach that goal.

I am here to oppose H.J. Res. 66. This misguided proposal would tear down ongoing efforts at the State and local levels to help families achieve financial stability in retirement after years of hard work and sacrifice. These ongoing efforts at the State level should be encouraged, not deterred.

The numbers here tell a dramatic story. Many private sector employees have the option to set up and contribute to their own individual retirement accounts, often called IRAs. We know them well. But fewer than 10 percent of workers without access to a workplace plan contribute to a retirement savings account. This lack of retirement savings often leads to ruins—life-transforming disasters at ages when nobody deserves them, jeopardizing access to adequate meals, housing, healthcare, and other necessities for older Americans across the country.

In response to this catastrophic possibility for so many Americans, in August of 2016, the Department of Labor promulgated what has become known as the State-sponsored auto-IRA rule. This rule provides basic, critical guidance for States on how to administer programs designed to improve access to retirement accounts among private sector employees. These State-facilitated programs allow State governments to provide automatic enrollment in State-sponsored IRAs, with the opportunity, importantly, to opt out at any time.

The rule that has been promulgated by the Department of Labor, which was also expanded to include a limited number of larger cities and counties, made it clear that any auto-IRA program established by a State or municipal authority must limit the employer's role in the program. In addition, the rule clarifies any ambiguity regarding the application of the Employment Retirement Income Security Act. It makes clear the conditions under which ERISA does not apply.

The misguided proposal before us today seeks to overturn all of this critical rulemaking, carefully devised and developed. If it is passed, the resolution will cripple efforts at the State level to ensure that retirement savings opportunities are more readily available for all workers.

I have always assumed that my colleagues across the aisle were in favor of State initiatives and State authority and State experiments and States addressing the issues of their citizens directly. These are basic States' rights—but not so much in this case.

H.J. Res. 66, in fact, will be particularly harmful in States like Connecticut, which has already begun to bridge the retirement savings gap for nearly 600,000 people who lack access to employer-based savings for retirement in our State. The Connecticut Retirement Security Authority has pioneered this effort. I am very proud to say, Connecticut is among several States that have made real progress toward expanding secure pathways to retirement savings for their private sector employees.

By leveraging State facilitation with private providers, these plans allow workers access to secure, low-cost retirement savings which, in turn, allow more workers to adequately prepare for retirement, improving life for those workers and also reducing the burden on taxpayer-funded services. In fact, encouraging increased retirement savings yields important savings for Federal and State budgets in the future, not just now.

Studies have shown that expanded retirement savings programs could potentially reduce Medicaid expenditures in Connecticut by over $65 million in the first 10 years after implementation. That $65 million in savings on Medicaid is for Connecticut alone. Think of the whole country. Think of the savings in Medicaid and other critical service programs that go to aid our seniors. They would much rather save for themselves.

I ask my Senate colleagues who believe we ought to be spending our time expanding, not limiting, access to secure retirement solutions to join me in opposing this legislation. There are

many of our Republican colleagues who have long called for reduced government spending and in increased autonomy for State governments. They should be joining in opposing H.J. Res. 66.

There are many of our Republican colleagues who have long advocated giving people the freedom and the opportunity to plan for their own future. They ought to be joining in opposing H.J. Res. 66.

I ask all of us now to join me in voting no on H.J. Res. 66 because States ought to have the flexibility and the opportunity to implement proven strategies to support hard-working Americans who wish to prepare themselves for retirement. Give them that opportunity. Do not destroy it in H.J. Res. 66.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon.

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, it looks as though we are at it again. Instead of fighting to make things even a little bit better for hard-working, middle-class Americans, Members of this body just want to make life harder for those hard-working, middle-class Americans.

We have had the debate on Capitol Hill about how to strip healthcare from 24 million Americans. We have had a conversation on Capitol Hill on how to reduce the taxes phenomenally on the very richest Americans. We have seen the President's one-page description of a tax plan that consisted of a goody bag for the richest Americans, the multimillionaires and the billionaires. But here we have another provision just trying to sucker punch hard-working Americans because those hard-working Americans work for companies that often don't have a retirement plan, so they do not have a convenient way to put funds away to prepare for retirement.

Along came the States. The States said: You know, for those workers who don't have a retirement plan at their work, why don't we design one, present one, so that they could automatically sign up and have their wages—a small amount of them—put away for retirement automatically?

Then they would go to a different job, and that job would not have a retirement plan. Well, then, in that new job, they could have a little bit of their wages put away automatically for retirement—not in a manner that requires people to save. They could ''unsign'' themselves up. This is called automatic opt in. They could say: I don't want that 3 percent put into a retirement plan. Make it 2 percent, make it 1 percent, make it 5 percent, or make it 0 percent. They would have the control, but when they first start the job, it automatically puts away a little bit for retirement.

I think about my son and daughter—my son who is 21 and my daughter who is 19—and they have worked a whole series of modest little jobs, from pouring coffee to coaching sports teams to working as a lifesaver and so on and so forth.

What if for every single job in those companies that were not providing those retirement plans, workers automatically had 3 percent of their funds put away toward retirement in a low-cost option—the same kinds of low-cost options that U.S. Senators have when they come here to the Senate, the same types of low-cost options that every Federal employee has? Why not give that same opportunity to ordinary working Americans? That is what we are here talking about.

We already made it harder to set up such stand-in plans—plans that stand in when there is no retirement plan provided by the employer. In March, we passed another CRA making it difficult to impossible for municipalities to create such a plan for their citizens, but the plans probably made more sense at the State level.

Now come my friends across the aisle to say: It is not enough. It is not enough that we hit them once by stopping the municipalities from providing a plan. We are going to hit them again—kick them while they are down. That is the attitude of this provision that is before the Senate.

What we are really talking about is denying the American dream to millions of citizens across the land who work for employers that don't have retirement plans or who run small businesses and don't have the administrative overhead to be able to set up a plan. This rips away the certainty that comes with knowing that if you work hard and play by the rules, you automatically save through one of these plans and you get a certain level of security and a certain level of dignity in your golden years.

Isn't it our job here in the Senate, as representatives of our citizens and our States, to do everything we can to provide a ladder of opportunity, to lift up the men and women of this country?

It isn't our job to say: Well, the States provided a ladder of opportunity; so let's go tear it down. Let's take a buzz saw and saw up that ladder of opportunity, because, wow, why would we want the States to help out our citizens? Isn't that not our job—to try to destroy opportunity?

But here we are with my colleagues saying: Well, as to these folks who don't have a retirement plan set up by their employer, we are going to make it as hard as possible for them to save money for retirement.

I hear the same folks come down here and say: Well, you know what; wouldn't it be wonderful if everyone saved more for retirement?

Well, yes, it would be. So why don't we make it easier for them to do so, not harder. A plan that puts no imposition on the small business—doesn't that make a lot of sense? Isn't that a win-win? Isn't that a blow in favor of helping out working people, rather than a blow that knocks them down?

Today, apparently, we have a slim majority that says: No, knock them down.

Furthermore, there is apparently a slim majority that likes to preach on States' rights. But when it comes to States trying to address a problem, you have a powerful special interest come to Capitol Hill and say: Don't let it happen because, after all, maybe one of them someday will be a customer of ours, and we wouldn't want them to be able to get help from their State while they are waiting for us to help them.

A powerful special interest comes here, and suddenly States' right are out the door, States' rights are out the window.

The conversation during the Presidential campaign was that we heard about electing a President who will fight for workers. Well, that was yesterday, because today we are passing a bill that Members of the Senate expect the President himself to sign to take a buzz saw to the ladder of opportunity for working people—the President of the United States, I am talking about, to take an ax to the program that makes it easier for Americans to save money for their retirement.

Now, don't we know that public pensions are disappearing and private pensions are disappearing? What we are left with is Social Security. If workers don't have pensions through their jobs, and all they have is Social Security, it is going to be pretty rough in retirement.

There is another option: to make it easier for workers to save. According to one study from 2013, 40 percent of small business owners had no retirement savings, 75 percent had no plans for funding their retirement, and 55 million Americans—nearly half of the private sector workers in America—are employed in jobs that do not offer any form of retirement savings or pension plan.

Well, that is a lot of Americans who are only going to have Social Security unless they save.

We know that it is much easier for them to save if they have a workplace plan and funds go into that plan automatically, and the individual worker can change the amount, the set-asides. They can increase it. They can decrease it. They can stop it. They can reactivate it. But because it is set up automatically, most workers choose to stay in it once they are there.

Workers don't want to have a different retirement plan for when they worked at this company and then another one at this company and another one at that company, or companies that didn't have a plan so they had to set up something on their own.

The idea is that this plan is portable, that you can take it from employer to employer. These are the things that are appealing to our State governments, which are saying: That is what will work well for the citizens of our State.

Shouldn't we enable the States to be a laboratory of invention, a laboratory of innovation? Shouldn't we enable them to test run whether this works or doesn't work, instead of our taking and destroying that pilot project, destroying that laboratory of innovation, destroying that experiment at the State level to see if this would help make American citizens better off?

This would all be done at the State level at no cost to businesses. In fact, that is what businesses have liked about it. That is why they have lobbied their State legislatures to say: Hey, maybe you would like to do this. We are too small. It is too difficult for us to set up a retirement plan. Maybe you all would like to design one that would be available.

At this moment, 25 States are considering legislation to create retirement savings accounts for small business employees that currently aren't able to participate in a workplace retirement plan because the workplace doesn't have one. Twenty-five States are looking at this. Even if only one State were looking at it, shouldn't we give that State the opportunity? Five States are looking at it—and power to them because maybe one of the five will figure out a way to make it work and the other States will learn from that.

Twenty-five States are looking at this because there is such an urgent need for their citizens. Seven of those 25 States are already at work implementing plans.

I am very proud that Oregon, my State, is one of those seven. It plans to launch a voluntary pilot group later this summer. If that goes well, it was planning to expand that plan over the next 2 years, and if that goes well, it was planning to make it available to individuals working in any job in Oregon where there wasn't a retirement plan.

That is very thoughtful. Start with a little group, expand it to a few more, and see if it is still working. If it is a good model and the feedback is good and you need to make some changes, you can make it on a small scale. When it is ready to roll, if it is doing a good thing for America's workers, for Oregon's workers, give every Oregon worker that opportunity to easily save for retirement.

There is so much interest from the States, so much interest from the businesses in those States for the possibility of experimenting with these plans. Last year, the Department of Labor set up the safe harbor rule that helps to clarify a piece of ERISA, our Federal retirement law, to make it possible for States to pursue this. That is what is before us today. Are we going to undo the protection to let States experiment?

The AARP likes to point out that these State-sponsored plans would likely increase the number of workers saving for retirement. That is because, as they enter the workforce, they would be automatically enrolled. They would be able to continue using that plan even if they change jobs within the State. That would be helping them from their very first day of employment in the workforce.

Imagine your son or daughter, age 15 or 16, getting that first summer job or evening job or early morning job, and already they are starting to save for retirement. It makes a big difference over their working years, which might cover four decades or more. It makes a big difference, whether they have anything to back them up other than Social Security.

It is good for small businesses because not only does it free them from feeling badly that they hadn't set up a plan, but it makes their workers happier, more productive employees, and the businesses get to have all that by bearing no additional costs.

It is good for taxpayers. It is good for States. It is good for business. It is good for the workers. The only thing it is not good for is for some powerful special interest that has failed to offer plans to these workers but says someday it might and it doesn't want the competition—a powerful special interest coming here to Capitol Hill to rip down a ladder of opportunity for workers.

Is the President going to sign that after he campaigned on helping workers? Well, yes, apparently he is because that was yesterday in a campaign, and today is the reality of governing. Apparently, a powerful special interest is talking to the President of the United States, and he is helping that interest, rather than the workers of America.

He is fighting for a Federal blockade rather than for States to be the laboratory of innovation and experimentation. He is fighting for the billionaires, rather than for the working people of our Nation, and that is just a terrible development to see.

Colleagues, you can change that right here. We are going to have a close vote. So come down to this floor and place your vote with States' rights. Come down to this floor and place your vote in ladders of opportunity. Come down to this floor and place your vote on the side of an average working American.

You might live in a bubble. You might live in a gated community. You might live in a fancy world as a Senator, but these are the workers of America who have employers who provide no retirement plan. That is who we are talking about here.

So get out of your bubble. Get out of your elite frame of mind. Come down to this floor and fight for the workers of America. Vote no on this blockade to the States' addressing a fundamental need, providing a fundamental opportunity for the workers of America to save for their retirement.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. LEE). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to engage in a colloquy with the Senator from West Virginia, my friend and colleague, Senator CAPITO.

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

COAL MINER HEALTHCARE BENEFITS

Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, I wish to thank my friend from West Virginia, my colleague, Senator CAPITO, for her support and leadership in our fight to keep the promise made in President Truman's White House more than 70 years ago.

For the past two Congresses, Senator CAPITO has been an original cosponsor of the Miners Protection Act with me, and I am proud to say that the healthcare portion of that bill is included in the Omnibus appropriations bill that we are set to vote on later this week. Before sending this permanent fix to the President's desk for his signature, I want to confirm our specific understanding of how the language would apply to the eligibility for benefits of the former employees of Patriot Coal, Alpha Natural Resources, and Walter Energy.

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. President, I certainly appreciate the kind comments from my friend and fellow Senator from West Virginia, Mr. MANCHIN, who has been a champion of this issue. It has been a pleasure to work together and to have it all work out. We have worked closely together for the past several years to advance a permanent solution for the retirement benefits of thousands of miners in our State and across the Nation. I appreciate Senator MANCHIN's hard work and leadership on this; I really do.

I would be happy to discuss what I believe is our shared understanding of the intent behind miners' healthcare language in the omnibus bill that originated in the Miners Protection Act.

Mr. MANCHIN. The language states that anyone who would have received retiree healthcare coverage from one of these three companies, but for the orders entered in their bankruptcy proceedings terminating the employer's obligations to provide these benefits, becomes a participant in the UMWA 1993 Benefit Plan.

I understand that the language encompasses anyone who would have received such coverage from the bankrupt employers and not just those who meet the 1993 plan's general eligibility requirements. This includes miners or widows who might have been specifically bargained into the plan, such as the miners who worked at the ill-fated Upper Big Branch Mine. We all know the drastic situation of those great miners.

Also included are miners who do not meet the 1993 plan's general eligibility requirements because their employers rejected their collectively bargained obligations and withdrew from the UMWA 1974 Pension Plan but who would have become eligible if their service for the bankrupt employer or its successor were included in determining their eligibility.

Mrs. CAPITO. I wholly share Senator MANCHIN's understanding of this key provision of the legislation.

By adopting the language from the Miners Protection Act that is included in the Omnibus appropriations bill, we intended to cover any miners, survivors, and dependents who would have received or continued to receive retiree healthcare benefits from one of these bankrupt employers had it not gone through the bankruptcy process, without regard to the 1993 plan's usual eligibility rules.

I understand that these individuals are eligible under the rules as applied by the Patriot VEBA, and I expect that these rules will continue to be applied in the same manner by the 1993 plan.

Mr. MANCHIN. Let me say that both of us representing the great State of West Virginia from both sides of the aisle—a main purpose has been protecting the people who did all the heavy lifting in this great country and gave us the energy we needed to be the superpower of the world.

I know that Senator CAPITO is as proud as I am. I am proud to be working with her to make this happen. This is truly a bipartisan effort. It is the way legislation used to be done, and it is the way it should be done, and hopefully we can start something anew here. I thank my colleague.

Mrs. CAPITO. There is nothing like seeing the faces of our miners as we did in our offices the other day and I have seen in my office throughout this time—or when it was at the 100-degree rally out on the lawn last fall—to realize the human faces behind what we are talking about.

Senator MANCHIN is right. It is a bipartisan issue, and it is the right and fair thing to do.

It has been a pleasure to work with Senator MANCHIN and with the UMWA and our other colleagues to see this legislation through.

Mr. MANCHIN. I think we have both been able to educate not only our fellow colleagues, our Senators, but basically the entire country on the hard work the miners have done and what they have provided for this country for us to be the superpower of the world—to respect the work they have done and continue to do.

With that, I am so proud of everybody who worked so diligently on this issue and this effort, for the Republicans, our President, and our leaders on both sides, Democratic and Republican, making sure this was first and foremost the main obligation for us to accomplish. I thank my colleagues.

Mrs. CAPITO. I thank my colleagues.

Mr. MANCHIN. With that, Mr. President, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

All time has expired.

The joint resolution was ordered to a third reading and was read the third time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The joint resolution having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the joint resolution pass?

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. I announce that the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) is necessarily absent.

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

The result was announced—yeas 50, nays 49, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 120 Leg.]

YEAS—50

Alexander	Flake	Paul
Barrasso	Gardner	Perdue
Blunt	Graham	Portman
Boozman	Grassley	Risch
Burr	Hatch	Roberts
Capito	Heller	Rounds
Cassidy	Hoeven	Rubio
Cochran	Inhofe	Sasse
Collins	Isakson	Scott
Cornyn	Johnson	Shelby
Cotton	Kennedy	Strange
Crapo	Lankford	Sullivan
Cruz	Lee	Thune
Daines	McCain	Tillis
Enzi	McConnell	Toomey
Ernst	Moran	Wicker
Fischer	Murkowski	

NAYS—49

Baldwin	Cardin	Donnelly
Bennet	Carper	Duckworth
Blumenthal	Casey	Feinstein
Booker	Coons	Franken
Brown	Corker	Gillibrand
Cantwell	Cortez Masto	Harris
Hassan	Menendez	Stabenow
Heinrich	Merkley	Tester
Heitkamp	Murphy	Udall
Hirono	Murray	Van Hollen
Kaine	Nelson	Warner
King	Peters	Warren
Klobuchar	Reed	Whitehouse
Leahy	Sanders	Wyden
Manchin	Schatz	Young
Markey	Schumer	
McCaskill	Shaheen	

NOT VOTING—1

Durbin

The joint resolution (H.J. Res. 66) was passed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

HIRE VETS ACT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask the Chair to lay before the body the message to accompany H.R. 244.

The Presiding Officer laid before the Senate the following message from the House of Representatives:

Resolved, That the House agree to the amendments numbered 2 and 3 of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 244) entitled ''An Act to encourage effective, voluntary investments to recruit, employ, and retain men and women who have served in the United States military with annual Federal awards to employers recognizing such efforts, and for other purposes.'' and be it further

Resolved, That the House agree to the amendment numbered 1 of the Senate to the aforementioned bill, with an amendment.

MOTION TO CONCUR

Mr. MCCONNELL. I move to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 244.

CLOTURE MOTION

I send a cloture motion to the desk on the motion to concur.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 244, an act to encourage effective, voluntary investments to recruit, employ, and retain men and women who have served in the United States military with annual Federal awards to employers recognizing such efforts, and for other purposes.

Mitch McConnell, Thad Cochran, Orrin G. Hatch, Bill Cassidy, Tom Cotton, Lamar Alexander, John Barrasso, John Thune, Mike Rounds, Susan M. Collins, Lisa Murkowski, John Cornyn, Richard C. Shelby, Thom Tillis, Jerry Moran, Roger F. Wicker, Shelley Moore Capito.

MOTION TO CONCUR WITH AMENDMENT NO. 210

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 244, with a further amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. MCCONNELL] moves to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 244, with an amendment numbered 210.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

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

The amendment is as follows:

At the end add the following:

''This Act shall take effect 1 day after the date of enactment.''

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask for the yeas and nays on the motion to concur with amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 211 TO AMENDMENT NO. 210

Mr. MCCONNELL. I have a second-degree amendment at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. MCCONNELL] proposes an amendment numbered 211 to amendment No. 210.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

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

The amendment is as follows:

Strike ''1 day'' and insert ''2 days''.

MOTION TO REFER WITH AMENDMENT NO. 212

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to refer the House message on H.R. 244 to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions with instructions to report back forthwith with an amendment numbered 212.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. MCCONNELL] moves to refer the message to accompany H.R. 244 to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions with instructions to report back forthwith with an amendment numbered 212.

The amendment is as follows:

At the end add the following:

''This act shall be effective 3 days after enactment.''

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask for the yeas and nays on my motion.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 213

Mr. MCCONNELL. I have an amendment to the instructions.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. MCCONNELL] proposes an amendment numbered 213 to the instructions of the motion to refer the message to accompany H.R. 244.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

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

The amendment is as follows:

Strike ''3 days'' and insert ''4 days''.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask for the yeas and nays on my amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 214 TO AMENDMENT NO. 213

Mr. MCCONNELL. I have a second-degree amendment at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. MCCONNELL] proposes an amendment numbered 214 to amendment No. 213.

The amendment is as follows:

Strike ''4'' and insert ''5''.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, for the information of all Senators, the Omnibus appropriations bill is now pending. I filed cloture to ensure that the Senate can pass it and send it to the President for his signature before the end of the week. It is my hope that we can enter into an agreement to vote on the omnibus tomorrow rather than running out the clock into the weekend.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that following leader remarks on Monday, May 8, the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of Calendar No. 38, the nomination of Heather Wilson to be Secretary of the Air Force. I further ask that there be 4 hours of debate on the nomination, equally divided in the usual form; and that following the use or yielding back of time, the Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination; and that, if confirmed, the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

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

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

TRIBUTE TO GARY RANSDELL

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, today I wish to celebrate the retirement of my friend, Dr. Gary A. Ransdell, who, since September 12, 1997, has served as the ninth president of Western Kentucky University.

During his nearly two decades leading WKU, Gary has overseen a complete transformation of the school. An alumnus of the school himself, graduating in 1973 with a bachelor of arts degree in mass communications and again in 1974 with a master of public service degree in public administration, Gary said that ''[s]erving my alma mater has been a dream come true.''

Under Gary's leadership, the school has grown into a prominent university with an international presence. Since 1997, enrollment has increased from 14,500 to 21,000, with strong improvements in graduation numbers, the number of applicants, and student retention. WKU has attracted hundreds of millions of dollars in private donations, completing two major capital campaigns under Gary's guidance. Those funds have revitalized the campus and created state of the art buildings and classrooms.

Students at WKU have a world of education within their reach. New undergraduate degree programs focusing on mechanical, electrical, and civil engineering and doctoral degree programs in education, nursing, physical therapy, and psychology promote research and prepare students for their careers. The university is also committed to transferring its technology into the Kentucky workplace to help develop the State's economy. WKU's regional campuses throughout Western Kentucky make education accessible to many Kentuckians for the first time. The creation of the Gatton Academy of Math and Science, which reached a milestone in 2014 when the school was ranked as the No. 1 high school in America for its 3rd year in a row by Newsweek, has helped Kentucky students blossom into scholars and future leaders.

During Gary's time at WKU, the school successfully transitioned into Conference USA and, in the 2014–2015 school year, set a record with eight conference championships. The WKU football program is nationally recognized and won two consecutive bowl games. The Hilltoppers—named because of the school's scenic location atop ''the Hill''—are strong student-athletes both on the field and in the classroom, leading Conference USA in academic performance.

Gary is especially engaged in WKU's international outreach. He and his wife, Julie, herself a WKU alumna, have led students into new learning experience around the world in England, France, Italy, China, Ecuador, Iceland, Scandinavia, and Africa. The school is also home to Kentucky's first Confucius Institute and only Chinese language flagship program and has been recognized as a top producer of Fulbright scholars.

Gary has been at the center of each of these significant accomplishments. The growth in campus infrastructure, academic prestige, and community and

alumni engagement at WKU have benefited Kentucky students and are in large part due to Gary's work. With his nearly 20 years of service, he is currently the longest serving university president in Kentucky.

I have enjoyed every opportunity to work with Gary over the years and support his vision for higher education in Kentucky. We have partnered together to secure Federal funding for worthwhile projects like WKU's mobile health unit and the agricultural research service Federal research lab. He is a dedicated public servant committed to student success. In addition to all of the work that Gary and I have collaborated on, I am proud to call him a friend. Along with the WKU community, I am sad to see Gary leave his alma mater at the end of this school year, but I am deeply grateful for his passion and leadership.

After a brief sabbatical, Gary will continue working to connect students with an international education. Starting next year, Gary and Julie begin their next adventure, as he becomes the president and CEO of Semester at Sea, a global study abroad program that uses a ship as a traveling campus around the world. I wish him the best of luck as he continues his passion for higher education in this next chapter, and I wish him and his family congratulations on a remarkably successful career at Western Kentucky University.

(At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

VOTE EXPLANATION

● Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I was necessarily absent for the votes on the motion to proceed and passage of a joint resolution disapproving the rule submitted by the Department of Labor known as the State Automatic IRAs Rule, H.J. Res. 66.

On vote No. 119, had I been present, I would have voted nay on the motion to proceed to H.J. Res. 66.

On vote No. 120, had I been present, I would have voted nay on passage of H.J. Res. 66.

A few weeks ago, after their failed attempt to dismantle our Nation's healthcare system, Republicans launched a full-scaled attack on retirement savings by rolling back an important rule that would have allowed local governments, as well as small businesses, to expand access to a retirement savings plan. Rolling back that rule will make it nearly impossible for working-class families to save for retirement.

Today Republicans voted to roll back a similar rule that allows States, including Illinois, to provide access to a retirement savings account to millions of working American families. Their actions here today are misguided and will hurt, not help, many working class families.

We are facing a crisis. Tens of millions of Americans have very little savings for retirement. Half of households age 55 and older have little to no retirement savings, and some 55 million working Americans, including 1.5 million in Illinois, work for an employer that does not offer a retirement plan.

There was a time when Americans were able to depend on the proverbial ''three-legged stool'' to support them in their retirement: their pension, Social Security, and their personal savings. However, with the decline of pension plans and the inability of working-class Americans to personally save for retirement, that three-legged stool is now a pogo stick. Pensions once provided a promise of security in retirement, but they are becoming a thing of the past. Of those that remain, many are struggling to pay the benefits they promised, creating uncertainty and fear for those who have worked hard their entire lives.

Decades of stagnant wages, increasing income inequality, and job losses from the recession have made it difficult for workers to keep up with everyday costs such as housing and food, let alone save for retirement. Social Security is the only guaranteed source of retirement income most Americans have, and, sadly, this is nowhere near enough. Since there is no simple solution to addressing this crisis, we have to consider every option that will make saving for retirement easier.

In Illinois, 1.5 million workers do not have access to a retirement plan through their employer. These employees are more likely to earn less money and work for a smaller employer. To make it easier for employers to offer access to retirement savings plans and help workers save more easily, States began developing State-based individual retirement accounts or IRAs. My home State of Illinois, under the leadership of Illinois State Treasurer Michael Frerichs, led the way by being the first State in the Nation to create a State-based IRA called the Secure Choice Savings Program, making retirement a financially viable option for Illinois families.

The Secure Choice program allows Illinois businesses that do not offer a retirement plan and have been in business for 2 or more years to either offer their own retirement plan or automatically enroll their employees in the Secure Choice program. Contrary to the false narrative offered by Republicans that this imposes a burden on businesses, businesses in Illinois are largely supportive and the administrative burden is small. This program gives businesses the opportunity to help their employees save for retirement without being subject to additional Federal regulations under ERISA and without being subject to the costs that are preventing them from offering a retirement plan in the first place. Under the program, all employers have to do is share information about the program that is provided by the State with their employees. Employers do not have to find plans or investment vehicles, and employers make no investment decisions. These State programs provides businesses with a no-worries, low-cost way to enable retirement savings.

There are also claims that imply that States will manage these funds like their State pension assets or other State funds. This is simply not true. Funds under the Secure Choice program will not be comingled with other State funds. These funds, which are owned by the employee, will be managed by a private investment company, they will be separate from the State's budget and pension funds, and they cannot be used for any other purpose.

Once an employee is enrolled, 3 percent of their paycheck is automatically deducted and placed into an IRA. The employee has complete control over how the money is invested. The employee can take the plan with them should they change jobs and they may choose to opt out at any time.

The Department of Labor's rule under attack gives State and local governments' certainty to develop these programs that make it easier for employers to provide access to retirement savings plans. This rule has allowed the States to step in where the private market has failed. By voting to strike this rule, Republicans have created uncertainty for retirement savings programs that could help the 55 million Americans otherwise without access the means to secure their financial future.

In Illinois, the consequences are great as this will make it unnecessarily difficult for 1.5 million working-class Illinoisans to access one of the only viable means they may have to save for retirement. With the country facing a retirement savings crisis, the last thing we need to do is stymie States' efforts to explore innovative policy solutions.

These resolutions are just the latest chapter in Republicans' assault on working families. I am afraid this story will continue before there is a happy ending in sight. What we should be doing is working together to remove the fear of retirement and give workers the tools they need to retire with dignity. I am willing to do that, and I hope my colleagues will join me.●

NATIONAL DRUG COURT MONTH

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, as part of National Drug Court Month, I want to honor a program that has directly and indirectly benefited so many Americans and American families.

In my hometown of Marietta, GA, we had the good fortune of having a driving under the influence, or DUI, court

program, established nearly 10 years ago in 2008. Since that time, the Cobb County DUI court program has saved our Cobb County Sheriff's office more than an estimated $3 million in incarceration costs alone.

However, these accountability courts have saved much more than just money. For example, there is the little girl who was living with parents in active addiction who now has a sober father who was able to gain custody of her and raise her in a stable home environment. We have seen parents, children, and entire families saved through recovery and restored through the healing work of counseling.

More than 300 individuals have been saved from addiction, crime, recidivism, unemployment, and incarceration by the structure, accountability, and tough love approach of the DUI court program. These individuals have been able to move forward with their lives as productive, tax-paying citizens. Through drug and DUI court programs, the cycle of probation and addiction is broken and history rewritten. The number we can't count is the number of lives potentially saved from fatal accidents and other tragic events that were prevented through participants' recovery.

It is such a special opportunity for me to write to many of the graduates of the drug and DUI court programs in our State and think of the strength of these individuals who are turning their lives around to live free of drug and alcohol addiction. I applaud their efforts, and I always remind them that, while getting off drugs or alcohol may be the hardest thing they will ever do, it is also the most important thing they will ever do for themselves and their families.

On May 2, 2017, the Cobb DUI court program hosted its 30th graduation ceremony. Graduation day is such a special one not only for these graduates, but for the staff who work tirelessly in trying to save lives. That is the day where they see the long hours, the countless emails, the midnight phone calls, and the reams of paperwork pay off. They can look at where a defendant used to be and see how that man or woman's life has changed. On graduation day, lives are reformed and new ones begin.

I applaud all those fighting to change lives for the betterment of all.

REMEMBERING AMEDEO ''ARMIE'' C. MEROLLA

Mr. REED. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to a great Rhode Islander and patriot, BG Amedeo ''Armie'' C. Merolla, Rhode Island Army National Guard, RIARNG, retired, who passed away last week at the age of 88.

Mr. Merolla was born in Providence and graduated from Mount Pleasant High School before attending Brown University and Harvard Law School. At Brown, he enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, beginning what would become a 36-year career in service to our country marked by distinction and numerous decorations.

In 1955, Mr. Merolla enlisted in the RIARNG and was later commissioned as a first lieutenant in the Judge Advocate General Corps. The U.S. Senate approved Mr. Merolla's appointment to the rank of brigadier general in 1984, making him the first Italian American to become a general officer in the RIARNG. Indeed, he was part of a generation of Italian Americans who served with distinction, bringing great pride to this community while becoming an integral part of the fabric of our State. He was subsequently appointed assistant adjutant general and deputy commanding general—Army of the RIARNG. Even after his retirement in 1987, Mr. Merolla continued to serve. He was appointed commander of the Rhode Island State Defense Force, where he served until 1997, and to the honorary rank of major general in the Rhode Island Militia in 2005.

Mr. Merolla's military service was considerable and noteworthy, as was his legal career and contributions to his community and our State. He held numerous positions, including as legal counsel to several Rhode Island officials and agencies. He was also a former president of the Rhode Island Trial Lawyers Association, chairman of the Warwick School Committee, president of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Warwick, and trustee of St. Gregory the Great Church, among many other leadership roles.

I offer my heartfelt condolences to Mr. Merolla's wife, Norma, and their four children: Katherine Merolla, Julie Merolla, Major Sandra Merolla, USARNG, retired, and Warwick City councilman Steve Merolla, as well as to the rest of his family and friends.

TRIBUTE TO EDWARD GNEHM, JR.

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I greatly appreciate having this opportunity to share with my colleagues the presentation of an award that means a great deal to me for a number of reasons. It is the president's medal that will be presented by Steven Knapp, the president of The George Washington University, GW. Its recipient, Edward Gnehm, has been a friend of mine ever since we were college freshmen at GW.

When Edward Gnehm, Jr., or ''Skip'' as everyone came to know him, came to Washington, DC, from rural Georgia and I left rural Wyoming to tackle the challenge of my own college education at GW, I don't think either one of us knew what a great impact those 4 years would have on us and how our college experience would change our lives forever. It was a purely random thing, but when the administration of George Washington University decided which rooms we would use as freshman, they assigned Skip and me to the same dorm. We became friends pretty quickly. Then, when we pledged the same fraternity, we became brothers as well. Skip is the only real brother I have ever had, and I have relied on him and enjoyed that same kind of friendship and relationship ever since.

Our room was a pretty interesting place to be. I was a night person, studying accounting and business issues that would become my first major career. Skip, on the other hand, was a morning person, interested in reading whatever he could to sharpen his knowledge and understanding of foreign relations. He had a dream even back then that he would someday be an ambassador for the United States.

As I watched him pursue his dream, I learned that Skip was an interesting guy, very smart, dedicated, and determined to be the best he could possibly be at his chosen field. He helped me learn to expect the same of myself.

Soon, our college years were over, and we each went our separate ways, keeping in contact, pursuing our life's dreams and taking advantage of every opportunity that presented itself. Soon Skip was making his way through our Nation's diplomatic and foreign service system. For my part, what began as a small business soon had me working my way through Wyoming's political system on the local, State, and national levels.

As the years went quickly past, Skip and I continued to follow a similar path in life as we both met and married our special wives. Our kids were even born about the same times. Skip found in his wife, Peggy, and I found in my wife, Diana/, the kind of support and assistance it was going to take if we were to achieve the kind of success we were both hoping for. For Skip, Peggy's encouragement and guidance has helped him to be a force for the United States and to serve our country all over the world. For my part, Diana has been exactly what I needed to serve the people of Wyoming at every opportunity.

For Skip, one of the greatest moments of his career had to be his service as our Ambassador to Kuwait. He was nominated to that post when Saddam Hussein came calling with his army and attempted to set up shop there. Fortunately, Skip had what it takes to face up to a challenge like that with great courage, bravery, and determination. Those who knew him weren't surprised. We knew he had it in him, and when our Nation emerged from that challenge, our President, George Bush, knew he had chosen wisely when he selected Skip Gnehm for that difficult post. I got to watch on television as Skip raised the American flag at the recaptured U.S. Embassy in Kuwait.

I could go on at length about some of his other posts and the places he has served to promote and protect U.S. interests. He has been our Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations. He has also served as our Ambassador to Australia and to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, presenting his credentials on 9/11 and then flying to peace meetings with the King of Jordan. He still has special contacts throughout the Middle East.

Over the years, Skip received a number of awards for his work overseas, including the Secretary of State's Distinguished Service Award for his service in Jordan and Superior Honor Awards for his service in Kuwait and Riyadh.

Skip has also been an active force for the betterment of The George Washington University in a number of different capacities. He has been a member of the board of trustees, the vice president of the general alumni association, and the faculty representative to the board of directors.

Skip is currently on the faculty of the Elliott School of International Affairs where he is inspiring our next generation of foreign policy advisers and experts by sharing his own experience borne from a lengthy career in our foreign service. Thanks to Skip, we can rest assured that our future diplomatic efforts will be in good hands

Looking back to those days years ago when Skip and I were spending another night hitting the books for the next day's class or exam, I don't think either one of us could have dreamed how well things would turn out for the two of us. I have been given an opportunity to represent the people of Wyoming as mayor, member of the State legislature, and now as a U.S. Senator. I was always proud to work on Skip's confirmation to these different postings. Skip has had an impact all over the world and touched more lives than we will ever be able to count.

Simply put, I couldn't be more proud of Skip and all he has accomplished over the years. I don't think anyone is more deserving of the president's medal that he will receive from The George Washington University's president Steven Knapp. Steven is doing great work to promote GW and ensure its future will be even better than its past.

This is a great honor for Skip, and I am sure he couldn't be more appreciative of this recognition. It represents a lifetime of achievements for him and an amazing list of accomplishments. As the title of the classic film reminds us, Skip has had a ''wonderful life'' of which both Skip and GW can be truly proud. He represents what a tremendous advantage an education at George Washington University can be when placed in the right hands.

Thank you.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING JAMES AND JOE PRATT

● Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, today I would like to remember two brothers from my hometown of Marietta, GA, James and Joe Pratt, whose lives were cut short in a tragic accident on April 24, 2017.

James and Joe were upstanding students in their community and at Lassiter High School, where they were both members of the Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps. They were loved by their family, and they were beloved by their friends, advisers, and coworkers.

James, called ''Jim'' by those who knew him, was 18 years old and just a few weeks shy of high school graduation. He was the JROTC unit's morale and wellness officer, and Jim had already enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps. He was looking forward to beginning boot camp in a short time and later to attending Kennesaw State University.

Joe was a 14-year-old freshman and, in addition to attending school, served in the JROTC unit and was known for helping keep his friends' spirits lighthearted with his knowledge of trivia and sense of humor.

Their unit of the JROTC, the Lassiter-Pope-Kell Navy JROTC, armed exhibition drill team has performed annually at our Georgia congressional delegation's Military Academy Day. Out of respect for these young men, their unit did not perform at this year's event, held last Saturday, April 29, and instead, we held a moment of silence in their honor.

Lassiter High School and our community is in mourning over the loss of these fine brothers. My deepest condolences go out to the entire Pratt and Lago families and to our community, and my wife, Dianne, and I hold them in our prayers.●

TRIBUTE TO BERNADETTE GRAY-LITTLE

● Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, today I wish to honor University of Kansas Chancellor Bernadette Gray-Little, a chancellor who has made a significant impact on both the university and our State.

This summer, Chancellor Gray-Little will step down from her 8-year term serving as the 17th chancellor of KU. Serving since 2009, she has expanded important research opportunities, elevated the university's national stature, and transformed the way KU serves the State, and the world.

Under Chancellor Gray-Little's direction, research has increased and provided greater opportunities for our Kansas students. KU's Alzheimer's Disease Center became nationally recognized, while the KU Cancer Center achieved National Cancer Institute designation and is now taking an important step in pursuing a ''Comprehensive'' status designation.

In her 8 years at KU, Chancellor Gray-Little has advanced the university's mission to educate leaders by implementing new admissions standards, launching a new undergraduate curriculum, strengthening scholarship offerings, prioritizing retention and graduation rates, growing the freshman class for 5 consecutive years, reinvigorating the academic environment, and making the university a true ''community of scholars.''

The university's growth under Chancellor Gray-Little's administration is plainly visible in the number of renovations that have taken place and the new buildings on campus. Support for Capitol Federal Hall, the Health Education Building, Self and Oswald Halls, the Central District Redevelopment Project, the DeBruce Center and the Earth, Energy & Environment Center, as well as major renovations to Swarthout Recital Hall, the Spencer Museum of Art, and Jayhawk Boulevard, all stand as testaments to her vision for the future of KU.

While her term as chancellor will be remembered for her numerous successes and achievements, Chancellor Gray-Little will also be remembered as the first female and first African-American chancellor in the university's history.

Chancellor Gray-Little has led the university with remarkable dignity, grace, and humility. She serves as a role model and an inspiration to students, staff, faculty, and colleagues throughout the State and Nation. I am grateful to have worked with her to improve the University of Kansas and our State, and I wish her well as she moves on to new endeavors.●

AMERICA AT THE CROSSROADS

● Mr. NELSON. Mr. President, I want to share a poem and song titled ''America at the Crossroads,'' written by my dear friend and fellow Floridian, JoAnna O'Keefe. She conveys a message of unity and patriotism that I believe is important for Congress and our Nation as we tackle many challenges at home and abroad. Mrs. O'Keefe's work won her the George Washington Honor Medal by the Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge this year, and I am honored to share it with my Senate colleagues.

The material follows:

AMERICA AT THE CROSSROADS

(By JoAnna O'Keefe)

We the people
Are on opposite sides;
We've lost sight of the middle
Where Resolutions reside.

If Jefferson were here right now
He would pick up his pen.

On parchment he'd write:
Be Patriots again!
Look into the eyes
Of your sisters and brothers.
Be Americans!
Respecting one another.
No outside force
Will ever take this land.
But a ''house divided,''
Cannot stand.
Blood has been shed
For this land of the Free
Be Americans!
Embrace your destiny.
Be that ''City on a Hill.''
Be that Light!
Lay down your anger.
Americans! Unite!●

RECOGNIZING TACTICAL MEDICAL SOLUTIONS

● Mr. SCOTT. Mr. President, in South Carolina, there are approximately 400,000 small businesses operating throughout the State. They represent 97 percent of all employers and have had an amazing impact on the economy. Tactical Medical Solution, TacMed, in Anderson County is certainly a testament to that and epitomizes the very best our State has to offer.

Ross Johnson, a former Army Specials Forces medic, founded TacMed in 2003. Mr. Johnson started the company because he wanted to make sure as many servicemembers made it home as possible. He made it his company's mission to create the best tactical medical equipment available, so our brave men and women in uniform and first responders are better equipped to handle their day-to-day missions. Johnson says that today his company's products help ''the soldier on the battlefield, the officer on patrol, and the civilian caught in an unfortunate situation.''

Over a decade later, TacMed has added 40 jobs to our State's economy and has become one of the largest suppliers of high-quality medical trauma kits and components for the military, law enforcement, and first responders.

In honor of National Small Business Week, as well as Military Appreciation Month, I am excited to recognize Tactical Medical Solutions for helping to keep our bravest citizens safe as they take on dangerous jobs. Whether it is our neighborhoods' first responders or those fighting for our freedoms overseas, TacMed's dedication to saving lives everyday makes me incredibly proud they have decided to call South Carolina home to their growing business.●

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:28 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1180. An act to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide compensatory time for employees in the private sector.

H.R. 1679. An act to ensure that the Federal Emergency Management Agency's current efforts to modernize its grant management system includes applicant accessibility and transparency, and for other purposes.

At 5:08 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House agree to the amendments numbered 2 and 3 of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 244) to encourage effective, voluntary investments to recruit, employ, and retain men and women who have served in the United States military with annual Federal awards to employers recognizing such efforts, and for other purposes; and, further, that the House agree to the amendment numbered 1 of the Senate to the aforementioned bill, with an amendment.

The message further announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 53. Concurrent resolution providing for a correction in the enrollment of H.R. 244.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 1366. An act to amend the Investment Company Act of 1940 to terminate an exemption for companies located in Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and any other possession of the United States; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 1679. An act to ensure that the Federal Emergency Management Agency's current efforts to modernize its grant management system includes applicant accessibility and transparency, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Ms. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 35. A bill to transfer administrative jurisdiction over certain Bureau of Land Management land from the Secretary of the Interior to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs for inclusion in the Black Hills National Cemetery, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 115–35).

By Ms. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, without amendment:

S. 99. A bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating the President James K. Polk Home in Columbia, Tennessee, as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 115–36).

By Ms. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 189. A bill to modify the boundary of the Fort Scott National Historic Site in the State of Kansas, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 115–37).

By Ms. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, without amendment:

S. 287. A bill to update the map of, and modify the maximum acreage available for inclusion in, the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument (Rept. No. 115–38).

S. 331. A bill to remove the use restrictions on certain land transferred to Rockingham County, Virginia, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 115–39).

S. 432. A bill to designate the Cerro del Yuta and Rio San Antonio Wilderness Areas in the State of New Mexico, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 115–40).

S. 466. A bill to clarify the description of certain Federal land under the Northern Arizona Land Exchange and Verde River Basin Partnership Act of 2005 to include additional land in the Kaibab National Forest (Rept. No. 115–41).

S. 501. A bill to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate certain segments of East Rosebud Creek in Carbon County, Montana, as components of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System (Rept. No. 115–42).

By Mr. CORKER, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

H.R. 534. An act to require the Secretary of State to take such actions as may be necessary for the United States to rejoin the Bureau of International Expositions, and for other purposes.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mrs. CAPITO:

S. 1013. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax benefits for investments in gigabit opportunity zones; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. FISCHER (for herself and Mr. BOOKER):

S. 1014. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to make grants to eligible organizations to provide service dogs to veterans with severe post-traumatic stress disorder, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. HATCH (for himself and Mr. DONNELLY):

S. 1015. A bill to require the Federal Communications Commission to study the feasibility of designating a simple, easy-to-remember dialing code to be used for a national suicide prevention and mental health crisis hotline system; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. SCHATZ (for himself, Mr. WICKER, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. THUNE, and Mr. WARNER):

S. 1016. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to expand access to telehealth services, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. HOEVEN (for himself and Ms. HEITKAMP):

S. 1017. A bill to designate the Red River Valley Agricultural Research Center in Fargo, North Dakota, as the ''Edward T. Schafer Agricultural Research Center''; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. NELSON, Mr. KAINE, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. 1018. A bill to provide humanitarian assistance for the Venezuelan people, to defend democratic governance and combat widespread public corruption in Venezuela, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL:

S. 1019. A bill for the relief of Luis Barrios; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. BALDWIN (for herself, Mr. REED, Mr. KAINE, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. WARREN, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. MERKLEY, and Ms. HIRONO):

S. 1020. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the proper tax treatment of personal service income earned in pass-thru entities; to the Committee on Finance.

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

S. 1021. A bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the United States Coast Guard; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. ISAKSON (for himself, Ms. DUCKWORTH, and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 1022. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to facilitate assignment of military trauma care providers to civilian trauma centers in order to maintain military trauma readiness and to support such centers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. PORTMAN (for himself, Mr. BURR, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. UDALL, and Mr. SCHATZ):

S. 1023. A bill to reauthorize the Tropical Forest Conservation Act of 1998 through fiscal year 2021, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. ISAKSON (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. TESTER, Mr. DAINES, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. UDALL, Mr. KING, Ms. BALDWIN, and Mr. KAINE):

S. 1024. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to reform the rights and processes relating to appeals of decisions regarding claims for benefits under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. FLAKE (for himself and Mrs. SHAHEEN):

S. 1025. A bill to reform the Federal Crop Insurance Act and reduce Federal spending on crop insurance; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. CASEY (for himself, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. UDALL, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. CARPER, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. 1026. A bill to amend the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 to require full disclosure for entities receiving Federal funding; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. HATCH (for himself, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. CRAPO, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. RISCH, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. DAINES, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. GARDNER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. TESTER, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. BENNET, and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. 1027. A bill to extend the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, and Mr. BENNET):

S. 1028. A bill to provide for the establishment and maintenance of a National Family Caregiving Strategy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. KING (for himself and Mr. FLAKE):

S. 1029. A bill to amend the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 to exempt certain small hydroelectric power projects that are applying for relicensing under the Federal Power Act from the licensing requirements of that Act; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. KING (for himself and Mr. FLAKE):

S. 1030. A bill to require the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to submit to Congress a report on certain hydropower projects; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. DAINES:

S. 1031. A bill to amend provisions in the securities laws relating to regulation crowdfunding to raise the dollar amount limit and to clarify certain requirements and exclusions for funding portals established by such an Act; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. ROBERTS:

S. 1032. A bill to amend the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978 to provide for good neighbor agreements to conduct authorized restoration services on National Forest System land; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. ROBERTS:

S. 1033. A bill to amend the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 to provide for stewardship contracting projects, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. BENNET, Ms. HIRONO, and Ms. HARRIS):

S. 1034. A bill to improve agricultural job opportunities, benefits, and security for aliens in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HEINRICH (for himself, Mr. MURPHY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. CARPER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. HARRIS, Mr. BENNET, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. BOOKER, and Mr. CARDIN):

S. 1035. A bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 with respect to the scope of employee pension benefit plans; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. KING, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. SCHATZ, and Ms. HIRONO):

S. 1036. A bill to promote research, development, and demonstration of marine and hydrokinetic renewable energy technologies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. CASEY (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. Res. 150. A resolution recognizing threats to freedom of the press and expression around the world and reaffirming freedom of the press as a priority in efforts of the United States Government to promote democracy and good governance; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. BLUNT (for himself and Mrs. MCCASKILL):

S. Res. 151. A resolution commending the Northwest Missouri State University Bearcats on their National Collegiate Athletic Association Division II national championship victories; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. HEITKAMP (for herself and Mr. CASEY):

S. Res. 152. A resolution expressing support for the designation of April 2017 as ''National Donate Life Month''; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. HEITKAMP (for herself, Mr. LANKFORD, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. CARPER, Mr. TESTER, Mr. PETERS, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. LEAHY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. CARDIN, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. KING, Mr. SANDERS, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. KAINE, Mr. WARNER, Mr. COONS, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. Res. 153. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that, during Public Service Recognition Week, public servants should be commended for their dedication and continued service to the United States; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 128

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 128, a bill to provide provisional protected presence to qualified individuals who came to the United States as children.

S. 168

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 168, a bill to amend and enhance certain maritime programs of the Department of Transportation.

S. 223

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mrs. ERNST) was added as a cosponsor of S. 223, a bill to provide immunity from suit for certain individuals who disclose potential examples of financial exploitation of senior citizens, and for other purposes.

S. 236

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 236, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reform taxation of alcoholic beverages.

S. 241

At the request of Mrs. ERNST, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. STRANGE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 241, a bill to prohibit Federal funding of Planned Parenthood Federation of America.

S. 260

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mrs. ERNST) was added as a cosponsor of S. 260, a bill to repeal the provisions of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act providing for the Independent Payment Advisory Board.

S. 275

At the request of Ms. HEITKAMP, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 275, a bill to allow the financing by United States persons of sales of agricultural commodities to Cuba.

S. 292

At the request of Mr. REED, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS), the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE) were added as cosponsors of S. 292, a bill to maximize discovery, and accelerate development and availability, of promising childhood cancer treatments, and for other purposes.

S. 326

At the request of Mr. HELLER, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 326, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the tax-exempt financing of certain government-owned buildings.

At the request of Mr. NELSON, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 326, supra.

S. 428

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 428, a bill to amend titles XIX and XXI of the Social Security Act to authorize States to provide coordinated care to children with complex medical conditions through enhanced pediatric health homes, and for other purposes.

S. 534

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) and the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) were added as cosponsors of S. 534, a bill to prevent the sexual abuse of minors and amateur athletes by requiring the prompt reporting of sexual abuse to law enforcement authorities, and for other purposes.

S. 693

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) and the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) were added as cosponsors of S. 693, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to increase the number of permanent faculty in palliative care at accredited allopathic and osteopathic medical schools, nursing schools, social work schools, and other programs, including physician assistant education programs, to promote education and research in palliative care and hospice, and to support the development of faculty careers in academic palliative medicine.

S. 708

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 708, a bill to improve the ability of U.S. Customs and Border Protection to interdict fentanyl, other synthetic opioids, and other narcotics and psychoactive substances that are illegally imported into the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 766

At the request of Mr. MANCHIN, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 766, a bill to amend titles 10 and 32, United States Code, to improve and enhance authorities relating to the employment, use, status, and benefits of military technicians (dual status), and for other purposes.

S. 770

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the names of the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL) and the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) were added as cosponsors of S. 770, a bill to require the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology to disseminate resources to help reduce small business cybersecurity risks, and for other purposes.

S. 829

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) were added as cosponsors of S. 829, a bill to reauthorize the Assistance to Firefighters Grants program, the Fire Prevention and Safety Grants program, and the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response grant program, and for other purposes.

S. 832

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 832, a bill to enhance the transparency and accelerate the impact of programs under the African Growth and Opportunity Act and the Millennium Challenge Corporation, and for other purposes.

S. 881

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 881, a bill to reduce risks to the financial system by limiting banks' ability to engage in certain risky activities and limiting conflicts of interest, to reinstate certain Glass-Steagall Act protections that were repealed by the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act, and for other purposes.

S. 905

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 905, a bill to require a report on, and to authorize technical assistance for, accountability for war crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocide in Syria, and for other purposes.

S. 910

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 910, a bill to prohibit discrimination against individuals with disabilities who need long-term services and supports, and for other purposes.

S. 957

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 957, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to ensure that women members of the Armed Forces and their families have access to the contraception they need in order to promote the health and readiness of all members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

S. 976

At the request of Mr. ENZI, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 976, a bill to restore States' sovereign rights to enforce State and local sales and use tax laws, and for other purposes.

S. 1001

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1001, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to modernize payments for ambulatory surgical centers under the Medicare program, and for other purposes.

S. 1002

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1002, a bill to enhance the ability of community financial institutions to foster economic growth and serve their communities, boost small businesses, increase individual savings, and for other purposes.

S. 1004

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1004, a bill to amend the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 to support innovative approaches to career and technical education and redesign the high school experience for students by providing students with equitable access to rigorous, engaging, and relevant real world education through partnerships with business and industry and higher education that prepare students to graduate from high school and enroll into postsecondary education without the need for remediation and with the ability to use knowledge to solve complex problems, think critically, communicate effectively, collaborate with others, and develop academic mindsets.

S.J. RES. 17

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mrs. ERNST) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 17, a joint resolution approving the discontinuation of the process for consideration and automatic implementation of the annual proposal of the Independent Medicare Advisory Board under section 1899A of the Social Security Act.

S. RES. 60

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Ms. HEITKAMP) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 60, a resolution designating May 5, 2017, as the ''National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Native Women and Girls''.

S. RES. 136

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 136, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the 102nd anniversary of the Armenian Genocide.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. HATCH (for himself and Mr. DONNELLY):

S. 1015. A bill to require the Federal Communications Commission to study the feasibility of designating a simple, easy-to-remember dialing code to be used for a national suicide prevention and mental health crisis hotline system; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I rise today to discuss the epidemic of suicide—a growing crisis that has devastated millions of families across our Nation. Over the past 8 years, the rate of deaths by suicide in our country has tripled. Let me repeat that. It has tripled, and the problem is particularly severe among young adults.

According to the Centers for Disease Control, for youth between the ages of 10 and 24, suicide is now the third leading cause of death. In other words, more of America's youth die each year from suicide than cancer, heart disease, AIDS, birth defects, stroke, pneumonia, influenza, and chronic lung disease combined.

This crisis shows no signs of abating. Consider that each day in our Nation, there are an average of over 5,400 suicide attempts by young people in grades 7 to 12. In my home State of Utah, the statistics are particularly alarming. Every 14 hours, a Utahn commits suicide, resulting in an average of 630 deaths each year. The problem is so acute that Utah now has the fifth highest suicide rate in the Nation. This troubling trend is particularly pronounced among Utah's youth. Even though Utahns from ages 10 to 17 comprise only 13 percent of the State population, they represent nearly 23 percent of all suicide attempts. Suicide is now the leading cause of death among Utah's teenagers.

To stem the tide of teenage suicide in Utah, I convened a roundtable discussion in Salt Lake City last December that included community leaders, healthcare professionals, high school principals, and parents from across the State. There we discussed proven methods that destigmatize mental illness, a critical first step in addressing the suicide crisis. We also discussed the links between bullying and depression.

In an effort to prevent teen suicide, the effect of bullying cannot be overlooked. A recent study in the Journal of the American Medical Association finds that kids who are bullied are more than twice as likely to consider suicide. In my home State of Utah, dozens of community leaders have drawn attention to the pernicious effects of bullying. The foremost among them is Dr. Greg Hudnall, a nationally recognized expert in suicide prevention. Dr. Hudnall found that between 8 and 12 percent of all suicides are committed by young people who have been bullied. To discourage bullying and to help our teenagers who are suffering most, Dr. Hudnall led in the development of HOPE4UTAH. HOPE4UTAH is a dynamic peer-to-peer program designed to empower students in groups called Hope Squads. Hope Squads identify warning signs of depression in teenagers and offer help to those in need.

Wendy Nelson, principal of Utah's Syracuse High School, recently told me how Hope Squads have helped students at risk of suicide to connect with therapists that the school has made available on a regular basis. The high school has since partnered with a local community health center for help in addressing the need for help in this particular area and, of course, the need for mental health professionals in schools. This shortage of mental health counselors is a serious problem, not only in Utah but in schools across the Nation. It is a very, very serious problem.

In our December roundtable discussion, we learned that teen suicide is something schools, parents, and mental health professionals cannot address individually. Instead, a continuum of care must exist for each child from the first day of school to graduation. We must all work together to ensure that our children feel safe.

Educators play a vital role in maintaining an infrastructure of support for teenagers struggling with mental illness. Because educators are often the first to identify warning signs in vulnerable students, hundreds of teachers in Utah receive training in how to identify and respond to these signs. Once we know a teen is suffering, parents and mental health professionals can step in to provide ongoing care. Building community partnerships that involve everyone and that focus on evidence-based practices can save hundreds, if not thousands, of lives.

My main purpose in organizing the roundtable discussion was to find ways I could help prevent suicide on a national level. Increasing access to mental healthcare has been a fixture of my Senate service. Nearly 20 years ago, I convened the Senate Finance Committee's first hearing dedicated to mental health. More recently, I focused my legislative efforts on fighting prescription drug abuse, an epidemic that has only accelerated our Nation's mental health crisis. I played a leading role in passing the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act and helped to draft the 21st Century Cures Act, which President Obama signed into law in December. Both bills take aim at the opioid epidemic that is ravaging entire communities across the Nation.

As a legislative body, we have set aside partisan differences in recent months to combat the opioid crisis as part of a broader effort to address growing rates of mental illness and death by suicide.

But there is more we can do to help. To begin, we need to provide better and more immediate access to counseling and mental health services. This is one of the main takeaways from last year's roundtable discussion. So often we hear that those seeking help are just one positive interaction away from giving life another chance. As Utah State Senator Daniel Thatcher said:

If you talk to someone, they live. If you connect them to support, they live.

Laura Warburton, a Utah mother who lost her daughter to suicide, said that the day her daughter died, she had attempted to make one last call to her therapist and could not get through.

While this is a complex problem with no simple, immediate answer, there are steps we can take to help. Today, we are taking those critical first steps to prevent future tragedies from taking place.

In response to what I learned during the suicide roundtable in Utah, I have joined Senator JOE DONNELLY in introducing the National Suicide Hotline Improvement Act, a bipartisan proposal that will make it easier for Americans of all ages to get the help and treatment they need when they are experiencing suicidal thoughts. The current suicide prevention lifeline system and veterans crisis line are in desperate need of reform. Our bill will require the Federal Communications Commission, in consultation with the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Veterans Affairs, to study the current national suicide hotline system and make recommendations to Congress on how we can improve it.

Across our great Nation, there are millions of people, especially young

people, who are alone and suffering in the shadows of depression. Many of them are bombarded by suicidal thoughts and have no idea where to turn for help. To make matters worse, the national suicide hotline number, 1–800–273–TALK, is not an intuitive or easy number to remember, particularly for those experiencing a mental health emergency.

Fortunately, the success of the 911 emergency system provides a model for addressing this problem. My bill will require the Federal Communications Commission to recommend an easy-to-remember, three-digit number for the national suicide prevention hotline. I believe that by making the national suicide prevention lifeline system more user-friendly and accessible, we can save thousands of lives by helping people find the help they need when they need it most.

In introducing this legislation, I wish to thank my fellow Utahn, Congressman CHRIS STEWART. Congressman STEWART has been an invaluable partner in offering some of the most important measures of this bill. Additionally, I would like to thank the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. I also wish to express my appreciation for the support we have received from the Utah State Legislature, Utah's attorney general, and the Utah Department of Health Services, as well as several groups from the law enforcement community.

This proposal transcends party lines and stands to save thousands of lives. We cannot delay this effort to prevent suicide. So I call on my colleagues in both the House and the Senate to act quickly to pass this bill. Your support for this legislation represents your commitment to preventing future tragedies. I ask all of you today, regardless of your party affiliation, to cosponsor this legislation. In doing so, you can help us help those who need our help the most. There is absolutely no time to lose.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, and Mr. BENNET):

S. 1028. A bill to provide for the establishment and maintenance of a National Family Caregiving Strategy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce legislation with my colleague from Wisconsin, Senator BALDWIN, that would require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to convene a panel to develop a national strategy to recognize and support the more than forty million family caregivers in the United States. I am pleased that Senators MURKOWSKI and BENNET have joined us as cosponsors.

The United States' population is aging. Every day, 10,000 baby boomers turn 65 years old. Americans 85 and older—our oldest old—are the fastest growing segment of our population. This is the population that is most at risk of multiple and interacting health problems that can lead to disability and the need for round-the-clock care.

At the very time that our population is aging, birth rates are declining. While the need for care and support is increasing, the numbers of professional and informal caregivers is shrinking. In the future, more people will have to rely on fewer caregivers.

Families will likely continue to be the most important source of support for people with long-term care needs. We must do more to support the more than 43 million family caregivers in the United States who make remarkable sacrifices to care for their loved ones. While it is impossible to put a dollar amount to the value of the devotion, time, and services that these caregivers provide, it is estimated that in 2013 family caregivers provided $470 billion in uncompensated long-term care. This figure nearly equals the annual sales of the four largest United States tech companies combined.

Family caregivers provide tremendous value, and they also face many challenges. Caregivers experience high levels of stress and have a greater incidence of chronic conditions like heart disease, diabetes, and depression. Caregiving can be an isolating experience. Last week, the Aging Committee held a hearing highlighting that social isolation is a serious risk factor for depression, anxiety, dementia, functional decline, and even death.

The average caregiver is a 49-year-old woman. She is caring for a 69-year-old relative living with a long-term physical condition. That relative is often a parent. She has been providing care for four years on average, spending 24.4 hours a week. She may be raising her own children and working full time.

Other caregivers are seniors. One third of family caregivers are age 65 or older, and even more susceptible to putting their own health at risk.

I am, therefore, introducing legislation with my colleague from Wisconsin that would lead to the development of a national strategy to recognize and support family caregivers. Titled the Recognize, Assist, Include, Support, and Engage, or RAISE Family Caregivers Act, the legislation is based on a recommendation of the bipartisan Commission on Long Term Care. It is modeled after a law that I co-authored in 2010 with then-Senator Evan Bayh that created a coordinated strategic national plan to combat Alzheimer's disease.

The RAISE Family Caregivers Act directs the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish a National Family Caregiving Project to develop and sustain a national strategy to support family caregivers. The bill would create a Family Caregiving Advisory Council comprised of relevant Federal agencies and non-federal members. It would include representatives of family caregivers, older adults with long-term care needs, individuals with disabilities, employers, health and social service providers, advocates for family caregivers, state and local officials, and others with expertise in family caregiving.

The Advisory Council would be charged with making recommendations to the Secretary. The strategy and plan would be updated to reflect new developments. The plan would include an initial inventory and assessment of federally funded caregiver efforts. It would then identify specific actions that government and communities could take to support family caregivers.

The Project would be funded from existing funding appropriated for the Department of Health and Human Services. No new funding is authorized and it would sunset in five years.

Family caregivers are an invaluable resource to our aging society. Chances are that, sooner or later, we will all either be family caregivers or someone who needs one. The RAISE Family Caregivers Act will launch a coordinated, national strategic plan that will help us to leverage our resources, promote innovation and promising practices, and provide our nation's family caregivers with much-needed recognition and support. Our bipartisan legislation is widely endorsed by aging and disability organizations. I urge all of our colleagues to join as cosponsors.

By Mr. DAINES:

S. 1031. A bill to amend provisions in the securities laws relating to regulation crowdfunding to raise the dollar amount limit and to clarify certain requirements and exclusions for funding portals established by such an Act; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

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

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

S. 1031

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Crowdfunding Enhancement Act''.

SEC. 2. CROWDFUNDING VEHICLES.

(a) AMENDMENTS TO THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933.—The Securities Act of 1933 (15 U.S.C. 77a et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 4A(f)(3) (15 U.S.C. 77d–1(f)(3)), by inserting ''by any of paragraphs (1) through (14) of'' before ''section 3(c)''; and

(2) in section 4(a)(6)(B) (15 U.S.C. 77d(a)(6)(B)), by inserting '', other than a crowdfunding vehicle (as defined in section 2(a) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a–2(a))),'' after ''any investor''.

(b) AMENDMENTS TO THE INVESTMENT COMPANY ACT OF 1940.—The Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a–1 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 2(a) (15 U.S.C. 80a–2(a)), by adding at the end the following:

''(55) The term 'crowdfunding vehicle' means a company—

''(A) whose purpose (as set forth in its organizational documents) is limited to acquiring, holding, and disposing securities issued by a single company in 1 or more transactions and made pursuant to section 4(a)(6) of the Securities Act of 1933 (15 U.S.C. 77d(a)(6));

''(B) that issues only 1 class of securities;

''(C) that receives no compensation in connection with such acquisition, holding, or disposition of securities;

''(D) no associated person of which receives any compensation in connection with such acquisition, holding or disposition of securities unless such person is acting as or on behalf of an investment adviser registered under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80b–1 et seq.) or registered as an investment adviser in the State in which the investment adviser maintains its principal office and place of business;

''(E) the securities of which have been issued in a transaction made pursuant to section 4(a)(6) of the Securities Act of 1933 (15 U.S.C. 77d(a)(6)), if both the crowdfunding vehicle and the company whose securities it holds are co-issuers;

''(F) that is current in its ongoing disclosure obligations under section 227.202 of title 17, Code of Federal Regulations;

''(G) the company whose securities it holds is current in its ongoing disclosure obligations under section 227.202 of title 17, Code of Federal Regulations; and

''(H) is advised by an investment adviser registered under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80b–1 et seq.) or registered as an investment adviser in the State in which the investment adviser maintains its principal office and place of business.''; and

(2) in section 3(c) (15 U.S.C. 80a–3(c)), by adding at the end the following:

''(15) Any crowdfunding vehicle.''.

SEC. 3. CROWDFUNDING EXEMPTION FROM REGISTRATION.

Section 12(g)(6) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78l(g)(6)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''The Commission'' and inserting the following:

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Commission'';

(2) by striking ''section 4(6)'' and inserting ''section 4(a)(6)''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(B) TREATMENT OF SECURITIES ISSUED BY CERTAIN ISSUERS.—An exemption under subparagraph (A) shall be unconditional for securities offered by an issuer that had a public float of less than $75,000,000 as of the last business day of the issuer's most recently completed semiannual period, computed by multiplying the aggregate worldwide number of shares of the issuer's common equity securities held by non-affiliates by the price at which such securities were last sold (or the average bid and asked prices of such securities) in the principal market for such securities or, in the event the result of such public float calculation is zero, had annual revenues of less than $50,000,000 as of the issuer's most recently completed fiscal year.''.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 150—RECOGNIZING THREATS TO FREEDOM OF THE PRESS AND EXPRESSION AROUND THE WORLD AND REAFFIRMING FREEDOM OF THE PRESS AS A PRIORITY IN EFFORTS OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT TO PROMOTE DEMOCRACY AND GOOD GOVERNANCE

Mr. CASEY (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, and Mr. WYDEN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 150

Whereas Article 19 of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted in Paris, France, on December 10, 1948, states, ''Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.'';

Whereas, in 1993, the United Nations General Assembly proclaimed May 3 of each year as ''World Press Freedom Day'' to celebrate the fundamental principles of freedom of the press, evaluate freedom of the press around the world, defend against attacks on the independence of the media, and pay tribute to journalists who have lost their lives in the exercise of their profession;

Whereas, on December 18, 2013, the United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution (United Nations General Assembly Resolution 163 (2013)) on the safety of journalists and the issue of impunity, that unequivocally condemns, in both conflict and nonconflict situations, all attacks on and violence against journalists and media workers, including torture, extrajudicial killing, enforced disappearance, arbitrary detention, and intimidation and harassment;

Whereas the theme for the 2017 World Press Freedom Day, is ''Critical Minds for Critical Times: Media's role in advancing peaceful, just and inclusive societies'';

Whereas the Daniel Pearl Freedom of the Press Act of 2009 (22 U.S.C. 2151 note; Public Law 111–166), which was passed by unanimous consent in the Senate and signed into law by President Barack Obama in 2010, expanded the annual Human Rights Reports of the Department of State to include the examination of freedom of the press;

Whereas, the 2016 World Press Freedom Index, published by Reporters Without Borders in April 2016, indicated ''a climate of fear and tension combined with increasing control over newsrooms by governments and private sector interests'';

Whereas, the 2016 World Press Freedom Index identified a decline in media freedom across all indicators, especially the destruction of media infrastructure, like the facilities and equipment of media, and the adoption of legislative frameworks that unjustly penalize journalists for doing their work;

Whereas, according to the Committee to Protect Journalists, in 2016, the three deadliest countries for journalists were Syria, Yemen, and Iraq, with more than half of the journalists killed in combat or crossfire, for the first time since the Committee to Protect Journalists began keeping records;

Whereas, according to the Committee to Protect Journalists, in 2016, 48 journalists were killed in cases where the motive was confirmed to be related to their reporting, 28 journalists were killed in cases where the motive was unconfirmed, and 2 media workers were killed;

Whereas, according to the Committee to Protect Journalists, impunity for the murder of journalists remains systemic, with the killers going free in 9 out of 10 cases;

Whereas, according to the Committee to Protect Journalists, as of December 1, 2016, 259 journalists worldwide were in prison, the highest number recorded since the group began systematically tracking imprisonment in 1990;

Whereas, according to the Freedom House report ''Freedom of the Press 2017'', only 13 percent of the world's population enjoys a Free press, meaning ''coverage of political news is robust, the safety of journalists is guaranteed, state intrusion in media affairs is minimal, and the press is not subject to onerous legal or economic pressures.'';

Whereas freedom of the press is a key component of democratic governance, activism in civil society, and socioeconomic development; and

Whereas freedom of the press enhances public accountability, transparency, and participation: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) expresses concern about the threats to freedom of the press and expression around the world;

(2) welcomes the celebration of World Press Freedom Day 2017 on May 3, 2017;

(3) commends journalists and media workers around the world for their essential role in promoting government accountability, defending democratic activity, and strengthening civil society, despite threats to their safety;

(4) pays tribute to journalists who have lost their lives or liberty carrying out their work;

(5) calls on governments abroad to implement United Nations General Assembly Resolution (A/RES/68/163) by thoroughly investigating and seeking to resolve outstanding cases of violence against journalists, including murders and kidnappings, while ensuring the protection of witnesses, and by reporting on the status of investigations;

(6) condemns all actions around the world that suppress freedom of the press;

(7) reaffirms the centrality of freedom of the press to efforts of the United States Government to support democracy, mitigate conflict, and promote good governance domestically and around the world; and

(8) calls on the President and the Secretary of State—

(A) to preserve and build upon United States leadership in freedom of the press, on the basis of First Amendment protections;

(B) to improve the means by which the United States Government rapidly identifies, publicizes, and responds to threats against freedom of the press around the world;

(C) to urge foreign governments to conduct transparent investigations and adjudications of the perpetrators of attacks against journalists; and

(D) to highlight the issue of threats against freedom of the press in the annual Human Rights Reports and year round.

SENATE RESOLUTION 151—COMMENDING THE NORTHWEST MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY BEARCATS ON THEIR NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION DIVISION II NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP VICTORIES

Mr. BLUNT (for himself and Mrs. MCCASKILL) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 151

Whereas, on December 17, 2016, the Northwest Missouri State University football team defeated the University of North Alabama by a score of 29 to 3 in the National Collegiate Athletic Association (referred to in this preamble as the ''NCAA'') Division II national championship game in Kansas City, Kansas;

Whereas the victory was the sixth Division II national championship for Northwest Missouri State University since 1996 and the fourth since 2006;

Whereas the Bearcats have won 55 games and lost 2 games over the past 4 seasons, with 30 straight victories over the last 2 years;

Whereas former head coach Adam Dorrel is 1 of just 3 head coaches in Division II football to win 3 national titles, and athletic director Mel Tjeerdsma has the distinction of being 1 of the other coaches to accomplish that feat;

Whereas, on March 25, 2017, the Northwest Missouri State men's basketball team defeated Fairmont State University in the NCAA Division II national championship, a first in the history of the Bearcats basketball program;

Whereas the Bearcats men's basketball team finished the 2016–2017 season with a 29-1 record, earning coach Ben McCollum his third Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association Coach of the Year award;

Whereas Bearcat guard, Justin Pitts, was named—

(1) Division II Player of the Year by the National Association of Basketball Coaches; and

(2) Division II Bulletin Player of the Year; and

Whereas Northwest Missouri State University became the first Division II school to win championships for football and men's basketball in the same academic year: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commends Northwest Missouri State University for their Division II national championship victories in football and men's basketball;

(2) recognizes the athletic prowess, hard work, and dedication exhibited by the players, coaches, support staff, and student body of Northwest Missouri State University; and

(3) congratulates the city of Maryville, Missouri, and Bearcat fans and alumni around the world.

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. President: This year, Northwest Missouri State University set a record when it became the first Division II school to win the men's basketball and football championships in the same season.

It also became the first Division I or II school in the past decade to win titles in both those sports in the same year.

Located in Maryville, about one hundred miles north of Kansas City, Northwest Missouri State University was established in 1905.

With five NCAA championships already under their belt, Bearcats football began their 2016 season with the goal of adding another title to their great program. Under head Coach Adam Dorrel, they finished their record-setting year with a victory over the University of North Alabama in the brutally cold Division II championship game last December. The Bearcats have now gone 55–2 over four seasons, and their 30 straight victories over the last two years is the longest current win streak in all of NCAA football.

But the men's basketball team gave Bearcats fans plenty more to cheer about. After a very successful regular season, the Bearcats entered the Division II tournament with a 29–1 record. And on March 25, they defeated Fairmont State in the NCAA Division II championship game, a first in the program's history.

Finishing the year with a near perfect record, Coach Ben McCollum earned his third MIAA Coach of the Year honor. And the Bearcats' guard, Justin Pitts, earned several honors and was named the DII Bulletin Player of the Year.

Congratulations to Northwest Missouri State University on a phenomenal year. Fans across the state are excited for another great year as the Bearcats spend the off-season preparing to defend their hard fought championship titles.

SENATE RESOLUTION 152—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF APRIL 2017 AS ''NATIONAL DONATE LIFE MONTH''

Ms. HEITKAMP (for herself and Mr. CASEY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 152

Whereas, in April 2017, over 118,116 individuals were on the official waiting list for organ donation managed by the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network (referred to in this preamble as the ''national transplant waiting list'');

Whereas, in 2016, 33,606 transplant procedures were performed with organs from 27,628 deceased donors and 5,978 living donors, yet 6,303 candidates for transplantation died while waiting for an organ transplant;

Whereas, on average, 22 people die each day while waiting for an organ donation;

Whereas over 130,000,000 people in the United States are registered to be organ and tissue donors, yet the demand for donated organs outweighs the supply of organs made available each day;

Whereas, in 2016, a record was set for the number of organ transplants performed in a single year, yet every 10 minutes, 1 person is added to the national transplant waiting list;

Whereas an organ donation from a single deceased donor can benefit up to 8 individuals;

Whereas a living donor can donate a kidney or a portion of a lung or the liver to save the life of another individual; and

Whereas April is traditionally recognized as ''National Donate Life Month'': Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of National Donate Life Month;

(2) supports promoting awareness of organ donation by increasing public awareness;

(3) encourages States, localities, and territories of the United States to support the goals and ideals of National Donate Life Month by issuing a proclamation to designate April 2017 as ''National Donate Life Month'';

(4) commends each individual who—

(A) is a registered organ donor who may have a positive impact on the life of another individual; or

(B) indicates a wish to become an organ donor;

(5) acknowledges the grief of families who face the loss of loved ones and commends the families who, in their grief, choose to donate the organs of deceased family members;

(6) recognizes the generous contribution made by each living individual who has donated an organ to save the life of another individual;

(7) acknowledges the advances in medical technology that have enabled organ transplantation with organs donated by living individuals to become a viable treatment option for an increasing number of patients;

(8) commends the medical professionals and organ transplantation experts who have worked to improve the process of living organ donation and increase the number of living donors; and

(9) salutes each individual who has helped to give the gift of life by supporting, promoting, and encouraging organ donation.

SENATE RESOLUTION 153—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT, DURING PUBLIC SERVICE RECOGNITION WEEK, PUBLIC SERVANTS SHOULD BE COMMENDED FOR THEIR DEDICATION AND CONTINUED SERVICE TO THE UNITED STATES

Ms. HEITKAMP (for herself, Mr. LANKFORD, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. CARPER, Mr. TESTER, Mr. PETERS, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. LEAHY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. CARDIN, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. KING, Mr. SANDERS, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. KAINE, Mr. WARNER, Mr. COONS, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

Whereas the week of May 7 through 13, 2017, has been designated as ''Public Service Recognition Week'' to honor employees of the Federal Government and State and local governments and members of the uniformed services;

Whereas Public Service Recognition Week provides an opportunity to recognize and promote the important contributions of public servants and to honor the diverse men and women who meet the needs of the United States through work at all levels of government and as members of the uniformed services;

Whereas millions of individuals work in government service, and as members of the uniformed services, in every State, county,

and city across the United States and in hundreds of cities abroad;

Whereas public service is a noble calling involving a variety of challenging and rewarding professions;

Whereas the ability of the Federal Government and State and local governments to be responsive, innovative, and effective depends on the outstanding performance of dedicated public servants;

Whereas the United States is a great and prosperous country, and public service employees contribute significantly to that greatness and prosperity;

Whereas the United States benefits daily from the knowledge and skills of the highly trained individuals who work in public service;

Whereas public servants—

(1) defend the freedom of the people of the United States and advance the interests of the United States around the world;

(2) provide vital strategic support functions to the Armed Forces and serve in the National Guard and Reserves;

(3) fight crime and fires;

(4) ensure equal access to secure, efficient, and affordable mail service;

(5) deliver benefits under the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 301 et seq.), including benefits under the Medicare program under title XVIII of that Act (42 U.S.C. 1395 et seq.);

(6) fight disease and promote better health;

(7) protect the environment and parks in the United States;

(8) enforce laws guaranteeing equal employment opportunity and healthy working conditions;

(9) defend and secure critical infrastructure;

(10) help the people of the United States recover from natural disasters and terrorist attacks;

(11) teach and work in schools and libraries;

(12) develop new technologies and explore the Earth, the Moon, and space to help improve knowledge on how the world changes;

(13) improve and secure transportation systems;

(14) promote economic growth; and

(15) assist veterans of the Armed Forces;

Whereas members of the uniformed services and civilian employees at all levels of government—

(1) make significant contributions to the general welfare of the United States; and

(2) are on the front lines in the fight to defeat terrorism and maintain homeland security;

Whereas public servants work in a professional manner to build relationships with other countries and cultures in order to better represent the interests and promote the ideals of the United States;

Whereas public servants alert Congress and the public to government waste, fraud, and abuse, and of dangers to public health;

Whereas the individuals serving in the uniformed services, as well as the skilled trade and craft employees of the Federal Government who provide support to their efforts—

(1) are committed to doing their jobs regardless of the circumstances; and

(2) contribute greatly to the security of the United States and the world;

Whereas public servants have bravely fought in armed conflicts in the defense of the United States and its ideals, and deserve the care and benefits they have earned through their honorable service;

Whereas public servants—

(1) have much to offer, as demonstrated by their expertise and innovative ideas; and

(2) serve as examples by passing on institutional knowledge to train the next generation of public servants; and

Whereas the week of May 7 through 13, 2017, marks the 33rd anniversary of Public Service Recognition Week: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of the week of May 7 through 13, 2017, as ''Public Service Recognition Week'';

(2) commends public servants for their outstanding contributions to the United States during Public Service Recognition Week and throughout the year;

(3) salutes government employees, and members of the uniformed services, for their unyielding dedication to, and enthusiasm for, public service;

(4) honors government employees and members of the uniformed services who have given their lives in service to their country;

(5) calls upon a new generation to consider a career in public service as an honorable profession;

(6) encourages efforts to promote public service careers at every level of government; and

(7) supports efforts to promote an efficient and effective public service that serves the people of the United States.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 210. Mr. MCCONNELL proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 244, to encourage effective, voluntary investments to recruit, employ, and retain men and women who have served in the United States military with annual Federal awards to employers recognizing such efforts, and for other purposes.

SA 211. Mr. MCCONNELL proposed an amendment to amendment SA 210 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL to the bill H.R. 244, supra.

SA 212. Mr. MCCONNELL proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 244, supra.

SA 213. Mr. MCCONNELL proposed an amendment to amendment SA 212 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL to the bill H.R. 244, supra.

SA 214. Mr. MCCONNELL proposed an amendment to amendment SA 213 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL to the amendment SA 212 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL to the bill H.R. 244, supra.

SA 215. Mr. HELLER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 244, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 210. Mr. MCCONNELL proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 244, to encourage effective, voluntary investments to recruit, employ, and retain men and women who have served in the United States military with annual Federal awards to employers recognizing such efforts, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the end add the following:

''This Act shall take effect 1 day after the date of enactment.''

SA 211. Mr. MCCONNELL proposed an amendment to amendment SA 210 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL to the bill H.R. 244, to encourage effective, voluntary investments to recruit, employ, and retain men and women who have served in the United States military with annual Federal awards to employers recognizing such efforts, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike ''1 day'' and insert ''2 days''.

SA 212. Mr. MCCONNELL proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 244, to encourage effective, voluntary investments to recruit, employ, and retain men and women who have served in the United States military with annual Federal awards to employers recognizing such efforts, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the end add the following:

''This act shall be effective 3 days after enactment.''

SA 213. Mr. MCCONNELL proposed an amendment to amendment SA 212 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL to the bill H.R. 244, to encourage effective, voluntary investments to recruit, employ, and retain men and women who have served in the United States military with annual Federal awards to employers recognizing such efforts, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike ''3 days'' and insert ''4 days''.

SA 214. Mr. MCCONNELL proposed an amendment to amendment SA 213 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL to the amendment SA 212 proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL to the bill H.R. 244, to encourage effective, voluntary investments to recruit, employ, and retain men and women who have served in the United States military with annual Federal awards to employers recognizing such efforts, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike ''4'' and insert ''5''.

SA 215. Mr. HELLER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 244, to encourage effective, voluntary investments to recruit, employ, and retain men and women who have served in the United States military with annual Federal awards to employers recognizing such efforts, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

TITLE ____—NO BUDGET, NO PAY

SEC. __01. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the ''No Budget, No Pay Act''.

SEC. __02. DEFINITION.

In this title, the term ''Member of Congress''—

(1) has the meaning given under section 2106 of title 5, United States Code; and

(2) does not include the Vice President.

SEC. __03. TIMELY APPROVAL OF CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET AND THE APPROPRIATIONS BILLS.

If both Houses of Congress have not approved a concurrent resolution on the budget as described under section 301 of the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 632) for a fiscal year before

October 1 of that fiscal year and have not passed all the regular appropriations bills for the next fiscal year before October 1 of that fiscal year, the pay of each Member of Congress may not be paid for each day following that October 1 until the date on which both Houses of Congress approve a concurrent resolution on the budget for that fiscal year and all the regular appropriations bills.

SEC. __04. NO PAY WITHOUT CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET AND THE APPROPRIATIONS BILLS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no funds may be appropriated or otherwise be made available from the United States Treasury for the pay of any Member of Congress during any period determined by the Chairpersons of the Committee on the Budget and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate or the Chairpersons of the Committee on the Budget and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives under section ____05.

(b) NO RETROACTIVE PAY.—A Member of Congress may not receive pay for any period determined by the Chairpersons of the Committee on the Budget and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate or the Chairpersons of the Committee on the Budget and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives under section ____05, at any time after the end of that period.

SEC. __05. DETERMINATIONS.

(a) SENATE.—

(1) REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATIONS.—On October 1 of each year, the Secretary of the Senate shall submit a request to the Chairpersons of the Committee on the Budget and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate for certification of determinations made under subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (2).

(2) DETERMINATIONS.—The Chairpersons of the Committee on the Budget and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate shall—

(A) on October 1 of each year, make a determination of whether Congress is in compliance with section ____03 and whether Senators may not be paid under that section;

(B) determine the period of days following each October 1 that Senators may not be paid under section ____03; and

(C) provide timely certification of the determinations under subparagraphs (A) and (B) upon the request of the Secretary of the Senate.

(b) HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—

(1) REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATIONS.—On October 1 of each year, the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives shall submit a request to the Chairpersons of the Committee on the Budget and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives for certification of determinations made under subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (2).

(2) DETERMINATIONS.—The Chairpersons of the Committee on the Budget and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives shall—

(A) on October 1 of each year, make a determination of whether Congress is in compliance with section ____03 and whether Members of the House of Representatives may not be paid under that section;

(B) determine the period of days following each October 1 that Members of the House of Representatives may not be paid under section ____03; and

(C) provide timely certification of the determinations under subparagraphs (A) and (B) upon the request of the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives.

SEC. __06. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This title shall take effect on February 1, 2019.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I have 7 requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority leaders.

Pursuant to Rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to hold a meeting during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, May 3, 2017, at 10 a.m. in room 253 of the Russell Senate Office Building.

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

The Committee on Environment and Public Works is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, May 3, 2017, at 10 a.m. in room 406 of the Dirksen Senate office building.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, May 3, 2017 at 5:10 p.m., to hold a business meeting.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, on May 3, 2017, at 10 a.m., in room SD–226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON EMERGING THREATS AND CAPABILITIES

The Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities of the Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, May 3, 2017, at 10 a.m., in open session.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PERSONNEL

The Subcommittee on Personnel of the Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meeting during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, May 3, 2017, at 2:30 p.m., in open session.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON MULTILATERAL INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, MULTILATERAL INSTITUTIONS, AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC, ENERGY, AND ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

The Committee on Foreign Relations Subcommittee on Multilateral International Development, Multilateral Institutions, and International Economic, Energy, and Environmental Policy is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, May 3, 2017 at 10 a.m., to hold a hearing entitled ''Global Philanthropy and Remittances and International Development.''

RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED TODAY

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following Senate resolutions, which were submitted earlier today: S. Res. 151, S. Res. 152, and S. Res. 153.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolutions en bloc.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the resolutions be agreed to, the preambles be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, all en bloc.

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

The resolutions were agreed to.

The preambles were agreed to.

(The resolutions, with their preambles, are printed in today's RECORD under ''Submitted Resolutions.'')

NATIONAL DAY OF AWARENESS FOR MISSING AND MURDERED NATIVE WOMEN AND GIRLS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of and the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 60.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 60) designating May 5, 2017, as the ''National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Native Women and Girls.''

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 60) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of February 13, 2017, under ''Submitted Resolutions.'')

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, MAY 4, 2017

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 9:30 a.m., Thursday, May 4; further, that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time

for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; finally, that following leader remarks, the Senate resume consideration of the House message to accompany H.R. 244; finally, that at 10:30 a.m., Senator YOUNG be recognized for up to 20 minutes.

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

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order, following the remarks of Senators HATCH, WHITEHOUSE, and MORAN.

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

The Senator from Utah.

(The remarks of Mr. HATCH pertaining to the introduction of S. 1015 are printed in today's RECORD under ''Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.'')

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kansas.

SEVERE KANSAS WEATHER

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I come to the floor this evening to talk about winter storms that hit Kansas and surrounding States over the weekend, destroying crops and killing livestock. We face many challenges, and the Senator from Utah just described a serious circumstance for many people in this country. I applaud his efforts to try to find the solution.

The challenges that we face in Kansas after this weekend are another vivid reminder of the difficulties that each day our farm families and ranchers face trying to produce a crop or raise cattle. A farm family's economic situation can change in a moment's notice. What happened over the weekend was 17, 18, 20 inches of snow and high winds with a devastating blizzard, and it was preceded by temperatures into the twenties. The consequence to the wheat crop is dramatic.

A weekend weather event like this is often just an inconvenience for most people. However, it is the difference between having a crop to harvest or having nothing to sell. It is the difference between earning a living and not earning a living. It is the difference between staying on the farm or ranch and not being able to.

While the extent of the damage is being assessed—and we don't know exactly what that will be—it is clear that many wheat producers will likely have lost their entire crop. We have about 7.5 million acres of wheat planted in Kansas, and many of those acres—perhaps up to about half—were harshly impacted by this snowstorm and winter conditions.

Having a bountiful production is especially important for farmers at times of low commodity prices. That is what we are in now. The price of wheat, and the price of cattle, the price of corn, they are historically low. These are already challenging times. While the overall farm income, as a result of that, has been cut in half since 2013, Kansas producers fortunately were able to overcome that, to some degree, because we had bountiful harvests, great crops, high yields. Yet the number of bushels these producers will have to sell now as a result of these storms is clearly in question.

With low prices, we need high yields and large harvests. We clearly will not have that. Those of us from ag States often talk about the importance of crop insurance and farm programs for producers. This storm reminds us, once again, the importance of that safety net. A farmer who lost an entire wheat crop over one weekend cannot afford to continue to farm without crop insurance to help cover the losses.

These farmers in Kansas would either go out of business or require ad hoc disaster assistance, something that used to happen during my earlier days in Congress. Every time there was a snowstorm, a freeze, a drought that devastated a crop, Congress was asked to provide ad hoc disaster assistance to make up for that challenge.

Giving farmers the ability to purchase affordable crop insurance means they have the ability to survive, to farm for another year. It is critical that we continue to promote and protect crop insurance in the upcoming farm bill.

Cattle producers and feeders also experienced losses due to this storm. About 75 percent of the cattle on feed in the country—75 percent of the cattle that are being fed in this country, ultimately for consumption in the grocery stores or restaurants, are located in the area hit by this winter storm. Feed lots are reporting the loss will total into the thousands of head of cattle. This impact comes only weeks after wildfires in Kansas, Texas, and Oklahoma destroyed ranches and killed thousands of cattle just a few weeks back.

Farmers and ranchers are some of the most resilient people. They remain optimistic in times of very difficult circumstances. Facing potential disaster and adversity every year, these men and women continue to bear the burden of producing food, fuel, and fiber for our country and for the world.

I would offer my prayers to those farmers and ranchers harmed by the snowstorms and these prairie fires, and I would, once again, express my commitment to making sure they have the tools necessary to survive this and future weather disasters.

In discussing the challenges currently being faced by farmers, I also want to take a moment to mention my disappointment that the budget-neutral cotton provision was left out of the omnibus legislation that was released earlier this week and we expect to vote on tomorrow or the next day. As a result of the 2014 farm bill, cotton farmers, including those cotton farmers in Kansas, were no longer eligible to participate in title I of the farm programs.

Without an effective safety net, cotton producers have especially felt the impact of the downturn in the farm economy due to those low prices. For over a year, the cotton industry has worked with both authorizers and appropriators to fix the issues stemming from the 2014 farm bill.

So it is really discouraging when their proposals met with resistance at the very last minute, not because of the merits of the proposals but because of unrelated issues with dairy policy that were not resolved. I, too, want to strengthen the protection provided for dairy producers in the farm bill. Kansas is one of the fastest growing dairy-producing States in the Nation.

Helping cotton farmers ought not be contingent on issues with dairy policy. I have heard from a number of Kansas cotton producers about the importance of this proposal, and my message to them remains the same: I understand the economic hardship that they are facing, and I am committed to working with the new Secretary of Agriculture to find a solution to the cotton problems and issues they face, as well as many others facing farmers and ranchers today.

I ask my colleagues to keep in their thoughts and prayers those farmers and ranchers across the Nation who, through no fault of their own, are struggling today because of weather and fire.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Rhode Island.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak as in morning business for up to 18 minutes.

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

CLIMATE CHANGE

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, the last two weekends have surged with political activism. Around the world, millions of people took to the streets to stand up for science and to call attention to the global crisis of climate change. This past weekend, my wife and I marched here in Washington, alongside 200,000 people from across our country in the People's Climate March.

I joined faculty and students from Rhode Island's Greene School, an environmental charter school named after the great Nathanael Greene. The Presiding Officer may well know that Nathanael Greene worked his way

through the Presiding Officer's State during the course of fighting the Southern Revolutionary campaign and that General Cornwallis wrote to his wife that ''that damn Greene is more dangerous than Washington.'' So we are very proud of Nathanael Greene in Rhode Island and of the school that bears his name.

The kids who came down traveled overnight, through the night, to participate in that march. Joined by 375 sister marches worldwide, we came together with one voice to demand leadership in the fight against climate change. The Science March in Washington over Earth Day weekend, led by a nonpartisan group of scientists, was joined by people in 600 satellite marches around the world.

I went to Earth Day Texas, a truly impressive event, with 150,000 people, making it the largest Earth Day event in the world. It is the passion of businessman and philanthropist Trammell Crow, who has been bringing Republicans and Democrats together to combat climate change since 2011. So for my 165th ''Time to Wake Up'' speech, I want to thank all of those folks who made their voices heard these past few weeks in the streets or online.

With the Trump administration locked into tone-deaf climate denial, these marches mattered. And how tone-deaf this administration is. Data from Yale's program on Climate Change Communication shows national support for climate action across a broad range of questions. Nationally, 71 percent trust scientists about climate change—right here; trust climate science about global warming, 71 percent. So many folks came out to the Science March to show that.

A majority of Americans, 53 percent, believe climate change is caused mostly by human activity. That compares to 9 percent—9 percent of the Republican caucus here in a vote taken just last Congress. History will have to look back and explain why 53 percent of the American people say that is the case and only 9 percent of our Republican caucus was able to recognize that.

Eighty-two percent of Americans want research into clean and renewable energy sources. Seventy-five percent want us to regulate carbon dioxide as a pollutant, and 69 percent—right here—want strict CO_2 limits on existing coal-fired powerplants.

The President is disparaging the Paris climate agreement, but 7 out of 10 registered voters say the United States should stay in. Republicans favor staying in the Paris agreement by 2 to 1. This chart shows that support for research into renewables is strong across the country, even in coal country: 79 percent in Kentucky, 81 percent in West Virginia, and 82 percent in Wyoming.

It is the same in the oil patch. Seventy-nine percent of Texans support research into renewables. Despite this overwhelming public support, even in the reddest and most fossil fuel States, President Trump is proposing massive cuts to this research—clearly, tone-deaf. It is the same for emissions limits on coal plants. In all 50 States, in all 435 red, blue, and purple congressional districts, there is majority support for emissions limits.

Every single congressional district in the country has majority support for emissions limits. Of course, in some, it goes up into huge numbers like over 75 percent here in Vermont, but the baseline is that every single congressional district, a majority want emissions limits, but of course tone-deaf President Trump has directed his EPA Administrator to look at dismantling the Clean Power Plan.

A majority of Americans in every single State and in every single congressional district, which obviously includes every Republican congressional district, agree that climate change is happening. Whether you break it down by State or break it down by congressional district, the results are the same. From here—50 percent and down—are various shades of blue. From here—50 percent and up—are various shades of orange. As you can see, there is not a remaining speck of blue on this map. The American people have settled this question in their minds.

Here is what, by the way, the next generation of Republicans think. The Thomson Reuters Foundation surveyed 21 college Republican clubs, of whom half said their members believe human activities are changing the climate. ''The people that are in power right now, for whatever reason, don't have that same global view,'' said Grace Woodward, the president of the Davidson College Republicans.

She continued: ''When our generation is in power, we will take climate change much more seriously.'' I am not sure we have the time for that, but I appreciate Grace's sentiment.

Kent Haeffner, president of the Harvard University Republican Club, said he, too, believes it will eventually become politically unviable for Republicans to keep dismissing climate change. He said: ''I think that the folks that are our age are going to have to reshape the party and take it in a different direction.'' It sounds like these future leaders of the Republican Party are putting their elders on notice.

It is not just a majority of the American people and it is not just young leaders of the Republican Party who don't buy President Trump's tone-deaf climate agenda; corporate America is not buying it either. In the lead-up to the inauguration, more than 630 companies and investors, representing nearly 2 million employees and more than $1 trillion in annual revenue, wrote to Donald Trump, counseling him to follow through on U.S. commitments to combat climate change.

Food giants Kellogg's, Campbell's, and Mars, clothing brands Nike and Levi's, and other corporate heavyweights like Monsanto and Johnson & Johnson urged the incoming President to maintain national efforts to reduce emissions, invest in the low-carbon economy at home and abroad, and keep the United States in the Paris Agreement.

Just last week, 13 of the largest and most successful companies in America wrote to the President to, and I quote them here, ''urge that the United States remain a party to the Paris Agreement, work constructively with other nations to implement the agreement, and work to strengthen international support for broad ranges of innovation technology.''

I don't know how the business community could state its position much more clearly. That group included BP, DuPont, General Mills, Google, Intel, Microsoft, National Grid, Novartis, PG&E, Schneider Electric, Shell, Unilever, and Walmart.

As former New York City mayor Michael Bloomberg put it, ''Washington won't determine the fate of our ability to meet our Paris commitment.''

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have both of these letters printed in the RECORD.

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

APRIL 26, 2017.

Hon. DONALD J. TRUMP,

President of the United States, The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: We write to express our support for continued participation by the United States in the Paris climate change agreement.

Climate change presents U.S. companies with both business risks and business opportunities. U.S. business interests are best served by a stable and practical framework facilitating an effective and balanced global response. We believe the Paris Agreement provides such a framework.

Companies based or operating in the United States benefit from U.S. participation in the agreement in many ways:

Strengthening competitiveness—By requiring action by all parties, developed and developing countries alike, the agreement ensures a more balanced global effort, reducing the risk of competitive imbalances for U.S. companies.

Supporting sound investment—By setting clearer long-term objectives, and by improving transparency, the agreement provides greater clarity on policy direction, enabling better long-term planning and investment.

Creating jobs, markets and growth—By committing all countries to action, the agreement expands markets for innovative clean technologies, generating jobs and economic growth. U.S. companies are well positioned to lead, and lack of U.S. participation could put their access to these growing markets at risk.

Minimizing costs—By encouraging market-based implementation, the agreement helps companies innovate to achieve environmental objectives at the lowest possible cost.

Reducing business risks—By strengthening global action over time, the agreement will reduce future climate damages, including physical harm to business facilities and operations, declining agricultural productivity and water supplies, and disruption of global supply chains.

As businesses concerned with the well-being of our customers, our investors, our communities, and our suppliers, we are strengthening our climate resilience, and we are investing in renewables, efficiency, nuclear, biofuels, carbon capture, sequestration, and other innovative technologies that can help achieve a clean energy transition. For this transition to succeed, however, governments must lead as well. We urge that the United States remain a party to the Paris Agreement, work constructively with other nations to implement the agreement, and work to strengthen international support for a broad range of innovative technologies.

We believe that as other countries invest in advanced technologies and move forward with the Paris Agreement, the United States can best exercise global leadership and advance U.S. interests by remaining a full partner in this vital global effort.

We appreciate the opportunity to share our views and would welcome the opportunity to provide further input as the Administration continues to shape its climate policies.

Sincerely,

Apple, BHP Billiton, BP, DuPont, General Mills, Google, Intel, Microsoft, National Grid, Novartis Corporation, PG&E, Rio Tinto, Schneider Electric, Shell, Unilever, Walmart.

DEAR PRESIDENT TRUMP, MEMBERS OF THE US CONGRESS, AND GLOBAL LEADERS: We, the undersigned members in the business and investor community of the United States, reaffirm our deep commitment to addressing climate change through the implementation of the historic Paris Climate Agreement.

We want the US economy to be energy efficient and powered by low-carbon energy. Cost-effective and innovative solutions can help us achieve these objectives. Failure to build a low-carbon economy puts American prosperity at risk. But the right action now will create jobs and boost US competitiveness. We pledge to do our part, in our own operations and beyond, to realize the Paris Agreement's commitment of a global economy that limits global temperature rise to well below 2 degrees Celsius.

We call on our elected US leaders to strongly support:

1. Continuation of low-carbon policies to allow the US to meet or exceed our promised national commitment and to increase our nation's future ambition.

2. Investment in the low carbon economy at home and abroad in order to give financial decision-makers clarity and boost the confidence of investors worldwide.

3. Continued US participation in the Paris Agreement, in order to provide the long-term direction needed to keep global temperature rise below 2°C.

Implementing the Paris Agreement will enable and encourage businesses and investors to turn the billions of dollars in existing low-carbon investments into the trillions of dollars the world needs to bring clean energy and prosperity to all.

We support leaders around the world as they seek to implement the Paris Agreement and leverage this historic opportunity to tackle climate change.

18 Rabbits, Inc.; 22 Designs; 2pp; 3P Partners; 3rd Rock Data; 3Sisters Sustainable Management, LLC; 475 High Performance Building Supply; 900 Degrees Neapolitan Pizzeria; Adobe Home Furnishings; **Abt Electronics**; Abundance Food Coop; **Acer America Corporation**; Active Minds LLC; **Addenda Capital**; **Adidas Group**; **Adobe, Inc**; Adopt-A-watt; AdventureCORPS, Inc.; Aegis Renewable Energy; AGF Investments Inc.; Agrarian Ales; AjO; **Akamai Technologies, Inc.**; Aker Wade Power Technologies; Allagash Brewing Company; **Allianz**; Allumia; AlphaFlow, Inc.; Alta Ski Area; Altiz Orchard; **Amalgamated Bank**; Amber Kinetics; **AMD**; **Ameresco, Inc.**

American Licorice Co.; American Outdoor Products, Inc.; Amherst College; Amicus GBC, LLC; Anchor; Ankrom Moisan; Architects; Annie Card Creative Services; **Annie's, Inc.**; Anthesis Group; Anthropocene Institute; Applied Sustanability Group.

Appraccel; Appropriate Technology Group, LLC; Apricus Inc.; Aradia's Temple; Arapahoe Basin; Archer Capital Advisors; Agryle Brewing Company; Arjuna Capital; ARTEMIA Communications.

Artemis Water Strategy; ArtforScience; As You Sow; Aslan Brewing Company LLC; Aspen Brewing Company; **Aspen Skiing Company**; Assured Medical Billing, Inc.; Astra Women's Business Alliance; Athena Sustainable Materials Institute; Athens Impact Investing.

Athens Impact LLC: Socially Responsible Financial Services; Athens' Own; Auralites Inc.; Aurental Consulting; **Autodesk, Inc.**; **Aveda**; Avery and Sun; **Avery Dennison**; Axialent USA; Azzad Asset Management.

B2B4ME; Baker Office Supply; Baldwin Brothers Inc.; Bambeco; Banán; Baroco Corporation; Barrett International Technology; Basic Solar & Renewables; Bath Natural Market; Bean Capers Inc.; Beanfields PBC; Beautycounter; Belay Technologies, Inc.; BELKIS Consulting, LLC; BELT; **Ben & Jerry's Homemade, Inc.**; Bent Paddle Brewing Co.

Bergsund DeLaney Architecture & Planning; Bespoken Corporate Communications; Big Dipper Wax Works Inc.; Big Kid Science; Big Path Capital; Biodico; **Biogen, Inc.**; Biohabitats, Inc.; BioJam Industrial Research & Development Global, Inc.; Bioroot Energy, Inc.; Biositu, LLC; Biosynthetic Technologies.

Bisbee Food Co-op; BKW III, LLC; Black Oak Wind Farm; Blacklin Associates; Blacktorne S&D Consulting; Blogs for Brands; **Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts**; Blue Moon Wellness; Blue Mountain Solar Inc.; Blue Phoenix Media, Inc.; Blue Star Integrative Studio; Blueprint Public Affairs; Boardwalk Capital Management; Bonnaire Enterprises LLC; Bora Architects; Boreal Mountain Tahoe/Soda Springs Ski Resort.

Borst Enginerring & Construction LLC; Boston Common Asset Management; Boston Organics; Bowling Green LLC; Box Digital Media; Box Latch Products; BR+A Consulting Engineers; Breathe Deep; Brendshann Construction Co Inc.; Brewery Vivant; Bright Common Architecture; Brit + Co; Broadside Bookshop; **Brooks Sports**; Buglet Solar Electric Installation; Bumbleride; Bump'n Grind; Bunk House at ZION; Bed & Breakfast; Buoy Beer Company; Burness; **Burton Snowboards**; Burtt & Associates; Business Climate Leaders; Business Wisdom; ByFusion.

C+C; CA Healthy Nail Salon Cooperative; **CA Technologies**; Cali Green Life; Califia Farms; California Clean Energy Fund; **California Public Employees' Retirement System**; **California State Teachers Retirement System**; **Calvert Investments**; Calypso Communications LLC; Cambridge Energy Advisors; Camp Encore/Coda; **Campbell Soup Company**; Cantabrigian Mechanics; Canyon Market; Cappello's; Captus Group LLC; Carbon Lighthouse; Care2.

Carlsbad Feed Store; Carolina Biodiesel, LLC; Case Medical; **Catalyst Paper Corporation**; Catalyze Partners; CDI Meters, Inc.; CEO Pipe Organs/Golden Ponds Farm; Cerego; CEVG; Chambong Industries; Charge Across Town; Che Qualita Enterprises, Inc.; ChekFaxx Corporation; Cherly Heinrichs Architecture; ChicoEco, Inc DBA; ChicoBag Company; Choices Natural Market; Chosen Futures; Christopher Reynolds Foundation; Church Investment Group; City Brewery; Clarion Group Live, Inc.; Clean Agency; Clean Edge, Inc.; Clean Energy Collective; Clean Energy Investment Management; Clean Technology Partners, LLC; Clean Yield Asset Management; CleanCapital.

Clear Blue Commercial; **Clif Bar & Company**; Climate Clean, Inc.; Climate Coach International, LLC; Climate First!; Climate Ready Solutions; Cloudability; Coelius Consulting; Coerver Analytics, LLC; Columbia Green Technologies; **Columbia Sportswear Company**; Communitas Financial Planning; Community Capital Management, Inc.; Compass Natural LLC; Compass(x) Strategy; Compression Institute; Comunicaciones Kokopele; Comverge; Confluence Sustainability; Congregation of Sisters of St. Agnes; Congregation of St. Joseph.

Connecticut Retirement Plans and Trust Funds; CONTEMPL8 T-SHIRTS LLC; Content Creation Services; Continuum Industries, Inc.; Convex Technologies Inc.; Cool Energy, Inc.; Cooper Spur Mountain Resort; Copper Mountain Ski Resort; Copyrose Marketing & Communications; Corn Board Manufacturing, Inc.; Cornerstone Capital Group; Cornucopia Community Advocates; COULSON; **Craft Brew Alliance**; Creative Facilitating and Coaching; Creekwood Energy Partners; Crossbow Strategies; Crystal Mountain; CTA Architects Engineers; Curren Media Group; Cyclone Energy Group.

Dahlman Ranch, Inc.; **Dana Investment Advisors**; Dana Lund Landscaping; **Dannon Company, Inc.**; **Dansko Inc**; Daughters of Charity, Province of St. Louise; DayQuest Life Counseling & Healthy-Mind Services; DBL Partners; Debra's Natural Gourmet; Decoding Sustainability with Matthew Yamatin; Deep Green Inc; Deer Valley Resort; Della's LLC; Deschutes Brewery; Detour; DIESEL, A Bookstore; **Dignity Health**; Distance Learning Consulting; Do Good Investing, LLC; Domini Impact Investments LLC; Dominican Sisters of Hope; Dominican Sisters of Mission San Jose; Dominican Sisters of Peace; Dominican Sisters of San Rafael; Dominican Sisters of Sparkill; DoneGood; Donna M. Carr, M.D.; Dorothea Leicher NCpsyA; Douglas Elliman; Drew Maran Construction, Inc.; Ducoterra LLC; DuPage Psychological Associates; **DuPont**; Durange Compost Company; DynoForms.

Eaglecrest Ski Area; Earth - Bread + Brewery LLC; Earth Essence; Earth Friendly Products (ECOS); EarthKind Energy; Earthprints; Earthshade NAtural Window Fashions; **Ebates**; **eBay**; Ecco Bella; Echo Credits; Echo Mountain; Eco Latch Systems, LLC; **Eco-Products**; Ecodeo; Ecogate; EcoPlum; ecoShuttle; Ecosystems Group, Inc; EcoTienda La Chiwinha; Ecotone Services, Inc; Edgewood Garden LLC; Eighty2degrees LLC; **EILEEN FISHER**; EKI Energy Services Limited; Eleek, Inc.; Elephants Delicatessen; Ellenzweig; Elloian Law; Emerge Interactive; Emerger Strategies; Emmy's Organics, Inc.; Empowerment

Solar LLC; Endosys; Energy Optimizers, USA; EnergyWorks.

Entercom Communications Corp.; Environment & Enterprise Strategies; EOS Climate; Epic Capital Wealth Management; Equal Exchange Inc; Equinox Consultancy LLC; Erin Austin Law; Eskew+Dumez+Ripple; Espresso Parts LLC; Essex Timber Co. LLC; ETG book cafe; Ethical Bean Coffee; Ethical Markets Media Certified B Corp.; Etho Capital; ETM Solar Works; Eva Realty, LLC; Evari GIS Consulting; Everence & the Praxis Mutual Funds; Evolution Marketing; Exact Solar.

Fairhaven Runners, Inc.; Faller Real Estate; Farmers Union, Inc.; Feel Good Salsa LLC; Felician Sisters of North America Inc., Leadership Team; **Fetzer Vineyards**; Fiberactive Organics; Filtrine Mfg. Co.; First Affirmative Financial Network; Flink Energy Consulting; FOG Pharmaceuticals, Inc.; Fort George Brewery and Public House; Four Twenty Seven; Framework LLC; Franciscan Sisters of Allegany, NY; Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration; Fred Thomas Resort; **Fremont Brewing**; Friends Fidicuary Corporation; Future Made.

Gaia Herbs; Gale River Motel, LLC; **Gap Inc.**; Gara Landscapes, LLC; Garmentory Inc.; Gauthereau Group; CGI General Contractors; Geek Werks; **Genentech, Inc.**; **General Mills, Inc.**; Gerding Edlen Development; Gerry Fortin Rare Coins; Ginkgo Leaf Consulting; Gladstein, Neandross & Associates; Global Energy Inc.; Global Organics; Globetrans EC; GloryBee; GO Box; Going Beyond Sustainability; Good Company; Good Energy Guild; Good Neighbor Health Clinic; Goodmeetsworld; GPM Global; Grady Britton; Granlibakken Management Company; Great Green Content; Green Alliance; Green Canyon Apothecary; Green Century Capital Management; Green Concierge Travel; Green Faith; Green Hammer; Green Heron Tools, LLC; Green Ideals; Green Knight Environmental Inc.; Green Media Ventures; Green Pod LLC; Green Retirement; Green Star; Greenability; Greenbank Associates; GreenBeams, LLC; GREENPLAN Inc.; Greentown Labs; Greenvest/FWG.

Hackensack Meridian Health; Hammerschlag & Co. LLC; Hanging Rock Animal Hospital, Inc.; Hannon Armstrong; **Happy Family Brands**; HarborWest Design; Harmony Acupuncture, LLC; Harvest Power LLC; Hasty Hickock, LICSW private practice; HeartPath Acupuncture, LLC; Hello!Lucky; Hemp Ace International LLC; Hempy's American Made Fine Hemp Goods; Henry and Marty Restaurant; **Hewlett Packard Enterprise**; Hey and Associates, Inc.; High Plains Architects, PC; Hilary's; **Hilton**; Historic Properties LLC; HJKessler Associates; Holiday Valley Resort;

Hollender Sustainable Brands, LLC; Home Green Home; Horse & Dragon Brewing Company; House Kombucha; **HP Inc.;** Humanity, Inc; Hummingbird Wholesale; HydroCycle Engineering; HydroQuest.

iBark; ICCR (Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility); Ideal Energy Inc; IDEAS For Us; **IKEA North America Services, LLC;** Impact Bioenergy, Inc.; Impact Infrastructure, Inc.; Impact Investors; Impax Asset Management; Independence Solar; Independent Natural Food Retailers; Indigo Natural Marketing and Sales; Indosole; Indow; Infer Energy; Information Technology Industry Council; Innovative Power Systems; Inntopia; Inovateus Solar; INTEGRAL GROUP; Integrated Choices, LLC; **Intel Corporation;** IntelliparkUS, Inc.; Interdependent Web LLC; **Interface**; Interfaith Power and Light; Intersection; Intex Solutions, Inc.; iPlay; ISOS Group; iSpring; Itty Bitty Inn.

J. Ottman Consulting; **J&B Importers, Inc.;** Jackson Hole EcoTour Adventures; Jackson Hole Mountain Resort; Jacoby Architects; Janji; Jantz Management LLC; Jazzie Beans LLC; Jefferson Veterinary Center; JF Pontzer, LLC; JGE Global LLC; Jilbert Winery; Jimbo's...Naturally!; Jiminy Peak Mountain Resort, LLC; JJ McNeil Commercial; JLens Investor Network; **JLL;** JMJ Construction Group; **Johnson & Johnson;** Jonathan Rose Companies; Joule Energy; JoyWorks Communications; JSA Financial Group; JTN Energy; **Jupiter Aluminum;** Just Business; Just in Time Direction; Justice Commission of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Aberdeen, SD.

K2 Sports; Karen Beall, Inc.; Kayak Media; Keene Advisors; Keinomari Consulting; **Kellogg Company;** Kelly Services; KERBspace; Kimberton Whole Foods; **King Arthur Flour;** Kirksey Architecture; KL Felicitas Foundation; Klean Kanteen; Kleynimals; KLW Consulting Inc; Kostis Kosmos Inc.; Krull & Company; Kuity Corp.; KW Botanicals Inc.

L'Oreal USA; Lamey-Wellehan; Lancaster General Health; Law Office of Nancy D. Israel; Lawrence R. Jensen & Associates; Lazarus Financial Planning, LLC; Le Pain Quotidien; Leadership Team Sisters of St. Francis of Tiffin, OH; Leadership Momentum; LEEDerGroup.com; Leisure Wheels Quadracycles; Leslie Lawton Connected Communications; **Levi Strauss & Co.;** Lex Machina; LifeSource Natural Foods; LifeWise Community; Liftopia, Inc.; LightWave Solar; Lin Industries, Inc.; Linear City Concepts; LiveNeighborly; Livingston Energy Innovations; LM Holder III FAIA; Locksley, Inc.; Long Wind Farm; Longhorn Solar; Lookout Pass Ski & Recreation Area; Los Angeles Cleantech Incubator; Lotus Foods, Inc.; **Louis Berger;** Lumenomics, Inc.; Luna & Larry's Coconut Bliss; Lutsen Mountains Corporation; **Lyft;** Lynne Rudie Graphic Design.

M.A. Mortenson Company; M&E Engineers; Macomb Food Cooperative; Macroclimate$_R$; Magnetic Threads; **Mammoth Mountain and June Mountain;** Manhattan Holistic Chamber of Commerce; **ManpowerGroup;** marianne ieone llc; **Mars Incorporated;** Martha's; Martin 4 Investments, LLC; Martin Rehearsal Studios; Maryknoll Sisters; Mazzetti + GBA; Melina/Hyland design group; Mennonite Education Agency; Mercatus, Inc.; Mercer Road Farm; Merck Family Fund; Mercury Press International; **Mercy Health;** Mercy Investment Services; Meridian Ecosystems, Inc.; Metropolitan Group; Metrus Energy; Michael W. Grainey Consulting LLC; Microgrid Systems Laboratory; Midwest Capuchin Franciscans; Midwest Coalition for Responsible Investment; Mightybytes; migration.mobi; MilkCrate; MILLC; Millennium Microgrid; **Miller/Howard Investments;** MindEase Billing; Minerva Consulting; Mirova; Mission Cheese; MissionCTRL Communications (m^2c); Mithun; Mobile Data Labs; Modavanti; Monadnock Food Coop; **Mondelēz International; Monsanto Company;** Montanus Energy; Moore Capital Management; MooreBetterFood; Mount Bohemia; Mountain Gear, Inc.; Mountain High Resort; Mountain Mel's Essential Goods; Mountain Rider's Alliance, LLC; Mountain Rose Herbs; mphph design; mphpm design; Mrs. Green's World; Mt. Hood Meadows; Mulago Foundation; mvWiFi, LLC; MyFlightbook.

Namasté Solar; Nancy Deren Financial Counciling; National Co+op Grocers; National Foundry; National Latino Farmers & Ranchers Trade Assn; **National Ski Areas Association;** National Small Business Network; Native American Natural Foods; Natixis Asset Management; Natural Habitat Adventures; Natural Habitats; Natural Investments; Natural Logic; NEI Investments; Neighborhood Sun; Neil Kelly; Nettleton Strategies; **New Belgium Brewing;** New Century Productions, Inc.; New Horizon Financial Strategies; New Summit Investments; **New York City Comptroller's Office; New York State Common Retirement Fund;** Nia Global Solutions; Nightshade Fine Gardening; **NIKE;** Nomadix; North Highland Worldwide Consulting; North Ridge Investment Management; North Sound Energy Remodel, LLC; North Star Coaching; NorthFork Financial, LLC; NorthStar Asset Management, Inc.; Northwest Coalition for Responsible Investment; **NRG Energy, Inc.;** Numi Organic Tea; nurx; Nutiva.

Oasis Montana Inc.; Octagon Builders; **Office of the General Treasurer of Rhode Island;** OgreOgress productions; OhmConnect; OLAVIE; Old Bust Head Brewing Company; OM Properties, LLc; Omnidian, Inc.; On Belay Business Advisors Inc; **Oregon State Treasurer;** Organic India USA; **Organic Valley; Organically Grown Company;** Orion Renewable Energy Group; Orly Zeewy Brand Architect; Oroeco; Our Earth Music, Inc.; **Outdoor Industry Association;** Outdoor Project; Outerknown; Outpost Natural Foods Co-op; Owens Business & Cnsltg., LLC.

Pacific Gas and Electric Company; Page Paladino and Company; PaleoBOSS Lady; Papertide Publishing; Parenting Journey; **Parnassus Investments; Patagonia;** Pax World Funds; Payette; **Pearson;** PeopleSense Consulting; Pepper Sisters, Inc.; **Perkins+Will;** Personal Beast Inc.; Peter L Villa Fine Art; Pick My Solar; Pilotwear & Diecast Airplane; Pitchfork Communications; Planet Cents; PlanGreen; PLC Repair; **Plum Organics;** Portfolio Advisory Board, Adrian Dominican Sisters; Portland Consulting Group; Prairie Ventures, LLC; Presbyterian Church U.S.A.; Preserve; Priests of the Sacred Heart; Principled Investing LLC; Priority Veterinary Management Consultants; Prisere LLC; Product World USA; Professional Building Consultant Group; Projector.is, Inc.; PromptWorks, LLC; Proterra, Inc.; PTI Global Solutions; Pulp Pantry; Pure Strategies, Inc.

Queridomundo Creative; Quest; Quri.

RADAR, Inc.; Re-Nuble, Inc.; ReachScale; REBBL, Inc.; Rebel Writer; **Recreational Equipment, Inc.;** Region VI Coalition for Responsible Investment and Sisters of the Humility of Mary; ReGrained, Inc; ReGreen Inc.; RenewWest; Replenishing the Earth; RetroFuture; Remodeling; **Reynders, McVeigh Capital Management, LLC;** Reynolds Foundation; Rio Grande Renewables, LLC; Riverina Natural Oils; Rivermoor Energy; RL Investments; Roanoke Mountain Adventures, LLC; Robert Bates Company; Rockford Brewing Company; Room & Board INC; Roots Realty; **Royal DSM;** RPM Bank; Ruffwear; Rune's Furniture and Carpet; Russian River Vineyards; Rutherford + Chekene.

S CAP Consultancy; s2 Sustainability Consultants; **Safari Energy; Salesforce.com**; Sarah Mae Brown Consulting LLC; Saris Cycling Group; Sasaki Associates; **Saunders Hotel Group;** Savenia; Savii Group; Scentsational Scrubs; **Schneider Electric;** School Sisters of Notre Dame Cooperative Investment Fund; School Sisters of St. Francis; SCIEFrameworks, LLC; Scoville Public Relations; Scrivo Communications; SEA Builders LLC; **Sealed Air Corporation;** Seamans Capital Management; **Seattle City Light;** Sefte Living; Seismic Brewing Company.

SEIU Staff Fund; Sequent Management, Inc.; Servants of Mary; **Seventh Generation;** Seventh Generation CRI; Severn Consulting SFMG; SharePower Responsible Investing, Inc.; SheerWind; Sheng Ai International, LLC; Shift Advantage; Sidel Global Environmental; Sidel Systems USA Inc.; Siegel & Strain Architects; Sierra Club Foundation; Sierra Energy; **Sierra Nevada Brewing Co.;** Sierra Real Estate; Sigma Capital; Silicon Ranch Corporation; Simply Perfect Beauty; Sisters of Bon Secours USA; Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth; Sisters of Charity of New York; Sisters of Charity, BVM; Sisters of Saint Francis, Rochester, Minnesota; Sisters of Saint Joseph of Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia, PA; Sisters of St. Dominic of Caldwell; Sisters of St. Dominic, Racine, Wisconsin; Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia; Sisters of St. Joseph; Sisters of St. Joseph of Boston; Sisters of the Humility of Mary; Sisters of the Precious Blood; Sisters of the Presentation of the BVM; Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Mary WAP; **Skanska USA Inc.;** Skibutlers; Smarter Shift Inc.; SMMA.

For the full list of signatories, please see: *http://lowcarbonusa.org/business*. Signatories in bold >$100 million in annual revenues or >$5 billion in assets under management.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. These companies know that climate change could disrupt their supply chains, make water or commodities more costly, or even roil international markets. So they are moving ahead whether the President and congressional Republicans are with them or not.

Mars, the maker of M&Ms and Snickers bars, has pledged to eliminate greenhouse gas emissions from its facilities by 2040. When asked by the New York Times if President Trump's threats to leave the Paris accord had any effect on Mars' plans, global sustainability director Kevin Rabinovitch replied: ''This doesn't change our commitments. . . . We're doing this because we see a real business risk.''

Walmart, which already has set a goal of deriving half its energy from renewable sources by 2025, recently announced Project Gigaton, an initiative to eliminate 1 gigaton of carbon emissions by 2030 from its entire supply chain.

Big league sports is engaged too. Major League Baseball stadiums and National Basketball Association arenas have installed wind turbines to generate their own low-carbon energy, or solar panels, like the Red Sox's Fenway Park.

The National Hockey League has partnered with ENERGY STAR and the Natural Resources Defense Council to make its facilities more energy efficient. Salt Lake City's Major League Soccer stadium built one of Utah's largest solar panel arrays, providing more than 70 percent of that facility's energy.

The National Football League has a program to reduce overall greenhouse gas emissions during every Super Bowl, which has resulted in the planting of over 50,000 trees in Super Bowl host communities.

In 2016, outdoor retailer REI hit 100 percent renewable energy for the fourth consecutive year, and they just opened a new net-zero energy distribution center in the Arizona desert. Starbucks announced plans to power 116 stores in Washington State on renewable energy. Patagonia created an incentive program for employees who commute to work without driving, saving more than 25,000 gallons of fuel last year, and it invested more than $50 million to purchase 2,500 residential solar units.

And it is not just the business community that makes things; financial firms are urging their clients to factor climate change into their investment decisions.

Last year, the investment firm BlackRock, with more than $1 trillion in assets under management, issued a report titled ''Adapting Portfolios to Climate Change,'' which describes ''how investors can incorporate climate factors to reduce risk and seize opportunities.''

The Asset Owners Disclosure Project last week reported that ''[s]ixty percent of the world's 500 biggest asset owners, with funds worth $27 trillion''—hold your breath on that—''now recognized the financial risks of climate change and opportunities in the low carbon transition and are taking action.''

Bill Gates, along with more than 20 of the world's most successful businesspeople, launched a $1 billion investment fund in late 2016, Breakthrough Energy Ventures, to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by financing clean energy technology.

These clear-eyed assessments of the business effects of climate change are not entirely new. Back in 2009, Donald Trump joined business leaders to warn us about the ''catastrophic and irreversible effects of climate change.'' There advertisement read: ''There will be catastrophic and irreversible consequences for humanity and our planet.'' That was then, I guess.

The country is moving on without President Trump and without the Republican Party. State and local officials are on the march, leading their communities on a path to reduced carbon emissions. Companies are on the march, greening their operations and supply chains. And on campuses across the country, young Republicans and young Democrats are on the march, coming together to prepare for a cleaner future. As the marches and events of the past 2 weekends demonstrated, there is no going back.

I realize it is hard for my Republican colleagues to go against the fossil fuel cartel, but it is not too late for them to finally say enough is enough, to wake up and to join the march.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M. TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until 9:30 a.m. tomorrow.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 6:50 p.m., adjourned until Thursday, May 4, 2017, at 9:30 a.m.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—*Wednesday, May 3, 2017*

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

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC.
May 3, 2017.

I hereby appoint the Honorable LEONARD LANCE to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

PAUL D. RYAN,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 3, 2017, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to 1 hour and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m.

CONGRATULATING PAUL PACKER ON INDUCTION INTO NATIONAL WRESTLING HALL OF FAME

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I recently attended the 24th Honors Banquet for the Pennsylvania Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame. Nine new Members were inducted into the Hall's membership, including Paul Packer, a 1973 Bald Eagle Area High School graduate.

Paul was the last 95-pound State champion in 1972. He had an undefeated season that year of 23–0. He started wrestling in elementary school for Hall of Fame coach Joe Humphreys, who continued to coach Paul into junior high. At the varsity level, Paul wrestled for Hall of Famer Dick Rhoades. He was Coach Rhoades' first State champion.

After his competitive wrestling career was over, Paul became a referee. Paul was a highly respected and outstanding wrestling official. During his 37 years as a referee, Paul spent more than a dozen years officiating district and regional championships, as well as five State championships.

Paul is retired and resides in Milesburg, Pennsylvania. He is active in his community and was a coach for the Bald Eagle Wrestling Club for several years.

Mr. Speaker, from one Hall of Famer to another, congratulations, Paul, on this well-deserved honor.

PENNSYLVANIA'S FIFTH DISTRICT CONGRESSIONAL ART COMPETITION WINNERS

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to announce the winners of the Pennsylvania Fifth Congressional District Congressional Art Competition.

On Saturday, an independent panel of judges viewed 37 submissions of artwork at the Winkler Gallery of Fine Art in DuBois, Pennsylvania. Entries were at an all-time high this year, and I am so proud of all of our students who showcased their talent in this competition.

First place goes to Cassy Lester of Reynoldsville for her acrylic painting titled ''Chocolate Lab.'' Cassy is a student at Jeff Tech, a career and technology education center, and her teacher is Ms. Angela Dragich.

Congratulations, Cassy. We look forward to hosting you here in Washington, D.C., with the rest of the winners from throughout the Nation.

Proudly, Cassy's artwork will hang in the tunnel to the Capitol for 1 year.

The other runners up are Madelyn Ostermann of Fort LeBoeuf High School for her entry titled ''Eyes,'' and Alexander Spangler of Bellefonte Area High School for his entry titled ''Tracks of Ingenuity.''

We also had several honorable mentions, including ''Self Portrait'' by Megan DiNicola of Fort LeBoeuf High School, ''True Colors'' by Maggie Prutznal of Punxsutawney Area High School, ''Jungle Scene'' by Allison Copella of DuBois Area High School, ''Emmaleigh'' by Kailynn Morrison of Oil City High School, ''Wondrous Wonders'' by Willow Felver of Fort LeBoeuf High School, ''Wonderwall'' by Kassidy Hall of Fort LeBoeuf High School, and ''Thomas L. Kelly'' by Margaret Morgenstern of Fort LeBoeuf High School.

Mr. Speaker, each spring the Congressional Art Competition takes place, hosted by the Congressional Institute. The nationwide high school visual art competition recognizes and encourages artistic talent in the Nation and in each congressional district.

Since the Artistic Discovery competition began in 1982, more than 650,000 high school students have participated. The vision, talent, and creativity of our high school students always makes me so proud.

Thank you to all the students from Pennsylvania's Fifth Congressional District who shared their masterpieces this weekend, and I hope to see you again next year if you are eligible to showcase your work.

Mr. Speaker, I offer congratulations to our first-place winner, Cassy.

THE BUDGET DOES NOT HAVE MY VOTE

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

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, I will admit that I am pleased that the deal worked out between Democratic leadership and Republicans to keep the government open until October does not include funding for the President's ''tremendous'' border wall. But let's put that in perspective.

A border wall will not deport thousands of people living and working in cities across the Nation or moms and dads in my neighborhood. A border wall will not deport anyone, and I seriously doubt it would do any good keeping anyone out, either.

Building a 3,000-mile wall is a hugely expensive boondoggle to solve a policy problem many say we don't have. Border apprehensions have been going down steadily for years, and now we have people fleeing violence and persecution who are so scared of us they are deciding not to come to America and are applying for asylum somewhere else. They are not taking their legitimate claims for political asylum and safety to the Nation that is the hallmark of freedom.

So while even Donald Trump admits that border apprehensions are significantly down, he says, 75 percent, it is not necessarily for reasons we should be proud of.

But a wall? Are policy experts and pundits really discussing whether fifth century technology plays a role in modern homeland security? The Great Wall of China boosts tourism. It is not a factor in national security.

What concerns me more is the spending on deportation that is still in the bill we will be voting on today. $1.2 billion of Trump's original $3 billion request for border security and interior enforcement is still there. Any money we give those agencies at this point will find its way into funding the President's mass deportation agenda.

Now, imagine if we were applauding the approval of a budget that had $1.2 billion in new funding to roll back Roe v. Wade, additional funding from the Federal Government to restrict women's healthcare and reproductive rights. Well, I would never vote for that budget.

But what if Trump asked us for $3 billion but we only gave him $1.2 billion to undermine workplace safety laws and labor rights? I would never do that.

Let's just say it was $1.2 billion to defeat environmental regulations that protect clean air and water. Would we celebrate? I don't think so.

Would we celebrate $1.2 billion in additional money to weaken the Civil Rights and Voting Rights Acts? Would we celebrate more money to combat and weaken same-sex marriage or take away transgender rights? I wouldn't.

Adding $1.2 billion to the budget to make it easier for the U.S. Government to deport people should never be celebrated by any of us, and certainly not in the era of Trump when we know their number one policy priority is to scare immigrants into leaving or not coming in the first place.

Look, the people who will be deported with the money we are voting on are usually people with no criminal background and deep roots in their communities. They are parents, teachers, businessowners, mostly people of color, who have lived and worked here a long time and are here, in many cases, seeking refuge, as is their right under our laws and international law.

Yes, some are dangerous criminals, but don't believe the hype. The Trump administration and Attorney General Jeff Sessions are overhauling who we define as serious criminals so they can make their deportation force look benign and sometimes even beneficial.

Mr. Speaker, I will not be voting for the omnibus bill because I don't believe that it is okay to slip another billion here or there into the budget to break up and destroy families, put moms and dads in detention, and send DREAMers out of the country—the only country they have ever known.

I have looked into the eyes of children, of kids, U.S. citizens, whose parents have been deported. I have spoken to teachers in Chicago and across the country who have to deal with the fear in their students' lives every day. I have worked for decades with families who have complied—yes, for decades, I have worked with families who have complied with every order they have been given by Homeland Security and have reported to authorities like clockwork, but now when they report, they are deported from the United States of America.

I cannot turn around and bless more money for the machinery that is grinding up families. I just won't do it. And I will not turn my back on the immigrant community of the United States of America by supporting funding that will be used to detain immigrants in private jails and put them on airplanes out of the country.

Mr. Speaker, as long as we are going to shortchange health care in Puerto Rico and subsidize the deportation of families in Chicago, the budget will not have my vote.

SUPPORTING BACKBONE OF AMERICAN ECONOMY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania). The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. LANCE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. LANCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the backbone of the American economy: small business.

Whether I meet with an owner of a family restaurant that has been on the same street corner for 50 years or a programmer for a startup tech company trying to land its first big break, I am always inspired by the amount of dedication and ingenuity that goes into running a small business. These men and women work hard, and their passion can always be seen in the products and services that they produce.

The district I serve is home to so many thriving small businesses, and each one has a great story behind it. Such is the case with M.J. Neill, Incorporated, a family-owned heating company located in Bernardsville, New Jersey. This is M.J. Neill's 100th anniversary.

Business has not always been easy for M.J. Neill. The company has been overcoming obstacles since David W. Neill started it in 1917. It has had to navigate through the Great Depression, the OPEC oil crisis, and the 2008 financial crisis. It has had to make the move from coal to more efficient fuels. But through four generations, M.J. Neill has always been able to adapt and expand its business.

M.J. Neill continues to be a household name in heating in the Bernardsville area. It caters to other local small businesses and families all around Somerset and Morris Counties, and it is known for its 24/7 service and family-oriented approach. Some of its customers even date back to when the company first began, testament to the value of the honest service that M.J. Neill provides.

Today I congratulate current owner David Neill on the centennial of the company. The entrepreneurial spirit and innovation the Neill family has exhibited over the past 100 years is truly exemplary and serves as an example to all of us.

The stories we hear about successful small businesses are not the only evidence we have that they are pivotal to our economy. The statistics also prove that point.

We have over 29 million small businesses in the United States, and nearly two-thirds of the jobs created in this country come from those businesses. It is undeniable that a thriving small business sector is critical to bolstering employment in this country.

The same is true in New Jersey, which is home to 843,000 small businesses, accounting for over 99 percent of the total businesses in the State. These same small businesses employ 1.8 million people in New Jersey, more than half of our total workforce.

With so many people relying on work from our small business community, it only makes sense that Congress does everything possible to support them. That is why we must use this week, National Small Business Week, to continue to talk about the ways we can help rid small businesses of harmful regulations and equip them with the tools they need to grow and to prosper.

Last year we made great strides in the House by passing legislation such as the American Manufacturing Competitiveness Act and the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act, but we need to do more. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to come together to support pro-small business legislation. Families like the Neills work hard their entire lives to serve their communities. It is imperative that those of us in Congress work to serve them as well.

□ 1015

AIRLINE ACCOUNTABILITY

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

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, the CEO of United Airlines, Oscar Munoz, apologized to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure for his company having dragged a passenger off of one of their aircraft. Mr. Munoz highlighted the policy changes the airline has made since the wake of the incident.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that Congress should hold the airlines accountable and ensure that the events like what happened to Dr. Dao are prevented.

When United Airlines had Dr. Dao forcibly removed on April 9, the airline more than just created a disruption for him and other passengers; it sparked a national outrage. Dr. Dao was bumped from his flight by a crew member of United in line with the then-airline's policies that crews could book seats on United flights until flights departed.

An airline's lack of preparation for its own staff's travel should not result in the disruption of the lives of its paying customers. Now crew members of United are required to make must-ride bookings at least 1 hour prior to departure, and they are not able to displace customers who are already on board.

However, today, I believe that we need to go further. This still has travelers at risk. So today, I am introducing the Hands Off Passengers Act or the HOP Act. This bill requires the Secretary of Transportation to modify a regulation regarding the involuntary deplaning or the denial of boarding of a flight by any passenger on an oversold flight merely to accommodate a member of the airline flight crew or staff. In other words, it prevents an airline from bumping ticketed passengers of an overbooked flight merely for the travel of one of the airline's crews.

Airlines should be better prepared on the movement of their crew to avoid the disruption of the lives of paying customers.

OMNIBUS SPENDING BILL

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN). The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. MITCHELL) for 5 minutes.

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my disappointment that, yet again, Congress needs to resort to another omnibus spending bill. We are in a bind right now, finishing fiscal business that should have been completed last year, long before I came to Congress.

At this moment, the choice is stark and binary: We can vote to shut the government down, or we can vote for this massive funding bill. Neither is a good option, but shutting down the government is reckless. It would stall military pay and send a sign of weakness to the world. At a time when North Korea is becoming increasingly aggressive, Europe is unstable, and Russia is posturing, we cannot afford to shut down.

I have always said, and I believe, that effective leadership needs to say what you mean and do what you say. If I voted ''no'' on this legislation, it would be disingenuous because I know a shutdown would be disastrous. This is a hard vote to take, but it is unavoidable at this point.

We must continue to pay our troops and other uniformed personnel. We must fund critical programs included in this omnibus. Certainly, the legislation is not perfect and doesn't accomplish everything I want as a conservative, but it does achieve some objectives. It cuts 150 Federal programs. It reduces the EPA bureaucracy to the lowest level since 1989.

The legislation also funds critical programs Republicans have been fighting for: It strengthens our military with an increase in defense spending, enabling the purchase of new warships, aircraft, and weapons. It provides a meaningful increase in salary to our uniform personnel. It provides additional funds to thwart the global war on terror and fight ISIS.

It is part of an overall $1.52 billion increase in resources for border security, meaning more agents, enhanced technology, updated infrastructure to stem the flow of illegal aliens and drug activity across our border. It includes funds to fight the opioid epidemic, funding grants, treatment, and prevention efforts. It also provides increased funds for the National Institutes of Health to continue disease research that impacts every family.

For Michigan, important programs such as the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative are fully funded. It appropriates $5.6 million to study the potential invasion of Asian carp into the Great Lakes.

While there are beneficial components in this omnibus, I want to underscore that using an omnibus is not how this body should function. We should be passing targeted, individual spending measures that address each agency, rather than a take-it-or-leave-it massive spending bill.

Going forward, we must change what has become business as usual in Washington. That is why I ran for Congress. There is no doubt, that won't be easy. I am learning every day how much our system needs significant reform. Only four times since 1977 were all appropriations enacted by the start of the fiscal year. That is four times in the last 40 years that the appropriations process has been effectively completed. Given that, it is unsurprising we find ourselves making this unfortunate choice yet again.

Madam Speaker, I stand here to say we can do better; we must do better. I urge this body to come together to address the shortcomings in our appropriations process and develop better solutions for the future. Given today's options, I am voting to keep our government open, but we must end this series of short-term funding measures. We can do better. Our constituents deserve better.

OMNIBUS SPENDING BILL

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

Mr. COMER. Madam Speaker, I rise to address the body about my position on the omnibus spending bill, which funds the government through September 30.

This spending bill does nothing to accomplish my mission to balance the Federal budget, today or any time in the future. I do not like the appropriation process and its lack of transparency in how we got to this point today. I do not like the lack of meaningful debate, nor do I like the inability to file floor amendments to the spending bill. It is inexcusable that Congress continues to wait until the last minute to perform its most important duty, which is to fund the government.

I am a freshman Member. I came to Congress to make a difference. I represent the good people of the First Congressional District of Kentucky, not a political party or any special interest. I will always put my people's best interests above politics. My objective is to fight hard for what I believe is the best for my district and then form a consensus to get things done.

Madam Speaker, I understand that I am 1 of 435 Members of the U.S. House of Representatives. And as I always mention in speeches back home in Kentucky, this is a very diverse body, diverse in ideology, diverse in geography. We all have different ideas, objectives, and goals. I respect this institution and the Constitution.

In the 5 months I have been here, I have advocated for a balanced budget and term limits; and I will continue to fight to see that those two items of my agenda become law.

I have also worked hard to see that some badly needed projects in my district receive funding. I am proud to say that the following projects are funded in this bill: $270 million for the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant deactivation process, which will keep 1,200 West Kentuckians working in good-paying jobs and continue to prevent illness and environmental issues in McCracken and Ballard Counties.

I am proud to represent Fort Campbell. The bill provides a pay increase for our troops and fully funds health and benefits for them and their families while providing the funding to begin rebuilding our military; language to redesignate the Pennyrile Parkway as I–169 from south of Madisonville to Hopkinsville; funding for much-needed dredging of the Hickman-Fulton Riverport, which is located just off the Mississippi River; language which prohibits the Army Corps of Engineers from charging the residents of Russell and Clinton Counties for water from Lake Cumberland; and a permanent fix to ensure healthcare benefits for retired coal miners.

Though I am disappointed in many parts of the overall bill and the appropriations process as a whole, I am very happy with the badly needed items successfully addressed for my district in this short-term funding bill. For that reason and because I do not ever want to see a government shutdown, I will vote ''yes'' on the short-term omnibus.

I will continue to work hard for conservative principles and fiscal discipline. I will continue to demand transparency through the appropriations process. I came here to get things done for the people of my district. I am sure I will never get 100 percent of what I want, but I will always try. At the end of the day, I will try to build consensus and do the things that Congress is supposed to get done, whether it be tax reform, healthcare reform, or to fund the government.

We have many responsibilities in this great body, and I pledge to be one Representative who works with our President and every Member of this body to make America great again.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF MIAMI-DADE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MITCHELL). The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) for 5 minutes.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, as we approach Peace Officers Memorial Day, I would like to honor the service and the sacrifice of law enforcement officers in my south Florida community who bravely lost their lives in the line of duty. On April 29, through the project that is called Project Honoring Every Resting Officer, or Project HERO, the Miami-Dade Police Department embarked upon its annual mission to pay tribute to the memory of each fallen officer in every department.

By placing an American flag and a Blue Line flag at the resting location of these valiant men and women in uniform, we remember their sacrifices and ensure that their memories will be immortalized.

I would like to thank the director of our fine police department, Juan Perez, for spearheading this noble cause on behalf of the families, friends, and colleagues of all of our fallen officers and also for Director Perez's work in making our community a safer place in which to live.

I encourage all south Floridans to also remember the fallen and to attend the Miami-Dade Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Ceremony on May 4 at 7 p.m. at Tropical Park.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTION OF PORTMIAMI

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I recently visited PortMiami, one of the prime economic engines in Miami-Dade County.

Located in my congressional district, PortMiami is known as the cruise capital of the world. With its exclusive geographic location, the port is accessible to many international markets. In 2016, it handled an impressive 9 million tons of cargo and close to 5 million passengers.

With such large numbers, we can already imagine the powerful impact of PortMiami. It grows our economy. It creates jobs in Miami-Dade County and, indeed, throughout our great State of Florida.

Recent investments in infrastructure have been instrumental in guaranteeing that PortMiami remains a world class cargo and cruise port.

Throughout my years in Congress, I have been a strong supporter of our port. A project to dredge the channel to accommodate megacontainer vessels was completed in 2015. Also, four gantry cranes were purchased in order to operate the higher cargo volume. The completion of a tunnel has also accelerated the port's capacity to increase the volume of trucks that travel to and from the marine terminals, further strengthening the competitiveness of PortMiami.

PortMiami is currently undergoing some additional infrastructure projects, such as a new cruise terminal, security enhancements, and cargo yard-related improvements, all very important so that PortMiami continues to be a world class cargo and cruise port.

The Port of Miami is very important to my congressional district, to our south Florida economy, and I will continue to embrace this enterprise and economic force for our residents.

LUPUS AWARENESS MONTH

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, May is Lupus Awareness Month. Lupus is an autoimmune illness that has the ability to attack any part of the body and unfortunately has no cure yet.

According to the Lupus Foundation of America, more than 1.5 million Americans, including my lovely stepdaughter Katharine, are living with lupus; and millions have already sadly lost their battle with this terrible disease.

So this month, we raise awareness and educate our communities about lupus; and we also thank the researchers, doctors, and scientists who work around the clock to research, diagnose, treat, and eventually cure this disease.

I would like to highlight the wonderful work that the Sylvester Cancer Center at my alma mater, the University of Miami, is doing to get closer to finding safer and more effective treatments.

I have been honored to join forces with the Lupus Foundation and my colleagues in the Congressional Lupus Caucus to secure new Federal funding to advance lupus research, education, and awareness. These funds will help foster new scientific breakthroughs to better understand the disease and to help patients living with lupus.

Finally, I want to recognize the hard work and the dedication of caregivers and advocates who raise awareness for lupus who create a better life for those impacted by this terrible disease.

In particular, I want to highlight the Florida Chapter of the Lupus Foundation. From their local Walks to End Lupus to their tireless advocacy on behalf of patients and caregivers, they have been an instrumental source of hope, guidance, and comfort to those living who have been transformed by this disease.

So I invite our entire south Florida community to join them and the Miami Marlins on May 10 at Marlins Park for Lupus Awareness Night.

Mr. Speaker, this month, let us remember those who we have lost and those who are currently impacted by this terrible disease. Let us thank the advocates and caregivers, empower researchers, and, most importantly, let us work together for the day when no one will be diagnosed with lupus.

□ 1030

VENEZUELA REFUGEE ASSISTANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. COMER). The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Mr. CURBELO) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CURBELO of Florida. Mr. Speaker, for over a decade, thousands of Venezuelans were forced to flee the brutal Chavez dictatorship, and the situation has only worsened under his handpicked successor, Nicolas Maduro.

Over the last several years, the people of Venezuela have increasingly spoken out against the Maduro regime, and time and time again he has attempted to silence them. In the last few weeks alone, the world has seen countless examples of the regime's thuggish tactics, unethical behavior, and lethal force against innocent civilians.

Top opposition leaders like Leopoldo Lopez remain locked up in Maduro's prisons, while the dictator continues to stop at nothing to try and control all branches of government. Thousands of opposition protesters have been arrested and dozens have been left for dead or killed.

So in response to this continued political crisis, I have joined with my colleagues DARREN SOTO, ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN, and DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ to introduce bipartisan legislation allowing Venezuelan nationals who have made a new home in the United States to remain here if they choose to do so, since it is too dangerous to return to their home country.

Instead of returning to the instability and uncertainty in Venezuela, these individuals would be granted legal permanent residency, so long as they do not have a criminal record and have never been involved in the persecution of others, eliminating any possibility of human rights violators or Chavista thugs accessing our legal immigration system.

The people of Venezuela deserve the American people's support and admiration for their continued fight against the brutal Maduro anti-American regime. Honest and hardworking Venezuelans who would be persecuted or imprisoned unjustly should they return to their country should be allowed the opportunity to take refuge here in the United States.

FLOOD INSURANCE REAUTHORIZATION

Mr. CURBELO of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss the critical issue of reforming and reauthorizing the National Flood Insurance Program.

For my constituents in south Florida and the Florida Keys, and for coastal communities across the country, flood insurance is an absolute necessity to protect against natural disasters. But the program is flawed and saddled with $23 billion of debt.

We have a unique opportunity in the coming months to address the issues that matter most to our constituents, providing for optimal coverage at rates that are affordable to policyholders and based on accurate flood maps. There are numerous solutions I am studying, such as expanding the use of Write Your Own policies and growing the private insurance market, as long as strict oversight protocols are established and a Federal backstop is in place.

We should also promote stronger building standards for new construction projects that will better withstand flooding and strong winds. In Florida, we are a payee State, a donor State into the NFIP, but have also adopted strong building standards to reduce cleanup costs after the damage of a natural disaster has been done.

As Congress works to reform the NFIP, I will find commonsense solutions with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to ensure our constituents have access to reliable coverage at fair and appropriate rates.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Mr. CURBELO of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the seven Miami-Dade County schools that were recently named to the USA Today's top 100 public schools in the country, including Archimedean Upper Conservatory Charter School in my own district.

The rankings are based on graduation rates, reading, and math scores on State standardized tests, including how low-income and minority students fared in comparison to the State average, and the number of students taking college-level advanced placement courses and scoring well on the corresponding tests.

As a former Miami-Dade County Public School Board member, I am incredibly proud to see the tremendous growth and success of these schools in south Florida. MDCPS was in the midst of a financial and moral recovery when I was on the board just a few years ago; and during my time there, we improved the quality of education and put students and teachers first, resulting in major gains in student performance and graduation rates.

Today, Superintendent Carvalho and the board continue to make great progress. The teachers, staff, administrators, and parents at these schools are working to ensure our students have the best education possible.

Congratulations on this honor. I look forward to visiting the Archimedean Owls back home in the very near future.

NEW DETAILS ON IRAN DEAL PRISONER SWAP

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

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, we recently learned troubling details surrounding the terms of the Obama administration's nuclear deal with Iran from early last year. As I have said before, the more details we learn about this deal, the more apparent it is that it was neither prudent nor transparent.

The safety and security of the American people and our allies around the world should remain a top priority for the United States. But we are learning, according to reports, as part of this prisoner swap with Iran in 2016, the Obama administration released seven prisoners and dropped charges and international arrest warrants of 14 fugitives, many of whom had been directly involved in supplying Iran with U.S.-built equipment or sensitive information that could be used for military systems, primarily Iran's nuclear program.

The administration downplayed the security threat that these men posed. In a variety of ways, these individuals deliberately worked to undermine the United States and smuggle American military technology to Tehran.

In one instance, a man was allegedly part of a conspiracy to steal sensitive software information from a defense contractor in Vermont. Another one of the men was in the middle of serving an 8-year prison sentence on charges related to a separate conspiracy to provide satellite technology and hardware to Iran.

Three of the fugitives were allegedly working to lease an aircraft from Boeing for an Iranian airline that authorities say supported Hezbollah, which the United States, of course, has designated as a terrorist organization.

And the list goes on as these are just a few of the cases. All of this poses a serious threat to our national security as sensitive military information and technology could be used to bolster Iran's weapons programs.

As you may recall, this comes after we learned last fall that, as a part of the deal, the United States paid $400 million that was contingent on Iran releasing four American hostages. This broke from longstanding United States policy to not pay ransoms to rogue nations because it encourages bad actors like Iran to take more hostages. Again, this was not made known to Congress or the American public. We only learned about it nearly a year after the deal was finalized.

What makes this most concerning or more disconcerting is the Obama administration's lack of transparency on the backgrounds of these prisoners. These are not merely civilians or businessmen, as the President and his officials referred to them on multiple occasions. The administration left the impression that these individuals were nothing more than violators of sanctions and not as dangerous as they truly were. Each of these men pose very real threats that the administration hid from the American people.

This isn't a partisan talking point, Mr. Speaker. Even President Obama's own Justice Department had accused many of these men of being involved in terrorist activities.

I support diplomatic efforts with Iran, and I am hopeful that we can continue to engage in diplomacy and secure a good deal at some point, but this latest news continues to exemplify why both Republicans and Democrats could not and did not support this deal.

Iran continues to push every boundary, exploit every loophole, and avoid as much oversight as possible, all while it is antagonizing the rest of the world. It continues to reap the benefits of this deal at the expense of our national security and that of our allies, such as Israel.

We continue to learn something new and bad about this deal that wasn't shared with Congress or the public. Our national security is too important to put at risk, and no President's legacy is worth taking that risk. This new information validates many of the concerns that led to the bipartisan opposition to the nuclear deal.

RECOGNIZING THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE OF GRETA JOYNES AND CHRIS SARLEY

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

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I wanted to come down to the floor to recognize and thank two of my major staffers in my office who are leaving to pursue other opportunities. The first one is Greta Joynes.

Greta recently left as my legislative director; and as you know, Mr. Speaker, that is your top adviser in the legislative field. So not only running the legislative office, she also had some personal expertise in the telecommunications regions.

But Greta is from northern Illinois, north of I–80, originally from the Chicagoland area, and is a graduate of Northern Illinois University, NIU. She started as a staff assistant in 2003 and worked her way up through the ranks, as I said, becoming legislative director in 2011, and then served as deputy chief of staff from 2013 until she left recently in March.

She focused on telecommunications as her expertise, and we primarily in our office dealt with 911 issues, especially the Next Generation 911 Advancement Act. She also spearheaded the Next Generation 911 Caucus in my office.

She is married to Bob and has two children, Gavin and Hadley. We already miss her activity and work in the office, and we pass on best wishes.

Next is Mr. Chris Sarley, who has a 14-year career on Capitol Hill. This is his tenth year with me, and I think it is uncommon in many offices for people to stay that long. I think it is a tribute to my chief of staff, Craig Roberts, and the fact that I don't meddle too much how they manage the office and get their job done.

Chris has served 10 years with me. In addition to handling health care and energy policy in my office, Chris has served the committee under Chairman WALDEN and Chairman Emeritus UPTON as policy coordinator for the Subcommittee on Environment since 2011.

Chris has been an invaluable member of my team, and some of his achievements include:

Before he came to my office, he worked on the Medicare part D rollout.

Under my office, he advanced several medical device titles in the 21st Century Cures Act.

He worked on what we call the ADAPT Act and the GAIN Act, which target the antibiotic threats that hopefully will not occur in our country, but we need to be ready to respond.

He was very involved in ADUFA, Animal Drug User Fee Act, and enabling the FDA to approve drugs used for pets and livestock.

But for all of us on the Energy and Commerce Committee, he was one of our primary House negotiators during the first major rewrite of a United States environmental protection law in over 2 decades, and facilitated passage of the Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act, which amends the Toxic Substances Control Act, which is the Nation's primary chemical regulation law.

I think the public really would appreciate if they knew the work that our staff members do on long hours and over the weekends. We mention it all the time, especially when we are fighting across the aisle, because it is primarily the staff that is trying to get to the point where they can share language where we can then give a thumbs up or thumbs down, and it is very seldom that we say thanks for those. A Member is only as good as the folks he has who work for him and who he or she surrounds himself with.

I wanted to take this time, Mr. Speaker, to call out two great government employees who served their Nation well and served me well. And it also sends a signal about all our other staff members who do tremendous work under great stress to serve this country.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 44 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

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

PRAYER

Rabbi Richard Boruch Rabinowitz, Aish International, New York, New York, offered the following prayer:

May we humbly ask You, God Almighty, to help us focus on the beauty and good of this great country.

God, we thank You for giving wisdom to Presidents George W. Bush, Barack Obama, and Donald J. Trump for proclaiming May as Jewish Heritage Month.

The Jewish people of this country are grateful and indebted to You, God, for the opportunity to contribute in making the United States a great nation.

Aish founder, Rabbi Noah Weinberg, of blessed memory, would say to young people: ''When older people see your idealism, they might say, 'you'll grow up,' but what they really mean is 'you'll give up.' ''

Rabbi Weinberg would say: ''Never give up—get tougher instead.''

Let us pray for the Members of Congress and this great Nation: God, please grant us clarity and courage to always do right and never give up on our principles.

God bless the United States of America.

THE JOURNAL

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

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

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

HONORING LYDIA STRUNK

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

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because this is Lydia Strunk's last week working on the House floor.

Before I talk about Lydia, I want to talk about the work that she and all the people here on the floor do for us, for the people's House, on both sides of the aisle. They are the ones who keep the floor running on time on a day-to-day basis. They make sure that the votes are counted and conducted impartially. They make sure that every Member, majority and minority, is treated fairly. And though the hours are long and unpredictable, they always set a fantastic tone of decorum.

No one better exemplifies this professionalism than Lydia Strunk. She has been a part of this institution since 2008, when she started out in the Republican Cloakroom. We all knew her so well then and enjoyed watching her rise to these great responsibilities that she now holds.

For more than 4 years now, Lydia has served as the Speaker's deputy floor director. As it turns out, she accepted this job on the night of her wedding. How is that for commitment?

Lydia's quiet dedication to the people's House comes through in almost everything that she does; and because she does her job so well, almost no one ever notices. Think about it. If you ever wondered how a joint meeting with a foreign leader or a State of the Union goes off without a hitch, it is because of Lydia's doing.

One of her jobs, of course, is to keep us on schedule. So I will make one last point before she tells me to wrap this up, because I assume that is what she will be doing in a minute.

I want to thank Lydia's family. I want to thank Lydia's husband, Jeff, and I want to thank, in particular, her children.

Graham and Evie, I want you to know that your mother is an incredible public servant. She has done so much for us, for this country and this institution, and we are grateful to you for sharing your mom—and your wife—with us. This whole House is in her debt.

HONORING LYDIA STRUNK

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

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I agree with almost everything the Speaker just had to say, and I may repeat some of it. What I do not agree with, however, Mr. Speaker, is that we didn't notice. I noticed. My staff has noticed. My staff has not only noticed, but appreciated the extraordinary work that Lydia has done for this House—yes, for your office, yes, for the Republican side of the aisle, but for this House and for the American people.

Lydia and I have a great relationship, but probably more importantly, she has a great relationship with Shuwanza Goff, who runs the floor on our side of the aisle.

What a privilege it is to rise and say to Lydia, thank you—not as a Democrat, not as a Republican, but as an American who appreciates the role that you have played, Lydia, in making a difference. I always say that, when the House runs well, it is the staff's work. When it doesn't do so well, it is the Members' responsibility and fault. So you have been absolutely terrific.

And Jeff and Graham and Evie, I join with Speaker RYAN in saying that your mom is a great American, a wonderful human being. You know that personally. You see it every day in your own lives. But for the past 9 years, Lydia has been a presence on this floor first in the Republican Cloakroom as an assistant, later as a staffer with the Rules Committee, and then, as the Speaker just pointed out, deputy floor director for the Republican side of the aisle.

They are the majority party, so Lydia's responsibility really is institutional—not partisan, but institutional—and she has performed that in the best traditions of the best of this House.

It is a testament to Lydia's skill and professionalism that she has earned the respect not only of her own colleagues on the Republican side, but also those who work on my staff and the Democratic leader's staff on this side of the aisle. That is why, Lydia, I said we have noticed, we have appreciated it.

In many ways, Mr. Speaker, public service is a family affair for Lydia Strunk. She grew up around it when her father worked in the George H.W. Bush White House handling legislative affairs. Her dad is a good friend of mine, so perhaps I am not objective. I am also the father of three daughters, so perhaps I am not objective.

Nick Calio is one of the great people with whom I have served through the years. I think he is here in the gallery somewhere with his wife.

Thank you, Nick, for your service, and thank you for being such a wonderful example for your daughter. She has brought that same kind of cooperative, collegial, inclusive spirit to her work that you brought to yours not only working in the public sector, but also in the private sector.

Let me end. She grew up in a great State: Maryland. Again, perhaps making me more subjective than I otherwise would be.

After she began as a Cloakroom assistant, she met and later married Jeff Strunk, who then worked on Speaker John Boehner's floor staff, also very effectively and productively. And when Jeff left Capitol Hill in 2013, Lydia was promoted to take his place, a somewhat incestuous operation, but it worked extraordinarily well, Mr. Speaker.

I am grateful. We ought to all be grateful. The American people ought to be grateful for her efforts, her know-how, and the dedication she brings to the task of ensuring that our work, Americans' work, the American people's work here on this floor and on behalf of all of us can continue smoothly each day.

Lydia, thank you. We wish you the very best. We know that whatever you do, you will be extraordinarily successful in doing, and that you will be perceived by your colleagues and by those with whom you work in the same very positive and very appreciative way that we view you today. Godspeed.

CONGRATULATIONS TO GERING HIGH SCHOOL

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

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Gering High School, one of three national winners of the 2017 Samsung Solve for Tomorrow contest. The team of 19 Gering students took top honors out of thousands of entries and 10 national finalists.

It is exciting to see young innovators from western Nebraska, especially my alma mater, recognized nationally for their ideas on how to advance agriculture. The students designed a drone-powered system to reduce herbicide quantity by allowing farmers to directly target specific areas rather than spraying entire fields. I applaud each of them for their hard work and the dedication they put into their winning project.

Congratulations go to Curtis Anderson, Jonathan Blanco, Dakota Boles, Blake Brunner, Gabriele Castro, Cody Catron, Eric Crane, Jeremy Forella, Michael Haworth, Xavier Horst, Elexus Johnson, Kaiden Reinmuth, Trevor Satur, Tyler Smith, Joel Torres, Carson Wallace, Skylier Ward, Payton Welfl, Joshua Wilson, and their teacher, Mr. Justin Reinmuth.

TODAY IS WORLD PRESS FREEDOM DAY

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

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, today is World Press Freedom Day, a day that deserves commemoration now more than ever.

Undermining the credibility of the free press and attempting to turn the American people against the media is reminiscent of authoritarian tactics, not the conduct of the leader of the free world. Yet the President has referred to the press as the ''enemy of the people'' for simply doing their job: reporting the facts and holding all of us accountable.

He has also dismissed distinguished publications as fake news, again, for simply doing their job and has threatened to change libel laws that will weaken the First Amendment, making it easier for him to attack and sue the press.

This antagonistic relationship between the President and the press is not only beneath the dignity of the office, it is also dangerous for our democracy. We have seen strongmen and autocratic countries suppress the media through intimidation and by discrediting the integrity of the very institution of journalism.

It is hard to believe that I have to say this in this country at this point in our history, but as Thomas Jefferson said: ''Our liberty cannot be guarded but by the freedom of the press, nor that be limited without danger of losing it.''

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HARPER). Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

MATKINS FLOWERS AND GREENHOUSE CELEBRATES 90 YEARS IN BUSINESS

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

Mr. WOMACK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a small business in my district that is celebrating its 90th anniversary this week.

Matkins Flowers and Greenhouse in Bentonville, Arkansas, has served the northwest Arkansas region since 1927, when Henry Lenny Matkins, Sr., founded the company. Throughout the last nine decades, this Arkansas small business has persevered in good times and bad, and it serves as an example of how you make a small business sustainable with integrity, accountability, and hard work.

Working through the Great Depression, World War II, and the modern era, the Matkins family has continuously exhibited the importance of the family-owned small business to the American

economy. Now in its fourth generation of leadership with Jim and his son Jeff, it is worth celebrating this important milestone.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to represent this outstanding family and offer my thanks and admiration for the success of Matkins Flowers and Greenhouse.

□ 1215

HEALTHCARE SCAM

(Mr. HIGGINS of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, for the third time in 90 days, Republicans are trying to take away patient protections for Americans with preexisting medical conditions. Fifty percent of all Americans and 86 percent of Americans ages 55 through 64 have preexisting conditions. There is a genetic influence in many people who have preexisting conditions, meaning that tens of millions of Americans are born into a predisposition for certain diseases like cancer, Alzheimer's, and heart disease.

The Republican healthcare scam would obliterate protections for preexisting conditions. For example, if you have a dad with a kid who is stuck with childhood cancer, the dad could buy a policy, but that policy would not have to cover his kid's cancer treatments. That, Mr. Speaker, is a deliberate intent to deceive the American people.

TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, next week marks Teacher Appreciation Week, which recognizes the special role educators make for American families.

As the husband of a retired schoolteacher and a grateful dad of four sons with eight grandchildren, I know firsthand the positive impact educators have for students.

South Carolina's Second Congressional District is filled with dedicated and talented teachers and administrators, and it is always a pleasure to visit with them at their school or when their classes visit Washington.

I would also like to recognize the 2017 Teacher of the Year, Jennifer Wise, of Hand Middle School of Columbia, which my mother attended. As a math teacher, Jennifer motivates her students for mathematics to energize their lives outside of the classroom.

The success of our teachers is amplified by the leadership of State Superintendent of Education Molly Spearman, working with Education Secretary Betsy DeVos, and the parents, teachers, administrators, and locally elected school boards who are making a difference for the students of South Carolina for job opportunities and meaningful lives.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

VIETNAMESE BLACK APRIL

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

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, on Sunday we commemorated the 42nd anniversary of Black April and the fall of Saigon. On this day, we are reminded of the pain of losing your homeland and of the sacrifices made in search for freedom.

When Saigon fell in 1975, thousands of families were forced to flee their home, and many came to America with nothing but hope and their dreams to keep them alive.

Today I am proud to have represented Little Saigon, the largest concentration of Vietnamese outside of Vietnam. Each and every one of them has a personal connection to the sacrifices that their families have made and to the loss of their homes. This shared experience has made the Vietnamese community and culture thrive in Orange County, California.

I am honored to represent this community and mourn alongside with them. I am proud that America gave them shelter in their time of need.

The U.S. must always be a beacon of hope to those without hope. We must continue to stand up for human rights and religious freedom.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF MATTHEW McCLANAHAN

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

Mr. HARPER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Matthew McClanahan.

Matthew was a loving and devoted family man, a friend to so many, a respected employee who worked among our congressional community for the Office of the Architect of the Capitol. Born in Annapolis, Maryland, Matthew made his home in Glen Burnie, Maryland. As part of the maintenance division team of the Capitol Grounds, he was only 30 years young when he passed away.

Respected by his colleagues and exemplifying hard work and dedication to his trade, he was known as being goodhumored and someone always ready to lend a helping hand. Our entire congressional community mourns the loss of one of our own, following the terrible accident that took place last month on April 18.

Later today, I will stand with my House colleagues in a moment of silence to honor and remember Matthew McClanahan. My entire staff and I join with the Architect of the Capitol team in offering his family, especially his wife, Lauren, and children, Evie and Matthew, our prayers and deepest sympathies.

TERRIBLE HEALTHCARE PLAN

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

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, Republicans in Congress and now President Trump are twisting arms and trying to make a deal to get their terrible healthcare bill through this House of Representatives.

It is so interesting to note that they are working really hard to make sure they can have a vote, if they can, before Members have to go home and speak to the people that they work for.

Why would that be? Why would they be so fearful of having to go back and explain what is happening?

They would rather go back and say: It is too late. I already voted for it. Sorry.

They do that because they know this is a bad piece of legislation. Don't just take it from me. Other Republican Members have said things like: This legislation provides health care in name only or it torpedoes protections for people with preexisting conditions.

No one should be fooled by this last-minute ditch effort to put some money on the table as if it is enough to provide support for preexisting conditions.

Let's be clear, this change eliminates the guarantee that you can get coverage if you have any sort of preexisting condition. We should reject it.

MINNESOTA NATIONAL GUARD AWARDED UNIT OF THE YEAR

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

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a Minnesota National Guard unit for recently receiving the prestigious John J. Stanko Army National Guard Unit of the Year Award.

During their deployment, which included soldiers spread across multiple locations, the Bravo Company 2 of the 211th General Support Aviation Battalion completed more than 300 missions across Afghanistan, enduring some of the most difficult and dangerous environments imaginable. Additionally, they moved an incredible 1 million pounds of cargo and participated in high-risk missions and deliberate operations to support forces on the ground.

Due to their overall excellent performance, the Bravo Company soldiers

have been awarded three Bronze Stars, several Air Medals, eight Combat Action Badges, three Meritorious Service Medals, five Army Commendation Medals, and 14 Army Achievement Medals.

The Bravo Company's achievements have earned them the reputation as one of the best Army aviation units serving in Afghanistan. We are proud to know that these soldiers call Minnesota their home.

I want to thank these soldiers for their brave service to our Nation, their unwavering dedication to their unit, and the honorable way in which they have served. You are the reason the United States Armed Forces are the best in the world.

USPS FOOD DRIVE

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

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, in advance of the 20th annual Letter Carriers' Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive next Saturday, let us recognize the unsung heroes within our communities: our letter carriers.

Take David Crestik from San Diego, who carried an injured elderly woman out of a burning mobile home, called 911, and then finished his route; or Shawn Kang from Stockton, who rescued a person trapped underneath his car.

On May 13, letter carriers will stock struggling food pantries across our country through the Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive. Last year, they collected over 80 million pounds of nonperishable canned goods, a record. Let's remember, one in six Americans don't know where their next meal is coming from. So let's honor and recognize the tremendous leadership, compassion, and dedication of our letter carriers. They serve our communities and they are a vital part of them.

SMALL BUSINESS WEEK

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

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the first week in May as Small Business Week in the United States and to applaud the contributions of the 1 million small-business owners from across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

The entrepreneurs at the helm of these businesses take on great risk. As a former small-business owner myself, I fully understand that risk as well as the colossal responsibility associated with signing the front side of a paycheck.

Small business is the backbone of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, employing millions of people, roughly half of the private sector workforce in our Commonwealth. Their success is our success. We thank them for all they do to drive innovation forward and create and sustain careers of tomorrow.

MOMENT OF SILENCE HONORING SERGEANT JOSHUA RODGERS

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

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to honor Sergeant Joshua Rodgers, who made the ultimate sacrifice last Wednesday night in Afghanistan. Sergeant Rodgers was a native of Bloomington, Illinois, in my congressional district, and was one of two American soldiers killed during a raid targeting an ISIS prison last week.

Sergeant Rodgers graduated from Normal Community High School in 2013, where he competed on the track and football teams. His teammates and coaches remember him as a hard worker and a great leader. He had a true sense of duty and believed it necessary to serve his country.

After graduation from high school, he enlisted in the Army, achieving the position of Army Ranger. In his short career, he did three tours in Afghanistan. He would go on to receive numerous medals for his service, such as the Army Achievement Medal and the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal.

Sergeant Joshua Rodgers was a man of courage, and he gave his life on the battlefield fighting against the evil of ISIS and terrorism. His bravery and sacrifice in the name of liberty and freedom will not be forgotten. My thoughts and prayers are with Joshua's family during this difficult period.

Mr. Speaker, at this time, I would ask that the House rise and take a moment of silence to pay tribute to Sergeant Joshua Rodgers for his service and sacrifice for our country and for free people everywhere.

THANKING AMERICA'S TEACHERS

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, Sunday marks the start of Teacher Appreciation Week nationwide. The National Education Association and the National PTA have teamed up to celebrate America's hard-working, dedicated, and passionate teachers.

Tuesday, May 9, is the official Teacher Day.

Mr. Speaker, I think every Member of this House can think of a teacher who had a positive influence on not only their education, but their life. Our teachers push students to achieve their best and they show students how to realize their full potential.

Teachers are often the most underrated, yet powerful professionals in the entire world. They truly do shape young minds. Teachers lend a caring hand and extend a loving heart. They make differences in the lives of our students academically, emotionally, and physically.

So to every teacher in America, I say to you: Thank you for the job that you do, for the hours that you work, for the patience you show, and for the impact you have on so many lives. Happy National Teachers Week. This Nation would be lost without you.

□ 1230

SMALL BUSINESS WEEK

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

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. Speaker, today, as we celebrate Small Business Week, I rise to recognize, commend, and stress the importance of small businesses of this country.

I have the honor of serving on the House Small Business Committee every day, and I am reminded that small businesses are the pillars and the cornerstones of the American economy.

The National Small Business Association recently met in our Nation's Capital. They communicated to me their biggest concerns were health care and government overregulation. That is why we believe doing nothing with health care is not an option. That is why this Congress must strive to end the overburdensome regulation this government does to kill jobs.

All across Kansas, and this country, small businesses are driving economic opportunity, innovation, and growth. This week, and every week, we must keep their contributions at the forefront of our decisionmaking.

SMALL BUSINESS WEEK

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

Mr. KUSTOFF of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Small Business Week.

Small businesses are the backbone of the American economy and the main driver of our local communities. In fact, two-thirds of all new jobs in the United States are created by small businesses. It is crucial that our entrepreneurs and small-business owners have the support that they need; and as legislators, it is incumbent upon us to create an environment that allows them to succeed.

I am proud to be a member of the Financial Services Committee as we mark up a bill today that will give our

small businesses the boost that they need.

The previous administration enacted rules and regulations that helped some big companies and some big cities but slowed growth for our small businesses in rural communities. The Financial CHOICE Act will repeal Dodd-Frank's one-size-fits-all regulations and finally allow small businesses to access the capital they need to grow and to prosper.

I am grateful for this opportunity to celebrate the remarkable small businesses in the Eighth Congressional District of Tennessee, and I look forward to working with my colleagues to pass financial regulatory reform that will revive our economy.

NATIONAL TRAVEL AND TOURISM WEEK

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

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize National Travel and Tourism Week, which runs from May 7 to May 13.

I grew up in Tarpon Springs, Florida, where our historic sponge docks, authentic Greek communities, and beautiful waterways draw visitors from around the State, country, and the world.

As a young kid, I worked in my grandfather's bakery in Tarpon Springs, Florida. Many of our customers were tourists coming to sample Greek pastries on their visit to Tarpon Springs.

Today, tourism remains important to businesses in our community. And in 2015, both business and leisure travelers spent $2 billion in Florida's 12th Congressional District.

Travel and tourism is one of the largest industries in the United States. Last year alone, it generated more than $2.3 trillion in economic output, and it is responsible for 15.3 million jobs nationwide.

In honor of National Travel and Tourism Week, I thank the people who work each day to welcome travelers and keep this important industry strong.

REPEAL AND REPLACE THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

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

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, I hope that tomorrow the House has the opportunity to deliver on the promise that the President made and Republicans made to finally repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act which is crumbling around us.

Mr. Speaker, we do everything we said we would do. Maintain coverage for preexisting conditions and guarantee it, check. In fact, with the MacArthur amendment and the Palmer amendment, we establish high-risk pools that will actually bring down the premium costs for people with preexisting conditions, as it will for all Americans.

Guarantee coverage and renewability, check. Coverage for people up to age 26 on their parents' plan, check. No discrimination based on gender, check.

And most importantly, in the Medicaid program, we not only preserve but strengthen coverage for our elderly, sick, disabled, and pregnant women on that plan.

Mr. Speaker, it is about time we repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois) laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 3, 2017.

Hon. PAUL D. RYAN,
The Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on May 3, 2017, at 9:19 a.m.:

That the Senate passed S. 141.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 274.

That the Senate passed with amendments H.R. 366.

With best wishes, I am,
Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF SENATE AMENDMENTS TO H.R. 244, HONORING INVESTMENTS IN RECRUITING AND EMPLOYING AMERICAN MILITARY VETERANS ACT OF 2017

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 305 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 305

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 244) to encourage effective, voluntary investments to recruit, employ, and retain men and women who have served in the United States military with annual Federal awards to employers recognizing such efforts, and for other purposes, with the Senate amendments thereto, and to consider in the House, without intervention of any point of order, a single motion offered by the chair of the Committee on Appropriations or his designee that the House concur in the Senate amendments numbered 2 and 3, and that the House concur in the Senate amendment numbered 1 with an amendment consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 115-16 modified by the amendment printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution. The Senate amendments and the motion shall be considered as read. The motion shall be debatable for one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the motion to final adoption without intervening motion or demand for division of the question.

SEC. 2. The chair of the Committee on Appropriations may insert in the Congressional Record not later than May 3, 2017, such material as he may deem explanatory of the Senate amendments and the motion specified in the first section of this resolution.

SEC. 3. The chair of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence may insert in the Congressional Record not later than May 3, 2017, such material as he may deem explanatory of intelligence authorization measures for the fiscal year 2017.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Oklahoma is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS), my friend, pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, yesterday the Rules Committee met and reported a rule for consideration of two very important measures. First, the resolution provides for consideration of Senate amendments to H.R. 244, the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2017.

The rule provides for 1 hour of debate, equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking member of the Appropriations Committee. In addition, the resolution provides for consideration of the FY 2017 Intelligence Authorization Act as an amendment to the underlying bill.

Mr. Speaker, the appropriations package in front of us is the first successful bicameral, bipartisan negotiation of the Trump administration. It has broad bipartisan support in both Houses of Congress. All Members can feel good about the work of the Appropriations Committee, especially our chairman, Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN of New Jersey, and our Ranking Member, Mrs. LOWEY of New York. In the House, the work must continue today but, hopefully, will be concluded today.

The package in front of us not only keeps the government open and operating through the end of the fiscal year, but it also represents a successful completion of key member priorities on both sides of the aisle.

This bill provides for a $25.7 billion increase in defense spending, notably including an additional $7.3 billion for Department of Defense readiness and training, as well as the largest pay raise our troops have received in 6 years. These funds will help us enhance our military readiness and marks an end to the erosion of our national military strength.

Importantly, we accomplished this without a dollar-for-dollar increase in nondefense discretionary spending, a practice which was imposed upon us by the previous administration. That practice threatened to drive our national deficit even higher. I am pleased that we broke that connection, for we should never operate under such a formula in the future.

This measure also provides for an increase of $1.5 billion in funding for border security. $772 million is available for key administration priorities like border security technology enhancements and infrastructure improvements. It also increases funding for Customs and Border Patrol to improve operational effectiveness. And, I note, the President has wide authority and latitude to deploy these dollars where they should do the most good. This is the largest increase in border security funding in almost a decade.

Domestically, this bill funds hundreds, if not thousands, of Member priorities. We reached a bipartisan agreement on opioid funding, redirecting over $500 million to combat this epidemic affecting every district in the Nation. We funded health care for miners, a key priority for many of our Members.

We secured the second consecutive $2 billion increase for the National Institutes of Health, the Nation's lead biomedical research organization and a key driver of the hope of treating new diseases, saving countless lives, and, incidentally, driving down healthcare costs.

We also secured an increase for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, which will help enhance our readiness to combat pandemics and respond to public health crises.

We increased funding for GEAR UP and TRIO, two essential programs that help first-generation college students actually go to college, and increased funding for Head Start by $90 million. Every Member of this House has a victory someplace in this bill, and this was done, Mr. Speaker, by cutting spending in other less essential areas and making tough choices.

In the Labor-H provisions of this bill, for instance, we actually spend $2.8 billion less than President Obama requested, and $1 billion less than we actually spent last year.

Finally, and most importantly, this bill is the product of a successful bipartisan, bicameral negotiation. This shows all of us that we have the ability for the President, the Republicans in the House and the Senate, and the Democrats in the House and the Senate to sit down and work together on important issues. I am heartened by this success, and I believe it suggests our ability to work together in the future on other crucially important pieces of legislation like tax reform and infrastructure improvements.

Mr. Speaker, I urge support for the rule and the underlying legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I thank my good friend, the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. COLE), for yielding me the customary 30 minutes for debate.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to debate the rule for consideration of the Consolidated Appropriations Act for fiscal year 2017. As you know, this $1 trillion omnibus will provide discretionary funding for most of the Federal Government for the remaining 5 months of fiscal year 2017.

Before moving to the specifics of the legislation, we need to get a few things straight. It bears repeating that the appropriations measures contained in this bill should have been passed months ago. While I am glad that we have arrived at this compromise, and the words of my good friend from Oklahoma, I certainly support with regard to the extraordinary work of the chairman and the ranking member, and their respective staffs, as well as all the appropriators, generally, and their staffs, they have done a good job with reference to the measure, as far as compromise is concerned.

But the fact remains that the bill is 7 months late. The House Committee on Appropriations is already hard at work for fiscal year 2018, and yet this body is still trying to fund programs for the current fiscal year. The root cause of this disarray does not lie with the Appropriations Committee but with the majority's leadership, or lack thereof, in this Congress and in the White House.

□ 1245

I also need to level another critique at my friends across the aisle who have time and again brought us to the brink of a government shutdown. We needed months of negotiations and three continuing resolutions to keep the government funded. Much of the time, poison pill riders gummed up the works. Among other things, the majority continuously tries to strip funding from women's healthcare organizations, slash environmental protections, and end protections for Federal employees through the appropriations process.

Well, here we are, Mr. Speaker, 7 months later, with a bill that does none of these things. Yet we do it again and again, lurching from manufactured crisis to manufactured crisis. I said yesterday or the day before in the Rules Committee that we will be back here with a stopgap measure and repeat this same crisis routine that we have done for many of the years that I have had the privilege of serving in this body. Mr. Speaker, maybe next time we will skip the grandstanding and start off with a commonsense measure from the get-go.

This brings me to the bill itself. The measure includes $1.07 trillion in base discretionary budget authority, including $551 billion in base defense spending, $518.5 billion in base nondefense spending, $62.1 billion in overseas contingency operations defense spending, and $16.5 billion in overseas contingency operations nondefense spending. More than 160 partisan toxic riders were floated but kept out of the legislation.

Despite Donald John Trump's insistence on draconian cuts, the omnibus includes $1.2 billion in additional nondefense budget authority. It provides funding to alleviate Puerto Rico's emergency budget shortfall and their underfunded Medicaid program. It increases funding for the National Institutes of Health by $2 billion. It provides $1.1 billion in disaster assistance for regions affected by storms and flooding in 2015 and 2016, and it includes $900 million in humanitarian assistance to alleviate international famine.

Toward that end, with reference to famine in the world, we are witnessing a rising number of countries that are experiencing famine. Without identifying them all, it is estimated that some 20 million people in the world are at risk of dying from starvation. In this country, too many people are in a position of being hungry during the course of a day. In the land of plenty, we can do better.

In this vein, I was pleased to see the inclusion of language that will positively impact the district that I serve and every other district that faces the threat of natural disasters. Toward that end, my good friend from Oklahoma is absolutely correct. In the compromise measure, there are some things that will impact all of our districts, and that is, in my judgment, as it should be.

Additionally, I am one of few Members around here who continuously argues that Members should have earmark responsibilities so that they can be held accountable for things that are vital in their districts rather than allowing the bureaucracy to dominate that sphere.

The language clarifies a provision of the Fair Labor Standards Act, codifying the Department of Labor's views

on lifting the work restrictions on insurance claims adjusters responding to disasters. When a natural disaster strikes, like a hurricane or a wildfire, insurance adjusters are there to help those affected piece their lives back together and get back on their feet. By ensuring that adjusters can quickly and readily respond to disasters, this codification helps them complete their important work.

I did say in the Rules Committee, and I have said for 20 years here, that this Congress needs a disaster relief committee that is constituted of all of the chairs of the committees of jurisdiction. It is not complicated. It is something that is done in other countries so that when these disasters occur—be they fire, flood, hurricane, tornado, or any disaster—we can respond more quickly than we do now, rather than allowing for the residual remains of the kinds of disasters that we experience in this country.

Just this past weekend, at least 16 lives were lost and many people were injured in tornadic activity in the States of Alabama, Mississippi, and Arkansas and floods in Missouri, and we need to respond to those.

Additionally, something else that I want to say that I consider to be important are the responsibilities of FEMA. While I believe they do an extraordinary job with what they are allowed to work with, I don't know what it takes to get across to people that FEMA can only react when there are a certain number of people that have lost their homes. Please know this: when 1 person loses their home to a natural disaster, it is just as important as if 1,000 or 100,000 lost their home; and we, this Congress, need to be able to respond to that 1 the same way we do to 1,000.

Furthermore, I was glad to see that the bill includes year-round Pell grants to provide 1 million students in this country with an additional average award of $1,650, and it permanently extends health insurance benefits for retired mineworkers.

I might add that that has been and will continue to be a bipartisan effort to provide for the health of those mineworkers. Hopefully, in spite of all the talk coming out of the White House, we may, one day, find a way to help those that have lost their jobs because of the industrial changes transition to good jobs.

But what is included in this bill is just as important as what is not. In his first major budget negotiation, Donald John Trump made many demands that were defeated. He requested $30 billion in additional defense spending and $3 billion to fund construction of a U.S.-Mexico border wall and is around crowing that there is money in this bill to do something about the wall, and there is not.

The President wanted policy riders to restrict sanctuary cities from receiving Federal grants. He wanted to defund Planned Parenthood and undermine health care. As I have already said, there were 160 riders that were floated here in this measure but are not included.

Rather than governing responsibly, Donald John Trump and the House Freedom Caucus have spent a good deal of time and energy pushing partisan interests, from repealing health care to gutting the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and successful programs like community development block grants. All of these programs are fully funded in this measure.

As the President gets cozy with authoritarian strongmen around the world and revisits the history of the Civil War—and for your information, Donald Trump, it was slavery that caused the war—Congress has stepped up and asserted itself, and I am glad.

I have said repeatedly that the legislative branch has given too much authority not to this President but to the one before him, the one before him, and the one before that one. We have continuously ceded our authority. So it is understood by virtue of this action and, I hope, future action that the legislature is an equal branch of our government, and we need to act like it.

Funding the government is one of the most important responsibilities Congress has. There are, undeniably, differences in policy priorities between Members in this body, Democrats and Republicans, and differences between Democrats and differences between Republicans in this body, but holding the Federal budget hostage is not the way to work through these problems. This measure is a responsible compromise that serves the interests of the American public, and that is what we came here to do.

My good friend from Oklahoma, last night in the Rules Committee, said that the people that win in this measure are the American people, and I agree with him. That is why I was even dismayed and, quite frankly, disturbed at the irresponsible comment that Donald John Trump tweeted yesterday morning that what this country needs is ''a good shutdown'' in September.

I made it a point, when we were in the Rules Committee, to ask the fine young gentleman that works with me to learn the context because I just can't believe that this man comes out and says that this institution needs to have ''a good shutdown.''

Donald John Trump, there is no such thing as a good shutdown.

The President champions a government shutdown not only to his but to his party's peril. The hardworking and working poor Americans are at peril with that kind of undertaking. He does so to the peril of our men and women fighting overseas, to the peril of working families and their health care, to education, and to safe, clean, and secure communities.

Donald John Trump may think he can run the country on Twitter while daydreaming of taxpayer-funded jaunts to his private golf club, but he needs to wise up. We don't need a good shutdown. We need a good leader. If he continues and isn't prepared to get serious, then he needs to get out of the way.

As my colleague Congressman MCGOVERN said yesterday, rather than a shutdown, the President ought to shut his mouth. I will put it another way from the vernacular: zip his lip, put that Twitter off somewhere on the side and let birds tweet while he talks sensibly to the American people.

Maybe the President thinks that if the government shuts down people suddenly don't need to pay taxes and that national parks become free. Maybe he thinks that if the government shuts down—if we have a good government shutdown—every regulation suddenly stops and corporations are free to run wild without complying to clean water or clean air standards.

I don't know what he is thinking. I don't think anybody else around here knows what he is thinking. I am not even certain he knows what he is thinking. And to be honest, I would be afraid to see what is going on in his head.

But here is what I do know. According to the financial ratings agency Standard & Poor's, the 2013 government shutdown cost the United States—the American people—$24 billion. According to a report from the Council of Economic Advisers, it sidetracked the creation of as many as 120,000 jobs.

I hope you are listening, Donald John Trump, because these aren't alternative facts.

The furloughs amounted to more than 5.5 million days' worth of Federal employment lost spread across dozens of agencies. Businesses that relied on tourism lost out on more than a half-billion dollars. The Small Business Administration couldn't process some 700 applications for $140 million in small businesses loans.

□ 1300

According to the U.S. Travel Association, the 16-day shutdown cost $152 million per day in lost travel spending. According to CNBC, 2 weeks into the latest shutdown, the Internal Revenue Service reported a backlog of 1.2 million verification requests that could not be processed.

Mr. Speaker, we don't need a good government shutdown. We don't need a shutdown at all. We just got through a 7-month negotiation to keep the government open.

Naturally, the media picked up on the fact that Donald John Trump got

virtually none of his priorities. When the report started to air, he threw a political temper tantrum and took to Twitter to undermine the compromise.

I will be honest at this point: it is nothing new, so it shouldn't surprise anyone; nor should the backlash that ensued or his sudden change of heart. In just a few hours, Donald John Trump went from condemning the deal and whining about the rules of the Senate to hailing it as a great compromise. I must have missed that chapter in his ''The Art of the Deal.''

So let's leave it at this: we need to do more, not less, to strengthen our communities and help working families. I urge President Donald John Trump to move past the campaign rhetoric and get serious.

I hope you are listening, sir, because you can put that in a tweet.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to address their remarks to the Chair and not to a perceived viewing audience.

Also, Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

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

To respond to a few of my friend's points, Mr. Speaker, I want to begin by agreeing with my friend, actually.

As he knows, I agree with his point that this should have been done many months ago, and could have been done, in my view, many months ago. We should have done this in December. I don't think we did the country or ourselves or the President any favors by delaying that. So my friend is right about that decision, and I hope we all learn a lesson from it.

I also agree with my friend that, because we delayed, the 2018 appropriations process will be extremely difficult and truncated. It will make work harder. We may find ourselves back here in a number of months asking for some brief extension as we continue to work through our problems. I hope not, but my friend's observation on that point I agree with.

I want to disagree with my friend pretty strongly about his observation about the 160 riders that we decided in the negotiation not to press, and I want to explain why we decided not to press them.

Frankly, we don't need to press them anymore. Almost 160 of those were designed to limit or reverse rulings of the last administration—either rules or executive decisions. Well, Mr. Trump is now the President of the United States and he is going to have the ability to do almost all of those things on his own. He doesn't need legislative instruction from us. He will certainly get support as he works through that list with the executive branch, which he runs.

I also want to add, just to clarify, it is important to note that there is nothing in this bill that funds Planned Parenthood in any way, shape, or form. As a matter of fact, there is a family planning title and grants are awarded out of that title by the Department of Health and Human Services.

Sometimes in the past, Planned Parenthood has received money in those grants. Now there is new management at the Department of Health and Human Services, so we will see how this goes. This Congress has never appropriated money directly to Planned Parenthood and, frankly, I suspect never will.

Finally, in defense of the President, I want to point out that we are adding billions of dollars to defense of this country, which is desperately needed because, frankly, his predecessor had allowed it to erode. That is because of the President's leadership.

We are making the most substantial investments in border security in a decade. That is because of the President's leadership.

Finally, we have broken this terrible one-for-one formula that the last administration imposed on us. In other words, to defend the United States of America, we had to spend more money domestically, whether we needed to or not, whether we could afford it or not. If it weren't for President Trump, that formula would still be in existence and we would be frittering away money in places where we don't need it and denying support to our troops and our forces in the field when they desperately need it. I am very grateful to the President for making that possible. Again, with his leadership, it could not have occurred.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. BYRNE), my good friend, a fellow Rules Committee member, and also a distinguished member of the House Armed Services Committee.

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague for yielding. I appreciate his leadership to get us here both on the Rules Committee and the Appropriations Committee.

Mr. Speaker, despite what you may hear in the media, this funding bill is a positive step forward for the American people and a big win for the Trump administration. I want to highlight a few reasons why.

First, delivering on President Trump's promise, this bill makes long overdue and much-needed investments in our military. The bill boosts military spending by $21 billion, which will help boost military readiness and fund the largest pay raise for our troops in 6 years.

Importantly, the bill finally rejects demands of Democrats to only increase defense spending if all other spending is also increased. This bill ends that harmful precedent.

The bill devotes important new funding for border security. In fact, it contains the biggest increase in border security funding in almost a decade. This will allow us to make improvements to the wall at the border, put more Customs and Border Protection agents on the ground, and end the disastrous practice of ''catch and release.''

The bill includes important pro-life protections to ensure taxpayer money is not used to fund abortions. Just as important, the bill does not contain a penny of funding for Planned Parenthood. I am going to say it again: there is not a penny in here for Planned Parenthood.

The bill includes important Second Amendment protections, increases funding to help fight crime, supports funding for Israel, provides money for missile defense, and sets aside additional resources to defeat ISIS.

Even more, the bill cuts funding to the EPA, freezes funding for the IRS, and reduces the Federal Government's role in education.

Finally, the bill makes progress and priorities important to my folks in southwest Alabama. For example, the bill fully funds three littoral combat ships, which are built, in part, by Austal USA in Mobile. These ships are critical to the United States Navy and are necessary if we are to reach the 355-ship fleet that President Trump wants. This funding bill will ensure we continue to build these first class vessels in Mobile.

The bill also includes a provision important to our red snapper fishermen. With the help of Senator RICHARD SHELBY, we were able to secure a permanent expansion of State waters out to nine nautical miles.

Mr. Speaker, this bill is not perfect—no compromise ever is—but I commend President Trump in negotiating a good bill to begin the process of implementing the priorities the American people sent him and us to Washington to accomplish.

President Trump has called on Congress to pass this funding bill while we work to make even more progress in the upcoming fiscal year 2018 funding negotiations. I intend to do just that, and I call on my colleagues to do the same.

I am glad to support President Trump, this rule, and the underlying bill.

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, would you be kind enough to advise how much time remains?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Florida has 11 minutes remaining. The gentleman from Oklahoma has 19½ minutes remaining.

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

Mr. Speaker, news flash here for those that might have been trying to make plans for leaving here tomorrow morning: it appears that House Republicans are intent on trying to bring TrumpCare back to life.

The Republican healthcare bill was bad the first time, bad the second time, and its latest iteration is even worse. In addition to kicking 24 million people off their health coverage, gutting Medicaid in order to give a trillion-dollar tax cut—mostly to the richest Americans—and dismantling the requirement to provide the essential health benefits, the latest proposal completely guts protections for people with preexisting conditions and imposes an unlimited age tax on older Americans.

Now we see in the press that the Republican leadership is trying to cut yet another backroom deal on expensive, high-risk pools to try and muster enough votes to pass this monstrosity.

Mr. Speaker, this bill has not gone through regular order from the start. There have been no hearings. There is no CBO score. We are reading in the press that even more changes are on the horizon.

I wish I could start reading in the press or looking at television and just have people that have the responsibility and leadership to inform those of us that are in the minority just what the plan really constitutes and when it will be put forward. Every single Member in this institution should be as outraged as I am, regardless of party. This is a bill that will affect every American.

Therefore, if we defeat the previous question, I am going to offer an amendment to the rule that would change the rules of the House to prevent any healthcare-related legislation from being considered if it does not have a CBO cost estimate; or if it would deny health coverage or require higher premiums due to preexisting conditions; impose lifetime limits on health coverage; prevent individuals under age 26 from being covered under their parents' plans; reduce the number of people receiving health care under the Affordable Care Act; increase costs to seniors by reopening the doughnut hole and raising prescription drug costs; require people to pay for preventive services, including cancer screening; reduce Medicare solvency or change the Medicare guarantee; or reduce Federal taxes on the 1 percent of the population with the highest incomes or increase taxes on the 80 percent of hardworking Americans earning moderate to low income.

Every American deserves affordable, high-quality health care. This amendment would ensure that the Republican bill can't sacrifice that goal in favor of giving tax cuts to the wealthy.

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. NEAL), the ranking member of the Committee on Ways and Means, to discuss the proposal.

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, I thank Judge HASTINGS for yielding.

The previous question I offer with Congresswoman SLAUGHTER would prevent any legislation from being considered if the legislation would deny coverage or require higher premiums for preexisting conditions, increase costs for seniors for prescription drugs, or reduce Medicare solvency.

I have listened to the previous three speakers on the Republican side talk about national defense. That is understandable, but might we, for the purpose of this discussion, also acknowledge the following: real national defense also means providing health security for members of American families. That is part of the balance that we should be recognizing.

The priorities on the other side are the following: they are going to turn the issue of preexisting condition back to a voluntary nature at the State level.

As one who comes from local government, we should recognize the following: every time there is an economic downturn, you can be certain that Governors are going to use the money that was intended for health care to balance the budgets, and they are going to call it good management.

They are undermining the health security of the American people with their proposal on TrumpCare.

□ 1315

They have been threatening to eliminate coverage for millions of Americans for years, and now they are telling us they are on the eve of accomplishing just that.

But what does it mean for the American family? They want to go back to the days when you could be denied routine health insurance because you might have been born with diabetes, you might have had a liver transplant in midlife, you might have had a diagnosis of cancer in midlife, and you can no longer be insured despite the fact that you have spent a lifetime paying those premiums? And we are going to make this an option of the States to decide? This is going backwards on the issue of health security.

But that is not enough, as we know. They also are going to ask you to pay more for hospital care, more for prescription drugs, more for mental health and substance abuse treatment, more for pediatric care, and certainly more for cancer care. And they are going to call this an improvement in health care delivery?

Well, their recent improvements have made it clear. Let's not forget the previous bill had an underlying $1 trillion tax giveaway that would drain $75 billion from the Medicare trust fund and cut $840 billion from Medicaid, all for the purpose of providing a $1 trillion tax cut to the people at the very top.

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

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, I yield the gentleman from Massachusetts an additional 2 minutes.

Mr. NEAL. Fewer covered, higher costs, and fewer protections for the American family. The previous question that LOUISE SLAUGHTER and I are going to offer is the following:

We would prevent any of this legislation that is proposed that would be considered harmful to the consumers, as the Republican bill is. Americans need assurance about health care and, by the way, some predictability.

During my time of service here, I have seen how difficult it is to do health insurance. I think there is only one person in Washington, by the way, who said: Who knew health insurance could be this complicated?

Well, for those of us who have served here for any extended period of time, I can assure you, we all knew that health care was complicated in terms of delivery and economic consequence. But that is not enough for our friends today. They want to change the basic tenet of the guarantee of ending preexisting conditions.

I had a Republican friend I talked to yesterday. He said: I wish I was still back in the House because I would vote against that bill. He said: My daughter had a liver transplant, and now they are saying, with preexisting conditions, it is going to be up to the Governor of a State to decide whether or not she can continue to get care? We need the guarantee of Medicare coupled with the expansion of Medicaid, which has now offered insurance to 24 million Americans that didn't have insurance prior to the Affordable Care Act.

I would say this as well. And remember, half of that number, that is private insurance. We kept the private sector alive for the purpose of offering discipline to price. It has accomplished that. Healthcare spending in America has plateaued.

But, again, on this occasion, we won't let the facts get in the way of a rigid ideology that says we need to change the Affordable Care Act because Barack Obama offered it. That is what the test is now for the American people: Who sponsored legislation?

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

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, I yield the gentleman an additional 30 seconds.

Mr. NEAL. We have debated health care since Harry Truman was President. We have debated health care since Lyndon Johnson offered Medicare and Medicaid. Bob Dole and Mitt Romney and Richard Nixon all understood

you needed the mandate to provide health care to all members of the American family. They are going to shun that today and tomorrow by turning their backs on preexisting conditions. Remember, real national defense also means providing health care for members of the American family.

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

Before I go to my next speaker, I want to take a moment to respond to my friends.

Mr. Speaker, I actually came here to debate the appropriations bill, which is a great bipartisan compromise, but I am always happy to engage in the healthcare debate as well, if that is what my friends choose to do. I am happy to do it because I remember the conditions under which ObamaCare was passed.

I remember the promises that we would save $2,500 a family—not true.

I remember, if you liked your plan, you could keep it—not true.

I remember, if you liked your doctor, you could keep that individual—not true.

This was sold, frankly, on a tissue of fabrications and some predictions that were outlandishly false.

Those people who say this is a good system, come to my State. We are down to a single provider—one. That provider, by the way, I always say thank God for them, because they are losing money. We are down to one. Our rates are going up 69 percent.

So anybody who thinks this is a successful system should go look at it. If it were successful, my friends would probably still be in the majority instead of the minority. It has not been successful. The American people have, in election after election, rendered a verdict that this particular system is not meeting their needs, and it badly needs to be overhauled and changed, if not rooted out completely.

Frankly, again, as, I think, through the President's actions and what my colleagues in the leadership of my party are doing, I am very glad they are working overtime right now to try and make sure that we have something better for the American people than my friends delivered on the other side of the aisle when they had the opportunity to do so. It is not working.

I hope very much we have to cancel travel plans so the next day or two we can actually vote on this. I would be ecstatic to do that. So, again, I would be happy to debate that. When the time comes, we will. But I look forward to engaging in that debate because I am absolutely convinced we can do a lot better for the American people than we did when ObamaCare was passed, and we can implement something a lot better for the American people than we did when it was rolled out. And we certainly can avoid some of the catastrophic consequences.

As for my friend's concerns about preexisting conditions, frankly, they are not going to be reversed, but I happen to live in a State where I trust my Governor and my legislature to make smart decisions. Frankly, I trust them a lot more than I do anybody in Washington, D.C., to understand what is going on in my State. I suspect most people in here actually trust their Governors and their legislature to be more in touch with the needs of their people than anybody in Washington, D.C., happens to be, so I am happy to see a devolution of decisionmaking from Washington to other parts of the country. As I read the Constitution, we call that federalism. It has worked very well for the American people for almost 240 years.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from the Fourth District of Michigan (Mr. MOOLENAAR), my good friend in his second term, but a new member of the Committee on Appropriations. I am very glad to have him on my Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies.

Mr. MOOLENAAR. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman COLE, Chairman FRELINGHUYSEN, and the entire Committee on Appropriations, as well as the President and congressional leaders in both the House and the Senate for their work on this bipartisan appropriations bill.

This legislation is not perfect, but it addresses many priorities for the people of Michigan and the United States. It funds the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, which protects the Great Lakes. It instructs the Army Corps of Engineers to turn over its report on stopping Asian carp from invading the Great Lakes.

It funds important scientific research at Michigan State University, and it continues support for vaccines against emerging threats. It also commits funding for cures research at the National Institutes of Health, including the fight against Alzheimer's, so we can work on stopping this nefarious disease that steals golden years from our seniors.

For the rural communities in my district, this legislation increases funding for rural development grants and the Farm Service Agency.

This legislation promotes border security and integrity, providing more money for Customs and Border Patrol and increasing the number of Border Patrol agents hired.

This legislation will ensure that our men and women in uniform have the resources they need to keep us safe from threats, including North Korea, Russia, Iran, and ISIS.

This legislation makes important cuts, including eliminating wasteful funding for U.N. programs that overreach and run counter to the ideals of our country.

Finally, this legislation extends prohibitions on funding for abortion that have been in place for years.

This legislation addresses many important priorities for the people of Michigan and our entire Nation, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. LANGEVIN), my friend.

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the omnibus spending agreement that is before us today, which will finally fund the government for the remainder of fiscal year 2017. The bill before us is not a perfect bill, but it represents a good bipartisan compromise.

Mr. Speaker, we need to engage in good faith discussions about our values and priorities, not participate in posturing to social media. It is my hope that my congressional colleagues on both sides of the aisle will continue the constructive tone that this agreement represents.

This fiscal year 2017 agreement delivers on many priorities important to Rhode Island. It restores the year-round Pell Grant Program or summer Pell eligibility, allowing summer students to receive Pell grant funds to help them finish their degrees on time.

Rather than slash funding as the President had requested, this compromise also adds $2 billion in funding to the National Institutes of Health, which conducts vital research in our efforts to treat and cure catastrophic diseases and drives innovative economic development.

On the defense side, this agreement funds vital national security programs, including the continued procurement of Virginia class submarines and ongoing development of the new Columbia class, work that I am proud to say happens at Quonset Point in my district.

I want to thank all those involved in these negotiations on both sides of the aisle for their commitment to achieving a good faith compromise that will keep the government open and working for the American people. I hope we can continue on a similar bipartisan agreement as we plan for the next fiscal year.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. DENT), my very good friend and my fellow member of the Committee on Appropriations and the chairman of the Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies.

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, I am here today to rise in strong support of this rule and the underlying legislation, which is the product of a lot of effort on the part of a lot of people on a very bipartisan basis.

I would first like to thank and congratulate our distinguished chair and ranking members for their work on the

2017 Consolidated Appropriations Act and for their leadership in bringing this legislation forward today to address a number of timely issues facing our Nation.

I certainly want to thank the gentleman, Mr. COLE, to my immediate left for his strong work on the Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies bill, which I will mention at some point here as well, but his leadership has been extraordinary on this issue.

I would like to draw special attention to some of this legislation's provisions that will further support our veterans and enhance our military's readiness.

Division L of the underlying bill provides supplemental funding to augment the appropriations that were provided to MILCON and the VA accounts, military construction and the VA accounts, last September.

Specifically, this bill will allow us to further address the opioid epidemic that has escalated within so many communities across the country and affected individuals and families from a broad range of backgrounds and professions.

The 2017 bill will provide $50 million in additional current-year funding for the Department of Veterans Affairs to improve opioid and substance abuse prevention and treatment for veterans. Those funds will allow the VA to achieve full implementation of their responsibilities under title IX of the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act of 2016.

I just raised this issue less than an hour ago with VA Secretary David Shulkin in this morning's hearing. He stressed the importance of these funds to stay ahead of this challenge and provide comprehensive treatments to our veterans. It is my hope that the lessons learned from this public health crisis will be remembered so that we can prevent similar episodes from occurring in the future.

In addition, the FY17 Consolidated Appropriations Act will support readiness and infrastructure improvements and facilitate future force structure growth by providing all our military services with the full amount requested for military construction efforts.

Mr. Speaker, I agree with so many of my colleagues from both sides of the aisle that we need to make investments in our military readiness. I would like to stress that the investments in the infrastructure and military construction programs that support our troops at home and abroad are critical aspects of our overall readiness posture. This bill will move us in the right direction by addressing needs for both our Active-Duty and our National Guard and Reserve forces.

□ 1330

I would also like to talk about some other aspects of this legislation, too, in the underlying bill. Many pressing needs are addressed here.

Specifically, we are talking about a very significant pay increase, a 2.1 percent pay increase for our troops. It is the largest pay increase in 6 years.

This legislation makes a substantial downpayment on our efforts, and the Trump administration's efforts, to enhance and increase military spending to address the various threats that we are seeing throughout the world.

I just returned from South Korea and Okinawa, Japan, and we have many challenges in Northeast Asia, that I won't go into here today. But we all know that we have some real obligations, particularly for our United States Navy.

I also wanted to mention, too, my good friend, Chairman COLE. He led the effort, along with Senator ROY BLUNT, to increase funding for medical research, critical lifesaving medical research to the National Institutes of Health by $2 billion in this legislation, taking the funding level from $32 billion to $34 billion. And that is on top of what we heard in fiscal year 2016, which took us up $2 billion, as well, from $30 billion to $32 billion.

So the commitment of this side of the aisle to medical research, I think, is strong, and we are backing it up with our dollars. We had to set some priorities, and Chairman COLE did that in the labor health bill. He set those priorities, and we said: This is one of them. I am proud that we as Republicans are stepping up on medical research. I am also pleased, too, that many of our Democratic friends are supporting this in this effort as well.

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

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield the gentleman an additional 2 minutes.

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, I would also like to point out that this legislation, in addition to this robust increase for medical research, the chairman also provided substantial support for early childhood, a priority to him and to many of us.

And there are other areas, too. Pell grants made some great changes, too—year-round Pell grants for so many students who are struggling with college affordability.

I also want to point out, too, on border security, a downpayment has been made here as well. This legislation provides $1.5 billion additionally for border security. This will help us move closer to establishing greater operational control of our border, which is something I think we all agree needs to be done.

These are just a few of the provisions of this legislation beyond what I am responsible for—military construction and VA—that are worthy.

I would urge support of this bill. I would also like to point out that we did pass the Military Construction and VA Appropriations bill back in September on time. It is the first appropriations bill passed on time since 2009. I want to take a little credit for that.

But these other 11 bills that have been discussed here today need our support. We need to keep this government running. We have done it in a very thoughtful, bipartisan, measured way, and we have been very responsible. This bill needs to get to the President's desk immediately.

Again, I urge support for this legislation, and I support the rule as well.

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume to close.

The President has said that Americans would win so much, they would be tired of winning. I think for once he and I may be in agreement.

Today's measure advances medical research, protects coal miners, fights back against the opioid epidemic and international disasters, and protects funding for science, education, and health care. It should not have taken us 7 months to get here. But I hope this measure will give the Appropriations Committee a springboard for fiscal year 2018.

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

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

I want to thank my good friend. It is always a pleasure, honestly, to engage in debate with him because it is going to be spirited, but it is going to be civil. So I thank my friend for that.

And, frankly, when my friend points out that he and President Trump are actually on the same side for once, I think the second coming may not be very far. So we are all in a pretty good mood here.

But I do want to echo a couple of points that my friend made, and made, as always, with great skill. There is a lot in this bill that brings us together. This was a product of genuine compromise. We have Republicans in the House and Democrats in the House, Republicans in the Senate and Democrats in the Senate, and, obviously, the administration. It is really a five-corner negotiation.

I think we ought to step back a little bit and reflect that, in the course of that, while all those parties began with very different positions, and some verbal fisticuffs, as well, they actually moved closer together over the course of discussion. And that has effectively meant that we are going to have the first bipartisan, bicameral negotiation in this administration that has been successful.

I would hope it becomes a model for some of the things that lie in front of us, things like infrastructure, and like tax reform. I recognize we won't always agree. But, to me, this agreement shows that we can work towards agreements, if we will sit in good faith and compromise with one another.

I think the President, frankly, did a lot of good things from his point of view here. I think the additional money for our men and women in uniform, the raise in pay for those we have asked so much from, and who have never let us down, is something he can be proud of.

I think the additional money on the border, where we know we have a security problem, we may debate the best way to address that. That is fair enough. But that is an achievement that he deserves credit for.

And I think, frankly, breaking this artificial linkage of domestic spending and security spending was something that is really important. Sometimes we will actually need more domestically than, perhaps, we need in defense. But we are going to have to look at those things logically, not create artificial formulas. I actually fear sometimes my side might do that in reverse by demanding cuts in exchange for military spending when those cuts are, in themselves, not wise.

Finally, I look at things where we find a lot of common purpose here. My friend, Mr. DENT, mentioned a number of those. Things like more money for the National Institutes of Health and the Center for Disease Control. Believe me, pandemics and bioterrorists don't care if you are Republican or Democrat, or Liberal or Conservative. We have to maintain this effort. It is extraordinarily important.

I think, again, and my friends pointed out, we worked together to provide additional funds for early childhood, to provide additional money through programs like GEAR UP and TRIO, to help those who have never had an opportunity to go to college and succeed. And, frankly, things like the yearround Pell grant, that, again, as speakers from both sides of the aisle pointed out, are going to help students actually succeed and help them wrestle with the financial burden. So there is a lot in here to be proud of.

Now, our vote on the rule is always a partisan exercise, so I recognize that. But I am very proud that, after that vote, we will have substantial numbers of Members from both sides of the aisle voting together on something they worked on together and achieved. It will be sent over to the Senate, and I think we will see the same result there, and eventually to the desk of the President of the United States, and I think he can sign it with a great deal of pride and a recognition that: hey, occasionally, bipartisanship and negotiation actually work.

With that, again, I want to thank my very good friend for the debate. And I want to point out in closing that this is so much better than a continuing resolution. This is real governance at work. This is us working together, exercising oversight, and appropriately funding, and compromises on occasion, important functions for the American people.

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

AN AMENDMENT TO H. RES. 305 OFFERED BY MR. HASTINGS

At the end of the resolution, add the following new section:

SEC. 4. Rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives is amended by adding at the end the following new clause:

RESTRICTIONS ON CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS RELATING TO HEALTHCARE

13. (a) It shall not be in order to consider a bill, joint resolution, amendment, or conference report which includes any provision described in paragraph (b).''

(b) A provision referred to in paragraph (a) is a provision which, if enacted into law, would result in any of the following:

(1) The denial of health insurance coverage to individuals on the basis that such individuals have a pre-existing condition or a requirement for individuals with a pre-existing condition to pay more for premiums on the basis of such individuals having such a preexisting condition.

(2) The elimination of the prohibition on life time limits on the dollar value of health insurance coverage benefits.

(3) The termination of the ability of individuals under 26 years of age to be included on their parent's employer or individual health coverage.

(4) The reduction in the number of people receiving health plan coverage pursuant to the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PL 111–148) and Education Affordability Reconciliation Act of 2010 (PL 111–152).

(5) An increased cost to seniors for prescription drug coverage pursuant to any changes to provisions closing the Medicare prescription drug 'donuthole'.

(6) The requirement that individuals pay for preventive services, such as for mammography, health screening, and contraceptive services.

(7) The reduction of Medicare solvency or any changes to the Medicare guarantee.

(8) The reduction of Federal taxes on the 1 percent of the population with the highest income or increase the tax burden (expressed as a percent of aggregate Federal taxes) on the 80 percent of the population with the lowest income.

(c) It shall not be in order to consider a measure or matter proposing to repeal or amend the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PL 111–148) and the Health Care and Education Affordability Reconciliation Act of 2010 (PL 111–152), or part thereof, in the House or in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union unless an easily searchable electronic estimate and comparison prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office is made available on a publicly available website of the House.

(d) It shall not be in order to consider a measure or matter proposing to repeal or amend the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PL 111–148) and the Health Care and Education Affordability Reconciliation Act of 2010 (PL 111–152), or part thereof, in the House or in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, that is called up pursuant to a rule or order that makes a manager's amendment in order or considers such an amendment to be adopted, unless an easily searchable updated electronic estimate and comparison prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office reflecting such amendment is made available on a publicly available website of the House.

(e) It shall not be in order to consider a rule or order that waives the application of paragraph (a), paragraph (b), paragraph (c), or paragraph (d). As disposition of any point of order under paragraphs (c) through (e), the Chair shall put the question of consideration with respect to the order, conference report, or rule as applicable. The question of consideration shall be debatable for 10 minutes by the Member initiating the point of order and for 10 minutes by an opponent, but shall otherwise be decided without intervening motion except one that the House adjourn.

THE VOTE ON THE PREVIOUS QUESTION: WHAT IT REALLY MEANS

This vote, the vote on whether to order the previous question on a special rule, is not merely a procedural vote. A vote against ordering the previous question is a vote against the Republican majority agenda and a vote to allow the Democratic minority to offer an alternative plan. It is a vote about what the House should be debating.

Mr. Clarence Cannon's Precedents of the House of Representatives (VI, 308–311), describes the vote on the previous question on the rule as ''a motion to direct or control the consideration of the subject before the House being made by the Member in charge.'' To defeat the previous question is to give the opposition a chance to decide the subject before the House. Cannon cites the Speaker's ruling of January 13, 1920, to the effect that ''the refusal of the House to sustain the demand for the previous question passes the control of the resolution to the opposition'' in order to offer an amendment. On March 15, 1909, a member of the majority party offered a rule resolution. The House defeated the previous question and a member of the opposition rose to a parliamentary inquiry, asking who was entitled to recognition. Speaker Joseph G. Cannon (R–Illinois) said: ''The previous question having been refused, the gentleman from New York, Mr. Fitzgerald, who had asked the gentleman to yield to him for an amendment, is entitled to the first recognition.''

The Republican majority may say ''the vote on the previous question is simply a vote on whether to proceed to an immediate vote on adopting the resolution . . . [and] has no substantive legislative or policy implications whatsoever.'' But that is not what they have always said. Listen to the Republican Leadership Manual on the Legislative Process in the United States House of Representatives, (6th edition, page 135). Here's how the Republicans describe the previous question vote in their own manual: ''Although it is generally not possible to amend the rule because the majority Member controlling the time will not yield for the purpose of offering an amendment, the same result may be achieved by voting down the previous question on the rule . . . When the motion for the previous question is defeated, control of the time passes to the Member who led the opposition to ordering the previous question. That Member, because he then controls the time, may offer an amendment to the rule, or yield for the purpose of amendment.''

In Deschler's Procedure in the U.S. House of Representatives, the subchapter titled ''Amending Special Rules'' states: ''a refusal to order the previous question on such a rule [a special rule reported from the Committee on Rules] opens the resolution to amendment and further debate.'' (Chapter 21, section 21.2) Section 21.3 continues: ''Upon rejection of the motion for the previous question on a resolution reported from the Committee on Rules, control shifts to the Member leading the opposition to the previous

question, who may offer a proper amendment or motion and who controls the time for debate thereon.''

Clearly, the vote on the previous question on a rule does have substantive policy implications. It is one of the only available tools for those who oppose the Republican majority's agenda and allows those with alternative views the opportunity to offer an alternative plan.

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

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

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 and clause 9 of rule XX, this 15-minute vote on ordering the previous question will be followed by 5-minute votes on:

Adopting the resolution, if ordered; and

Suspending the rules and passing H.R. 1665, if ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 231, nays 192, not voting 7, as follows:

[Roll No. 246]

YEAS—231

Abraham
Aderholt
Allen
Amash
Amodei
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Banks (IN)
Barletta
Barr
Barton
Bergman
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (MI)
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blum
Bost
Brady (TX)
Brat
Bridenstine
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burgess
Byrne
Calvert
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Chabot
Cheney
Coffman
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Comer
Comstock
Conaway
Cook
Costello (PA)
Cramer
Crawford
Culberson
Curbelo (FL)
Davidson
Davis, Rodney
Denham
Dent
DeSantis
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Donovan
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Dunn
Emmer
Estes (KS)
Farenthold
Faso
Ferguson
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flores
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gaetz
Gallagher
Garrett
Gibbs
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Griffith
Grothman
Guthrie
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Hice, Jody B.
Higgins (LA)
Hill
Holding
Hollingsworth
Hudson
Huizenga
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurd
Issa
Jenkins (KS)
Jenkins (WV)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Katko
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kinzinger
Knight
Kustoff (TN)
Labrador
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Latta
Lewis (MN)
LoBiondo
Long
Loudermilk
Love
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
MacArthur
Marchant
Marino
Marshall
Massie
Mast
McCarthy
McCaul
McClintock
McHenry
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McSally
Meadows
Meehan
Messer
Mitchell
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Mullin
Murphy (PA)
Noem
Nunes
Olson
Palazzo
Palmer
Paulsen
Pearce
Perry
Pittenger
Poe (TX)
Posey
Ratcliffe
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Rice (SC)
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney, Francis
Rooney, Thomas J.
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Rouzer
Royce (CA)
Russell
Rutherford
Sanford
Scalise
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smucker
Stefanik
Stewart
Stivers
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Trott
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walker
Walorski
Walters, Mimi
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IA)
Zeldin

NAYS—192

Adams
Aguilar
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady (PA)
Brown (MD)
Brownley (CA)
Bustos
Butterfield
Capuano
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson (IN)
Cartwright
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Conyers
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Crist
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
DeSaulnier
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle, Michael F.
Ellison
Engel
Eshoo
Espaillat
Esty (CT)
Evans
Foster
Frankel (FL)
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
Gonzalez (TX)
Gottheimer
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutiérrez
Hanabusa
Hastings
Heck
Higgins (NY)
Himes
Hoyer
Huffman
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kihuen
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lieu, Ted
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lujan Grisham, M.
Luján, Ben Ray
Lynch
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Matsui
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McNerney
Meeks
Meng
Moore
Moulton
Murphy (FL)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Nolan
Norcross
O'Halleran
O'Rourke
Pallone
Panetta
Pascrell
Payne
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters
Peterson
Pingree
Pocan
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Rice (NY)
Richmond
Rosen
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Sinema
Sires
Slaughter
Smith (WA)
Soto
Speier
Suozzi
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tonko
Torres
Tsongas
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters, Maxine
Watson Coleman
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Yarmuth

NOT VOTING—7

Black
Chaffetz
Demings
Gohmert
Larson (CT)
Newhouse
Poliquin

□ 1401

Messrs. RICHMOND, MCNERNEY, and DOGGETT changed their vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

Mr. ADERHOLT changed his vote from ''nay'' to ''yea.''

So the previous question was ordered.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated against:

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, May 3rd 2017, I was not present for rollcall vote 246. If I had been present for this vote, I would have voted: "Nay" on rollcall vote 246.

(By unanimous consent, Mr. HENSARLING was allowed to speak out of order.)

MOMENT OF SILENCE REMEMBERING VICTIMS OF DESTRUCTIVE STORM

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, over the weekend, a very destructive storm system moved across my home State of Texas, the Midwest, and the Southeast, killing 15 of our fellow citizens and destroying whole communities in its wake.

In Van Zandt County in the Fifth Congressional District of Texas, which I have the privilege to represent, four constituents lost their lives in a series of four violent tornadoes that shattered homes, shattered lives, and devastated neighbors in the Fifth District and the Fourth District of Texas.

These storms also tragically killed seven people in Washington, Carroll, and Madison Counties in Arkansas; two people in Rankin and Holmes Counties in Mississippi; one person in Nashville, Tennessee; and one person from Billings, Missouri. Many more, Mr. Speaker, have been hospitalized.

Joining me here today are some of the Members whose communities were affected: Congressman WOMACK and Congressman CRAWFORD of Arkansas, Congressman HARPER of Mississippi, Congressman THOMPSON of Mississippi, Congressman COOPER of Tennessee, Congressman LONG of Missouri, and my fellow Texan, Congressman JOHN RATCLIFFE—again, Mr. Speaker, all who represent communities that were tragically affected.

Mr. Speaker, our citizens who were lost have left a void in their families and left a void in their communities. Our hearts are heavy. Our prayers are sincere for the loved ones they leave behind and for those who recover from their wounds.

For many of us, in our faith, there is a time to mourn. Mr. Speaker, now is the time to mourn. But as we have, in our faith, a time to mourn, we also have faith, Mr. Speaker, that one day our citizens will heal and they will heal and rebuild their communities as well.

Mr. Speaker, at this time, I would ask the House to help us in honoring those who lost their lives in these deadly storms and the families and loved ones they leave behind by joining us in observing a moment of silence.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, 5-minute voting will continue.

There was no objection.

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

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

RECORDED VOTE

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

A recorded vote was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 240, noes 186, not voting 4, as follows:

[Roll No. 247]

AYES—240

Abraham
Aderholt
Allen
Amash
Amodei
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Banks (IN)
Barletta
Barr
Barton
Bergman
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (MI)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Blum
Bost
Brady (TX)
Brat
Bridenstine
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burgess
Byrne
Calvert
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Chabot
Cheney
Coffman
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Comer
Comstock
Conaway
Cook
Cooper
Costa
Costello (PA)
Cramer
Crawford
Culberson
Curbelo (FL)
Davidson
Davis, Rodney
Denham
Dent
DeSantis
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Donovan
Duffy
Duncan (TN)
Dunn
Emmer
Estes (KS)
Farenthold
Faso
Ferguson
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flores
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gaetz
Gallagher
Garrett
Gibbs
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gottheimer
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Griffith
Grothman
Guthrie
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Hice, Jody B.
Higgins (LA)
Hill
Holding
Hollingsworth
Hudson
Huizenga
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurd
Issa
Jenkins (KS)
Jenkins (WV)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Katko
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kinzinger
Knight
Kustoff (TN)
Labrador
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Latta
Lawson (FL)
Lewis (MN)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Long
Loudermilk
Love
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
MacArthur
Marchant
Marino
Marshall
Massie
Mast
McCarthy
McCaul
McClintock
McHenry
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McSally
Meadows
Meehan
Messer
Mitchell
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Mullin
Murphy (PA)
Noem
Nunes
O'Halleran
Olson
Palazzo
Palmer
Paulsen
Pearce
Perry
Pittenger
Poe (TX)
Posey
Ratcliffe
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Rice (SC)
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney, Francis
Rooney, Thomas J.
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Rouzer
Royce (CA)
Russell
Rutherford
Sanford
Scalise
Schneider
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smucker
Stefanik
Stewart
Stivers
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Trott
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walker
Walorski
Walters, Mimi
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IA)
Zeldin

NOES—186

Adams
Aguilar
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady (PA)
Brown (MD)
Brownley (CA)
Bustos
Butterfield
Capuano
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson (IN)
Cartwright
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Conyers
Correa
Courtney
Crist
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Demings
DeSaulnier
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle, Michael F.
Ellison
Engel
Eshoo
Espaillat
Esty (CT)
Evans
Foster
Frankel (FL)
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
Gonzalez (TX)
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutiérrez
Hanabusa
Hastings
Heck
Higgins (NY)
Himes
Hoyer
Huffman
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kihuen
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lawrence
Lee
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lieu, Ted
Loebsack
Lofgren
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lujan Grisham, M.
Luján, Ben Ray
Lynch
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Matsui
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McNerney
Meeks
Meng
Moore
Moulton
Murphy (FL)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Nolan
Norcross
O'Rourke
Pallone
Panetta
Pascrell
Payne
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters
Peterson
Pingree
Pocan
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Rice (NY)
Richmond
Rosen
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schrader
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Sinema
Sires
Slaughter
Smith (WA)
Soto
Speier
Suozzi
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tonko
Torres
Tsongas
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters, Maxine
Watson Coleman
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Yarmuth

NOT VOTING—4

Chaffetz
Duncan (SC)
Newhouse
Poliquin

□ 1414

Mr. CRIST and Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York changed their vote from ''aye'' to ''no.''

So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

DISASTER DECLARATION IMPROVEMENT ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on suspending the rules and passing the bill (H.R. 1665) to ensure that Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency considers severe local impact in making a recommendation to the President for a major disaster declaration, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BARLETTA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

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

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 425, noes 0, not voting 5, as follows:

[Roll No. 248]

AYES—425

Abraham
Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Allen
Amash
Amodei
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Banks (IN)
Barletta
Barr
Barragán
Barton
Bass
Beatty
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (MI)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Blum
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bost
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Brat
Bridenstine
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Brown (MD)
Brownley (CA)
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burgess
Bustos
Butterfield
Byrne
Calvert
Capuano
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson (IN)
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chabot
Cheney
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coffman
Cohen
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Comer
Comstock
Conaway
Connolly
Conyers
Cook
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Costello (PA)
Courtney
Cramer
Crawford
Crist
Crowley
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Curbelo (FL)
Davidson
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
Davis, Rodney
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Demings
Denham
Dent
DeSantis
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Donovan
Doyle, Michael F.
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Dunn
Ellison
Emmer
Engel
Eshoo
Espaillat
Estes (KS)
Esty (CT)
Evans
Farenthold
Faso
Ferguson
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flores

Fortenberry
Foster
Foxx
Frankel (FL)
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gabbard
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garrett
Gibbs
Gohmert
Gonzalez (TX)
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gottheimer
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffith
Grijalva
Grothman
Guthrie
Gutiérrez
Hanabusa
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings
Heck
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Hice, Jody B.
Higgins (LA)
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes
Holding
Hollingsworth
Hoyer
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurd
Issa
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Jeffries
Jenkins (KS)
Jenkins (WV)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kihuen
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kinzinger
Knight
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
Kustoff (TN)
Labrador
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (MN)
Lieu, Ted
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren
Long
Loudermilk
Love
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lujan Grisham, M.
Luján, Ben Ray
Lynch
MacArthur
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Marchant
Marino
Marshall
Massie
Mast
Matsui
McCarthy
McCaul
McClintock
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
McSally
Meadows
Meehan
Meeks
Meng
Messer
Mitchell
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Moore
Moulton
Mullin
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (PA)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Noem
Nolan
Norcross
Nunes
O'Halleran
O'Rourke
Olson
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pascrell
Paulsen
Payne
Pearce
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters
Peterson
Pingree
Pittenger
Pocan
Poe (TX)
Polis
Posey
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Ratcliffe
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Richmond
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney, Francis
Rooney, Thomas J.
Ros-Lehtinen
Rosen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Rouzer
Roybal-Allard
Royce (CA)
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Russell
Rutherford
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez
Sanford
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sinema
Sires
Slaughter
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Soto
Speier
Stefanik
Stewart
Stivers
Suozzi
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Titus
Tonko
Torres
Trott
Tsongas
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walker
Walorski
Walters, Mimi
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters, Maxine
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Yarmuth
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IA)
Zeldin

NOT VOTING—5

Bishop (GA)
Chaffetz
Johnson (OH)
Newhouse
Poliquin

□ 1422

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SUBMISSION OF MATERIAL EXPLANATORY OF THE AMENDMENT OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE AMENDMENTS OF THE SENATE TO H.R. 244

Pursuant to section 2 of House Resolution 305, the chairman of the Committee on Appropriations submitted explanatory material relating to the amendment of the House of Representatives to the amendments of the Senate to H.R. 244.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT SUBMITTED BY MR. FRELINGHUYSEN OF NEW JERSEY, CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS, REGARDING THE HOUSE AMENDMENT TO THE SENATE AMENDMENTS ON H.R. 244

The following is an explanation of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2017.

This Act includes 11 regular appropriations bills for fiscal year 2017. The divisions contained in the Act are as follows:

- Division A—Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017
- Division B—Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017
- Division C—Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2017
- Division D—Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017
- Division E—Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2017
- Division F—Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2017
- Division G—Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017
- Division H—Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017
- Division I—Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2017
- Division J—Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2017
- Division K—Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017
- Division L—Military Construction and Veterans Affairs—Additional Appropriations Act, 2017
- Division M—Other Matters
- Division N—Honoring Investments in Recruiting and Employing American Military Veterans Act of 2017 (This is the original subject matter of H.R. 244.)

Section 1 of the Act is the short title of the bill.

Section 2 of the Act displays a table of contents.

Section 3 of the Act states that, unless expressly provided otherwise, any reference to ''this Act'' contained in any division shall be treated as referring only to the provisions of that division.

Section 4 of the Act states that this explanatory statement shall have the same effect with respect to the allocation of funds and implementation of this legislation as if it were a joint explanatory statement of a committee of conference.

Section 5 of the Act provides a statement of appropriations.

Section 6 of the Act states that each amount designated by Congress as an emergency requirement is contingent on the President so designating all such emergency amounts and transmitting such designations to Congress. The section further states that each amount designated by Congress as being for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism (OCO/GWOT) is contingent on the President so designating all such OCO/GWOT amounts and transmitting such designations to Congress. The provision is consistent with the requirements in the Budget Control Act of 2011.

Section 7 of the Act addresses possible technical scorekeeping differences for fiscal year 2017 between the Office of Management and Budget and the Congressional Budget Office.

Section 8 of the Act makes a technical correction to the long title of the Further Continuing and Security Assistance Appropriations Act, 2017.

The Act does not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined by clause 9 of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

DIVISION A—AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

The explanatory statement is silent on provisions that were in both the House Report (H. Rpt. 114–531) and Senate Report (S. Rpt. 114–259) that remain unchanged by this agreement, except as noted in this explanatory statement.

The agreement restates that executive branch wishes cannot substitute for Congress's own statements as to the best evidence of congressional intentions, which are the official reports of the Congress. The agreement further points out that funds in this Act must be used for the purposes for which appropriated, as required by section 1301 of title 31 of the United States Code, which provides: ''Appropriations shall be applied only to the objects for which the appropriations were made except as otherwise provided by law.''

The House and Senate report language that is not changed by the explanatory statement is approved and indicates congressional intentions. The explanatory statement, while repeating some report language for emphasis, does not intend to negate the language referred to above unless expressly provided herein.

In cases in which the House or the Senate have directed the submission of a report, such report is to be submitted to both the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations no later than 60 days after enactment of this Act, unless otherwise directed.

Hereafter, in division A of this statement, the term 'the Committees' refers to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

For the appropriations provided by this Act and previous Acts, the departments and agencies funded by this agreement are reminded that the Committees use the definitions for transfer, reprogramming, and program, project, and activity as defined by the Government Accountability Office (GAO) in GAO–04–261SP Appropriations Law—Vol. I and GAO–05–734SP Budget Glossary.

A transfer is the shifting of funds between appropriations. It applies to (1) transfers from one agency to another, (2) transfers from one account to another within the same agency, and (3) transfers to an interagency or intra-agency working fund. In each instance, statutory authority is required.

Reprogramming is the utilization of funds in an appropriation account for purposes other than those contemplated at the time of appropriation. It is the shifting of funds from one object to another within an appropriation.

A program, project, or activity (PPA) is an element within a budget account. PPAs are identified by reference to include the most specific level of budget items identified in the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Act, 2017, accompanying Committee reports, explanatory statements, the Statement of Managers, and budget justifications. Program activity structures are intended to provide a meaningful representation of the operations financed by a specific budget account by project, activity, or organization.

For fiscal year 2017, the Committees continue to include bill language requiring advanced notification of certain agency actions. Notification will be required at least 15 days in advance of any action if (1) a major capital investment is modified; (2) an office is realigned or reorganized; and (3) activities are carried out that were not described in the budget request.

The agreement directs the Office of Budget and Program Analysis (OBPA) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to provide an organizational chart for each agency funded by this Act to the division and subdivision level, as appropriate, by June 1, 2017. The agreement also directs the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Farm Credit Administration (FCA) to provide an organizational chart of each agency respectively to the division and subdivision level, as appropriate, by June 1, 2017.

Further, USDA and FDA should be mindful of Congressional authority to determine and set final funding levels for fiscal year 2018. Therefore, the agencies should not presuppose program funding outcomes and prematurely initiate action to redirect staffing prior to knowing final outcomes on fiscal year 2018 program funding. The agreement directs OBPA to provide the Committees with the number of staff years and employees on board for each agency funded by this Act on a quarterly basis.

The agreement includes the authority to spend $8,608,000 to address expenses incurred at the National Finance Center resulting from the February 2017 tornado to ensure continuity of vital services at the existing location.

The agreement directs NIFA to study the recent infestation of oak mites and focus on suppression and eradication possibilities.

The U.S. cotton industry has experienced three years of market returns well below the cost of production without a viable safety net for producers under the current Farm Bill. Market projections for 2017 and subsequent years indicate an acute need for immediate relief and long-term program security. Within 60 days of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary is directed to issue a report detailing administrative options for financial relief and recommended legislative actions to provide the cotton industry with a viable safety net.

The Margin Protection Program for Dairy Producers, which was included in the Agricultural Act of 2014, was intended to provide a safety net for dairy producers in times of low margins. However, that program has not worked as anticipated, and dairy farmers have been hit with milk prices that have plummeted since 2014, as well as new challenges with our export markets. This has resulted in sharply reduced incomes and a significant number of dairy operations going out of business, and many more dairy producers who are struggling to keep their operations financially sound. Prompt congressional action is needed to fix the program so that it provides the support that was intended. The Secretary is encouraged to use all available methods and authorities, including the use of the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act, to provide immediate assistance to these producers until such time as a revised safety net program can be provided.

TITLE I—AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS

PRODUCTION, PROCESSING, AND MARKETING

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides $44,555,000 for the Office of the Secretary.

The agreement recognizes the Department has statutory authorities and programs designed to help break the multi-generational trap of poverty in rural counties and supports USDA's utilization of existing programs and funding within RD and FNS in order to assist families, create jobs, and develop a path towards self-sufficiency. Other existing resources such as the extension service and public universities can be used for coordination and outreach activities. The Committees have not received the detailed plan required to be submitted by the Secretary detailing all funding resources and bundled services to combat rural poverty.

The following table reflects the agreement:

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

(Dollars in Thousands)

Office of the Secretary	$5,051
Office of Tribal Relations	502
Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Coordination	1,496
Office of Advocacy and Outreach	1,209
Office of Assistant Secretary for Administration	804
Departmental Administration	24,124
Office of Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations	3,869
Office of Communications	7,500
Total, Office of the Secretary	$44,555

EXECUTIVE OPERATIONS

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ECONOMIST

The agreement provides $18,917,000 for the Office of the Chief Economist.

The agreement provides a one-time increase of $2,000,000, available until the end of fiscal year 2018, to assist the OCE in acquiring economic data, policy research support, analytics, and related activities for the upcoming Farm Bill.

OFFICE OF HEARINGS AND APPEALS

The agreement provides $13,399,000 for the Office of Hearings and Appeals.

OFFICE OF BUDGET AND PROGRAM ANALYSIS

The agreement provides $9,525,000 for the Office of Budget and Program Analysis.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

The agreement provides $49,538,000 for the Office of the Chief Information Officer. This amount includes $33,000,000 to support cybersecurity activities.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

The agreement provides $8,028,000 for the Office of the Chief Financial Officer.

The agreement supports the work of the CFO to bring the Department into compliance with the Digital Accountability and Transparency Act (DATA) and includes an increase of $2,000,000 for implementation of the DATA.

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR CIVIL RIGHTS

The agreement provides $901,000 for the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights.

OFFICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS

The agreement provides $24,206,000 for the Office of Civil Rights.

AGRICULTURE BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides $84,189,000 for Agriculture Buildings and Facilities.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS MANAGEMENT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides $3,633,000 for Hazardous Materials Management.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

The agreement provides $98,208,000 for the Office of Inspector General, an increase of $1,370,000 for GSA rent costs and space modification and $1,100,000 for oversight of the Department's IT investments.

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL

The agreement provides $44,697,000 for the Office of the General Counsel.

OFFICE OF ETHICS

The agreement provides $4,136,000 for the Office of Ethics.

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND ECONOMICS

The agreement provides $893,000 for the Office of the Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics.

ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE

The agreement provides $86,757,000 for the Economic Research Service, including increases for cooperative agreements on groundwater modeling, drought resilience and pay costs as requested in the budget.

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

The agreement provides $171,239,000 for the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), including up to $42,177,000 for the Census of Agriculture.

The agreement includes an increase of $1,600,000 for NASS to expand its current feed cost component surveys nationally.

The agreement recognizes the importance of the pecan survey and is pleased that NASS has conducted the survey as requested.

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement provides $1,170,235,000 for the Agricultural Research Service (ARS), Salaries and Expenses.

The agreement does not accept the President's budget request regarding the termination of research programs, redirections of research programs, or closure of research locations. The agreement expects extramural research to be funded at no less than the fiscal year 2016 levels. The agreement provides funding increases for cotton ginning, cover

crops, small grains genomics, long-term agroecosystem research, the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility, the Office of Pest Management Policy, germplasm enhancement of maize, sustainable water use, wheat and sorghum, poultry, the U.S. Wheat and Barley Scab Initiative, safe and abundant water supply, intelligent spray technologies, sage steppe restoration, and a sorghum genetic database.

ARS is directed to provide a plan within 90 days of enactment of this Act for conducting a study on the levels of sodium consumption in school-aged children. The plan shall include the methodology and timeframes necessary to conduct such a study, focusing on whether the consumption levels are within or outside the usual range of consumption, both domestically and worldwide.

BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

For ARS Buildings and Facilities, the agreement provides an appropriation of $99,600,000 for priorities identified in the USDA ARS Capital Investment Strategy, April 2012, including not less than $5,100,000 for planning and design purposes for the next highest priorities identified in the USDA Capital Investment Strategy.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

RESEARCH AND EDUCATION ACTIVITIES

The agreement provides $849,518,000 for the National Institute of Food and Agriculture's research and education activities.

The agreement provides an increase of $25,000,000 for the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative and directs that funding should be available to all priority areas, including conventional plant and animal breeding.

The agreement continues to direct that not less than 15 percent of the competitive research grant funds be used for USDA's agricultural research enhancement awards program, including USDA–EPSCoR.

The following table reflects the amounts provided by the agreement:

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE RESEARCH AND EDUCATION ACTIVITIES

(Dollars in Thousands)

Hatch Act	7 U.S.C. 361a–i	$243,701
McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Act	16 U.S.C. 582a through a–7	33,961
Research at 1890 Institutions (Evans-Allen Program)	7 U.S.C. 3222	54,185
Payments to the 1994 Institutions	7 U.S.C. 301 note	3,439
Education Grants for 1890 Institutions	7 U.S.C. 3152(b)	19,336
Education Grants for Hispanic-Serving Institutions	7 U.S.C. 3241	9,219
Education Grants for Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian-Serving Institutions	7 U.S.C. 3156	3,194
Research Grants for 1994 Institutions	7 U.S.C. 301 note	1,801
Capacity Building for Non Land-Grant Colleges of Agriculture	7 U.S.C. 3319i	5,000
Grants for Insular Areas	7 U.S.C. 3222b–2, 3362 and 3363	2,000
Agriculture and Food Research Initiative	7 U.S.C. 450i(b)	375,000
Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment	7 U.S.C. 3151a	6,500
Veterinary Services Grant Program	7 U.S.C. 3151b	2,500
Continuing Animal Health and Disease Research Program	7 U.S.C. 3195	4,000
Supplemental and Alternative Crops	7 U.S.C. 3319d	825
Multicultural Scholars, Graduate Fellowship and Institution Challenge Grants	7 U.S.C. 3152(b)	9,000
Secondary and 2 year Post-Secondary Education	7 U.S.C. 3152(j)	900
Aquaculture Centers	7 U.S.C. 3322	4,000
Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education	7 U.S.C. 5811, 5812, 5831, and 5832	27,000
Farm Business Management	7 U.S.C. 5925f	1,450
Sun Grant Program	7 U.S.C. 8114	3,000
Alfalfa and Forage Research Program	7 U.S.C. 5925	2,250
Minor Crop Pest Management (IR–4)	7 U.S.C. 450i(c)	11,913
Special Research Grants:	7 U.S.C. 450i(c).	
Global Change/UV Monitoring		1,405
Potato Research		2,250
Aquaculture Research		1,350
Total, Special Research Grants		5,005
Necessary Expenses of Research and Education Activities:		
Grants Management System		7,830
Federal Administration—Other Necessary Expenses for Research and Education Activities		6,549
GSA Rent and DHS Security Expenses		5,960
Total, Necessary Expenses		20,339
Total, Research and Education Activities		$849,518

NATIVE AMERICAN INSTITUTIONS ENDOWMENT FUND

The agreement provides $11,880,000 for the Native American Institutions Endowment Fund.

EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

The agreement provides $477,391,000 for the National Institute of Food and Agriculture's extension activities.

The agreement provides $3,000,000 for the Rural Health and Safety Education Program to address the opioid abuse epidemic and to combat opioid abuse in rural communities.

The agreement directs the National Institute for Food and Agriculture to consult with the Farm Service Agency in developing the terms of the Notice of Funds Availability that will be used to implement the pilot program established by Section 760.

The following table reflects the amounts provided by the agreement:

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

(Dollars in Thousands)

Smith-Lever, Section 3(b) and (c) programs and Cooperative Extension	7 U.S.C. 343(b) and (c) and 208(c) of P.L. 93–471	$300,000
Extension Services at 1890 Institutions	7 U.S.C. 3221	45,620
Extension Services at 1994 Institutions	7 U.S.C. 343(b)(3)	4,446
Facility Improvements at 1890 Institutions	7 U.S.C. 3222b	19,730
Renewable Resources Extension Act	16 U.S.C. 1671 et seq	4,060
Rural Health and Safety Education Programs	7 U.S.C. 2662(i)	3,000
Food Animal Residue Avoidance Database Program	7 U.S.C. 7642	1,250
Women and Minorities in STEM Fields	7 U.S.C. 5925	400
Food Safety Outreach Program	7 U.S.C. 7625	5,000
Smith-Lever, Section 3(d):	7 U.S.C. 343(d).	

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE EXTENSION ACTIVITIES—Continued

(Dollars in Thousands)

Food and Nutrition Education		67,934
Farm Safety and Youth Farm Safety Education Programs		4,610
New Technologies for Agricultural Extension		1,550
Children, Youth, and Families at Risk		8,395
Federally Recognized Tribes Extension Program		3,039
Total, Section 3(d)		85,528
Necessary Expenses of Extension Activities:		
Agriculture in the K–12 Classroom		552
Federal Administration—Other Necessary Expenses for Extension Activities		7,805
Total, Necessary Expenses		8,357
Total, Extension Activities		$477,391

INTEGRATED ACTIVITIES

The agreement provides $36,000,000 for the National Institute of Food and Agriculture's integrated activities.

The agreement provides an increase of $1,300,000 for the Food and Agriculture Defense Initiative to expand the National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN), recognizing the critical contributions that NAHLN labs, including those located at colleges of veterinary medicine, make in responding to emerging threats to American agriculture. When expanding the network, the agreement encourages NIFA to take into consideration laboratories which would enhance the capacity for surveillance, monitoring, and response; the concentration of human and animal populations that are directly at risk; geography, ecology, and climate; evidence of active collaboration with, and support of, state animal health officials; and evidence of stakeholder support and engagement.

The following table reflects the amounts provided by the agreement:

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE INTEGRATED ACTIVITIES

(Dollars in Thousands)

Methyl Bromide Transition Program	7 U.S.C. 7626		$2,000
Organic Transition Program	7 U.S.C. 7626		4,000
Regional Rural Development Centers	7 U.S.C. 450i(c)		2,000
Food and Agriculture Defense Initiative	7 U.S.C. 3351		8,000
Crop Protection/Pest Management Program	7 U.S.C. 7626		20,000
Total, Integrated Activities			$36,000

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR MARKETING AND REGULATORY PROGRAMS

The agreement provides $901,000 for the Office of the Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs.

ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides $946,212,000 for the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Salaries and Expenses.

The agreement includes a net increase of $51,797,000 for high priority initiatives in order to protect the plant and animal resources of the Nation from pests and diseases. Nearly half of this increase is applied to the agency's request for $24,000,000 in new funding for Emergency Preparedness and Response. This increase stemmed from the agency's experience with the 2015 outbreak of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza that cost taxpayers nearly $1 billion. The agreement also provides increases within the total funding level of: $2,518,000 for Animal Health and Technical Services; $500,000 for the Equine, Cervid, and Small Ruminant Health Program; $1,175,000 for the National Veterinary Stockpile; $3,000,000 for the Veterinary Diagnostics program; $7,000,000 for the Zoonotic Disease Management program; $1,430,000 for the Agricultural Quarantine Inspection program; $8,500,000 for the Specialty Crop Pests program; $2,199,000 for the Wildlife Damage Management program; $500,000 for the Agriculture Import-Export program; and, $400,000 for Animal Welfare in order for APHIS to provide oversight of animal research at the Agricultural Research Service.

The agreement provides a one-time increase of $1,000,000 for the Animal Health Technical Services program to conduct a pilot program for the study of the effectiveness in improving disease traceability, cost, and durability of Ultra High Frequency (UHF) Radio-frequency identification (RFID) back tags in comparison to the other types of animal identification methods currently used by the livestock industry within USDA's Animal Disease Traceability framework.

The agreement provides $28,810,000 for the Animal Welfare program, an increase of $400,000, and directs APHIS to continue its inspections of ARS facilities, to post its inspection reports online, and to provide copies of the reports to the Committees.

The agreement includes funding to collect additional data that will inform policy related to the appropriate antibiotic use in all settings across agriculture and clinical medicine. The agreement provides an increase of $7,000,000 within Zoonotic Disease Management for on-farm surveillance, data collection, sampling, surveillance, and testing to enhance the understanding of on-farm levels of antibiotic use and the impact on antimicrobial resistance levels. The information collected should clearly delineate between antibiotics used for food-producing and companion animals. Further, to avoid duplication with existing programs like the National Antimicrobial Resistance Monitoring System, the agreement expects surveys regarding on-farm usage to be limited to collecting information about the antibiotics used and should not be utilized for other regulatory purposes.

The agreement includes no less than $3,500,000 for cervid health activities. Within the funds provided, APHIS should give consideration to indemnity payments if warranted.

The agreement provides an increase of $24,000,000 for emergency preparedness and response to establish a more robust agency framework for addressing animal and plant disease outbreaks. The Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza outbreak of 2015 exposed a number of challenges facing the agency. Additional funds will allow APHIS to increase veterinarians and animal health technicians; health, safety and biosecurity officers; and develop resources and technologies for the early detection of foreign animal diseases and improved response options.

The agreement includes $28,000,000 under Wildlife Damage Management for national rabies management, surveillance, and eradication efforts and $2,000,000 for Wildlife Services education and training. The agreement also provides $1,600,000 for combatting wildlife depredation to production aquaculture and an additional $5,000,000 for increased feral swine surveillance.

The agreement remains concerned about the devastating impact citrus greening disease has had on our nation's citrus production. The agreement maintains increased funding for Huanglongbing Emergency Response within the Specialty Crop Pests line item and provides an additional $5,500,000 to support the Huanglongbing Multi-Agency Coordination (HLB MAC) group. The agreement encourages APHIS to allocate sufficient resources to continue vital management, control, and associated activities to address citrus greening and to support priorities and strategies identified by the HLB MAC group.

The agreement provides funding for NAHLN through both APHIS and NIFA at approximately $12,000,000 and $4,300,000, respectively, for a total investment of $16,300,000 for fiscal year 2017.

The agreement expects that USDA will not fully implement the final rule allowing the importation of lemons from Argentina until

the Operational Work Plan ensures that Argentina can meet the same phytosanitary risk standards required by the other current countries importing citrus into the United States.

The following table reflects the agreement:

ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE

(Dollars in Thousands)

Animal Health Technical Services	$37,857
Aquatic Animal Health	2,253
Avian Health	55,340
Cattle Health	91,500
Equine, Cervid & Small Ruminant Health	20,000
National Veterinary Stockpile	5,723
Swine Health	24,800
Veterinary Biologics	16,417
Veterinary Diagnostics	39,540
Zoonotic Disease Management	16,523
Subtotal, Animal Health	309,953
Agricultural Quarantine Inspection (Appropriated)	29,330
Cotton Pests	11,520
Field Crop & Rangeland Ecosystems Pests	8,826
Pest Detection	27,446
Plant Protection Methods Development	20,686
Specialty Crop Pests	166,500
Tree & Wood Pests	54,000
Subtotal, Plant Health	318,308
Wildlife Damage Management	103,376
Wildlife Services Methods Development	18,856
Subtotal, Wildlife Services	122,232
Animal & Plant Health Regulatory Enforcement	16,224
Biotechnology Regulatory Services	18,875
Subtotal, Regulatory Services	35,099
Contingency Fund	470
Emergency Preparedness & Response	40,966
Subtotal, Emergency Management	41,436
Agriculture Import/Export	15,599
Overseas Technical & Trade Operations	22,114
Subtotal, Safe Trade	37,713
Animal Welfare	28,810
Horse Protection	697
Subtotal, Animal Welfare	29,507
APHIS Information Technology Infrastructure	4,251
Physical/Operational Security	5,146
Rent and DHS Security Payments	42,567
Subtotal, Agency Management	51,964
Total, Direct Appropriation	$946,212

BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

The agreement provides $3,175,000 for APHIS Buildings and Facilities.

AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

MARKETING SERVICES

The agreement provides $84,933,000 for the Agricultural Marketing Service.

The National Organic Standards Board (NOSB) has concluded its sunset review process for substances and ingredients on the National List. As USDA reviews the NOSB's recommendations, the agreement directs USDA to fully consider all currently available scientific information and stakeholder comments during the rulemaking process. Substances and ingredients should be evaluated pursuant to the criteria specified in the Organic Foods Production Act (7 U.S.C. 6517(c)(1)(A)) and the Agriculture Marketing Service implementing regulations 7 C.F.R. 205.600. The Department is reminded that the spirit of the organic program is to allow for the use of natural processes and materials to the greatest extent practicable.

The agreement directs the Department to stay within the parameters of the required study mandated by Section 293(c) of the National Bioengineered Food Disclosure Standard (Pub. L. 114–216).

LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

The agreement includes a limitation on administrative expenses of $61,227,000.

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

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides $20,705,000 for Funds for Strengthening Markets, Income, and Supply.

The following table reflects the status of this fund for fiscal year 2017:

ESTIMATED TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE AND BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD

(Dollars in Thousands)

Appropriation (30% of Customs Receipts)	$10,929,841
Less Transfers:	
Food and Nutrition Service	−9,503,998
Commerce Department	−145,175
Total, Transfers	−9,649,173
Prior Year Appropriation Available, Start of Year	166,333
Transfer of Prior Year Funds to FNS (F&V)	−125,000
Budget Authority, Farm Bill	1,322,000
Rescission of Current Year Funds	−231,374
Appropriations Temporarily Reduced—Sequestration	−79,626
Unavailable for Obligations (F&V Transfer to FNS)	−125,000
Budget Authority, Appropriations Act	886,000
Less Obligations:	
Child Nutrition Programs (Entitlement Commodities)	465,000
State Option Contract	5,000
Removal of Defective Commodities	2,500
Emergency Surplus Removal	—
Disaster Relief	5,000
Additional Fruits, Vegetables, and Nuts Purchases	206,000
Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program	43,000
Estimated Future Needs	103,355
Total, Commodity Procurement	829,855
Administrative Funds:	
Commodity Purchase Support	35,440
Marketing Agreements and Orders	20,705
Total, Administrative Funds	56,145
Total Obligations	886,000
Unavailable for Obligations (F&V Transfer to FNS)	125,000
Total, End of Year Balances	$125,000

PAYMENTS TO STATES AND POSSESSIONS

The agreement provides $1,235,000 for Payments to States and Possessions.

GRAIN INSPECTION, PACKERS AND STOCKYARDS ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement provides $43,482,000 for the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration, Salaries and Expenses.

LIMITATION ON INSPECTION AND WEIGHING SERVICES EXPENSES

The agreement includes a limitation on inspection and weighing services expenses of $55,000,000.

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR FOOD SAFETY

The agreement provides $819,000 for the Office of the Under Secretary for Food Safety.

FOOD SAFETY AND INSPECTION SERVICE

The agreement provides $1,032,062,000 for the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS).

In addition to requiring the Siluriformes inspection report requested in H. Rpt. 114–531, the agreement recognizes FSIS' diligent work in preventing from entering or removing 547,928 pounds (or more than 273 tons) of adulterated or ineligible imported Siluriformes product from U.S. commerce since April 15, 2016. In light of these alarming findings, the agreement directs FSIS to reinspect all imported Siluriformes fish and fish product shipments, just as all imported meat and poultry products from equivalent countries that export product to the United States are reinspected, upon the date of enactment of this Act. The agreement also directs FSIS to complete a determination of equivalence for the Siluriformes inspection program in a foreign country exporting Siluriformes fish and fish products to the United States not later than 180 days after the end of the 18 month transition period described in the preamble of the final rule entitled ''Mandatory Inspection of Fish of the Order Siluriformes and Products Derived From Such Fish'' issued on December 2, 2015 (80 Fed. Reg. 75590 et seq.).

The following table reflects the agreement:

FOOD SAFETY AND INSPECTION SERVICE

(Dollars in Thousands)

Federal	$915,755
State	61,568
International	16,487
Codex Alimentarius	3,672
Public Health Data Communications Infrastructure System	34,580
Total, Food Safety and Inspection Service	$1,032,062

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR FARM AND FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICES

The agreement provides $901,000 for the Office of the Under Secretary for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services.

FARM SERVICE AGENCY

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides $1,206,110,000 for the Farm Service Agency (FSA), Salaries and Expenses. The agreement includes $5,000,000 for personnel and physical security programs across county offices; $250,000 to establish a pilot network of mentors for beginning farmers; $500,000 to support youth-serving organizations; and $90,000 to support a certified training program for veteran farmers to be prequalified for direct farm ownership loans, as proposed in the budget.

The following table reflects the agreement:

(Dollars in Thousands)

Salaries and expenses	$1,206,110
Transfer from P.L. 480	149
Transfer from export loans	2,463
Transfer from ACIF	306,998
Total, FSA Salaries and expenses	$1,515,720

STATE MEDIATION GRANTS

The agreement provides $3,904,000 for State Mediation Grants.

GRASSROOTS SOURCE WATER PROTECTION PROGRAM

The agreement provides $6,500,000 for the Grassroots Source Water Protection Program.

DAIRY INDEMNITY PROGRAM

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides $500,000 for the Dairy Indemnity Program.

AGRICULTURAL CREDIT INSURANCE FUND PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The agreement includes increased levels for Farm Operating and Ownership loans to meet demand for access to credit in the farm economy.

The following table reflects the agreement:

(Dollars in Thousands)	
Loan Authorizations:	
Farm Ownership Loans:	
Direct	($1,500,000)
Guaranteed	(2,750,000)
Subtotal, Farm Ownership Loans	(4,250,000)
Farm Operating Loans:	
Direct	(1,530,000)
Unsubsidized Guaranteed	(1,960,000)
Subtotal, Farm Operating Loans	(3,490,000)
Emergency Loans	(22,576)
Indian Tribe Land Acquisition Loans	(20,000)
Conservation Loans-Guaranteed	(150,000)
Indian Highly Fractionated Land	(10,000)
Boll Weevil Eradication	(60,000)
Total, Loan Authorizations	(8,002,576)
Loan Subsidies:	
Farm Operating Loan Subsidies:	
Direct	65,178
Unsubsidized Guaranteed	20,972
Subtotal, Farm Operating Subsidies	86,150
Emergency Loans	1,262
Indian Highly Fractionated Land	2,550
Total, Loan Subsidies	89,962
ACIF Expenses:	
Salaries and Expenses	306,998
Administrative Expenses	10,070
Total, ACIF Expenses	$317,068

Risk Management Agency

salaries and expenses

The agreement provides $74,829,000 for the Risk Management Agency (RMA), Salaries and Expenses.

The agreement supports the development of insurance products that recognize and cover livestock products such as milk as 'agricultural commodities' separately and distinctly from coverage developed for 'livestock.' The statute only refers to livestock and lists types of livestock in the definition (7 U.S.C. 1523(b)), but lists no livestock products. There is no indication that Congress intended for livestock products to fall under the limitation of livestock insurance policies and this restriction has unnecessarily hindered the availability of policies for livestock products like milk. The agreement encourages RMA to present this reinterpretation to the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation board at the next scheduled meeting and develop additional policies for milk to provide dairy farmers with more robust risk management options before the end of the year.

CORPORATIONS

Federal Crop Insurance Corporation Fund

The agreement provides an appropriation of such sums as may be necessary for the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation Fund.

Commodity Credit Corporation Fund

reimbursement for net realized losses

(including transfers of funds)

The agreement provides an appropriation of such sums as may be necessary for Reimbursement for Net Realized Losses of the Commodity Credit Corporation.

hazardous waste management

(limitation on expenses)

The agreement provides a limitation of $5,000,000 for Hazardous Waste Management.

TITLE II—CONSERVATION PROGRAMS

Office of the Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment

The agreement provides $901,000 for the Office of the Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment.

Natural Resources Conservation Service

conservation operations

The agreement provides $864,474,000 for Conservation Operations.

The agreement provides $9,380,000 for the Snow Survey and Water Forecasting Program; $9,481,000 for the Plant Materials Centers; $80,802,000 for the Soil Surveys Program; and $759,211,000 for Conservation Technical Assistance, including an increase of $10,600,000 for written conservation plans and conservation program delivery.

watershed and flood prevention operations

The agreement provides $150,000,000 for Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations.

The agreement recognizes the critical challenges facing rural water resource management and protection and supports needed investments in watershed operations that have been absent since fiscal year 2010. These Federal—State—local partnerships are uniquely positioned to identify critical watershed protection and flood prevention needs in rural communities and implement projects that deliver multiple streams of benefits for homes, businesses, and transportation infrastructure and natural resources. In selecting projects for funding, the agency is expected to balance the needs of addressing the project backlog, remediation of existing structures, and new projects.

watershed rehabilitation program

The agreement provides $12,000,000 for the Watershed Rehabilitation Program.

TITLE III—RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

Office of the Under Secretary for Rural Development

The agreement provides $896,000 for the Office of the Under Secretary for Rural Development.

The agreement encourages the Department to work with community development financial institutions (as defined in section 103 of the Community Development Banking and Financial Institutions Act of 1994) in operating the Rural Microenterprise Assistance Program.

Rural Development

salaries and expenses

(including transfers of funds)

The agreement provides $225,835,000 for Rural Development (RD), Salaries and Expenses.

The agreement includes a general provision directing that $500,000 made available for 'Rural Development, Salaries and Expenses' shall be used to develop an implementation plan for increasing access to education in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) in rural communities through the Distance Learning and Telemedicine program. The agreement directs that the implementation plan also address the availability of, access to, and quality of access to STEM education in rural communities. The agreement further directs that it be developed not later than six months after the date of enactment of this Act and in close cooperation with land-grant colleges and universities.

Rural Housing Service

rural housing insurance fund program account

(including transfers of funds)

The agreement provides a total subsidy of $509,892,000 for activities under the Rural Housing Insurance Fund Program Account. This includes a transfer of $412,254,000 to the Rural Development, Salaries and Expenses account.

The following table indicates loan, subsidy, and grant levels provided by the agreement:

(Dollars in Thousands)	
Loan authorizations:	
Single family housing (sec. 502)	
Direct	($1,000,000)
Unsubsidized guaranteed	(24,000,000)
Housing repair (sec. 504)	(26,278)
Rental housing (sec. 515)	(35,000)
Multi-family guaranteed (sec. 538)	(230,000)
Site development loans (sec. 524)	(5,000)
Credit sales of acquired property	(10,000)
Self-help housing land development (sec. 523)	(5,000)
Farm labor housing	(23,855)
Total, Loan authorizations	($25,335,133)
Loan subsidies, grants & administrative expenses:	
Single family housing (sec. 502)	
Direct	$67,700
Housing repair (sec. 504)	3,663
Rental housing (sec. 515)	10,360
Farm labor housing (sec. 514)	7,051
Site development loans (sec. 524)	111
Self-help land development (sec. 523)	417
Total, loan subsidies	89,302
Farm labor housing grants	8,336
Total, loan subsidies and grants	97,638
Administrative expenses (transfer to RD)	412,254
Total, Loan subsidies, grants, and administrative expenses	$509,892

rental assistance program

The agreement provides $1,405,033,000 for the Rental Assistance Program.

Within 120 days of enactment of this Act, the agency is directed to provide the Committees with a detailed analysis of the accuracy of the project-based forecasting tool used to estimate rental assistance needs.

multi-family housing revitalization program account

The agreement provides $41,400,000 for the Multi-Family Housing Revitalization Program Account.

mutual and self-help housing grants

The agreement provides $30,000,000 for Mutual and Self-Help Housing Grants.

rural housing assistance grants

The agreement provides $33,701,000 for Rural Housing Assistance Grants.

The following table reflects the grant levels provided by the agreement:

(Dollars in Thousands)	
Very low income housing repair grants	$28,701
Housing preservation grants	5,000
Total, grant program	$33,701

rural community facilities program account

(including transfers of funds)

The agreement provides $47,100,000 for the Rural Community Facilities Program Account.

The agreement provides $2,600,000,000 for Community Facility direct loans to address increased demand. Given the increased demand, the agreement reiterates the program's primary objective is to assist rural municipalities, nonprofit organizations, and Federally recognized Indian tribes to finance critical and essential community facilities needed to improve the quality of life for residents. The Department is directed to keep the Committees informed of any plans to continue the Community Facilities relending program in fiscal year 2017.

The following table reflects the loan, subsidy, and grant amounts provided by the agreement:

(Dollars in Thousands)

Loan authorizations:	
CF direct loans	($2,600,000)
CF guaranteed loans	(148,305)
Loan subsidies and grants:	
CF guaranteed loans	3,322
CF grants	30,000
Rural Community Development Initiative	4,000
Economic Impact Initiative	5,778
Tribal college grants	4,000
Total, subsidy and grants	$47,100

RURAL BUSINESS–COOPERATIVE SERVICE

RURAL BUSINESS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides $65,319,000 for the Rural Business Program Account.

The agreement provides $24,000,000 for Rural Business Development Grants. Rural business development grants have a pivotal role in supporting the development or expansion of business in rural areas and should be awarded to applicants with sound proposals offering significant commercial potential.

The following table reflects the loan, subsidy, and grant levels provided by the agreement:

(Dollars in Thousands)

Loan level:	
Business and industry guaranteed loans	($919,765)
Loan subsidy and grants:	
Business and industry guaranteed loans	35,319
Rural business development grants	24,000
Delta Regional Authority and Appalachian Regional Commission	6,000
Total, Rural Business Program subsidy and grants	$65,319

INTERMEDIARY RELENDING PROGRAM FUND ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides $9,944,000 for the Intermediary Relending Program Fund Account. The agreement provides for a transfer of $4,468,000 to the Rural Development, Salaries and Expenses account.

The following table reflects the loan and subsidy levels provided by the agreement:

(Dollars in Thousands)

Loan level:	
Estimated loan level	$18,889
Subsidies and administrative expenses:	
Direct loan subsidy level	5,476
Administrative expenses	4,468
Subtotal, subsidies and administrative expenses	$9,944

RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides $42,213,000 for the Rural Economic Development Loans Program Account.

RURAL COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

The agreement provides $26,550,000 for Rural Cooperative Development Grants.

RURAL ENERGY FOR AMERICA PROGRAM

The agreement provides $352,000 for the Rural Energy for America Program.

RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE

RURAL WATER AND WASTE DISPOSAL PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides $571,190,000 for the Rural Utilities Service (RUS) Rural Water and Waste Disposal Program Account.

The following table reflects the loan, subsidy, and grant levels provided by the agreement:

(Dollars in Thousands)

Loan authorizations:	
Water and waste direct loans	($1,200,000)
Water and waste guaranteed loans	(50,000)
Subsidies and grants:	
Direct subsidy	52,080
Guaranteed loan subsidy	240
Water and waste revolving fund	1,000
Water well system grants	993
Grants for Colonias, Native Americans and Alaska	64,000
Water and waste technical assistance grants	20,000
Circuit Rider program	16,897
Solid waste management grants	4,000
High energy cost grants	10,000
Water and waste disposal grants	391,980
306A(i)(2) grants	10,000
Total, subsidies and grants	$571,190

RURAL ELECTRIFICATION AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides $36,341,000 for activities under the Rural Electrification and Telecommunications Loans Program Account. The agreement provides for a transfer of $33,270,000 to the Rural Development, Salaries and Expenses account.

The agreement strengthens the loan servicing tools within RUS by creating a pilot program to allow RUS to refinance existing electric loans.

The following table indicates loan levels provided by the agreement:

(Dollars in Thousands)

Loan authorizations:	
Electric:	
Direct, FFB	($5,500,000)
Guaranteed underwriting	(750,000)
Subtotal, electric	(6,250,000)
Telecommunications:	
Direct, treasury rate	345,000
Direct, FFB	345,000
Subtotal, telecommunications	(690,000)
Loan subsidy:	
Direct, treasury rate	3,071
Total, loan authorizations	(6,940,000)
Administrative expenses	33,270
Total, budget authority	$36,341

DISTANCE LEARNING, TELEMEDICINE, AND BROADBAND PROGRAM

The agreement provides $65,600,000 for the Distance Learning, Telemedicine, and Broadband Program.

The agreement directs that $1,600,000 of the funds made available for distance learning and telemedicine grants by such appropriation be used to provide for upgrades to the equipment and facilities of ambulances (and other emergency transportation vehicles) and to medical facilities, such as hospital and community health centers, and such technical assistance as may be needed.

The following table indicates loan levels provided by the agreement:

(Dollars in Thousands)

Loan authorization:	
Broadband telecommunications	($27,043)
Total, loan authorization	(27,043)
Subsidy and grants:	
Distance learning and telemedicine grants	26,600
Broadband telecommunications program:	
Direct (treasury rate loans)	4,500
Grants	34,500
Total, subsidies and grants	65,600

TITLE IV—DOMESTIC FOOD PROGRAMS

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR FOOD, NUTRITION, AND CONSUMER SERVICES

The agreement provides $814,000 for the Office of the Under Secretary for Food, Nutrition, and Consumer Services.

FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICE

CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAMS

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides $22,793,982,000 for Child Nutrition Programs. Included in the total is an appropriated amount of $13,289,984,000 and a transfer from Section 32 of $9,503,998,000.

The agreement provides the following for Child Nutrition Programs:

TOTAL OBLIGATIONAL AUTHORITY

(Dollars in Thousands)

School lunch program	$12,339,758
School breakfast program	4,470,247
Child and adult care food program	3,490,937
Summer food service program	627,095
Special milk program	9,176
State administrative expenses	279,058
Commodity procurement	1,428,089
Food safety education	2,897
Coordinated review	10,000
Computer support and processing	11,941
CACFP training and technical assistance	23,137
Child Nutrition Program studies and evaluations	21,328
Child Nutrition payment accuracy	11,147
Farm to school tactical team	4,168
Team Nutrition	15,504
Healthier US Schools Challenge	1,500
School meals equipment grants	25,000
Summer EBT demonstration	23,000
Total	$22,793,982

SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC)

The agreement provides $6,350,000,000 for the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC). The agreement fully funds all eligible WIC participants in fiscal year 2017, and includes $60,000,000 for breastfeeding support initiatives and $13,600,000 for infrastructure.

USDA data shows that WIC participation rates have decreased steadily since fiscal year 2010. The President's budget request included a projection of an average monthly participation rate of 8.1 million women, infants, and children for fiscal year 2017. However, the average monthly participation rate was 8.0 million for fiscal year 2015, and the average for fiscal year 2016 was 7.7 million.

The agreement is supportive of ensuring pregnant women are educated on the various methods for preventing exposure to the Zika virus during pregnancy. The agreement directs the Department, in consultation with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, to either continue or expand its education and outreach efforts through the WIC program to provide pregnant women with the information they need to prevent Zika.

SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The agreement provides $78,480,694,000 for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). The agreement includes $3,000,000,000 to be made available for a contingency reserve. The agreement provides a funding level for SNAP benefits as reflected in OMB's mid-session review of the budget.

The agreement provides an increase of $4,000,000 for Nutrition Education and Program Information.

The agreement provides the following for SNAP:

TOTAL OBLIGATIONAL AUTHORITY

(Dollars in Thousands)

Benefits	$67,754,435
Contingency reserve	3,000,000
Administrative costs:	
State administrative costs	4,230,476
Nutrition Education and Obesity Prevention Grant Program	411,000
Employment and Training	456,018
Mandatory other program costs	196,726
Discretionary other program costs	998
Administrative subtotal	5,295,218
Nutrition Assistance for Puerto Rico (NAP)	1,949,000
American Samoa	7,893
Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations	151,000
TEFAP commodities	297,000
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands	12,148
Community Food Projects	9,000
Program access	5,000
Subtotal	2,431,041
Total	$78,480,694

COMMODITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The agreement provides $315,139,000 for the Commodity Assistance Program. The agreement includes $236,120,000 for the Commodity Supplemental Food Program; $18,548,000 for the Farmers' Market Nutrition Program; and $59,401,000 for the Emergency Food Assistance Program.

NUTRITION PROGRAMS ADMINISTRATION

The agreement provides $170,716,000 for Nutrition Programs Administration. The agreement includes $17,700,000, to be available until expended, for office relocation expenses; $1,192,000 for DHS Security Payments; and $1,000,000 for an independent study to identify the best means of consolidating and coordinating reporting requirements under Child Nutrition Programs.

TITLE V—FOREIGN ASSISTANCE AND RELATED PROGRAMS

FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The agreement includes $196,571,000 for the Foreign Agricultural Service, Salaries and Expenses and transfers of $6,074,000. The agreement provides $2,300,000 for International Cooperative Administrative Support Services; $3,545,000 for pay costs; and $840,000 above estimated amounts for the Country Strategy Support Fund.

FOOD FOR PEACE TITLE I DIRECT CREDIT AND FOOD FOR PROGRESS PROGRAM ACCOUNT (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides $149,000 for administrative expenses for the Food for Peace Title I Direct Credit and Food for Progress Program Account to be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for ''Farm Service Agency, Salaries and Expenses''.

FOOD FOR PEACE TITLE II GRANTS

The agreement provides $1,466,000,000 for Food for Peace Title II Grants. The agreement also includes an additional one-time increase of $134,000,000, for a total level of $1,600,000,000.

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

The agreement provides $201,626,000 for the McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program.

COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION EXPORT (LOANS)

CREDIT GUARANTEE PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides $8,537,000 for the Commodity Credit Corporation Export Loans Credit Guarantee Program Account.

TITLE VI—RELATED AGENCY AND FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement provides specific amounts by FDA activity as reflected in the following table:

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION—SALARIES & EXPENSES

(Dollars in Thousands)

Budget Authority:	
Foods	$1,025,503
Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition	310,994
Field Activities	714,509
Human Drugs	492,203
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research	355,996
Field Activities	136,207
Biologics	215,443
Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research	174,052
Field Activities	41,391
Animal Drugs and Feeds	162,852
Center for Veterinary Medicine	98,205
Field Activities	64,647
Devices and Radiological Products	329,764
Center for Devices and Radiological Health	246,319
Field Activities	83,445
National Center for Toxicological Research	63,331
Other Activities/Office of the Commissioner	185,087
Office of the Commissioner	*56,178*
Office of Foods and Veterinary Medicine	*23,843*
Office of Medical and Tobacco Products	*11,259*
Office of Global Regulatory Operations and Policy	*23,564*
Office of Operations	*38,015*
Office of the Chief Scientist	*30,728*
Transfer to the HHS Office of Inspector General	*1,500*
White Oak Consolidation	43,044
Other Rent and Rent Related Activities	71,943
GSA Rent	170,208
Subtotal, Budget Authority	2,759,378
User Fees:	
Prescription Drug User Fee Act	754,524
Medical Device User Fee and Modernization Act	126,083
Human Generic Drug User Fee Act	323,011
Biosimilar User Fee Act	22,079
Animal Drug User Fee Act	23,673
Animal Generic Drug User Fee Act	11,341
Tobacco Product User Fees	635,000
Subtotal, User Fees	1,895,711
Total, FDA Program Level	$4,655,089

The agreement provides $2,759,378,000 in new discretionary budget authority and $1,895,711,000 in definite user fees for a total of $4,655,089,000 for Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Salaries and Expenses. This total does not include permanent, indefinite user fees for the Mammography Quality Standards Act; Color Certification; Export Certification; Priority Review Vouchers Pediatric Disease; Food and Feed Recall; Food Reinspection; Voluntary Qualified Importer Program; the Third Party Auditor Program; Outsourcing Facility; and Medical Countermeasure Priority Review Vouchers. The agreement accepts $13,516,000 in proposed administrative savings and expects FDA to continue all projects, activities, laboratories, and programs as included in fiscal year 2016 unless otherwise specified.

The agreement also includes a general provision providing $10,000,000 for FDA to prevent, prepare for, and respond to emerging health threats, including the Ebola and Zika viruses, domestically and internationally and to develop necessary medical countermeasures and vaccines.

As part of the increases, the agreement provides an additional $35,675,000 to support the implementation of the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA). Of this amount, $18,672,000 is provided for the National Integrated Food Safety System and $16,913,000 is provided for Import Safety. Funds for import safety should help FDA ensure an even playing field in the application of FSMA regulations as it relates to both domestic and imported producers, processors, and manufacturers of food and animal feed. The agreement notes that FSMA implementation places additional requirements on state governments and private stakeholders, and therefore urges the FDA to provide sufficient resources to State education and inspection programs to address these needs. The agreement continues to require quarterly reports to the Committees with a breakdown on funding allocations, as well as projections for future needs.

The agreement provides an increase of $10,911,000 for medical product safety initiatives including $2,500,000 for efforts to support the Precision Medicine initiative. This increase should supplement efforts authorized in the 21st Century Cures Act. In addition, an increase of $4,000,000 is provided for Pediatric Device Consortium Grants and postmarket activities within the Medical Device program. Lastly, the agreement provides an increase of $4,411,000 for animal drug and medical device review activities. The agreement continues to include the fiscal year 2016 funding to evaluate over-the-counter sunscreen products.

The $2,500,000 increase above the amount provided in fiscal year 2016 for foreign high-risk inspections will allow FDA's Office of the Global Regulatory Operations Policy to continue efforts to develop and utilize a targeted, risk-based, and efficient inspection model that incorporates commercially available information on high-risk establishments for onsite verifications. FDA is directed to provide the Committees with an update on these efforts, including estimated efficiencies and concerns, and plans to continue or expand this effort in the future.

Employees charged with implementing federal programs are expected to carry out their duties in a legal and ethical manner, free from conflicts of interest, without seeking private gain or advancing a private agenda, and without giving preferential treatment to any outside organization or individual. The agency is reminded of its responsibility to ensure that federal employees handle information, including information received from the employees, offices, or Committees of the Congress, in a professional and confidential manner according to the federal government's code of conduct, standards, regulations, and statutes.

The agreement strongly urges the FDA to continue to work with Congress to address the issues and concerns regarding the regulation of Laboratory Developed Tests.

The agreement provides $6,000,000 for Pediatric Device Consortia Grants.

The agreement remains concerned with the draft MOU that the FDA proposed under Section 503A of the FDCA. Section 503A distinguishes between ''distribution'' and ''dispensing'' for the purposes of the MOU. In the DQSA, Congress only allowed the FDA to regulate ''distribution.'' The MOU appears to exceed the authority granted in the statute by redefining ''distribution'' in a manner that includes dispensing. Congress did not intend to include dispensing of compounded drugs over state lines within the scope of the MOU. The MOU should not address dispensing of compounded drugs to a patient over state lines if all other requirements of 503A are met.

BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

The agreement provides $11,788,000 for the Food and Drug Administration Buildings and Facilities.

INDEPENDENT AGENCY

FARM CREDIT ADMINISTRATION

LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

The agreement includes a limitation of $68,600,000 on administrative expenses of the Farm Credit Administration.

TITLE VII—GENERAL PROVISIONS

(INCLUDING RESCISSIONS AND TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

Section 701.—The agreement includes language making funds available for the purchase, replacement, and hire of passenger motor vehicles.

Section 702.—The agreement includes language regarding transfers of funds to the Working Capital Fund of the Department of Agriculture.

Section 703.—The agreement includes language limiting funding provided in the bill to one year unless otherwise specified.

Section 704.—The agreement includes language regarding indirect cost rates on cooperative agreements between the Department of Agriculture and nonprofit institutions.

Section 705.—The agreement includes language making appropriations to the Department of Agriculture for the cost of direct and guaranteed loans available until expended to disburse certain obligations for certain Rural Development programs.

Section 706.—The agreement includes language regarding the transfer of funds to the Office of the Chief Information Officer and the acquisition of information technology systems.

Section 707.—The agreement includes language making funds available until expended to the Department of Agriculture to disburse certain obligations for certain conservation programs.

Section 708.—The agreement includes language regarding Rural Utilities Service program eligibility.

Section 709.—The agreement includes language regarding funds for information technology expenses.

Section 710.—The agreement includes language prohibiting first-class airline travel.

Section 711.—The agreement includes language regarding the availability of certain funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation.

Section 712.—The agreement includes language regarding funding for advisory committees.

Section 713.—The agreement includes language regarding the limitation on indirect costs for grants awarded by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

Section 714.—The agreement includes language regarding a limitation and rescission of funds.

Section 715.—The agreement includes language regarding child nutrition programs.

Section 716.—The agreement includes language regarding user fee proposals without offsets.

Section 717.—The agreement includes language regarding the reprogramming of funds and notification requirements.

Section 718.—The agreement includes language regarding fees for the guaranteed business and industry loan program.

Section 719.—The agreement includes language regarding the appropriations hearing process.

Section 720.—The agreement includes language regarding government-sponsored news stories.

Section 721.—The agreement includes language regarding details and assignments of Department of Agriculture employees.

Section 722.—The agreement includes language regarding the Water Bank Act.

Section 723.—The agreement includes language requiring spend plans.

Section 724.—The agreement includes language regarding the Food for Peace Act.

Section 725.—The agreement includes language regarding Rural Development programs.

Section 726.—The agreement includes language regarding USDA loan programs.

Section 727.—The agreement includes language regarding the Working Capital Fund.

Section 728.—The agreement includes language regarding purchases made through child nutrition programs.

Section 729.—The agreement includes language regarding potable water supplies.

Section 730.—The agreement includes language regarding the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative.

Section 731.—The agreement includes language regarding Rural Development Programs.

Section 732.—The agreement includes language regarding nutrition research.

Section 733.—The agreement includes language regarding housing loan programs.

Section 734.—The agreement includes language regarding consumer information.

Section 735.—The agreement includes language regarding Rural Development loan programs.

Section 736.—The agreement includes language regarding tissue regulation.

Section 737.—The agreement includes language regarding animal feed.

Section 738.—The agreement includes language regarding APHIS regulation.

Section 739.—The agreement includes language regarding animal research.

Section 740.—The agreement includes language regarding FDA regulation.

Section 741.—The agreement includes language regarding the Rural Housing Service.

Section 742.—The agreement includes language regarding IT systems.

Section 743.—The agreement includes language regarding APHIS Buildings & Facilities.

Section 744.—The agreement includes language regarding nutrition programs.

Section 745.—The agreement includes language regarding certain unobligated balances.

Section 746.—The agreement includes language regarding domestic preference.

Section 747.—The agreement includes language regarding child nutrition programs.

Section 748.—The agreement includes language regarding emergency food assistance.

Section 749.—The agreement includes language regarding loan refinancing.

Section 750.—The agreement includes language regarding persistent poverty.

Section 751.—The agreement includes language regarding community eligibility.

Section 752.—The agreement includes language regarding emerging disease funding.

Section 753.—The agreement includes language regarding emergency programs.

Section 754.—The agreement includes language regarding lobbying.

Section 755.—The agreement includes language regarding the Food for Peace Act.

Section 756.—The agreement includes language regarding FDA regulation.

Section 757.—The agreement includes language regarding citrus greening.

Section 758.—The agreement includes language regarding certain unobligated balances.

Section 759.—The agreement includes language regarding certain unobligated balances.

Section 760.—The agreement includes language regarding assistance for military veterans.

Section 761.—The agreement includes language regarding genetically engineered salmon.

Section 762.—The agreement includes language regarding certain horse inspection activities.

Section 763.—The agreement includes language regarding Rural Economic Area Partnership Zones.

Section 764.—The agreement includes language regarding hardwood trees.

Section 765.—The agreement includes language regarding the SNAP program.

Section 766.—The agreement includes language regarding FDA guidance.

Section 767.—The agreement includes language regarding food retailer financing.

Section 768.—The agreement includes language regarding STEM programs.

Section 769.—The agreement includes language regarding Rural Development programs.

Section 770.—The agreement includes language regarding certain unobligated balances.

Section 771.—The agreement includes language regarding the Rural Housing Service.

Section 772.—The agreement includes language regarding the Agriculture Risk Coverage program.

Section 773.—The agreement includes language regarding industrial hemp.

Section 774.—The agreement includes language regarding crab nomenclature.

Division A - Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
TITLE I - AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS					
Production, Processing, and Marketing					
Office of the Secretary					
Office of the Secretary	5,051	10,178	5,051	---	-5,127
Office of Tribal Relations	502	755	502	---	-253
Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Coordination	1,496	1,592	1,496	---	-96
Office of Advocacy and Outreach	1,209	11,220	1,209	---	-10,011
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration	804	807	804	---	-3
Departmental Administration	25,124	27,420	24,124	-1,000	-3,296
Subtotal, Departmental Administration	25,928	28,227	24,928	-1,000	-3,299
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations	3,869	3,919	3,869	---	-50
Office of Communications	7,500	8,512	7,500	---	-1,012
Total, Office of the Secretary	45,555	64,403	44,555	-1,000	-19,848

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	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Executive Operations:					
Office of the Chief Economist	17,777	17,592	18,917	+1,140	+1,325
Office of Hearings and Appeals	13,317	13,481	13,399	+82	-82
Office of Budget and Program Analysis	9,392	9,525	9,525	+133	---
Subtotal, Executive Operations	40,486	40,598	41,841	+1,355	+1,243
Office of the Chief Information Officer	44,538	65,716	49,538	+5,000	-16,178
Office of the Chief Financial Officer	6,028	9,119	8,028	+2,000	-1,091
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights	898	901	901	+3	---
Office of Civil Rights	24,070	24,750	24,206	+136	-544
Building and Facilities					
Agriculture Buildings and Facilities	64,189	84,365	84,189	+20,000	-176
Hazardous materials management	3,618	3,633	3,633	+15	---
Office of Inspector General	95,738	100,998	98,208	+2,470	-2,790
Office of the General Counsel	44,383	49,599	44,697	+314	-4,902
Office of Ethics	3,654	4,617	4,136	+482	-481
Total, Departmental Administration	373,157	448,699	403,932	+30,775	-44,767
Office of the Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics	893	901	893	---	-8
Economic Research Service	85,373	91,278	86,757	+1,384	-4,521
National Agricultural Statistics Service	168,443	176,639	171,239	+2,796	-5,400
Census of Agriculture	(42,177)	(42,177)	(42,177)	---	---

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Agricultural Research Service:					
Salaries and expenses	1,143,825	1,161,340	1,170,235	+26,410	+8,895
Buildings and facilities	212,101	94,500	99,600	-112,501	+5,100
Total, Agricultural Research Service	1,355,926	1,255,840	1,269,835	-86,091	+13,995
National Institute of Food and Agriculture:					
National Institute of Food and Agriculture (leg. proposal)	---	1,373,974	---	---	-1,373,974
Research and education activities	819,685	---	849,518	+29,833	+849,518
Native American Institutions Endowment Fund	(11,880)	(11,880)	(11,880)	---	---
Hispanic-Serving Agricultural Colleges and Universities Endowment Fund	---	(10,000)	---	---	(-10,000)
Extension activities	475,891	---	477,391	+1,500	+477,391
Integrated activities	30,900	---	36,000	+5,100	+36,000
Total, National Institute of Food and Agriculture	1,326,476	1,373,974	1,362,909	+36,433	-11,065
Office of the Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs	893	901	901	+8	---
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service:					
Salaries and expenses	894,415	901,196	946,212	+51,797	+45,016
Buildings and facilities	3,175	3,175	3,175	---	---
Total, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service	897,590	904,371	949,387	+51,797	+45,016

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Agricultural Marketing Service:					
Marketing Services	81,223	81,933	84,933	+3,710	+3,000
Standardization activities (user fees)	(65,000)	(65,000)	(65,000)	---	---
(Limitation on administrative expenses, from fees collected)	(60,982)	(61,227)	(61,227)	(+245)	---
Funds for strengthening markets, income, and supply (Section 32):					
Permanent, Section 32	1,303,000	1,322,000	1,322,000	+19,000	---
Marketing agreements and orders (transfer from section 32)	(20,489)	(20,705)	(20,705)	(+216)	---
Payments to States and Possessions	1,235	1,235	1,235	---	---
Total, Agricultural Marketing Service program	1,446,440	1,466,395	1,469,395	+22,955	+3,000
Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration:					
Salaries and expenses	43,057	43,482	43,482	+425	---
Limitation on inspection and weighing services	(55,000)	(57,500)	(55,000)	---	(-2,500)
Office of the Under Secretary for Food Safety	816	819	819	+3	---
Food Safety and Inspection Service	1,014,871	1,030,405	1,032,062	+17,191	+1,657
Lab accreditation fees	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)	---	---
Total, Production, Processing, and Marketing	6,652,953	6,732,477	6,730,384	+77,431	-2,093

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	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Farm Assistance Programs					
Office of the Under Secretary for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services	898	901	901	+3	---
Farm Service Agency:					
Salaries and expenses	1,200,180	1,209,751	1,206,110	+5,930	-3,641
(Transfer from Food for Peace (P.L. 480))	(2,528)	(149)	(149)	(-2,379)	---
(Transfer from export loans)	(354)	(2,463)	(2,463)	(+2,109)	---
(Transfer from ACIF)	(306,998)	(306,998)	(306,998)	---	---
Subtotal, transfers from program accounts	(309,880)	(309,610)	(309,610)	(-270)	---
Total, Salaries and expenses	(1,510,060)	(1,519,361)	(1,515,720)	(+5,660)	(-3,641)
State mediation grants	3,404	3,404	3,904	+500	+500
Grassroots source water protection program	6,500	---	6,500	---	+6,500
Dairy indemnity program	500	500	500	---	---
Subtotal, Farm Service Agency	1,210,584	1,213,655	1,217,014	+6,430	+3,359

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	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Agricultural Credit Insurance Fund (ACIF) Program Account:					
Loan authorizations:					
Farm ownership loans:					
Direct	(1,500,000)	(1,500,000)	(1,500,000)	---	---
Guaranteed	(2,000,000)	(2,000,000)	(2,750,000)	(+750,000)	(+750,000)
Subtotal	(3,500,000)	(3,500,000)	(4,250,000)	(+750,000)	(+750,000)
Farm operating loans:					
Direct	(1,252,004)	(1,460,047)	(1,530,000)	(+277,996)	(+69,953)
Unsubsidized guaranteed	(1,393,443)	(1,432,430)	(1,960,000)	(+566,557)	(+527,570)
Subtotal	(2,645,447)	(2,892,477)	(3,490,000)	(+844,553)	(+597,523)
Emergency loans	(34,667)	(22,576)	(22,576)	(-12,091)	---
Indian tribe land acquisition loans	(2,000)	(20,000)	(20,000)	(+18,000)	---
Conservation loans:					
Guaranteed	(150,000)	(150,000)	(150,000)	---	---
Indian Highly Fractionated Land Loans	(10,000)	(10,000)	(10,000)	---	---
Boll weevil eradication loans	(60,000)	(60,000)	(60,000)	---	---
Total, Loan authorizations	(6,402,114)	(6,655,053)	(8,002,576)	(+1,600,462)	(+1,347,523)

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	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Loan subsidies:					
Farm operating loans:					
Direct	53,961	62,198	65,178	+11,217	+2,980
Unsubsidized guaranteed	14,352	15,327	20,972	+6,620	+5,645
Subtotal	68,313	77,525	86,150	+17,837	+8,625
Emergency Loans	1,262	1,262	1,262	---	---
Individual Development Account Grants	---	1,500	---	---	-1,500
Indian Highly Fractionated Land Loans	---	2,550	2,550	+2,550	---
Total, Loan subsidies and grants	69,575	82,837	89,962	+20,387	+7,125
ACIF administrative expenses:					
Salaries and Expenses (transfer to FSA)	306,998	306,998	306,998	---	---
Administrative expenses	7,920	10,070	10,070	+2,150	---
Total, ACIF expenses	314,918	317,068	317,068	+2,150	---
Total, Agricultural Credit Insurance Fund	384,493	399,905	407,030	+22,537	+7,125
(Loan authorization)	(6,402,114)	(6,655,053)	(8,002,576)	(+1,600,462)	(+1,347,523)
Total, Farm Service Agency	1,595,077	1,613,560	1,624,044	+28,967	+10,484

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	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Risk Management Agency:					
RMA Salaries and Expenses	74,829	66,615	74,829	---	+8,214
FCIC User Fee (transfer) (leg. proposal)	---	(20,000)	---	---	(-20,000)
Subtotal, Risk Management Agency	74,829	86,615	74,829	---	-11,786
Total, Farm Assistance Programs	1,670,804	1,681,076	1,699,774	+28,970	+18,698
Corporations					
Federal Crop Insurance Corporation:					
Federal crop insurance corporation fund	7,857,970	8,839,089	8,667,000	+809,030	-172,089
Commodity Credit Corporation Fund:					
Reimbursement for net realized losses	6,871,132	13,476,854	21,290,712	+14,419,580	+7,813,858
Hazardous waste management (limitation on expenses)	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)	---	---
Total, Corporations	14,729,102	22,315,943	29,957,712	+15,228,610	+7,641,769
Total, Title I, Agricultural Programs	23,052,859	30,729,496	38,387,870	+15,335,011	+7,658,374
(By transfer)	(330,369)	(330,315)	(330,315)	(-54)	---
(Loan authorization)	(6,402,114)	(6,655,053)	(8,002,576)	(+1,600,462)	(+1,347,523)
(Limitation on administrative expenses)	(120,982)	(123,727)	(121,227)	(+245)	(-2,500)

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	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
TITLE II - CONSERVATION PROGRAMS					
Office of the Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment	898	901	901	+3	---
Natural Resources Conservation Service:					
Conservation Operations	850,856	860,374	864,474	+13,618	+4,100
Farm Security and Rural Investment program (transfer authority)	---	(1,033,983)	---	---	(-1,033,983)
Total, Conservation operations	850,856	1,894,357	864,474	+13,618	-1,029,883
Watershed flood and prevention operations	---	---	150,000	+150,000	+150,000
Watershed rehabilitation program	12,000	---	12,000	---	+12,000
Total, Natural Resources Conservation Service	862,856	860,374	1,026,474	+163,618	+166,100
Total, Title II, Conservation Programs	863,754	861,275	1,027,375	+163,621	+166,100

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	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
TITLE III - RURAL DEVELOPMENT					
Office of the Under Secretary for Rural Development...	893	896	896	+3	---
Rural Development:					
Rural development expenses:					
Salaries and expenses.....	225,835	230,679	225,835	---	-4,844
(Transfer from RHIF).....	(417,854)	(426,821)	(412,254)	(-5,600)	(-14,567)
(Transfer from RDLFP).....	(4,468)	(4,564)	(4,468)	---	(-96)
(Transfer from RETLP).....	(34,707)	(36,451)	(33,270)	(-1,437)	(-3,181)
Subtotal, Transfers from program accounts.	(457,029)	(467,836)	(449,992)	(-7,037)	(-17,844)
Total, Rural development expenses.....	(682,864)	(698,515)	(675,827)	(-7,037)	(-22,688)
Rural Housing Service:					
Rural Housing Insurance Fund Program Account:					
Loan authorizations:					
Single family direct (Sec. 502).....	(900,000)	(900,000)	(1,000,000)	(+100,000)	(+100,000)
Unsubsidized guaranteed.....	(24,000,000)	(24,000,000)	(24,000,000)	---	---
Subtotal, Single family.....	(24,900,000)	(24,900,000)	(25,000,000)	(+100,000)	(+100,000)

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	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Housing repair (Sec. 504)	(26,278)	(26,277)	(26,278)	---	(+1)
Rental housing (Sec. 515)	(28,398)	(33,074)	(35,000)	(+6,602)	(+1,926)
Multi-family housing guarantees (Sec. 538)	(150,000)	(230,000)	(230,000)	(+80,000)	---
Site development loans (Sec. 524)	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)	---	---
Single family housing credit sales	(10,000)	(10,000)	(10,000)	---	---
Self-help housing land develop. (Sec. 523)	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)	---	---
Farm Labor Housing (Sec.514)	(23,855)	(23,857)	(23,855)	---	(-2)
Total, Loan authorizations	(25,148,531)	(25,233,208)	(25,335,133)	(+186,602)	(+101,925)
Loan subsidies:					
Single family direct (Sec. 502)	60,750	60,930	67,700	+6,950	+6,770
Housing repair (Sec. 504)	3,424	3,663	3,663	+239	---
Rental housing (Sec. 515)	8,414	9,790	10,360	+1,946	+570
Site development loans (Sec. 524) (leg. proposal)	---	111	111	+111	---
Farm labor housing (Sec.514)	6,789	7,052	7,051	+262	-1
Self-help land dev. housing loans (Sec. 523) (leg. proposal)	---	417	417	+417	---
Total, Loan subsidies	79,377	81,963	89,302	+9,925	+7,339
Farm labor housing grants	8,336	8,336	8,336	---	---
RHIF administrative expenses (transfer to RD)	417,854	426,821	412,254	-5,600	-14,567
Total, Rural Housing Insurance Fund program	505,567	517,120	509,892	+4,325	-7,228
(Loan authorization)	(25,148,531)	(25,233,208)	(25,335,133)	(+186,602)	(+101,925)

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Rental assistance program:					
Rental assistance (Sec. 521)	1,389,695	1,405,033	1,405,033	+15,338	---
Multi-Family Housing Revitalization Program Account:					
Rural housing voucher program	15,000	18,000	19,400	+4,400	+1,400
Multi-family housing revitalization program	22,000	19,362	22,000	---	+2,638
Total, Multi-family housing revitalization	37,000	37,362	41,400	+4,400	+4,038
Mutual and self-help housing grants	27,500	18,493	30,000	+2,500	+11,507
Rural housing assistance grants	32,239	28,701	33,701	+1,462	+5,000
Rural community facilities program account:					
Loan authorizations:					
Community facility:					
Direct	(2,200,000)	(2,200,000)	(2,600,000)	(+400,000)	(+400,000)
Guaranteed	(148,305)	---	(148,305)	---	(+148,305)
Total, Loan authorizations	(2,348,305)	(2,200,000)	(2,748,305)	(+400,000)	(+548,305)
Loan subsidies and grants:					
Community facility:					
Guaranteed	3,500	---	3,322	-178	+3,322
Grants	25,000	25,000	30,000	+5,000	+5,000

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Rural community development initiative....	4,000	4,000	4,000	---	---
Economic impact initiative grants.....	5,778	---	5,778	---	+5,778
Tribal college grants.....	4,000	8,000	4,000	---	-4,000
Total, RCFP Loan subsidies and grants...	42,278	37,000	47,100	+4,822	+10,100
Subtotal, grants and payments.....	102,017	84,194	110,801	+8,784	+26,607
Total, Rural Housing Service.....	2,034,279	2,043,709	2,067,126	+32,847	+23,417
(Loan authorization).....	(27,496,836)	(27,433,208)	(28,083,438)	(+586,602)	(+650,230)
Rural Business--Cooperative Service:					
Rural Business Program Account:					
(Guaranteed business and industry loans).....	(919,765)	(892,244)	(919,765)	---	(+27,521)
Loan subsidies and grants:					
Guaranteed business and industry subsidy..	35,687	35,779	35,319	-368	-460
Rural business development grants.....	24,000	30,000	24,000	---	-6,000
Demonstration Projects (rural child poverty) (leg. proposal).....	---	20,000	---	---	-20,000
Data Alignment (rural child poverty) (leg. proposal).....	---	5,000	---	---	-5,000
Delta regional authority.....	3,000	---	6,000	+3,000	+6,000
Total, RBP loan subsidies and grants.....	62,687	90,779	65,319	+2,632	-25,460
Intermediary Relending Program Fund Account:					
(Loan authorization).....	(18,889)	(18,889)	(18,889)	---	---
Loan subsidy.....	5,217	5,476	5,476	+259	---

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Administrative expenses (transfer to RD).....	4,468	4,564	4,468	---	-96
Total, IRP Fund.....	9,685	10,040	9,944	+259	-96
Rural Economic Development Loans Program Account:					
(Loan authorization).....	(33,077)	(85,000)	(42,213)	(+9,136)	(-42,787)
Limit cushion of credit interest spending.....	(179,000)	(151,487)	(132,000)	(-47,000)	(-19,487)
(Rescission).....	-179,000	-151,487	-132,000	+47,000	+19,487
Rural Cooperative Development Grants:					
Cooperative development.....	5,800	6,000	5,800	---	-200
Appropriate Technology Transfer for Rural Areas.....	2,500	2,500	2,750	+250	+250
Grants to assist minority producers.....	3,000	3,000	3,000	---	---
Value-added agricultural product market development.....	10,750	10,750	15,000	+4,250	+4,250
Total, Rural Cooperative development grants.	22,050	22,250	26,550	+4,500	+4,300
Rural Microenterprise Investment Program Account (leg. proposal):					
(Loan authorization)	---	(23,419)	---	---	(-23,419)
Loan subsidies and grants.....	---	4,904	---	---	-4,904
Total, Rural Microenterprise Investment.....	---	4,904	---	---	-4,904

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Rural Energy for America Program					
(Loan authorization)	(7,576)	(75,754)	(7,576)	---	(-68,178)
Loan subsidy and grants	500	3,515	352	-148	-3,163
Grants	---	15,000	---	---	-15,000
Total, Rural Energy for America Program	500	18,515	352	-148	-18,163
Rural Business Investment Program Account (leg. proposal):					
(Loan authorization)	---	(20,600)	---	---	(-20,600)
Loan subsidy	---	2,577	---	---	-2,577
Grants	---	4,000	---	---	-4,000
Total, Rural Business Investment Program	---	6,577	---	---	-6,577
Healthy Foods Financing Initiative (leg. proposal):					
Grants	---	1,000	---	---	-1,000
Total, Healthy Foods, Healthy Neighborhoods	---	1,000	---	---	-1,000
Total, Rural Business-Cooperative Service	-84,078	2,578	-29,835	+54,243	-32,413
(Loan authorization)	(979,307)	(1,115,906)	(988,443)	(+9,136)	(-127,463)

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Rural Utilities Service:					
Rural water and waste disposal program account:					
Loan authorizations:					
Direct	(1,200,000)	(803,802)	(1,200,000)	---	(+396,198)
Guaranteed	(50,000)	---	(50,000)	---	(+50,000)
Total, Loan authorization	1,250,000	803,802	1,250,000	---	+446,198
Loan subsidies and grants:					
Direct subsidy	31,320	34,885	52,080	+20,760	+17,195
Guaranteed subsidy	275	---	240	-35	+240
Water and waste revolving fund	1,000	500	1,000	---	+500
Water well system grants	993	500	993	---	+493
Colonias and AK/HI grants	64,000	42,544	64,000	---	+21,456
Water and waste technical assistance	20,000	13,930	20,000	---	+6,070
Circuit rider program	16,397	13,000	16,897	+500	+3,897
Solid waste management grants	4,000	1,000	4,000	---	+3,000
High energy cost grants	10,000	---	10,000	---	+10,000
Water and waste disposal grants	364,380	350,234	391,980	+27,600	+41,746
306A(i)(2) grants	10,000	5,000	10,000	---	+5,000
Total, Loan subsidies and grants	522,365	461,593	571,190	+48,825	+109,597
Rural Electrification and Telecommunications Loans Program Account:					
Loan authorizations:					
Electric:					
Direct, FFB	(5,500,000)	(6,500,000)	(5,500,000)	---	(-1,000,000)

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Guaranteed underwriting	(750,000)	---	(750,000)	---	(+750,000)
Subtotal, Electric	(6,250,000)	(6,500,000)	(6,250,000)	---	(-250,000)
Telecommunications:					
Direct, Treasury rate	(690,000)	(345,000)	(345,000)	(-345,000)	---
Direct, FFB	---	(345,056)	(345,000)	(+345,000)	(-56)
Subtotal, Telecommunications	(690,000)	(690,056)	(690,000)	---	(-56)
Total, Loan authorizations	(6,940,000)	(7,190,056)	(6,940,000)	---	(-250,056)
Loan Subsidy:					
Telecommunications Direct, Treasury Rate	104	3,071	3,071	+2,967	---
Loan Modifcations (leg. proposal)	---	11,000	---	---	-11,000
Total, Loan subsidies	104	14,071	3,071	+2,967	-11,000
RETLP administrative expenses (transfer to RD)	34,707	36,451	33,270	-1,437	-3,181
Total, Rural Electrification and Telecommunications Loans Program Account	34,811	50,522	36,341	+1,530	-14,181
(Loan authorization)	(6,940,000)	(7,190,056)	(6,940,000)	---	(-250,056)

Division A - Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Distance learning, telemedicine, and broadband program:					
Loan authorizations:					
Broadband telecommunications	(20,576)	---	(27,043)	(+6,467)	(+27,043)
Total, Loan authorizations	(20,576)	---	(27,043)	(+6,467)	(+27,043)
Loan subsidies and grants:					
Distance learning and telemedicine:					
Grants	22,000	34,950	26,600	+4,600	-8,350
Broadband telecommunications:					
Direct	4,500	---	4,500	---	+4,500
Grants	10,372	39,492	34,500	+24,128	-4,992
Total, Loan subsidies and grants	36,872	74,442	65,600	+28,728	-8,842
Total, Rural Utilities Service	594,048	586,557	673,131	+79,083	+86,574
(Loan authorization)	(8,210,576)	(7,993,858)	(8,217,043)	(+6,467)	(+223,185)
Total, Title III, Rural Development Programs	2,770,977	2,864,419	2,937,153	+166,176	+72,734
(By transfer)	(457,029)	(467,836)	(449,992)	(-7,037)	(-17,844)
(Loan authorization)	(36,686,719)	(36,542,972)	(37,288,924)	(+602,205)	(+745,952)

Division A - Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
TITLE IV - DOMESTIC FOOD PROGRAMS					
Office of the Under Secretary for Food, Nutrition and Consumer Services	811	814	814	+3	---
Food and Nutrition Service:					
Child nutrition programs	22,108,746	23,148,733	22,745,982	+637,236	-402,751
School breakfast program equipment grants	25,000	35,000	25,000	---	-10,000
Demonstration projects (Summer EBT)	16,000	26,000	23,000	+7,000	-3,000
Summer Food Service Program (leg. proposal)	---	10,000	---	---	-10,000
Direct Certification (leg. proposal)	---	10,000	---	---	-10,000
Child Nutrition State Exchange Activities (leg. proposal)	---	1,000	---	---	-1,000
Total, Child nutrition programs	22,149,746	23,230,733	22,793,982	+644,236	-436,751
Special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants, and children (WIC)	6,350,000	6,350,000	6,350,000	---	---
Supplemental nutrition assistance program: (Food stamp program)	77,848,385	76,681,170	75,479,696	-2,368,689	-1,201,474
Reserve	3,000,000	5,000,000	3,000,000	---	-2,000,000
FDPIR nutrition education services	998	998	998	---	---
National food consumption survey (leg. proposal)	---	5,000	---	---	-5,000

Division A - Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Traditional and Local Foods Demonstration Project (leg. proposal)	---	2,000	---	---	-2,000
FY 2018 (first quarter) (leg. proposal)	---	19,647,500	---	---	-19,647,500
Total, Food stamp program	80,849,383	101,336,668	78,480,694	-2,368,689	-22,855,974
Fiscal year 2017	(80,849,383)	(81,689,168)	(78,480,694)	(-2,368,689)	(-3,208,474)
Commodity assistance program:					
Commodity supplemental food program	222,198	236,120	236,120	+13,922	---
Farmers market nutrition program	18,548	16,548	18,548	---	+2,000
Emergency food assistance program	54,401	59,401	59,401	+5,000	---
Pacific island and disaster assistance	1,070	1,070	1,070	---	---
CR Anomaly, CSFP (P.L. 114-223, sec. 117)	---	---	---	---	---
Total, Commodity assistance program	296,217	313,139	315,139	+18,922	+2,000
Nutrition programs administration	150,824	179,447	170,716	+19,892	-8,731
Total, Food and Nutrition Service	109,796,170	131,409,987	108,110,531	-1,685,639	-23,299,456
FY 2017	(109,796,170)	(111,762,487)	(108,110,531)	(-1,685,639)	(-3,651,956)
Total, Title IV, Domestic Food Programs	109,796,981	131,410,801	108,111,345	-1,685,636	-23,299,456
FY 2017	(109,796,170)	(111,762,487)	(108,110,531)	(-1,685,639)	(-3,651,956)

Division A - Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
TITLE V - FOREIGN ASSISTANCE AND RELATED PROGRAMS					
Foreign Agricultural Service					
Salaries and expenses	191,566	196,571	196,571	+5,005	---
(Transfer from export loans)	(6,394)	(6,074)	(6,074)	(-320)	---
Total, Salaries and expenses	197,960	202,645	202,645	+4,685	---
Food for Peace Title I Direct Credit and Food for Progress Program Account, Administrative Expenses					
Farm Service Agency, Salaries and expenses (transfer to FSA)	2,528	149	149	-2,379	---
Food for Peace Title II Grants:					
Expenses	1,466,000	1,350,000	1,466,000	---	+116,000

Division A - Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Commodity Credit Corporation Export Loans Program Account (administrative expenses):					
Salaries and expenses (Export Loans):					
Foreign Agriculture Service, S&E (transfer to FAS)	6,394	6,074	6,074	-320	---
Farm Service Agency S&E (transfer to FSA)	354	2,463	2,463	+2,109	---
Total, CCC Export Loans Program Account	6,748	8,537	8,537	+1,789	---
McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition program grants	201,626	182,045	201,626	---	+19,581
Local and Regional Food Aid Procurement Program (leg. proposal)	---	15,000	---	---	-15,000
Total, Title V, Foreign Assistance and Related Programs	1,868,468	1,752,302	1,872,883	+4,415	+120,581
(By transfer)	(6,394)	(6,074)	(6,074)	(-320)	---

Division A - Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
TITLE VI - RELATED AGENCIES AND FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION					
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES					
Food and Drug Administration					
Salaries and expenses, direct appropriation	2,720,808	2,730,924	2,759,378	+38,570	+28,454
Prescription drug user fees	(851,481)	(865,653)	(754,524)	(-96,957)	(-111,129)
Medical device user fees	(137,677)	(144,859)	(126,083)	(-11,594)	(-18,776)
Human generic drug user fees	(318,363)	(324,085)	(323,011)	(+4,648)	(-1,074)
Biosimilar biological products user fees	(21,540)	(22,079)	(22,079)	(+539)	---
Animal drug user fees	(22,818)	(22,977)	(23,673)	(+855)	(+696)
Animal generic drug user fees	(9,705)	(10,367)	(11,341)	(+1,636)	(+974)
Tobacco product user fees	(599,000)	(635,000)	(635,000)	(+36,000)	---
Subtotal, user fees, enacted and definite	(1,960,584)	(2,025,020)	(1,895,711)	(-64,873)	(-129,309)
Subtotal (including user fees)	(4,681,392)	(4,755,944)	(4,655,089)	(-26,303)	(-100,855)

Division A - Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Mammography user fees	(20,109)	(21,000)	(20,522)	(+413)	(-478)
Export and color certification user fees	(13,835)	---	(14,378)	(+543)	(+14,378)
Food and Feed Recall user fees	(1,434)	(1,000)	(1,434)	---	(+434)
Food Reinspection fees	(6,414)	(6,000)	(6,414)	---	(+414)
Voluntary qualified importer program fees	(5,300)	(5,000)	(5,300)	---	(+300)
Pharmacy compounding fees (CBO estimate)	(1,000)	---	(1,370)	(+370)	(+1,370)
Priority review vouchers (PRV) pediatirc disease	(7,686)	(7,686)	(7,686)	---	---
Third party auditor	(1,400)	(1,400)	(1,400)	---	---
Subtotal, FDA user fees	(2,017,762)	(2,067,106)	(1,954,215)	(-63,547)	(-112,891)
Subtotal, FDA (including user fees)	(4,738,570)	(4,798,030)	(4,713,593)	(-24,977)	(-84,437)
FDA New User Fees (Leg. proposals):					
Export and color certification user fees cap increase (leg. proposal)	---	(4,280)	---	---	(-4,280)
Food Inspection and Facility Registration user fees	---	(61,252)	---	---	(-61,252)
Food import user fees	---	(105,289)	---	---	(-105,289)
International courier user fees	---	(6,038)	---	---	(-6,038)
Cosmetic user fees	---	(20,230)	---	---	(-20,230)
Food contact substance notification user fees	---	(5,193)	---	---	(-5,193)
Subtotal, FDA new user fees (Leg Proposals)	---	(202,282)	---	---	(-202,282)

Division A - Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Buildings and facilities	8,788	11,788	11,788	+3,000	---
Total, FDA (w/user fees, including proposals)	(4,747,358)	(5,012,100)	(4,725,381)	(-21,977)	(-286,719)
Total, FDA (w/enacted user fees only)	(4,747,358)	(4,814,098)	(4,725,381)	(-21,977)	(-88,717)
Total, FDA (excluding user fees)	2,729,596	2,742,712	2,771,166	+41,570	+28,454
INDEPENDENT AGENCIES					
Commodity Futures Trading Commission 1/	250,000	330,000	---	-250,000	-330,000
Farm Credit Administration (limitation on administrative expenses)	(65,600)	(69,800)	(68,600)	(+3,000)	(-1,200)
Total, Title VI, Related Agencies and Food and Drug Administration	2,979,596	3,072,712	2,771,166	-208,430	-301,546
TITLE VII - GENERAL PROVISIONS					
Limit Dam Rehab (Sec.714(1))	-68,000	---	-54,000	+14,000	-54,000
(rescission)	---	-54,000	---	---	+54,000
Limit Environmental Quality Incentives Program (Sec.714(2))	-209,000	---	-179,000	+30,000	-179,000
Limit Environmental Quality Incentives Program FY16 (Sec. 714 (2)) (rescission)	---	---	---	---	---
Limit Biomass Crop Assistance Program (Sec.714(3))	-20,000	---	-20,000	---	-20,000
Limit Biorefinery Assistance (Sec.714(4))	-19,000	---	-20,000	-1,000	-20,000
Limit Conservation Stewardship Program (Sec. 714 (5))	---	---	---	---	---
Limit Ag Management Assistance (Sec. 714 (6))	---	---	-2,000	-2,000	-2,000

Division A - Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Limit fruit and vegetable program (Sec.715)	-125,000	-125,000	-125,000	---	---
Section 32 (Sec.715) (rescission)	-216,000	-311,000	-231,000	-15,000	+80,000
APHIS B&F - Fruit Fly Rearing (Sec. 743)	---	---	47,000	+47,000	+47,000
WIC (rescission) (Sec. 745)	---	---	-850,000	-850,000	-850,000
TEFAP (Sec. 748)	---	---	19,000	+19,000	+19,000
Ebola/Zika Funding (Sec. 752)	---	---	10,000	+10,000	+10,000
Emergency Watershed Protection Program (Sec. 753)	120,000	---	---	-120,000	---
Citrus Greening (Sec. 757)	5,500	---	5,500	---	+5,500
RD balances (Sec. 758) (rescission)	---	-4,221	-3,951	-3,951	+270
Healthy Food Financing Initiative	---	---	1,000	+1,000	+1,000
FSA, CCE (rescission)	-1,000	---	---	+1,000	---
RD unobligated balances (rescission)	-13,000	---	---	+13,000	---
Marketing Certificate CHIMP	5,000	---	---	-5,000	---
Watershed Flood and Prevention Program (rescission)	-20,000	---	---	+20,000	---
Emergency Watershed	2,000	---	---	-2,000	---
Hardwood Trees (Reforestation Pilot Program)	600	---	600	---	+600
Water Bank program	4,000	---	4,000	---	+4,000
Geographic Disadvantaged farmers	1,996	---	1,996	---	+1,996
Emergency Forest Restoration Program	4,000	---	---	-4,000	---
Emergency Conservation Program	17,000	---	28,651	+11,651	+28,651

Division A - Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Emergency Watershed Protection (disaster relief category)	37,000	---	---	-37,000	---
Emergency Forestry Restoration Program (disaster relief category)	2,000	---	---	-2,000	---
Emergency Conservation Program (disaster relief category)	91,000	---	---	-91,000	---
NAM Study	1,000	---	---	-1,000	---
Summer EBT	7,000	---	---	-7,000	---
School Equipment Grants	5,000	---	---	-5,000	---
Food for Peace	250,000	---	134,000	-116,000	+134,000
Rural Energy Savings Program	8,000	---	8,000	---	+8,000
Maturing mortgage pilot	---	---	1,000	+1,000	+1,000
FSA ARC pilot	---	---	5,000	+5,000	+5,000
NIFA Military Veteran Grants	---	---	5,000	+5,000	+5,000
Electric Loan Refinancing	---	---	13,800	+13,800	+13,800
STEM Program	---	---	500	+500	+500
Total, Title VII, General Provisions	-129,904	-494,221	-1,199,904	-1,070,000	-705,683
Grand total	141,202,731	170,196,784	153,907,888	+12,705,157	-16,288,896
Appropriations fiscal year 2017	(141,501,731)	(151,069,992)	(155,124,839)	(+13,623,108)	(+4,054,847)
Disaster relief	(130,000)	---	---	(-130,000)	---
Rescissions	(-429,000)	(-520,708)	(-1,216,951)	(-787,951)	(-696,243)
Advance appropriations, FY 2017	---	(19,647,500)	---	---	(-19,647,500)
(By transfer)	(793,792)	(804,225)	(786,381)	(-7,411)	(-17,844)
(Loan authorization)	(43,088,833)	(43,198,025)	(45,291,500)	(+2,202,667)	(+2,093,475)
(Limitation on administrative expenses)	(186,582)	(193,527)	(189,827)	(+3,245)	(-3,700)

Division A - Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request

Division A - Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
RECAPITULATION					
Title I - Agricultural programs	23,052,859	30,729,496	38,387,870	+15,335,011	+7,658,374
Mandatory	(16,032,602)	(23,638,443)	(31,280,212)	(+15,247,610)	(+7,641,769)
Discretionary	(7,020,257)	(7,091,053)	(7,107,658)	(+87,401)	(+16,605)
Title II - Conservation programs (discretionary)	863,754	861,275	1,027,375	+163,621	+166,100
Title III - Rural development (discretionary)	2,770,977	2,864,419	2,937,153	+166,176	+72,734
Title IV - Domestic food programs	109,796,981	131,410,801	108,111,345	-1,685,636	-23,299,456
Mandatory	(102,958,129)	(124,478,401)	(101,226,676)	(-1,731,453)	(-23,251,725)
Discretionary	(6,838,852)	(6,932,400)	(6,884,669)	(+45,817)	(-47,731)
Title V - Foreign assistance and related programs (discretionary)	1,868,468	1,752,302	1,872,883	+4,415	+120,581
Title VI - Related agencies and Food and Drug Administration (discretionary) 1/	2,979,596	3,072,712	2,771,166	-208,430	-301,546
Title VII - General provisions (discretionary)	-129,904	-494,221	-1,199,904	-1,070,000	-705,683
Total	141,202,731	170,196,784	153,907,888	+12,705,157	-16,288,896

Note: The FY 2017 Request column reflects the budget submitted on February 9, 2016.

DIVISION B—COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

Report language included in House Report 114–605 (''the House report'') or Senate Report 114–239 (''the Senate report'') that is not changed by this explanatory statement or this Act is approved. The explanatory statement, while repeating some language for emphasis, is not intended to negate the language referred to above unless expressly provided herein. In cases where both the House report and the Senate report address a particular issue not specifically addressed in the explanatory statement, the House report and the Senate report should be read as consistent and are to be interpreted accordingly. In cases where the House report or the Senate report directs the submission of a report, such report is to be submitted to both the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations (''the Committees'').

Each department and agency funded in this Act shall follow the directions set forth in this Act and the accompanying explanatory statement, and shall not reallocate resources or reorganize activities except as provided herein. Reprogramming procedures shall apply to: funds provided in this Act; unobligated balances from previous appropriations Acts that are available for obligation or expenditure in fiscal year 2017; and non-appropriated resources such as fee collections that are used to meet program requirements in fiscal year 2017. These procedures are specified in section 505 of this Act.

Any reprogramming request shall include any out-year budgetary impacts and a separate accounting of program or mission impacts on estimated carryover funds. Any program, project or activity cited in this statement, or in the House report or the Senate report and not changed by this Act or statement, shall be construed as the position of the Congress and shall not be subject to reductions or reprogramming without prior approval of the Committees. Further, any department or agency funded in this Act that plans a reduction-in-force shall notify the Committees by letter no later than 30 days in advance of the date of any such planned personnel action.

When a department or agency submits a reprogramming or transfer request to the Committees and does not receive identical responses, it shall be the responsibility of the department or agency seeking the reprogramming to reconcile the differences between the two bodies before proceeding. If reconciliation is not possible, the items in disagreement in the reprogramming or transfer request shall be considered unapproved. Departments and agencies shall not submit reprogramming notifications after July 1, 2017, except in extraordinary circumstances. Any such notification shall include a description of the extraordinary circumstances.

In compliance with section 533 of this Act, each department and agency funded in this Act shall submit spending plans, signed by the respective department or agency head, for the Committees' review not later than 45 days after enactment of this Act.

TITLE I—DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

INTERNATIONAL TRADE ADMINISTRATION

OPERATIONS AND ADMINISTRATION

This Act includes $495,000,000 in total resources for the programs of the International Trade Administration (ITA). This amount is offset by $12,000,000 in estimated fee collections, resulting in a direct appropriation of $483,000,000. In lieu of House and Senate report language regarding Enforcement and Compliance, the agreement includes $2,000,000 above the request for trade enforcement activities.

BUREAU OF INDUSTRY AND SECURITY

OPERATIONS AND ADMINISTRATION

This Act includes $112,500,000 for the Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS). In lieu of House report language regarding Export Enforcement, the agreement encourages BIS to prioritize export enforcement activities.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION

This Act includes $276,000,000 for the programs and administrative expenses of the Economic Development Administration (EDA). Section 524 of this Act includes a rescission of $10,000,000 in Economic Development Assistance Program balances. The funds shall be derived from recoveries and unobligated grant funds that were not appropriated with emergency or disaster relief designations.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

This Act includes $237,000,000 for Economic Development Assistance Programs. Funds are to be distributed as follows; any deviation of funds shall be subject to the procedures set forth in section 505 of this Act:

Public Works	$100,000,000
Partnership Planning	31,500,000
Technical Assistance	9,000,000
Research and Evaluation	1,500,000
Trade Adjustment Assistance	13,000,000
Economic Adjustment Assistance	$35,000,000
Assistance to Coal Communities	30,000,000
Section 27 Regional Innovation Program Grants	17,000,000
Total	237,000,00

Revolving Loan Fund.—The agreement adopts the Senate language regarding the Revolving Loan Fund, and expects EDA to address the recommendations of the Office of the Inspector General's Report entitled EDA Faces Challenges in Effectively Monitoring Revolving Loan Funds.

Regional Innovation Program.—In lieu of Senate language regarding cluster grants, EDA shall spend no less than the fiscal year 2016 enacted amount on grants to support nonprofit, job-creating, revolving, equity-based seed capital funds.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

This Act includes $39,000,000 for EDA salaries and expenses.

MINORITY BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

MINORITY BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

This Act includes $34,000,000 for the Minority Business Development Agency.

ECONOMIC AND STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

This Act includes $107,300,000 for Economic and Statistical Analysis.

BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

This Act includes $1,470,000,000 for the Bureau of the Census.

CURRENT SURVEYS AND PROGRAMS

This Act includes $270,000,000 for the Current Surveys and Programs account of the Bureau of the Census.

PERIODIC CENSUSES AND PROGRAMS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

This Act includes $1,200,000,000 for the Periodic Censuses and Programs account of the Bureau of the Census.

NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

This Act includes $32,000,000 for the Salaries and Expenses of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA).

Low Power Television Translators.—The agreement directs NTIA to provide any requested technical assistance to the Federal Communications Commission in its efforts to address the needs of low power broadcasters.

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

This Act includes language making available to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) $3,230,000,000, the full amount of offsetting fee collections estimated for fiscal year 2017 by the Congressional Budget Office.

Quarterly reporting.—In addition to monthly reporting on actual and projected fee collections and performance, USPTO shall report to the Committees on a quarterly basis on operations, including data on application volumes and staffing status; on the status of the Patent End-to-End development, implementation, and performance; and on PTO's implementation of recommendations made by the Office of Inspector General, the Government Accountability Office (GAO), and the National Academy of Public Administration.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY

This Act includes $954,000,000 for the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST).

SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL RESEARCH AND SERVICES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

This Act provides $690,000,000 for NIST's Scientific and Technical Research and Services (STRS) account. The agreement provides up to the fiscal year 2016 enacted level for Lab to Market activities and for Standards Coordination and Special Programs. The agreement includes no less than the fiscal year 2016 level for biomanufacturing activities and for the Urban Dome program.

Forensics.—The agreement does not adopt House report language regarding Forensic Science Advisory Committee activities. Instead, the agreement acknowledges a transfer of $3,000,000, the current funding level, from the Department of Justice to NIST to support ongoing interagency forensics programs.

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

This Act includes $155,000,000 in total for Industrial Technology Services, including $130,000,000 for the Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership and $25,000,000 for the National Network for Manufacturing Innovation, to include funding for center establishment and up to $5,000,000 for coordination activities. The overall amount is offset by $2,000,000 in recoveries of prior-year obligations, resulting in a direct appropriation of $153,000,000.

CONSTRUCTION OF RESEARCH FACILITIES

This Act includes $109,000,000 for Construction of Research Facilities, including no less than $60,000,000 for the design and renovation of the agency's outdated and unsafe radiation physics infrastructure.

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

OPERATIONS, RESEARCH, AND FACILITIES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

This Act includes a total program level of $3,515,539,000 under this account for the

coastal, fisheries, marine, weather, satellite and other programs of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). This total funding level includes $3,367,875,000 in direct appropriations; a transfer of $130,164,000 from balances in the ''Promote and Develop Fishery Products and Research Pertaining to American Fisheries'' fund; and $17,500,000 derived from recoveries of prior year obligations.

The following narrative descriptions and tables identify the specific activities and funding levels included in this Act.

National Ocean Service.—$517,400,000 is for the National Ocean Service.

NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE

Operations, Research, and Facilities
(In thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
Navigation, Observations and Positioning	
Navigation, Observations and Positioning	$149,000
Integrated Ocean Observing System Regional Observations	30,700
Hydrographic Survey Priorities/Contracts	27,000
Navigation, Observations and Positioning	206,700
Coastal Science and Assessment	
Coastal Science, Assessment, Response and Restoration	72,600
Competitive External Research	10,000
Coastal Science and Assessment	82,600
Ocean and Coastal Management and Services	
Coastal Zone Management and Services	42,500
Coastal Zone Management Grants	85,000
Coral Reef Program	26,100
Sanctuaries and Marine Protected Areas	51,000
National Estuarine Research Reserve System	23,500
Ocean and Coastal Management and Services	228,100
Total, National Ocean Service, Operations, Research, and Facilities	$517,400

Navigations, Observations and Positioning.—Senate language is modified to stipulate that not more than 5 percent of funds available for the Hydrographic Survey Priorities/Contracts program may be used for internal Hydrographic Survey Priorities/Contracts program management costs.

Coastal and Ocean Economy.—The agreement adopts House report language regarding the importance of coastal and ocean economies and provides up to $1,500,000 for NOAA to develop a Coastal and Ocean Economy Satellite account with the Bureau of Economic Analysis.

Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS).—The agreement adopts House and Senate language regarding IOOS, including Senate language regarding the Alliance for Coastal Technologies, and encourages NOAA to utilize funding within IOOS to obtain high frequency radars to fill critical gaps in ocean observing.

Marine Debris.—The agreement provides $500,000 above the request for NOAA's marine debris program.

National Marine Sanctuary Research.—NOAA shall seek to fund research that uses tele-presence technology to explore and create maps of the deep-water regions of the National Marine Sanctuaries, including marine habitats, cultural sites and living and nonliving marine resources. This research could emphasize locating and exploring undersea cave complexes within marine sanctuaries to better understand their unique biology, geology, and potential cultural resources.

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS).—$851,543,000 is for NMFS Operations, Research, and Facilities.

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

Operations, Research, and Facilities
(In thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
Protected Resources Science and Management	
Marine Mammals, Sea Turtles and Other Species	$111,342
Species Recovery Grants	6,200
Atlantic Salmon	6,224
Pacific Salmon	62,000
Protected Resources Science and Management	185,766
Fisheries Science and Management	
Fisheries and Ecosystem Science Programs and Services	139,489
Fisheries Data Collections, Surveys and Assessments	164,000
Observers and Training	43,655
Fisheries Management Programs and Services	117,051
Aquaculture	9,300
Salmon Management Activities	33,500
Regional Councils and Fisheries Commissions	34,254
Interjurisdictional Fisheries Grants	3,004
Fisheries Science and Management	544,253
Enforcement	69,000
Habitat Conservation and Restoration	52,524
Total, National Marine Fisheries Service, Operations, Research, and Facilities	$851,543

Prescott Grants.—Within funding provided for Marine Mammals, Sea Turtles, and Other Species, the agreement provides no less than the fiscal year 2016 amount for the John H. Prescott Marine Mammal Rescue Assistance grant program.

Hatchery Genetic Management Plans.—The agreement adopts House language regarding Hatchery Genetic Management Plans, and provides $4,000,000 for those purposes.

Salmon Management.—The agreement adopts House and Senate language regarding genetic stock identification research, and provides $1,500,000 for these efforts. The agreement adopts House and Senate language regarding the Pacific Salmon Treaty, and provides not less than $12,000,000 to fulfill these obligations. The Committees encourage NOAA to use remaining funding provided above the request for the operations and maintenance of Mitchell Act hatcheries.

Gulf of Mexico Red Snapper Stock Assessments.—House and Senate language regarding red snapper stock assessments in the Gulf of Mexico is adopted and up to $10,000,000 within Fisheries Data Collections, Surveys and Assessments shall be available for carrying out such purposes.

Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing.—An increase of $1,000,000 is provided under Fisheries Management Programs and Services to combat IUU fishing.

Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR).—$477,725,000 is for OAR Operations, Research, and Facilities.

OFFICE OF OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC RESEARCH

Operations, Research, and Facilities
(In thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
Climate Research	
Laboratories and Cooperative Institutes	$60,000
Regional Climate Data and Information	38,000
Climate Competitive Research, Sustained Observations and Regional Information	60,000
Climate Research	158,000
Weather and Air Chemistry Research	
Laboratories and Cooperative Institutes	80,000
U.S. Weather Research Program	10,600
Tornado Severe Storm Research/Phased Array Radar	13,158
Joint Technology Transfer Initiative	10,000
Weather and Air Chemistry Research	113,758
Ocean, Coastal and Great Lakes Research	
Laboratories and Cooperative Institutes	32,000
National Sea Grant College Program	63,000
Marine Aquaculture Program	9,500
Ocean Exploration and Research	36,000
Integrated Ocean Acidification	10,500
Sustained Ocean Observations and Monitoring	41,823
Ocean, Coastal and Great Lakes Research	192,823
High Performance Computing Initiatives	12,144
Research Transition Acceleration Program	1,000
Total, Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research, Operations, Research, and Facilities	$477,725

Airborne Phased Array Radar (APAR).—The agreement provides an increase of $2,600,000 under NOAA's U.S. Weather Research Program to research and develop aircraft-based hazardous weather observing systems, such as APAR.

National Sea Grant College Program.—The agreement provides $63,000,000 for the National Sea Grant College Program and consolidates funding for Red Snapper assessment work under the National Marine Fisheries Service. Therefore, funding provided to Sea Grant is effectively above the fiscal year 2016 level.

Mariculture.—The agreement does not adopt House language regarding mariculture.

National Weather Service (NWS).—$979,779,000 is for NWS Operations, Research, and Facilities.

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

Operations, Research, and Facilities
(In thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
Observations	$216,363
Central Processing	92,790
Analyze, Forecast and Support	487,325
Dissemination	46,743
Science and Technology Integration	136,558
Total, National Weather Service, Operations, Research, and Facilities	$979,779

National Environmental Satellite, Data and Information Service.—$222,590,000 is for National Environmental Satellite, Data and Information Service Operations, Research, and Facilities.

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL SATELLITE, DATA AND INFORMATION SERVICE

Operations, Research, and Facilities
(In thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
Office of Satellite and Product Operations	$129,900
Product Development, Readiness and Application	31,000
Commercial Remote Sensing Regulatory Affairs	1,200
Office of Space Commercialization	800
Group on Earth Observations	500
Environmental Satellite Observing Systems	163,400
National Centers for Environmental Information	59,190
Total, National Environmental Satellite, Data and Information Service, Operations, Research, and Facilities	$222,590

Mission Support.—$255,371,000 is for Mission Support.

MISSION SUPPORT

Operations, Research, and Facilities
(In thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
Mission Support	
Executive Leadership	$27,000
Mission Services and Management	148,390
IT Security	10,050
Payment to DOC Working Capital Fund	43,000
Mission Support	228,440
Office of Education	
BWET Regional Programs	7,500
Education Partnership Program/Minority Serving Institutions	14,431
NOAA Education Program Base	5,000
Office of Education	26,931
Total, Mission Support, Operations, Research and Facilities	$255,371

Office of Marine and Aviation Operations (OMAO).—$211,131,000 is for OMAO Operations, Research, and Facilities.

OFFICE of MARINE AND AVIATION OPERATIONS

Operations, Research, and Facilities
(In thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
Office of Marine and Aviation Operations	
Marine Operations and Maintenance	$178,838
Aviation Operations and Aircraft Services	32,293
Office of Marine and Aviation Operations	$211,131

PROCUREMENT, ACQUISITION AND CONSTRUCTION

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

This Act includes a total program level of $2,255,610,000 in direct obligations for NOAA Procurement, Acquisition and Construction (PAC), of which $2,242,610,000 is appropriated from the general fund and $13,000,000 is derived from recoveries of prior year obligations. The following narrative and table identify the specific activities and funding levels included in this Act:

PROCUREMENT, ACQUISITION and CONSTRUCTION

(In thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
National Ocean Service	
National Estuarine Research Reserve Construction	$1,700
Marine Sanctuaries Construction	2,000
Total, National Ocean Service—PAC	3,700
Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research	
Research Supercomputing/CCRI	36,379
National Weather Service	
Observations	32,755
Central Processing	66,761
Dissemination	34,619
Subtotal, National Weather Service, Systems Acquisition	134,135
Weather Forecast Office Construction	7,650
Total, National Weather Service—PAC	141,785
National Environmental Satellite, Data and Information Service	
GOES–R	752,784
Polar Follow-on	328,900
Space Weather Follow-on	5,000
Jason–3	4,357
Joint Polar Satellite System (JPSS)	787,246
CDARS	500
DSCOVR	3,745
COSMIC 2/GNSS RO	8,100
Satellite Ground Services	54,000
System Architecture and Advanced Planning	3,929
Projects, Planning, and Analysis	25,200
Commercial Weather Data Pilot	5,000
Subtotal, NESDIS Systems Acquisition	1,978,761
Satellite CDA Facility	2,228
Total, NESDIS—PAC	1,980,989
Mission Support	
NOAA Construction	6,057
Office of Marine and Aviation Operations	
Fleet Capital Improvements and Technology Infusion	11,700
New Vessel Construction	75,000
Total, OMAO—PAC	86,700
Total, Procurement, Acquisition, and Construction	$2,255,610

Earth Observing Nanosatellite-Microwave (EON–MW).—Within funds provided, NOAA may advance the EON–MW mission, provided that doing so does not negatively impact Polar Follow-On.

Constellation Observing System for Meteorology, Ionosphere and Climate-2 (COSMIC–2)/Global Navigation Satellite System—Radio Occultation (GNSS–RO).—The Act does not include funding for the second set of COSMIC–2 sensors as NOAA has not confirmed launch services for this proposed polar constellation. The Committees expect NOAA to fully evaluate competitively purchased commercial weather data as a method to acquire new radio occultation (RO) data. Within 90 days of enactment of this Act, NOAA shall submit an analysis of options for acquiring polar RO data that includes a cost analysis of all alternatives and demonstrates that NOAA has thoroughly reviewed potential commercial RO sources. If the plan proposes moving forward with additional COSMIC–2 satellites, the plan shall include the total cost to the U.S. government of developing, procuring, launching, and operating COSMIC–2 polar orbiting satellites, including how they would be launched and what Federal agency would incur that cost.

High Performance Computing.—Senate language regarding collaborative high performance computing is modified to provide that within funding for OAR Research Supercomputing, $14,000,000 shall be used for such purposes.

PACIFIC COASTAL SALMON RECOVERY

This Act includes $65,000,000 for Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery.

FISHERMEN'S CONTINGENCY FUND

This Act includes $350,000 for the Fishermen's Contingency Fund.

FISHERIES FINANCE PROGRAM ACCOUNT

This Act includes language under this heading limiting obligations of direct loans to $24,000,000 for Individual Fishing Quota loans and $100,000,000 for traditional direct loans.

DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

This Act includes $58,000,000 for Departmental Management salaries and expenses.

RENOVATION AND MODERNIZATION

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

This Act includes $4,000,000 for continuing renovation activities only at the Herbert C. Hoover Building.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

This Act includes a total of $38,626,000 for the Office of Inspector General (OIG). This amount includes $32,744,000 in direct appropriations, a $2,000,000 transfer from USPTO, a transfer of $2,580,000 from the Bureau of the Census, Periodic Censuses and Programs, and $1,302,000 from NOAA PAC for audits and reviews of those programs.

Working Capital Fund Audits.—The agreement emphasizes Senate language directing the OIG to continually audit all working capital funds within the Department of Commerce and directs the OIG to provide the committees with quarterly updates on such audits.

GENERAL PROVISIONS—DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

This Act includes the following general provisions for the Department of Commerce:

Section 101 makes funds available for advanced payments only upon certification of officials, designated by the Secretary, that such payments are considered to be in the public interest.

Section 102 makes appropriations for Department salaries and expenses available for hire of passenger motor vehicles, for services, and for uniforms and allowances as authorized by law.

Section 103 provides the authority to transfer funds between Department of Commerce appropriation accounts and requires 15 days advance notification to the Committees on Appropriations for certain actions.

Section 104 provides congressional notification requirements for NOAA satellite programs and includes life cycle cost estimates for certain weather satellite programs.

Section 105 provides for reimbursement for services within Department of Commerce buildings.

Section 106 clarifies that grant recipients under the Department of Commerce may continue to deter child pornography, copyright infringement, or any other unlawful activity over their networks.

Section 107 provides the NOAA Administrator with the authority to avail NOAA of resources, with the consent of those supplying the resources, to carry out responsibilities of any statute administered by NOAA.

Section 108 prohibits the National Technical Information Service from charging for certain services.

Section 109 provides NOAA with authority to waive certain bond requirements.

Section 110 prohibits funds for certain fishery management policies in the Gulf of Mexico.

Section 111 authorizes NOAA to receive payments from other entities to defray some costs of permitting and regulatory activities.

Section 112 provides the Economics and Statistics Administration certain authority to enter into cooperative agreements.

Section 113 directs NOAA to take appropriate actions regarding certain research, exploration, and salvage activities.

TITLE II—DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

This Act includes $114,124,000 for General Administration, Salaries and Expenses. Within the funding provided, the Department of Justice (DOJ) is directed to give priority to sustaining work of the Justice Management Division in managing and supporting DOJ missions.

Countering the Heroin and Opioid Epidemic.—DOJ shall take steps to build on its programs to contain and reduce heroin trafficking and abuse of opioids. This scourge continues to threaten public health and safety, and addressing it must be a top Departmental priority. This Act includes substantial funding for both DOJ enforcement and grant assistance programs, including significant increases such as $103,000,000 to implement the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act of 2016 (Public Law 114–198), and DOJ shall report on its progress in these efforts as specified in House and Senate reports.

Expenditure Plans and Non-Appropriated Funds Reporting.—Section 533 of this Act requires the Department to submit an annual spending plan for DOJ and its components. DOJ shall provide within this submission programmatic and agency spending and performance details specified in House and Senate reports regarding collections, balances, and obligations of non-appropriated funds, to include the Working Capital Fund (WCF) and associated information about collections from appropriated funds; retained earnings and unobligated transfers; and civil debt collection proceeds (''Three Percent Fund''). The plan shall include reporting on Assets Forfeiture Fund collections, balances, and obligations, and on Criminal Justice Information Services fingerprint checks fees. DOJ shall provide quarterly reports to the Committees on Appropriations with updated information on the collections, balances, and obligations of these funds, and continue to improve methodologies for projecting anticipated future year collections.

Guidance to Communities.—DOJ shall report to the Committees on Appropriations not later than 180 days after enactment of this Act on how it can assist States and local communities that seek Federal aid in recovering from significant or large scale incidents, such as terrorist attacks. The plan, to be developed in consultation with the Department of Homeland Security, shall describe how communities can be supported with resources or technical assistance for immediate recovery efforts as well as for longer-term needs. The plan should identify key points of contact and how DOJ will ensure information on relevant grant and other assistance programs is easily available to the public.

Gunshot Detection Technology.—The Committees are aware of developments in gunshot detection technology and surveillance, and encourage Federal law enforcement agencies and the Office of Justice Programs to work with State and local agencies on collecting and analyzing data from such systems to address gun crimes.

Native Children's Commission.—Within the funds provided, DOJ is directed to support a Native Children's Commission as specified in the Alyce Spotted Bear and Walter Soboleff Commission on Native Children's Act (Public Law 114–244).

Federal Water Usage Violations. —The agreement does not adopt language in either the House or the Senate report regarding Federal water usage violations.

Internet Gambling.—The agreement does not adopt any changes to the implementation of the Wire Act.

JUSTICE INFORMATION SHARING TECHNOLOGY

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

This Act includes $31,000,000 for Justice Information Sharing Technology. Within the funding authority provided in the Act, the Department is expected to pursue initiatives for continuous monitoring for information security and insider threat prevention and detection.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR IMMIGRATION REVIEW

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

This Act includes $440,000,000 for the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR), of which $4,000,000 is derived by transfer from fee collections. This reflects funding for EOIR in a separate appropriation account, in lieu of being funded under the former Administrative Review and Appeals appropriation.

Within the funding provided, EOIR is directed to continue ongoing programs, continue the hiring process of new judges funded in fiscal year 2016, recruit and hire no fewer than 10 new Immigration Judge (IJ) Teams, and complete modernization of mission critical systems and improvements in infrastructure as described in the budget request.

Immigration Judge Hiring and Adjudication Backlog.—The Department shall accelerate its recruitment, background investigation, and placement of IJ teams and establish median days pending targets for cases (detained and non-detained) as specified in the House Report. For fiscal year 2017, EOIR shall continue to submit monthly performance and operating reports to the Committees on Appropriations, to include the status of its hiring and deployment of new IJ teams, in the format and level of detail provided in fiscal year 2016. In addition, not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, EOIR shall report to the Committees on Appropriations on visa overstay cases as directed in the House report.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

This Act includes $95,583,000 for the Office of Inspector General.

UNITED STATES PAROLE COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

This Act includes $13,308,000 for the salaries and expenses of the United States Parole Commission.

LEGAL ACTIVITIES

SALARIES AND EXPENSES, GENERAL LEGAL ACTIVITIES

This Act includes $897,500,000 for General Legal Activities. Funding is included to maintain the operations of the Office of the Pardon Attorney within this level, which was previously funded under the former Administrative Review and Appeals appropriation, and to sustain funding for the Civil Rights Division at no less than the fiscal year 2016 level. As the Committees strongly support the efforts of INTERPOL, DOJ is directed to further enhance the INTERPOL mission.

VACCINE INJURY COMPENSATION TRUST FUND

This Act includes a reimbursement of $10,000,000 for DOJ expenses associated with litigating cases under the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986 (Public Law 99–660).

SALARIES AND EXPENSES, ANTITRUST DIVISION

This Act includes $164,977,000 for the Antitrust Division. This appropriation is offset by an estimated $125,000,000 in pre-merger filing fee collections, resulting in a direct appropriation of $39,977,000.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES, UNITED STATES ATTORNEYS

This Act includes $2,035,000,000 for the Executive Office for United States Attorneys and the 94 United States Attorneys' offices, of which $25,000,000 shall remain available until expended. Within funding provided, DOJ shall enhance efforts to combat cybercrime (including intellectual property rights violations and child pornography); drug trafficking (including opioids and prescription drugs); civil rights violations (including sex and labor trafficking); and child sexual exploitation.

UNITED STATES TRUSTEE SYSTEM FUND

This Act includes $225,908,000 for the United States Trustee Program. The recommended funding is offset by $163,000,000 in estimated fee collections for a net direct appropriation of $62,908,000.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES, FOREIGN CLAIMS SETTLEMENT COMMISSION

This Act includes $2,374,000 for the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission.

FEES AND EXPENSES OF WITNESSES

This Act includes $270,000,000 for Fees and Expenses of Witnesses.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES, COMMUNITY RELATIONS SERVICE

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

This Act includes $15,500,000 for the Community Relations Service.

ASSETS FORFEITURE FUND

This Act includes $20,514,000 for the Assets Forfeiture Fund (AFF). As the Committees were alarmed by the Department's unexpected suspension of reimbursements to States and localities in fiscal year 2016, the Department shall make all approved equitable sharing distribution payments in a timely fashion and not suspend the program. The Department shall notify the Committees on Appropriations through the quarterly reporting process described under General Administration of any change to its proposed distributions of funds within the AFF.

UNITED STATES MARSHALS SERVICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

This Act includes $1,249,040,000 for the salaries and expenses of the United States Marshals Service (USMS). Within funding provided, USMS shall enhance its implementation of enforcement of laws relating to international travel of sex offenders, as described in House and Senate reports, and employ USMS and DOJ resources to expand the regional fugitive task force program.

CONSTRUCTION

This Act includes $10,000,000 for construction and related expenses in space controlled, occupied or utilized by the USMS for prisoner holding and related support.

FEDERAL PRISONER DETENTION

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

This Act includes $1,454,414,000 for Federal Prisoner Detention.

NATIONAL SECURITY DIVISION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

This Act includes $96,000,000 for the salaries and expenses of the National Security Division.

INTERAGENCY LAW ENFORCEMENT

INTERAGENCY CRIME AND DRUG ENFORCEMENT

This Act includes $517,000,000 for the Organized Crime and Drug Enforcement Task Forces, of which $357,200,000 is for investigations and $159,800,000 is for prosecutions. Within funding provided, the Department is expected to pursue establishment of a co-located southwest border strike force.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

This Act includes $8,767,201,000 for the salaries and expenses of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), including $1,748,000,000 for Intelligence, $3,588,000,000 for Counterterrorism and Counterintelligence, $2,919,901,000 for Criminal Enterprises and Federal Crimes, and $511,300,000 for Criminal Justice Services. Within counterterrorism and counterintelligence funding, the FBI shall continue to support full operations of the Terrorist Explosive Device Analytical Center, Hazardous Devices School, Weapons of Mass Destruction Directorate, Ballistic Research Facility, and related co-located operations as proposed by the Senate. The Act provides that of the $285,882,000 in funding available until expended, up to $68,982,000 may be used for the Secure Work Environment program.

In addition, within funding provided, the FBI is expected to enhance its investigative and intelligence efforts related to terrorism, national security, and cyber threats, to include strengthening the Cyber Division, and support fully the programs of the Criminal Justice Information Services Division, including the National Instant Criminal Background Check System, as described in House and Senate reports.

CONSTRUCTION

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

This Act includes $420,178,000 for FBI construction, of which $181,000,000 shall be derived by transfer from the Department of Justice's Working Capital Fund. The Act includes $75,500,000 for the FBI's 21st Century Facilities program, $323,000,000 for the new FBI headquarters program, and funding for base construction requirements.

DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

This Act includes a direct appropriation of $2,102,976,000 for the salaries and expenses of the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), including funding to establish four new heroin enforcement teams. In addition, DEA expects to derive $382,662,000 from fees deposited in the Diversion Control Fund to carry out the Diversion Control Program, resulting in $2,485,638,000 in total spending authority for DEA.

The agreement also includes language under the Community Oriented Policing Services Programs account transferring $10,000,000 to DEA for methamphetamine lab cleanup.

BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, FIREARMS AND EXPLOSIVES

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

This Act includes $1,258,600,000 for the salaries and expenses of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF). Funding provided shall be used for inflationary cost adjustments, to maintain current staffing levels, and to improve services. ATF shall brief the Committees on Appropriations on its plans to address the National Firearms Act application backlog as specified in the House report. Within funding provided, ATF is expected to pursue advanced counter explosive research as described in the Senate report.

As a modification to Senate report language, ATF is directed to expeditiously conduct the environmental contaminants and noise studies outlined in the fiscal year 2016 ATF National Center for Explosives Training and Research Report, and provide a timeline for completing these studies and reporting the findings to the Committees on Appropriations as part of the Department's spending plan.

FEDERAL PRISON SYSTEM

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

This Act includes $7,008,800,000 for the salaries and expenses of the Federal Prison System. Within the funding provided, Bureau of Prisons (BOP) shall develop and submit a capacity realignment plan as specified in the House report, not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act.

BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

This Act includes $130,000,000 for the construction, acquisition, modernization, maintenance, and repair of prison and detention facilities housing Federal inmates. Within this amount $50,000,000 is for costs related to construction of new facilities. Also within this amount, not less than $80,000,000 is for maintenance and repairs of existing facilities, to include inmate work areas, of which not to exceed $14,000,000 shall be available to construct areas for inmate work programs, and of which up to $13,000,000 can be used for the cost of base construction staff and operations.

LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES, FEDERAL PRISON INDUSTRIES, INCORPORATED

This Act includes a limitation on administrative expenses of $2,700,000 for Federal Prison Industries, Incorporated.

STATE AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES

In total, this Act includes $2,393,800,000 for State and local law enforcement and crime prevention programs. This amount includes $2,313,800,000 in discretionary budget authority, of which $326,000,000 is derived by transfer from the Crime Victims Fund and $7,000,000 is contained in Public Law 114–254. This amount also includes $73,000,000 scored as mandatory for Public Safety Officer Benefits.

House and Senate report language regarding management and administration expenses is adopted by reference, and it is clarified that the Department's methodology for assessing these costs should be both fair and equitable across all grant programs.

The agreement includes a limitation on obligations from the Crime Victims Fund of $2,573,000,000 as stipulated in section 510 of this Act, which is the three-year average of collections into the fund. As the limitation has been significantly increased from $745,000,000 in fiscal year 2014, collections have slowed based on the most recent estimate by the Congressional Budget Office, resulting in balances in the fund declining. The agreement to base the limitation on average collections will help ensure solvency of the fund.

In lieu of providing base funding for Tribal Assistance, Tribal Youth, and Tribal Resources Grant Program, section 213 of the agreement includes a 7 percent set-aside, which will provide funding for these programs.

The Department is directed to submit a report, not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, detailing the amount of DOJ grant funding for the past three fiscal years allocated for assistance in persistent poverty counties, as defined in section 539 of this Act.

OFFICE ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN PREVENTION AND PROSECUTION PROGRAMS

This Act includes $481,500,000 for the Office on Violence Against Women. These funds are distributed as follows:

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN PREVENTION AND PROSECUTION PROGRAMS

(In thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
STOP Grants	$215,000
Transitional Housing Assistance	30,000
Research and Evaluation on Violence Against Women	3,000
Consolidated Youth-Oriented Program	11,000
Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies	53,000
Homicide Reduction Initiative	(4,000)
Sexual Assault Victims Services	35,000
Rural Domestic Violence and Child Abuse Enforcement	35,000
Violence on College Campuses	20,000
Civil Legal Assistance	45,000
Elder Abuse Grant Program	5,000
Family Civil Justice	16,000
Education and Training for Disabled Female Victims	6,000
National Resource Center on Workplace Responses	500
Research on Violence Against Indian Women	1,000
Indian Country-Sexual Assault Clearinghouse	500
Tribal Special Domestic Violence Criminal Jurisdiction	4,000
Rape Survivor Child Custody Act	1,500
TOTAL, Violence Against Women Prevention and Prosecution Programs	$481,500

OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS

RESEARCH, EVALUATION AND STATISTICS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

This Act provides $89,000,000 for the Research, Evaluation and Statistics account. These funds are distributed as follows:

RESEARCH, EVALUATION AND STATISTICS

(In thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
Bureau of Justice Statistics	$45,500
NCS-X Implementation Program	(5,000)
National Institute of Justice	39,500
Domestic Radicalization Research	(4,000)
Forensics Initiative	4,000
Transfer to NIST	(3,000)
TOTAL, Research, Evaluation and Statistics	$89,000

STATE AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

This Act includes $1,265,500,000 for State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance programs. These funds are distributed as follows:

STATE AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE

(In thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grants	$403,000
Officer Robert Wilson III VALOR Initiative	(7,500)
Smart Policing	(5,000)
Smart Prosecution	(2,500)
NamUS	(2,400)
National Training Center to improve Police-Based Responses to People with Mental Illness	(2,500)
Violent Gang and Gun Crime Reduction	(6,500)
John R. Justice Grant Program	(2,000)
Capital Litigation and Wrongful Conviction Review	(2,500)
Prison Rape Prevention and Prosecution	(10,500)
Pre-inauguration presidential security	(27,000)
State Criminal Alien Assistance Program	210,000
Victims of Trafficking Grants	45,000
Economic, High-tech, White Collar and Cybercrime Prevention	13,000
Intellectual Property Enforcement Program	(2,500)
Cybercrime Prosecutor Pilot Program	(1,000)
Adam Walsh Act Implementation	20,000
Bulletproof Vests Partnerships	22,500
Transfer to NIST/OLES	(1,500)
National Sex Offender Public Website	1,000
National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) Initiative	73,000
NICS Act Record Improvement Program	(25,000)

STATE AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE—Continued

(In thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
Paul Coverdell Forensic Science	13,000
DNA Initiative	125,000
Debbie Smith DNA Backlog Grants	(117,000)
Kirk Bloodsworth Post-Conviction DNA Testing Grants	(4,000)
Sexual Assault Forensic Exam Program Grants	(4,000)
Community Teams to Reduce the Sexual Assault Kit (SAK) Backlog	45,000
CASA-Special Advocates	9,000
Second Chance Act/Offender Reentry	68,000
Smart Probation	(6,000)
Children of Incarcerated Parents Demo Grants	(5,000)
Pay for Success	(7,500)
Project HOPE Opportunity Probation with Enforcement	(4,000)
Comprehensive School Safety Initiative	50,000
Community trust initiative:	65,000
Body Worn Camera Partnership Program	(22,500)
Justice Reinvestment Initiative	(25,000)
Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation Program	(17,500)
Opioid initiative	103,000
Drug Courts	(43,000)
Veterans Treatment Courts	(7,000)
Residential Substance Abuse Treatment	(14,000)
Prescription Drug Monitoring	(14,000)
Mentally Ill Offender Act	(12,000)
Other Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act activities	(13,000)
TOTAL, State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance	$1,265,500

Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (Byrne-JAG) program.—A total of $403,000,000 is provided in fiscal year 2017 for the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant program, of which $27,000,000 is for pre-Inauguration presidential security.

Building Community Trust.—This Act provides a total of $109,808,370 to strengthen the relationship between the police and communities they serve. A total of $65,000,000 has been provided for the Community Trust Initiative within State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance for the purchase of body cameras, the Justice Reinvestment Initiative, and the Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation program for both planning and, of particular importance currently, implementation grants. Funding is also provided for the National Crime Statistics Exchange (NCS–X) to improve the collection and reporting into the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) and two programs within the Byrne-JAG program, Smart Policing and improved training for police responses to people with mental illness. Within the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Office, a total of $15,000,000 is provided for the Collaborative Reform Model and Community Policing Development.

Officer safety.—The agreement provides $15,000,000 for police officer safety and active shooter training programs, including $7,500,000 for the Officer Robert Wilson III Preventing Violence Against Law Enforcement Officer Resilience and Survivability (VALOR) Initiative and $7,500,000 under the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) header for the Protecting Our Lives by Initiating COPS Expansion (POLICE) Act.

JUVENILE JUSTICE PROGRAMS

This Act includes $247,000,000 for Juvenile Justice programs. These funds are distributed as follows:

JUVENILE JUSTICE PROGRAMS

(In thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
Part B-State Formula Grants	$55,000
Emergency Planning-Juvenile Detention Facilities	(500)
Youth Mentoring Grants	80,000
Title V-Delinquency Prevention Incentive Grants	14,500
Gang and Youth Violence Education and Prevention	(4,000)
Children of Incarcerated Parents Web Portal	(500)
Girls in the Justice System	(2,000)
Community-Based Violence Prevention Initiatives	(8,000)
Victims of Child Abuse Programs	21,000
Missing and Exploited Children Programs	72,500
Training for Judicial Personnel	2,000
Improving Juvenile Indigent Defense	2,000
TOTAL, Juvenile Justice	$247,000

PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER BENEFITS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

This Act includes $89,300,000 for the Public Safety Officer Benefits program for fiscal year 2017. Within the funds provided, $73,000,000 is for death benefits for survivors, an amount estimated by the Congressional Budget Office that is considered mandatory for scorekeeping purposes. In addition, $16,300,000 is provided for disability benefits for public safety officers permanently and totally disabled as a result of a catastrophic injury and for education benefits for the spouses and children of officers killed in the line of duty or permanently and totally disabled as a result of a catastrophic injury sustained in the line of duty.

COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING SERVICES

COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING SERVICES PROGRAMS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

This Act includes $221,500,000 for COPS programs, as follows:

COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING SERVICES PROGRAMS

(In thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
Transfer to DEA for Methamphetamine Lab Cleanups	$10,000
COPS Hiring Grants	194,500
Community Policing Development/Training and Technical Assistance	(5,000)
Collaborative Reform Model	(10,000)
Regional Information Sharing Activities	(35,000)
Police Act	(7,500)
Anti-Methamphetamine Task Forces	7,000
Anti-Heroin Task Forces	10,000
TOTAL, Community Oriented Policing Services	$221,500

GENERAL PROVISIONS—DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

This Act includes the following general provisions for the Department of Justice:

Section 201 makes available additional reception and representation funding for the Attorney General from the amounts provided in this title.

Section 202 prohibits the use of funds to pay for an abortion, except in the case of rape or incest, or to preserve the life of the mother.

Section 203 prohibits the use of funds to require any person to perform or facilitate the performance of an abortion.

Section 204 establishes that the Director of the Bureau of Prisons (BOP) is obliged to provide escort services to an inmate receiving an abortion outside of a Federal facility, except where this obligation conflicts with the preceding section.

Section 205 establishes requirements and procedures for transfer proposals.

Section 206 prohibits the use of funds for transporting prisoners classified as maximum or high security, other than to a facility certified by the BOP as appropriately secure.

Section 207 prohibits the use of funds for the purchase or rental by Federal prisons of audiovisual or electronic media or equipment, services and materials used primarily for recreational purposes, except for those items and services needed for inmate training, religious, or educational purposes.

Section 208 requires review by the Deputy Attorney General and the Department Investment Review Board prior to the obligation or expenditure of funds for major information technology projects.

Section 209 requires the Department to follow reprogramming procedures prior to any deviation from the program amounts specified in this title or the reuse of specified deobligated funds provided in previous years.

Section 210 prohibits the use of funds for A–76 competitions for work performed by employees of BOP or Federal Prison Industries, Inc.

Section 211 prohibits U.S. Attorneys from holding additional responsibilities that exempt U.S. Attorneys from statutory residency requirements.

Section 212 permits up to 3 percent of grant and reimbursement program funds made available to the Office of Justice Programs to be used for training and technical assistance, and permits up to 2 percent of grant funds made available to that office to be used for criminal justice research, evaluation and statistics by the National Institute of Justice and the Bureau of Justice Statistics.

Section 213 permits up to 7 percent of certain grant and reimbursement program funds made available to the Office of Justice Programs and Community Oriented Policing Services programs to be used for tribal criminal justice assistance.

Section 214 gives the Attorney General the authority to waive matching requirements for Second Chance Act adult and juvenile reentry demonstration projects; State, tribal, and local reentry courts; drug treatment programs; and prison rape elimination programs.

Section 215 waives the requirement that the Attorney General reserve certain funds from amounts provided for offender incarceration.

Section 216 prohibits funds, other than funds for the national instant criminal background check system established under the Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act, from being used to facilitate the transfer of an operable firearm to a known or suspected agent of a drug cartel where law enforcement personnel do not continuously monitor or control such firearm.

Section 217 places limitations on the obligation of funds from certain Department of Justice accounts and funding sources.

Section 218 allows certain funding to be made available for use in Performance Partnership Pilots.

Section 219 allows the transfer of unobligated balances from the Department of Justice Working Capital Fund to the FBI Construction account for a new headquarters building.

TITLE III—SCIENCE

OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY

This Act includes $5,555,000 for the Office of Science and Technology Policy.

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

This Act includes $19,653,300,000 for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). The agreement clarifies that NASA shall continue to provide information to the GAO for its assessment of selected large-scale projects, to include any technology demonstration activities or communications and tracking services and related infrastructure refreshment activities, which have life cycle costs that exceed $250,000,000. The agreement does not include House direction regarding Federally Funded Research and Development Centers. Instead, NASA is encouraged to increase and strengthen partnerships between the NASA Centers and academia.

Continuity.—Over the past decade, Congress has consistently reaffirmed through both funding and policy its commitment to a balanced NASA portfolio that enhances aeronautics and aerospace, enables breakthrough scientific discoveries, promotes the development of commercial spaceflight, and expands human and robotic exploration through missions only NASA can undertake. NASA's diverse portfolio cannot be undertaken efficiently, effectively, and safely during times of budgetary and policy uncertainty. Maintaining an appropriate funding plan to achieve mission goals is crucial to avoid needless delays and unnecessary additional costs.

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

(In thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
Science:	
Earth Science	$1,921,000
Planetary Science	1,846,000
Astrophysics	750,000
James Webb Space Telescope	569,400
Heliophysics	678,500
Total, Science	5,764,900
Aeronautics:	660,000
Space Technology:	686,500

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION—Continued

(In thousands of dollars)

Program	Amount
Human Exploration and Operations:	
Orion Multi-purpose Crew Vehicle	1,350,000
Space Launch System (SLS) Vehicle Development	2,150,000
Exploration Ground System	429,000
Exploration R&D	395,000
Total, Human Exploration and Operations	4,324,000
Space Operations:	4,950,700
Education:	
NASA Space Grant	40,000
Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research	18,000
Minority University Research and Education Project	32,000
STEM Education and Accountability Projects	10,000
Total, Education	100,000
Safety, Security and Mission Services:	2,768,600
Construction and Environmental Compliance and Restoration:	360,700
Office of Inspector General:	37,900
Total, NASA	$19,653,300

SCIENCE

This Act includes $5,764,900,000 for Science.

Earth Science.—This Act includes $1,921,000,000 for Earth Science. In lieu of House language regarding prioritization, the agreement includes $90,000,000 for the Pre-Aerosol, Clouds, and Ocean Ecosystem mission and $130,900,000 for LandSat-9.

Planetary Science.—This Act includes $1,846,000,000 for Planetary Science. Of this amount, $363,000,000 is for Outer Planets, of which $275,000,000 is for the Europa mission as outlined by the House. Senate language regarding an analysis of options regarding Europa is not included. The agreement also provides $284,700,000 for Planetary Research, including $60,000,000 for Near Earth Object Observations as directed by the Senate; $224,800,000 is for Discovery; $136,500,000 is for New Frontiers; and $190,000,000 is for Technology. Also included is $647,000,000 for Mars, including $408,000,000 for the Mars 2020 mission as directed by the House. The agreement adopts House language regarding a Mars helicopter technology demonstration but directs that if this activity will delay the overall Mars 2020 mission, that it not be included as part of Mars 2020.

Astrophysics.—This Act includes $750,000,000 for Astrophysics. Given the restrained funding in this agreement for Astrophysics, the agreement supports continued appropriate low level exoplanet technology development for a starshade. The recommendation also includes $105,000,000 for the Wide-Field Infrared Survey Telescope (WFIRST) and retains Senate language regarding a cost cap for this mission and includes up to $5,000,000 as directed by the Senate for segmented aperture telescope activities. The agreement also provides $85,200,000 for the Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy and $98,300,000 for the Hubble Space Telescope.

James Webb Space Telescope (JWST).—This Act includes $569,400,000 for JWST.

Heliophysics.—This Act includes $678,500,000 for Heliophysics. In lieu of Senate language on the Diversify, Realize, Integrate, Venture, Educate initiative, the agreement supports continued implementation of this program.

Education and Public Outreach (EPO).—The recommendation includes $37,000,000 for STEM education programs, to be derived equally from Planetary Science and Astrophysics. This activity shall continue to be administered by the Astrophysics Division.

AERONAUTICS

This Act includes $660,000,000 for Aeronautics. Within these amounts, up to $169,400,000 is provided for the Airspace Operations and Safety Program as described by the House.

SPACE TECHNOLOGY

This Act includes $686,500,000 for Space Technology. Within this amount, $35,000,000 is for nuclear propulsion; $30,000,000 is for small launch capabilities; $25,000,000 is for additive manufacturing; $25,718,000 is for optical communications; and $66,600,000 is for solar electric propulsion activities.

EXPLORATION

Exploration.—This Act includes $4,324,000,000 for Exploration. The agreement directs NASA to continue advanced propulsion; asteroid deflection; and grappling technologies associated with the asteroid redirect mission but that these activities should not distract from the overarching goal of sending humans to Mars. The agreement provides up to $75,000,000 for habitation augmentation activities to support human exploration beyond low Earth orbit.

SPACE OPERATIONS

Space Operations.—This Act provides $4,950,700,000 for Space Operations. The agreement clarifies House language regarding the International Space Station and that efforts should focus on maintaining a U.S. presence in low Earth orbit in order to continue research in a microgravity environment. The recommendation includes up to $20,000,000 for 21st Century Space Launch Complex program activities and provides that no less than half of 21st Century Space Launch Complex funding shall be for the Wallops Flight Facility as described in the Senate report.

Commercial Crew.—This Act provides up to $1,184,800,000 for NASA's Commercial Crew program. The Committees are aware that Commercial Crew milestones have slipped and that concerns have been raised with respect to safety and appropriate NASA oversight. The Committees emphasize and underscore House and Senate language regarding human spaceflight safety and direct NASA to notify the Committees if safety concerns are not addressed as directed by NASA.

Commercial Cargo.—The agreement provides up to the requested amount of $1,028,000,000 to fund domestic cargo resupply flights. Over the past year, both providers under their CRS-1 contracts have returned to flight after experiencing the loss of vehicles and NASA payloads. Despite the successful resumption of cargo flights, NASA has chosen to rely on proven vehicles for delivery of valuable or unique cargo. As regular cargo flights are resumed, NASA is encouraged to continue flights from facilities where NASA has invested significant resources to enable commercial cargo flights.

Space shuttle closeout costs.—This Act does not include funds for space shuttle closeout costs. The Committees understand that NASA has reached an agreement on amounts necessary for closure of contracts related to the former space shuttle program and has determined that no additional costs will be charged to the government after September 30, 2016, and that no additional funds will be required in fiscal year 2017 and beyond.

EDUCATION

This Act includes $100,000,000 for Education, including $18,000,000 for the Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research; $40,000,000 for Space Grant; $32,000,000 for the Minority University Research and Education Project; and $10,000,000 for STEM Education and Accountability Projects.

SAFETY, SECURITY AND MISSION SERVICES

This Act includes $2,768,600,000 for Safety, Security and Mission Services, including $39,100,000 for Independent Verification and Validation services as directed by the Senate. Given infrastructure revitalization language included in Public Law 115–10, the *National Aeronautics and Space Administration Transition Authorization Act of 2017*, the agreement does not include House language regarding a facilities revitalization plan. The agreement adopts Senate language regarding

cybersecurity, strong governance, and information security and provides no less than the fiscal year 2016 level for these activities. The agreement acknowledges that recoveries of prior year obligations are available in this account.

CONSTRUCTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE AND RESTORATION

This Act includes $360,700,000 for Construction and Environmental Compliance and Restoration.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

This Act includes $37,900,000 for the Office of Inspector General.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

This Act includes the following administrative provisions for NASA: a provision that makes funds for announced prizes available without fiscal year limitation until the prize is claimed or the offer is withdrawn; a provision that establishes terms and conditions for the transfer of funds, including a separate exception for transfers to the Construction and Environmental Compliance and Restoration account; and a provision that subjects the NASA spending plan and specified changes to that spending plan to reprogramming procedures under section 505 of this Act.

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

This Act includes $7,472,215,000 for the National Science Foundation (NSF).

RESEARCH AND RELATED ACTIVITIES

This Act includes $6,033,645,000 for Research and Related Activities. Within this amount, no less than $160,000,000 is for the Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research.

MAJOR RESEARCH EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION

This Act includes $209,000,000 for Major Research Equipment and Facilities Construction. Within this amount, $121,880,000 is provided to facilitate planning and construction of three Regional Class Research Vessels.

EDUCATION AND HUMAN RESOURCES

This Act includes $880,000,000 for Education and Human Resources, including $35,000,000 for the Historically Black Colleges and Universities Program; $51,880,000 for STEM+C; $46,000,000 for the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation; $14,000,000 for the Tribal Colleges and Universities Program; $62,500,000 for the Advanced Informal STEM Learning program; and $55,000,000 for CyberCorps: Scholarships for Service, including no less than $7,500,000 for qualified community colleges as directed by the Senate. The agreement also directs NSF to establish an Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) program at no less than $15,000,000 as authorized in 42 U.S.C. 1862o–12. The agreement encourages NSF to use this program to build capacity at institutions of higher education that typically do not receive high levels of NSF grant funding. The agreement also provides $30,000,000 as requested for the I–Corps program.

AGENCY OPERATIONS AND AWARD MANAGEMENT

This Act includes $330,000,000 for Agency Operations and Award Management.

OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL SCIENCE BOARD

This Act includes $4,370,000 for the National Science Board.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

This Act includes $15,200,000 for the Office of Inspector General.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

This Act includes a provision that establishes terms and conditions for the transfer of funds.

TITLE IV—RELATED AGENCIES

COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

This Act includes $9,200,000 for the Commission on Civil Rights. The Committees clarify direction on the use of letterhead noting that individual commissioners are not precluded from expressing their own opinions such as dissenting views, but shall do so on individually personalized letterhead, not the letterhead used by the full Commission. Official Commission letterhead is reserved for correspondence that reflects the views of the body as a whole.

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

This Act includes $364,500,000 for the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC). Up to $29,500,000 shall be for payments to State and local enforcement agencies to ensure that the EEOC provides adequate resources to its State and local partners.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

This Act includes $91,500,000 for the International Trade Commission.

LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

PAYMENT TO THE LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

This Act includes $385,000,000 for the Legal Services Corporation.

MARINE MAMMAL COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

This Act includes $3,431,000 for the Marine Mammal Commission.

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

This Act includes $62,000,000 for the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR).

The agreement provides up to $15,000,000 in funding for enforcement of trade agreements and other activities outlined in the Trade Facilitation and Trade Enforcement Act of 2015 (19 U.S.C. 4405), subject to reprogramming requirements. Such funds may be used for coordination with other Federal agencies and their trade enforcement activities, but may not be transferred outside of USTR.

STATE JUSTICE INSTITUTE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

This Act includes $5,121,000 for the State Justice Institute.

TITLE V—GENERAL PROVISIONS

(INCLUDING RESCISSIONS)

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

This Act includes the following general provisions:

Section 501 prohibits the use of funds for publicity or propaganda purposes unless expressly authorized by law.

Section 502 prohibits any appropriation contained in this Act from remaining available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year unless expressly provided.

Section 503 provides that the expenditure of any appropriation contained in this Act for any consulting service through procurement contracts shall be limited to those contracts where such expenditures are a matter of public record and available for public inspection, except where otherwise provided under existing law or existing Executive order issued pursuant to existing law.

Section 504 provides that if any provision of this Act or the application of such provision to any person or circumstance shall be held invalid, the remainder of this Act and the application of other provisions shall not be affected.

Section 505 prohibits a reprogramming of funds that: (1) creates or initiates a new program, project or activity; (2) eliminates a program, project, or activity; (3) increases funds or personnel by any means for any project or activity for which funds have been denied or restricted; (4) relocates an office or employee; (5) reorganizes or renames offices, programs or activities; (6) contracts out or privatizes any function or activity presently performed by Federal employees; (7) augments funds for existing programs, projects or activities in excess of $500,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less, or reduces by 10 percent funding for any existing program, project, or activity, or numbers of personnel by 10 percent; or (8) results from any general savings, including savings from a reduction in personnel, which would result in a change in existing programs, projects, or activities as approved by Congress; unless the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations are notified 15 days in advance of such reprogramming of funds.

Section 506 provides that if it is determined that any person intentionally affixes a ''Made in America'' label to any product that was not made in America that person shall not be eligible to receive any contract or subcontract with funds made available in this Act. The section further provides that to the extent practicable, with respect to purchases of promotional items, funds made available under this Act shall be used to purchase items manufactured, produced, or assembled in the United States or its territories or possessions.

Section 507 requires quarterly reporting to Congress on the status of balances of appropriations.

Section 508 provides that any costs incurred by a department or agency funded under this Act resulting from, or to prevent, personnel actions taken in response to funding reductions in this Act, or, for the Department of Commerce, from actions taken for the care and protection of loan collateral or grant property, shall be absorbed within the budgetary resources available to the department or agency, and provides transfer authority between appropriation accounts to carry out this provision, subject to reprogramming procedures.

Section 509 prohibits funds made available in this Act from being used to promote the sale or export of tobacco or tobacco products or to seek the reduction or removal of foreign restrictions on the marketing of tobacco products, except for restrictions which are not applied equally to all tobacco or tobacco products of the same type. This provision is not intended to impact routine international trade services to all U.S. citizens, including the processing of applications to establish foreign trade zones.

Section 510 stipulates the obligations of certain receipts deposited into the Crime Victims Fund.

Section 511 prohibits the use of Department of Justice funds for programs that discriminate against or denigrate the religious or moral beliefs of students participating in such programs.

Section 512 prohibits the transfer of funds in this Act to any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government, except for transfers made by, or pursuant to authorities provided in, this Act or any other appropriations Act.

Section 513 provides that funds provided for E–Government Initiatives shall be subject to the procedures set forth in section 505 of this Act.

Section 514 requires certain timetables of audits performed by Inspectors General of the Departments of Commerce and Justice, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the National Science Foundation and the Legal Services Corporation and sets limits and restrictions on the awarding and use of grants or contracts funded by amounts appropriated by this Act.

Section 515 prohibits funds for acquisition of certain information systems unless the acquiring department or agency has reviewed and assessed certain risks. Any acquisition of such an information system is contingent upon the development of a risk mitigation strategy and a determination that the acquisition is in the national interest. Each department or agency covered under section 515 shall submit a quarterly report to the Committees on Appropriations describing reviews and assessments of risk made pursuant to this section and any associated findings or determinations.

Section 516 prohibits the use of funds in this Act to support or justify the use of torture by any official or contract employee of the United States Government.

Section 517 prohibits the use of funds in this Act to require certain export licenses.

Section 518 prohibits the use of funds in this Act to deny certain import applications regarding ''curios or relics'' firearms, parts, or ammunition.

Section 519 prohibits the use of funds to include certain language in trade agreements.

Section 520 prohibits the use of funds in this Act to authorize or issue a National Security Letter (NSL) in contravention of certain laws authorizing the Federal Bureau of Investigation to issue NSLs.

Section 521 requires congressional notification for any project within the Departments of Commerce or Justice, the National Science Foundation, or the National Aeronautics and Space Administration totaling more than $75,000,000 that has cost increases of 10 percent or more.

Section 522 deems funds for intelligence or intelligence-related activities as authorized by the Congress until the enactment of the Intelligence Authorization Act for fiscal year 2017.

Section 523 prohibits contracts or grant awards in excess of $5,000,000 unless the prospective contractor or grantee certifies that the organization has filed all Federal tax returns, has not been convicted of a criminal offense under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, and has no unpaid Federal tax assessment.

(RESCISSIONS)

Section 524 provides for rescissions of unobligated balances. Subsection (c) requires the Departments of Commerce and Justice to submit a report on the amount of each rescission. These reports shall include the distribution of such rescissions among decision units, or, in the case of rescissions from grant accounts, the distribution of such rescissions among specific grant programs, and whether such rescissions were taken from recoveries and deobligations, or from funds that were never obligated. Rescissions shall be applied to discretionary budget authority balances that were not appropriated with emergency or disaster relief designations.

Section 525 prohibits the use of funds in this Act for the purchase of first class or premium air travel in contravention of the Code of Federal Regulations.

Section 526 prohibits the use of funds to pay for the attendance of more than 50 department or agency employees, who are stationed in the United States, at any single conference outside the United States, unless the conference is a law enforcement training or operational event where the majority of Federal attendees are law enforcement personnel stationed outside the United States.

Section 527 includes language regarding detainees held at Guantanamo Bay.

Section 528 includes language regarding facilities for housing detainees held at Guantanamo Bay.

Section 529 requires any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government receiving funds appropriated under this Act to track and report on undisbursed balances in expired grant accounts.

Section 530 prohibits the use of funds by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) or the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) to engage in bilateral activities with China or a Chinese-owned company or effectuate the hosting of official Chinese visitors at certain facilities unless the activities are authorized by subsequent legislation or NASA or OSTP have made a certification pursuant to subsections (c) and (d) of this section.

Section 531 prohibits funds from being used to deny the importation of shotgun models if no application for the importation of such models, in the same configuration, had been denied prior to January 1, 2011, on the basis that the shotgun was not particularly suitable for or readily adaptable to sporting purposes.

Section 532 prohibits the use of funds to establish or maintain a computer network that does not block pornography, except for law enforcement and victim assistance purposes.

Section 533 requires the departments and agencies funded in the bill to submit spending plans.

Section 534 prohibits the use of funds to implement the Arms Trade Treaty until the Senate approves a resolution of ratification for the Treaty.

Section 535 prohibits funds to pay for award or incentive fees for contractors with below satisfactory performance or performance that fails to meet the basic requirements of the contract.

Section 536 requires quarterly reports from the Department of Commerce, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and the National Science Foundation of travel to China.

Section 537 prohibits the Department of Justice from preventing certain States from implementing State laws regarding the use of medical marijuana.

Section 538 prohibits the use of funds by the Department of Justice or the Drug Enforcement Administration in contravention of a certain section of the Agricultural Act of 2014.

Section 539 requires 10 percent of the funds for certain programs be allocated for assistance in persistent poverty counties.

Section 540 provides $109,000,000 of emergency funding for repairs at National Aeronautics and Space Administration facilities damaged by recent natural disasters.

Section 541 includes language regarding the appointment of the United States Trade Representative.

Section 542 provides $15,000,000 for emergency law enforcement assistance.

DIVISION B -- COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
TITLE I - DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE					
International Trade Administration					
Operations and administration	493,000	533,421	495,000	+2,000	-38,421
Offsetting fee collections	-10,000	-12,000	-12,000	-2,000	---
Direct appropriation	483,000	521,421	483,000	---	-38,421
Bureau of Industry and Security					
Operations and administration	76,500	90,945	76,500	---	-14,445
Defense function	36,000	36,000	36,000	---	---
Total, Bureau of Industry and Security	112,500	126,945	112,500	---	-14,445
Economic Development Administration					
Economic Development Assistance Programs	222,000	215,000	237,000	+15,000	+22,000
Salaries and expenses	39,000	43,454	39,000	---	-4,454
Total, Economic Development Administration	261,000	258,454	276,000	+15,000	+17,546
Minority Business Development Agency					
Minority Business Development	32,000	35,613	34,000	+2,000	-1,613

DIVISION B -- COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Economic and Statistical Analysis					
Salaries and expenses	109,000	114,643	107,300	-1,700	-7,343
Bureau of the Census					
Current Surveys and Programs	270,000	285,287	270,000	---	-15,287
Periodic censuses and programs	1,100,000	1,348,319	1,200,000	+100,000	-148,319
Total, Bureau of the Census	1,370,000	1,633,606	1,470,000	+100,000	-163,606
National Telecommunications and Information Administration					
Salaries and expenses	39,500	50,841	32,000	-7,500	-18,841
United States Patent and Trademark Office					
Salaries and expenses, current year fee funding	3,272,000	3,230,000	3,230,000	-42,000	---
Offsetting fee collections	-3,272,000	-3,230,000	-3,230,000	+42,000	---
Total, United States Patent and Trademark Office	---	---	---	---	---
National Institute of Standards and Technology					
Scientific and Technical Research and Services	690,000	730,533	690,000	---	-40,533
(transfer out)	(-9,000)	(-9,000)	(-9,000)	---	---

DIVISION B -- COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Industrial Technology Services	155,000	188,991	153,000	-2,000	-35,991
Adjustment for prior year recoveries	---	---	(-2,000)	(-2,000)	(-2,000)
Manufacturing extension partnerships	(130,000)	(141,991)	(130,000)	---	(-11,991)
National Network for Manufacturing Innovation	(25,000)	(47,000)	(25,000)	---	(-22,000)
Construction of research facilities	119,000	94,995	109,000	-10,000	+14,005
Working Capital Fund (by transfer)	(9,000)	(9,000)	(9,000)	---	---
Total, National Institute of Standards and Technology	964,000	1,014,519	952,000	-12,000	-62,519
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration					
Operations, Research, and Facilities	3,305,813	3,494,180	3,367,875	+62,062	-126,305
(by transfer)	(130,164)	(130,164)	(130,164)	---	---
Promote and Develop Fund (transfer out)	(-130,164)	(-130,164)	(-130,164)	---	---
Subtotal	3,305,813	3,494,180	3,367,875	+62,062	-126,305
Procurement, Acquisition and Construction	2,400,416	2,270,123	2,242,610	-157,806	-27,513
Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery	65,000	65,000	65,000	---	---
Fishermen's Contingency Fund	350	350	350	---	---
Fisheries Disaster Assistance	---	9,000	---	---	-9,000
Fisheries Finance Program Account	-6,000	-410	-410	+5,590	---
National Oceans and Coastal Security Fund	---	10,000	---	---	-10,000
Total, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	5,765,579	5,848,243	5,675,425	-90,154	-172,818

DIVISION B -- COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Departmental Management					
Salaries and expenses	58,000	74,503	58,000	---	-16,503
Renovation and Modernization	19,062	12,224	4,000	-15,062	-8,224
Office of Inspector General	32,000	37,167	32,744	+744	-4,423
Total, Departmental Management	109,062	123,894	94,744	-14,318	-29,150
Total, title I, Department of Commerce	9,245,641	9,728,179	9,236,969	-8,672	-491,210
(by transfer)	139,164	139,164	139,164	---	---
(transfer out)	-139,164	-139,164	-139,164	---	---
TITLE II - DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE					
General Administration					
Salaries and expenses	111,500	125,896	114,124	+2,624	-11,772
Justice Information Sharing Technology	31,000	57,561	31,000	---	-26,561
Total, General Administration	142,500	183,457	145,124	+2,624	-38,333
Administrative review and appeals	426,791	437,444	---	-426,791	-437,444

DIVISION B -- COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Executive Office for Immigration Review	---	---	440,000	+440,000	+440,000
Transfer from immigration examinations fee account	-4,000	-4,000	-4,000	---	---
Direct appropriation	422,791	433,444	436,000	+13,209	+2,556
Office of Inspector General	93,709	97,814	95,583	+1,874	-2,231
United States Parole Commission					
Salaries and expenses	13,308	14,000	13,308	---	-692
Legal Activities					
Salaries and expenses, general legal activities	893,000	957,423	897,500	+4,500	-59,923
Vaccine Injury Compensation Trust Fund	9,358	11,970	10,000	+642	-1,970
Salaries and expenses, Antitrust Division	164,977	180,506	164,977	---	-15,529
Offsetting fee collections - current year	-124,000	-125,000	-125,000	-1,000	---
Direct appropriation	40,977	55,506	39,977	-1,000	-15,529
Salaries and expenses, United States Attorneys	2,000,000	2,074,402	2,035,000	+35,000	-39,402
United States Trustee System Fund	225,908	229,717	225,908	---	-3,809
Offsetting fee collections	-162,000	-163,000	-163,000	-1,000	---
New fees (Sec. 221) (legislative proposal)	---	-125,000	---	---	+125,000
Direct appropriation	63,908	-58,283	62,908	-1,000	+121,191

DIVISION B -- COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Salaries and expenses, Foreign Claims Settlement Commission	2,374	2,409	2,374	---	-35
Fees and expenses of witnesses	270,000	270,000	270,000	---	---
Salaries and expenses, Community Relations Service	14,446	18,990	15,500	+1,054	-3,490
Assets Forfeiture Fund	20,514	20,514	20,514	---	---
Total, Legal Activities	3,314,577	3,352,931	3,353,773	+39,196	+842
United States Marshals Service					
Salaries and expenses	1,230,581	1,275,156	1,249,040	+18,459	-26,116
Construction	15,000	10,000	10,000	-5,000	---
Federal Prisoner Detention	1,454,414	1,504,009	1,454,414	---	-49,595
Total, United States Marshals Service	2,699,995	2,789,165	2,713,454	+13,459	-75,711
National Security Division					
Salaries and expenses	95,000	97,337	96,000	+1,000	-1,337
Interagency Law Enforcement					
Interagency Crime and Drug Enforcement	512,000	522,135	517,000	+5,000	-5,135

DIVISION B -- COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Federal Bureau of Investigation					
Salaries and expenses	3,444,306	3,537,251	3,556,853	+112,547	+19,602
Counterintelligence and national security	5,045,480	5,181,633	5,210,348	+164,868	+28,715
Subtotal, Salaries and expenses	8,489,786	8,718,884	8,767,201	+277,415	+48,317
Construction	308,982	783,482	420,178	+111,196	-363,304
(by transfer)	---	(85,000)	---	---	(-85,000)
Transfer from available balances of Working Capital Fund	---	---	-181,000	-181,000	-181,000
Subtotal, Construction	308,982	783,482	239,178	-69,804	-544,304
Total, Federal Bureau of Investigation	8,798,768	9,502,366	9,006,379	+207,611	-495,987
Drug Enforcement Administration					
Salaries and expenses	2,451,514	2,485,638	2,485,638	+34,124	---
Diversion control fund	-371,514	-382,662	-382,662	-11,148	---
Total, Drug Enforcement Administration	2,080,000	2,102,976	2,102,976	+22,976	---
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives					
Salaries and expenses	1,240,000	1,306,063	1,258,600	+18,600	-47,463

DIVISION B -- COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Federal Prison System					
Salaries and expenses	6,948,500	7,186,225	7,008,800	+60,300	-177,425
Buildings and facilities	530,000	113,022	130,000	-400,000	+16,978
Limitation on administrative expenses, Federal Prison Industries, Incorporated	2,700	2,700	2,700	---	---
Total, Federal Prison System	7,481,200	7,301,947	7,141,500	-339,700	-160,447
State and Local Law Enforcement Activities					
Office on Violence Against Women:					
Prevention and prosecution programs	101,000	163,000	155,500	+54,500	-7,500
(by transfer)	(379,000)	---	(326,000)	(-53,000)	(+326,000)
Crime Victims Fund (transfer out)	(-379,000)	---	(-326,000)	(+53,000)	(-326,000)
Offsetting collections	---	-326,000	---	---	+326,000
Spending of offsetting collections	---	326,000	---	---	-326,000
Office of Justice Programs:					
Research, evaluation and statistics	116,000	154,000	89,000	-27,000	-65,000
State and local law enforcement assistance	1,408,500	1,097,800	1,258,500	-150,000	+160,700
Edward Byrne Memorial Grants (P.L. 114-254, Div A, Sec. 154)	---	---	7,000	+7,000	+7,000
Juvenile justice programs	270,160	334,400	247,000	-23,160	-87,400

DIVISION B -- COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Public safety officer benefits:					
Death benefits	72,000	73,000	73,000	+1,000	---
Disability and education benefits	16,300	16,300	16,300	---	---
Subtotal	88,300	89,300	89,300	+1,000	---
Total, Office of Justice Programs	1,882,960	1,675,500	1,690,800	-192,160	+15,300
Community Oriented Policing Services:					
COPS programs	212,000	286,000	221,500	+9,500	-64,500
Total, State and Local Law Enforcement Activities	2,195,960	2,124,500	2,067,800	-128,160	-56,700
Total, title II, Department of Justice	29,089,808	29,828,135	28,947,497	-142,311	-880,638
TITLE III - SCIENCE					
Office of Science and Technology Policy	5,555	5,566	5,555	---	-11
National Aeronautics and Space Administration					
Science	5,589,400	5,302,500	5,764,900	+175,500	+462,400
Aeronautics	640,000	634,500	660,000	+20,000	+25,500
Space Technology	686,500	690,600	686,500	---	-4,100
Exploration	4,030,000	3,163,900	4,324,000	+294,000	+1,160,100

DIVISION B -- COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Space Operations	5,029,200	5,075,800	4,950,700	-78,500	-125,100
Education	115,000	100,100	100,000	-15,000	-100
Safety, Security and Mission Services	2,768,600	2,836,800	2,768,600	---	-68,200
Construction and environmental compliance and restoration	388,900	419,800	360,700	-28,200	-59,100
Office of Inspector General	37,400	38,100	37,900	+500	-200
Total, National Aeronautics and Space Administration	19,285,000	18,262,100	19,653,300	+368,300	+1,391,200
National Science Foundation					
Research and related activities	5,966,125	6,011,910	5,966,125	---	-45,785
Defense function	67,520	67,520	67,520	---	---
Subtotal	6,033,645	6,079,430	6,033,645	---	-45,785
Major Research Equipment and Facilities Construction	200,310	193,120	209,000	+8,690	+15,880
Education and Human Resources	880,000	898,870	880,000	---	-18,870
Agency Operations and Award Management	330,000	373,020	330,000	---	-43,020
Office of the National Science Board	4,370	4,380	4,370	---	-10
Office of Inspector General	15,160	15,200	15,200	+40	---
Total, National Science Foundation	7,463,485	7,564,020	7,472,215	+8,730	-91,805
Total, title III, Science	26,754,040	25,831,686	27,131,070	+377,030	+1,299,384

DIVISION B -- COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
TITLE IV - RELATED AGENCIES					
Commission on Civil Rights					
Salaries and expenses	9,200	9,430	9,200	---	-230
Equal Employment Opportunity Commission					
Salaries and expenses	364,500	376,646	364,500	---	-12,146
International Trade Commission					
Salaries and expenses	88,500	92,866	91,500	+3,000	-1,366
Legal Services Corporation					
Payment to the Legal Services Corporation	385,000	475,000	385,000	---	-90,000
Marine Mammal Commission					
Salaries and expenses	3,431	3,431	3,431	---	---
Office of the U.S. Trade Representative					
Salaries and expenses	54,500	59,376	62,000	+7,500	+2,624
Trade Enforcement Trust Fund (non-add)	---	---	(15,000)	(+15,000)	(+15,000)

DIVISION B -- COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
State Justice Institute					
Salaries and expenses	5,121	5,121	5,121	---	---
Total, title IV, Related Agencies	910,252	1,021,870	920,752	+10,500	-101,118
TITLE V - GENERAL PROVISIONS					
DOC National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Operations, Research and Facilities (rescission)	---	---	-18,000	-18,000	-18,000
DOC National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Procurement Acquisition and Construction (rescission)	---	---	-5,000	-5,000	-5,000
Economic Development Assistance Programs (rescission)	-10,000	---	-10,000	---	-10,000
DOJ, Working Capital Fund (rescission)	-69,000	-164,743	-300,000	-231,000	-135,257
DOJ, Assets Forfeiture Fund (rescission, temporary)	-458,000	---	-302,000	+156,000	-302,000
DOJ, Assets Forfeiture Fund (rescission, permanent)	---	-304,000	-201,196	-201,196	+102,804
FBI, Salaries and Expenses:					
(Fees) nondefense (rescission)	-32,767	-60,855	-56,798	-24,031	+4,057
(Fees) defense (rescission)	-48,000	-89,145	-83,202	-35,202	+5,943
Nondefense (rescission)	---	-29,854	-20,934	-20,934	+8,920
Defense (rescission)	---	-43,732	-30,666	-30,666	+13,066
Federal Prisoner Detention (rescission)	-195,974	-24,000	-24,000	+171,974	---
DOJ, Drug Enforcement Administration (rescission)	---	-6,192	-12,092	-12,092	-5,900

DIVISION B -- COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
DOJ, Federal Prison System, Buildings and Facilities (rescission)	---	---	-3,400	-3,400	-3,400
Violence against women prevention and prosecution programs (rescission)	-15,000	-5,000	-10,000	+5,000	-5,000
Office of Justice programs (rescission)	-40,000	-20,000	-50,000	-10,000	-30,000
COPS (rescission)	-10,000	-10,000	-15,000	-5,000	-5,000
NASA Emergency Repairs (emergency)	---	---	109,000	+109,000	+109,000
Emergency Law Enforcement Assistance	---	---	15,000	+15,000	+15,000
Total, title V, General Provisions	-878,741	-757,521	-1,018,288	-139,547	-260,767
Grand total	65,121,000	65,652,349	65,218,000	+97,000	-434,349
Appropriations	(65,999,741)	(66,409,870)	(66,251,288)	(+251,547)	(-158,582)
Rescissions	(-878,741)	(-757,521)	(-1,142,288)	(-263,547)	(-384,767)
Emergency appropriations	---	---	(109,000)	(+109,000)	(+109,000)
(by transfer)	518,164	224,164	465,164	-53,000	+241,000
(transfer out)	-518,164	-139,164	-465,164	+53,000	-326,000

Note: The FY2017 Request column reflects the budget submitted on February 9, 2016.

DIVISION C—DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

The following is an explanation of the effects of this Act, which makes appropriations for the Department of Defense for fiscal year 2017. Unless otherwise noted, references to the House and Senate reports are to House Report 114–577 and Senate Report 114–263, respectively. The language contained in the House and Senate reports warrant full compliance and carry the same weight as language included in this explanatory statement unless specifically addressed to the contrary in the bill or this explanatory statement. While repeating some language from the House or Senate reports for emphasis, this explanatory statement does not intend to negate the language referred to above unless expressly provided herein.

DEFINITION OF PROGRAM, PROJECT, AND ACTIVITY

For the purposes of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (Public Law 99–177), as amended by the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Reaffirmation Act of 1987 (Public Law 100–119), and by the Budget Enforcement Act of 1990 (Public Law 101–508), the terms ''program, project, and activity'' for appropriations contained in this Act shall be defined as the most specific level of budget items identified in the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2017, the related classified annexes and explanatory statements, and the P–1 and R–1 budget justification documents as subsequently modified by congressional action.

The following exception to the above definition shall apply: the military personnel and the operation and maintenance accounts, for which the term ''program, project, and activity'' is defined as the appropriations accounts contained in the Department of Defense Appropriations Act.

At the time the President submits the budget request for fiscal year 2018, the Secretary of Defense is directed to transmit to the congressional defense committees budget justification documents to be known as the ''M–1'' and the ''O–1'' which shall identify, at the budget activity, activity group, and subactivity group level, the amounts requested by the President to be appropriated to the Department of Defense for military personnel and operation and maintenance in any budget request, or amended budget request, for fiscal year 2018.

REPROGRAMMING GUIDANCE

The Secretary of Defense is directed to continue to follow the reprogramming guidance for acquisition accounts as specified in the report accompanying the House version of the Department of Defense Appropriations bill for Fiscal Year 2008 (House Report 110–279). For operation and maintenance accounts, the Secretary of Defense shall continue to follow the reprogramming guidelines specified in the conference report accompanying H.R. 3222, the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2008. The dollar threshold for reprogramming funds shall remain at $10,000,000 for military personnel; $15,000,000 for operation and maintenance; $20,000,000 for procurement; and $10,000,000 for research, development, test and evaluation.

Also, the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) is directed to continue to provide the congressional defense committees annual DD Form 1416 reports for titles I and II and quarterly, spreadsheet-based DD Form 1416 reports for Service and defense-wide accounts in titles III and IV of this Act. Reports for titles III and IV shall comply with guidance specified in the explanatory statement accompanying the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2006. The Department shall continue to follow the limitation that prior approval reprogrammings are set at either the specified dollar threshold or 20 percent of the procurement or research, development, test and evaluation line, whichever is less. These thresholds are cumulative from the base for reprogramming value as modified by any adjustments. Therefore, if the combined value of transfers into or out of a military personnel (M–1), an operation and maintenance (O–1), a procurement (P–1), or a research, development, test and evaluation (R–1) line exceeds the identified threshold, the Secretary of Defense must submit a prior approval reprogramming to the congressional defense committees. In addition, guidelines on the application of prior approval reprogramming procedures for congressional special interest items are established elsewhere in this statement.

FUNDING INCREASES

The funding increases outlined in the tables for each appropriation account shall be provided only for the specific purposes indicated in the tables.

CONGRESSIONAL SPECIAL INTEREST ITEMS

Items for which additional funds have been provided or items for which funding is specifically reduced as shown in the project level tables or in paragraphs using the phrase ''only for'' or ''only to'' are congressional special interest items for the purpose of the Base for Reprogramming (DD Form 1414). Each of these items must be carried on the DD Form 1414 at the stated amount, as specifically addressed in the explanatory statement.

CLASSIFIED ANNEX

Adjustments to classified programs are addressed in the accompanying classified annex.

BUDGET LIAISON SUPPORT TO THE HOUSE AND SENATE DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEES

The House and Senate Defense Appropriations Subcommittees rely heavily on offices within the Comptroller organizations of the military departments and the Office of the Secretary of Defense to conduct their oversight responsibilities and make funding recommendations for the Department of Defense. Established in the 1970s in accordance with a recommendation of the Blue Ribbon Defense Panel, these offices facilitate the appropriate flow of information between the House and Senate Defense Appropriations Subcommittees and the Comptroller of the respective department or agency. In the early 1990s, the House and Senate Defense Appropriations Subcommittees restated the support these organizations provide to the Committees and noted that ''while the various offices of legislative affairs offer great assistance to DoD and the Congress, they do not provide the expertise and the direct relationship to the Comptroller organizations which are essential to the effective communication between DoD and the Committees on Appropriations.''

Further, the explanatory statement accompanying the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2016 echoed the imperative to maintain the existing liaison structure to achieve the highest level of communication and trust between the Department of Defense and the House and Senate Defense Appropriations Subcommittees.

The House and Senate Defense Appropriations Subcommittees repeat this support for the budget liaison organizations and reiterate previously stated concerns that efforts to incorporate these organizations into the military and Office of the Secretary of Defense legislative affairs offices would be deleterious to the appropriations process and to the utility of the budget liaison operation. Therefore, the agreement retains a provision in title II of this Act from previous years that prohibits the use of funds in this Act to plan or implement the consolidation of a budget or appropriations liaison office of the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the office of the Secretary of a military department, or the Service headquarters of one of the Armed Forces into a legislative affairs or legislative liaison office.

CYBERSPACE ACTIVITIES

The agreement fully funds the fiscal year 2017 base budget requirement of $6,734,000,000 for the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, and the defense agencies cyberspace activities, an increase of $992,000,000 over the fiscal year 2016 enacted level.

While the Service and defense-wide budget justification material, as well as the Department of Defense classified cyberspace activities information technology investments budget justification materials, provide some level of detail, much of the funding is encompassed within larger programs and funding lines, which limits visibility and congressional oversight of requested funding for cyberspace activities specifically.

Beginning in fiscal year 2018, the Department of Defense Chief Information Officer is directed to modify the cyberspace activities exhibit in order to provide increased visibility and clarity into the cyberspace activities funding requirements and changes to funding requirements from the previous fiscal year enacted levels, to segregate civilian and military pay, and to provide a crosswalk between the cyberspace activities justification books and the Services and defense-wide budget justification material.

Further, in order to provide additional clarity and to enhance oversight, the Department of Defense Chief Information Officer, in coordination with the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) and the Service Secretaries, is directed to conduct a review of the budget justification material and provide a proposal to the House and Senate Appropriations Committees not later than September 1, 2017, for how to clearly delineate the Department of Defense cyber investment activities requested in the operation and maintenance, procurement, and research, development, test and evaluation accounts as part of the budget justification material beginning with the fiscal year 2019 budget submission. The Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) and the Chief Information Officer are encouraged to consider establishing a unique cyber sub-activity group for operation and maintenance accounts and individual cost codes, projects, or program elements for procurement and research, development, test and evaluation accounts as part of this review.

The Department of Defense cyberspace activities table provided shows the amount of funding provided to each Service and defense-wide account in fiscal years 2016 and 2017. Funding appropriated therein may be used only for cyberspace activities as defined by the classified cyberspace activities information technology investment budget request for fiscal year 2017. The Secretary of Defense is directed to use normal prior approval reprogramming procedures to transfer funding out of any operation and maintenance, procurement, or research, development, test and evaluation accounts as identified in the table titled ''Department of Defense Cyberspace Activities'' for any purpose other than cyberspace activities. The Department of Defense Chief Information Officer shall submit to the House and Senate Appropriations Committees two reports not later than May 30, 2017, and November 30, 2017, which provide the mid-year and end of fiscal year financial obligation and execution data for cyberspace activities of each year.

This language replaces the language included under the heading ''Cyberspace Operations'' in House Report 114–577.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

CYBERSPACE ACTIVITIES

(Includes cybersecurity, cyberspace operations, and research and development)

[In thousands of dollars]

	Fiscal Year 2016 Enacted	Fiscal Year 2017 Recommended
DEPARTMENT OF ARMY		
Military Personnel	159,366	163,409
Operation and Maintenance	606,353	760,989
Procurement	94,268	233,789
Research, Development, Test and Evaluation	85,131	171,389
TOTAL, DEPARTMENT OF ARMY	**945,118**	**1,329,576**
DEPARTMENT OF NAVY		
Working Capital Fund, Defense	116,954	127,484
Military Personnel	220,828	263,388
Operation and Maintenance	395,951	452,003
Procurement	150,890	104,228
Research, Development, Test and Evaluation	65,580	91,057
TOTAL, DEPARTMENT OF NAVY	**950,203**	**1,038,160**
DEPARTMENT OF AIR FORCE		
Military Personnel	257,054	286,464
Operation and Maintenance	766,756	1,020,518
Procurement	268,253	326,627
Research, Development, Test and Evaluation	253,519	356,922
TOTAL, DEPARTMENT OF AIR FORCE	**1,545,582**	**1,990,531**
DEFENSE-WIDE		
Working Capital Fund, Defense	345,221	323,513
Operation and Maintenance	1,222,789	1,311,556
Procurement	74,125	60,628
Research, Development, Test and Evaluation	658,702	679,723
TOTAL, DEFENSE-WIDE	**2,300,837**	**2,375,420**
TOTAL, CYBERSPACE OPERATIONS	**5,741,740**	**6,733,687**

QUARTERLY CYBER OPERATIONS BRIEFING

The Secretary of Defense is directed to provide quarterly briefings to the House and Senate Appropriations Committees on all offensive and significant defensive military operations in cyberspace carried out by the Department of Defense not later than 30 days after the end of each fiscal quarter.

TITLE I—MILITARY PERSONNEL

The agreement provides $128,725,978,000 in Title I, Military Personnel. The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
RECAPITULATION		
MILITARY PERSONNEL, ARMY	40,028,182	40,042,962
MILITARY PERSONNEL, NAVY	27,951,605	27,889,405
MILITARY PERSONNEL, MARINE CORPS	12,813,412	12,735,182
MILITARY PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE	27,944,615	27,958,795
RESERVE PERSONNEL, ARMY	4,561,703	4,524,863
RESERVE PERSONNEL, NAVY	1,924,155	1,921,045
RESERVE PERSONNEL, MARINE CORPS	744,995	744,795
RESERVE PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE	1,742,906	1,725,526
NATIONAL GUARD PERSONNEL, ARMY	7,910,694	7,899,423
NATIONAL GUARD PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE	3,280,065	3,283,982
GRAND TOTAL, MILITARY PERSONNEL	128,902,332	128,725,978

SUMMARY OF MILITARY PERSONNEL END STRENGTH

	Fiscal Year 2017				
	Fiscal year 2016 authorized	Budget request	Final bill	Change from request	Change from fiscal year 2016
Active Forces (End Strength)					
Army	475,000	460,000	476,000	16,000	1,000
Navy	329,200	322,900	323,900	1,000	−5,300
Marine Corps	184,000	182,000	185,000	3,000	1,000
Air Force	320,715	317,000	321,000	4,000	285
Total, Active Forces	1,308,915	1,281,900	1,305,900	24,000	−3,015
Guard and Reserve Forces (End Strength)					
Army Reserve	198,000	195,000	199,000	4,000	1,000
Navy Reserve	57,400	58,000	58,000	– – –	600
Marine Corps Reserve	38,900	38,500	38,500	– – –	−400
Air Force Reserve	69,200	69,000	69,000	– – –	−200
Army National Guard	342,000	335,000	343,000	8,000	1,000
Air National Guard	105,500	105,700	105,700	– – –	200
Total, Selected Reserve	811,000	801,200	813,200	12,000	2,200
Total, Military Personnel	2,119,915	2,083,100	2,119,100	36,000	−815

SUMMARY OF GUARD AND RESERVE FULL-TIME STRENGTH

	Fiscal Year 2017				
	Fiscal year 2016 authorized	Budget request	Final bill	Change from request	Change from fiscal year 2016
Army Reserve:					
AGR	16,261	16,261	16,261	– – –	– – –
Technicians	7,395	7,570	7,570	– – –	175
Navy Reserve:					
AR	9,934	9,955	9,955	– – –	21
Marine Corps Reserve:					
AR	2,260	2,261	2,261	– – –	1
Air Force Reserve:					
AGR	3,032	2,955	2,955	– – –	−77
Technicians	9,814	10,061	10,061	– – –	247
Army National Guard:					
AGR	30,770	30,155	30,155	– – –	−615
Technicians	26,099	25,507	25,507	– – –	−592
Air National Guard:					
AGR	14,748	14,764	14,764	– – –	16
Technicians	22,104	22,103	22,103	– – –	−1
Totals:					
AGR/AR	77,005	76,351	76,351	– – –	−654
Technicians	65,412	65,241	65,241	– – –	−171
Total, Full-Time Support	142,417	141,592	141,592	– – –	−825

MILITARY PERSONNEL OVERVIEW

The agreement provides the resources required for an additional 24,000 active forces and 12,000 selected reserve forces, as authorized by current law and above the requested end strength levels, in order to meet operational needs for fiscal year 2017. The agreement also provides the funding necessary to support a 2.1 percent pay raise for all military personnel, as authorized, effective January 1, 2017.

REPROGRAMMING GUIDANCE FOR MILITARY PERSONNEL ACCOUNTS

The Secretary of Defense is directed to submit the Base for Reprogramming (DD Form 1414) for each of the fiscal year 2017 appropriations accounts not later than 60 days after the enactment of this Act. The Secretary of Defense is prohibited from executing any reprogramming or transfer of funds for any purpose other than originally appropriated until the aforementioned report is submitted to the House and Senate Appropriations Committees.

The Secretary of Defense is directed to use the normal prior approval reprogramming procedures to transfer funds in the Services' military personnel accounts between budget activities in excess of $10,000,000.

MILITARY PERSONNEL SPECIAL INTEREST ITEMS

Items for which additional funds have been provided or have been specifically reduced as shown in the project level tables or in paragraphs using the phrase ''only for'' or ''only to'' in the explanatory statement are congressional special interest items for the purpose of the Base for Reprogramming (DD Form 1414). Each of these items must be carried on the DD Form 1414 at the stated amount as specifically addressed in the explanatory statement. Below Threshold Reprogrammings may not be used to either restore or reduce funding from congressional special interest items as identified on the DD Form 1414.

MILITARY BANDS

Military bands honor and celebrate warfighters, promote patriotism during community events, inspire servicemembers, and enhance efforts to recruit and retain troops. Band engagements play an important support role for national security and joint operations, opening diplomatic doors for political and military discussions while building trust and confidence with foreign military and civilian authorities. However, the activities of military bands must not detract from the core competencies of the military. The Secretary of Defense should review opportunities to ensure that only the critical functions of military bands are supported while minimizing impacts on funding for essential readiness, military personnel, modernization, and research and development activities.

MILITARY PERSONNEL, ARMY

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
50	MILITARY PERSONNEL, ARMY		
100	ACTIVITY 1: PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF OFFICERS		
150	BASIC PAY	6,846,876	6,846,876
200	RETIRED PAY ACCRUAL	2,015,554	2,015,554
250	BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR HOUSING	2,241,563	2,241,563
300	BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR SUBSISTENCE	285,488	285,488
350	INCENTIVE PAYS	85,542	85,542
400	SPECIAL PAYS	367,175	367,175
450	ALLOWANCES	212,392	212,392
500	SEPARATION PAY	201,125	201,125
550	SOCIAL SECURITY TAX	521,218	521,218
600	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 1	12,776,933	12,776,933
650	ACTIVITY 2: PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF ENLISTED PERSONNEL		
700	BASIC PAY	12,429,886	12,429,886
750	RETIRED PAY ACCRUAL	3,663,328	3,663,328
800	BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR HOUSING	4,701,364	4,701,364
850	INCENTIVE PAYS	90,342	90,342
900	SPECIAL PAYS	395,840	395,840
950	ALLOWANCES	707,120	707,120
1000	SEPARATION PAY	523,385	523,385
1050	SOCIAL SECURITY TAX	950,887	950,887
1100	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 2	23,462,152	23,462,152
1150	ACTIVITY 3: PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF CADETS		
1200	ACADEMY CADETS	81,184	81,184
1250	ACTIVITY 4: SUBSISTENCE OF ENLISTED PERSONNEL		
1300	BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR SUBSISTENCE	1,240,112	1,240,112
1350	SUBSISTENCE-IN-KIND	594,481	574,481
1400	FAMILY SUBSISTENCE SUPPLEMENTAL ALLOWANCE	813	813
1450	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 4	1,835,406	1,815,406

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
1500	ACTIVITY 5: PERMANENT CHANGE OF STATION		
1550	ACCESSION TRAVEL	155,211	155,211
1600	TRAINING TRAVEL	149,240	149,240
1650	OPERATIONAL TRAVEL	428,891	428,891
1700	ROTATIONAL TRAVEL	710,007	710,007
1750	SEPARATION TRAVEL	302,576	302,576
1800	TRAVEL OF ORGANIZED UNITS	4,033	4,033
1850	NON-TEMPORARY STORAGE	14,073	14,073
1900	TEMPORARY LODGING EXPENSE	47,766	47,766
1950	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 5	1,811,797	1,811,797
2000	ACTIVITY 6: OTHER MILITARY PERSONNEL COSTS		
2050	APPREHENSION OF MILITARY DESERTERS	621	621
2100	INTEREST ON UNIFORMED SERVICES SAVINGS	132	132
2150	DEATH GRATUITIES	38,000	38,000
2200	UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS	168,656	168,656
2250	EDUCATION BENEFITS	634	634
2300	ADOPTION EXPENSES	576	576
2350	TRANSPORTATION SUBSIDY	11,284	11,284
2400	PARTIAL DISLOCATION ALLOWANCE	251	251
2450	RESERVE OFFICERS TRAINING CORPS (ROTC)	97,362	97,362
2500	JUNIOR ROTC	27,522	27,522
2550	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 6	345,038	345,038
2600	LESS REIMBURSABLES	-284,328	-284,328
2650	UNDISTRIBUTED ADJUSTMENT	---	34,780
2700	TOTAL, ACTIVE FORCES, ARMY	40,028,182	40,042,962
6300	TOTAL, MILITARY PERSONNEL, ARMY	40,028,182	40,042,962

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS
[In thousands of dollars]

M-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
BA-4: SUBSISTENCE OF ENLISTED PERSONNEL		
SUBSISTENCE-IN-KIND	**594,481**	**574,481**
Excess growth		-20,000
UNDISTRIBUTED ADJUSTMENTS		**34,780**
Unobligated/Unexpended balances		-37,220
Increase in Army end strength/pay raise		843,000
Excess to requirement		-771,000

MILITARY PERSONNEL, NAVY

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
6400	MILITARY PERSONNEL, NAVY		
6450	ACTIVITY 1: PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF OFFICERS		
6500	BASIC PAY	4,120,767	4,120,767
6550	RETIRED PAY ACCRUAL	1,214,093	1,214,093
6600	BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR HOUSING	1,497,045	1,497,045
6650	BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR SUBSISTENCE	170,255	170,255
6700	INCENTIVE PAYS	132,868	132,868
6750	SPECIAL PAYS	428,731	428,731
6800	ALLOWANCES	118,231	118,231
6850	SEPARATION PAY	47,200	47,200
6900	SOCIAL SECURITY TAX	313,964	313,964
6950	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 1	8,043,154	8,043,154
7000	ACTIVITY 2: PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF ENLISTED PERSONNEL		
7050	BASIC PAY	8,940,145	8,940,145
7100	RETIRED PAY ACCRUAL	2,636,817	2,636,817
7150	BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR HOUSING	4,254,377	4,254,377
7200	INCENTIVE PAYS	103,685	103,685
7250	SPECIAL PAYS	752,380	752,380
7300	ALLOWANCES	544,072	544,072
7350	SEPARATION PAY	161,985	161,985
7400	SOCIAL SECURITY TAX	683,920	683,920
7450	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 2	18,077,381	18,077,381
7500	ACTIVITY 3: PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF MIDSHIPMEN		
7550	MIDSHIPMEN	81,580	81,580
7600	ACTIVITY 4: SUBSISTENCE OF ENLISTED PERSONNEL		
7650	BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR SUBSISTENCE	804,972	804,972
7700	SUBSISTENCE-IN-KIND	378,674	378,674
7750	FAMILY SUBSISTENCE SUPPLEMENTAL ALLOWANCE	10	10
7800	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 4	1,183,656	1,183,656

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
7850	ACTIVITY 5: PERMANENT CHANGE OF STATION		
7900	ACCESSION TRAVEL	84,530	84,530
7950	TRAINING TRAVEL	66,298	66,298
8000	OPERATIONAL TRAVEL	184,700	184,700
8050	ROTATIONAL TRAVEL	228,489	228,489
8100	SEPARATION TRAVEL	123,633	123,633
8150	TRAVEL OF ORGANIZED UNITS	24,746	24,746
8200	NON-TEMPORARY STORAGE	12,686	12,686
8250	TEMPORARY LODGING EXPENSE	16,225	16,225
8350	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 5	741,307	741,307
8400	ACTIVITY 6: OTHER MILITARY PERSONNEL COSTS		
8450	APPREHENSION OF MILITARY DESERTERS	71	71
8500	INTEREST ON UNIFORMED SERVICES SAVINGS	1,060	1,060
8550	DEATH GRATUITIES	13,500	13,500
8600	UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS	78,956	78,956
8650	EDUCATION BENEFITS	16,505	16,505
8700	ADOPTION EXPENSES	250	250
8750	TRANSPORTATION SUBSIDY	8,434	8,434
8800	PARTIAL DISLOCATION ALLOWANCE	30	30
8900	RESERVE OFFICERS TRAINING CORPS (ROTC)	20,234	20,234
8950	JUNIOR ROTC	14,990	14,990
9000	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 6	154,030	154,030
9050	LESS REIMBURSABLES	-329,503	-329,503
9100	UNDISTRIBUTED ADJUSTMENT	---	-62,200
9200	TOTAL, ACTIVE FORCES, NAVY	27,951,605	27,889,405
11000	TOTAL, MILITARY PERSONNEL, NAVY	27,951,605	27,889,405

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS
[In thousands of dollars]

M-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
UNDISTRIBUTED ADJUSTMENTS		**-62,200**
Unobligated/Unexpended balances		-175,000
Increase in Navy end strength/pay raise		112,800

MILITARY PERSONNEL, MARINE CORPS

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
12000	MILITARY PERSONNEL, MARINE CORPS		
12050	ACTIVITY 1: PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF OFFICERS		
12100	BASIC PAY	1,543,145	1,543,145
12150	RETIRED PAY ACCRUAL	454,866	454,866
12200	BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR HOUSING	511,997	511,997
12250	BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR SUBSISTENCE	65,927	65,927
12300	INCENTIVE PAYS	31,661	31,661
12350	SPECIAL PAYS	3,582	3,582
12400	ALLOWANCES	35,359	35,359
12450	SEPARATION PAY	13,077	13,077
12500	SOCIAL SECURITY TAX	117,478	117,478
12550	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 1	2,777,092	2,777,092
12600	ACTIVITY 2: PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF ENLISTED PERSONNEL		
12650	BASIC PAY	4,840,416	4,840,416
12700	RETIRED PAY ACCRUAL	1,425,856	1,425,856
12750	BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR HOUSING	1,557,367	1,557,367
12800	INCENTIVE PAYS	9,137	9,137
12850	SPECIAL PAYS	116,757	116,757
12900	ALLOWANCES	289,349	289,349
12950	SEPARATION PAY	97,926	97,926
13000	SOCIAL SECURITY TAX	369,924	369,924
13050	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 2	8,706,732	8,706,732
13100	ACTIVITY 4: SUBSISTENCE OF ENLISTED PERSONNEL		
13150	BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR SUBSISTENCE	440,800	440,800
13200	SUBSISTENCE-IN-KIND	386,455	386,455
13250	FAMILY SUBSISTENCE SUPPLEMENTAL ALLOWANCE	10	10
13300	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 4	827,265	827,265

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
13350	ACTIVITY 5: PERMANENT CHANGE OF STATION		
13400	ACCESSION TRAVEL	64,291	64,291
13450	TRAINING TRAVEL	7,185	7,185
13500	OPERATIONAL TRAVEL	130,620	130,620
13550	ROTATIONAL TRAVEL	107,630	107,630
13600	SEPARATION TRAVEL	109,224	109,224
13650	TRAVEL OF ORGANIZED UNITS	380	380
13700	NON-TEMPORARY STORAGE	7,942	7,942
13750	TEMPORARY LODGING EXPENSE	5,473	5,473
13850	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 5	432,745	432,745
13900	ACTIVITY 6: OTHER MILITARY PERSONNEL COSTS		
13950	APPREHENSION OF MILITARY DESERTERS	395	395
14000	INTEREST ON UNIFORMED SERVICES SAVINGS	19	19
14050	DEATH GRATUITIES	12,900	12,900
14100	UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS	77,928	77,928
14150	EDUCATION BENEFITS	7,125	7,125
14200	ADOPTION EXPENSES	116	116
14250	TRANSPORTATION SUBSIDY	2,122	2,122
14300	PARTIAL DISLOCATION ALLOWANCE	101	101
14400	JUNIOR ROTC	3,589	3,589
14450	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 6	104,295	104,295
14500	LESS REIMBURSABLES	-34,717	-34,717
14600	UNDISTRIBUTED ADJUSTMENT	---	-78,230
14650	TOTAL, ACTIVE FORCES, MARINE CORPS	12,813,412	12,735,182
16000	TOTAL, MILITARY PERSONNEL, MARINE CORPS	12,813,412	12,735,182

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS
[In thousands of dollars]

M-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
UNDISTRIBUTED ADJUSTMENTS		**-78,230**
Unobligated/Unexpended balances		-112,030
Permanent change of station restoral		20,000
Increase in Marine Corps end strength/pay raise		13,800

MILITARY PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
17000	MILITARY PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE		
17050	ACTIVITY 1: PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF OFFICERS		
17100	BASIC PAY	4,886,786	4,886,786
17150	RETIRED PAY ACCRUAL	1,433,571	1,433,571
17200	BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR HOUSING	1,507,570	1,507,570
17250	BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR SUBSISTENCE	199,210	199,210
17300	INCENTIVE PAYS	230,325	230,325
17350	SPECIAL PAYS	303,925	303,925
17400	ALLOWANCES	110,509	110,509
17450	SEPARATION PAY	54,540	54,540
17500	SOCIAL SECURITY TAX	373,187	373,187
17550	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 1	9,099,623	9,099,623
17600	ACTIVITY 2: PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF ENLISTED PERSONNEL		
17650	BASIC PAY	8,811,898	8,811,898
17700	RETIRED PAY ACCRUAL	2,591,637	2,591,637
17750	BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR HOUSING	3,674,509	3,674,509
17800	INCENTIVE PAYS	35,601	35,601
17850	SPECIAL PAYS	357,581	357,581
17900	ALLOWANCES	503,008	503,008
17950	SEPARATION PAY	109,908	109,908
18000	SOCIAL SECURITY TAX	674,109	674,109
18050	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 2	16,758,251	16,758,251
18100	ACTIVITY 3: PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF CADETS		
18150	ACADEMY CADETS	72,144	72,144
18200	ACTIVITY 4: SUBSISTENCE OF ENLISTED PERSONNEL		
18250	BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR SUBSISTENCE	1,007,662	1,007,662
18300	SUBSISTENCE-IN-KIND	131,986	131,986
18350	FAMILY SUBSISTENCE SUPPLEMENTAL ALLOWANCE	8	8
18400	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 4	1,139,656	1,139,656

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
18450	ACTIVITY 5: PERMANENT CHANGE OF STATION		
18500	ACCESSION TRAVEL	90,791	90,791
18550	TRAINING TRAVEL	71,207	71,207
18600	OPERATIONAL TRAVEL	265,682	265,682
18650	ROTATIONAL TRAVEL	567,998	567,998
18700	SEPARATION TRAVEL	147,938	147,938
18750	TRAVEL OF ORGANIZED UNITS	9,204	9,204
18800	NON-TEMPORARY STORAGE	23,664	23,664
18850	TEMPORARY LODGING EXPENSE	34,701	34,701
18950	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 5	1,211,185	1,211,185
19000	ACTIVITY 6: OTHER MILITARY PERSONNEL COSTS		
19050	APPREHENSION OF MILITARY DESERTERS	16	16
19100	INTEREST ON UNIFORMED SERVICES SAVINGS	2,691	2,691
19150	DEATH GRATUITIES	16,000	16,000
19200	UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS	53,431	53,431
19300	EDUCATION BENEFITS	79	79
19350	ADOPTION EXPENSES	435	435
19400	TRANSPORTATION SUBSIDY	4,841	4,841
19450	PARTIAL DISLOCATION ALLOWANCE	723	723
19550	RESERVE OFFICERS TRAINING CORPS (ROTC)	29,445	29,445
19600	JUNIOR ROTC	18,200	18,200
19650	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 6	125,861	125,861
19700	LESS REIMBURSABLES	-462,105	-462,105
19750	UNDISTRIBUTED ADJUSTMENT	---	14,180
19800	TOTAL, ACTIVE FORCES, AIR FORCE	27,944,615	27,958,795
21000	TOTAL, MILITARY PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE	27,944,615	27,958,795

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS
[In thousands of dollars]

M-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
UNDISTRIBUTED ADJUSTMENTS		**14,180**
Unobligated/Unexpended balances		-192,220
Increase in Air Force end strength/pay raise		206,400

RESERVE PERSONNEL, ARMY

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
23000	RESERVE PERSONNEL, ARMY		
23050	ACTIVITY 1: RESERVE COMPONENT TRAINING AND SUPPORT		
23100	PAY GROUP A TRAINING (15 DAYS & DRILLS 24/48)	1,549,028	1,549,028
23150	PAY GROUP B TRAINING (BACKFILL FOR ACTIVE DUTY)	41,018	41,018
23200	PAY GROUP F TRAINING (RECRUITS)	216,524	216,524
23250	PAY GROUP P TRAINING (PIPELINE RECRUITS)	11,514	11,514
23300	MOBILIZATION TRAINING	326	326
23350	SCHOOL TRAINING	224,758	224,758
23400	SPECIAL TRAINING	281,611	281,611
23450	ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT	2,120,835	2,120,835
23500	EDUCATION BENEFITS	4,124	4,124
23550	HEALTH PROFESSION SCHOLARSHIP	59,937	59,937
23600	OTHER PROGRAMS	52,028	52,028
23650	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 1	4,561,703	4,561,703
23800	UNDISTRIBUTED ADJUSTMENT	---	-36,840
24000	TOTAL RESERVE PERSONNEL, ARMY	4,561,703	4,524,863

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS
[In thousands of dollars]

M-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
UNDISTRIBUTED ADJUSTMENTS		-36,840
Unobligated/Unexpended balances		-89,940
Increase in Army Reserve end strength/pay raise		53,100

RESERVE PERSONNEL, NAVY

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
26000	RESERVE PERSONNEL, NAVY		
26050	ACTIVITY 1: RESERVE COMPONENT TRAINING AND SUPPORT		
26100	PAY GROUP A TRAINING (15 DAYS & DRILLS 24/48)	625,660	625,660
26150	PAY GROUP B TRAINING (BACKFILL FOR ACTIVE DUTY)	7,369	7,369
26200	PAY GROUP F TRAINING (RECRUITS)	62,904	62,904
26250	MOBILIZATION TRAINING	8,732	8,732
26300	SCHOOL TRAINING	50,441	50,441
26350	SPECIAL TRAINING	112,504	112,504
26400	ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT	1,004,041	1,004,041
26450	EDUCATION BENEFITS	105	105
26500	HEALTH PROFESSION SCHOLARSHIP	52,399	52,399
26550	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 1	1,924,155	1,924,155
26600	UNDISTRIBUTED ADJUSTMENT	---	-3,110
27000	TOTAL, RESERVE PERSONNEL, NAVY	1,924,155	1,921,045

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS
[In thousands of dollars]

M-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
UNDISTRIBUTED ADJUSTMENTS		**-3,110**
Unobligated/Unexpended balances		-8,010
Navy Reserve pay raise		4,900

RESERVE PERSONNEL, MARINE CORPS

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
28000	RESERVE PERSONNEL, MARINE CORPS		
28050	ACTIVITY 1: RESERVE COMPONENT TRAINING AND SUPPORT		
28100	PAY GROUP A TRAINING (15 DAYS & DRILLS 24/48)	274,555	274,555
28150	PAY GROUP B TRAINING (BACKFILL FOR ACT DUTY)	43,539	43,539
28200	PAY GROUP F TRAINING (RECRUITS)	124,902	124,902
28300	MOBILIZATION TRAINING	2,096	2,096
28350	SCHOOL TRAINING	24,607	24,607
28400	SPECIAL TRAINING	29,000	29,000
28450	ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT	237,484	237,484
28500	PLATOON LEADER CLASS	8,124	8,124
28550	EDUCATION BENEFITS	688	688
28600	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 1	744,995	744,995
28700	UNDISTRIBUTED ADJUSTMENT	---	-200
29000	TOTAL, RESERVE PERSONNEL, MARINE CORPS	744,995	744,795

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS
[In thousands of dollars]

M-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
UNDISTRIBUTED ADJUSTMENTS		-200
Unobligated/Unexpended balances		-2,100
Marine Corps Reserve pay raise		1,900

RESERVE PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
30000	RESERVE PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE		
30050	ACTIVITY 1: RESERVE COMPONENT TRAINING AND SUPPORT		
30100	PAY GROUP A TRAINING (15 DAYS & DRILLS 24/48)	696,068	696,068
30150	PAY GROUP B TRAINING (BACKFILL FOR ACTIVE DUTY)	98,133	98,133
30200	PAY GROUP F TRAINING (RECRUITS)	55,568	55,568
30250	PAY GROUP P TRAINING (PIPELINE RECRUITS)	2,559	2,559
30300	MOBILIZATION TRAINING	703	703
30350	SCHOOL TRAINING	159,593	159,593
30400	SPECIAL TRAINING	244,844	244,844
30450	ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT	409,615	409,615
30500	EDUCATION BENEFITS	12,533	12,533
30550	HEALTH PROFESSION SCHOLARSHIP	60,301	60,301
30600	OTHER PROGRAMS (ADMIN & SUPPORT)	2,989	2,989
30650	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 1	1,742,906	1,742,906
30750	UNDISTRIBUTED ADJUSTMENT	---	-17,380
31000	TOTAL, RESERVE PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE	1,742,906	1,725,526

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS
[In thousands of dollars]

M-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
UNDISTRIBUTED ADJUSTMENTS		**-17,380**
Unobligated/Unexpended balances		-21,780
Air Force Reserve pay raise		4,400

NATIONAL GUARD PERSONNEL, ARMY

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
32000	NATIONAL GUARD PERSONNEL, ARMY		
32050	ACTIVITY 1: RESERVE COMPONENT TRAINING AND SUPPORT		
32100	PAY GROUP A TRAINING (15 DAYS & DRILLS 24/48).....	2,561,418	2,561,418
32150	PAY GROUP F TRAINING (RECRUITS).....	551,868	551,868
32200	PAY GROUP P TRAINING (PIPELINE RECRUITS).....	46,202	46,202
32250	SCHOOL TRAINING.....	546,563	536,563
32300	SPECIAL TRAINING.....	570,009	590,659
32350	ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT.....	3,632,138	3,632,138
32400	EDUCATION BENEFITS.....	2,496	2,496
32450	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 1.....	7,910,694	7,921,344
32600	UNDISTRIBUTED ADJUSTMENT.....	---	-21,921
33000	TOTAL, NATIONAL GUARD PERSONNEL, ARMY.....	7,910,694	7,899,423

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS
[In thousands of dollars]

M-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
SCHOOL TRAINING	**546,563**	**536,563**
Unjustified increase		-10,000
SPECIAL TRAINING	**570,009**	**590,659**
Program increase - State Partnership Program		3,750
Cyber protection teams		6,900
Operation Phalanx		10,000
UNDISTRIBUTED ADJUSTMENTS		**-21,921**
Unobligated/Unexpended balances		-120,000
Program increase - trauma training		1,579
Increase in Army National Guard end strength/pay raise		96,500

NATIONAL GUARD PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
34000	NATIONAL GUARD PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE		
34050	ACTIVITY 1: RESERVE COMPONENT TRAINING AND SUPPORT		
34100	PAY GROUP A TRAINING (15 DAYS & DRILLS 24/48)	934,650	934,650
34150	PAY GROUP F TRAINING (RECRUITS)	131,022	131,022
34200	PAY GROUP P TRAINING (PIPELINE RECRUITS)	10,555	10,555
34250	SCHOOL TRAINING	349,904	349,904
34300	SPECIAL TRAINING	167,077	169,027
34350	ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT	1,678,355	1,678,355
34400	EDUCATION BENEFITS	8,502	8,502
34450	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 1	3,280,065	3,282,015
34700	UNDISTRIBUTED ADJUSTMENT	---	1,967
35000	TOTAL, NATIONAL GUARD PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE	3,280,065	3,283,982

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS
[In thousands of dollars]

M-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
SPECIAL TRAINING	**167,077**	**169,027**
Program increase - State Partnership Program		1,950
UNDISTRIBUTED ADJUSTMENTS		**1,967**
Unobligated/Unexpended balances		-8,000
Program increase - trauma training		1,367
Air National Guard pay raise		8,600

TITLE II—OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

The agreement provides $167,603,260,000 in Title II, Operation and Maintenance. The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
RECAPITULATION		
OPERATION & MAINTENANCE, ARMY	33,809,040	32,738,173
OPERATION & MAINTENANCE, NAVY	39,483,581	38,552,017
OPERATION & MAINTENANCE, MARINE CORPS	5,954,258	5,676,152
OPERATION & MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE	37,518,056	36,247,724
OPERATION & MAINTENANCE, DEFENSE-WIDE	32,571,590	32,373,949
OPERATION & MAINTENANCE, ARMY RESERVE	2,712,331	2,743,688
OPERATION & MAINTENANCE, NAVY RESERVE	927,656	929,656
OPERATION & MAINTENANCE, MARINE CORPS RESERVE	270,633	271,133
OPERATION & MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE RESERVE	3,067,929	3,069,229
OPERATION & MAINTENANCE, ARMY NATIONAL GUARD	6,825,370	6,861,478
OPERATION & MAINTENANCE, AIR NATIONAL GUARD	6,703,578	6,615,095
UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE ARMED FORCES	14,194	14,194
ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, ARMY	170,167	170,167
ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, NAVY	281,762	289,262
ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, AIR FORCE	371,521	371,521
ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, DEFENSE-WIDE	9,009	9,009
ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITES	197,084	222,084
OVERSEAS HUMANITARIAN, DISASTER, AND CIVIC AID	105,125	123,125
COOPERATIVE THREAT REDUCTION ACCOUNT	325,604	325,604
GRAND TOTAL, OPERATION & MAINTENANCE	171,318,488	167,603,260

REPROGRAMMING GUIDANCE FOR OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE ACCOUNTS

The Secretary of Defense is directed to submit the Base for Reprogramming (DD Form 1414) for each of the fiscal year 2017 appropriation accounts not later than 60 days after the enactment of this Act. The Secretary of Defense is prohibited from executing any reprogramming or transfer of funds for any purpose other than originally appropriated until the aforementioned report is submitted to the House and Senate Appropriations Committees.

The Secretary of Defense is directed to use the normal prior approval reprogramming procedures to transfer funds in the Services' operation and maintenance accounts between O–1 budget activities in excess of $15,000,000. In addition, the Secretary of Defense should follow prior approval reprogramming procedures for transfers in excess of $15,000,000 out of the following budget sub-activities:

Army:
Maneuver units
Modular support brigades
Land forces operations support
Force readiness operations support
Land forces depot maintenance
Base operations support
Facilities sustainment, restoration, and modernization

Navy:
Mission and other flight operations
Aircraft depot maintenance
Mission and other ship operations
Ship depot maintenance
Facilities sustainment, restoration, and modernization

Marine Corps:
Depot maintenance
Facilities sustainment, restoration, and modernization

Air Force:
Primary combat forces
Combat enhancement forces
Operating forces depot maintenance
Facilities sustainment, restoration, and modernization
Mobilization depot maintenance
Training and recruiting depot maintenance
Administration and service-wide depot maintenance

Air Force Reserve:
Depot maintenance

Air National Guard:
Depot maintenance

Additionally, the Secretary of Defense should follow prior approval reprogramming procedures for transfers in excess of $15,000,000 into the following budget sub-activity:

Operation and Maintenance, Army National Guard:
Other personnel support/recruiting and advertising

With respect to Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide, proposed transfers of funds to or from the levels specified for defense agencies in excess of $15,000,000 shall be subject to prior approval reprogramming procedures.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE SPECIAL INTEREST ITEMS

Items for which additional funds have been provided or have been specifically reduced as shown in the project level tables or in paragraphs using the phrase ''only for'' or ''only to'' in the explanatory statement are congressional special interest items for the purpose of the Base for Reprogramming (DD Form 1414). Each of these items must be carried on the DD Form 1414 at the stated amount as specifically addressed in the explanatory statement. Below Threshold Reprogrammings may not be used to either restore or reduce funding from congressional special interest items as identified on the DD Form 1414.

READINESS

The agreement provides additional readiness funds for the Services within the operation and maintenance accounts. This funding shall be used only to improve military readiness, including increased training, depot maintenance, and base operations support. None of the funding provided may be used for recruiting, marketing, or advertising programs. The funding provided is a congressional special interest item. The Secretary of Defense and the Service Secretaries are directed to submit a detailed spending plan by sub-activity group to the House and Senate Appropriations Committees not less than 30 days prior to the obligation of these funds. These transfers may be implemented 30 days after congressional notification unless an objection is received from either the House or Senate Appropriations Committees.

ENERGY INDEPENDENCE AND SECURITY ACT

The agreement does not include a provision included in the House-passed version of H.R. 5293 that referenced the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007. It is noted that the enforcement of section 526 of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 may lead to higher fuel costs for federal fleets in the absence of competitively priced new generation fuels that emit fewer emissions. In carrying out this statute, the Secretary of Defense and the Service Secretaries should work to ensure that costs associated with fuel purchases necessary to carry out their respective missions should be minimized to the greatest extent possible.

CIVILIAN PAY RAISE

Although the agreement does not include additional funds specifically for the civilian pay increase from 1.6 percent to 2.1 percent, sufficient funding is available within the appropriations accounts to fully fund the increase due to assets created by the civilian hiring freeze and the extended length of H.R. 2028, theFurther Continuing and Security Assistance Appropriations Act, 2017.

AQUEOUS FILM FORMING FOAM

The use of the fire-extinguishing agent Aqueous Film Forming Foam (AFFF) by the Department of Defense has been linked to elevated levels of perfluorinated chemicals (PFCs) on military bases and in neighboring communities. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the National Institutes of Health, PFCs have adverse impacts on human health. The Navy and Air Force have begun remediation of PFC contamination. The Secretary of Defense is encouraged to require all Services to establish procedures for prompt and cost-effective remediation. In addition, the Secretary of Defense is directed to submit a report to the congressional defense committees not later than 120 days after the enactment of this Act that assesses the number of formerly used and current military installations where AFFF was or is currently used and the impact of PFC contaminated drinking water on surrounding communities. The report should also include plans for prompt community notification of such contamination, when the contamination was detected, and the procedures for timely remediation.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY		
	BUDGET ACTIVITY 1: OPERATING FORCES		
	LAND FORCES		
10	MANEUVER UNITS	791,450	561,026
20	MODULAR SUPPORT BRIGADES	68,373	68,373
30	ECHELONS ABOVE BRIGADES	438,823	436,313
40	THEATER LEVEL ASSETS	660,258	650,258
50	LAND FORCES OPERATIONS SUPPORT	863,928	863,928
60	AVIATION ASSETS	1,360,597	1,357,686
	LAND FORCES READINESS		
70	FORCE READINESS OPERATIONS SUPPORT	3,086,443	2,537,011
80	LAND FORCES SYSTEMS READINESS	439,488	439,488
90	LAND FORCES DEPOT MAINTENANCE	1,013,452	376,128
	LAND FORCES READINESS SUPPORT		
100	BASE OPERATIONS SUPPORT	7,816,343	7,816,343
110	FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION, & MODERNIZATION	2,234,546	2,259,546
120	MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONAL HEADQUARTERS	452,105	441,256
130	COMBATANT COMMANDER'S CORE OPERATIONS	155,658	155,658
170	COMBATANT COMMANDERS ANCILLARY MISSIONS	441,143	441,143
	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 1	19,822,607	18,404,157
	BUDGET ACTIVITY 2: MOBILIZATION		
	MOBILITY OPERATIONS		
180	STRATEGIC MOBILITY	336,329	336,329
190	ARMY PREPOSITIONED STOCKS	390,848	415,848
200	INDUSTRIAL PREPAREDNESS	7,401	7,401
	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 2	734,578	759,578

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	BUDGET ACTIVITY 3: TRAINING AND RECRUITING		
	ACCESSION TRAINING		
210	OFFICER ACQUISITION	131,942	131,942
220	RECRUIT TRAINING	47,846	47,846
230	ONE STATION UNIT TRAINING	45,419	45,419
240	SENIOR RESERVE OFFICERS TRAINING CORPS	482,747	482,747
	BASIC SKILL AND ADVANCED TRAINING		
250	SPECIALIZED SKILL TRAINING	921,025	927,525
260	FLIGHT TRAINING	902,845	902,845
270	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION	216,583	214,583
280	TRAINING SUPPORT	607,534	593,534
	RECRUITING AND OTHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION		
290	RECRUITING AND ADVERTISING	550,599	535,599
300	EXAMINING	187,263	187,263
310	OFF-DUTY AND VOLUNTARY EDUCATION	189,556	189,556
320	CIVILIAN EDUCATION AND TRAINING	182,835	182,835
330	JUNIOR RESERVE OFFICERS TRAINING CORPS	171,167	176,667
	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 3	4,637,361	4,618,361
	BUDGET ACTIVITY 4: ADMIN & SERVICEWIDE ACTIVITIES		
	LOGISTICS OPERATIONS		
350	SERVICEWIDE TRANSPORTATION	230,739	230,739
360	CENTRAL SUPPLY ACTIVITIES	850,060	850,060
370	LOGISTICS SUPPORT ACTIVITIES	778,757	743,757
380	AMMUNITION MANAGEMENT	370,010	370,010

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	SERVICEWIDE SUPPORT		
390	ADMINISTRATION	451,556	451,556
400	SERVICEWIDE COMMUNICATIONS	1,888,123	1,896,523
410	MANPOWER MANAGEMENT	276,403	276,403
420	OTHER PERSONNEL SUPPORT	369,443	369,443
430	OTHER SERVICE SUPPORT	1,096,074	1,096,074
440	ARMY CLAIMS ACTIVITIES	207,800	207,800
450	REAL ESTATE MANAGEMENT	240,641	240,641
460	BASE OPERATIONS SUPPORT	250,612	250,612
	SUPPORT OF OTHER NATIONS		
470	SUPPORT OF NATO OPERATIONS	416,587	416,587
480	MISC. SUPPORT OF OTHER NATIONS	36,666	36,666
	OTHER PROGRAMS		
	OTHER PROGRAMS	1,151,023	1,120,423
	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 4	8,614,494	8,557,294
	EXCESS WORKING CAPITAL FUND CARRYOVER	---	-150,000
	OVERESTIMATION OF CIVILIAN FTE TARGETS	---	-60,000
	RESTORE READINESS	---	285,000
	PROGRAMMED SAVINGS UNACCOUNTED FOR	---	-15,000
	OPERATIONAL SUPPORT FOR INCREASE IN ARMY END STRENGTH	---	337,000
	LONG TERM TDY WAIVERS	---	1,783
	TOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY	33,809,040	32,738,173

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS
[In thousands of dollars]

O-1		Budget Request	Final Bill
111	MANEUVER UNITS	791,450	561,026
	Unjustified growth		-5,424
	OCO/GWOT operations - transfer to title IX		-225,000
113	ECHELONS ABOVE BRIGADE	438,823	436,313
	Unjustified program growth		-2,510
114	THEATER LEVEL ASSETS	660,258	650,258
	Unjustified growth		-10,000
116	AVIATION ASSETS	1,360,597	1,357,686
	Unjustified program growth		-2,911
121	FORCE READINESS OPERATIONS SUPPORT	3,086,443	2,537,011
	Travel - unjustified program growth		-6,592
	Program decrease not properly acounted for		-43,000
	Program increase - trauma training		160
	OCO/GWOT operations - transfer to title IX		-500,000
123	LAND FORCES DEPOT MAINTENANCE	1,013,452	376,128
	Program increase		5,000
	OCO/GWOT operations - transfer to title IX		-642,324
132	FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION	2,234,546	2,259,546
	Program increase		25,000
133	MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONAL HEADQUARTERS	452,105	441,256
	Unjustified program growth		-10,849
212	ARMY PREPOSITIONED STOCKS	390,848	415,848
	Program increase		25,000
321	SPECIALIZED SKILL TRAINING	921,025	927,525
	Program increase - language capabilities		6,500
323	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION	216,583	214,583
	Unjustified program growth		-2,000
324	TRAINING SUPPORT	607,534	593,534
	Unjustified growth		-14,000
331	RECRUITING AND ADVERTISING	550,599	535,599
	Unjustified program growth		-15,000
335	JUNIOR ROTC	171,167	176,667
	Program increase		5,500
411	SECURITY PROGRAMS	1,151,023	1,120,423
	Classified adjustment		-6,600
	OPM rates - unjustified growth		-24,000
423	LOGISTIC SUPPORT ACTIVITIES	778,757	743,757
	Program decrease not properly accounted for		-35,000

O-1		Budget Request	Final Bill
432	SERVICEWIDE COMMUNICATIONS	1,888,123	1,896,523
	Program increase - Biometrics Identity Management Activity		8,400
435	OTHER SERVICE SUPPORT	1,096,074	1,096,074
	Remove one-time fiscal year 2016 funding increase		-5,500
	Army support to Capitol 4th		5,500
	LONG-TERM TEMPORARY DUTY WAIVERS		1,783
	OVERESTIMATION OF CIVILIAN FTE TARGETS		-60,000
	WORKING CAPITAL FUND CARRYOVER		-150,000
	PROGRAMMED SAVINGS NOT PROPERLY ACCOUNTED FOR		-15,000
	RESTORE READINESS		285,000
	OPERATIONAL SUPPORT FOR INCREASE IN ARMY END STRENGTH		337,000

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, NAVY

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, NAVY		
	BUDGET ACTIVITY 1: OPERATING FORCES		
	AIR OPERATIONS		
10	MISSION AND OTHER FLIGHT OPERATIONS	4,094,765	3,674,765
20	FLEET AIR TRAINING	1,722,473	1,703,873
30	AVIATION TECHNICAL DATA AND ENGINEERING SERVICES	52,670	52,670
40	AIR OPERATIONS AND SAFETY SUPPORT	97,584	97,584
50	AIR SYSTEMS SUPPORT	446,733	449,233
60	AIRCRAFT DEPOT MAINTENANCE	1,007,681	990,681
70	AIRCRAFT DEPOT OPERATIONS SUPPORT	38,248	38,248
80	AVIATION LOGISTICS	564,720	582,220
	SHIP OPERATIONS		
90	MISSION AND OTHER SHIP OPERATIONS	3,513,083	3,088,083
100	SHIP OPERATIONS SUPPORT AND TRAINING	743,765	743,765
110	SHIP DEPOT MAINTENANCE	5,168,273	4,790,873
120	SHIP DEPOT OPERATIONS SUPPORT	1,575,578	1,652,338
	COMBAT COMMUNICATIONS/SUPPORT		
130	COMBAT COMMUNICATIONS	558,727	558,727
140	ELECTRONIC WARFARE	105,680	105,680
150	SPACE SYSTEMS AND SURVEILLANCE	180,406	180,406
160	WARFARE TACTICS	470,032	470,032
170	OPERATIONAL METEOROLOGY AND OCEANOGRAPHY	346,703	351,703
180	COMBAT SUPPORT FORCES	1,158,688	1,154,688
190	EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE	113,692	113,692
200	DEPOT OPERATIONS SUPPORT	2,509	2,509
210	COMBATANT COMMANDERS CORE OPERATIONS	91,019	91,019
220	COMBATANT COMMANDERS DIRECT MISSION SUPPORT	74,780	74,780

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	WEAPONS SUPPORT		
230	CRUISE MISSILE	106,030	106,030
240	FLEET BALLISTIC MISSILE	1,233,805	1,239,891
250	IN-SERVICE WEAPONS SYSTEMS SUPPORT	163,025	163,025
260	WEAPONS MAINTENANCE	553,269	553,269
270	OTHER WEAPON SYSTEMS SUPPORT	350,010	350,010
	BASE SUPPORT		
280	ENTERPRISE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	790,685	790,685
290	FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION	1,642,742	1,667,742
300	BASE OPERATING SUPPORT	4,206,136	4,176,136
	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 1	31,173,511	30,014,357
	BUDGET ACTIVITY 2: MOBILIZATION		
	READY RESERVE AND PREPOSITIONING FORCES		
310	SHIP PREPOSITIONING AND SURGE	893,517	893,517
320	READY RESERVE FORCE	274,524	274,524
	ACTIVATIONS/INACTIVATIONS		
320	AIRCRAFT ACTIVATIONS/INACTIVATIONS	6,727	6,727
330	SHIP ACTIVATIONS/INACTIVATIONS	288,154	234,154
	MOBILIZATION PREPAREDNESS		
340	FLEET HOSPITAL PROGRAM	95,720	95,720
360	INDUSTRIAL READINESS	2,109	2,109
370	COAST GUARD SUPPORT	21,114	21,114
	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 2	1,581,865	1,527,865

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	BUDGET ACTIVITY 3: TRAINING AND RECRUITING		
	ACCESSION TRAINING		
380	OFFICER ACQUISITION	143,815	143,815
390	RECRUIT TRAINING	8,519	8,519
400	RESERVE OFFICERS TRAINING CORPS	143,445	143,445
	BASIC SKILLS AND ADVANCED TRAINING		
410	SPECIALIZED SKILL TRAINING	699,214	699,214
420	FLIGHT TRAINING	5,310	5,310
430	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION	172,852	172,852
440	TRAINING SUPPORT	222,728	222,728
	RECRUITING, AND OTHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION		
450	RECRUITING AND ADVERTISING	225,647	225,639
460	OFF-DUTY AND VOLUNTARY EDUCATION	130,569	130,569
470	CIVILIAN EDUCATION AND TRAINING	73,730	73,730
480	JUNIOR ROTC	50,400	50,400
	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 3	1,876,229	1,876,221
	BUDGET ACTIVITY 4: ADMIN & SERVICEWIDE ACTIVITIES		
	SERVICEWIDE SUPPORT		
490	ADMINISTRATION	917,453	893,453
500	EXTERNAL RELATIONS	14,570	14,570
510	CIVILIAN MANPOWER AND PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT	124,070	124,070
520	MILITARY MANPOWER AND PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT	369,767	365,767
530	OTHER PERSONNEL SUPPORT	285,927	285,927
540	SERVICEWIDE COMMUNICATIONS	319,908	319,908

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	LOGISTICS OPERATIONS AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT		
570	SERVICEWIDE TRANSPORTATION	171,659	171,659
590	PLANNING, ENGINEERING AND DESIGN	270,863	270,863
600	ACQUISITION AND PROGRAM MANAGEMENT	1,112,766	1,112,766
610	HULL, MECHANICAL AND ELECTRICAL SUPPORT	49,078	49,078
620	COMBAT/WEAPONS SYSTEMS	24,989	24,989
630	SPACE AND ELECTRONIC WARFARE SYSTEMS	72,966	72,966
	SECURITY PROGRAMS		
640	NAVAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE	595,711	595,711
	SUPPORT OF OTHER NATIONS		
700	INTERNATIONAL HEADQUARTERS AND AGENCIES	4,809	4,809
	OTHER PROGRAMS		
	OTHER PROGRAMS	517,440	511,840
	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 4	4,851,976	4,818,376
	RESTORE READINESS	---	280,000
	OPERATIONAL SUPPORT FOR INCREASE IN NAVY END STRENGTH	---	33,800
	LONG TERM TDY WAIVERS	---	1,398
	TOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, NAVY	39,483,581	38,552,017

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS
[In thousands of dollars]

O-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
1A1A MISSION AND OTHER FLIGHT OPERATIONS	**4,094,765**	**3,674,765**
Unjustified growth		-20,000
OCO/GWOT operations - transfer to title IX		-400,000
1A2A FLEET AIR TRAINING	**1,722,473**	**1,703,873**
Unjustified growth		-18,600
1A4N AIR SYSTEMS SUPPORT	**446,733**	**449,233**
Program increase - MV-22B readiness		1,200
Program increase - H-1 readiness		5,300
Unjustified growth		-4,000
1A5A AIRCRAFT DEPOT MAINTENANCE	**1,007,681**	**990,681**
Remove one-time fiscal year 2016 costs		-17,000
1A9A AVIATION LOGISTICS	**564,720**	**582,220**
Program increase - MV-22B readiness		10,700
Program increase - KC-130J readiness		6,800
1B1B MISSION AND OTHER SHIP OPERATIONS	**3,513,083**	**3,088,083**
OCO/GWOT operations - transfer to title IX		-425,000
1B4B SHIP DEPOT MAINTENANCE	**5,168,273**	**4,790,873**
Program increase		5,000
Program increase		9,500
Cruiser modernization - transfer from SMOSF		8,100
OCO/GWOT operations - transfer to title IX		-400,000
1B5B SHIP DEPOT OPERATIONS SUPPORT	**1,575,578**	**1,652,338**
Unjustified program growth		-2,500
Program increase		2,500
Cruiser modernization - transfer from SMOSF		76,760
1C5C OPERATIONAL METEOROLOGY AND OCEANOGRAPHY	**346,703**	**351,703**
Program increase		5,000
1C6C COMBAT SUPPORT FORCES	**1,158,688**	**1,154,688**
Reduce duplication		-4,000
1D2D FLEET BALLISTIC MISSILE	**1,233,805**	**1,239,891**
Program increase		6,086
BSM1 FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION	**1,642,742**	**1,667,742**
Program increase		25,000
BSS1 BASE OPERATING SUPPORT	**4,206,136**	**4,176,136**
Excess to requirement		-15,000
Remove one-time fiscal year 2016 costs		-15,000
2B2G SHIP ACTIVATIONS/INACTIVATIONS	**288,154**	**234,154**
Navy-identified asset for inactivation costs for the CVN 65 due to change in acquisition strategy		-54,000

O-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
3C1L RECRUITING AND ADVERTISING	**225,647**	**225,639**
Unjustified program growth		-1,230
Naval Sea Cadet Corps		1,222
4A1M ADMINISTRATION	**917,453**	**893,453**
Unjustified growth		-24,000
4A4M MILITARY MANPOWER AND PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT	**369,767**	**365,767**
Excess to need		-4,000
9999 OTHER PROGRAMS	**517,440**	**511,840**
Classified adjustment		-5,600
LONG-TERM TEMPORARY DUTY WAIVERS		**1,398**
RESTORE READINESS		**280,000**
OPERATIONAL SUPPORT FOR INCREASE IN NAVY END STRENGTH		**33,800**

READINESS COST ASSESSMENT TOOL

The recently published Naval Aviation Vision 2016–2025 offered strong support for the Readiness Cost Assessment Tool, which is the first phase of the Proficiency Optimization initiative. In lieu of the reporting requirement in House Report 114–577, the Secretary of the Navy is directed to submit a report to the congressional defense committees not later than 60 days after the enactment of this Act that describes the Naval Aviation Enterprise Proficiency Optimization initiative, the current funding profile, and the potential to accelerate or streamline the program strategy.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, MARINE CORPS

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, MARINE CORPS		
	BUDGET ACTIVITY 1: OPERATING FORCES		
	EXPEDITIONARY FORCES		
10	OPERATIONAL FORCES	674,613	519,613
20	FIELD LOGISTICS	947,424	954,624
30	DEPOT MAINTENANCE	206,783	208,783
	USMC PREPOSITIONING		
40	MARITIME PREPOSITIONING	85,276	85,276
50	FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION	632,673	640,424
60	BASE OPERATING SUPPORT	2,136,626	1,933,626
	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 1	4,683,395	4,342,346
	BUDGET ACTIVITY 3: TRAINING AND RECRUITING		
	ACCESSION TRAINING		
70	RECRUIT TRAINING	15,946	15,946
80	OFFICER ACQUISITION	935	935
	BASIC SKILLS AND ADVANCED TRAINING		
90	SPECIALIZED SKILLS TRAINING	99,305	99,305
100	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION	45,495	45,495
110	TRAINING SUPPORT	369,979	369,979
	RECRUITING AND OTHER TRAINING EDUCATION		
120	RECRUITING AND ADVERTISING	165,566	165,566
130	OFF-DUTY AND VOLUNTARY EDUCATION	35,133	35,133
140	JUNIOR ROTC	23,622	23,622
	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 3	755,981	755,981

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	BUDGET ACTIVITY 4: ADMIN & SERVICEWIDE ACTIVITIES		
	SERVICEWIDE SUPPORT		
150	SERVICEWIDE TRANSPORTATION	34,534	34,534
160	ADMINISTRATION	355,932	341,932
180	ACQUISITION AND PROGRAM MANAGEMENT	76,896	76,896
	SECURITY PROGRAMS		
	SECURITY PROGRAMS	47,520	47,520
	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 4	514,882	500,882
	OVERESTIMATION OF CIVILIAN FTE TARGETS	---	-35,000
	RESTORE READINESS	---	59,000
	OPERATIONAL SUPPORT FOR INCREASE IN MARINE CORPS END STRENGTH	---	52,600
	LONG TERM TDY WAIVERS	---	343
	TOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, MARINE CORPS	5,954,258	5,676,152

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS
[In thousands of dollars]

O-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
1A1A OPERATIONAL FORCES	**674,613**	**519,613**
Program decrease not properly accounted		-7,000
Program increase - enhanced combat helmets		22,000
Program increase - corrosion control		5,000
OCO/GWOT operations - transfer to title IX		-175,000
1A2A FIELD LOGISTICS	**947,424**	**954,624**
Program increase - rifle sights		13,200
Unjustified growth		-6,000
1A3A DEPOT MAINTENANCE	**206,783**	**208,783**
Program increase - corrosion control		2,000
BSM1 FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION	**632,673**	**640,424**
Program increase		7,751
BSS1 BASE OPERATING SUPPORT	**2,136,626**	**1,933,626**
Unjustified program growth		-3,000
OCO/GWOT operations - transfer to title IX		-200,000
4A4G ADMINISTRATION	**355,932**	**341,932**
Program decrease not properly accounted		-14,000
LONG-TERM TEMPORARY DUTY WAIVERS		**343**
OVERESTIMATION OF CIVILIAN FTE TARGETS		**-35,000**
RESTORE READINESS		**59,000**
OPERATIONAL SUPPORT FOR INCREASE IN MARINE CORPS END STRENGTH		**52,600**

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE		
	BUDGET ACTIVITY 1: OPERATING FORCES		
	AIR OPERATIONS		
10	PRIMARY COMBAT FORCES	3,294,124	2,871,874
20	COMBAT ENHANCEMENT FORCES	1,682,045	1,650,045
30	AIR OPERATIONS TRAINING	1,730,757	1,730,757
40	DEPOT MAINTENANCE	7,042,988	6,957,988
50	FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION	1,657,019	1,682,019
60	BASE OPERATING SUPPORT	2,787,216	2,785,216
	COMBAT RELATED OPERATIONS		
70	GLOBAL C3I AND EARLY WARNING	887,831	890,831
80	OTHER COMBAT OPERATIONS SUPPORT PROGRAMS	1,070,178	1,070,678
	SPACE OPERATIONS		
100	LAUNCH FACILITIES	208,582	208,582
110	SPACE CONTROL SYSTEMS	362,250	362,250
120	COMBATANT COMMANDERS DIRECT MISSION SUPPORT	907,245	907,245
130	COMBATANT COMMANDERS CORE OPERATIONS	199,171	199,171
	OPERATING FORCES		
	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	930,757	932,850
	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 1	22,760,163	22,249,506

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	BUDGET ACTIVITY 2: MOBILIZATION		
	MOBILITY OPERATIONS		
140	AIRLIFT OPERATIONS	1,703,059	1,273,059
150	MOBILIZATION PREPAREDNESS	138,899	138,899
160	DEPOT MAINTENANCE	1,553,439	1,139,439
170	FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION	258,328	262,328
180	BASE SUPPORT	722,756	722,756
	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 2	4,376,481	3,536,481
	BUDGET ACTIVITY 3: TRAINING AND RECRUITING		
	ACCESSION TRAINING		
190	OFFICER ACQUISITION	120,886	115,886
200	RECRUIT TRAINING	23,782	23,782
210	RESERVE OFFICER TRAINING CORPS (ROTC)	77,692	77,692
220	FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION	236,254	240,454
230	BASE SUPPORT (ACADEMIES ONLY)	819,915	831,615
	BASIC SKILLS AND ADVANCED TRAINING		
240	SPECIALIZED SKILL TRAINING	387,446	395,246
250	FLIGHT TRAINING	725,134	725,134
260	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION	264,213	262,213
270	TRAINING SUPPORT	86,681	86,681
280	DEPOT MAINTENANCE	305,004	305,004
	RECRUITING, AND OTHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION		
290	RECRUITING AND ADVERTISING	104,754	104,754
300	EXAMINING	3,944	3,944
310	OFF DUTY AND VOLUNTARY EDUCATION	184,841	184,841
320	CIVILIAN EDUCATION AND TRAINING	173,583	171,883
330	JUNIOR ROTC	58,877	58,877
	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 3	3,573,006	3,588,006

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	BUDGET ACTIVITY 4: ADMIN & SERVICEWIDE ACTIVITIES		
	LOGISTICS OPERATIONS		
340	LOGISTICS OPERATIONS	1,107,846	1,087,846
350	TECHNICAL SUPPORT ACTIVITIES	924,185	912,185
360	DEPOT MAINTENANCE	48,778	48,778
370	FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION	321,013	321,013
380	BASE SUPPORT	1,115,910	1,115,910
	SERVICEWIDE ACTIVITIES		
390	ADMINISTRATION	811,650	811,650
400	SERVICEWIDE COMMUNICATIONS	269,809	269,809
410	OTHER SERVICEWIDE ACTIVITIES	961,304	956,304
420	CIVIL AIR PATROL CORPORATION	25,735	28,000
	SUPPORT TO OTHER NATIONS		
450	INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT	90,573	90,573
	SECURITY PROGRAMS		
	SECURITY PROGRAMS	1,131,603	1,123,403
	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 4	6,808,406	6,765,471
	OVERESTIMATION OF CIVILIAN FTE TARGETS	---	-40,000
	RESTORE READINESS	---	124,000
	UNJUSTIFIED GROWTH	---	-57,000
	OPERATIONAL SUPPORT FOR INCREASE IN AIR FORCE END STRENGTH	---	79,900
	LONG TERM TDY WAIVERS	---	1,360
	TOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE	37,518,056	36,247,724

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS
[In thousands of dollars]

O-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
011A PRIMARY COMBAT FORCES	**3,294,124**	**2,871,874**
Unjustified program growth		-4,250
Program increase - Air Force RCS turntable modification		7,000
OCO/GWOT operations - transfer to title IX		-425,000
011C COMBAT ENHANCEMENT FORCES	**1,682,045**	**1,650,045**
Unjustified program growth		-17,000
Classified program transfer		-15,000
011M DEPOT MAINTENANCE	**7,042,988**	**6,957,988**
Unjustified program growth		-85,000
011R FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION	**1,657,019**	**1,682,019**
Program increase		25,000
011Z BASE OPERATING SUPPORT	**2,787,216**	**2,785,216**
Unjustified program growth		-2,000
012A GLOBAL C3I AND EARLY WARNING	**887,831**	**890,831**
Removal of one-time fiscal year 2016 costs		-7,000
Program increase - Global C3I and early warning		10,000
012C OTHER COMBAT OPS SUPPORT PROGRAMS	**1,070,178**	**1,070,678**
Unjustified progam growth		-10,000
Program increase - Eagle Vision		10,500
012F CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	**930,757**	**932,850**
Classified adjustment		2,093
021A AIRLIFT OPERATIONS	**1,703,059**	**1,273,059**
Program decrease not properly accounted		-30,000
OCO/GWOT operations - transfer to title IX		-400,000
021M DEPOT MAINTENANCE	**1,553,439**	**1,139,439**
Removal of one-time fiscal year 2016 costs		-14,000
OCO/GWOT operations - transfer to title IX		-400,000
021R FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION	**258,328**	**262,328**
Program increase		4,000
031A OFFICER ACQUISITION	**120,886**	**115,886**
Unjustified program growth		-5,000
031R FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION	**236,254**	**240,454**
Program increase - cybersecurity training		4,200
031Z BASE SUPPORT	**819,915**	**831,615**
Program increase - cybersecurity training		11,700
032A SPECIALIZED SKILL TRAINING	**387,446**	**395,246**
Program increase - cybersecurity training		7,800
032C PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION	**264,213**	**262,213**
Unjustified program growth		-2,000

O-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
033D CIVILIAN EDUCATION AND TRAINING	**173,583**	**171,883**
Unjustified program growth		-1,700
041A LOGISTICS OPERATIONS	**1,107,846**	**1,087,846**
Unjustified growth		-20,000
041B TECHNICAL SUPPORT ACTIVITIES	**924,185**	**912,185**
Program transfer not properly accounted		-12,000
042G OTHER SERVICEWIDE ACTIVITIES	**961,304**	**956,304**
Price growth requested as program growth		-5,000
042I CIVIL AIR PATROL	**25,735**	**28,000**
Program increase		2,265
043A SECURITY PROGRAMS	**1,131,603**	**1,123,403**
Classified adjustment		-8,200
LONG-TERM TEMPORARY DUTY WAIVERS		**1,360**
OVERESTIMATION OF CIVILIAN FTE TARGETS		**-40,000**
UNJUSTIFIED GROWTH		**-57,000**
RESTORE READINESS		**124,000**
OPERATIONAL SUPPORT FOR INCREASE IN AIR FORCE END STRENGTH		**79,900**

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, DEFENSE-WIDE

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, DEFENSE-WIDE		
	BUDGET ACTIVITY 1: OPERATING FORCES		
10	JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF	506,113	504,113
20	OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE	524,439	524,439
30	SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND	4,898,159	4,814,759
	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 1	5,928,711	5,843,311
	BUDGET ACTIVITY 3: TRAINING AND RECRUITING		
40	DEFENSE ACQUISITION UNIVERSITY	138,658	138,658
50	JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF RECRUITING, AND OTHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION	85,701	85,701
70	SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND	365,349	361,349
	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 3	589,708	585,708
	BUDGET ACTIVITY 4: ADMIN & SERVICEWIDE ACTIVITIES		
80	CIVIL MILITARY PROGRAMS	160,480	205,819
100	DEFENSE CONTRACT AUDIT AGENCY	630,925	623,925
110	DEFENSE CONTRACT MANAGEMENT AGENCY	1,356,380	1,346,380
120	DEFENSE HUMAN RESOURCES ACTIVITY	683,620	718,620
130	DEFENSE INFORMATION SYSTEMS AGENCY	1,439,891	1,427,591
150	DEFENSE LEGAL SERVICES AGENCY	24,984	24,984
160	DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY	357,964	352,664
170	DEFENSE MEDIA ACTIVITY	223,422	224,122
180	DEFENSE POW /MISSING PERSONS OFFICE	112,681	112,681
170	DEFENSE SECURITY COOPERATION AGENCY	496,754	495,504
180	DEFENSE SECURITY SERVICE	538,711	535,711
200	DEFENSE TECHNOLOGY SECURITY AGENCY	35,417	35,417
210	DEFENSE THREAT REDUCTION AGENCY	448,146	444,346
230	DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE EDUCATION ACTIVITY	2,671,143	2,618,143

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
240	MISSILE DEFENSE AGENCY	446,975	440,725
260	OFFICE OF ECONOMIC ADJUSTMENT	155,399	136,199
270	OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE	1,481,643	1,478,205
280	SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND	89,429	88,929
290	WASHINGTON HEADQUARTERS SERVICES	629,874	625,874
	OTHER PROGRAMS	14,069,333	13,973,975
	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 4	26,053,171	25,909,814
	IMPACT AID	---	30,000
	IMPACT AID FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES	---	5,000
	LONG-TERM TEMP DUTY WAIVERS	---	116
	TOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, DEFENSE-WIDE	32,571,590	32,373,949

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS
[In thousands of dollars]

O-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
1PL1 JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF	**506,113**	**504,113**
Support to info ops capabilities - unjustified growth		-2,000
1PL2 SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND	**4,898,159**	**4,814,759**
Overestimation of civilian FTE targets		-15,000
Contract support - unjustified growth		-6,000
Base support - unjustified growth		-8,000
Combat development activities - unjustified growth for equipment purchases		-3,000
Flight operations - unjustified growth for flight operations		-12,000
Intelligence - unjustified growth		-5,600
Maintenance - unjustified growth		-15,000
Other operations - unjustified growth		-1,300
Program decrease		-4,500
Operational support - program decrease not properly accounted		-5,000
Management headquarters - unjustified growth		-8,000
3EV7 SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND / TRAINING AND RECRUITING	**365,349**	**361,349**
Specialized skill training - unjustified growth		-4,000
4GT3 CIVIL MILITARY PROGRAMS	**160,480**	**205,819**
Program increase - National Guard Youth Challenge		10,339
Program increase - STARBASE		30,000
Program increase - innovative readiness training		5,000
4GT6 DEFENSE CONTRACT AUDIT AGENCY	**630,925**	**623,925**
Reduce planned growth		-7,000
4GTC DEFENSE CONTRACT MANAGEMENT AGENCY	**1,356,380**	**1,346,380**
Unjustified growth and removal of one-time fiscal year 2016 costs		-10,000
4GT8 DEFENSE HUMAN RESOURCES AGENCY	**683,620**	**718,620**
Enterprise Human Resources Information System - unjustified growth		-4,000
Defense Travel Management Office - unjustified growth		-7,000
Program increase - Joint Advertising, Market Research, and Studies		1,000
Program increase - Special Victims' Counsel		25,000
Program increase - Beyond Yellow Ribbon		20,000
4GT9 DEFENSE INFORMATION SYSTEMS AGENCY	**1,439,891**	**1,427,591**
Program increase - secure communications		5,000
Remove one-time fiscal year 2016 costs		-7,300
Unjustified growth		-10,000
4GTE DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY	**357,964**	**352,664**
Program increase - Procurement Techincal Assistance Program		11,700
Enterprise Business Systems - unjustified growth		-6,000
Remove one-time fiscal year 2016 congressional increase		-11,000

O-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
ES18 DEFENSE MEDIA ACTIVITY	223,422	224,122
Imagery services - unjustified growth		-3,000
Remove one-time fiscal year 2016 costs		-1,300
Program increase - IP streaming upgrades		5,000
4GTE DEFENSE SECURITY COOPERATION AGENCY	496,754	495,504
Administration expenses - unjustified growth		-250
Fellowship programs - unjustified growth		-1,000
4GTE DEFENSE SECURITY SERVICE	538,711	535,711
Overestimation of civilian FTE targets		-3,000
4GTI DEFENSE THREAT REDUCTION AGENCY	448,146	444,346
CWMD sustainment - unjustified growth		-3,800
4GTJ DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE EDUCATION ACTIVITY	2,671,143	2,618,143
Overestimation of civilian FTE targets		-30,000
Unjustified program growth		-3,000
Remove one-time fiscal year 2016 costs		-3,000
Program increase - youth serving organizations		5,000
Armed Forces Retirement Home addressed in the Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act		-22,000
011A MISSILE DEFENSE AGENCY	446,975	440,725
THAAD sustainment early to need		-6,250
4GTN OFFICE OF ECONOMIC ADJUSTMENT	155,399	136,199
Authorization adjustment - public health laboratory funding ahead of need		-19,200
4GTN OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE	1,481,643	1,478,205
Overestimation of civilian FTE targets		-14,000
OSD policy rewards program - unjustified growth		-1,000
OSD Strategy Development - unjustified growth		-820
BRAC 2016 round planning and analyses - program decrease		-3,500
Program increase - Readiness and Environmental Protection Initiative		14,980
CWMD - program decrease		-4,498
Program decrease not properly accounted		-7,000
OUSD (AT&L) - unjustified growth		-2,600
Program increase - Operation Live Well		3,000
Program increase - fresh fruit and vegetable prescription plan		2,000
Program increase - Women in Military Service Memorial		5,000
Program increase - information assurance scholarship program		5,000
4GT1 SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND	89,429	88,929
Acquisition/program management - unjustified growth		-500
4GTC WASHINGTON HEADQUARTERS SERVICES	629,874	625,874
Unjustified growth		-4,000
999 OTHER PROGRAMS	14,069,333	13,973,975
Classified adjustment		-95,358
IMPACT AID		30,000
IMPACT AID for children with disabilities		5,000
LONG-TERM TEMPORARY DUTY WAIVERS		116

BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION SYSTEMS

The agreement fully funds the budget request for the Department of Defense to develop, replace, and sustain federal government security and suitability background investigation technology systems. In lieu of the language included under this heading in House Report 114–577, the Director of the Defense Information Systems Agency is directed to submit a progress report to the congressional defense committees not later than 90 days after the enactment of this Act, and semiannually thereafter, that includes the information technology development and implementation plan, associated timeline with milestones, costs for each phase of implementation, anticipated outyear costs, personnel structure, and any other significant issues related to the establishment and sustainment of a new federal government background information technology system housed within the Department of Defense.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY RESERVE

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY RESERVE		
	BUDGET ACTIVITY 1: OPERATING FORCES		
	LAND FORCES		
20	MODULAR SUPPORT BRIGADES	11,435	11,435
30	ECHELONS ABOVE BRIGADES	491,772	491,772
40	THEATER LEVEL ASSETS	116,163	116,163
50	LAND FORCES OPERATIONS SUPPORT	563,524	563,524
60	AVIATION ASSETS	91,162	91,162
	LAND FORCES READINESS		
70	FORCES READINESS OPERATIONS SUPPORT	347,459	344,659
80	LAND FORCES SYSTEM READINESS	101,926	101,926
90	DEPOT MAINTENANCE	56,219	56,219
	LAND FORCES READINESS SUPPORT		
100	BASE OPERATIONS SUPPORT	573,843	566,043
110	FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION	214,955	223,912
120	MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS HEADQUARTERS	37,620	37,620
	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 1	2,606,078	2,604,435
	BUDGET ACTIVITY 4: ADMIN & SERVICEWIDE ACTIVITIES		
	ADMINISTRATION AND SERVICEWIDE ACTIVITIES		
130	SERVICEWIDE TRANSPORTATION	11,027	11,027
140	ADMINISTRATION	16,749	16,749
150	SERVICEWIDE COMMUNICATIONS	17,825	17,825
160	PERSONNEL/FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION	6,177	6,177
170	RECRUITING AND ADVERTISING	54,475	53,475
	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 4	106,253	105,253
	RESTORE READINESS	---	12,000
	OPERATIONAL SUPPORT FOR INCREASE IN ARMY RESERVE END STRENGTH	---	22,000
	TOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY RESERVE	2,712,331	2,743,688

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS
[In thousands of dollars]

O-1		Budget Request	Final Bill
121	**FORCES READINESS OPERATIONS SUPPORT**	**347,459**	**344,659**
	Unjustified program growth		-3,000
	Program increase - language capabilities		200
131	**BASE OPERATIONS SUPPORT**	**573,843**	**566,043**
	Program decrease not properly accounted		-7,800
132	**FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION**	**214,955**	**223,912**
	Program increase		8,957
434	**RECRUITING AND ADVERTISING**	**54,475**	**53,475**
	Unjustified program growth		-1,000
	RESTORE READINESS		**12,000**
	OPERATIONAL SUPPORT FOR INCREASE IN ARMY RESERVE END STRENGTH		**22,000**

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, NAVY RESERVE

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, NAVY RESERVE		
	BUDGET ACTIVITY 1: OPERATING FORCES		
	RESERVE AIR OPERATIONS		
10	MISSION AND OTHER FLIGHT OPERATIONS	526,190	523,690
20	INTERMEDIATE MAINTENANCE	6,714	6,714
40	AIRCRAFT DEPOT MAINTENANCE	86,209	86,209
50	AIRCRAFT DEPOT OPERATIONS SUPPORT	389	389
60	AVIATION LOGISTICS	10,189	10,189
	RESERVE SHIP OPERATIONS		
70	SHIP OPERATIONAL SUPPORT AND TRAINING	560	560
	RESERVE COMBAT OPERATIONS SUPPORT		
90	COMBAT COMMUNICATIONS	13,173	13,173
100	COMBAT SUPPORT FORCES	109,053	109,053
	RESERVE WEAPONS SUPPORT		
120	ENTERPRISE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	27,226	27,226
	BASE OPERATING SUPPORT		
130	FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION	27,571	30,071
140	BASE OPERATING SUPPORT	99,166	99,166
	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 1	906,440	906,440
	BUDGET ACTIVITY 4: ADMIN & SERVICEWIDE ACTIVITIES		
	ADMINISTRATION AND SERVICEWIDE ACTIVITIES		
150	ADMINISTRATION	1,351	1,351
160	MILITARY MANPOWER & PERSONNEL	13,251	13,251
170	SERVICEWIDE COMMUNICATIONS	3,445	3,445
180	ACQUISITION AND PROGRAM MANAGEMENT	3,169	3,169
	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 4	21,216	21,216
	RESTORE READINESS	---	2,000
	TOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, NAVY RESERVE	927,656	929,656

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS
[In thousands of dollars]

O-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
1A1A MISSION AND OTHER FLIGHT OPERATIONS	**526,190**	**523,690**
Projected underexecution		-2,500
BSMR FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION	**27,571**	**30,071**
Program increase		2,500
RESTORE READINESS		**2,000**

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, MARINE CORPS RESERVE

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, MARINE CORPS RESERVE		
	BUDGET ACTIVITY 1: OPERATING FORCES		
	EXPEDITIONARY FORCES		
10	OPERATING FORCES	94,154	94,154
20	DEPOT MAINTENANCE	18,594	18,594
30	FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION	25,470	26,470
40	BASE OPERATING SUPPORT	111,550	110,050
	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 1	249,768	249,268
	BUDGET ACTIVITY 4: ADMIN & SERVICEWIDE ACTIVITIES		
	ADMINISTRATION AND SERVICEWIDE ACTIVITIES		
50	SERVICEWIDE TRANSPORTATION	902	902
60	ADMINISTRATION	11,130	11,130
70	RECRUITING AND ADVERTISING	8,833	8,833
	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 4	20,865	20,865
	RESTORE READINESS	---	1,000
	TOTAL, OPERATION & MAINTENANCE, MARINE CORPS RESERVE	270,633	271,133

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS
[In thousands of dollars]

O-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
BSM1 FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION	**25,470**	**26,470**
Program increase		1,000
BSS1 BASE OPERATING SUPPORT	**111,550**	**110,050**
Unjustified program growth		-1,500
RESTORE READINESS		**1,000**

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE RESERVE

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE RESERVE		
	BUDGET ACTIVITY 1: OPERATING FORCES		
	AIR OPERATIONS		
10	PRIMARY COMBAT FORCES	1,707,882	1,690,882
20	MISSION SUPPORT OPERATIONS	230,016	228,516
30	DEPOT MAINTENANCE	541,743	541,743
40	FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION	113,470	132,270
50	BASE OPERATING SUPPORT	384,832	384,832
	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 1	2,977,943	2,978,243
	BUDGET ACTIVITY 4: ADMIN & SERVICEWIDE ACTIVITIES		
	ADMINISTRATION AND SERVICEWIDE ACTIVITIES		
60	ADMINISTRATION	54,939	54,939
70	RECRUITING AND ADVERTISING	14,754	14,754
80	MILITARY MANPOWER AND PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT	12,707	12,707
90	OTHER PERSONNEL SUPPORT	7,210	7,210
100	AUDIOVISUAL	376	376
	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 4	89,986	89,986
	RESTORE READINESS	---	1,000
	TOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE RESERVE	3,067,929	3,069,229

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS
[In thousands of dollars]

O-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
011A PRIMARY COMBAT FORCES	**1,707,882**	**1,690,882**
Unjustified growth		-17,000
011G MISSION SUPPORT OPERATIONS	**230,016**	**228,516**
Justification does not match summary of price and program changes		-1,500
011R FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION	**113,470**	**132,270**
Program increase		18,800
RESTORE READINESS		**1,000**

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
	BUDGET ACTIVITY 1: OPERATING FORCES		
	LAND FORCES		
10	MANEUVER UNITS	708,251	708,251
20	MODULAR SUPPORT BRIGADES	197,251	197,251
30	ECHELONS ABOVE BRIGADE	792,271	788,271
40	THEATER LEVEL ASSETS	80,341	84,341
50	LAND FORCES OPERATIONS SUPPORT	37,138	37,138
60	AVIATION ASSETS	887,625	881,125
	LAND FORCES READINESS		
70	FORCE READINESS OPERATIONS SUPPORT	696,267	669,993
80	LAND FORCES SYSTEMS READINESS	61,240	56,240
90	LAND FORCES DEPOT MAINTENANCE	219,948	219,948
	LAND FORCES READINESS SUPPORT		
100	BASE OPERATIONS SUPPORT	1,040,012	1,029,512
110	FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION	676,715	692,947
120	MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONAL HEADQUARTERS	1,021,144	1,011,144
	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 1	6,418,203	6,376,161
	BUDGET ACTIVITY 4: ADMIN & SERVICEWIDE ACTIVITIES		
	ADMINISTRATION AND SERVICEWIDE ACTIVITIES		
130	SERVICEWIDE TRANSPORTATION	6,396	6,396
140	ADMINISTRATION	68,528	69,678
150	SERVICEWIDE COMMUNICATIONS	76,524	76,524
160	MANPOWER MANAGEMENT	7,712	7,712
170	RECRUITING AND ADVERTISING	245,046	245,046
180	REAL ESTATE MANAGEMENT	2,961	2,961
	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 4	407,167	408,317
	RESTORE READINESS	---	20,000
	OPERATIONAL SUPPORT FOR INCREASE IN ARMY NATIONAL GUARD END STRENGTH	---	57,000
	TOTAL, OPERATION & MAINTENANCE, ARMY NATIONAL GUARD	6,825,370	6,861,478

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS
[In thousands of dollars]

O-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
113 ECHELONS ABOVE BRIGADE	**792,271**	**788,271**
Unjustified program growth		-4,000
114 THEATER LEVEL ASSETS	**80,341**	**84,341**
Program increase - Operation Phalanx		4,000
116 AVIATION ASSETS	**887,625**	**881,125**
Program increase - Operation Phalanx		5,000
Unjustified program growth		-11,500
121 FORCE READINESS OPERATIONS SUPPORT	**696,267**	**669,993**
Unjustified program growth		-30,000
Program increase - cyber protection teams		3,000
Program increase - language capabilities		200
Program increase - trauma training		526
122 LAND FORCES SYSTEMS READINESS	**61,240**	**56,240**
Program decrease not properly accounted		-5,000
131 BASE OPERATIONS SUPPORT	**1,040,012**	**1,029,512**
Unjustified program growth		-10,500
132 FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION	**676,715**	**692,947**
Program increase		16,232
133 MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONAL HEADQUARTERS	**1,021,144**	**1,011,144**
Unjustified program growth		-10,000
431 ADMINISTRATION	**68,528**	**69,678**
Program increase - State Partnership Program		1,150
RESTORE READINESS		**20,000**
OPERATIONAL SUPPORT FOR INCREASE IN ARMY NATIONAL GUARD END STRENGTH		**57,000**

NATIONAL GUARD STATE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM LANGUAGE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

For more than twenty years, the National Guard State Partnership Program (SPP) has been successfully building unique security relationships with more than 75 nations around the globe. To build on the success of this program, the agreement recommends that the Chief of the National Guard Bureau encourage the enhancement of individual language skills and prioritize language school appointments of soldiers and airmen within the program to help further strengthen these international relationships. Additionally, servicemembers of the National Guard that participate in, and are from states with units assigned to state partnership activities should strive to attend language schools, both defense-sponsored and otherwise; obtain computer-assisted language-learning software; and use international visits through the SPP as a means of language skill immersion.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR NATIONAL GUARD

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
	BUDGET ACTIVITY 1: OPERATING FORCES		
	AIR OPERATIONS		
10	AIRCRAFT OPERATIONS	3,282,238	3,193,238
20	MISSION SUPPORT OPERATIONS	723,062	713,579
30	DEPOT MAINTENANCE	1,824,329	1,816,329
40	FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION	245,840	255,840
50	BASE OPERATING SUPPORT	575,548	566,548
	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 1	6,651,017	6,545,534
	BUDGET ACTIVITY 4: ADMIN & SERVICEWIDE ACTIVITIES		
	SERVICEWIDE ACTIVITIES		
60	ADMINISTRATION	23,715	23,715
70	RECRUITING AND ADVERTISING	28,846	28,846
	TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 4	52,561	52,561
	RESTORE READINESS	---	17,000
	TOTAL, OPERATION & MAINTENANCE, AIR NATIONAL GUARD	6,703,578	6,615,095

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS
[In thousands of dollars]

O-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
011F AIRCRAFT OPERATIONS	**3,282,238**	**3,193,238**
Unjustifed growth		-74,000
MIP program decrease not properly accounted		-15,000
011G MISSION SUPPORT OPERATIONS	**723,062**	**713,579**
Program increase - State Partnership Program		1,150
Maintain program affordability - unjustified growth		-12,000
Program increase - trauma training		1,367
011M DEPOT MAINTENANCE	**1,824,329**	**1,816,329**
MIP program unjustified growth		-8,000
011R FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION	**245,840**	**255,840**
Program increase		10,000
011Z BASE OPERATING SUPPORT	**575,548**	**566,548**
Unjustifed growth		-9,000
RESTORE READINESS		**17,000**

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE ARMED FORCES

The agreement provides $14,194,000 for the United States Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, ARMY

The agreement provides $170,167,000 for Environmental Restoration, Army.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, NAVY

The agreement provides $289,262,000, an increase of $7,500,000 above the budget request, for Environmental Restoration, Navy.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, AIR FORCE

The agreement provides $371,521,000 for Environmental Restoration, Air Force.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, DEFENSE-WIDE

The agreement provides $9,009,000 for Environmental Restoration, Defense-Wide.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITES

The agreement provides $222,084,000, an increase of $25,000,000 above the budget request, for Environmental Restoration, Formerly Used Defense Sites.

OVERSEAS HUMANITARIAN, DISASTER, AND CIVIC AID

The agreement provides $123,125,000, an increase of $18,000,000 above the budget request, for Overseas Humanitarian, Disaster, and Civic Aid. Specifically, $3,000,000 is a general increase and $15,000,000 is for South China Sea Regional Engagement.

COOPERATIVE THREAT REDUCTION ACCOUNT

The agreement provides $325,604,000 for the Cooperative Threat Reduction Account, as follows:

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS

[In thousands of dollars]

	Budget request	Final bill
Strategic Offensive Arms Elimination	11,791	11,791
Chemical Weapons Destruction	2,942	2,942
Biological Threat Reduction	213,984	213,984
Threat Reduction Engagement	2,000	2,000
Other Assessments/Admin Costs	27,279	27,279
Global Nuclear Security	16,899	16,899
WMD Proliferation Prevention	50,709	50,709
TOTAL, COOPERATIVE THREAT REDUCTION ACCOUNT	325,604	325,604

TITLE III—PROCUREMENT

The agreement provides $108,426,827,000 in Title III, Procurement. The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
SUMMARY		
ARMY		
AIRCRAFT	3,614,787	4,587,598
MISSILES	1,519,966	1,533,804
WEAPONS AND TRACKED COMBAT VEHICLES	2,265,177	2,229,455
AMMUNITION	1,513,157	1,483,566
OTHER	5,873,949	6,147,328
TOTAL, ARMY	14,787,036	15,981,751
NAVY		
AIRCRAFT	14,109,148	16,135,335
WEAPONS	3,209,262	3,265,285
AMMUNITION	664,368	633,678
SHIPS	18,354,874	21,156,886
OTHER	6,338,861	6,308,919
MARINE CORPS	1,362,769	1,307,456
TOTAL, NAVY	44,039,282	48,807,559
AIR FORCE		
AIRCRAFT	13,922,917	14,253,623
MISSILES	2,426,621	2,348,121
SPACE	3,055,743	2,733,243
AMMUNITION	1,677,719	1,589,219
OTHER	17,438,056	17,768,224
TOTAL, AIR FORCE	38,521,056	38,692,430
DEFENSE-WIDE		
DEFENSE-WIDE	4,524,918	4,881,022
DEFENSE PRODUCTION ACT PURCHASES	44,065	64,065
TOTAL PROCUREMENT	101,916,357	108,426,827

REPROGRAMMING GUIDANCE FOR ACQUISITION ACCOUNTS

The Secretary of Defense is directed to continue to follow the reprogramming guidance as specified in the report accompanying the House version of the Department of Defense Appropriations bill for Fiscal Year 2008 (House Report 110–279). Specifically, the dollar threshold for reprogramming funds shall remain at $20,000,000 for procurement and $10,000,000 for research, development, test and evaluation.

Also, the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) is directed to continue to provide the congressional defense committees quarterly, spreadsheet-based DD Form 1416 reports for Service and defense-wide accounts in titles III and IV of this Act. Reports for titles III and IV shall comply with the guidance specified in the explanatory statement accompanying the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2006. The Department shall continue to follow the limitation that prior approval reprogrammings are set at either the specified dollar threshold or 20 percent of the procurement or research, development, test and evaluation line, whichever is less. These thresholds are cumulative from the base for reprogramming value as modified by any adjustments. Therefore, if the combined value of transfers into or out of a procurement (P–1) or research, development, test and evaluation (R–1) line exceeds the identified threshold, the Secretary of Defense must submit a prior approval reprogramming to the congressional defense committees. In addition, guidelines on the application of prior approval reprogramming procedures for congressional special interest items are established elsewhere in this statement.

FUNDING INCREASES

The funding increases outlined in these tables shall be provided only for the specific purposes indicated in the tables.

PROCUREMENT SPECIAL INTEREST ITEMS

Items for which additional funds have been provided as shown in the project level tables or in paragraphs using the phrase ''only for'' or ''only to'' in the explanatory statement are congressional special interest items for the purpose of the Base for Reprogramming (DD Form 1414). Each of these items must be carried on the DD Form 1414 at the stated amount as specifically addressed in the explanatory statement.

JOINT STRIKE FIGHTER BUDGET JUSTIFICATIONS AND CONTRACTING

Throughout the fiscal year 2017 budget review process, the Joint Strike Fighter (JSF) Joint Program Office provided insufficient justification and incomplete information in an untimely manner. It is imperative that requested information is received promptly for proper congressional oversight of this major defense acquisition program.

It is understood that the Secretary of Defense is reviewing potential alternative management structures for the JSF program as directed by the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114–328). This review will provide an opportunity to improve communication between the JSF Program Executive Officer (PEO), the Services, and the congressional defense committees to ensure the program's funding requirements are fully understood, communicated, and justified.

Additionally, there is concern that the number of F–35s enacted in annual Department of Defense Appropriations Acts are not being placed on contract by the JSF PEO in a timely manner. Four F–35s included in the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2015 and 13 F–35s included in the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2016 were not part of their respective low rate initial production (LRIP) contracts due to the PEO's contracting strategy. Specifically, only four F–35Cs were included on LRIPs 9 and 10, rather than the ten F–35Cs enacted in the Department of Defense Appropriations Acts, 2015 and 2016, impeding production efficiencies. The agreement directs the JSF PEO to use a contracting approach that would award all aircraft included in each Department of Defense Appropriations Act on the respective production contract for that fiscal year. The agreement includes funding for 74 F–35 aircraft. The JSF PEO is directed to brief the congressional defense committees not later than 45 days after the enactment of this Act on the contracting strategy for these aircraft.

AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, ARMY

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, ARMY		
	AIRCRAFT		
	FIXED WING		
1	UTILITY F/W CARGO AIRCRAFT	57,529	41,342
3	MQ-1 UAV	55,388	250,388
	ROTARY		
5	UH-72 LAKOTA LIGHT UTILITY HELICOPTER	---	187,000
6	AH-64 APACHE BLOCK IIIA REMAN	803,084	774,072
6A	AH-64 APACHE BLOCK IIIA NEW BUILD	---	190,100
7	AH-64 APACHE BLOCK IIIA REMAN (AP-CY)	185,160	185,160
7A	AH-64 APACHE BLOCK IIIA NEW BUILD (AP-CY)	---	71,800
8	UH-60 BLACKHAWK (MYP)	755,146	1,085,046
9	UH-60 BLACKHAWK (MYP) (AP-CY)	174,107	174,107
10	UH-60 BLACKHAWK A AND L MODELS	46,173	46,173
11	CH-47 HELICOPTER	556,257	553,257
12	CH-47 HELICOPTER (AP-CY)	8,707	8,707
	TOTAL, AIRCRAFT	2,641,551	3,567,152
	MODIFICATION OF AIRCRAFT		
13	MQ-1 PAYLOAD - UAS	43,735	63,735
15	MULTI SENSOR ABN RECON (MIP)	94,527	94,527
16	AH-64 MODS	137,883	137,883
17	CH-47 CARGO HELICOPTER MODS	102,943	102,943
18	GRCS SEMA MODS (MIP)	4,055	4,055
19	ARL SEMA MODS (MIP)	6,793	6,793

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
20	EMARSS SEMA MODS (MIP)	13,197	12,197
21	UTILITY/CARGO AIRPLANE MODS	17,526	17,526
22	UTILITY HELICOPTER MODS	10,807	10,807
23	NETWORK AND MISSION PLAN	74,752	74,752
24	COMMS, NAV SURVEILLANCE	69,960	76,960
25	GATM ROLLUP	45,302	45,302
26	RQ-7 UAV MODS	71,169	71,169
27	UAS MODS	21,804	21,804
	TOTAL, MODIFICATION OF AIRCRAFT	714,453	740,453
	SUPPORT EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES		
	GROUND SUPPORT AVIONICS		
28	AIRCRAFT SURVIVABILITY EQUIPMENT	67,377	89,377
29	SURVIVABILITY CM	9,565	9,565
30	CMWS	41,626	41,626
	OTHER SUPPORT		
32	AVIONICS SUPPORT EQUIPMENT	7,007	6,217
33	COMMON GROUND EQUIPMENT	48,234	48,234
34	AIRCREW INTEGRATED SYSTEMS	30,297	30,297
35	AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL	50,405	50,405
36	INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES	1,217	1,217
37	LAUNCHER, 2.75 ROCKET	3,055	3,055
	TOTAL, SUPPORT EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES	258,783	279,993
	TOTAL, AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, ARMY	3,614,787	4,587,598

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS

[In thousands of dollars]

P-1		Budget Request	Final Bill
1	UTILITY F/W CARGO AIRCRAFT	57,529	41,342
	Excess program management		-3,587
	Unit cost growth		-12,600
3	MQ-1 UAV	55,388	250,388
	Program increase - 12 aircraft		195,000
5	UH-72 LAKOTA LIGHT UTILITY HELICOPTER	0	187,000
	Program increase - 28 aircraft		187,000
6	AH-64 APACHE BLOCK IIIA REMAN	803,084	774,072
	Unit cost efficiencies from multiyear procurement contract		-9,600
	Excess government furnished equipment		-19,412
6A	AH-64 APACHE BLOCK IIIA NEW BUILD	0	190,100
	Program increase - five aircraft		190,100
7A	AH-64 APACHE BLOCK IIIA NEW BUILD (AP-CY)	0	71,800
	Program increase		71,800
8	UH-60 BLACKHAWK (MYP)	755,146	1,085,046
	Program increase - 15 for Army National Guard and ten for active Army		339,900
	Excess tooling		-10,000
11	CH-47 HELICOPTER	556,257	553,257
	Excess program management cost growth		-1,500
	Excess support cost growth		-1,500
13	MQ-1 PAYLOAD - UAS	43,735	63,735
	Program increase - CSP HD upgrade		20,000
20	EMARSS SEMA MODS (MIP)	13,197	12,197
	Excess program management		-1,000
24	COMMS, NAV SURVEILLANCE	69,960	76,960
	Program increase - assured PNT		7,000
28	AIRCRAFT SURVIVABILITY EQUIPMENT	67,377	89,377
	Program increase - modernized radar warning system		22,000
32	AVIONICS SUPPORT EQUIPMENT	7,007	6,217
	ANVIS unit cost growth		-790

UH–72 LAKOTA LIGHT UTILITY HELICOPTER

The agreement provides $187,000,000 to procure 28 UH–72 Lakota Light Utility Helicopters for the Army in support of ongoing mission requirements at the Army Aviation Center of Excellence at Fort Rucker, the Combat Training Centers, and the Army Test and Evaluation Center. The agreement notes that this investment is consistent with previous appropriations and was included in the Army's unfunded priority list. The Secretary of the Army is encouraged to request funding for UH–72 Lakota Light Utility Helicopters to address ongoing mission requirements in future budget submissions.

MISSILE PROCUREMENT, ARMY

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	MISSILE PROCUREMENT, ARMY		
	OTHER MISSILES		
	SURFACE-TO-AIR MISSILE SYSTEM		
1	LOWER TIER AIR AND MISSILE DEFENSE (AMD)	126,470	126,470
2	MSE MISSILE	423,201	423,201
3	INDIRECT FIRE PROTECTION CAPABILITY	19,319	19,319
	AIR-TO-SURFACE MISSILE SYSTEM		
4	HELLFIRE SYS SUMMARY	42,013	42,013
5	JOINT AIR-TO-GROUND MSLS (JAGM)	64,751	61,911
6	JOINT AIR-TO-GROUND MSLS (JAGM) (AP-CY)	37,100	37,100
	ANTI-TANK/ASSAULT MISSILE SYSTEM		
7	JAVELIN (AAWS-M) SYSTEM SUMMARY	73,508	102,808
8	TOW 2 SYSTEM SUMMARY	64,922	64,922
9	TOW 2 SYSTEM SUMMARY (AP-CY)	19,949	10,716
10	GUIDED MLRS ROCKET (GMLRS)	172,088	172,088
11	MLRS REDUCED RANGE PRACTICE ROCKETS (RRPR)	18,004	18,004
	TOTAL, OTHER MISSILES	1,061,325	1,078,552
	MODIFICATION OF MISSILES		
	MODIFICATIONS		
13	PATRIOT MODS	197,107	197,107
14	ATACMS MODS	150,043	150,043
15	GMLRS MOD	395	395
17	AVENGER MODS	33,606	33,606
18	ITAS/TOW MODS	383	383
19	MLRS MODS	34,704	31,315
20	HIMARS MODIFICATIONS	1,847	1,847
	TOTAL, MODIFICATION OF MISSILES	418,085	414,696

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	SPARES AND REPAIR PARTS		
21	SPARES AND REPAIR PARTS	34,487	34,487
	SUPPORT EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES		
22	AIR DEFENSE TARGETS	4,915	4,915
24	PRODUCTION BASE SUPPORT	1,154	1,154
	TOTAL, SUPPORT EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES	6,069	6,069
	TOTAL, MISSILE PROCUREMENT, ARMY	1,519,966	1,533,804

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS

[In thousands of dollars]

P-1		Budget Request	Final Bill
5	JOINT AIR-TO-GROUND MSLS (JAGM)	64,751	61,911
	Unjustified increase		-2,840
7	JAVELIN (AAWS-M) SYSTEM SUMMARY	73,508	102,808
	Engineering services cost growth		-1,700
	Program increase		31,000
9	TOW 2 SYSTEM SUMMARY (AP-CY)	19,949	10,716
	Advance procurement excess to need		-9,233
19	MLRS MODS	34,704	31,315
	Program cost growth		-3,389

PROCUREMENT OF WEAPONS AND TRACKED COMBAT VEHICLES, ARMY

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	PROCUREMENT OF WEAPONS AND TRACKED COMBAT VEHICLES (W&TCV), ARMY		
	TRACKED COMBAT VEHICLES		
1	STRYKER VEHICLE	71,680	71,680
	MODIFICATION OF TRACKED COMBAT VEHICLES		
2	STRYKER (MOD)	74,348	74,348
3	STRYKER UPGRADE	444,561	418,561
5	BRADLEY PROGRAM (MOD)	276,433	265,333
7	HOWITZER, MED SP FT 155MM M109A6 (MOD)	63,138	63,138
8	PALADIN PIPM MOD IN SERVICE	469,305	461,505
9	IMPROVED RECOVERY VEHICLE (M88A2 HERCULES)	91,963	91,963
10	ASSAULT BRIDGE (MOD)	3,465	3,465
11	ARMORED BREACHER VEHICLE	2,928	2,928
12	M88 FOV MODS	8,685	8,685
13	JOINT ASSAULT BRIDGE	64,752	64,752
14	M1 ABRAMS TANK (MOD)	480,166	492,044
	SUPPORT EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES		
	TOTAL, TRACKED COMBAT VEHICLES	2,051,424	2,018,402
	WEAPONS AND OTHER COMBAT VEHICLES		
17	INTEGRATED AIR BURST WEAPON SYSTEM FAMILY	9,764	7,064
18	MORTAR SYSTEMS	8,332	8,332
19	XM320 GRENADE LAUNCHER MODULE (GLM)	3,062	3,062
20	COMPACT SEMI-AUTOMATIC SNIPER SYSTEM	992	---
21	CARBINE	40,493	40,493
22	COMMON REMOTELY OPERATED WEAPONS STATION	25,164	25,164
23	MODULAR HANDGUN SYSTEM	---	2,000

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	MOD OF WEAPONS AND OTHER COMBAT VEH		
24	MK-19 GRENADE MACHINE GUN MODS	4,959	4,959
25	M777 MODS	11,913	11,913
26	M4 CARBINE MODS	29,752	27,752
27	M2 50 CAL MACHINE GUN MODS	48,582	48,582
28	M249 SAW MACHINE GUN MODS	1,179	1,179
29	M240 MEDIUM MACHINE GUN MODS	1,784	1,784
30	SNIPER RIFLES MODIFICATIONS	971	1,963
31	M119 MODIFICATIONS	6,045	6,045
32	MORTAR MODIFICATION	12,118	12,118
33	MODIFICATIONS LESS THAN $5.0M (WOCV-WTCV)	3,157	3,157
	SUPPORT EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES		
34	ITEMS LESS THAN $5.0M (WOCV-WTCV)	2,331	2,331
37	SMALL ARMS EQUIPMENT (SOLDIER ENH PROG)	3,155	3,155
	TOTAL, WEAPONS AND OTHER COMBAT VEHICLES	213,753	211,053
	TOTAL, PROCUREMENT OF W&TCV, ARMY	2,265,177	2,229,455

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS

[In thousands of dollars]

P-1		Budget Request	Final Bill
3	STRYKER UPGRADE	444,561	418,561
	Unjustified growth		-26,000
5	BRADLEY PROGRAM (MOD)	276,433	265,333
	Contractor support unjustified growth		-8,000
	Excess to need - negotiated contract savings		-3,100
8	PALADIN PIM MOD IN SERVICE	469,305	461,505
	Estimated contract savings		-7,800
14	M1 ABRAMS TANK (MOD)	480,166	492,044
	Excess program engineering support		-4,400
	Industrial support		16,278
17	INTEGRATED AIR BURST WEAPON SYSTEM FAMILY	9,764	7,064
	Program delay		-2,700
20	COMPACT SEMI-AUTOMATIC SNIPER SYSTEM	992	0
	Army requested transfer to line 30		-992
23	MODULAR HANDGUN SYSTEM	0	2,000
	Army requested transfer from line 26		2,000
26	M4 CARBINE MODS	29,752	27,752
	Army requested transfer to line 23		-2,000
30	SNIPER RIFLES MODIFICATIONS	971	1,963
	Army requested transfer from line 20		992

PROCUREMENT OF AMMUNITION, ARMY

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	PROCUREMENT OF AMMUNITION, ARMY		
	AMMUNITION		
	SMALL/MEDIUM CAL AMMUNITION		
1	CTG, 5.56MM, ALL TYPES	40,296	40,296
2	CTG, 7.62MM, ALL TYPES	39,237	39,237
3	CTG, HANDGUN, ALL TYPES	5,193	5,193
4	CTG, .50 CAL, ALL TYPES	46,693	46,693
5	CTG, 20MM, ALL TYPES	7,000	7,000
6	CTG, 25MM, ALL TYPES	7,753	7,753
7	CTG, 30MM, ALL TYPES	47,000	47,000
8	CTG, 40MM, ALL TYPES	118,178	111,824
	MORTAR AMMUNITION		
9	60MM MORTAR, ALL TYPES	69,784	69,784
10	81MM MORTAR, ALL TYPES	36,125	36,125
11	120MM MORTAR, ALL TYPES	69,133	69,133
	TANK AMMUNITION		
12	CTG TANK 105MM AND 120MM: ALL TYPES	120,668	117,853
	ARTILLERY AMMUNITION		
13	CTG, ARTY, 75MM AND 105MM: ALL TYPES	64,800	61,300
14	ARTILLERY PROJECTILE, 155MM, ALL TYPES	109,515	94,515
15	PROJ 155MM EXTENDED RANGE XM982	39,200	36,025
16	ARTILLERY PROPELLANTS, FUZES AND PRIMERS, ALL TYPES	70,881	66,881
	ROCKETS		
19	SHOULDER LAUNCHED MUNITIONS, ALL TYPES	38,000	33,000
20	ROCKET, HYDRA 70, ALL TYPES	87,213	87,213

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	OTHER AMMUNITION		
21	CAD/PAD ALL TYPES	4,914	4,914
22	DEMOLITION MUNITIONS, ALL TYPES	6,380	6,380
23	GRENADES, ALL TYPES	22,760	22,760
24	SIGNALS, ALL TYPES	10,666	6,166
25	SIMULATORS, ALL TYPES	7,412	7,412
	MISCELLANEOUS		
26	AMMO COMPONENTS, ALL TYPES	12,726	12,726
27	NON-LETHAL AMMUNITION, ALL TYPES	6,100	5,100
28	ITEMS LESS THAN $5 MILLION	10,006	9,506
29	AMMUNITION PECULIAR EQUIPMENT	17,275	13,528
30	FIRST DESTINATION TRANSPORTATION (AMMO)	14,951	14,951
	TOTAL, AMMUNITION	1,129,859	1,080,268
	AMMUNITION PRODUCTION BASE SUPPORT		
	PRODUCTION BASE SUPPORT		
32	PROVISION OF INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES	222,269	242,269
33	CONVENTIONAL MUNITIONS DEMILITARIZATION, ALL	157,383	157,383
34	ARMS INITIATIVE	3,646	3,646
	TOTAL, AMMUNITION PRODUCTION BASE SUPPORT	383,298	403,298
	TOTAL, PROCUREMENT OF AMMUNITION, ARMY	1,513,157	1,483,566

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS

[In thousands of dollars]

P-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
8 CTG, 40MM, ALL TYPES	118,178	111,824
Program delays		-6,354
12 CTG TANK 105MM AND 120MM: ALL TYPES	120,668	117,853
Excess to requirement		-2,815
13 CTG, ARTY, 75MM AND 105MM: ALL TYPES	64,800	61,300
Change to acquisition strategy for 75mm blank		-3,500
14 ARTILLERY PROJECTILE, 155MM, ALL TYPES	109,515	94,515
Unjustified growth		-15,000
15 PROJ 155MM EXTENDED RANGE XM982	39,200	36,025
Eliminate program growth		-3,175
16 ARTILLERY PROPELLANTS, FUZES AND PRIMERS, ALL TYPES	70,881	66,881
Maintain level of effort for PGK		-4,000
19 SHOULDER LAUNCHED MUNITIONS, ALL TYPES	38,000	33,000
Change to acquisition strategy		-5,000
24 SIGNALS, ALL TYPES	10,666	6,166
Excess to requirement		-4,500
27 NON-LETHAL AMMUNITION, ALL TYPES	6,100	5,100
Unobligated balances		-1,000
28 ITEMS LESS THAN $5 MILLION	10,006	9,506
Unobligated balances		-500
29 AMMUNITION PECULIAR EQUIPMENT	17,275	13,528
Excess to requirement		-3,747
32 PROVISION OF INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES	222,269	242,269
Program increase		20,000

OTHER PROCUREMENT, ARMY

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	OTHER PROCUREMENT, ARMY		
	TACTICAL AND SUPPORT VEHICLES		
	TACTICAL VEHICLES		
1	TACTICAL TRAILERS/DOLLY SETS	3,733	2,578
2	SEMITRAILERS, FLATBED:	3,716	3,716
3	HIGH MOBILITY MULTI-PURPOSE WHEELED VEHICLE (HMMWV)	---	50,000
4	GROUND MOBILITY VEHICLES (GMV)	4,907	4,907
5	ARNG HMMWV MODERNIZATION PROGRAM	---	160,000
6	JOINT LIGHT TACTICAL VEHICLE	587,514	587,514
7	TRUCK, DUMP, 20t (CCE)	3,927	3,927
8	FAMILY OF MEDIUM TACTICAL VEH (FMTV)	53,293	53,293
9	FIRETRUCKS & ASSOCIATED FIREFIGHTING EQUIPMEN	7,460	7,460
10	FAMILY OF HEAVY TACTICAL VEHICLES (FHTV)	39,564	33,594
11	PLS ESP	11,856	11,856
13	TACTICAL WHEELED VEHICLE PROTECTION KITS	49,751	45,251
14	MODIFICATION OF IN SVC EQUIP	64,000	64,000
15	MINE-RESISTANT AMBUSH-PROTECTED MODS	10,611	10,611
	NON-TACTICAL VEHICLES		
16	HEAVY ARMORED SEDAN	394	394
18	NONTACTICAL VEHICLES, OTHER	1,755	1,755
	TOTAL, TACTICAL AND SUPPORT VEHICLES	842,481	1,040,856
	COMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRONICS EQUIPMENT		
	COMM - JOINT COMMUNICATIONS		
19	WIN-T - GROUND FORCES TACTICAL NETWORK	427,598	541,598
20	SIGNAL MODERNIZATION PROGRAM	58,250	58,250
21	JOINT INCIDENT SITE COMMUNICATIONS CAPABILITY	5,749	5,749
22	JCSE EQUIPMENT (USREDCOM)	5,068	5,068
	COMM - SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS		
23	DEFENSE ENTERPRISE WIDEBAND SATCOM SYSTEMS	143,805	143,805
24	TRANSPORTABLE TACTICAL COMMAND COMMUNICATIONS	36,580	36,580
25	SHF TERM	1,985	1,985
27	SMART-T (SPACE)	9,165	9,165

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	COMM - C3 SYSTEM		
31	ARMY GLOBAL CMD & CONTROL SYS (AGCCS)	2,530	2,530
	COMM - COMBAT COMMUNICATIONS		
33	HANDHELD MANPACK SMALL FORM FIT (HMS)	273,645	273,645
34	MID-TIER NETWORKING VEHICULAR RADIO (MNVR)	25,017	25,017
35	RADIO TERMINAL SET, MIDS LVT(2)	12,326	12,326
37	TRACTOR DESK	2,034	2,034
38	TRACTOR RIDE	2,334	2,334
39	SPIDER APLA REMOTE CONTROL UNIT	1,985	1,428
40	SPIDER FAMILY OF NETWORKED MUNITIONS INCREASE	10,796	8,796
42	TACTICAL COMMUNICATIONS AND PROTECTIVE SYSTEM	3,607	3,607
43	UNIFIED COMMAND SUITE	14,295	14,295
45	FAMILY OF MED COMM FOR COMBAT CASUALTY CARE	19,893	19,893
	COMM - INTELLIGENCE COMM		
47	CI AUTOMATION ARCHITECTURE (MIP)	1,388	1,388
48	ARMY CA/MISO GPF EQUIPMENT	5,494	5,494
49	FAMILY OF BIOMETRICS	2,978	2,978
	INFORMATION SECURITY		
51	COMMUNICATIONS SECURITY (COMSEC)	131,356	131,356
52	DEFENSIVE CYBER OPERATIONS	15,132	19,132
	COMM - LONG HAUL COMMUNICATIONS		
53	BASE SUPPORT COMMUNICATIONS	27,452	32,852
	COMM - BASE COMMUNICATIONS		
54	INFORMATION SYSTEMS	122,055	114,555
55	EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT MODERNIZATION PROGRAM	4,286	4,286
56	INSTALLATION INFO INFRASTRUCTURE MOD PROGRAM	131,794	126,794

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	ELECT EQUIP		
	ELECT EQUIP - TACT INT REL ACT (TIARA)		
59	JTT/CIBS-M (MIP)	5,337	5,337
62	DCGS-A (MIP)	242,514	230,214
63	JOINT TACTICAL GROUND STATION (JTAGS)	4,417	4,417
64	TROJAN (MIP)	17,455	17,455
65	MOD OF IN-SVC EQUIP (INTEL SPT) (MIP)	44,965	44,965
66	CI HUMINT AUTO REPRTING AND COLL(CHARCS)(MIP)	7,658	7,658
67	CLOSE ACCESS TARGET RECONNAISSANCE (CATR)	7,970	7,970
68	MACHINE FOREIGN LANGUAGE TRANSLATION SYSTEM	545	545
	ELECT EQUIP - ELECTRONIC WARFARE (EW)		
70	LIGHTWEIGHT COUNTER MORTAR RADAR	74,038	68,453
71	EW PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT TOOLS	3,235	3,235
72	AIR VIGILANCE (AV)	733	733
74	FAMILY OF PERSISTENT SURVEILLANCE CAPABILITIES	1,740	1,740
75	COUNTERINTELLIGENCE/SECURITY COUNTERMEASURES	455	455
76	CI MODERNIZATION (MIP)	176	176
	ELECT EQUIP - TACTICAL SURV. (TAC SURV)		
77	SENTINEL MODS	40,171	40,171
78	NIGHT VISION DEVICES	163,029	151,029
79	SMALL TACTICAL OPTICAL RIFLE MOUNTED MLRF	15,885	15,885
80	INDIRECT FIRE PROTECTION FAMILY OF SYSTEMS	48,427	58,427
81	FAMILY OF WEAPON SIGHTS (FWS)	55,536	49,536
82	ARTILLERY ACCURACY EQUIP	4,187	4,187
85	JOINT BATTLE COMMAND - PLATFORM (JBC-P)	137,501	137,501
86	JOINT EFFECTS TARGETING SYSTEM (JETS)	50,726	48,375
87	MOD OF IN-SERVICE EQUIPMENT (LLDR)	28,058	28,058
88	COMPUTER BALLISTICS: LHMBC XM32	5,924	5,924
89	MORTAR FIRE CONTROL SYSTEM	22,331	22,331
90	COUNTERFIRE RADARS	314,509	297,509

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	ELECT EQUIP - TACTICAL C2 SYSTEMS		
91	FIRE SUPPORT C2 FAMILY	8,660	8,660
92	AIR & MSL DEFENSE PLANNING & CONTROL SYS (AMD	54,376	54,376
93	IAMD BATTLE COMMAND SYSTEM	204,969	204,969
94	LIFE CYCLE SOFTWARE SUPPORT (LCSS)	4,718	4,718
95	NETWORK MANAGEMENT INITIALIZATION AND SERVICE	11,063	11,063
96	MANEUVER CONTROL SYSTEM (MCS)	151,318	151,318
97	GLOBAL COMBAT SUPPORT SYSTEM-ARMY	155,660	135,809
98	INTEGRATED PERSONNEL AND PAY SYSTEM-ARMY	4,214	4,214
99	RECONNAISSANCE AND SURVEYING INSTRUMENT SET	16,185	16,185
100	MOD OF IN-SERVICE EQUIPMENT (ENFIRE)	1,565	1,565
	ELECT EQUIP - AUTOMATION		
101	ARMY TRAINING MODERNIZATION	17,693	17,693
102	AUTOMATED DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT	107,960	107,960
103	GENERAL FUND ENTERPRISE BUSINESS SYSTEM	6,416	6,416
104	HIGH PERF COMPUTING MOD PROGRAM	58,614	58,614
105	CONTRACT WRITING SYSTEM	986	986
106	RESERVE COMPONENT AUTOMATION SYS (RCAS)	23,828	23,828
	ELECT EQUIP - AUDIO VISUAL SYS (A/V)		
107	TACTICAL DIGITAL MEDIA	1,191	1,191
108	ITEMS LESS THAN $5M (SURVEYING EQUIPMENT)	1,995	1,995
	ELECT EQUIP - SUPPORT		
109	PRODUCTION BASE SUPPORT (C-E)	403	403
999	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	4,436	4,436
	TOTAL, COMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRONICS EQUIPMENT	3,632,369	3,675,625

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	OTHER SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		
	CHEMICAL DEFENSIVE EQUIPMENT		
111	PROTECTIVE SYSTEMS	2,966	2,966
112	FAMILY OF NON-LETHAL EQUIPMENT (FNLE)	9,795	9,795
114	CBRN SOLDIER PROTECTION	17,922	17,922
	BRIDGING EQUIPMENT		
115	TACTICAL BRIDGING	13,553	13,553
116	TACTICAL BRIDGE, FLOAT-RIBBON	25,244	25,244
117	BRIDGE SUPPLEMENTAL SET	983	---
118	COMMON BRIDGE TRANSPORTER RECAP	25,176	25,176
	ENGINEER (NON-CONSTRUCTION) EQUIPMENT		
119	GROUND STANDOFF MINE DETECTION SYSTEM (GSTAMIDS)	39,350	39,350
120	AREA MINE DETECTION SYSTEM (AMIDS)	10,500	10,500
121	HUSKY MOUNTED DETECTION SYSTEM (HMDS)	274	274
122	ROBOTIC COMBAT SUPPORT SYSTEM	2,951	2,951
123	EOD ROBOTICS SYSTEMS RECAPITALIZATION	1,949	1,949
124	ROBOTICS AND APPLIQUE SYSTEMS	5,203	5,203
125	EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL EQPMT (EOD EQPMT)	5,570	5,570
126	REMOTE DEMOLITION SYSTEMS	6,238	5,238
127	ITEMS LESS THAN $5M, COUNTERMINE EQUIPMENT	836	836
128	FAMILY OF BOATS AND MOTORS	3,171	3,171
	COMBAT SERVICE SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		
129	HEATERS AND ECU'S	18,707	17,707
130	SOLDIER ENHANCEMENT	2,112	2,112
131	PERSONNEL RECOVERY SUPPORT SYSTEM (PRSS)	10,856	10,856
132	GROUND SOLDIER SYSTEM	32,419	32,419
133	MOBILE SOLDIER POWER	30,014	22,014
135	FIELD FEEDING EQUIPMENT	12,544	12,544
136	CARGO AERIAL DEL & PERSONNEL PARACHUTE SYSTEM	18,509	18,509
137	FAMILY OF ENGR COMBAT AND CONSTRUCTION SETS	29,384	29,384

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	PETROLEUM EQUIPMENT		
139	QUALITY SURVEILLANCE EQUIPMENT	4,487	3,407
140	DISTRIBUTION SYSTEMS, PETROLEUM & WATER	42,656	35,656
	MEDICAL EQUIPMENT		
141	COMBAT SUPPORT MEDICAL	59,761	69,761
	MAINTENANCE EQUIPMENT		
142	MOBILE MAINTENANCE EQUIPMENT SYSTEMS	35,694	33,694
143	ITEMS LESS THAN $5.0M (MAINT EQ)	2,716	2,716
	CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT		
144	GRADER, ROAD MTZD, HVY, 6X4 (CCE)	1,742	1,742
145	SCRAPERS, EARTHMOVING	26,233	26,233
147	HYDRAULIC EXCAVATOR	1,123	1,123
149	ALL TERRAIN CRANES	65,285	65,285
151	HIGH MOBILITY ENGINEER EXCAVATOR (HMEE) FOS	1,743	16,743
152	ENHANCED RAPID AIRFIELD CONSTRUCTION CAPAP	2,779	2,779
154	CONST EQUIP ESP	26,712	19,172
155	ITEMS LESS THAN $5.0M (CONST EQUIP)	6,649	6,649
	RAIL FLOAT CONTAINERIZATION EQUIPMENT		
156	ARMY WATERCRAFT ESP	21,860	21,860
157	ITEMS LESS THAN $5.0M (FLOAT/RAIL)	1,967	1,967
	GENERATORS		
158	GENERATORS AND ASSOCIATED EQUIPMENT	113,266	113,266
	MATERIAL HANDLING EQUIPMENT		
159	TACTICAL ELECTRIC POWER RECAPITALIZATION	7,867	7,867
160	FAMILY OF FORKLIFTS	2,307	2,307

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	TRAINING EQUIPMENT		
161	COMBAT TRAINING CENTERS SUPPORT	75,359	75,359
162	TRAINING DEVICES, NONSYSTEM	253,050	253,050
163	CLOSE COMBAT TACTICAL TRAINER	48,271	48,271
164	AVIATION COMBINED ARMS TACTICAL TRAINER (AVCA	40,000	40,000
165	GAMING TECHNOLOGY IN SUPPORT OF ARMY TRAINING	11,543	11,543
	TEST MEASURE AND DIG EQUIPMENT (TMD)		
166	CALIBRATION SETS EQUIPMENT	4,963	4,963
167	INTEGRATED FAMILY OF TEST EQUIPMENT (IFTE)	29,781	29,781
168	TEST EQUIPMENT MODERNIZATION (TEMOD)	6,342	6,342
	OTHER SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		
169	M25 STABILIZED BINOCULAR	3,149	3,149
170	RAPID EQUIPPING SOLDIER SUPPORT EQUIPMENT	18,003	20,003
171	PHYSICAL SECURITY SYSTEMS (OPA3)	44,082	44,082
172	BASE LEVEL COM'L EQUIPMENT	2,168	2,168
173	MODIFICATION OF IN-SVC EQUIPMENT (OPA-3)	67,367	74,867
174	PRODUCTION BASE SUPPORT (OTH)	1,528	1,528
175	SPECIAL EQUIPMENT FOR USER TESTING	8,289	14,289
177	TRACTOR YARD	6,888	6,888
	TOTAL, OTHER SUPPORT EQUIPMENT	1,371,856	1,383,753
	SPARE AND REPAIR PARTS		
179	INITIAL SPARES - C&E	27,243	27,243
XX	LOGISTICS AUTOMATION	---	19,851
	TOTAL, OTHER PROCUREMENT, ARMY	5,873,949	6,147,328

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS

[In thousands of dollars]

P-1		Budget Request	Final Bill
1	TACTICAL TRAILERS/DOLLY SETS	3,733	2,578
	PVT early to need		-1,155
3	HI MOB MULTI-PURP WHLD VEH (HMMWV)	0	50,000
	Program increase - HMMWV ambulance modernization for active Army		50,000
5	ARMY NATIONAL GUARD HMMWV MODERNIZATION PROGRAM	0	160,000
	Program increase - HMMWV for Army National Guard		100,000
	Program increase - HMMWV ambulances for Army National Guard and Army Reserve		60,000
10	FAMILY OF HEAVY TACTICAL VEHICLES (FHTV)	39,564	33,594
	Unit cost growth		-5,970
13	TACTICAL WHEELED VEHICLE PROTECTION KITS	49,751	45,251
	Unit cost growth		-4,500
19	WIN-T - GROUND FORCES TACTICAL NETWORK	427,598	541,598
	Program increase		114,000
39	SPIDER APLA REMOTE CONTROL UNIT	1,985	1,428
	Fielding cost growth		-557
40	SPIDER FAMILY OF NETWORKED MUNITIONS INCREASE	10,796	8,796
	Engineering cost growth		-2,000
52	DEFENSIVE CYBER OPERATIONS	15,132	19,132
	Program increase		4,000
53	BASE SUPPORT COMMUNICATIONS	27,452	32,852
	Program increase - USAEUR land mobile radio upgrade		5,400
54	INFORMATION SYSTEMS	122,055	114,555
	Underexecution		-7,500
56	INSTALLATION INFO INFRASTRUCTURE MOD PROGRAM	131,794	126,794
	Excess government management cost growth		-5,000
62	DCGS-A (MIP)	242,514	230,214
	Technology refresh growth		-12,300
70	LIGHTWEIGHT COUNTER MORTAR RADAR	74,038	68,453
	Unit cost growth		-5,585
78	NIGHT VISION DEVICES	163,029	151,029
	Maintain level of effort		-12,000
80	INDIRECT FIRE PROTECTION FAMILY OF SYSTEMS	48,427	58,427
	Program increase - RAM warn communication enhancement		10,000
81	FAMILY OF WEAPON SIGHTS (FWS)	55,536	49,536
	Underexecution		-6,000

P-1		Budget Request	Final Bill
86	JOINT EFFECTS TARGETING SYSTEM (JETS)	50,726	48,375
	Non-recurring engineering previously funded		-2,351
90	COUNTERFIRE RADARS	314,509	297,509
	Unit cost growth		-17,000
97	GLOBAL COMBAT SUPPORT SYSTEM-ARMY	155,660	135,809
	Army requested transfer to Logsitics Automation		-19,851
117	BRIDGE SUPPLEMENTAL SET	983	0
	Procurement early to need		-983
126	REMOTE DEMOLITION SYSTEMS	6,238	5,238
	Schedule slip		-1,000
129	HEATERS AND ECUS	18,707	17,707
	Underexecution		-1,000
133	MOBILE SOLDIER POWER	30,014	22,014
	Underexecution		-8,000
139	QUALITY SURVEILLANCE EQUIPMENT	4,487	3,407
	Unit cost growth		-1,080
140	DISTRIBUTION SYSTEMS, PETROLEUM & WATER	42,656	35,656
	Maintain level of effort		-7,000
141	COMBAT SUPPORT MEDICAL	59,761	69,761
	Program increase		10,000
142	MOBILE MAINTENANCE EQUIPMENT SYSTEMS	35,694	33,694
	Maintain level of effort		-2,000
151	HIGH MOBILITY ENGINEER EXCAVATOR (HMEE)	1,743	16,743
	Program increase		15,000
154	CONST EQUIP ESP	26,712	19,172
	Unit cost growth		-7,540
170	RAPID EQUIPPING SOLDIER SUPPORT EQUIPMENT	18,003	20,003
	Program increase		2,000
173	MODIFICATION OF IN-SVC EQUIPMENT (OPA-3)	67,367	74,867
	Program increase - laser leveling systems		7,500
175	SPECIAL EQUIPMENT FOR USER TESTING	8,289	14,289
	Program increase		6,000
XX	LOGISTICS AUTOMATION	0	19,851
	Army requested transfer from line 97		19,851

AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, NAVY

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, NAVY		
	COMBAT AIRCRAFT		
2	F/A-18E/F (FIGHTER) HORNET (MYP)	---	979,000
3	JOINT STRIKE FIGHTER	890,650	1,312,250
4	JOINT STRIKE FIGHTER (AP-CY)	80,908	80,908
5	JSF STOVL	2,037,768	2,291,968
6	JSF STOVL (AP-CY)	233,648	233,648
7	CH-53K (HEAVY LIFT)	348,615	332,315
8	CH-53K (HEAVY LIFT) (AP-CY)	88,365	84,169
9	V-22 (MEDIUM LIFT)	1,264,134	1,392,134
10	V-22 (MEDIUM LIFT) (AP-CY)	19,674	19,674
11	UH-1Y/AH-1Z	759,778	805,778
12	UH-1Y/AH-1Z (AP-CY)	57,232	49,208
14	MH-60R	61,177	53,177
16	P-8A POSEIDON	1,940,238	1,820,238
17	P-8A POSEIDON (AP-CY)	123,140	123,140
18	E-2D ADV HAWKEYE	916,483	916,483
19	E-2D ADV HAWKEYE (AP-CY)	125,042	125,042
	TOTAL, COMBAT AIRCRAFT	8,946,852	10,619,132
	TRAINER AIRCRAFT		
20	JPATS	5,849	5,849
	TOTAL, TRAINER AIRCRAFT	5,849	5,849

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	OTHER AIRCRAFT		
21	KC-130J	128,870	118,882
22	KC-130J (AP-CY)	24,848	24,848
23	MQ-4 TRITON	409,005	444,242
24	MQ-4 TRITON (AP-CY)	55,652	55,652
25	MQ-8 UAV	72,435	113,635
27A	C-40	---	207,000
	TOTAL, OTHER AIRCRAFT	690,810	964,259
	MODIFICATION OF AIRCRAFT		
29	AEA SYSTEMS	51,900	50,457
30	AV-8 SERIES	60,818	54,895
31	ADVERSARY	5,191	5,191
32	F-18 SERIES	1,023,492	988,192
34	H-53 SERIES	46,095	48,895
35	SH-60 SERIES	108,328	106,506
36	H-1 SERIES	46,333	69,733
37	EP-3 SERIES	14,681	14,681
38	P-3 SERIES	2,781	2,781
39	E-2 SERIES	32,949	30,949
40	TRAINER A/C SERIES	13,199	11,328
41	C-2A	19,066	19,066
42	C-130 SERIES	61,788	53,788
43	FEWSG	618	618
44	CARGO/TRANSPORT A/C SERIES	9,822	9,822
45	E-6 SERIES	222,077	208,544
46	EXECUTIVE HELICOPTERS SERIES	66,835	63,754

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
47	SPECIAL PROJECT AIRCRAFT	16,497	16,497
48	T-45 SERIES	114,887	105,267
49	POWER PLANT CHANGES	16,893	14,893
50	JPATS SERIES	17,401	13,414
51	COMMON ECM EQUIPMENT	143,773	140,773
52	COMMON AVIONICS CHANGES	164,839	159,839
53	COMMON DEFENSIVE WEAPON SYSTEM	4,403	4,403
54	ID SYSTEMS	45,768	42,270
55	P-8 SERIES	18,836	18,036
56	MAGTF EW FOR AVIATION	5,676	4,244
57	MQ-8 SERIES	19,003	19,003
58	RQ-7 SERIES	3,534	1,534
59	V-22 (TILT/ROTOR ACFT) OSPREY	141,545	141,545
60	F-35 STOVL SERIES	34,928	31,436
61	F-35 CV SERIES	26,004	21,833
62	QUICK REACTION CAPABILITY (QRC)	5,476	5,476
	TOTAL, MODIFICATION OF AIRCRAFT	2,565,436	2,479,663
	AIRCRAFT SPARES AND REPAIR PARTS		
63	SPARES AND REPAIR PARTS	1,407,626	1,602,551
	AIRCRAFT SUPPORT EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES		
64	COMMON GROUND EQUIPMENT	390,103	365,282
65	AIRCRAFT INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES	23,194	23,194
66	WAR CONSUMABLES	40,613	36,740
67	OTHER PRODUCTION CHARGES	860	860
68	SPECIAL SUPPORT EQUIPMENT	36,282	36,282
69	FIRST DESTINATION TRANSPORTATION	1,523	1,523
	TOTAL, AIRCRAFT SUPPORT EQUIPMENT & FACILITIES	492,575	463,881
	TOTAL, AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, NAVY	14,109,148	16,135,335

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS
[In thousands of dollars]

P-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
2 F/A-18E/F (FIGHTER) HORNET (MYP)	**0**	**979,000**
Program increase - 12 additional aircraft		979,000
3 JOINT STRIKE FIGHTER	**890,650**	**1,312,250**
Program increase - two additional aircraft for the Navy and two additional aircraft for the Marine Corps		500,000
Unit cost growth		-78,400
5 JSF STOVL	**2,037,768**	**2,291,968**
Program increase - two additional aircraft		254,200
7 CH-53K (HEAVY LIFT)	**348,615**	**332,315**
Recurring costs excess to need		-6,300
Support equipment early to need		-10,000
8 CH-53K (HEAVY LIFT) (AP-CY)	**88,365**	**84,169**
Excess to need		-4,196
9 V-22 (MEDIUM LIFT)	**1,264,134**	**1,392,134**
Program adjustment		-5,000
Support cost growth		-15,000
Program increase - two additional aircraft		148,000
11 UH-1Y/AH-1Z	**759,778**	**805,778**
Unit cost growth		-12,000
Excess program growth		-6,000
Program increase - two additional aircraft		64,000
12 UH-1Y/AH-1Z (AP-CY)	**57,232**	**49,208**
Funding carryover from reduction in aircraft		-8,024
14 MH-60R	**61,177**	**53,177**
Field activity funding early to need		-8,000
16 P-8A POSEIDON	**1,940,238**	**1,820,238**
Unit cost growth		-77,000
Excess program growth		-43,000
21 KC-130J	**128,870**	**118,882**
Contract savings carryover		-9,988
23 MQ-4 TRITON	**409,005**	**444,242**
Unit cost savings		-12,880
Unit cost growth		-32,750
Production engineering support excess growth		-14,133
Program increase - one additional system		95,000
25 MQ-8 UAV	**72,435**	**113,635**
Unit cost savings		-6,400
Program increase - four additional aircraft		47,600
27A C-40	**0**	**207,000**
Two additional aircraft for the Navy Reserve		207,000

P-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
29 AEA SYSTEMS	**51,900**	**50,457**
Other support growth (OSIP 007-11)		-1,033
Hardback cost growth (OSIP 007-11)		-410
30 AV-8 SERIES	**60,818**	**54,895**
Installation kit cost growth (OSIP 006-06)		-1,500
Excess installation (OSIP 006-06)		-4,423
32 F-18 SERIES	**1,023,492**	**988,192**
Program adjustment		-40,300
Program increase - electronic warfare upgrades		5,000
34 H-53 SERIES	**46,095**	**48,895**
Program increase - CH-53 readiness		2,800
35 SH-60 SERIES	**108,328**	**106,506**
Installations kit non-recurring cost growth (OSIP 018-12)		-1,822
36 H-1 SERIES	**46,333**	**69,733**
Program increase - H-1 readiness		23,400
39 E-2 SERIES	**32,949**	**30,949**
Excess support growth (OSIP 009-16)		-2,000
40 TRAINER A/C SERIES	**13,199**	**11,328**
Installation kit carryover (OSIP 005-04)		-1,871
42 C-130 SERIES	**61,788**	**53,788**
Prior year carryover		-8,000
45 E-6 SERIES	**222,077**	**208,544**
Installation kit non-recurring growth (OSIP 003-04)		-3,000
Excess support growth (OSIP 003-04)		-5,309
Installation kit non-recurring growth (OSIP 012-07)		-3,000
Training growth (OSIP 008-10)		-424
APU kit cost growth (OSIP 002-12)		-1,800
46 EXECUTIVE HELICOPTERS SERIES	**66,835**	**63,754**
Excess support growth (OSIP 014-02)		-3,081
48 T-45 SERIES	**114,887**	**105,267**
Main landing gear kit previously funded (OSIP 008-95)		-169
Installation previously funded (OSIP 008-95)		-2,858
Installation kits previously funded (OSIP 003-03)		-2,602
Support carryover (OSIP 006-16)		-3,991
49 POWER PLANT CHANGES	**16,893**	**14,893**
Excess support growth		-2,000
50 JPATS SERIES	**17,401**	**13,414**
Aircraft retrofit kits previously funded (OSIP 007-16)		-3,050
Installation cost growth (OSIP 007-16)		-937
51 COMMON ECM EQUIPMENT	**143,773**	**140,773**
ALQ-214 kit cost growth (OSIP 004-12)		-3,000
52 COMMON AVIONICS CHANGES	**164,839**	**159,839**
Excess cost growth		-5,000

P-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
54 ID SYSTEMS	**45,768**	**42,270**
Installation kit cost growth (OSIP 15-03)		-3,498
55 P-8 SERIES	**18,836**	**18,036**
Prior year carryover		-800
56 MAGTF EW FOR AVIATION	**5,676**	**4,244**
ALQ-23(V)3 installation kits previously funded (OSIP 010-13)		-1,432
58 RQ-7 SERIES	**3,534**	**1,534**
Prior year carryover		-2,000
60 F-35 STOVL SERIES	**34,928**	**31,436**
Support carryover (OSIP 023-14)		-3,492
61 F-35 CV SERIES	**26,004**	**21,833**
Support carryover (OSIP 016-14)		-1,050
Support carryover (OSIP 024-14)		-3,121
63 SPARES AND REPAIR PARTS	**1,407,626**	**1,602,551**
MQ-4 Triton spares excess to need		-10,575
Program increase - spares and repair parts for the Marine Corps		205,500
64 COMMON GROUND EQUIPMENT	**390,103**	**365,282**
H-60S technology refresh upgrades contract delay		-5,821
Prior year carryover		-19,000
66 WAR CONSUMABLES	**40,613**	**36,740**
BRU-66 unit cost growth		-3,873

WEAPONS PROCUREMENT, NAVY

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	WEAPONS PROCUREMENT, NAVY		
	BALLISTIC MISSILES		
	MODIFICATION OF MISSILES		
1	TRIDENT II MODS	1,103,086	1,099,086
	SUPPORT EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES		
2	MISSILE INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES	6,776	6,776
	TOTAL, BALLISTIC MISSILES	1,109,862	1,105,862
	OTHER MISSILES		
	STRATEGIC MISSILES		
3	TOMAHAWK	186,905	219,105
	TACTICAL MISSILES		
4	AMRAAM	204,697	197,263
5	SIDEWINDER	70,912	70,912
6	JSOW	2,232	2,232
7	STANDARD MISSILE	501,212	491,212
8	RAM	71,557	71,557
9	JOINT AIR GROUND MISSILE (JAGM)	26,200	21,922
12	STAND OFF PRECISION GUIDED MUNITION	3,316	3,316
13	AERIAL TARGETS	137,484	136,684
14	OTHER MISSILE SUPPORT	3,248	3,248
15	LRASM	29,643	29,643
	MODIFICATION OF MISSILES		
16	ESSM	52,935	50,817
18	HARM MODS	178,213	176,252
19	STANDARD MISSILES MODS	8,164	8,164
	SUPPORT EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES		
20	WEAPONS INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES	1,964	1,964
21	FLEET SATELLITE COMM FOLLOW-ON	36,723	33,723
	ORDNANCE SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		
22	ORDNANCE SUPPORT EQUIPMENT	59,096	59,096
	TOTAL, OTHER MISSILES	1,574,501	1,577,110

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	TORPEDOES AND RELATED EQUIPMENT		
	TORPEDOES AND RELATED EQUIP		
23	SSTD	5,910	5,910
24	MK-48 TORPEDO	44,537	43,037
25	ASW TARGETS	9,302	9,106
26	MK-54 TORPEDO MODS	98,092	97,092
	MOD OF TORPEDOES AND RELATED EQUIP		
27	MK-48 TORPEDO ADCAP MODS	46,139	46,139
28	QUICKSTRIKE MINE	1,236	1,236
	SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		
29	TORPEDO SUPPORT EQUIPMENT	60,061	54,971
30	ASW RANGE SUPPORT	3,706	3,706
	DESTINATION TRANSPORTATION		
31	FIRST DESTINATION TRANSPORTATION	3,804	3,804
	TOTAL, TORPEDOES AND RELATED EQUIPMENT	272,787	265,001
	OTHER WEAPONS		
	GUNS AND GUN MOUNTS		
32	SMALL ARMS AND WEAPONS	18,002	18,002
	MODIFICATION OF GUNS AND GUN MOUNTS		
33	CIWS MODS	50,900	50,900
34	COAST GUARD WEAPONS	25,295	25,295
35	GUN MOUNT MODS	77,003	77,003
36	LCS MODULE WEAPONS	2,776	2,776
37	CRUISER MODERNIZATION WEAPONS	---	67,200
38	AIRBORNE MINE NEUTRALIZATION SYSTEMS	15,753	13,753
	TOTAL, OTHER WEAPONS	189,729	254,929
40	SPARES AND REPAIR PARTS	62,383	62,383
	TOTAL, WEAPONS PROCUREMENT, NAVY	3,209,262	3,265,285

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS
[In thousands of dollars]

P-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
1 TRIDENT II MODS	1,103,086	1,099,086
Excess program growth		-4,000
3 TOMAHAWK	186,905	219,105
Tomahawk unit cost growth		-22,000
MK 14 canister unit cost growth		-2,000
Program increase		56,200
4 AMRAAM	204,697	197,263
Unit cost growth		-7,434
7 STANDARD MISSILE	501,212	491,212
ECP cost growth		-10,000
9 JOINT AIR GROUND MISSILE (JAGM)	26,200	21,922
Unit cost savings		-4,278
13 AERIAL TARGETS	137,484	136,684
Other targets cost savings		-500
Excess support growth		-300
16 ESSM	52,935	50,817
Excess program growth		-2,118
18 HARM MODS	178,213	176,252
Training equipment prior year carryover		-1,961
21 FLEET SATELLITE COMM FOLLOW-ON	36,723	33,723
Ground system updates excess growth		-3,000
24 MK-48 TORPEDO	44,537	43,037
Excess program growth		-1,500
25 ASW TARGETS	9,302	9,106
MK-39 targets unit cost growth		-196
26 MK-54 TORPEDO MODS	98,092	97,092
Diminishing manufacturing sources excess growth		-1,000
29 TORPEDO SUPPORT EQUIPMENT	60,061	54,971
VLA kits excess growth		-3,000
F8100 contract delays		-2,090
37 CRUISER MODERNIZATION WEAPONS	0	67,200
Transfer from SMOSF		67,200
38 AIRBORNE MINE NEUTRALIZATION SYSTEMS	15,753	13,753
Contract delay		-2,000

PROCUREMENT OF AMMUNITION, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	PROCUREMENT OF AMMO, NAVY & MARINE CORPS		
	PROC AMMO, NAVY		
	NAVY AMMUNITION		
1	GENERAL PURPOSE BOMBS	91,659	91,659
2	AIRBORNE ROCKETS, ALL TYPES	65,759	63,381
3	MACHINE GUN AMMUNITION	8,152	8,152
4	PRACTICE BOMBS	41,873	41,873
5	CARTRIDGES & CART ACTUATED DEVICES	54,002	48,635
6	AIR EXPENDABLE COUNTERMEASURES	57,034	56,609
7	JATOS	2,735	2,735
9	5 INCH/54 GUN AMMUNITION	19,220	17,620
10	INTERMEDIATE CALIBER GUN AMMUNITION	30,196	28,096
11	OTHER SHIP GUN AMMUNITION	39,009	46,209
12	SMALL ARMS & LANDING PARTY AMMO	46,727	46,727
13	PYROTECHNIC AND DEMOLITION	9,806	9,806
14	AMMUNITION LESS THAN $5 MILLION	2,900	2,900
	TOTAL, PROC AMMO, NAVY	469,072	464,402

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	PROC AMMO, MARINE CORPS		
	MARINE CORPS AMMUNITION		
15	SMALL ARMS AMMUNITION	27,958	27,022
17	40 MM, ALL TYPES	14,758	13,188
18	60MM, ALL TYPES	992	992
20	120MM, ALL TYPES	16,757	10,427
21	GRENADES, ALL TYPES	972	---
22	ROCKETS, ALL TYPES	14,186	12,436
23	ARTILLERY, ALL TYPES	68,656	64,906
24	DEMOLITION MUNITIONS, ALL TYPES	1,700	1,700
25	FUZE, ALL TYPES	26,088	20,640
27	AMMO MODERNIZATION	14,660	13,396
28	ITEMS LESS THAN $5 MILLION	8,569	4,569
	TOTAL, PROC AMMO, MARINE CORPS	195,296	169,276
	TOTAL, PROCUREMENT OF AMMO, NAVY & MARINE CORPS	664,368	633,678

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS
[In thousands of dollars]

P-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
2 AIRBORNE ROCKETS, ALL TYPES	**65,759**	**63,381**
APKWS product improvement and production engineering support growth		-2,378
5 CARTRIDGES & CART ACTUATED DEVICES	**54,002**	**48,635**
CCU-107 impulse CTG previously funded		-295
MK-122 rockets unit cost growth		-367
MK-123 and MK-124 underseat rocket motors contract delays		-615
Miscellaneous devices program growth		-4,090
6 AIR EXPENDABLE COUNTERMEASURES	**57,034**	**56,609**
ALE-55 unit cost growth		-425
9 5 INCH/54 GUN AMMUNITION	**19,220**	**17,620**
Renovation components previously funded		-1,600
10 INTERMEDIATE CALIBER GUN AMMUNITION	**30,196**	**28,096**
57MM MK 296 contract delay		-2,100
11 OTHER SHIP GUN AMMUNITION	**39,009**	**46,209**
Program increase		7,200
15 SMALL ARMS AMMUNITION	**27,958**	**27,022**
Production engineering excess growth		-936
17 40 MM, ALL TYPES	**14,758**	**13,188**
MK281 unit cost growth		-1,570
20 120MM, ALL TYPES	**16,757**	**10,427**
Precision extended range munition developmental delay		-6,330
21 GRENADES, ALL TYPES	**972**	**0**
Excess production engineering		-972
22 ROCKETS, ALL TYPES	**14,186**	**12,436**
HX07 contract delay		-1,750
23 ARTILLERY, ALL TYPES	**68,656**	**64,906**
HE M795 previously funded		-3,750
25 FUZE, ALL TYPES	**26,088**	**20,640**
Precision guided fuze unit cost savings		-4,320
Excess production engineering and ECP growth		-1,128
27 AMMO MODERNIZATION	**14,660**	**13,396**
Program underexecution		-1,264
28 ITEMS LESS THAN $5 MILLION	**8,569**	**4,569**
Unobligated balances		-4,000

SHIPBUILDING AND CONVERSION, NAVY

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	SHIPBUILDING & CONVERSION, NAVY		
	FLEET BALLISTIC MISSILE SHIPS		
1	OHIO REPLACEMENT SUBMARINE	773,138	773,138
	OTHER WARSHIPS		
2	CARRIER REPLACEMENT PROGRAM	1,291,783	1,255,783
3	CARRIER REPLACEMENT PROGRAM (AP-CY)	1,370,784	1,370,784
4	VIRGINIA CLASS SUBMARINE	3,187,985	3,187,985
5	VIRGINIA CLASS SUBMARINE (AP-CY)	1,767,234	1,852,234
6	CVN REFUELING OVERHAUL	1,743,220	1,699,120
7	CVN REFUELING OVERHAULS (AP-CY)	248,599	233,149
8	DDG 1000	271,756	271,756
9	DDG-51	3,211,292	3,614,792
11	LITTORAL COMBAT SHIP	1,125,625	1,563,692
	TOTAL, OTHER WARSHIPS	14,218,278	15,049,295
	AMPHIBIOUS SHIPS		
14	LPD-17	---	1,786,000
16	LHA REPLACEMENT	1,623,024	1,617,719
	TOTAL, AMPHIBIOUS SHIPS	1,623,024	3,403,719

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	AUXILIARIES, CRAFT, AND PRIOR-YEAR PROGRAM COSTS		
20	TAO FLEET OILER (AP-CY)	73,079	73,079
22	MOORED TRAINING SHIP	624,527	624,527
25	OUTFITTING	666,158	626,158
26	SHIP TO SHORE CONNECTOR	128,067	128,067
27	SERVICE CRAFT	65,192	65,192
28	LCAC SLEP	1,774	82,074
29	YP CRAFT MAINTENANCE/ROH/SLEP	21,363	21,363
30	COMPLETION OF PY SHIPBUILDING PROGRAMS	160,274	160,274
31	POLAR ICEBREAKERS (AP)	---	150,000
	TOTAL, AUXILIARIES, CRAFT, AND PRIOR-YEAR PROGRAM	1,740,434	1,930,734
	TOTAL, SHIPBUILDING & CONVERSION, NAVY	18,354,874	21,156,886

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS
[In thousands of dollars]

P-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
2 CARRIER REPLACEMENT PROGRAM	**1,291,783**	**1,255,783**
Excess cost growth		-20,000
Reduction in change orders growth		-16,000
5 VIRGINIA CLASS SUBMARINE (AP-CY)	**1,767,234**	**1,852,234**
Program increase		85,000
6 CVN REFUELING OVERHAUL	**1,743,220**	**1,699,120**
C4ISR cost growth		-7,500
Integrated communication network cost growth		-5,000
UCLASS early to need		-26,700
Aviation equipment and support cost growth		-2,100
ROAR cost growth		-2,800
7 CVN REFUELING OVERHAULS (AP-CY)	**248,599**	**233,149**
Other costs growth		-7,500
Basic plans growth		-4,300
Electronics cost growth		-3,650
9 DDG-51	**3,211,292**	**3,614,792**
Program increase - only for DDG-51 Flight IIA ship partially funded in fiscal year 2016		433,000
Change orders reduction from two ships requested for fiscal year 2017		-29,500
11 LITTORAL COMBAT SHIP	**1,125,625**	**1,563,692**
Basic construction excess growth		-21,000
Other electronics cost growth		-3,933
Other costs excess growth		-12,000
Program increase - one additional ship		475,000
14 LPD-17	**0**	**1,786,000**
Program increase - additional funding to support LPD 29		1,550,000
Realignment of fiscal year 2016 funds to support LPD 29		236,000
16 LHA REPLACEMENT	**1,623,024**	**1,617,719**
Excess change orders		-5,305
25 OUTFITTING	**666,158**	**626,158**
Outiftting and post delivery funds early to need		-40,000
28 LCAC SLEP	**1,774**	**82,074**
Program increase		80,300
31 POLAR ICEBREAKERS (AP)	**0**	**150,000**
Program increase - advance procurement for the polar icebreaker recapitalization project		150,000

DDG–51 FLIGHT IIA DESTROYERS

The Navy currently is procuring DDG–51 Flight IIA destroyers under a fiscal year 2013 to fiscal year 2017 multi-year procurement shipbuilding contract awarded in June 2013, as authorized by section 8010 of Public Law 113–6. Additionally, the Navy is addressing increasing ballistic and cruise missile threats through the development and acquisition of an Air and Missile Defense Radar, which is planned for integration on the DDG–51 class of ships through an engineering change proposal, resulting in a new Flight III configuration. However, a recent Government Accountability Office report (GAO 16–613) details concerns regarding a lack of sufficient acquisition and limited detail design knowledge to support the Navy's current Flight III procurement strategy. Further concerns remain regarding the full costs of DDG–51 Flight III destroyers. Therefore, the Secretary of the Navy should award and complete the additional DDG–51 ship, fully funded in fiscal years 2016 and 2017, as an additional DDG–51 Flight IIA ship. The Secretary of the Navy is directed to expeditiously award this ship construction contract.

POLAR ICEBREAKER RECAPITALIZATION PROJECT

The Navy and the Coast Guard are collaborating to refine requirements and an acquisition strategy for procurement of an affordable polar icebreaker. This collaboration continues to refine program costs and requirements in an effort to award a detailed design and construction contract for the lead ship in fiscal year 2019. The agreement supports this effort and provides $150,000,000 in advance procurement funding to buy long-lead time material for the program's initial ship. The Coast Guard is encouraged to budget for follow-on efforts.

OTHER PROCUREMENT, NAVY

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	OTHER PROCUREMENT, NAVY		
	SHIPS SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		
	SHIP PROPULSION EQUIPMENT		
3	SURFACE POWER EQUIPMENT	15,514	15,514
4	HYBRID ELECTRIC DRIVE (HED)	40,132	35,933
	GENERATORS		
5	SURFACE COMBATANT HM&E	29,974	27,447
	NAVIGATION EQUIPMENT		
6	OTHER NAVIGATION EQUIPMENT	63,942	62,971
	PERISCOPES		
7	SUB PERISCOPES AND IMAGING SUPPORT EQUIPMENT PROGRAM	136,421	133,963
	OTHER SHIPBOARD EQUIPMENT		
9	DDG MOD	367,766	364,614
10	FIREFIGHTING EQUIPMENT	14,743	13,752
11	COMMAND AND CONTROL SWITCHBOARD	2,140	2,140
12	LHA/LHD MIDLIFE	24,939	22,768
14	POLLUTION CONTROL EQUIPMENT	20,191	16,510
15	SUBMARINE SUPPORT EQUIPMENT	8,995	8,995
16	VIRGINIA CLASS SUPPORT EQUIPMENT	66,838	63,908
17	LCS CLASS SUPPORT EQUIPMENT	54,823	43,819
18	SUBMARINE BATTERIES	23,359	22,459
19	LPD CLASS SUPPORT EQUIPMENT	40,321	33,992
20	DOG-1000 SUPPORT EQUIPMENT	33,404	33,404
21	STRATEGIC PLATFORM SUPPORT EQUIP	15,836	14,571
22	DSSP EQUIPMENT	806	806
23	CRUISER MODERNIZATION	---	248,820
24	LCAC	3,090	3,090
25	UNDERWATER EOD PROGRAMS	24,350	24,350
26	ITEMS LESS THAN $5 MILLION	88,719	64,054

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
27	CHEMICAL WARFARE DETECTORS	2,873	2,873
28	SUBMARINE LIFE SUPPORT SYSTEM	6,043	4,543
	REACTOR PLANT EQUIPMENT		
30	REACTOR COMPONENTS	342,158	342,158
	OCEAN ENGINEERING		
31	DIVING AND SALVAGE EQUIPMENT	8,973	8,176
	SMALL BOATS		
32	STANDARD BOATS	43,684	59,033
	PRODUCTION FACILITIES EQUIPMENT		
34	OPERATING FORCES IPE	75,421	71,921
	OTHER SHIP SUPPORT		
35	NUCLEAR ALTERATIONS	172,718	172,718
36	LCS COMMON MISSION MODULES EQUIPMENT	27,840	15,670
37	LCS MCM MISSION MODULES	57,146	29,724
38	LCS ASW MISSION MODULES	31,952	---
39	LCS SUW MISSION MODULES	22,466	21,064
	LOGISTICS SUPPORT		
41	LSD MIDLIFE	10,813	10,813
	TOTAL, SHIPS SUPPORT EQUIPMENT	1,878,390	1,996,573
	COMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRONICS EQUIPMENT		
	SHIP SONARS		
42	SPQ-9B RADAR	14,363	10,376
43	AN/SQQ-89 SURF ASW COMBAT SYSTEM	90,029	87,824
45	SSN ACOUSTICS EQUIPMENT	248,765	268,765
46	UNDERSEA WARFARE SUPPORT EQUIPMENT	7,163	7,163

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	ASW ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT		
48	SUBMARINE ACOUSTIC WARFARE SYSTEM	21,291	21,291
49	SSTD	6,893	6,893
50	FIXED SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM	145,701	145,701
51	SURTASS	36,136	33,743
	ELECTRONIC WARFARE EQUIPMENT		
53	AN/SLQ-32	274,892	244,001
	RECONNAISSANCE EQUIPMENT		
54	SHIPBOARD IW EXPLOIT	170,733	169,021
55	AUTOMATED IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM (AIS)	958	764
	OTHER SHIP ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT		
57	COOPERATIVE ENGAGEMENT CAPABILITY	22,034	17,965
59	NAVAL TACTICAL COMMAND SUPPORT SYSTEM (NTCSS)	12,336	12,336
60	ATDLS	30,105	27,921
61	NAVY COMMAND AND CONTROL SYSTEM (NCCS)	4,556	4,556
62	MINESWEEPING SYSTEM REPLACEMENT	56,675	35,444
63	SHALLOW WATER MCM	8,875	8,875
64	NAVSTAR GPS RECEIVERS (SPACE)	12,752	7,701
65	ARMED FORCES RADIO AND TV	4,577	4,577
66	STRATEGIC PLATFORM SUPPORT EQUIP	8,972	8,972
	AVIATION ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT		
69	ASHORE ATC EQUIPMENT	75,068	71,892
70	AFLOAT ATC EQUIPMENT	33,484	32,011
76	ID SYSTEMS	22,177	22,177
77	NAVAL MISSION PLANNING SYSTEMS	14,273	13,910
80	TACTICAL/MOBILE C41 SYSTEMS	27,927	24,178

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	OTHER SHORE ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT		
81	DCGS-N	12,676	11,610
82	CANES	212,030	207,730
83	RADIAC	8,092	8,092
84	CANES-INTELL	36,013	35,313
85	GPETE	6,428	6,428
87	INTEG COMBAT SYSTEM TEST FACILITY	8,376	8,376
88	EMI CONTROL INSTRUMENTATION	3,971	3,971
89	ITEMS LESS THAN $5 MILLION	58,721	47,664
	SHIPBOARD COMMUNICATIONS		
90	SHIPBOARD TACTICAL COMMUNICATIONS	17,366	10,383
91	SHIP COMMUNICATIONS AUTOMATION	102,479	101,087
92	COMMUNICATIONS ITEMS UNDER $5M	10,403	10,403
	SUBMARINE COMMUNICATIONS		
93	SUBMARINE BROADCAST SUPPORT	34,151	31,459
94	SUBMARINE COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT	64,529	62,879
	SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS		
95	SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS	14,414	14,414
96	NAVY MULTIBAND TERMINAL (NMT)	38,365	33,992
	SHORE COMMUNICATIONS		
97	JCS COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT	4,156	4,156
	CRYPTOGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT		
99	INFO SYSTEMS SECURITY PROGRAM (ISSP)	85,694	93,205
100	MIO INTEL EXPLOITATION TEAM	920	920
	CRYPTOLOGIC EQUIPMENT		
101	CRYPTOLOGIC COMMUNICATIONS EQUIP	21,098	21,098
	OTHER ELECTRONIC SUPPORT		
102	COAST GUARD EQUIPMENT	32,291	32,291
	TOTAL, COMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRONICS EQUIPMENT	2,122,908	2,033,528

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	AVIATION SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		
	SONOBUOYS		
103	SONOBUOYS - ALL TYPES	162,588	158,588
	AIRCRAFT SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		
104	WEAPONS RANGE SUPPORT EQUIPMENT	58,116	58,116
105	AIRCRAFT SUPPORT EQUIPMENT	120,324	115,551
106	METEOROLOGICAL EQUIPMENT	29,253	29,253
107	OTHER PHOTOGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT (DCRS/DPL)	632	632
108	AIRBORNE MINE COUNTERMEASURES	29,097	27,542
109	AVIATION SUPPORT EQUIPMENT	39,099	29,528
	TOTAL, AVIATION SUPPORT EQUIPMENT	439,109	419,210
	ORDNANCE SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		
	SHIP GUN SYSTEM EQUIPMENT		
110	SHIP GUN SYSTEMS EQUIPMENT	6,191	6,191
	SHIP MISSILE SYSTEMS EQUIPMENT		
111	SHIP MISSILE SUPPORT EQUIPMENT	320,446	307,446
112	TOMAHAWK SUPPORT EQUIPMENT	71,046	67,062
	FBM SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		
113	STRATEGIC MISSILE SYSTEMS EQUIP	215,138	215,138
	ASW SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		
114	SSN COMBAT CONTROL SYSTEMS	130,715	130,715
115	ASW SUPPORT EQUIPMENT	26,431	26,431
	OTHER ORDNANCE SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		
116	EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL EQUIP	11,821	11,821
117	ITEMS LESS THAN $5 MILLION	6,243	6,243
	OTHER EXPENDABLE ORDNANCE		
118	SUBMARINE TRAINING DEVICE MODS	48,020	46,746
120	SURFACE TRAINING EQUIPMENT	97,514	87,714
	TOTAL, ORDNANCE SUPPORT EQUIPMENT	933,565	905,507

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	CIVIL ENGINEERING SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		
121	PASSENGER CARRYING VEHICLES	8,853	8,853
122	GENERAL PURPOSE TRUCKS	4,928	4,794
123	CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE EQUIP	18,527	18,527
124	FIRE FIGHTING EQUIPMENT	13,569	13,569
125	TACTICAL VEHICLES	14,917	13,824
126	AMPHIBIOUS EQUIPMENT	7,676	7,676
127	POLLUTION CONTROL EQUIPMENT	2,321	2,321
128	ITEMS UNDER $5 MILLION	12,459	8,436
129	PHYSICAL SECURITY VEHICLES	1,095	1,095
	TOTAL, CIVIL ENGINEERING SUPPORT EQUIPMENT	84,345	79,095
	SUPPLY SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		
131	SUPPLY EQUIPMENT	16,023	16,023
133	FIRST DESTINATION TRANSPORTATION	5,115	5,115
134	SPECIAL PURPOSE SUPPLY SYSTEMS	295,471	295,471
	TOTAL, SUPPLY SUPPORT EQUIPMENT	316,609	316,609

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	PERSONNEL AND COMMAND SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		
	TRAINING DEVICES		
136	TRAINING AND EDUCATION EQUIPMENT	9,504	6,347
	COMMAND SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		
137	COMMAND SUPPORT EQUIPMENT	37,180	29,980
139	MEDICAL SUPPORT EQUIPMENT	4,128	11,959
141	NAVAL MIP SUPPORT EQUIPMENT	1,925	1,925
142	OPERATING FORCES SUPPORT EQUIPMENT	4,777	4,777
143	C4ISR EQUIPMENT	9,073	9,073
144	ENVIRONMENTAL SUPPORT EQUIPMENT	21,107	19,439
145	PHYSICAL SECURITY EQUIPMENT	100,906	100,906
146	ENTERPRISE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	67,544	66,200
150	NEXT GENERATION ENTERPRISE SERVICE	98,216	98,216
	TOTAL, PERSONNEL AND COMMAND SUPPORT EQUIPMENT	354,360	348,822
151	SPARES AND REPAIR PARTS	199,660	199,660
	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	9,915	9,915
	TOTAL, OTHER PROCUREMENT, NAVY	6,338,861	6,308,919

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS
[In thousands of dollars]

P-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
4 HYBRID ELECTRIC DRIVE (HED)	40,132	35,933
Installation early to need		-4,199
5 SURFACE COMBATANT HM&E	29,974	27,447
Ship control systems unit cost growth		-2,180
Excess installation		-347
6 OTHER NAVIGATION EQUIPMENT	63,942	62,971
Surface AN/WSN-9 excess installation		-971
8 SUB PERISCOPES, IMAGING AND SUPT EQUIP PROG	136,421	133,963
ISIS technical insertion NRE growth		-2,458
9 DDG MOD	367,766	364,614
Wireless communications installation early to need		-796
AWS upgrade kit cost growth		-1,500
VLS upgrades engineering services excess growth		-856
10 FIREFIGHTING EQUIPMENT	14,743	13,752
EEBD prior year carryover		-262
Magazine sprinkling improvement prior year carryover		-255
Firefighter access kits early to need		-474
12 LHA/LHD MIDLIFE	24,939	22,768
Brushless generator for PMP installation early to need		-1,000
HESC engineering services excess growth		-1,171
14 POLLUTION CONTROL EQUIPMENT	20,191	16,510
HF062 lightering systems unit cost growth		-850
HF031 pollution control equipment field changes (expeditionary warfare) previously funded		-2,831
16 VIRGINIA CLASS SUPPORT EQUIPMENT	66,838	63,908
Ship control system modernization backfit excess installation		-2,930
17 LCS CLASS SUPPORT EQUIPMENT	54,823	43,819
MT-30 gas turbine engine unit cost growth		-10,000
Prior year carryover		-1,004
18 SUBMARINE BATTERIES	23,359	22,459
OHIO class main storage battery previously funded		-900
19 LPD CLASS SUPPORT EQUIPMENT	40,321	33,992
HM&E electrical upgrades kits unit cost growth		-1,463
Installation funding early to need due to contract delays		-4,866
21 STRATEGIC PLATFORM SUPPORT EQUIP	15,836	14,571
Equipment HM&E SWS/SS alteration previously funded		-1,265
23 CG MODERNIZATION	0	248,820
Transfer from SMOSF		248,820

P-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
26 ITEMS LESS THAN $5 MILLION	**88,719**	**64,054**
Propellers and shafts unit cost growth		-849
Training test equipment unjustified request		-3,800
LHD/LHA davits excess installation		-790
JSF support prior year carryover		-838
Machinery plant upgrades installation early to need		-6,135
LSD boat davit installation early to need		-2,153
PCMS excess to need		-10,100
28 SUBMARINE LIFE SUPPORT SYSTEM	**6,043**	**4,543**
Prior year carryover		-1,500
31 DIVING AND SALVAGE EQUIPMENT	**8,973**	**8,176**
Contaminated water diving equipment unit cost growth		-213
Submarine support system unit cost growth		-584
32 STANDARD BOATS	**43,684**	**59,033**
Prior year carryover		-1,051
Program increase		16,400
34 OPERATING FORCES IPE	**75,421**	**71,921**
Shipyard capital investment program excess growth		-3,500
36 LCS COMMON MISSION MODULES EQUIPMENT	**27,840**	**15,670**
Mission bay training devices excess growth		-12,170
37 LCS MCM MISSION MODULES	**57,146**	**29,724**
ALMDS unit cost growth		-4,822
Unmanned surface sweep system early to need		-11,800
Knifefish early to need		-10,800
38 LCS ASW MISSION MODULES	**31,952**	**0**
ASW mission module early to need		-31,952
39 LCS SUW MISSION MODULES	**22,466**	**21,064**
MK-46 gun weapons system prior year contract savings		-1,402
42 SPQ-9B RADAR	**14,363**	**10,376**
AN/SPQ-9B engineering change proposals contract delays		-3,636
AN/SPQ-9B radar FMP kit cost growth		-351
43 AN/SQQ-89 SURF ASW COMBAT SYSTEM	**90,029**	**87,824**
Flight I/II upgrade installation funding early to need		-2,205
45 SSN ACOUSTIC EQUIPMENT	**248,765**	**268,765**
Program increase		20,000
51 SURTASS	**36,136**	**33,743**
Integrated common processor kit cost growth		-2,393
53 AN/SLQ-32	**274,892**	**244,001**
Block 3 excess support		-4,270
Block 3T installation prior year carryover		-2,981
Block 2 unit cost growth		-2,640
Block 3 concurrency		-21,000
54 SHIPBOARD IW EXPLOIT	**170,733**	**169,021**
Increment F kit cost growth		-1,712

P-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
55 AUTOMATED IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM (AIS)	**958**	**764**
AIS procurement unit cost growth		-194
57 COOPERATIVE ENGAGEMENT CAPABILITY	**22,034**	**17,965**
SDP processor backfits prior year carryover		-755
Common array block antenna prior year carryover		-3,314
60 ATDLS	**30,105**	**27,921**
Installation funding early to need		-2,184
62 MINESWEEPING SYSTEM REPLACEMENT	**56,675**	**35,444**
SSQ-94 trainer excess growth		-916
MSF measurement system upgrade excess growth		-4,518
Knifefish early to need		-11,807
Unmanned influence sweep system trainers early to need		-3,990
64 NAVSTAR GPS RECEIVERS (SPACE)	**12,752**	**7,701**
NAVWAR kit cost growth		-5,051
69 ASHORE ATC EQUIPMENT	**75,068**	**71,892**
AN/FPN-63 par tech refresh kit cost growth		-3,176
70 AFLOAT ATC EQUIPMENT	**33,484**	**32,011**
Production engineering excess growth		-1,473
77 NAVAL MISSION PLANNING SYSTEMS	**14,273**	**13,910**
JMPS-M flight planning seat unit cost growth		-363
80 TACTICAL/MOBILE C41 SYSTEMS	**27,927**	**24,178**
MTOC kit cost growth		-2,986
Excess installation		-763
81 DCGS-N	**12,676**	**11,610**
DCGS-N tech refresh kit cost growth		-526
Excess installation		-540
82 CANES	**212,030**	**207,730**
Installation funding early to need		-4,300
84 CANES-INTELL	**36,013**	**35,313**
Installation funding early to need		-700
89 ITEMS LESS THAN $5 MILLION	**58,721**	**47,664**
Calibration standards unit cost growth		-1,798
DBR engineering change proposals excess growth		-5,259
AN/SPS-48G radar excess installation		-4,000
90 SHIPBOARD TACTICAL COMMUNICATIONS	**17,366**	**10,383**
DMR IW and MUOS waveforms upgrade kits previously funded		-5,869
Installation funding early to need		-1,114
91 SHIP COMMUNICATIONS AUTOMATION	**102,479**	**101,087**
Shore tactical assured command and control kit cost growth		-1,392
93 SUBMARINE BROADCAST SUPPORT	**34,151**	**31,459**
TACAMO unit cost growth		-2,692

P-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
94 SUBMARINE COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT	**64,529**	**62,879**
Reliability improvements unit cost growth		-1,650
96 NAVY MULTIBAND TERMINAL (NMT)	**38,365**	**33,992**
Afloat sub kit cost growth		-1,319
Ashore excess installation		-3,054
99 INFO SYSTEMS SECURITY PROGRAM (ISSP)	**85,694**	**93,205**
Key management - ashore previously funded		-2,489
Program increase		10,000
103 SONOBUOYS - ALL TYPES	**162,588**	**158,588**
Unit cost growth		-4,000
105 AIRCRAFT SUPPORT EQUIPMENT	**120,324**	**115,551**
Lighting engineering change proposals excess growth		-1,118
Blk I/ISNS kits excess installation		-751
SRQ(KU)-4 kit cost growth		-2,904
108 AIRBORNE MINE COUNTERMEASURES	**29,097**	**27,542**
Modifications unjustified growth		-1,555
109 AVIATION SUPPORT EQUIPMENT	**39,099**	**29,528**
EPUK HW/SW excess growth		-861
JHMCS night vision unit cost growth		-1,172
Program delay		-7,538
111 SHIP MISSILE SUPPORT EQUIPMENT	**320,446**	**307,446**
AEGIS training and readiness center upgrade early to need		-8,000
NATO seasparrow previously funded		-5,000
112 TOMAHAWK SUPPORT EQUIPMENT	**71,046**	**67,062**
TTWCS product improvement previously funded		-3,984
118 SUBMARINE TRAINING DEVICE MODS	**48,020**	**46,746**
Navigation training unjustified growth		-1,274
120 SURFACE TRAINING EQUIPMENT	**97,514**	**87,714**
Unjustified growth		-5,000
BFFT ship sets previously funded		-4,800
122 GENERAL PURPOSE TRUCKS	**4,928**	**4,794**
Truck unit cost growth		-134
125 TACTICAL VEHICLES	**14,917**	**13,824**
JLTV unit cost savings		-1,093
128 ITEMS UNDER $5 MILLION	**12,459**	**8,436**
Prior year carryover		-4,023
136 TRAINING AND EDUCATION EQUIPMENT	**9,504**	**6,347**
Lifecycle management unit cost growth		-363
Ballistic missile defense unit cost growth		-2,794
137 COMMAND SUPPORT EQUIPMENT	**37,180**	**29,980**
CNIC building control systems unjustified request		-7,200

P-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
139 MEDICAL SUPPORT EQUIPMENT	**4,128**	**11,959**
Program increase - expeditionary medical facilities		7,831
144 ENVIRONMENTAL SUPPORT EQUIPMENT	**21,107**	**19,439**
Master clock systems unit cost growth		-879
Integrated sub bottom profiler unit cost growth		-789
146 ENTERPRISE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	**67,544**	**66,200**
Telephony replacement excess installation		-1,344

PROCUREMENT, MARINE CORPS

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	PROCUREMENT, MARINE CORPS		
	WEAPONS AND COMBAT VEHICLES		
	TRACKED COMBAT VEHICLES		
1	AAV7A1 PIP	73,785	69,785
2	LAV PIP	53,423	48,219
	ARTILLERY AND OTHER WEAPONS		
3	EXPEDITIONARY FIRE SUPPORT SYSTEM	3,360	3,360
4	155MM LIGHTWEIGHT TOWED HOWITZER	3,318	3,318
5	HIGH MOBILITY ARTILLERY ROCKET SYSTEM	33,725	31,169
6	WEAPONS AND COMBAT VEHICLES UNDER $5 MILLION	8,181	7,191
	OTHER SUPPORT		
7	MODIFICATION KITS	15,250	15,250
8	WEAPONS ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM	---	1,000
	TOTAL, WEAPONS AND COMBAT VEHICLES	191,042	179,292
	GUIDED MISSILES AND EQUIPMENT		
	GUIDED MISSILES		
9	GROUND BASED AIR DEFENSE	9,170	9,170
10	JAVELIN	1,009	1,009
11	FOLLOW ON TO SMAW	24,666	22,918
12	ANTI-ARMOR WEAPONS SYSTEM-HEAVY (AAWS-H)	17,080	17,080
	TOTAL, GUIDED MISSILES AND EQUIPMENT	51,925	50,177

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	COMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRONICS EQUIPMENT		
	COMMAND AND CONTROL SYSTEMS		
15	COMMON AVIATION COMMAND AND CONTROL SYS	47,312	52,487
	REPAIR AND TEST EQUIPMENT		
16	REPAIR AND TEST EQUIPMENT	16,469	14,469
	COMMAND AND CONTROL		
19	ITEMS UNDER $5 MILLION (COMM & ELEC)	7,433	6,839
20	AIR OPERATIONS C2 SYSTEMS	15,917	15,917
	RADAR + EQUIPMENT (NON-TEL)		
21	RADAR SYSTEMS	17,772	17,772
22	GROUND/AIR TASK ORIENTED RADAR	123,758	122,693
23	RQ-21 UAS	80,217	78,217
	INTELL/COMM EQUIPMENT (NON-TEL)		
24	GCSS-MC	1,089	1,089
25	FIRE SUPPORT SYSTEM	13,258	13,258
26	INTELLIGENCE SUPPORT EQUIPMENT	56,379	51,213
29	RQ-11 UAV	1,976	1,976
31	DCGS-MC	1,149	1,149
32	UAS PAYLOADS	2,971	2,971
	OTHER COMM/ELEC EQUIPMENT (NON-TEL)		
34	NEXT GENERATION ENTERPRISE NETWORK (NGEN)	76,302	68,083
	OTHER SUPPORT (NON-TEL)		
35	COMMON COMPUTER RESOURCES	41,802	38,802
36	COMMAND POST SYSTEMS	90,924	90,924
37	RADIO SYSTEMS	43,714	43,714
38	COMM SWITCHING & CONTROL SYSTEMS	66,383	62,383
39	COMM & ELEC INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT	30,229	30,229
	TOTAL, COMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRONICS EQUIPMENT	735,054	714,185
	SUPPORT VEHICLES		
	ADMINISTRATIVE VEHICLES		
41	COMMERCIAL CARGO VEHICLES	88,312	84,812

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	TACTICAL VEHICLES		
43	MOTOR TRANSPORT MODIFICATIONS	13,292	13,292
45	JOINT LIGHT TACTICAL VEHICLE	113,230	104,230
46	FAMILY OF TACTICAL TRAILERS	2,691	2,691
	TOTAL, SUPPORT VEHICLES	217,525	205,025
	ENGINEER AND OTHER EQUIPMENT		
	ENGINEER AND OTHER EQUIPMENT		
48	ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL EQUIP ASSORT	18	---
50	TACTICAL FUEL SYSTEMS	78	---
51	POWER EQUIPMENT ASSORTED	17,973	17,973
52	AMPHIBIOUS SUPPORT EQUIPMENT	7,371	7,371
53	EOD SYSTEMS	14,021	14,021
	MATERIALS HANDLING EQUIPMENT		
54	PHYSICAL SECURITY EQUIPMENT	31,523	24,582
	GENERAL PROPERTY		
58	TRAINING DEVICES	33,658	33,658
60	FAMILY OF CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT	21,315	20,278
61	FAMILY OF INTERNALLY TRANSPORTABLE VEHICLE (ITV)	9,654	9,282
	OTHER SUPPORT		
62	ITEMS LESS THAN $5 MILLION	6,026	6,026
	TOTAL, ENGINEER AND OTHER EQUIPMENT	141,637	133,191
64	SPARES AND REPAIR PARTS	22,848	22,848
	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	2,738	2,738
	TOTAL, PROCUREMENT, MARINE CORPS	1,362,769	1,307,456

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS
[In thousands of dollars]

P-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
1 AAV7A1 PIP	73,785	69,785
Excess program growth		-4,000
2 LAV PIP	53,423	48,219
Unit cost savings		-3,024
Program management support excess growth		-964
Training devices prior year carryover		-1,216
5 HIGH MOBILITY ARTILLERY ROCKET SYSTEM	33,725	31,169
Unit cost growth		-2,556
6 WEAPONS AND COMBAT VEHICLES UNDER $5 MILLION	8,181	7,191
Unjustified growth		-990
8 WEAPONS ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM	0	1,000
Program increase		1,000
11 FOLLOW ON TO SMAW	24,666	22,918
Unjustified growth		-1,748
15 COMMON AVIATION COMMAND AND CONTROL SYS	47,312	52,487
Unit cost growth		-825
Program increase		6,000
16 REPAIR AND TEST EQUIPMENT	16,469	14,469
Lack of budget justification materials		-2,000
19 ITEMS UNDER $5 MILLION (COMM & ELEC)	7,433	6,839
Unjustified growth		-594
22 GROUND/AIR TASK ORIENTED RADAR	123,758	122,693
Excess engineering change orders		-1,065
23 RQ-21 UAS	80,217	78,217
Inconsistent budget justification		-2,000
26 INTELLIGENCE SUPPORT EQUIPMENT	56,379	51,213
Software enhancement unjustified growth		-5,166
34 NEXT GENERATION ENTERPRISE NETWORK (NGEN)	76,302	68,083
Unjustified growth		-8,219
35 COMMON COMPUTER RESOURCES	41,802	38,802
Prior year carryover		-3,000
38 COMM SWITCHING & CONTROL SYSTEMS	66,383	62,383
Program execution		-4,000
41 COMMERCIAL CARGO VEHICLES	88,312	84,812
Excess program growth		-3,500
45 JOINT LIGHT TACTICAL VEHICLE	113,230	104,230
Test support unjustified growth		-9,000

P-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
48 ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL EQUIP ASSORT	**18**	**0**
Unjustified request		-18
50 TACTICAL FUEL SYSTEMS	**78**	**0**
Unjustified request		-78
54 PHYSICAL SECURITY EQUIPMENT	**31,523**	**24,582**
Collateral equipment early to need		-6,941
60 FAMILY OF CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT	**21,315**	**20,278**
Garrison mobile engineering equipment excess growth		-1,037
61 FAMILY OF INTERNALLY TRANSPORTABLE VEHICLE (ITV)	**9,654**	**9,282**
Testing and FDT excess growth		-372

AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE		
	COMBAT AIRCRAFT		
	TACTICAL FORCES		
1	F-35	4,401,894	4,602,894
2	F-35 (AP-CY)	404,500	404,500
	TOTAL, COMBAT AIRCRAFT	4,806,394	5,007,394
	AIRLIFT AIRCRAFT		
	OTHER AIRLIFT		
3	KC-46A TANKER	2,884,591	2,567,191
4	C-130J	145,655	305,655
6	HC-130J	317,576	317,576
7	HC-130J	20,000	20,000
8	MC-130J	548,358	499,358
9	MC-130J (AP)	50,000	50,000
	TOTAL, AIRLIFT AIRCRAFT	3,966,180	3,759,780
	OTHER AIRCRAFT		
	HELICOPTERS		
10	UH-1N REPLACEMENT	18,337	93,337
	MISSION SUPPORT AIRCRAFT		
12	CIVIL AIR PATROL A/C	2,637	10,337
	OTHER AIRCRAFT		
13	TARGET DRONES	114,656	114,656
14	RQ-4 UAV	12,966	7,217
15	MQ-9	122,522	122,522
15X	COMPASS CALL	---	103,000
	TOTAL, OTHER AIRCRAFT	271,118	451,069

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	MODIFICATION OF INSERVICE AIRCRAFT		
	STRATEGIC AIRCRAFT		
16	B-2A	46,729	46,729
17	B-1B	116,319	116,319
18	B-52	109,020	109,020
	TACTICAL AIRCRAFT		
20	A-10	1,289	1,289
21	F-15	105,685	145,405
22	F-16	97,331	113,231
23	F-22A	163,008	146,008
24	F-35 MODIFICATIONS	175,811	115,811
25	INCREMENT 3.2b	76,410	76,410
26	INCREMENT 3.2b (AP-CY)	2,000	2,000
	AIRLIFT AIRCRAFT		
27	C-5	24,192	24,192
29	C-17A	21,555	17,455
30	C-21	5,439	439
31	C-32A	35,235	30,235
32	C-37A	5,004	5,004
	TRAINER AIRCRAFT		
33	GLIDER MODS	394	394
34	T6	12,765	12,765
35	T-1	25,073	13,373
36	T-38	45,090	33,590

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	OTHER AIRCRAFT		
37	U-2 MODS	36,074	36,074
38	KC-10A (ATCA)	4,570	4,570
39	C-12	1,995	1,995
40	VC-25A MOD	102,670	102,670
41	C-40	13,984	13,984
42	C-130	9,168	106,668
43	C130J MODS	89,424	89,424
44	C-135	64,161	64,161
45	COMPASS CALL MODS	130,257	130,257
46	RC-135	211,438	211,438
47	E-3	82,786	82,786
48	E-4	53,348	53,348
49	E-8	6,244	25,944
50	AIRBORNE WARNING AND CONTROL SYSTEM	223,427	223,427
51	FAMILY OF BEYOND LINE-OF-SIGHT TERMINALS	4,673	4,673
52	H-1	9,007	9,007
54	H-60	91,357	86,357
55	RQ-4 UAV MODS	32,045	32,045
56	HC/MC-130 MODIFICATIONS	30,767	30,767
57	OTHER AIRCRAFT	33,886	33,886
59	MQ-9 MODS	141,929	149,929
60	CV-22 MODS	63,395	63,395
	TOTAL, MODIFICATION OF INSERVICE AIRCRAFT	2,504,954	2,566,474

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	AIRCRAFT SPARES AND REPAIR PARTS		
61	INITIAL SPARES/REPAIR PARTS	686,491	834,691
	AIRCRAFT SUPPORT EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES		
	COMMON SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		
62	AIRCRAFT REPLACEMENT SUPPORT EQUIP	121,935	48,935
	POST PRODUCTION SUPPORT		
63	B-2A	154	154
64	B-2A	43,330	43,330
65	B-52	28,125	28,125
66	C-17A	23,559	83,859
69	F-15 POST PRODUCTION SUPPORT	2,980	2,980
70	F-16 POST PRODUCTION SUPPORT	15,155	28,190
71	F-22A	48,505	48,505
72	RQ-4 POST PRODUCTION CHARGES	99	99
	INDUSTRIAL PREPAREDNESS		
75	INDUSTRIAL PREPAREDNESS	14,126	14,126
	WAR CONSUMABLES		
76	WAR CONSUMABLES	120,036	120,036
	OTHER PRODUCTION CHARGES		
77	OTHER PRODUCTION CHARGES	1,252,824	1,198,924
	TOTAL, AIRCRAFT SUPPORT EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES	1,670,828	1,617,263
	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	16,952	16,952
	TOTAL, AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE	13,922,917	14,253,623

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS

[in thousands of dollars]

P-1		Budget Request	Final Bill
1	F-35	4,401,894	4,602,894
	Program increase - five aircraft		495,000
	Program efficiencies		-96,000
	Prior year carryover		-198,000
3	KC-46	2,884,591	2,567,191
	Program excess		-167,200
	Air Force requested transfer to line 61 for initial spares		-150,200
4	C-130J	145,655	305,655
	Program increase - two additional aircraft for Air National Guard		160,000
8	MC-130J	548,358	499,358
	Excess due to multiyear savings		-49,000
10	UH-1N REPLACEMENT	18,337	93,337
	Program increase		75,000
12	CIVIL AIR PATROL (CAP) AIRCRAFT	2,637	10,337
	Program increase		7,700
14	RQ-4	12,966	7,217
	Excess other production support		-5,749
15X	COMPASS CALL	0	103,000
	Program increase		103,000
21	F-15	105,685	145,405
	Cost efficiencies		-5,280
	Program increase - F-15E AESA radars		45,000
22	F-16	97,331	113,231
	Program increase - fully fund AESA radar upgrades		15,900
23	F-22A	163,008	146,008
	RAMMP kits unit cost growth		-17,000
24	F-35 MODIFICATIONS	175,811	115,811
	Prior year carryover		-60,000
29	C-17A	21,555	17,455
	Program management growth		-4,100
30	C-21	5,439	439
	Unobligated balances		-5,000
31	C-32	35,235	30,235
	Prior year carryover		-5,000
35	T-1	25,073	13,373
	Production schedule slip		-11,700
36	T-38	45,090	33,590
	Pacer Classic installs ahead of need		-11,500

P-1		Budget Request	Final Bill
42	C-130	9,168	106,668
	Program increase - eight-blade propeller upgrade		16,000
	Program increase - electronic propeller control system		13,500
	Program increase - in-flight propeller balancing system		1,500
	Program increase - engine enhancement program		41,500
	Program increase - C-130H modernization		25,000
49	E-8	6,244	25,944
	Program increase - PME-DMS		19,700
54	H-60	91,357	86,357
	Gun replacement		-5,000
59	MQ-9 MODS	141,929	149,929
	Unjustified request		-12,000
	Program increase - wide-area sensors		20,000
61	INITIAL SPARES AND REPAIR PARTS	686,491	834,691
	MQ-9 spares underexecution		-13,000
	Air Force requested transfer from line 3 for KC-46 initial spares		150,200
	Air Force requested transfer from line 62 for initial spares to support C-17 base conversions		11,000
62	AIRCRAFT REPLACEMENT SUPPORT EQUIPMENT	121,935	48,935
	Air Force requested transfer to lines 61 and 66 to support C-17 base conversions		-73,000
66	C-17 POST PRODUCTION SUPPORT	23,559	83,859
	Prior year carryover		-1,700
	Air Force requested transfer from line 62 for peculiar support equipment to support C-17 base conversions		20,000
	Air Force requested transfer from line 62 for common support equipment to support C-17 base conversions		42,000
70	F-16 POST PRODUCTION SUPPORT	15,155	28,190
	Program increase - F-16 mission training center simulators		24,800
	Excess production line shutdown costs		-11,765
77	OTHER PRODUCTION CHARGES	1,252,824	1,198,924
	Prior year carryover for unclassified programs		-34,000
	Transfer to RDTE,AF line 999 for classified programs		-19,900

MISSILE PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	MISSILE PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE		
	BALLISTIC MISSILES		
	MISSILE REPLACEMENT EQUIPMENT - BALLISTIC		
1	MISSILE REPLACEMENT EQ-BALLISTIC	70,247	50,247
	OTHER MISSILES		
	TACTICAL		
2	JOINT AIR-SURFACE STANDOFF MISSILE (JASSM)	431,645	431,645
3	LONG RANGE ANTI-SHIP MISSILE (LRASMO)	59,511	59,511
4	SIDEWINDER (AIM-9X)	127,438	127,438
5	AMRAAM	350,144	337,844
6	PREDATOR HELLFIRE MISSILE	33,955	33,955
7	SMALL DIAMETER BOMB	92,361	92,361
	INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES		
8	INDUSTRIAL PREPAREDNESS/POLLUTION PREVENTION	977	977
	TOTAL, OTHER MISSILES	1,096,031	1,083,731
	MODIFICATION OF INSERVICE MISSILES		
	CLASS IV		
9	ICBM FUZE MOD	17,095	17,095
10	MM III MODIFICATIONS	68,692	68,692
11	AGM-65D MAVERICK	282	282
13	AIR LAUNCH CRUISE MISSILE	21,762	21,762
14	SMALL DIAMETER BOMB	15,349	15,349
	TOTAL, MODIFICATION OF INSERVICE MISSILES	123,180	123,180
	SPARES AND REPAIR PARTS		
15	INITIAL SPARES/REPAIR PARTS	81,607	70,607
	SPECIAL PROGRAMS		
30	SPECIAL UPDATE PROGRAMS	46,125	46,125
	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	1,009,431	974,231
	TOTAL, MISSILE PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE	2,426,621	2,348,121

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS

[In thousands of dollars]

P-1		Budget Request	Final Bill
1	MISSILE REPLACEMENT EQUIPMENT-BALLISTIC	70,247	50,247
	TERP program delays		-20,000
5	AMRAAM	350,144	337,844
	Pricing adjustment		-12,300
15	INITIAL SPARES/REPAIR PARTS	81,607	70,607
	Unjustified growth		-11,000
999	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	1,009,431	974,231
	Classified adjustment		-35,200

SPACE PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	SPACE PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE		
	SPACE PROGRAMS		
1	ADVANCED EHF	645,569	645,569
2	AF SATELLITE COMM SYSTEM	42,375	37,375
3	COUNTERSPACE SYSTEMS	26,984	26,984
4	FAMILY OF BEYOND LINE-OF-SIGHT TERMINALS	88,963	88,963
5	WIDEBAND GAPFILLER SATELLITES	86,272	48,772
6	GPS III SPACE SEGMENT	34,059	34,059
7	GLOBAL POSITIONING (SPACE)	2,169	2,169
8	SPACEBORNE EQUIP (COMSEC)	46,708	31,708
9	GLOBAL POSITIONING (SPACE)	13,171	10,171
10	MILSATCOM	41,799	41,799
11	EVOLVED EXPENDABLE LAUNCH VEH INFRASTRUCTURE (SPACE)	768,586	716,586
12	EVOLVED EXPENDABLE LAUNCH VEH (SPACE)	737,853	536,853
13	SBIR HIGH (SPACE)	362,504	357,504
14	NUDET DETECTION SYSTEM SPACE	4,395	4,395
15	SPACE MODS SPACE	8,642	8,642
16	SPACELIFT RANGE SYSTEM SPACE	123,088	121,088
	SPARES AND REPAIR PARTS		
17	INITIAL SPARES/REPAIR PARTS	22,606	20,606
	TOTAL, SPACE PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE	3,055,743	2,733,243

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS
[In thousands of dollars]

P-1		Budget Request	Final Bill
2	AIR FORCE SATELLITE CONTROL NETWORK	42,375	37,375
	Unjustified request		-5,000
5	WIDEBAND GAPFILLER SATELLITES	86,272	48,772
	Prior year carryover		-7,500
	COMSATCOM Pathfinder 3 - transfer to RDTE,AF line 82		-30,000
8	SPACEBORNE EQUIPMENT	46,708	31,708
	Unjustified request		-15,000
9	GLOBAL POSITIONING SATELLITES SPACE AND CONTROL	13,171	10,171
	Unjustified support services and launch and checkout growth		-3,000
11	EVOLVED EXPENDABLE LAUNCH CAPABILITY	768,586	716,586
	Change to acquisition strategy		-52,000
12	EVOLVED EXPENDABLE LAUNCH VEHICLE	737,853	536,853
	Change to acquisition strategy		-201,000
13	SPACE BASED INFRARED SYSTEMS	362,504	357,504
	Prior year carryover		-5,000
16	SPACELIFT RANGE SYSTEM	123,088	121,088
	Unjustified request		-2,000
17	SPARE AND REPAIR PARTS	22,606	20,606
	Unjustified request		-2,000

PROCUREMENT OF AMMUNITION, AIR FORCE

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	PROCUREMENT OF AMMUNITION, AIR FORCE		
	PROCUREMENT OF AMMO, AIR FORCE		
1	ROCKETS	18,734	18,734
2	CARTRIDGES	220,237	224,237
	BOMBS		
3	PRACTICE BOMBS	97,106	97,106
4	GENERAL PURPOSE BOMBS	581,561	501,561
5	MASSIVE ORDNANCE PENETRATOR (MOP)	3,600	3,600
6	JOINT DIRECT ATTACK MUNITION	303,988	291,488
	FLARE, IR MJU-7B		
7	CAD/PAD	38,890	38,890
8	EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL (EOD)	5,714	5,714
9	SPARES AND REPAIR PARTS	740	740
10	MODIFICATIONS	573	573
11	ITEMS LESS THAN $5,000,000	5,156	5,156
	FUZES		
12	FLARES	134,709	134,709
13	FUZES	229,252	229,252
	TOTAL, PROCUREMENT OF AMMO, AIR FORCE	1,640,260	1,551,760
	WEAPONS		
14	SMALL ARMS	37,459	37,459
	TOTAL, PROCUREMENT OF AMMUNITION, AIR FORCE	1,677,719	1,589,219

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS

[In thousands of dollars]

P-1		Budget Request	Final bill
2	CARTRIDGES	220,237	224,237
	PGU-48 unit cost		-2,000
	Program increase - PGU-27		6,000
4	GENERAL PURPOSE BOMBS	581,561	501,561
	BLU-134 ahead of need		-80,000
6	JOINT DIRECT ATTACK MUNITION (JDAM)	303,988	291,488
	Unit cost pricing adjustment		-12,500

OTHER PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	OTHER PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE		
	VEHICULAR EQUIPMENT		
	PASSENGER CARRYING VEHICLES		
1	PASSENGER CARRYING VEHICLE	14,437	11,437
	CARGO + UTILITY VEHICLES		
2	FAMILY MEDIUM TACTICAL VEHICLE	24,812	16,812
3	CAP VEHICLES	984	1,684
4	ITEMS LESS THAN $5M (CARGO)	11,191	7,191
	SPECIAL PURPOSE VEHICLES		
5	SECURITY AND TACTICAL VEHICLES	5,361	5,361
6	ITEMS LESS THAN $5M (SPECIAL)	4,623	4,623
	FIRE FIGHTING EQUIPMENT		
7	FIRE FIGHTING/CRASH RESCUE VEHICLES	12,451	12,451
	MATERIALS HANDLING EQUIPMENT		
8	ITEMS LESS THAT $5,000,000	18,114	18,114
	BASE MAINTENANCE SUPPORT		
9	RUNWAY SNOW REMOVAL & CLEANING EQUIP	2,310	2,310
10	ITEMS LESS THAN $5M	46,868	46,868
	TOTAL, VEHICULAR EQUIPMENT	141,151	126,851
	ELECTRONICS AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIP		
	COMM SECURITY EQUIPMENT(COMSEC)		
12	COMSEC EQUIPMENT	72,359	81,859
	INTELLIGENCE PROGRAMS		
14	INTELLIGENCE TRAINING EQUIPMENT	6,982	6,982
15	INTELLIGENCE COMM EQUIP	30,504	30,504
	ELECTRONICS PROGRAMS		
16	TRAFFIC CONTROL/LANDING	55,803	49,403
17	NATIONAL AIRSPACE SYSTEM	2,673	2,673
18	BATTLE CONTROL SYSTEM - FIXED	5,677	5,677
19	THEATER AIR CONTROL SYS IMPRO	1,163	1,163
20	WEATHER OBSERVATION FORECAST	21,667	21,667
21	STRATEGIC COMMAND AND CONTROL	39,803	39,803
22	CHEYENNE MOUNTAIN COMPLEX	24,618	24,618
23	MISSION PLANNING SYSTEMS	15,868	15,868
25	INTEGRATED STRAT PLAN AND ANALY NETWORK (ISPAN)	9,331	9,331

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	SPECIAL COMM-ELECTRONICS PROJECTS		
26	GENERAL INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	41,779	50,679
27	AF GLOBAL COMMAND & CONTROL SYSTEM	15,729	15,729
28	MOBILITY COMMAND AND CONTROL	9,814	9,814
29	AIR FORCE PHYSICAL SECURITY SYSTEM	99,460	99,460
30	COMBAT TRAINING RANGES	34,850	34,850
31	MINIMUM ESSENTIAL EMERGENCY COMM N	198,925	198,925
32	WIDE AREA SURVEILLANCE (WAS)	6,943	6,943
33	C3 COUNTERMEASURES	19,580	14,580
34	GCSS-AF FOS	1,743	1,743
36	THEATER BATTLE MGT C2 SYS	9,659	9,659
37	AIR AND SPACE OPERATIONS CTR-WPN SYSTEM	15,474	15,474
38	AIR OPERATIONS CENTER (AOC)	30,623	8,180
	AIR FORCE COMMUNICATIONS		
39	INFORMATION TRANSPORT SYSTEMS	40,043	40,043
40	AFNET	146,897	131,897
41	JOINT COMMUNICATIONS SUPPORT ELEMENT (JCSE)	5,182	5,182
42	USCENTCOM	13,418	13,418

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	ORGANIZATION AND BASE		
52	TACTICAL C-E EQUIPMENT	109,836	109,836
53	RADIO EQUIPMENT	16,266	16,266
54	CCTV/AUDIOVISUAL EQUIPMENT	7,449	7,449
55	BASE COMM INFRASTRUCTURE	109,215	88,215
	MODIFICATIONS		
56	COMM ELECT MODS	65,700	65,700
	TOTAL, ELECTRONICS AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIP	1,285,033	1,233,590
	OTHER BASE MAINTENANCE AND SUPPORT EQUIP		
	PERSONAL SAFETY AND RESCUE EQUIP		
58	ITEMS LESS THAN $5,000,000 (SAFETY)	54,416	46,416
	DEPOT PLANT + MATERIALS HANDLING EQ		
59	MECHANIZED MATERIAL HANDLING	7,344	7,344
	BASE SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		
60	BASE PROCURED EQUIPMENT	6,852	6,852
63	MOBILITY EQUIPMENT	8,146	23,146
64	ITEMS LESS THAN $5M (BASE SUPPORT)	28,427	28,427
	SPECIAL SUPPORT PROJECTS		
66	DARP RC135	25,287	25,287
67	DISTRIBUTED GROUND SYSTEMS	169,201	169,201
69	SPECIAL UPDATE PROGRAM	576,710	576,710
	TOTAL, OTHER BASE MAINTENANCE AND SUPPORT EQUIP	876,383	883,383
	SPARE AND REPAIR PARTS		
72	SPARES AND REPAIR PARTS	15,784	15,784
	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	15,119,705	15,508,616
	TOTAL, OTHER PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE	17,438,056	17,768,224

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS

[In thousands of dollars]

P-1		Budget Request	Final bill
1	PASSENGER CARRYING VEHICLES	14,437	11,437
	Unjustified growth		-3,000
2	MEDIUM TACTICAL VEHICLES	24,812	16,812
	Unobligated balances		-8,000
3	CIVIL AIR PATROL VEHICLES	984	1,684
	Program increase		700
4	ITEMS LESS THAN $5 MILLION (CARGO/UTILITY)	11,191	7,191
	Unjustified growth		-4,000
12	COMSEC EQUIPMENT	72,359	81,859
	Program increase - cybersecurity upgrades		9,500
16	AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL & LANDING SYSTEMS	55,803	49,403
	RAPCON schedule slip		-6,400
26	GENERAL INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	41,779	50,679
	Program increase - cybersecurity training		8,900
33	C3 COUNTERMEASURES	19,580	14,580
	Unjustified increase		-5,000
38	AOC 10.2	30,623	8,180
	Fielding		-22,443
40	AFNET	146,897	131,897
	Unobligated balances		-15,000
55	BASE COMM INFRASTRUCTURE	109,215	88,215
	Unobligated balances		-21,000
58	ITEMS LESS THAN $5 MILLION (SAFETY & RESCUE)	54,416	46,416
	LSS program delays		-8,000
63	MOBILITY EQUIPMENT	8,146	23,146
	Program increase		10,000
	Program increase - other base maintenance and support equipment		5,000
999	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	15,119,705	15,508,616
	Classified adjustment		388,911

PROCUREMENT, DEFENSE-WIDE

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	PROCUREMENT, DEFENSE-WIDE		
	MAJOR EQUIPMENT		
	MAJOR EQUIPMENT, DCAA		
1	MAJOR EQUIPMENT ITEMS LESS THAN $5M	2,964	2,964
	MAJOR EQUIPMENT, DCMA		
2	MAJOR EQUIPMENT	92	---
	MAJOR EQUIPMENT, DHRA		
3	PERSONNEL ADMINISTRATION	14,232	14,232
	MAJOR EQUIPMENT, DISA		
6	INFORMATION SYSTEMS SECURITY	21,347	21,347
7	TELEPORT PROGRAM	50,597	50,597
8	ITEMS LESS THAN $5M	10,420	10,420
9	NET CENTRIC ENTERPRISE SERVICES (NCES)	1,634	1,634
10	DEFENSE INFORMATION SYSTEMS NETWORK	87,235	87,235
11	CYBER SECURITY INITIATIVE	4,528	4,528
12	WHITE HOUSE COMMUNICATION AGENCY	36,846	36,846
13	SENIOR LEADERSHIP ENTERPRISE	599,391	599,391
15	JOINT REGIONAL SECURITY STOCKS (JRSS)	150,221	150,221
	MAJOR EQUIPMENT, DLA		
17	MAJOR EQUIPMENT	2,055	2,055
	MAJOR EQUIPMENT, DMACT		
18	A - WEAPON SYSTEM COST	8,060	8,060
	MAJOR EQUIPMENT, DODEA		
19	AUTOMATION/EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT & LOGISTICS	288	288
20	MAJOR EQUIPMENT	1,057	1,057
	MAJOR EQUIPMENT, DEFENSE THREAT REDUCTION AGENCY		
21	VEHICLES	200	200
22	OTHER MAJOR EQUIPMENT	6,437	6,437

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	MAJOR EQUIPMENT, MDA		
23	THAAD SYSTEM	369,608	415,504
24	AEGIS BMD	463,801	513,801
25	BMDS AN/TPY-2 RADARS	5,503	5,503
26	ARROW WEAPON SYSTEM	---	120,000
27	DAVID'S SLING WEAPON SYSTEM	---	150,000
28	AEGIS ASHORE PHASE III	57,493	57,493
29	IRON DOME SYSTEM	42,000	62,000
30	AEGIS BMD HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE	50,098	50,098
30X	REDESIGNED KILL VEHICLE--AP	---	50,000
	MAJOR EQUIPMENT, NSA		
36	INFORMATION SYSTEMS SECURITY PROGRAM (ISSP)	4,399	4,399
	MAJOR EQUIPMENT, OSD		
37	MAJOR EQUIPMENT, OSD	29,211	29,211
	MAJOR EQUIPMENT, TJS		
38	MAJOR EQUIPMENT, TJS	7,988	7,988
	MAJOR EQUIPMENT, WHS		
40	MAJOR EQUIPMENT, WHS	24,979	24,979
	TOTAL, MAJOR EQUIPMENT	2,052,684	2,488,488
	SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND AVIATION PROGRAMS		
42	SOF ROTARY WING UPGRADES AND SUSTAINMENT	150,396	150,396
43	UNMANNED ISR	21,190	21,190
45	NON-STANDARD AVIATION	4,905	4,905
46	SOF U-28	3,970	3,970
47	MH-47 CHINOOK	25,022	25,022
49	CV-22 SOF MODIFICATION	19,008	19,008
51	MQ-9 UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLE	10,598	10,598
53	PRECISION STRIKE PACKAGE	213,122	213,122
54	AC/MC-130J	73,548	60,498
55	C-130 MODIFICATIONS	32,970	41,020

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	SHIPBUILDING		
56	UNDERWATER SYSTEMS	37,098	37,098
	AMMUNITION PROGRAMS		
57	SOF ORDNANCE ITEMS UNDER $5,000,000	105,267	105,267
	OTHER PROCUREMENT PROGRAMS		
58	SOF INTELLIGENCE SYSTEMS	79,963	79,963
59	DCGS-SOF	13,432	13,432
60	OTHER ITEMS UNDER $5,000,000	66,436	66,436
61	SOF COMBATANT CRAFT SYSTEMS	55,820	55,820
62	SPECIAL PROGRAMS	107,432	107,432
63	TACTICAL VEHICLES	67,849	67,849
64	WARRIOR SYSTEMS UNDER $5,000,000	245,781	245,781
65	COMBAT MISSION REQUIREMENTS	19,566	19,566
66	SOF GLOBAL VIDEO SURVEILLANCE ACTIVITIES	3,437	3,437
67	SOF OPERATIONAL ENHANCEMENTS INTELLIGENCE	17,299	17,299
69	SOF OPERATIONAL ENHANCEMENTS	219,945	180,245
	TOTAL, SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND	1,594,054	1,549,354
	CHEMICAL/BIOLOGICAL DEFENSE		
70	CHEMICAL BIOLOGICAL SITUATIONAL AWARENESS	148,203	148,203
71	CB PROTECTION AND HAZARD MITIGATION	161,113	161,113
	TOTAL, CHEMICAL/BIOLOGICAL DEFENSE	309,316	309,316
	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	568,864	533,864
	TOTAL, PROCUREMENT, DEFENSE-WIDE	4,524,918	4,881,022

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS
[In thousands of dollars]

P-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
2 MAJOR EQUIPMENT	**92**	**0**
Ahead of need		-92
23 THAAD SYSTEM	**369,608**	**415,504**
Training previously funded		-4,104
Program increase - obsolescence upgrades		50,000
24 AEGIS BMD	**463,801**	**513,801**
Program increase - obsolescence upgrades		50,000
26 ARROW WEAPON SYSTEM	**0**	**120,000**
Program increase for co-production		120,000
27 DAVID'S SLING WEAPON SYSTEM	**0**	**150,000**
Program increase for co-production		150,000
29 IRON DOME SYSTEM	**42,000**	**62,000**
Program increase for co-production		20,000
30X REDESIGNED KILL VEHICLE (AP)	**0**	**50,000**
Program increase - RKV long lead materials only		50,000
54 AC/MC-130J	**73,548**	**60,498**
Precision Strike Package - SOCOM requested transfer to line 55		-13,050
55 C-130 MODIFICATIONS	**32,970**	**41,020**
Precision Strike Package - SOCOM requested transfer from line 54		13,050
Program delays		-5,000
64 SOF WARRIOR SYSTEMS UNDER $5M	**245,781**	**245,781**
SCAMPI - level funding profile		-4,000
Program increase - weapons accessories		4,000
69 SOF OPERATIONAL ENHANCEMENTS	**219,945**	**180,245**
Classified adjustment		-44,700
Program increase - rotary wing ammunition		5,000
999 CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	**568,864**	**533,864**
Classified adjustment		-35,000

DEFENSE PRODUCTION ACT PURCHASES

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS

[In thousands of dollars]

	Budget request	Final bill
DEFENSE PRODUCTION ACT PURCHASES	44,065	64,065
Program increase		20,000
TOTAL, DEFENSE PRODUCTION ACT PURCHASES	44,065	64,065

TITLE IV—RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION

The agreement provides $72,301,587,000 in Title IV, Research, Development, Test and Evaluation. The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
RECAPITULATION		
RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION, ARMY	7,515,399	8,332,965
RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION, NAVY	17,276,301	17,214,530
RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION, AIR FORCE	28,112,251	27,788,548
RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION, DEFENSE-WIDE	18,308,826	18,778,550
OPERATIONAL TEST AND EVALUATION, DEFENSE	178,994	186,994
GRAND TOTAL, RDT&E	71,391,771	72,301,587

REPROGRAMMING GUIDANCE FOR ACQUISITION ACCOUNTS

The Secretary of Defense is directed to continue to follow the reprogramming guidance as specified in the report accompanying the House version of the Department of Defense Appropriations bill for Fiscal Year 2008 (House Report 110–279). Specifically, the dollar threshold for reprogramming funds shall remain at $20,000,000 for procurement and $10,000,000 for research, development, test and evaluation.

Also, the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) is directed to continue to provide the congressional defense committees quarterly, spreadsheet-based DD Form 1416 reports for Service and defense-wide accounts in titles III and IV of this Act. Reports for titles III and IV shall comply with the guidance specified in the explanatory statement accompanying the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2006. The Department shall continue to follow the limitation that prior approval reprogrammings are set at either the specified dollar threshold or 20 percent of the procurement or research, development, test and evaluation line, whichever is less. These thresholds are cumulative from the base for reprogramming value as modified by any adjustments. Therefore, if the combined value of transfers into or out of a procurement (P–1) or research, development, test and evaluation (R–1) line exceeds the identified threshold, the Secretary of Defense must submit a prior approval reprogramming to the congressional defense committees. In addition, guidelines on the application of prior approval reprogramming procedures for congressional special interest items are established elsewhere in this statement.

FUNDING INCREASES

The funding increases outlined in these tables shall be provided only for the specific purposes indicated in the tables.

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION SPECIAL INTEREST ITEMS

Items for which additional funds have been provided as shown in the project level tables or in paragraphs using the phrase ''only for'' or ''only to'' in the explanatory statement are congressional special interest items for the purpose of the Base for Reprogramming (DD Form 1414). Each of these items must be carried on the DD Form 1414 at the stated amount as specifically addressed in the explanatory statement.

JOINT STRIKE FIGHTER FOLLOW-ON MODERNIZATION

The Joint Strike Fighter Program Executive Officer is directed to comply with the reporting requirement included under the heading ''Joint Strike Fighter Follow-on Modernization'' in Senate Report 114–263. The Secretary of Defense is not required to comply with the reporting requirement included under the heading ''Joint Strike Fighter Follow-on Development'' in House Report 114–577.

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION, ARMY

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST & EVAL, ARMY		
	BASIC RESEARCH		
1	IN-HOUSE LABORATORY INDEPENDENT RESEARCH	12,381	12,381
2	DEFENSE RESEARCH SCIENCES	253,116	293,116
3	UNIVERSITY RESEARCH INITIATIVES	69,166	69,166
4	UNIVERSITY AND INDUSTRY RESEARCH CENTERS	94,280	112,280
	TOTAL, BASIC RESEARCH	428,943	486,943
	APPLIED RESEARCH		
5	MATERIALS TECHNOLOGY	31,533	82,533
6	SENSORS AND ELECTRONIC SURVIVABILITY	36,109	51,109
7	TRACTOR HIP	6,995	6,995
8	AVIATION TECHNOLOGY	65,914	69,914
9	ELECTRONIC WARFARE TECHNOLOGY	25,466	35,466
10	MISSILE TECHNOLOGY	44,313	67,813
11	ADVANCED WEAPONS TECHNOLOGY	28,803	53,803
12	ADVANCED CONCEPTS AND SIMULATION	27,688	30,688
13	COMBAT VEHICLE AND AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGY	67,959	92,959
14	BALLISTICS TECHNOLOGY	85,436	105,436
15	CHEMICAL, SMOKE AND EQUIPMENT DEFEATING TECHNOLOGY	3,923	3,923
16	JOINT SERVICE SMALL ARMS PROGRAM	5,545	5,545
17	WEAPONS AND MUNITIONS TECHNOLOGY	53,581	120,081
18	ELECTRONICS AND ELECTRONIC DEVICES	56,322	74,322
19	NIGHT VISION TECHNOLOGY	36,079	36,079
20	COUNTERMINE SYSTEMS	26,497	30,497
21	HUMAN FACTORS ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY	23,671	23,671
22	ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY TECHNOLOGY	22,151	30,151
23	COMMAND, CONTROL, COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY	37,803	37,803
24	COMPUTER AND SOFTWARE TECHNOLOGY	13,811	13,811
25	MILITARY ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY	67,416	82,416
26	MANPOWER/PERSONNEL/TRAINING TECHNOLOGY	26,045	26,045

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
27	WARFIGHTER TECHNOLOGY	37,403	60,103
28	MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY	77,111	79,111
	TOTAL, APPLIED RESEARCH	907,574	1,220,274
	ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT		
29	WARFIGHTER ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY	38,831	51,331
30	MEDICAL ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY	68,365	107,365
31	AVIATION ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY	94,280	112,280
32	WEAPONS AND MUNITIONS ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY	68,714	192,714
33	COMBAT VEHICLE AND AUTOMOTIVE ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY	122,132	168,132
34	SPACE APPLICATION ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY	3,904	3,904
35	MANPOWER, PERSONNEL AND TRAINING ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY	14,417	14,417
37	TRACTOR HIKE	8,074	8,074
38	NEXT GENERATION TRAINING & SIMULATION SYSTEMS	18,969	18,969
39	TRACTOR ROSE	11,910	11,910
40	COMBATING TERRORISM, TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT	27,686	35,686
41	TRACTOR NAIL	2,340	2,340
42	TRACTOR EGGS	2,470	2,470
43	ELECTRONIC WARFARE TECHNOLOGY	27,893	41,893
44	MISSILE AND ROCKET ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY	52,190	115,690
45	TRACTOR CAGE	11,107	11,107
46	HIGH PERFORMANCE COMPUTING MODERNIZATION PROGRAM	177,190	222,190
47	LANDMINE WARFARE AND BARRIER ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY	17,451	17,451
48	JOINT SERVICE SMALL ARMS PROGRAM	5,839	5,839
49	NIGHT VISION ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY	44,468	44,468
50	ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY TECHNOLOGY DEMONSTRATIONS	11,137	21,137
51	MILITARY ENGINEERING ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY	20,684	58,684
52	ADVANCED TACTICAL COMPUTER SCIENCE & SENSOR TECHNOLOGY	44,239	54,239
53	COMMAND, CONTROL, COMMUNICATIONS ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY	35,775	37,775
	TOTAL, ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT	930,065	1,360,065

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	DEMONSTRATION & VALIDATION		
54	ARMY MISSILE DEFENSE SYSTEMS INTEGRATION	9,433	47,433
55	ARMY MISSILE DEFENSE SYSTEMS INTEGRATION (SPACE)	23,056	23,056
56	LANDMINE WARFARE AND BARRIER - ADV DEV	72,117	72,117
57	SMOKE, OBSCURANT AND TARGET DEFEATING SYS-ADV DEV	28,244	28,244
58	TANK AND MEDIUM CALIBER AMMUNITION	40,096	48,096
59	SOLDIER SUPPORT AND SURVIVABILITY	10,506	14,006
60	TACTICAL ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM - AD	15,730	15,730
61	NIGHT VISION SYSTEMS ADVANCED DEVELOPMENT	10,321	10,321
62	ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY TECHNOLOGY	7,785	7,785
63	NATO RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT	2,300	2,300
64	AVIATION - ADV DEV	10,014	10,014
65	LOGISTICS AND ENGINEER EQUIPMENT - ADV DEV	20,834	18,126
66	MEDICAL SYSTEMS - ADV DEV	33,503	41,003
67	SOLDIER SYSTEMS - ADVANCED DEVELOPMENT	31,120	54,120
68	ANALYSIS OF ALTERNATIVES	6,608	6,608
69	LOWER TIER AIR MISSILE DEFENSE (LTAMID) SENSOR	35,132	35,132
70	TECHNOLOGY MATURATION INITIATIVES	70,047	60,047
71	ASSURED POSITIONING, NAVIGATION AND TIMING (PNT)	83,279	83,279
73	CYBERSPACE OPERATIONS FORCES AND FORCE SUPPORT	40,510	30,510
	TOTAL, DEMONSTRATION & VALIDATION	550,635	607,927

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	ENGINEERING & MANUFACTURING DEVELOPMENT		
74	AIRCRAFT AVIONICS	83,248	62,248
75	ELECTRONIC WARFARE DEVELOPMENT	34,642	34,642
77	MID-TIER NETWORKING VEHICULAR RADIO	12,172	12,172
78	ALL SOURCE ANALYSIS SYSTEM	3,958	11,958
79	TRACTOR CAGE	12,525	12,525
80	INFANTRY SUPPORT WEAPONS	66,943	67,503
82	JAVELIN	20,011	20,011
83	FAMILY OF HEAVY TACTICAL VEHICLES	11,429	11,429
84	AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL	3,421	3,421
85	TACTICAL UNMANNED GROUND VEHICLE	39,282	33,532
86	LIGHT TACTICAL WHEELED VEHICLES	494	494
87	ARMORED SYSTEMS MODERNIZATION (ASM) - ENG DEV	9,678	9,678
88	NIGHT VISION SYSTEMS - SDD	84,519	79,519
89	COMBAT FEEDING, CLOTHING, AND EQUIPMENT	2,054	2,054
90	NON-SYSTEM TRAINING DEVICES - SDD	30,774	29,801
91	AIR DEFENSE COMMAND, CONTROL AND INTELLIGENCE -SDD	53,332	58,332
92	CONSTRUCTIVE SIMULATION SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT	17,887	17,887
93	AUTOMATIC TEST EQUIPMENT DEVELOPMENT	8,813	8,813
94	DISTRIBUTIVE INTERACTIVE SIMULATIONS (DIS) - SDD	10,487	10,487
95	COMBINED ARMS TACTICAL TRAINER (CATT) CORE	15,068	15,068
96	BRIGADE ANALYSIS, INTEGRATION AND EVALUATION	89,716	89,716
97	WEAPONS AND MUNITIONS - SDD	80,365	80,365
98	LOGISTICS AND ENGINEER EQUIPMENT - SDD	75,098	78,860
99	COMMAND, CONTROL, COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS - SDD	4,245	4,245
100	MEDICAL MATERIEL/MEDICAL BIOLOGICAL DEFENSE EQUIPMENT	41,124	41,124
101	LANDMINE WARFARE/BARRIER - SDD	39,630	33,354
102	ARMY TACTICAL COMMAND & CONTROL HARDWARE & SOFTWARE	205,590	203,274
103	RADAR DEVELOPMENT	15,983	15,983
104	GENERAL FUND ENTERPRISE BUSINESS SYSTEM (GFEBS)	6,805	6,805
105	FIREFINDER	9,235	6,425
106	SOLDIER SYSTEMS - WARRIOR DEM/VAL	12,393	12,393

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
107	ARTILLERY SYSTEMS	1,756	1,756
108	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT	74,236	73,732
109	ARMY INTEGRATED MILITARY HUMAN RESOURCES SYSTEM (A-IMH	155,584	155,584
110	ARMORED MULTI-PURPOSE VEHICLE	184,221	184,221
111	INTEGRATED GROUND SECURITY SURVEILLANCE RESPONSE CAPABILITY (IGSSR-C)	4,980	4,980
112	JOINT TACTICAL NETWORK CENTER (JTNC)	15,041	15,041
113	JOINT TACTICAL NETWORK (JTN)	16,014	16,014
114	TRACTOR TIRE	27,254	27,254
115	GROUND-BASED OPERATIONAL SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM - EXPENDITIONARY (GBOSS-E)	5,032	5,032
116	TACTICAL SECURITY SYSTEM (TSS)	2,904	2,904
117	COMMON INFRARED COUNTERMEASURES (CIRCM)	96,977	82,977
118	COMBATING WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION (CWMD)	2,089	2,089
119	DEFENSIVE CYBER TOOL DEVELOPMENT	33,836	33,836
120	TACTICAL NETWORK RADIO SYSTEMS (LOW-TIER)	18,824	14,765
121	CONTRACT WRITING SYSTEM	20,663	20,663
122	AIRCRAFT SURVIVABILITY DEVELOPMENT	41,133	34,133
123	INDIRECT FIRE PROTECTION CAPABILITY INC 2 - BLOCK 1	83,995	83,995
125	AMF JOINT TACTICAL RADIO SYSSTEM	5,028	5,028
126	JOINT AIR-TO-GROUND MISSILE (JAGM)	42,972	48,972
128	ARMY INTEGRATED AIR AND MISSILE DEFENSE (AIAMD)	252,811	282,811
131	NATIONAL CAPABILITIES INTEGRATION	4,955	4,955
132	JOINT LIGHT TACTICAL VEHICLE ENG AND MANUFACTURING	11,530	11,530
133	AVIATION GROUND SUPPORT EQUIPMENT	2,142	2,142
134	PALADIN INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT (PIM)	41,498	41,498
135	TROJAN - RH12	4,273	4,273
136	ELECTRONIC WARFARE DEVELOPMENT	14,425	14,425
	TOTAL, ENGINEERING & MANUFACTURING DEVELOPMENT	2,265,094	2,248,728

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	RDT&E MANAGEMENT SUPPORT		
137	THREAT SIMULATOR DEVELOPMENT	25,675	29,675
138	TARGET SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT	19,122	19,122
139	MAJOR T&E INVESTMENT	84,777	96,777
140	RAND ARROYO CENTER	20,658	20,658
141	ARMY KWAJALEIN ATOLL	236,648	227,451
142	CONCEPTS EXPERIMENTATION PROGRAM	25,596	25,596
144	ARMY TEST RANGES AND FACILITIES	293,748	293,748
145	ARMY TECHNICAL TEST INSTRUMENTATION AND TARGETS	52,404	72,404
146	SURVIVABILITY/LETHALITY ANALYSIS	38,571	38,571
147	AIRCRAFT CERTIFICATION	4,665	4,665
148	METEOROLOGICAL SUPPORT TO RDT&E ACTIVITIES	6,925	6,925
149	MATERIEL SYSTEMS ANALYSIS	21,677	21,677
150	EXPLOITATION OF FOREIGN ITEMS	12,415	12,415
151	SUPPORT OF OPERATIONAL TESTING	49,684	49,684
152	ARMY EVALUATION CENTER	55,905	55,905
153	ARMY MODELING AND SIMULATION X-CMD COLLABORATION AND INTEG	7,959	7,959
154	PROGRAMWIDE ACTIVITIES	51,822	51,822
155	TECHNICAL INFORMATION ACTIVITIES	33,323	33,323
156	MUNITIONS STANDARDIZATION, EFFECTIVENESS AND SAFETY	40,545	65,545
157	ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY TECHNOLOGY MGMT SUPPORT	2,130	2,130
158	MANAGEMENT HEADQUARTERS (RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT)	49,885	49,885
159	DEFENSE MILITARY DECEPTION INITIATIVE	2,000	2,000
	TOTAL, RDT&E MANAGEMENT SUPPORT	1,136,134	1,187,937

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	OPERATIONAL SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT		
161	MLRS PRODUCT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM	9,663	9,663
162	TRACTOR PULL	3,960	3,960
163	ANTI-TAMPER TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT	3,638	3,638
164	WEAPONS AND MUNITIONS PRODUCT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS	14,517	14,517
165	TRACTOR SMOKE	4,479	4,479
166	LONG RANGE PRECISION FIRES (LRPF)	39,275	37,775
167	APACHE PRODUCT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM	66,441	64,441
168	BLACKHAWK RECAP/MODERNIZATION	46,765	46,765
169	CHINOOK HELICOPTER PRODUCT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM	91,848	91,848
170	FIXED WING AIRCRAFT	796	796
171	IMPROVED TURBINE ENGINE PROGRAM	126,105	116,105
172	EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES FROM NIE	2,369	2,369
173	LOGISTICS AUTOMATION	4,563	1,736
174	FAMILY OF BIOMETRICS	12,098	12,098
175	PATRIOT PRODUCT IMPROVEMENT	49,482	49,482
176	AEROSTAT JOINT PROJECT OFFICE	45,482	6,400
178	JOINT AUTOMATED DEEP OPERATION COORDINATION SYSTEM	30,455	30,455
179	COMBAT VEHICLE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS	316,857	304,031
180	MANEUVER CONTROL SYSTEM	4,031	4,031
181	AIRCRAFT MODIFICATIONS/PRODUCT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS	35,793	33,693
182	AIRCRAFT ENGINE COMPONENT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM	259	259
183	DIGITIZATION	6,483	6,483
184	MISSILE/AIR DEFENSE PRODUCT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM	5,122	5,122
185	OTHER MISSILE PRODUCT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS	7,491	7,491
186	TRACTOR CARD	20,333	20,333
188	MATERIALS HANDLING EQUIPMENT	124	124
190	LOWER TIER AIR AND MISSILE DEFENSE (AMD) SYSTEM	69,417	63,889
191	GUIDED MULTIPLE-LAUNCH ROCKET SYSTEM (GMLRS)	22,044	22,044

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
192	JOINT TACTICAL GROUND SYSTEM	12,649	12,649
194	SECURITY AND INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES	11,619	11,619
195	INFORMATION SYSTEMS SECURITY PROGRAM	38,280	38,280
196	GLOBAL COMBAT SUPPORT SYSTEM	27,223	27,223
197	SATCOM GROUND ENVIRONMENT (SPACE)	18,815	18,815
198	WWMCCS/GLOBAL COMMAND AND CONTROL SYSTEM	4,718	4,718
202	TACTICAL UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLES	8,218	8,218
203	AIRBORNE RECONNAISSANCE SYSTEMS	11,799	11,799
204	DISTRIBUTED COMMON GROUND/SURFACE SYSTEMS	32,284	32,284
205	MQ-1 SKY WARRIOR A UAV (MQ-1C GRAY EAGLE UAS)	13,470	13,470
206	RQ-11 UAV	1,613	1,613
207	RQ-7 UAV	4,597	4,597
209	WIN-T INCREMENT 2 - INITIAL NETWORKING	4,867	4,867
210	END ITEM INDUSTRIAL PREPAREDNESS ACTIVITIES	62,287	62,287
	TOTAL, OPERATIONAL SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT	740,393	719,939
9999	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	4,625	4,625
	TOTAL, RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST & EVAL, ARMY	7,515,399	8,332,965

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS
[In thousands of dollars]

R-1		Budget Request	Final Bill
2	DEFENSE RESEARCH SCIENCES	253,116	293,116
	Program increase - basic research		40,000
4	UNIVERSITY AND INDUSTRY RESEARCH CENTERS	94,280	112,280
	Materials in extreme dynamic environments		5,000
	Program increase - basic research		13,000
5	MATERIALS TECHNOLOGY	31,533	82,533
	High performance polymers research		20,000
	Program increase		31,000
6	SENSORS AND ELECTRONIC SURVIVABILITY	36,109	51,109
	Program increase		5,000
	Signals detection research		3,000
	Space and small satellites technology demonstration		7,000
8	AVIATION TECHNOLOGY	65,914	69,914
	Program increase		4,000
9	ELECTRONIC WARFARE TECHNOLOGY	25,466	35,466
	Program increase		10,000
10	MISSILE TECHNOLOGY	44,313	67,813
	Weapon effectiveness in urban engagement		8,500
	Program increase		15,000
11	ADVANCED WEAPONS TECHNOLOGY	28,803	53,803
	Program increase		25,000
12	ADVANCED CONCEPTS AND SIMULATION	27,688	30,688
	Program increase		3,000
13	COMBAT VEHICLE AND AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGY	67,959	92,959
	Program increase		10,000
	Program increase - alternative energy research		15,000
14	BALLISTICS TECHNOLOGY	85,436	105,436
	Program increase		20,000
17	WEAPONS AND MUNITIONS TECHNOLOGY	53,581	120,081
	Program increase		18,000
	High-speed vehicle mounted fire detection technology		5,000
	Railgun weapon technology		20,000
	Medium caliber lightweight composite barrel technology		5,000
	Guided tank fired round development for high mobility targets		8,500
	Armament systems concepts		5,000
	Hybrid projectile technology		5,000
18	ELECTRONICS AND ELECTRONIC DEVICES	56,322	74,322
	Tactical and component power technology		2,000
	Payload agnostic unmanned aerial systems		4,000
	Silicon carbide research		10,000
	Flexible printable electronics		2,000
20	COUNTERMINE SYSTEMS	26,497	30,497
	Program increase		4,000

R-1		Budget Request	Final Bill
22	ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY TECHNOLOGY	22,151	30,151
	Program increase		8,000
25	MILITARY ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY	67,416	82,416
	Program increase		15,000
27	WARFIGHTER TECHNOLOGY	37,403	60,103
	H98 clothing and equipment		5,000
	Advanced active environmental control technology for expeditionary mobile base		6,000
	Program increase		10,000
	Soldier protection		1,700
28	MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY	77,111	79,111
	Military operational medical research program		2,000
29	WARFIGHTER ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY	38,831	51,331
	Program increase		12,500
30	MEDICAL ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY	68,365	107,365
	Peer-reviewed neurotoxin exposure treatment Parkinson's research		16,000
	Peer-reviewed neurofibromatosis research		15,000
	Peer-reviewed military burn research		8,000
31	AVIATION ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY	94,280	112,280
	Ballistic seating system		7,000
	Future Vertical Lift		11,000
32	WEAPONS AND MUNITIONS ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY	68,714	192,714
	Program increase		42,000
	Weapons mounts		2,500
	Accelerate extended range cannon artillery		21,000
	Laser defense system for small UAS		15,000
	Weapon effectiveness in urban engagement		8,500
	Armament systems integration		5,000
	High energy laser research		30,000
33	COMBAT VEHICLE AND AUTOMOTIVE ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY	122,132	168,132
	Combat vehicle weight reduction initiative		10,000
	Advanced water harvesting technology		6,000
	Program increase		30,000
40	COMBATING TERRORISM, TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT	27,686	35,686
	Force protection radar development		8,000
43	ELECTRONIC WARFARE TECHNOLOGY	27,893	41,893
	Program increase		14,000
44	MISSILE AND ROCKET ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY	52,190	115,690
	Cybersecurity and supply chain risk management research		10,000
	GPS-guided weapon performance improvement		5,000
	Next generation close combat missile		8,500
	Armament systems concepts		5,000
	Armament systems integration		5,000
	Program increase		30,000
46	HIGH PERFORMANCE COMPUTING MODERNIZATION PROGRAM	177,190	222,190
	Program increase		45,000

R-1		Budget Request	Final Bill
50	ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY TECHNOLOGY DEMONSTRATIONS	11,137	21,137
	Program increase		10,000
51	MILITARY ENGINEERING ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY	20,684	58,684
	Secure management of energy generation and storage		3,000
	Program increase		30,000
	Installation energy efficiency enhancements		5,000
52	ADVANCED TACTICAL COMPUTER SCIENCE & SENSOR TECHNOLOGY	44,239	54,239
	Program increase		10,000
53	COMMAND, CONTROL, COMMUNICATIONS ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY	35,775	37,775
	Program increase		2,000
54	ARMY MISSILE DEFENSE SYSTEMS INTEGRATION	9,433	47,433
	High power microwave analysis and radio frequency platform protection		5,000
	Program increase		25,000
	High energy laser research		8,000
58	TANK AND MEDIUM CALIBER AMMUNITION	40,096	48,096
	Stryker 30mm programmable air burst ammunition		8,000
59	SOLDIER SUPPORT AND SURVIVABILITY	10,506	14,006
	Program increase		3,500
65	LOGISTICS AND ENGINEER EQUIPMENT - ADV DEV	20,834	18,126
	Prior year carryover		-2,708
66	MEDICAL SYSTEMS - ADV DEV	33,503	41,003
	Program increase		7,500
67	SOLDIER SYSTEMS - ADVANCED DEVELOPMENT	31,120	54,120
	Enhanced lightweight body armor		23,000
70	TECHNOLOGY MATURATION INITIATIVES	70,047	60,047
	Ground vehicle prototyping excess growth		-10,000
73	CYBERSPACE OPERATIONS FORCES AND FORCE SUPPORT	40,510	30,510
	Lack of validated requirements		-10,000
74	AIRCRAFT AVIONICS	83,248	62,248
	Excess DVE product development funding		-21,000
78	ALL SOURCE ANALYSIS SYSTEM	3,958	11,958
	Program increase		8,000
80	INFANTRY SUPPORT WEAPONS	66,943	67,503
	Cannon life extension		1,500
	Program increase		3,000
	Modular handgun system delay		-3,940
85	TACTICAL UNMANNED GROUND VEHICLE	39,282	33,532
	EMD contract delay		-5,750
88	NIGHT VISION SYSTEMS - SDD	84,519	79,519
	Prior year carryover		-5,000

R-1		Budget Request	Final Bill
90	NON-SYSTEM TRAINING DEVICES - SDD	30,774	29,801
	Solider fitness program unjustified		-973
91	AIR DEFENSE COMMAND, CONTROL AND INTELLIGENCE -SDD	53,332	58,332
	Counter rocket, artillery, and mortar systems		5,000
98	LOGISTICS AND ENGINEER EQUIPMENT - SDD	75,098	78,860
	Maneuver Support Vessel-Light contract delay		-3,000
	Next generation vehicle camouflage technology		11,100
	Program increase		2,500
	Engine driven generators schedule delay		-6,838
101	LANDMINE WARFARE/BARRIER - SDD	39,630	33,354
	Mine-neutral and detection schedule delay		-6,276
102	ARMY TACTICAL COMMAND & CONTROL HARDWARE & SOFTWARE	205,590	203,274
	Solider borne sensor personal reconnaissance technology		7,500
	TNOM funding ahead of acquisition strategy		-9,816
105	FIREFINDER	9,235	6,425
	Enhanced AN/TPQ 36 carryover		-2,810
108	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT	74,236	73,732
	Army human resource system VACE unjustified		-504
117	COMMON INFRARED COUNTERMEASURES (CIRCM)	96,977	82,977
	Program of record prior year carryover		-14,000
120	TACTICAL NETWORK RADIO SYSTEMS (LOW-TIER)	18,824	14,765
	Manpack operational test funding ahead of need		-4,059
122	AIRCRAFT SURVIVABILITY DEVELOPMENT	41,133	34,133
	Advanced missile warning system development funding		-7,000
126	JOINT AIR-TO-GROUND MISSILE (JAGM)	42,972	48,972
	Improved lethality and range		6,000
128	ARMY INTEGRATED AIR AND MISSILE DEFENSE (AIAMD)	252,811	282,811
	Program increase		15,000
	Cybersecurity research		15,000
137	THREAT SIMULATOR DEVELOPMENT	25,675	29,675
	Program increase		4,000
139	MAJOR T&E INVESTMENT	84,777	96,777
	Cyber vulnerabilities research		12,000
141	ARMY KWAJALEIN ATOLL	236,648	227,451
	Installation services excess growth		-9,197
145	ARMY TECHNICAL TEST INSTRUMENTATION AND TARGETS	52,404	72,404
	Cybersecurity of space and missile defense assets		10,000
	Program increase		10,000
156	MUNITIONS STANDARDIZATION, EFFECTIVENESS AND SAFETY	40,545	65,545
	Munitions standardization, effectiveness, and safety		10,000
	Program increase		15,000

R-1		Budget Request	Final Bill
166	LONG RANGE PRECISION FIRES (LRPF)	39,275	37,775
	Prior year carryover		-1,500
167	APACHE PRODUCT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM	66,441	64,441
	Support funding carryover		-1,000
	Management services excess growth		-1,000
171	IMPROVED TURBINE ENGINE PROGRAM	126,105	116,105
	PDR contract delay		-10,000
173	LOGISTICS AUTOMATION	4,563	1,736
	Prior year carryover		-2,827
176	AEROSTAT JOINT PROJECT OFFICE	45,482	6,400
	Excess funding due to program cancellation		-39,082
179	COMBAT VEHICLE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS	316,857	304,031
	Abrams program support excess growth		-5,000
	Excess funding		-1,026
	Stryker ECP 2 funding ahead of need		-6,800
181	AIRCRAFT MODIFICATIONS/PRODUCT IMPROVEMENT	35,793	33,693
	Modification funding ahead of need		-2,100
190	LOWER TIER AIR AND MISSILE DEFENSE (AMD) SYSTEM	69,417	63,889
	Prior year carryover		-5,528

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION, NAVY

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST & EVAL, NAVY		
	BASIC RESEARCH		
1	UNIVERSITY RESEARCH INITIATIVES	101,714	121,714
2	IN-HOUSE LABORATORY INDEPENDENT RESEARCH	18,508	18,508
3	DEFENSE RESEARCH SCIENCES	422,748	422,748
	TOTAL, BASIC RESEARCH	542,970	562,970
	APPLIED RESEARCH		
4	POWER PROJECTION APPLIED RESEARCH	41,371	61,371
5	FORCE PROTECTION APPLIED RESEARCH	158,745	201,745
6	MARINE CORPS LANDING FORCE TECHNOLOGY	51,590	69,765
7	COMMON PICTURE APPLIED RESEARCH	41,185	41,185
8	WARFIGHTER SUSTAINMENT APPLIED RESEARCH	45,467	50,467
9	ELECTROMAGNETIC SYSTEMS APPLIED RESEARCH	118,941	120,941
10	OCEAN WARFIGHTING ENVIRONMENT APPLIED RESEARCH	42,618	81,618
11	JOINT NON-LETHAL WEAPONS APPLIED RESEARCH	6,327	6,327
12	UNDERSEA WARFARE APPLIED RESEARCH	126,313	126,313
13	FUTURE NAVAL CAPABILITIES APPLIED RESEARCH	165,103	157,103
14	MINE AND EXPEDITIONARY WARFARE APPLIED RESEARCH	33,916	33,916
15	SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY MANAGEMENT - ONR HEADQUARTERS	29,575	29,575
	TOTAL, APPLIED RESEARCH	861,151	980,326

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT		
16	POWER PROJECTION ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY	96,406	96,406
17	FORCE PROTECTION ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY	48,438	85,338
18	ELECTROMAGNETIC SYSTEMS ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY	26,421	26,421
19	MARINE CORPS ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY DEMONSTRATION (ATD)	140,416	140,416
20	JOINT NON-LETHAL WEAPONS TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT	13,117	13,117
21	FUTURE NAVAL CAPABILITIES ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY DEV	249,092	266,092
22	MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM	56,712	56,712
23	WARFIGHTER PROTECTION ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY	4,789	40,789
24	UNDERSEA WARFARE ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY	25,880	25,880
25	NAVY WARFIGHTING EXPERIMENTS AND DEMONSTRATIONS	60,550	59,550
26	MINE AND EXPEDITIONARY WARFARE ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY	15,167	13,167
	TOTAL, ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT	736,988	823,888
	DEMONSTRATION & VALIDATION		
27	AIR/OCEAN TACTICAL APPLICATIONS	48,536	44,936
28	AVIATION SURVIVABILITY	5,239	15,239
30	AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS	1,519	1,519
31	ASW SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT	7,041	7,041
32	TACTICAL AIRBORNE RECONNAISSANCE	3,274	3,274
33	ADVANCED COMBAT SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGY	57,034	3,651
34	SURFACE AND SHALLOW WATER MINE COUNTERMEASURES	165,775	120,775
35	SURFACE SHIP TORPEDO DEFENSE	87,066	71,553
36	CARRIER SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT	7,605	7,605
37	PILOT FISH	132,068	132,068
38	RETRACT LARCH	14,546	14,546
39	RETRACT JUNIPER	115,435	115,435
40	RADIOLOGICAL CONTROL	702	702
41	SURFACE ASW	1,081	1,081
42	ADVANCED SUBMARINE SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT	100,565	118,023
43	SUBMARINE TACTICAL WARFARE SYSTEMS	8,782	8,782
44	SHIP CONCEPT ADVANCED DESIGN	14,590	14,590

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
45	SHIP PRELIMINARY DESIGN & FEASIBILITY STUDIES	15,805	13,805
46	ADVANCED NUCLEAR POWER SYSTEMS	453,313	453,313
47	ADVANCED SURFACE MACHINERY SYSTEMS	36,655	30,858
48	CHALK EAGLE	367,016	367,016
49	LITTORAL COMBAT SHIP (LCS)	51,630	51,630
50	COMBAT SYSTEM INTEGRATION	23,530	23,530
51	OHIO REPLACEMENT PROGRAM	700,811	700,811
52	LITTORAL COMBAT SHIP (LCS) MISSION MODULES	160,058	153,608
53	AUTOMATED TEST AND RE-TEST	---	15,000
54	FRIGATE DEVELOPMENT	84,900	84,900
55	CONVENTIONAL MUNITIONS	8,342	8,342
56	MARINE CORPS ASSAULT VEHICLES	158,682	138,762
57	MARINE CORPS GROUND COMBAT/SUPPORT SYSTEM	1,303	1,303
58	JOINT SERVICE EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DEVELOPMENT	46,911	45,411
60	OCEAN ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT	4,556	4,556
61	ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION	20,343	19,121
62	NAVY ENERGY PROGRAM	52,479	70,879
63	FACILITIES IMPROVEMENT	5,458	5,458
64	CHALK CORAL	245,860	230,860
65	NAVY LOGISTIC PRODUCTIVITY	3,089	3,089
66	RETRACT MAPLE	323,526	314,776
67	LINK PLUMERIA	318,497	284,297
68	RETRACT ELM	52,834	52,834
69	LINK EVERGREEN	48,116	48,116
70	SPECIAL PROCESSES	13,619	13,619
71	NATO RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT	9,867	8,567
72	LAND ATTACK TECHNOLOGY	6,015	18,015
73	JOINT NONLETHAL WEAPONS TESTING	27,904	27,904
74	JOINT PRECISION APPROACH AND LANDING SYSTEMS	104,144	102,722
75	DIRECTED ENERGY AND ELECTRIC WEAPON SYSTEMS	32,700	32,700
76	GERALD R. FORD CLASS NUCLEAR AIRCRAFT CARRIER	70,528	70,528

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
77	REMOTE MINEHUNTING SYSTEM (RMS)	3,001	3,001
78	TACTICAL AIR DIRECTIONAL INFRARED COUNTERMEASURES	34,920	26,920
80	MH-XX	1,620	1,620
81	LX (R)	6,354	25,354
82	ADVANCED UNDERSEA PROTOTYPING	78,589	59,479
84	PRECISION STRIKE WEAPONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM	9,910	4,910
85	SPACE & ELECTRONIC WARFARE (SEW) ARCHITECTURE/ENGINE	23,971	20,651
86	OFFENSIVE ANTI-SURFACE WARFARE WEAPON DEVELOPMENT	252,409	300,971
87	JOINT LIGHT TACTICAL VEHICLE ENGINEERING/MANUFACTURING	23,197	9,597
88	ASW SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT - MIP	9,110	9,110
89	ELECTRONIC WARFARE DEVELOPMENT - MIP	437	437
	TOTAL, DEMONSTRATION & VALIDATION	4,662,867	4,539,200
	ENGINEERING & MANUFACTURING DEVELOPMENT		
90	TRAINING SYSTEM AIRCRAFT	19,938	17,938
91	OTHER HELO DEVELOPMENT	6,268	5,968
92	AV-8B AIRCRAFT - ENG DEV	33,664	32,664
93	STANDARDS DEVELOPMENT	1,300	1,300
94	MULTI-MISSION HELICOPTER UPGRADE DEVELOPMENT	5,275	5,275
95	AIR/OCEAN EQUIPMENT ENGINEERING	3,875	3,875
96	P-3 MODERNIZATION PROGRAM	1,909	1,909
97	WARFARE SUPPORT SYSTEM	13,237	11,537
98	TACTICAL COMMAND SYSTEM	36,323	36,323
99	ADVANCED HAWKEYE	363,792	365,178
100	H-1 UPGRADES	27,441	27,441
101	ACOUSTIC SEARCH SENSORS	34,525	29,525
102	V-22A	174,423	154,245
103	AIR CREW SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT	13,577	7,477
104	EA-18	116,761	104,444
105	ELECTRONIC WARFARE DEVELOPMENT	48,766	42,378
106	EXECUTIVE HELO DEVELOPMENT	338,357	338,357
107	NEXT GENERATION JAMMER (NGJ)	577,822	577,822

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
108	JOINT TACTICAL RADIO SYSTEM - NAVY (JTRS-NAVY)	2,365	2,365
109	NEXT GENERATION JAMMER (NGJ) INCREMENT II	52,065	18,965
110	SURFACE COMBATANT COMBAT SYSTEM ENGINEERING	282,764	275,764
111	LPD-17 CLASS SYSTEMS INTEGRATION	580	580
112	SMALL DIAMETER BOMB (SDB)	97,622	91,622
113	STANDARD MISSILE IMPROVEMENTS	120,561	120,561
114	AIRBORNE MCM	45,622	45,622
116	NAVAL INTEGRATED FIRE CONTROL-COUNTER AIR SYSTEMS ENG.	25,750	25,750
118	ADVANCED ABOVE WATER SENSORS	85,868	72,868
119	SSN-688 AND TRIDENT MODERNIZATION	117,476	123,476
120	AIR CONTROL	47,404	44,858
121	SHIPBOARD AVIATION SYSTEMS	112,158	116,158
122	COMBAT INFORMATION CENTER CONVERSION	6,283	6,283
123	AIR AND MISSILE DEFENSE RADAR (AMDR) SYSTEM	144,395	144,395
124	NEW DESIGN SSN	113,013	130,013
125	SUBMARINE TACTICAL WARFARE SYSTEM	43,160	52,160
126	SHIP CONTRACT DESIGN/LIVE FIRE T&E	65,002	85,002
127	NAVY TACTICAL COMPUTER RESOURCES	3,098	3,098
128	VIRGINIA PAYLOAD MODULE (VPM)	97,920	97,920
129	MINE DEVELOPMENT	10,490	10,490
130	LIGHTWEIGHT TORPEDO DEVELOPMENT	20,178	30,178
131	JOINT SERVICE EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DEVELOPMENT	7,369	7,369
132	PERSONNEL, TRAINING, SIMULATION, AND HUMAN FACTORS	4,995	4,995
133	JOINT STANDOFF WEAPON SYSTEMS	412	412
134	SHIP SELF DEFENSE (DETECT & CONTROL)	134,619	134,619
135	SHIP SELF DEFENSE (ENGAGE: HARD KILL)	114,475	119,475
136	SHIP SELF DEFENSE (ENGAGE: SOFT KILL/EW)	114,211	103,889
137	INTELLIGENCE ENGINEERING	11,029	9,029
138	MEDICAL DEVELOPMENT	9,220	25,220
139	NAVIGATION/ID SYSTEM	42,723	42,723
140	JOINT STRIKE FIGHTER (JSF) - EMD	531,426	531,426

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
141	JOINT STRIKE FIGHTER (JSF)	528,716	528,716
142	JSF FOLLOW ON DEVELOPMENT-MARINE CORPS	74,227	29,691
143	JSF FOLLOW ON DEVELOPMENT-NAVY	63,387	25,355
144	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT	4,856	4,856
145	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT	97,066	90,566
146	ANTI-TAMPER TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT	2,500	500
147	CH-53K	404,810	350,810
148	MISSION PLANNING	33,570	33,570
149	COMMON AVIONICS	51,599	49,512
150	SHIP TO SHORE CONNECTOR (SSC)	11,088	11,088
151	T-AO (X)	1,095	1,095
152	CARRIER BASED AERIAL REFUELING SYSTEM (CBARS)	89,000	76,422
153	JOINT AIR-TO-GROUND MISSILE (JAGM)	17,880	17,880
154	MULTI-MISSION MARITIME AIRCRAFT (MMA)	59,126	64,126
155	MULTI-MISSION MARITIME AIRCRAFT (MMA) INCREMENT 3	182,220	112,320
156	DDG-1000	45,642	45,642
159	TACTICAL COMMAND SYSTEM - MIP	676	676
160	TACTICAL CRYPTOLOGIC SYSTEMS	36,747	34,047
161	SPECIAL APPLICATIONS PROGRAM	35,002	35,002
162	CYBER OPERATIONS TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT	4,942	2,442
	TOTAL, ENGINEERING & MANUFACTURING DEVELOPMENT	6,025,655	5,755,257
	RDT&E MANAGEMENT SUPPORT		
163	THREAT SIMULATOR DEVELOPMENT	16,633	16,633
164	TARGET SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT	36,662	36,662
165	MAJOR T&E INVESTMENT	42,109	52,109
166	JOINT THEATER AIR AND MISSILE DEFENSE ORGANIZATION	2,998	2,998
167	STUDIES AND ANALYSIS SUPPORT - NAVY	3,931	3,931
168	CENTER FOR NAVAL ANALYSES	46,634	46,634
169	NEXT GENERATION FIGHTER	1,200	1,200
171	TECHNICAL INFORMATION SERVICES	903	903
172	MANAGEMENT, TECHNICAL & INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT	87,077	100,077

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
173	STRATEGIC TECHNICAL SUPPORT	3,597	3,597
174	RDT&E SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY MANAGEMENT	62,811	62,811
175	RDT&E SHIP AND AIRCRAFT SUPPORT	106,093	106,093
176	TEST AND EVALUATION SUPPORT	349,146	349,146
177	OPERATIONAL TEST AND EVALUATION CAPABILITY	18,160	18,160
178	NAVY SPACE AND ELECTRONIC WARFARE (SEW) SUPPORT	9,658	9,658
179	SEW SURVEILLANCE/RECONNAISSANCE SUPPORT	6,500	6,500
180	MARINE CORPS PROGRAM WIDE SUPPORT	22,247	19,766
181	MANAGEMENT HEADQUARTERS - R&D	16,254	16,254
182	WARFARE INNOVATION MANAGEMENT	21,123	15,423
	TOTAL, RDT&E MANAGEMENT SUPPORT	853,736	868,555
	OPERATIONAL SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT		
188	COOPERATIVE ENGAGEMENT CAPABILITY (CEC)	84,501	77,001
189	DEPLOYABLE JOINT COMMAND AND CONTROL	2,970	2,970
190	STRATEGIC SUB & WEAPONS SYSTEM SUPPORT	136,556	131,056
191	SSBN SECURITY TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM	33,845	33,845
192	SUBMARINE ACOUSTIC WARFARE DEVELOPMENT	9,329	9,329
193	NAVY STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS	17,218	17,218
195	F/A-18 SQUADRONS	189,125	174,425
196	FLEET TELECOMMUNICATIONS (TACTICAL)	48,225	48,225
197	SURFACE SUPPORT	21,156	21,156
198	TOMAHAWK AND TOMAHAWK MISSION PLANNING CENTER (TMPC)	71,355	43,016
199	INTEGRATED SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM	58,542	57,058
200	AMPHIBIOUS TACTICAL SUPPORT UNITS	13,929	13,929
201	GROUND/AIR TASK ORIENTED RADAR	83,538	81,038
202	CONSOLIDATED TRAINING SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT	38,593	45,343
203	CRYPTOLOGIC DIRECT SUPPORT	1,122	1,122
204	ELECTRONIC WARFARE (EW) READINESS SUPPORT	99,998	83,292
205	HARM IMPROVEMENT	48,635	38,435
206	TACTICAL DATA LINKS	124,785	124,785

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
207	SURFACE ASW COMBAT SYSTEM INTEGRATION	24,583	24,583
208	MK-48 ADCAP	39,134	49,134
209	AVIATION IMPROVEMENTS	120,861	118,861
210	OPERATIONAL NUCLEAR POWER SYSTEMS	101,786	101,786
211	MARINE CORPS COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS	82,159	99,359
212	COMMON AVIATION COMMAND AND CONTROL SYSTEM	11,850	8,976
213	MARINE CORPS GROUND COMBAT/SUPPORTING ARMS SYSTEMS	47,877	41,877
214	MARINE CORPS COMBAT SERVICES SUPPORT	13,194	11,700
215	USMC INTELLIGENCE/ELECTRONIC WARFARE SYSTEMS (MIP)	17,171	17,171
216	AMPHIBIOUS ASSAULT VEHICLE	38,020	38,020
217	TACTICAL AIM MISSILES	56,285	56,285
218	ADVANCED MEDIUM RANGE AIR-TO-AIR MISSILE (AMRAAM)	40,350	40,350
219	GLOBAL COMBAT SUPPORT SYSTEM - MARINE CORPS (GCSS-MC)	9,128	9,128
223	SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS (SPACE)	37,372	32,116
224	CONSOLIDATED AFLOAT NETWORK ENTERPRISE SERVICES	23,541	23,541
225	INFORMATION SYSTEMS SECURITY PROGRAM	38,510	33,310
228	JOINT MILITARY INTELLIGENCE PROGRAMS	6,019	6,019
229	TACTICAL UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLES	8,436	8,436
230	UAS INTEGRATION AND INTEROPERABILITY	36,509	21,909
231	DISTRIBUTED COMMON GROUND SYSTEMS/SURFACE SYSTEMS	2,100	2,100
232	DISTRIBUTED COMMON GROUND SYSTEMS/SURFACE SYSTEMS	44,571	44,571
233	MQ-4C TRITON	111,729	111,729
234	MQ-8 UAV	26,518	26,518
235	RQ-11 UAV	418	---
236	RQ-7 UAV	716	---
237	SMALL (LEVEL 0) TACTICAL UAS (STUASL0)	5,071	5,071
238	RQ-21A	9,497	8,379
239	MULTI-INTELLIGENCE SENSOR DEVELOPMENT	77,965	64,765
240	UNMANNED AERIAL SYSTEMS (UAS) PAYLOADS (MIP)	11,181	11,181
241	RQ-4 MODERNIZATION	181,266	144,566
242	MODELING AND SIMULATION SUPPORT	4,709	4,709

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
243	DEPOT MAINTENANCE (NON-IF)	49,322	38,277
245	MARITIME TECHNOLOGY (MARITECH)	3,204	3,204
	TOTAL, OPERATIONAL SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT	2,364,474	2,210,874
9999	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	1,228,460	1,473,460
	TOTAL, RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST & EVAL, NAVY	17,276,301	17,214,530

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS
[In thousands of dollars]

R-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
1 UNIVERSITY RESEARCH INITIATIVES	101,714	121,714
Program increase - basic research		20,000
4 POWER PROJECTION APPLIED RESEARCH	41,371	61,371
Program increase		20,000
5 FORCE PROTECTION APPLIED RESEARCH	158,745	201,745
Program increase - littoral threat research		5,000
Program increase		15,000
Program increase - battery storage and safety		3,000
Program increase - alternative energy research		20,000
6 MARINE CORPS LANDING FORCE TECHNOLOGY	51,590	69,765
Littoral combat/power projection unjustified growth		-1,825
Program increase		20,000
8 WARFIGHTER SUSTAINMENT APPLIED RESEARCH	45,467	50,467
Program increase		5,000
9 ELECTROMAGNETIC SYSTEMS APPLIED RESEARCH	118,941	120,941
Electronic warfare technology previously funded efforts		-2,000
Program increase - conformal phased array antenna research		4,000
10 OCEAN WARFIGHTING ENVIRONMENT APPLIED RESEARCH	42,618	81,618
Program increase - AGOR mid-life refit		30,000
Program increase - naval special warfare maritime science and technology		5,000
Program increase - space-based monitoring in the arctic basin		4,000
13 FUTURE NAVAL CAPABILITIES APPLIED RESEARCH	165,103	157,103
FORCENET excess growth		-5,000
Power and energy previously funded efforts		-2,000
Sea shield previously funded efforts		-1,000
17 FORCE PROTECTION ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY	48,438	85,338
Aircraft technology excess growth		-3,100
Program increase - autonomous surface unmanned vehicle research		40,000
21 FUTURE NAVAL CAPABILITIES ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY DEV	249,092	266,092
Program increase - ASW research		7,000
Program increase		10,000
23 WARFIGHTER PROTECTION ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY	4,789	40,789
Program increase - bone marrow registry program		31,500
Program increase - tactical athlete program		4,500
25 NAVY WARFIGHTING EXPERIMENTS AND DEMONSTRATIONS	60,550	59,550
Operations analysis unjustified growth		-1,000
26 MINE AND EXPEDITIONARY WARFARE ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY	15,167	13,167
Mine technology excess growth		-2,000

R-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
27 AIR/OCEAN TACTICAL APPLICATIONS	**48,536**	**44,936**
Naval integrated tactical environmental system next generation excess growth		-3,000
Precise timing and astrometry contract delays		-600
28 AVIATION SURVIVABILITY	**5,239**	**15,239**
Program increase		10,000
33 ADVANCED COMBAT SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGY	**57,034**	**3,651**
Rapid prototype development excess growth		-39,356
Unmanned rapid prototype development excess growth		-14,027
34 SURFACE AND SHALLOW WATER MINE COUNTERMEASURES	**165,775**	**120,775**
LDUUV support excess growth		-2,000
Project 2094 LDUUV - continue risk reduction and technology maturation efforts only		-43,000
35 SURFACE SHIP TORPEDO DEFENSE	**87,066**	**71,553**
Long lead material early to need		-15,513
42 ADVANCED SUBMARINE SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT	**100,565**	**118,023**
Flank array demonstration unjustified growth		-450
Stealth product development excess growth		-2,500
Universal launch and recovery module excess growth		-4,592
Program increase - advance materials propeller research		25,000
45 SHIP PRELIMINARY DESIGN & FEASIBILITY STUDIES	**15,805**	**13,805**
Shipboard energy conservation excess growth		-2,000
47 ADVANCED SURFACE MACHINERY SYSTEMS	**36,655**	**30,858**
Energy efficiency previously funded efforts		-1,797
Cybersecurity boundary defense capability excess growth		-4,000
52 LITTORAL COMBAT SHIP (LCS) MISSION MODULES	**160,058**	**153,608**
System test and evaluation prior year carryover		-6,450
53 AUTOMATED TEST AND RE-TEST	**0**	**15,000**
Program increase		15,000
56 MARINE CORPS ASSAULT VEHICLES	**158,682**	**138,762**
Product development prior year carryover		-19,920
58 JOINT SERVICE EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DEVELOPMENT	**46,911**	**45,411**
VSW MCM next generation UUV early to need		-1,500
61 ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION	**20,343**	**19,121**
Environmental sustainability development excess growth		-1,222
62 NAVY ENERGY PROGRAM	**52,479**	**70,879**
Aircraft energy conservation systems engineering prior year carryover		-1,600
Program increase - installation energy efficiency enhancements		5,000
Program increase - renewable energy development		15,000
64 CHALK CORAL	**245,860**	**230,860**
Program adjustment		-15,000
66 RETRACT MAPLE	**323,526**	**314,776**
Program reduction		-8,750

R-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
67 LINK PLUMERIA	**318,497**	**284,297**
Program adjustment		-34,200
71 NATO RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT	**9,867**	**8,567**
Cooperative research and development unjustified growth		-1,300
72 LAND ATTACK TECHNOLOGY	**6,015**	**18,015**
Program increase - fly off competition		12,000
74 JOINT PRECISION APPROACH AND LANDING SYSTEMS	**104,144**	**102,722**
UCLASS test support unjustified request		-1,422
78 TACTICAL AIR DIRECTIONAL INFRARED COUNTERMEASURES	**34,920**	**26,920**
CIRCM schedule delays		-8,000
81 LX (R)	**6,354**	**25,354**
Program increase - accelerate LX (R) class of ships		19,000
82 ADVANCED UNDERSEA PROTOTYPING	**78,589**	**59,479**
Program adjustment - reflects change to competitive acquisition strategy		-35,000
Navy requested program increase		15,890
84 PRECISION STRIKE WEAPONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM	**9,910**	**4,910**
NGLAW program delay		-5,000
SPACE & ELECTRONIC WARFARE (SEW)		
85 ARCHITECTURE/ENGINEERING SUPPORT	**23,971**	**20,651**
Maritime concept generation and development excess growth		-3,320
OFFENSIVE ANTI-SURFACE WARFARE WEAPON		
86 DEVELOPMENT	**252,409**	**300,971**
Increment II early to need		-2,038
Program increase - Increment I Navy identified funding shortfall		50,600
JOINT LIGHT TACTICAL VEHICLE		
87 ENGINEERING/MANUFACTURING	**23,197**	**9,597**
Prior year carryover		-13,600
90 TRAINING SYSTEM AIRCRAFT	**19,938**	**17,938**
T-45 schedule delays		-2,000
91 OTHER HELO DEVELOPMENT	**6,268**	**5,968**
H-53 avionics previously funded		-300
92 AV-8B AIRCRAFT - ENG DEV	**33,664**	**32,664**
Support carryover		-1,000
97 WARFARE SUPPORT SYSTEM	**13,237**	**11,537**
Navy irregular warfare excess growth		-1,700
99 ADVANCED HAWKEYE	**363,792**	**365,178**
Mode 5/S previously funded		-225
New start efforts excess growth		-8,389
Program increase - radar development		10,000
101 ACOUSTIC SEARCH SENSORS	**34,525**	**29,525**
Multi-static active coherent schedule delays		-5,000

R-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
102 V-22A	**174,423**	**154,245**
Navy variant development contract award delays		-11,927
Aerial refueling system development contract award delay		-8,251
103 AIR CREW SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT	**13,577**	**7,477**
Enhanced visual acuity program delays		-6,100
104 EA-18	**116,761**	**104,444**
Design and avionics integration excess growth		-10,000
Developmental and operational testing excess growth		-2,317
105 ELECTRONIC WARFARE DEVELOPMENT	**48,766**	**42,378**
Technology development unjustified new start		-2,016
Intrepid Tiger II excess growth		-4,372
109 NEXT GENERATION JAMMER (NGJ) INCREMENT II	**52,065**	**18,965**
Program growth		-33,100
110 SURFACE COMBATANT COMBAT SYSTEM ENGINEERING	**282,764**	**275,764**
AEGIS baseline 5.3X upgrade excess growth		-10,000
Program increase - small business technology insertion		3,000
112 SMALL DIAMETER BOMB (SDB)	**97,622**	**91,622**
F-18 integration test asset cost growth		-6,000
113 STANDARD MISSILE IMPROVEMENTS	**120,561**	**120,561**
Defer future capability demonstration efforts until completion of program of record test events		-14,000
Fully fund unfunded program of record test events		14,000
118 ADVANCED ABOVE WATER SENSORS	**85,868**	**72,868**
Program adjustment		-13,000
119 SSN-688 AND TRIDENT MODERNIZATION	**117,476**	**123,476**
Towed buoy antenna previously funded efforts		-1,000
Program increase		7,000
120 AIR CONTROL	**47,404**	**44,858**
AN/SPN-50 cost growth		-2,546
121 SHIPBOARD AVIATION SYSTEMS	**112,158**	**116,158**
Program increase		4,000
124 NEW DESIGN SSN	**113,013**	**130,013**
Program increase - small business technology insertion		10,000
Program increase		7,000
125 SUBMARINE TACTICAL WARFARE SYSTEM	**43,160**	**52,160**
Program increase - advanced weapons enhanced by submarine unmanned aerial system against mobile targets		9,000
126 SHIP CONTRACT DESIGN/LIVE FIRE T&E	**65,002**	**85,002**
Program increase - CVN cost reduction initiatives		20,000
130 LIGHTWEIGHT TORPEDO DEVELOPMENT	**20,178**	**30,178**
Program increase - small business technology insertion		10,000

R-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
135 SHIP SELF DEFENSE (ENGAGE: HARD KILL)	**114,475**	**119,475**
Program increase - electronics enclosure redesign efforts		5,000
136 SHIP SELF DEFENSE (ENGAGE: SOFT KILL/EW)	**114,211**	**103,889**
EW RCIP unjustified growth		-2,322
Project 3316 decoy development effort contract award delay		-8,000
137 INTELLIGENCE ENGINEERING	**11,029**	**9,029**
Excess growth		-2,000
138 MEDICAL DEVELOPMENT	**9,220**	**25,220**
Program increase - military dental research		6,000
Program increase - wound care research		10,000
139 NAVIGATION/ID SYSTEM	**42,723**	**42,723**
ISIS and photonics common software and hardware capabilities prior year carryover		-3,000
NAVSTAR GPS equipment excess support growth		-3,000
Improved GPS - Department requested transfer of funds from multiple RDTE,AF lines		6,000
142 JSF FOLLOW ON DEVELOPMENT-MARINE CORPS	**74,227**	**29,691**
Follow-on development excess funds		-44,536
143 JSF FOLLOW ON DEVELOPMENT-NAVY	**63,387**	**25,355**
Follow-on development excess funds		-38,032
145 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT	**97,066**	**90,566**
Excess support growth		-1,800
NAVSEA IT excess growth		-2,200
BUPERS IT excess growth		-2,500
146 ANTI-TAMPER TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT	**2,500**	**500**
Unjustified request		-2,000
147 CH-53K	**404,810**	**350,810**
Program delay		-54,000
149 COMMON AVIONICS	**51,599**	**49,512**
CNS/ATM prior year carryover		-2,087
152 CARRIER BASED AERIAL REFUELING SYSTEM (CBARS)	**89,000**	**76,422**
Air segment product development early to need		-12,578
154 MULTI-MISSION MARITIME AIRCRAFT (MMA)	**59,126**	**64,126**
Program execution		-5,000
Program increase - small business technology insertion		10,000
155 MULTI-MISSION MARITIME AIRCRAFT (MMA) INCREMENT 3	**182,220**	**112,320**
Engineering change proposals 6 and 7 funding concurrent with combat systems architecture early to need		-69,900
160 TACTICAL CRYPTOLOGIC SYSTEMS	**36,747**	**34,047**
Excess support growth		-2,700
162 CYBER OPERATIONS TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT	**4,942**	**2,442**
Excess growth		-2,500

R-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
165 MAJOR T&E INVESTMENT	**42,109**	**52,109**
Program increase - modeling and simulation for ground testing capabilities		10,000
172 MANAGEMENT, TECHNICAL & INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT	**87,077**	**100,077**
Program increase - printed circuit board executive agent		13,000
180 MARINE CORPS PROGRAM WIDE SUPPORT	**22,247**	**19,766**
Studies and analysis excess growth		-2,481
182 WARFARE INNOVATION MANAGEMENT	**21,123**	**15,423**
Fleet experimentation excess growth		-5,700
188 COOPERATIVE ENGAGEMENT CAPABILITY (CEC)	**84,501**	**77,001**
Program delays		-7,500
190 STRATEGIC SUB & WEAPONS SYSTEM SUPPORT	**136,556**	**131,056**
Technical applications programs contract delays		-5,500
195 F/A-18 SQUADRONS	**189,125**	**174,425**
Multi-system integration excess growth		-4,000
Radar upgrade product development previously funded		-2,700
Infrared search and track excess growth		-10,000
Program increase - noise reduction research		2,000
198 TOMAHAWK AND TOMAHAWK MISSION PLANNING CENTER	**71,355**	**43,016**
Theater mission planning center previously funded		-4,000
Support prior year carryover		-6,339
Maritime modernization program adjustment		-18,000
199 INTEGRATED SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM	**58,542**	**57,058**
TASW prototypes excess growth		-1,484
201 GROUND/AIR TASK ORIENTED RADAR	**83,538**	**81,038**
EDM-1 refurbishment previously funded		-500
Insufficient budget documentation		-2,000
202 CONSOLIDATED TRAINING SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT	**38,593**	**45,343**
TACTS/LATR replacement contract delay		-2,250
Program increase - project 0604 training range enhancements		9,000
204 ELECTRONIC WARFARE (EW) READINESS SUPPORT	**99,998**	**83,292**
Electronic warfare/information operations countermeasure capability research and development prior year carryover		-3,206
Twisted web excess growth		-9,300
Mocking jay excess growth		-4,200
205 HARM IMPROVEMENT	**48,635**	**38,435**
AARGM threat data library unjustified growth		-1,800
AARGM ER change to acquisition strategy		-8,400
208 MK-48 ADCAP	**39,134**	**49,134**
Program increase		10,000
209 AVIATION IMPROVEMENTS	**120,861**	**118,861**
F135 engine unjustified growth		-2,000

R-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
211 MARINE CORPS COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS	**82,159**	**99,359**
CREW product development prior year carryover		-800
Program increase		6,000
Program increase - radar enhancements		12,000
212 COMMON AVIATION COMMAND AND CONTROL SYSTEM	**11,850**	**8,976**
Product development excess growth		-2,874
213 MARINE CORPS GROUND COMBAT/SUPPORTING ARMS SYSTEMS	**47,877**	**41,877**
Project 1555 prior year carryover		-6,000
214 MARINE CORPS COMBAT SERVICES SUPPORT	**13,194**	**11,700**
Advanced power sources contract delay		-1,494
223 SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS (SPACE)	**37,372**	**32,116**
Joint aerial layer network maritime unjustified growth		-2,000
MUOS contract delay		-3,256
225 INFORMATION SYSTEMS SECURITY PROGRAM	**38,510**	**33,310**
Excess growth		-5,200
230 UAS INTEGRATION AND INTEROPERABILITY	**36,509**	**21,909**
Prior year carryover		-3,000
Increment II increase early to need		-11,600
235 RQ-11 UAV	**418**	**0**
Fully developed program		-418
236 RQ-7 UAV	**716**	**0**
Fully developed program		-716
238 RQ-21A	**9,497**	**8,379**
Inconsistent budget justification		-1,118
239 MULTI-INTELLIGENCE SENSOR DEVELOPMENT	**77,965**	**64,765**
Excess growth		-5,000
Project 3329 increase early to need		-8,200
241 RQ-4 MODERNIZATION	**181,266**	**144,566**
Test and evaluation excess growth		-2,550
Excess concurrency		-34,150
243 DEPOT MAINTENANCE (NON-IF)	**49,322**	**38,277**
Project 3384 funding early to need		-11,045
999 CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	**1,228,460**	**1,473,460**
Classified adjustment		245,000

STANDARD MISSILE–6

The agreement includes $120,561,000, as requested, for Standard Missile–6 (SM–6) improvements. It is understood that the Navy's top priority for the SM–6 research, development, test and evaluation program in fiscal year 2017 is the completion of program of record flight tests and achieving full operational capability for the SM–6 Block I. The Secretary of the Navy is encouraged to prioritize funding allocations accordingly.

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION, AIR FORCE

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST & EVAL, AIR FORCE		
	BASIC RESEARCH		
1	DEFENSE RESEARCH SCIENCES	340,812	380,812
2	UNIVERSITY RESEARCH INITIATIVES	145,044	150,044
3	HIGH ENERGY LASER RESEARCH INITIATIVES	14,168	14,168
	TOTAL, BASIC RESEARCH	500,024	545,024
	APPLIED RESEARCH		
4	MATERIALS	126,152	159,152
5	AEROSPACE VEHICLE TECHNOLOGIES	122,831	132,831
6	HUMAN EFFECTIVENESS APPLIED RESEARCH	111,647	111,647
7	AEROSPACE PROPULSION	185,671	195,671
8	AEROSPACE SENSORS	155,174	162,674
9	SPACE TECHNOLOGY	117,915	117,915
10	CONVENTIONAL MUNITIONS	109,649	109,649
11	DIRECTED ENERGY TECHNOLOGY	127,163	127,163
12	DOMINANT INFORMATION SCIENCES AND METHODS	161,650	166,650
13	HIGH ENERGY LASER RESEARCH	42,300	42,300
	TOTAL, APPLIED RESEARCH	1,260,152	1,325,652
	ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT		
14	ADVANCED MATERIALS FOR WEAPON SYSTEMS	35,137	53,137
15	SUSTAINMENT SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (S&T)	20,636	20,636
16	ADVANCED AEROSPACE SENSORS	40,945	40,945
17	AEROSPACE TECHNOLOGY DEV/DEMO	130,950	130,950
18	AEROSPACE PROPULSION AND POWER TECHNOLOGY	94,594	109,594
19	ELECTRONIC COMBAT TECHNOLOGY	58,250	66,150
20	ADVANCED SPACECRAFT TECHNOLOGY	61,593	71,593
21	MAUI SPACE SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM (MSSS)	11,681	11,681
22	HUMAN EFFECTIVENESS ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT	26,492	26,492

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
23	CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS TECHNOLOGY	102,009	107,009
24	ADVANCED WEAPONS TECHNOLOGY	39,064	49,064
25	MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM	46,344	62,344
26	BATTLESPACE KNOWLEDGE DEVELOPMENT & DEMONSTRATION	58,110	58,110
	TOTAL, ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT	725,805	807,705
	ADVANCED COMPONENT DEVELOPMENT		
27	INTELLIGENCE ADVANCED DEVELOPMENT	5,598	5,598
28	SPACE CONTROL TECHNOLOGY	7,534	7,534
29	COMBAT IDENTIFICATION TECHNOLOGY	24,418	24,418
30	NATO RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT	4,333	4,333
32	SPACE PROTECTION PROGRAM (SPP)	32,399	32,399
33	INTERCONTINENTAL BALLISTIC MISSILE	108,663	113,663
34	POLLUTION PREVENTION (DEM/VAL)	---	3,500
35	LONG RANGE STRIKE	1,358,309	1,338,309
36	ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY AND SENSORS	34,818	34,818
37	TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER	3,368	8,368
38	HARD AND DEEPLY BURIED TARGET DEFEAT SYSTEM	74,308	54,708
39	WEATHER SATELLITE FOLLOW-ON	118,953	93,953
40	SPACE SITUATION AWARENESS SYSTEMS	9,901	9,901
41	DEPLOYMENT AND DISTRIBUTION ENTERPRISE R&D	25,890	25,890
42	OPERATIONALLY RESPONSIVE SPACE	7,921	18,421
43	TECH TRANSITION PROGRAM	347,304	385,304
44	GROUND BASED STRATEGIC DETERRENT	113,919	113,919
46	NEXT GENERATION AIR DOMINANCE	20,595	20,595
47	THREE DIMENSIONAL LONG-RANGE RADAR	49,491	49,491
48	NAVSTAR GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEM (USER EQUIPMENT)	278,147	309,047
49	COMMON DATA LINK EXECUTIVE AGENT (CDL EA)	42,338	42,338
50	CYBER OPERATIONS TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT	158,002	158,002
51	ENABLED CYBER ACTIVITIES	15,842	15,842
52	CONTRACTING INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SYSTEM	5,782	5,782
	TOTAL, ADVANCED COMPONENT DEVELOPMENT	2,847,833	2,876,133

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	ENGINEERING & MANUFACTURING DEVELOPMENT		
54	ELECTRONIC WARFARE DEVELOPMENT	12,476	5,176
55	TACTICAL DATA NETWORKS ENTERPRISE	82,380	82,380
56	PHYSICAL SECURITY EQUIPMENT	8,458	8,458
57	SMALL DIAMETER BOMB (SDB)	54,838	39,138
58	COUNTERSPACE SYSTEMS	34,394	34,394
59	SPACE SITUATION AWARENESS SYSTEMS	23,945	23,945
60	SPACE FENCE	168,364	168,364
61	AIRBORNE ELECTRONIC ATTACK	9,187	9,187
62	SPACE BASED INFRARED SYSTEM (SBIRS) HIGH EMD	181,966	161,966
63	ARMAMENT/ORDNANCE DEVELOPMENT	20,312	20,312
64	SUBMUNITIONS	2,503	2,503
65	AGILE COMBAT SUPPORT	53,680	50,680
66	JOINT DIRECT ATTACK MUNITION	9,901	9,901
67	LIFE SUPPORT SYSTEMS	7,520	7,520
68	COMBAT TRAINING RANGES	77,409	68,409
69	F-35 - EMD	450,467	450,467
70	EVOLVED EXPENDABLE LAUNCH VEHICLE PROGRAM (SPACE)	296,572	396,572
71	LONG RANGE STANDOFF WEAPON	95,604	95,604
72	ICBM FUZE MODERNIZATION	189,751	189,751
73	JOINT TACTICAL NETWORK CENTER (JTNC)	1,131	1,131
74	F-22 MODERNIZATION INCREMENT 3.2B	70,290	70,290
75	GROUND ATTACK WEAPONS FUZE DEVELOPMENT	937	937
76	NEXT GENERATION AERIAL REFUELING AIRCRAFT KC-46	261,724	229,924

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
77	ADVANCED PILOT TRAINING	12,377	7,377
78	CSAR HH-60 RECAPITALIZATION	319,331	273,331
80	ADVANCED EHF MILSATCOM (SPACE)	259,131	229,131
81	POLAR MILSATCOM (SPACE)	50,815	45,815
82	WIDEBAND GLOBAL SATCOM (SPACE)	41,632	76,632
83	AIR AND SPACE OPS CENTER 10.2	28,911	21,911
84	B-2 DEFENSIVE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM	315,615	289,015
85	NUCLEAR WEAPONS MODERNIZATION	137,909	137,909
86	F-15 EPAWSS	256,669	250,669
87	FULL COMBAT MISSION TRAINING	12,051	12,051
88	COMBAT SURVIVOR EVADER LOCATOR	29,253	29,253
89	NEXTGEN JSTARS	128,019	128,019
90	PRESIDENTIAL AIRCRAFT REPLACEMENT	351,220	322,220
91	AUTOMATED TEST SYSTEMS	19,062	14,562
	TOTAL, ENGINEERING & MANUFACTURING DEVELOPMENT	4,075,804	3,964,904

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	RDT&E MANAGEMENT SUPPORT		
92	THREAT SIMULATOR DEVELOPMENT	21,630	21,630
93	MAJOR T&E INVESTMENT	66,385	66,385
94	RAND PROJECT AIR FORCE	34,641	34,641
96	INITIAL OPERATIONAL TEST & EVALUATION	11,529	11,529
97	TEST AND EVALUATION SUPPORT	661,417	676,417
98	ROCKET SYSTEMS LAUNCH PROGRAM (SPACE)	11,198	11,198
99	SPACE TEST PROGRAM (STP)	27,070	42,070
100	FACILITIES RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION - TEST & EVAL	134,111	134,111
101	FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT - TEST AND EVALUATION SUPPORT	28,091	28,091
102	REQUIREMENTS ANALYSIS AND MATURATION	29,100	34,100
103	SPACE TEST AND TRAINING RANGE DEVELOPMENT	18,528	18,528
104	SPACE AND MISSILE CENTER (SMC) CIVILIAN WORKFORCE	176,666	171,666
105	ENTERPRISE INFORMATION SERVICES (EIS)	4,410	4,410
106	ACQUISITION AND MANAGEMENT SUPPORT	14,613	14,613
107	GENERAL SKILL TRAINING	1,404	1,404
109	INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES	4,784	4,784
	TOTAL, RDT&E MANAGEMENT SUPPORT	1,245,577	1,275,577

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	OPERATIONAL SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT		
110	GPS III - OPERATIONAL CONTROL SEGMENT	393,268	393,268
111	SPECIALIZED UNDERGRADUATE FLIGHT TRAINING	15,427	18,427
112	WIDE AREA SURVEILLANCE	46,695	46,695
115	AIR FORCE INTEGRATED MILITARY HUMAN RESOURCES SYSTEM	10,368	10,368
116	ANTI-TAMPER TECHNOLOGY EXECUTIVE AGENCY	31,952	31,952
117	FOREIGN MATERIEL ACQUISITION AND EXPLOITATION	42,960	42,960
118	HC/MC-130 RECAP RDT&E	13,987	8,987
119	B-52 SQUADRONS	78,267	83,267
120	AIR-LAUNCHED CRUISE MISSILE (ALCM)	453	453
121	B-1B SQUADRONS	5,830	3,930
122	B-2 SQUADRONS	152,458	127,458
123	MINUTEMAN SQUADRONS	182,958	178,958
124	STRAT WAR PLANNING SYSTEM - USSTRATCOM	39,148	39,148
126	WORLDWIDE JOINT STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS	6,042	13,042
128	UH-1N REPLACEMENT PROGRAM	14,116	14,116
129	REGION/SECTOR OPERATION CONTROL CENTER MODERNIZATION	10,868	10,868
130	SERVICE SUPPORT TO STRATCOM - SPACE ACTIVITIES	8,674	8,674
131	MQ-9 UAV	151,373	138,373
133	A-10 SQUADRONS	14,853	4,853
134	F-16 SQUADRONS	132,795	120,195
135	F-15E SQUADRONS	356,717	356,717
136	MANNED DESTRUCTIVE SUPPRESSION	14,773	14,773
137	F-22 SQUADRONS	387,564	376,464
138	F-35 SQUADRONS	153,045	76,713
139	TACTICAL AIM MISSILES	52,898	52,898
140	ADVANCED MEDIUM RANGE AIR-TO-AIR MISSILE (AMRAAM)	62,470	62,470
143	COMBAT RESCUE - PARARESCUE	362	362
144	AF TENCAP	28,413	28,413
145	PRECISION ATTACK SYSTEMS PROCUREMENT	649	649
146	COMPASS CALL	13,723	13,723
147	AIRCRAFT ENGINE COMPONENT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM	109,859	109,859

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
148	JOINT AIR-TO-SURFACE STANDOFF MISSILE (JASSM)	30,002	21,902
149	AIR AND SPACE OPERATIONS CENTER (AOC)	37,621	30,343
150	CONTROL AND REPORTING CENTER (CRC)	13,292	13,292
151	AIRBORNE WARNING AND CONTROL SYSTEM (AWACS)	86,644	86,644
152	TACTICAL AIRBORNE CONTROL SYSTEMS	2,442	2,442
154	COMBAT AIR INTELLIGENCE SYSTEM ACTIVITIES	10,911	15,911
155	TACTICAL AIR CONTROL PARTY--MOD	11,843	11,843
156	C2ISR TACTICAL DATA LINK	1,515	1,515
157	DCAPES	14,979	14,979
158	SEEK EAGLE	25,308	25,308
159	USAF MODELING AND SIMULATION	16,666	16,666
160	WARGAMING AND SIMULATION CENTERS	4,245	4,245
161	DISTRIBUTED TRAINING AND EXERCISES	3,886	3,886
162	MISSION PLANNING SYSTEMS	71,785	71,785
164	AF OFFENSIVE CYBERSPACE OPERATIONS	25,025	25,025
165	AF DEFENSIVE CYBERSPACE OPERATIONS	29,439	39,439
168	GLOBAL SENSOR INTEGRATED ON NETWORK (GSIN)	3,470	3,470
169	NUCLEAR PLANNING AND EXECUTION SYSTEM (NPES)	4,060	4,060
175	SPACE SUPERIORITY INTELLIGENCE	13,880	12,380
176	E-4B NATIONAL AIRBORNE OPERATIONS CENTER (NAOC)	30,948	26,048
177	FAMILY OF ADVANCED BLoS TERMINALS (FAB-T)	42,378	42,378
178	MINIMUM ESSENTIAL EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK	47,471	40,171
179	INFORMATION SYSTEMS SECURITY PROGRAM	46,388	37,388
180	GLOBAL COMBAT SUPPORT SYSTEM	52	52
181	GLOBAL FORCE MANAGEMENT - DATA INITIATIVE	2,099	2,099
184	AIRBORNE SIGINT ENTERPRISE	90,762	90,762
187	GLOBAL AIR TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT (GATM)	4,354	4,354
188	SATELLITE CONTROL NETWORK (SPACE)	15,624	14,624
189	WEATHER SERVICE	19,974	19,974

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
190	AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL, APPROACH, & LANDING SYSTEM (ATC).	9,770	17,770
191	AERIAL TARGETS	3,051	3,051
194	SECURITY AND INVESTIGATIVE ACTIVITIES	405	405
195	ARMS CONTROL IMPLEMENTATION	4,844	4,844
196	DEFENSE JOINT COUNTERINTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES	339	339
199	SPACE AND MISSILE TEST AND EVALUATION CENTER	3,989	3,989
200	SPACE INNOVATION, INTEGRATION AND RAPID TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT	3,070	1,570
201	INTEGRATED BROADCAST SERVICE	8,833	8,833
202	SPACELIFT RANGE SYSTEM (SPACE)	11,867	21,867
203	DRAGON U-2	37,217	37,217
204	ENDURANCE UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLES	---	50,000
205	AIRBORNE RECONNAISSANCE SYSTEMS	3,841	13,841
206	MANNED RECONNAISSANCE SYSTEMS	20,975	20,975
207	DISTRIBUTED COMMON GROUND/SURFACE SYSTEMS	18,902	18,902
208	RQ-4 UAV	256,307	244,807
209	NETWORK-CENTRIC COLLABORATIVE TARGET (TIARA)	22,610	22,610
211	NATO AGS	38,904	38,904
212	SUPPORT TO DCGS ENTERPRISE	23,084	23,084
213	ADVANCED EVALUATION PROGRAM	116,143	---
214	GPS III SPACE SEGMENT	141,888	171,888

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
215	INTERNATIONAL INTELLIGENCE TECHNOLOGY AND ARCHITECTURES	2,360	2,360
216	JSPOC MISSION SYSTEM	72,889	72,889
217	RAPID CYBER ACQUISITION	4,280	4,280
218	NCMC -TW/AA SYSTEM	4,951	4,951
219	NUDET DETECTION SYSTEM (SPACE)	21,093	21,093
220	SPACE SITUATION AWARENESS OPERATIONS	35,002	35,002
222	SHARED EARLY WARNING (SEW)	6,366	6,366
223	C-130 AIRLIFT SQUADRON	15,599	15,599
224	C-5 AIRLIFT SQUADRONS	66,146	66,146
225	C-17 AIRCRAFT	12,430	12,430
226	C-130J PROGRAM	16,776	16,776

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
227	LARGE AIRCRAFT IR COUNTERMEASURES (LAIRCM)	5,166	5,166
228	KC-10S	---	3,500
229	OPERATIONAL SUPPORT AIRLIFT	13,817	13,817
230	CV-22	16,702	16,702
231	SPECIAL TACTICS / COMBAT CONTROL	7,164	7,164
232	DEPOT MAINTENANCE (NON-IF)	1,518	1,518
233	LOGISTICS INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (LOGIT)	61,676	57,676
238	SUPPORT SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT	9,128	9,128
235	OTHER FLIGHT TRAINING	1,653	1,653
236	OTHER PERSONNEL ACTIVITIES	57	57
237	JOINT PERSONNEL RECOVERY AGENCY	3,663	3,663
238	CIVILIAN COMPENSATION PROGRAM	3,735	3,735
239	PERSONNEL ADMINISTRATION	5,157	5,157
240	AIR FORCE STUDIES AND ANALYSIS AGENCY	1,523	1,523
242	FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT	10,581	10,581
	TOTAL, OPERATIONAL SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT	4,365,499	4,175,846
9999	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	13,091,557	12,817,707
	TOTAL, RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST & EVAL, AIR FORCE	28,112,251	27,788,548

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS

[In thousands of dollars]

R-1		Budget Request	Final Bill
1	DEFENSE RESEARCH SCIENCES	340,812	380,812
	Program increase - basic research		40,000
2	UNIVERSITY RESEARCH INITIATIVES	145,044	150,044
	Program increase		5,000
4	MATERIALS	126,152	159,152
	Program increase - electronics, optics and survivability		8,000
	Program increase - structures, propulsion, and subsystems		5,000
	Program increase - Air Force education and outreach program		10,000
	Program increase - coating technologies		4,000
	Program increase - certification of advanced materials		6,000
5	AEROSPACE VEHICLE TECHNOLOGIES	122,831	132,831
	Program increase - hypersonic vehicle structures		10,000
7	AEROSPACE PROPULSION	185,671	195,671
	Program increase - aerospace power technology		5,000
	Program increase		5,000
8	AEROSPACE SENSORS	155,174	162,674
	Program increase - electronic component technology		4,000
	Program increase - spectrum monitoring		3,500
12	DOMINANT INFORMATION SCIENCES AND METHODS	161,650	166,650
	Program increase		5,000
14	ADVANCED MATERIALS FOR WEAPON SYSTEMS	35,137	53,137
	Program increase - metals affordability research		17,000
	Program increase - protective equipment		1,000
18	AEROSPACE PROPULSION AND POWER TECHNOLOGY	94,594	109,594
	Program increase - silicon carbide research		15,000
19	ELECTRONIC COMBAT TECHNOLOGY	58,250	66,150
	Improved GPS - Department requested realignment of funds from lines 38, 54, 57, 121, 137, and 148		7,900
20	ADVANCED SPACECRAFT TECHNOLOGY	61,593	71,593
	Program increase		10,000
23	CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS TECHNOLOGY	102,009	107,009
	Program increase		5,000
24	ADVANCED WEAPONS TECHNOLOGY	39,064	49,064
	Program increase		10,000
25	MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM	46,344	62,344
	Program increase - additive manufacturing		10,000
	Program increase		6,000
33	ICBM DEM/VAL	108,663	113,663
	Program growth		-5,000
	Program increase - solid rocket motor technology		10,000
34	POLLUTION PREVENTION DEM/VAL	0	3,500
	Program increase - aviation ground equipment		3,500

R-1		Budget Request	Final Bill
35	LONG RANGE STRIKE-BOMBER	1,358,309	1,338,309
	Forward financing		-20,000
37	TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER	3,368	8,368
	Program increase		5,000
38	HARD AND DEEPLY BURIED TARGET DEFEAT SYSTEM (HDBTDS)	74,308	54,708
	Improved GPS - Department requested realignment of funds to lines 19 and 48 and RDTE,N line 139		-19,600
39	WEATHER SYSTEM FOLLOW-ON	118,953	93,953
	Unjustified request		-30,000
	Program increase - commercial weather pilot program		5,000
42	OPERATIONALLY RESPONSIVE SPACE	7,921	18,421
	Program increase - maintain fiscal year 2016 funding level		10,500
43	TECH TRANSITION PROGRAM	347,304	385,304
	Program increase - alternative energy research		20,000
	Program increase - logistics technologies		12,000
	Program increase - counter electronics high powered microwave advanced missile project		6,000
48	NAVSTAR GPS (USER EQUIPMENT) (SPACE)	278,147	309,047
	Unjustified cost growth		-4,000
	Improved GPS - Department requested realignment of funds from lines 38,54,57,121,137, and 148		34,900
54	ELECTRONIC WARFARE DEVELOPMENT	12,476	5,176
	Improved GPS - Department requested realignment of funds to RDTE,AF lines 19 and 48 and RDTE,N line 139		-3,300
	Forward financing		-4,000
57	SMALL DIAMETER BOMB	54,838	39,138
	Improved GPS - Department requested realignment of funds to RDTE,AF lines 19 and 48 and RDTE,N line 139		-7,800
	Forward financing		-7,900
62	SBIRS HIGH	181,966	161,966
	Unjustified request		-20,000
65	AGILE COMBAT SUPPORT	53,680	50,680
	CE readiness - forward financing		-15,000
	Program increase		12,000
68	COMBAT TRAINING RANGES	77,409	68,409
	Forward financing		-9,000
70	EELV - EMD (SPACE)	296,572	396,572
	Program increase		100,000
76	KC-46	261,724	229,924
	EMD funds excess to need (ECO)		-31,800
77	ADVANCED PILOT TRAINING	12,377	7,377
	EMD schedule slip		-5,000
78	COMBAT RESCUE HELICOPTER (HH-60 RECAP)	319,331	273,331
	Forward financing		-46,000

R-1		Budget Request	Final Bill
80	ADVANCED EHF MILSATCOM (SPACE)	259,131	229,131
	Unjustified request		-30,000
81	POLAR MILSATCOM (SPACE)	50,815	45,815
	Unjustified request		-5,000
82	WIDEBAND GLOBAL SATCOM (SPACE)	41,632	76,632
	COMSATCOM pilot program		10,000
	COMSATCOM Pathfinder 3 - transfer from SP,AF line 5		30,000
	Prior year carryover		-5,000
83	AIR & SPACE OPERATIONS CENTER 10.2	28,911	21,911
	AOC 10.2 program delays		-7,000
84	B-2 DEFENSIVE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM	315,615	289,015
	EMD excess funds		-26,600
86	F-15 EPAWSS	256,669	250,669
	Excess funds		-6,000
90	PRESIDENTIAL AIRCRAFT REPLACEMENT	351,220	322,220
	Preliminary design funding early to need		-29,000
91	AUTOMATED TEST SYSTEMS	19,062	14,562
	Program growth		-4,500
97	TEST AND EVALUATION SUPPORT	661,417	676,417
	Program increase		15,000
99	SPACE TEST PROGRAM	27,070	42,070
	Program increase		15,000
102	REQUIREMENTS ANALYSIS & MATURATION	29,100	34,100
	Program increase		5,000
104	SPACE AND MISSILE CENTER CIVILIAN WORKFORCE	176,666	171,666
	Prior year carryover		-5,000
111	SPECIALIZED UNDERGRADUATE FLIGHT TRAINING	15,427	18,427
	Program increase - remotely piloted aircraft training		3,000
118	HC/MC-130 RECAP	13,987	8,987
	Block 8.1 forward financing		-5,000
119	B-52 SQUADRONS	78,267	83,267
	Program increase		5,000
121	B-1B SQUADRONS	5,830	3,930
	Improved GPS - Department requested realignment of funds to lines 19 and 48 and RDTE,N line 139		-1,900
122	B-2 SQUADRONS	152,458	127,458
	AEHF strategic comms		-25,000
123	MINUTEMAN SQUADRONS	182,958	178,958
	ASU excess funds		-4,000
126	WORLDWIDE JOINT STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS	6,042	13,042
	Program increase - nuclear command, control, and communications development		7,000

R-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
131 MQ-9	**151,373**	**138,373**
Program growth		-13,000
133 A-10 SQUADRONS	**14,853**	**4,853**
Funding excess to need		-10,000
134 F-16 SQUADRONS	**132,795**	**120,195**
Operational flight program funding excess to need		-12,600
137 F-22 SQUADRONS	**387,564**	**376,464**
Improved GPS - Department requested realignment of funds to lines 19 and 48 and RDTE,N line 139		-8,100
Small projects unjustified growth		-15,000
Program increase - F-22 software		12,000
138 F-35 SQUADRONS	**153,045**	**76,713**
Follow-on modernization ahead of need		-76,332
148 JASSM	**30,002**	**21,902**
Improved GPS - Department requested realignment of funds to lines 19 and 48 and RDTE,N line 139		-8,100
149 AIR AND SPACE OPERATIONS CENTER	**37,621**	**30,343**
AOC weapon system modification new start early to need		-12,278
AOC 10.1 - Air Force requested transfer of weapon system modification new start funds		5,000
154 COMBAT AIR INTELLIGENCE SYSTEM	**10,911**	**15,911**
Program increase		5,000
165 AF DEFENSIVE CYBERSPACE OPERATIONS	**29,439**	**39,439**
Program increase		10,000
175 SPACE SUPERIORITY INTELLIGENCE	**13,880**	**12,380**
Unjustified request		-1,500
176 E-4B NAOC	**30,948**	**26,048**
Recap - excess funds		-4,900
178 MEECN	**47,471**	**40,171**
GASNT Increment 2 - excess funds		-7,300
179 INFORMATION SYSTEMS SECURITY PROGRAM	**46,388**	**37,388**
Forward financing		-9,000
188 SATELLITE CONTROL NETWORK (SPACE)	**15,624**	**14,624**
Underexecution		-1,000
190 ATCALS	**9,770**	**17,770**
Program increase		8,000
200 SPACE INNOVATION, INTEGRATION AND RAPID TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT	**3,070**	**1,570**
Unjustified request		-1,500
202 SPACELIFT RANGE SYSTEM (SPACE)	**11,867**	**21,867**
Program increase - space launch range services and capability		10,000
204 ENDURANCE UAV	**0**	**50,000**
Program increase		50,000

R-1		Budget Request	Final Bill
205	**AIRBORNE RECONNAISSANCE SYSTEMS**	**3,841**	**13,841**
	Program increase - wide area surveillance		10,000
208	**RQ-4**	**256,307**	**244,807**
	Forward financing		-11,500
213	**ADVANCED EVALUATION PROGRAM**	**116,143**	**0**
	Program decrease		-116,143
214	**GPS III SPACE SEGMENT**	**141,888**	**171,888**
	Program increase - operational M-code risk mitigation for OCS		30,000
228	**KC-10**	**0**	**3,500**
	Continue Mode 5 program		3,500
233	**LOGIT**	**61,676**	**57,676**
	Contract savings		-4,000
999	**CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS**	**13,091,557**	**12,817,707**
	Classified adjustment		-273,850

LONG RANGE STRIKE BOMBER

The Inspector General of the Department of Defense is directed to conduct an evaluation and submit a report as described under this heading in Senate Report 114–263 not later than 180 days after the enactment of this Act. In addition, the agreement designates the long range strike bomber program as a congressional special interest item for purposes of transfer of funds and prior approval reprogramming procedures.

JOINT SURVEILLANCE TARGET ATTACK RADAR SYSTEM RECAPITALIZATION

The agreement includes a provision that prohibits the obligation or expenditure of funds provided for the Joint Surveillance Target Attack Radar System (JSTARS) recapitalization program on pre-milestone B activities after March 31, 2018. The agreement fully funds the request of $128,019,000 for the program, of which only $68,000,000 is required to conclude sufficient progress on radar risk reduction activities. The Secretary of the Air Force should apply the remaining funds to other risk reduction activities and the source selection process to accelerate entry into the engineering and manufacturing development (EMD) phase of the program.

The Secretary of the Air Force and the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics) are directed to provide a briefing to the congressional defense committees not later than 90 days after the enactment of this Act on a compressed acquisition schedule and funding profile for the JSTARS recapitalization program to achieve initial operational capability and full operational capability as early as possible. The briefing shall detail the schedule for the EMD phase including source selection and contract award for EMD.

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION, DEFENSE-WIDE

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST & EVAL, DEFENSE-WIDE		
	BASIC RESEARCH		
1	DTRA UNIVERSITY STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP BASIC RESEARCH..	35,436	35,436
2	DEFENSE RESEARCH SCIENCES.....	362,297	362,297
3	BASIC RESEARCH INITIATIVES.....	36,654	68,154
4	BASIC OPERATIONAL MEDICAL RESEARCH SCIENCE.....	57,791	57,791
5	NATIONAL DEFENSE EDUCATION PROGRAM.....	69,345	79,345
6	HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES & UNIV (HBCU).....	23,572	33,572
7	CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL DEFENSE PROGRAM.....	44,800	44,800
	TOTAL, BASIC RESEARCH.....	629,895	681,395
	APPLIED RESEARCH		
8	JOINT MUNITIONS TECHNOLOGY.....	17,745	17,745
9	BIOMEDICAL TECHNOLOGY.....	115,213	115,213
10	DEFENSE TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION.....	30,000	10,000
11	LINCOLN LABORATORY RESEARCH PROGRAM.....	48,269	48,269
12	APPLIED RESEARCH FOR ADVANCEMENT S&T PRIORITIES.....	42,206	42,206
13	INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY.....	353,635	353,635
14	BIOLOGICAL WARFARE DEFENSE.....	21,250	21,250
15	CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL DEFENSE PROGRAM.....	188,715	193,715
16	CYBER SECURITY RESEARCH.....	12,183	12,183
17	TACTICAL TECHNOLOGY.....	313,843	313,843
18	MATERIALS AND BIOLOGICAL TECHNOLOGY.....	220,456	220,456
19	ELECTRONICS TECHNOLOGY.....	221,911	211,911
20	WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION DEFEAT TECHNOLOGIES.....	154,857	154,857
21	SOFTWARE ENGINEERING INSTITUTE.....	8,420	8,420
22	SPECIAL OPERATIONS TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT.....	37,820	46,220
	TOTAL, APPLIED RESEARCH.....	1,786,523	1,769,923

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT		
23	JOINT MUNITIONS ADVANCED TECH INSENSITIVE MUNITIONS AD	23,902	23,902
25	COMBATING TERRORISM TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT	73,002	115,502
26	FOREIGN COMPARATIVE TESTING	19,343	19,343
27	COUNTERPROLIFERATION INITIATIVES--PROLIF PREV & DEFEAT	266,444	266,444
28	ADVANCED CONCEPTS AND PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT	17,880	15,015
30	WEAPONS TECHNOLOGY	71,843	49,643
31	ADVANCED C4ISR	3,626	3,626
32	ADVANCED RESEARCH	23,433	23,433
33	JOINT DOD-DOE MUNITIONS TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT	17,256	17,256
35	SPECIAL PROGRAM--MDA TECHNOLOGY	83,745	11,795
36	ADVANCED AEROSPACE SYSTEMS	182,327	182,327
37	SPACE PROGRAMS AND TECHNOLOGY	175,240	160,240
38	ANALYTIC ASSESSMENTS	12,048	12,048
39	ADVANCED INNOVATIVE ANALYSIS AND CONCEPTS	57,020	57,020
40	COMMON KILL VEHICLE TECHNOLOGY	---	56,513
41	TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION	39,923	19,923
42	CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL DEFENSE PROGRAM - ADVANCED DEV	127,941	132,941
43	RETRACT LARCH	181,977	181,977
44	JOINT ELECTRONIC ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY	22,030	22,030
45	JOINT CAPABILITY TECHNOLOGY DEMONSTRATIONS	148,184	132,184
46	NETWORKED COMMUNICATIONS CAPABILITIES	9,331	9,331
47	DEFENSE-WIDE MANUFACTURING SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PROG	158,398	158,398
48	MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM	31,259	41,259
49	EMERGING CAPABILITIES TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT	49,895	55,895
50	GENERIC LOGISTICS R&D TECHNOLOGY DEMONSTRATIONS	11,011	40,011
52	STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH PROGRAM	65,078	65,078
53	MICROELECTRONIC TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT AND SUPPORT	97,826	89,826

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
54	JOINT WARFIGHTING PROGRAM	7,848	4,848
55	ADVANCED ELECTRONICS TECHNOLOGIES	49,807	49,807
56	COMMAND, CONTROL AND COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS	155,081	155,081
57	NETWORK-CENTRIC WARFARE TECHNOLOGY	428,894	419,894
58	SENSOR TECHNOLOGY	241,288	241,288
59	DEFENSE RAPID INNOVATION PROGRAM	---	250,000
60	SOFTWARE ENGINEERING INSTITUTE	14,264	14,264
61	QUICK REACTION SPECIAL PROJECTS	74,943	79,943
63	ENGINEERING SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY	17,659	22,659
64	TEST & EVALUATION SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY	87,135	92,135
65	OPERATIONAL ENERGY CAPABILITY IMPROVEMENT	37,329	42,329
66	CWMD SYSTEMS	44,836	21,236
67	SPECIAL OPERATIONS ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT	61,620	90,620
	TOTAL, ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT	3,190,666	3,447,064
	DEMONSTRATION & VALIDATION		
68	NUCLEAR AND CONVENTIONAL PHYSICAL SECURITY EQUIPMENT	28,498	26,498
69	WALKOFF	89,643	89,643
71	ACQUISITION ENTERPRISE DATA AND INFORMATION SERVICES	2,136	2,136
72	ENVIRONMENTAL SECURITY TECHNICAL CERTIFICATION PROGRAM	52,491	46,491
73	BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE TERMINAL DEFENSE SEGMENT	206,834	201,834
74	BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE MIDCOURSE DEFENSE SEGMENT	862,080	967,780
75	CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL DEFENSE PROGRAM	138,187	138,187
76	BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE SENSORS	230,077	221,977
77	BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE ENABLING PROGRAMS	401,594	426,594
78	SPECIAL PROGRAMS - MDA	321,607	304,677
79	AEGIS BMD	959,066	919,066
80	SPACE SURVEILLANCE & TRACKING SYSTEM	32,129	32,129
81	BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE SYSTEM SPACE PROGRAMS	20,690	20,690
82	BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE COMMAND AND CONTROL, BATTLE MANAGEMENT	439,617	433,278

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
83	BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE JOINT WARFIGHTER SUPPORT	47,776	47,776
84	BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE INTERGRATION AND OPERATIONS CENTER (MDIOC)	54,750	54,750
85	REGARDING TRENCH	8,785	8,785
86	SEA BASED X-BAND RADAR (SBX)	68,787	85,787
87	ISRAELI COOPERATIVE PROGRAMS	103,835	268,735
88	BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE TEST	293,441	294,441
89	BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE TARGETS	563,576	531,476
90	HUMANITARIAN DEMINING	10,007	10,007
91	COALITION WARFARE	10,126	10,126
92	DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE CORROSION PROGRAM	3,893	13,893
93	TECHNOLOGY MATURATION INITIATIVES	90,266	86,392
94	MISSILE DEFEAT PROJECT	45,000	45,000
95	ADVANCED INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES	844,870	834,870
97	DOD UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEM (UAS) COMMON DEVELOPMENT	3,320	7,320
99	WARGAMING AND SUPPORT FOR STRATEGIC ANALYSIS (SSA)	4,000	4,000
102	JOINT C5 CAPABILITY DEVELOPMENT, INTEGRATION AND INTEROPERABILITY	23,642	23,642
104	LONG RANGE DISCRIMINATION RADAR	162,012	170,112
105	IMPROVED HOMELAND DEFENSE INTERCEPTORS	274,148	219,346
106	BMD TERMINAL DEFENSE SEGMENT TEST	63,444	58,444
107	AEGIS BMD TEST	95,012	95,012
108	BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE SENSOR TEST	83,250	88,150
109	LAND-BASED SM-3 (LBSM3)	43,293	43,293
110	AEGIS SM-3 BLOCK IIA CO-DEVELOPMENT	106,038	106,038
111	BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE MIDCOURSE DEFENSE SEGMENT TEST	56,481	62,781
112	MULTI-OBJECT KILL VEHICLE	71,513	---
114	JOINT ELECTROMAGNETIC TECHNOLOGY (JET) PROGRAM	2,636	2,636
115	CYBER SECURITY INITIATIVE	969	969
115X	RAPID PROTOTYPING PROGRAM	---	100,000
	TOTAL, DEMONSTRATION & VALIDATION	6,919,519	7,104,761

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
	ENGINEERING & MANUFACTURING DEVELOPMENT		
116	NUCLEAR AND CONVENTIONAL PHYSICAL SECURITY EQUIPMENT..	10,324	10,324
117	PROMPT GLOBAL STRIKE CAPABILITY DEVELOPMENT.....	181,303	161,303
118	CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL DEFENSE PROGRAM.....	266,231	281,231
120	JOINT TACTICAL INFORMATION DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM (JTIDS)	16,288	16,288
121	WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION DEFEAT CAPABILITIES.....	4,568	4,568
122	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT.....	11,505	11,505
123	HOMELAND PERSONNEL SECURITY INITIATIVE.....	1,658	1,658
124	DEFENSE EXPORTABILITY PROGRAM.....	2,920	2,920
126	DOD ENTERPRISE SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT AND DEMONSTRATION..	12,631	12,631
128	DEFENSE AGENCY INITIATIVES FINANCIAL SYSTEM.....	26,657	26,657
129	DEFENSE RETIRED AND ANNUITANT PAY SYSTEM (DRAS).....	4,949	4,949
130	TRUSTED FOUNDRY.....	69,000	69,000
131	DEFENSE-WIDE ELECTRONIC PROCUREMENT CAPABILITY.....	9,881	8,681
132	GLOBAL COMBAT SUPPORT SYSTEM.....	7,600	7,600
133	DOD ENTERPRISE ENERGY INFORMATION MANAGEMENT (EEIM)...	2,703	2,703
	TOTAL, ENGINEERING & MANUFACTURING DEVELOPMENT.....	628,218	622,018
	RDT&E MANAGEMENT SUPPORT		
134	DEFENSE READINESS REPORTING SYSTEM (DRRS).....	4,678	4,678
135	JOINT SYSTEMS ARCHITECTURE DEVELOPMENT.....	4,499	3,099
136	CENTRAL TEST AND EVALUATION INVESTMENT DEVELOPMENT....	219,199	219,199
137	ASSESSMENTS AND EVALUATIONS.....	28,706	28,706
138	MISSION SUPPORT.....	69,244	69,244
139	JOINT MISSION ENVIRONMENT TEST CAPABILITY (JMETC).....	87,080	67,080
140	TECHNICAL STUDIES, SUPPORT AND ANALYSIS.....	23,069	21,469
142	JOINT INTEGRATED AIR AND MISSILE DEFENSE ORGANIZATION.	32,759	32,759
143	CLASSIFIED PROGRAM USD(P).....	---	130,000
144	SYSTEMS ENGINEERING.....	32,429	32,429
145	STUDIES AND ANALYSIS SUPPORT.....	3,797	2,797
146	NUCLEAR MATTERS - PHYSICAL SECURITY.....	5,302	5,302
147	SUPPORT TO NETWORKS AND INFORMATION INTEGRATION.....	7,246	7,246
148	GENERAL SUPPORT TO USD (INTELLIGENCE).....	1,874	1,874

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
149	CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL DEFENSE PROGRAM	85,754	85,754
158	SMALL BUSINESS INNOVATION RESEARCH/TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER	2,187	2,187
159	DEFENSE TECHNOLOGY ANALYSIS	22,650	25,650
160	DEFENSE TECHNICAL INFORMATION CENTER (DTIC)	43,834	43,834
161	R&D IN SUPPORT OF DOD ENLISTMENT, TESTING & EVALUATION	22,240	15,240
162	DEVELOPMENT TEST AND EVALUATION	19,541	21,541
163	MANAGEMENT HEADQUARTERS (RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT)	4,759	4,759
164	MANAGEMENT HEADQUARTERS DEFENSE TECHNICAL INFORMATION CENTER (DTIC)	4,400	4,400
165	BUDGET AND PROGRAM ASSESSMENTS	4,014	4,014
166	OPERATIONS SECURITY (OPSEC)	2,072	2,072
167	JOINT STAFF ANALYTICAL SUPPORT	7,464	5,464
170	SUPPORT TO INFORMATION OPERATIONS (IO) CAPABILITIES	857	857
171	DEFENSE MILITARY DECEPTION PROGRAM OFFICE	916	916
172	COMBINED ADVANCED APPLICATIONS	15,336	15,336
173	CYBER INTELLIGENCE	18,523	10,523
175	COCOM EXERCISE ENGAGEMENT AND TRAINING TRANSFORMATION	34,384	29,984
176	MANAGEMENT HEADQUARTERS - MDA	31,160	31,160
179	JOINT SERVICE PROVIDER (JSP)	827	827
9999	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	56,799	56,799
	TOTAL, RDT&E MANAGEMENT SUPPORT	897,599	987,199
181	OPERATIONAL SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT ENTERPRISE SECURITY SYSTEM (ESS)	4,241	4,241
182	REGIONAL INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH & PARTNERSHIP FOR PEAC	1,424	1,424
183	OVERSEAS HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE SHARED INFORMATION SY	287	287
184	INDUSTRIAL BASE ANALYSIS AND SUSTAINMENT SUPPORT	16,195	16,195
185	OPERATIONAL SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT	4,194	4,194
186	GLOBAL THEATER SECURITY COOPERATION MANAGEMENT	7,861	7,861
187	CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL DEFENSE (OPERATIONAL SYSTEMS D	33,361	33,361
189	PLANNING AND DECISION AID SYSTEM	3,038	3,038
190	C4I INTEROPERABILITY	57,501	57,501

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
192	JOINT/ALLIED COALITION INFORMATION SHARING	5,935	5,509
196	NATIONAL MILITARY COMMAND SYSTEM-WIDE SUPPORT	575	575
197	DEFENSE INFO INFRASTRUCTURE ENGINEERING & INTEGRATION	18,041	18,041
198	LONG HAUL COMMUNICATIONS (DCS)	13,994	13,994
199	MINIMUM ESSENTIAL EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK	12,206	12,206
200	PUBLIC KEY INFRASTRUCTURE (PKI)	34,314	34,314
201	KEY MANAGEMENT INFRASTRUCTURE (KMI)	36,602	36,602
202	INFORMATION SYSTEMS SECURITY PROGRAM	8,876	8,876
203	INFORMATION SYSTEMS SECURITY PROGRAM	159,068	161,068
204	GLOBAL COMMAND AND CONTROL SYSTEM	24,438	21,438
205	JOINT SPECTRUM CENTER (DEFENSE SPECTRUM ORGANIZATION)	13,197	13,197
207	JOINT INFORMATION ENVIRONMENT (JIE)	2,789	2,789
209	FEDERAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICES INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	75,000	75,000
210	TELEPORT PROGRAM	657	657
215	CYBER SECURITY INITIATIVE	1,553	1,553
220	POLICY R&D PROGRAMS	6,204	3,204
221	NET CENTRICITY	17,971	17,971
223	DISTRIBUTED COMMON GROUND/SURFACE SYSTEMS	5,415	5,415
226	DISTRIBUTED COMMON GROUND/SURFACE SYSTEMS	3,030	3,030
229	INSIDER THREAT	5,034	5,034
230	HOMELAND DEFENSE TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER PROGRAM	2,037	7,037
236	INTELLIGENCE MISSION DATA (IMD)	13,800	13,800
238	PACIFIC DISASTER CENTERS	1,754	1,754
239	DEFENSE PROPERTY ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM	2,154	2,154
240	MANAGEMENT HEADQUARTERS (JCS)	826	826
241	MQ-9 UAV	17,804	17,804
244	SPECIAL OPERATIONS AVIATION SYSTEMS ADVANCED DEV	159,143	158,253
245	SPECIAL OPERATIONS INTELLIGENCE SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT	7,958	5,958
246	SOF OPERATIONAL ENHANCEMENTS	64,895	54,895
247	WARRIOR SYSTEMS	44,885	65,885
248	SPECIAL PROGRAMS	1,949	1,949

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

		BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
249	UNMANNED ISR	22,117	22,117
250	SOF TACTICAL VEHICLES	3,316	3,316
251	SOF MARITIME SYSTEMS	54,577	54,577
252	SOF GLOBAL VIDEO SURVEILLANCE ACTIVITIES	3,841	3,841
253	SOF OPERATIONAL ENHANCEMENTS INTELLIGENCE	11,834	11,834
	TOTAL, OPERATIONAL SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT	985,891	994,575
999	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	3,270,515	3,221,615
	DARPA UNDISTRIBUTED REDUCTION	---	-50,000
	TOTAL, RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST & EVAL, DEF-WIDE	18,308,826	18,778,550

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS
[In thousands of dollars]

R-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
3 BASIC RESEARCH INITIATIVES	36,654	68,154
Program increase		31,500
5 NATIONAL DEFENSE EDUCATION PROGRAM	69,345	79,345
Program increase		10,000
6 HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES (HBCU)	23,572	33,572
Program increase		10,000
10 DEFENSE TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION	30,000	10,000
Program decrease		-20,000
15 CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL DEFENSE PROGRAM	188,715	193,715
Program increase		5,000
19 ELECTRONICS TECHNOLOGY	221,911	211,911
Unjustified growth		-10,000
22 SOF TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT	37,820	46,220
Program increase		3,400
Program increase - thermal signature management technology		5,000
25 COMBATING TERRORISM TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT	73,002	115,502
Program increase - Israeli tunneling		42,500
28 ADVANCED CONCEPTS AND PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT	17,880	15,015
Test delays		-2,865
30 WEAPONS TECHNOLOGY	71,843	49,643
Directed energy research unjustified growth		-22,200
35 SPECIAL PROGRAM - MDA TECHNOLOGY	83,745	11,795
Program decrease		-71,950
37 SPACE PROGRAMS AND TECHNOLOGY	175,240	160,240
Unjustified growth		-15,000
40 COMMON KILL VEHICLE TECHNOLOGY	0	56,513
MOKV - transfer from line 112		56,513
41 TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION	39,923	19,923
Classified program adjustment		-20,000
42 CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL DEFENSE PROGRAM - ADVANCED DEVELOPMENT	127,941	132,941
Program increase		5,000
45 JOINT CAPABILITY TECHNOLOGY DEMONSTRATIONS	148,184	132,184
Program decrease		-16,000
48 MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM	31,259	41,259
Program increase		10,000
49 EMERGING CAPABILITIES TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT	49,895	55,895
Program increase		6,000

R-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
50 GENERIC LOGISTICS R&D TECHNOLOGY DEMONSTRATIONS	**11,011**	**40,011**
Program increase		4,000
Program increase - national security technology accelerator		25,000
53 MICROELECTRONIC TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT	**97,826**	**89,826**
Unobligated balances		-8,000
54 JOINT WARFIGHTING PROGRAM	**7,848**	**4,848**
Prior year carryover		-3,000
57 NETWORK-CENTRIC WARFARE TECHNOLOGY	**428,894**	**419,894**
Program decrease		-9,000
59 DEFENSE RAPID INNOVATION FUND	**0**	**250,000**
Program increase		250,000
61 QUICK REACTION SPECIAL PROJECTS	**74,943**	**79,943**
Forward financing		-5,000
Program increase		10,000
63 ENGINEERING SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY	**17,659**	**22,659**
Program increase		5,000
64 TEST & EVALUATION SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY	**87,135**	**92,135**
Program increase		5,000
65 OPERATIONAL ENERGY CAPABILITY IMPROVEMENT	**37,329**	**42,329**
Program increase		5,000
66 CWMD SYSTEMS	**44,836**	**21,236**
Program decrease		-23,600
67 SPECIAL OPERATIONS ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT	**61,620**	**90,620**
Program increase		29,000
68 NUCLEAR AND CONVENTIONAL PHYSICAL SECURITY EQUIPMENT	**28,498**	**26,498**
Unobligated balances		-2,000
72 ENVIRONMENTAL SECURITY TECHNICAL CERTIFICATION PROGRAM	**52,491**	**46,491**
Unobligated balances		-6,000
73 BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE TERMINAL DEFENSE SEGMENT	**206,834**	**201,834**
THAAD development previously funded efforts		-5,000
74 BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE MIDCOURSE DEFENSE SEGMENT	**862,080**	**967,780**
Software delays		-5,000
Program increase		110,700
76 BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE SENSORS	**230,077**	**221,977**
LRDR program office - transfer to line 104		-8,100
77 BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE ENABLING PROGRAMS	**401,594**	**426,594**
Program increase - cyber training and enhancements		25,000
78 SPECIAL PROGRAMS - MDA	**321,607**	**304,677**
Program decrease		-16,930

R-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
79 AEGIS BMD	**959,066**	**919,066**
Aegis BMD 6.x development excess growth		-10,000
SM-3 IIA development excess growth		-20,000
SM-3 Block IIA FTM-29 flight test integration not required due to program delays		-10,000
82 BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE C2BMC	**439,617**	**433,278**
Development and deployment unauthorized prior year funding		-7,239
Communications unjustified growth		-3,000
Program increase - FTG-11 test acceleration		3,900
86 SEA BASED X-BAND RADAR (SBX)	**68,787**	**85,787**
Test previously completed		-3,000
Program increase - reliability improvements and maintenance		20,000
87 ISRAELI COOPERATIVE PROGRAMS	**103,835**	**268,735**
Israeli Upper Tier		29,100
Israeli Arrow program		56,500
Short range ballistic missile defense		79,300
88 BMD TESTS	**293,441**	**294,441**
FTT-18 and FTT-15 efficiencies		-2,000
Program increase - tech refresh		3,000
89 BMD TARGETS	**563,576**	**531,476**
Test delays		-500
MRBM T3C2 contract award delay		-40,900
Program increase - FTG-11 test acceleration		9,300
92 DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE CORROSION PROGRAM	**3,893**	**13,893**
Program increase		10,000
93 TECHNOLOGY MATURATION INITIATIVES	**90,266**	**86,392**
Directed energy prototype development unjustified growth		-3,874
95 ADVANCED INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES	**844,870**	**834,870**
Program decrease		-10,000
97 DOD UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEM (UAS) COMMON DEVELOPMENT	**3,320**	**7,320**
Program increase		4,000
104 LONG RANGE DISCRIMINATION RADAR	**162,012**	**170,112**
LRDR program office - transfer from line 76		8,100
105 IMPROVED HOMELAND DEFENSE INTERCEPTORS	**274,148**	**219,346**
Schedule delay		-30,000
MD97 FTG-18 RKV flight test unit long lead materials early to need		-4,000
MD97 C3 booster lack of requirements and acquisition strategy		-20,802
106 BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE TERMINAL DEFENSE SEGMENT TEST	**63,444**	**58,444**
Test delays		-5,000
108 BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE SENSORS TEST	**83,250**	**88,150**
Program increase - FTG-11 test acceleration		4,900

R-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE MIDCOURSE DEFENSE SEGMENT		
111 TEST	56,481	62,781
Program increase - FTG-11 test acceleration		6,300
112 MULTI-OBJECT KILL VEHICLE	71,513	0
Change to acquisition strategy		-15,000
MOKV - transfer to line 40		-56,513
115X RAPID PROTOTYPING PROGRAM	0	100,000
Program increase		100,000
117 PROMPT GLOBAL STRIKE CAPABILITY DEVELOPMENT	181,303	161,303
Program rephase due to schedule slip		-20,000
118 CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL DEFENSE PROGRAM	266,231	281,231
Program increase - chemical weapon detection		15,000
131 DEFENSE-WIDE ELECTRONIC PROCUREMENT CAPABILITY	9,881	8,681
Prior year carryover		-1,200
135 JOINT SYSTEMS ARCHITECTURE DEVELOPMENT	4,499	3,099
Prior year carryover		-1,400
139 JOINT MISSION ENVIRONMENT TEST CAPABILITY (JMETC)	87,080	67,080
Eliminate program growth		-20,000
140 TECHNICAL STUDIES, SUPPORT AND ANALYSIS	23,069	21,469
Prior year carryover		-1,600
143 CLASSIFIED PROGRAM USD(P)	0	130,000
Classified adjustment		130,000
145 STUDIES AND ANALYSIS SUPPORT	3,797	2,797
Eliminate program growth		-1,000
159 DEFENSE TECHNOLOGY ANALYSIS	22,650	25,650
Program increase		3,000
R&D IN SUPPORT OF DOD ENLISTMENT, TESTING &		
161 EVALUATION	22,240	15,240
Eliminate program growth		-7,000
162 DEVELOPMENT TEST AND EVALUATION	19,541	21,541
Program increase		2,000
167 JOINT STAFF ANALYTICAL SUPPORT	7,464	5,464
Delayed new start contract award		-2,000
173 CYBER INTELLIGENCE	18,523	10,523
Eliminate program growth		-8,000
COCOM EXERCISE ENGAGEMENT AND TRAINING		
175 TRANSFORMATION	34,384	29,984
Program decrease		-4,400
192 JOINT/ALLIED COALITION INFORMATION SHARING	5,935	5,509
Prior year carryover		-426

R-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
203 INFORMATION SYSTEMS SECURITY PROGRAM	**159,068**	**161,068**
Program increase - Sharkseer		2,000
204 GLOBAL COMMAND AND CONTROL SYSTEM	**24,438**	**21,438**
Eliminate program growth		-3,000
220 POLICY R&D PROGRAMS	**6,204**	**3,204**
Prior year carryover		-3,000
230 HOMELAND DEFENSE TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER PROGRAM	**2,037**	**7,037**
Program increase		5,000
244 SPECIAL OPERATIONS AVIATION SYSTEMS ADVANCED DEVELOPMENT	**159,143**	**158,253**
Special Operation mission planning environment - prior year carryover		-890
245 SPECIAL OPERATIONS INTELLIGENCE SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT	**7,958**	**5,958**
Contract award delay		-2,000
246 SOF OPERATIONAL ENHANCEMENTS	**64,895**	**54,895**
Prior year carryover		-10,000
247 WARRIOR SYSTEMS	**44,885**	**65,885**
Program increase		12,000
Program increase - visual augmentation devices		3,000
Program increase - switchblade systems		6,000
999 CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	**3,270,515**	**3,221,615**
Classified adjustment		-48,900
DARPA UNDISTRIBUTED REDUCTION		**-50,000**
DARPA undistributed reduction		-50,000

RAPID PROTOTYPING PROGRAM

The agreement includes $100,000,000 for a rapid prototyping program. The Secretary of Defense is directed to brief the House and Senate Appropriations Committees on a plan for execution 20 days prior to transfer or obligation of any funds for this program.

OPERATIONAL TEST AND EVALUATION, DEFENSE

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS

[In thousands of dollars]

	Budget request	Final bill
OPERATIONAL TEST AND EVALUATION	78,047	78,047
LIVE FIRE TESTING	48,316	48,316
OPERATIONAL TEST ACTIVITIES AND ANALYSIS	52,631	60,631
Program increase—threat resource analysis		8,000
TOTAL, OPERATIONAL TEST AND EVALUATION, DEFENSE	178,994	186,994

TITLE V—REVOLVING AND MANAGEMENT FUNDS

The agreement provides $1,511,613,000 in Title V, Revolving and Management Funds. The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
TITLE V		
REVOLVING AND MANAGEMENT FUNDS		
DEFENSE WORKING CAPITAL FUNDS	1,371,613	1,511,613
NATIONAL DEFENSE SEALIFT FUND	---	---
TOTAL, TITLE V, REVOLVING AND MANAGEMENT FUNDS	1,371,613	1,511,613

DEFENSE WORKING CAPITAL FUNDS

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS

[In thousands of dollars]

	Budget request	Final bill
WORKING CAPITAL FUND, ARMY	56,469	196,469
Program increase—arsenal initiative		140,000
WORKING CAPITAL FUND, AIR FORCE	63,967	63,967
WORKING CAPITAL FUND, DEFENSE-WIDE	37,132	37,132
DEFENSE WORKING CAPITAL FUND, DECA	1,214,045	1,214,045
TOTAL, DEFENSE WORKING CAPITAL FUNDS	1,371,613	1,511,613

TITLE VI—OTHER DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PROGRAMS

The agreement provides $35,615,831,000 in Title VI, Other Department of Defense Programs. The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
TITLE VI		
OTHER DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PROGRAMS		
DEFENSE HEALTH PROGRAM		
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE	32,231,390	31,277,002
PROCUREMENT	413,219	402,161
RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION	822,907	2,102,107
TOTAL, DEFENSE HEALTH PROGRAM	33,467,516	33,781,270
CHEMICAL AGENTS AND MUNITIONS DESTRUCTION, DEFENSE		
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE	147,282	119,985
PROCUREMENT	15,132	15,132
RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION	388,609	388,609
TOTAL, CHEMICAL AGENTS	551,023	523,726
DRUG INTERDICTION AND COUNTER-DRUG ACTIVITIES, DEFENSE	844,800	998,800
JOINT URGENT OPERATIONAL NEEDS FUND	99,300	---
OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL	322,035	312,035
TOTAL, TITLE VI, OTHER DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PROGRAMS	35,284,674	35,615,831

DEFENSE HEALTH PROGRAM

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
DEFENSE HEALTH PROGRAM		
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE		
IN-HOUSE CARE	9,240,160	9,159,329
PRIVATE SECTOR CARE	15,738,759	15,082,759
CONSOLIDATED HEALTH SUPPORT	2,367,759	2,279,627
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT	1,743,749	1,737,749
MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES	311,380	307,578
EDUCATION AND TRAINING	743,231	691,458
BASE OPERATIONS/COMMUNICATIONS	2,086,352	2,018,502
SUBTOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE	32,231,390	31,277,002
PROCUREMENT		
INITIAL OUTFITTING	20,611	20,611
REPLACEMENT AND MODERNIZATION	360,727	349,669
JOINT OPERATOINAL MEDICINE INFORMATION SYSTEM	2,413	2,413
DOD HEALTH MANAGEMENT SYSTEM MODERNIZATION	29,468	29,468
SUBTOTAL, PROCUREMENT	413,219	402,161
RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT TEST AND EVALUATION		
RESEARCH	9,097	9,097
EXPLORATORY DEVELOPMENT	58,517	58,517
ADVANCED DEVELOPMENT	221,226	221,226
DEMONSTRATION/VALIDATION	96,602	96,602
ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT	364,057	364,057
MANAGEMENT AND SUPPORT	58,410	58,410
CAPABILITIES ENHANCEMENT	14,998	14,998
UNDISTRIBUTED MEDICAL RESEARCH	---	1,279,200
SUBTOTAL, RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT TEST AND EVALUATION	822,907	2,102,107
TOTAL, DEFENSE HEALTH PROGRAM	33,467,516	33,781,270

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS
[In thousands of dollars]

	Budget Request	Final Bill
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE		
IN-HOUSE CARE	9,240,160	9,159,329
Pharmacy supplies unjustified growth		-9,000
Overestimation of MTF utilization		-63,200
Printing and reproduction excess growth		-2,500
Travel unjustified growth		-6,131
PRIVATE SECTOR CARE	15,738,759	15,082,759
Pharmacy benefit reform unauthorized		17,000
Health benefit reform unauthorized		-57,000
Other costs unjustified growth		-73,000
Historical underexecution		-575,000
ABA autism therapy reimbursement		32,000
CONSOLIDATED HEALTH SUPPORT	2,367,759	2,279,627
Therapeutic service dog training program		5,000
Travel unjustified growth		-4,100
Other health activities excess growth		-15,000
Historical underexecution		-74,032
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT	1,743,749	1,737,749
Other costs unjustified growth		-6,000
MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES	311,380	307,578
Travel unjustified growth		-2,232
IT contract support services excess growth		-1,570
EDUCATION AND TRAINING	743,231	691,458
Travel unjustified growth		-883
Historical underexecution		-25,517
HPSP reduction not properly accounted		-25,373
BASE OPERATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS	2,086,352	2,018,502
Other costs unjustified growth		-1,850
Visual information systems underexecution		-2,000
Initial outfitting of new construction ahead of need		-60,000
Telecommunications contract requirements unjustified growth		-4,000
TOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE	32,231,390	31,277,002
PROCUREMENT		
Initial outfitting of new construction ahead of need		-9,000
Excess price growth		-2,058
TOTAL, PROCUREMENT	413,219	402,161
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT		
Peer-reviewed alcohol and substance abuse disorders research		4,000
Peer-reviewed ALS research		7,500
Peer-reviewed alzheimer research		15,000
Peer-reviewed autism research		7,500
Peer-reviewed bone marrow failure disease research		3,000
Peer-reviewed breast cancer research		120,000
Peer-reviewed cancer research		60,000

	Budget Request	Final Bill
Peer-reviewed Duchenne muscular dystrophy research		3,200
Peer-reviewed epilepsy research		7,500
Peer-reviewed gulf war illness research		20,000
Peer-reviewed hearing restoration research		10,000
Peer-reviewed kidney cancer research		10,000
Peer-reviewed lung cancer research		12,000
Peer-reviewed lupus research		5,000
Peer-reviewed medical research		300,000
Peer-reviewed multiple sclerosis research		6,000
Peer-reviewed orthopedic research		30,000
Peer-reviewed ovarian cancer research		20,000
Peer-reviewed prostate cancer research		90,000
Peer-reviewed spinal cord research		30,000
Peer-reviewed reconstructive transplant research		12,000
Peer-reviewed tickborne disease research		5,000
Peer-reviewed traumatic brain injury and psychological health research		125,000
Peer-reviewed tuberous sclerosis complex research		6,000
Peer-reviewed vision research		15,000
Global HIV/AIDS prevention		8,000
HIV/AIDS program increase		12,900
Joint warfighter medical research		50,000
Orthotics and prosthetics outcome research		10,000
Trauma clinical research program		10,000
Restore core funding reduction		264,600
TOTAL, RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT	**822,907**	**2,102,107**

REPROGRAMMING GUIDANCE FOR THE DEFENSE HEALTH PROGRAM

Concerns remain regarding the transfer of funds from the In-House Care budget sub-activity to pay for contractor-provided medical care. To limit such transfers and improve oversight within the Defense Health Program operation and maintenance account, the agreement includes a provision which caps the funds available for Private Sector Care under the TRICARE program subject to prior approval reprogramming procedures. The provision and accompanying explanatory statement language should not be interpreted as limiting the amount of funds that may be transferred to the In-House Care budget sub-activity from other budget sub-activities within the Defense Health Program. In addition, funding for the In-House Care budget sub-activity continues to be designated as a congressional special interest item. Any transfer of funds from the In-House Care budget sub-activity into the Private Sector Care budget sub-activity or any other budget sub-activity requires the Secretary of Defense to follow prior approval reprogramming procedures for operation and maintenance funds.

The Secretary of Defense is directed to provide written notification to the congressional defense committees of cumulative transfers in excess of $10,000,000 out of the Private Sector Care budget sub-activity not later than fifteen days after such a transfer. Furthermore, the Secretary of Defense is directed to provide a report to the congressional defense committees not later than 30 days after the enactment of this Act that delineates transfers of funds in excess of $10,000,000, and the dates any transfers occurred, from the Private Sector Care budget sub-activity to any other budget sub-activity groups for fiscal year 2016.

The Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs) is directed to provide quarterly reports to the congressional defense committees on budget execution data for all of the Defense Health Program budget activities and to adequately reflect changes to the budget activities requested by the Services in future budget submissions.

PEER-REVIEWED CANCER RESEARCH PROGRAM

The agreement provides $60,000,000 for the peer-reviewed cancer research program to research cancers not addressed in the breast, prostate, ovarian, kidney, and lung cancer research programs.

The funds provided in the peer-reviewed cancer research program are directed to be used to conduct research in the following areas: bladder cancer, brain cancer, colorectal cancer, immunotherapy, listeria-based regimens for cancer, liver cancer, lymphoma, melanoma and other skin cancers, mesothelioma, neuroblastoma, pancreatic cancer, pediatric brain tumors, stomach cancer, and cancer in children, adolescents, and young adults.

The reports directed under this heading in House Report 114–577 and Senate Report 114–263 are still required.

PEER-REVIEWED MEDICAL RESEARCH PROGRAM

The agreement provides $300,000,000 for a peer-reviewed medical research program. The Secretary of Defense, in conjunction with the Service Surgeons General, is directed to select medical research projects of clear scientific merit and direct relevance to military health. Research areas considered under this funding are restricted to the following areas: acute lung injury, antimicrobial resistance, arthritis, burn pit exposure, chronic migraine and post-traumatic headache, congenital heart disease, constrictive bronchiolitis, diabetes, diarrheal diseases, dystonia, early trauma thermal regulation, eating disorders, emerging infectious diseases, epidermolysis bullosa, focal segmental glomerulosclerosis, Fragile X, Guillain-Barre syndrome, hepatitis B and C, hereditary angioedema, hydrocephalus, immunomonitoring of intestinal transplants, inflammatory bowel diseases, influenza, integrative medicine, interstitial cystitis, malaria, metals toxicology, mitochondrial disease, musculoskeletal disorders, nanomaterials for bone regeneration, non-opioid pain management, pancreatitis, pathogen-inactivated dried cryoprecipitate, polycystic kidney disease, post-traumatic osteoarthritis, pulmonary fibrosis, respiratory health, Rett syndrome, rheumatoid arthritis, scleroderma, sleep disorders, spinal muscular atrophy, sustained-release drug delivery, tinnitus, tuberculosis, vaccine development for infectious disease, vascular malformations, and women's heart disease. The additional funding provided under the peer-reviewed medical research program shall be devoted only to the purposes listed above.

ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORD SYSTEM

Concerns remain with the progress being made by the Departments of Defense and Veterans Affairs to fully develop, procure, and deploy an interoperable electronic health record solution. The two systems must be completely and meaningfully interoperable, and the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics) is encouraged to focus on the overall goal of seamless compatibility between the two Departments' electronic health record systems.

For the necessary oversight of this important program, the Program Executive Officer (PEO) for the Defense Healthcare Management Systems (DHMS) is directed to provide quarterly reports to the congressional defense committees and the Government Accountability Office on the cost and schedule of the program, to include milestones, knowledge points, and acquisition timelines, as well as quarterly obligation reports. These reports should also include any changes to the deployment timeline, including benchmarks, for full operating capability; any refinements to the cost estimate for full operating capability and the total lifecycle cost of the program; an assurance that the acquisition strategy will comply with the acquisition rules, requirements, guidelines, and systems acquisition management practices of the federal government; the status of the effort to achieve interoperability between the electronic health record systems of the Departments of Defense and Veterans Affairs, including the scope, cost, schedule, mapping to health data standards, and performance benchmarks of the interoperable record; and the progress toward developing, implementing, and fielding the interoperable electronic health record throughout the two Departments' medical facilities.

The PEO DHMS is directed to continue briefing the House and Senate Appropriations Committees on a quarterly basis, coinciding with the report submission. Given that full deployment of the new electronic health record is not scheduled until fiscal year 2022, the Department of Defense is expected to continue working on interim modifications and enhancements to the current system to improve interoperability in the near-term. Additionally, the PEO DHMS is directed to provide written notification to the House and Senate Appropriations Committees prior to obligating any contract, or combination of contracts, for electronic health record systems in excess of $5,000,000.

Additionally, the Director of the Interagency Program Office is directed to continue to provide quarterly briefings on standards development, how those standards are being incorporated by the two Departments, and the progress of interoperability to the House and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees for Defense and Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies. In an effort to ensure government-wide accountability, the PEO DHMS, in coordination with the appropriate personnel of the Department of Veterans Affairs, is directed to provide the Federal Chief Information Officer of the United States with monthly updates on progress made by the two Departments to reach interoperability and modernize their respective electronic health records.

CHEMICAL AGENTS AND MUNITIONS DESTRUCTION, DEFENSE

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS

[In thousands of dollars]

	Budget request	Final bill
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE	147,282	119,985
Recovered chemical warfare materiel project excess to need		−10,997
Recovered chemical warfare materiel project Panama operations ahead of need		−16,300
PROCUREMENT	15,132	15,132
RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION	388,609	388,609
TOTAL, CHEMICAL AGENTS AND MUNITIONS DESTRUCTION, DEFENSE	551,023	523,726

DRUG INTERDICTION AND COUNTER-DRUG ACTIVITIES, DEFENSE

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS

[In thousands of dollars]

	Budget request	Final bill
COUNTER-NARCOTICS SUPPORT	730,087	626,087
Transfer to National Guard counter-drug program		−99,000
Transfer to National Guard counter-drug schools		−5,000
DRUG DEMAND REDUCTION PROGRAM	114,713	118,713
Young Marines—drug demand reduction		4,000
NATIONAL GUARD COUNTER-DRUG PROGRAM	0	234,000
Transfer from counter-narcotics support		99,000
Program increase		135,000
NATIONAL GUARD COUNTER-DRUG SCHOOLS	0	20,000
Transfer from counter-narcotics support		5,000
Program increase		15,000
TOTAL, DRUG INTERDICTION AND COUNTER-DRUG ACTIVITIES, DEFENSE	844,800	998,800

JOINT URGENT OPERATIONAL NEEDS FUND

The agreement does not recommend funding for the Joint Urgent Operational Needs Fund.

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS

[In thousands of dollars]

	Budget request	Final bill
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE	318,882	308,882
Overestimation of civilian full-time equivalents		−10,000
RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION	3,153	3,153
TOTAL, OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL	322,035	312,035

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL QUARTERLY END STRENGTH REPORTS

The Department of Defense Inspector General is directed to provide quarterly reports to the congressional defense committees on civilian personnel end strength not later than 15 days after the end of each fiscal quarter.

TITLE VII—RELATED AGENCIES

The agreement provides $1,029,596,000 in Title VII, Related Agencies. The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
TITLE VII		
RELATED AGENCIES		
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY RETIREMENT AND DISABILITY SYSTEM FUND	514,000	514,000
INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT ACCOUNT (ICMA)	533,596	515,596
TOTAL, TITLE VII, RELATED AGENCIES	1,047,596	1,029,596

CLASSIFIED ANNEX

Adjustments to classified programs are addressed in a separate, detailed, and comprehensive classified annex. The Intelligence Community, the Department of Defense, and other organizations are expected to fully comply with the recommendations and directions in the classified annex accompanying the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2017.

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY RETIREMENT AND DISABILITY SYSTEM FUND

The agreement provides $514,000,000 for the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability Fund.

INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT ACCOUNT

The agreement provides $515,596,000, a decrease of $18,000,000 below the budget request, for the Intelligence Community Management Account.

TITLE VIII—GENERAL PROVISIONS

The agreement incorporates general provisions from the House and Senate versions of the bill which were not amended. Those general provisions that were addressed in the agreement are as follows:

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House which provides general transfer authority not to exceed $4,500,000,000. The Senate bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House which identifies tables as Explanation of Project Level Adjustments. The Senate bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement modifies a provision proposed by the House which provides for the establishment of a baseline for the application of reprogramming and transfer authorities for the current fiscal year. The Senate bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the Senate which places restrictions on multi-year procurement contracts. The House bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House regarding management of civilian personnel of the Department of Defense. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the Senate which restricts the use of funds to support any nonappropriated funds activity that procures malt beverages and wine. The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the Senate which provides for the transfer of funds for Mentor-Protégé Programs. The House bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House regarding limitations on the use of funds to purchase anchor and mooring chains. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the Senate which makes funds available to maintain competitive rates at the arsenals. The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House which prohibits the use of funds to demilitarize or dispose of certain small firearms. The Senate bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House regarding incentive payments authorized by the Indian Financing Act of 1974. The Senate bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House which provides funding from various appropriations for the Civil Air Patrol Corporation. The Senate bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement modifies a provision proposed by the House which prohibits funding from being used to establish new Department of Defense Federally Funded Research and Development Centers with certain limitations. The Senate bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House which prohibits the use of funds to disestablish, close, downgrade from host to extension center, or place a Senior Reserve Officers' Training Corps program on probation. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the Senate which makes permanent the authority for the Defense Intelligence Agency to use funds provided in this Act for the provisioning of information systems. The House bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House regarding mitigation of environmental impacts on Indian lands resulting from Department of Defense activities. The Senate bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the Senate which places restrictions on the use of funds to consolidate or relocate any element of the Air Force Rapid Engineer Deployable Heavy Operational Repair Squadron Engineer. The House bill contained no similar provision.

(RESCISSIONS)

The agreement modifies a provision proposed by the House recommending rescissions and provides for the rescission of $2,002,622,000. The Senate bill contained a similar provision. The rescissions agreed to are:

2015 Appropriations:	
Aircraft Procurement, Army:	
Network and mission plan	$15,000,000
Other Procurement, Army:	
Family of heavy tactical vehicles	13,210,000
Army CA/MISO GPF equipment	4,585,000
Information systems	5,250,000
Aircraft Procurement, Navy:	
P–8A Poseidon	50,000,000
EA–18G	38,000,000
Weapons Procurement, Navy:	
Cruiser modernization weapons	4,000,000
Tomahawk	5,000,000
HARM mods	2,933,000
Procurement of Ammunition, Navy and Marine Corps:	
LRLAP 6 inch long range attack projectile	43,600,000
Aircraft Procurement, Air Force:	
HC–130J	18,000,000
MC–130J	12,000,000
MQ–1 mods	2,000,000
MQ–9 depot activation	25,000,000
Other Procurement, Air Force:	
Classified programs	25,500,000
2016 Appropriations:	
Aircraft Procurement, Army:	
UH–60 Blackhawk M model (MYP)—AP	34,594,000
Procurement of Ammunition, Army:	
Demolition munitions, all types	5,000,000
Other Procurement, Army:	
Joint light tactical vehicle	6,100,000
Generators and associated equipment	53,000,000
Information systems	25,000,000
Aircraft Procurement, Navy:	
F–35 CV	6,755,000
Weapons Procurement, Navy:	
Sidewinder	5,307,000
Procurement of Ammunition, Navy and Marine Corps:	
155MM long range land attack projectile	2,100,000
Non lethals	3,868,000
81mm, all types	1,000,000

Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy:	
DDG–51	50,000,000
LPD–17	14,906,000
LX (R) (AP–CY)	236,000,000
Other Procurement, Navy:	
AQS–20A	10,810,000
Remote minehunting system	44,247,000
Surface combatant HM&E	1,317,000
Aircraft Procurement, Air Force:	
F–35—AP	47,000,000
C–130J—AP	20,000,000
HC–130J	12,500,000
KC–46A tanker	197,700,000
KC–135 block 40/45 installs	9,000,000
KC–135 post production support	1,500,000
MC–130J	28,500,000
Other production changes	67,000,000
Missile Procurement, Air Force:	
Classified programs	34,700,000
Space Procurement, Air Force:	
Evolved expendable launch vehicle	100,000,000
Other Procurement, Air Force:	
Comsec equipment	10,000,000
Combat training ranges	10,000,000
Night vision goggles	1,569,000
Classified programs	34,800,000
Procurement, Defense-Wide:	
Classified programs	2,600,000
Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Army:	
Joint light tactical vehicle	5,893,000
Concepts experimentation	2,253,000
Information technology development	16,700,000
Manpower, personnel, training advanced technology	2,500,000
Tactical command and control hardware and software	6,056,000
Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Navy:	
Tactical combat training system II	9,219,000
Tactical AIM missiles	22,000,000
Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Air Force:	
Ground based strategic deterrent	18,000,000
KC–46	375,300,000
Nuclear weapons modernization	27,000,000
Integrated Personnel and Pay System	26,000,000
Minuteman squadrons	22,000,000
Tactical AIM missiles	7,600,000
Airborne Warning and Control System	9,000,000
Classified programs	47,650,000
Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Defense-Wide:	
Defense technology offset	51,500,000
Advanced IT services joint program office	10,000,000
Classified programs	3,000,000

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House which restricts procurement of ball and roller bearings other than those produced by a domestic source and of domestic origin. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the Senate which prohibits the use of funds to retire or divest RQ–4 Global Hawk aircraft. The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House placing restrictions on funding for competitively bid space launch services. The Senate bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House which provides funding to the United Service Organizations and the Red Cross. The Senate bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement modifies a provision proposed by the Senate which prohibits funds from being used to modify Fleet Forces Command command and control relationships. The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House which restricts funding for repairs and maintenance of military housing units. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement modifies a provision proposed by the Senate which directs that up to $1,000,000 from Operation and Maintenance, Navy shall be available for transfer to the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Development Trust Fund. The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the Senate which places restrictions on the transfer to any nongovernmental entity certain ammunition held by the Department of Defense. The House bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the Senate which prohibits funds from being used to separate the National Intelligence Program from the Department of Defense budget. The House bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement modifies a provision proposed by the House which provides a grant to the Fisher House Foundation, Inc. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement modifies a provision proposed by the House related to funding for the Israeli Cooperative Defense programs. The Senate bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement modifies a provision proposed by the House which reduces funding due to favorable foreign exchange rates. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the Senate which provides funds for the Asia Pacific Regional Initiative Program for the purpose of enabling the Pacific Command to execute Theater Security Cooperation activities. The House bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House which prohibits changes to the Army Contracting Command-New Jersey without prior notification. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

(RESCISSION)

The agreement modifies a provision proposed by the Senate recommending a rescission and provides for a rescission of $531,000,000 from the Defense Workforce Acquisition Fund. The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the Senate which prohibits the use of funds to violate the Child Soldier Prevention Act of 2008. The House bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the Senate which makes funds available to make grants, conclude cooperative agreements, and supplement other Federal funds to support military infrastructure in Guam. The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement modifies a provision proposed by the House which provides that funds appropriated in this Act may be available for the purpose of making remittances

and transfers to the Defense Acquisition Workforce Development Fund. The Senate bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House related to agreements with the Russian Federation pertaining to United States ballistic missile defense systems. The Senate bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement modifies a provision proposed by the House which provides the Director of National Intelligence with general transfer authority with certain limitations. The Senate bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement modifies a provision proposed by the House which prohibits the transfer of detainees from Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba except in accordance with section 1034 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016 (Public Law 114–92) and section 1034 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114–328). The Senate bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House which prohibits funds from being used for the purchase or manufacture of a United States flag unless such flags are treated as covered items under section 2533a(b) of title 10, U.S.C. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House that requires the Secretary of Defense to post grant awards on a public website in a searchable format. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House regarding funding for flight demonstration teams at locations outside the United States. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House which prohibits the use of funds by the National Security Agency to target United States persons under authorities granted in the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House which prohibits the use of funds to implement the Arms Trade Treaty until the treaty is ratified by the Senate. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House which limits the availability of funds authorized for counterterrorism support to foreign partners. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House which prohibits introducing armed forces into Iraq in contravention of the War Powers Act. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House which prohibits the use of funds to retire the A–10 fleet. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House which limits the use of funds for the T–AO(X) program. The Senate bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement modifies a provision proposed by the House which reduces Working Capital Funds to reflect excess cash balances. The Senate bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement modifies a provision proposed by the House which reduces the total amount appropriated to reflect lower than anticipated fuel costs. The Senate bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House which prohibits the use of funds to retire the KC–10 fleet. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House which prohibits the retirement of EC–130H aircraft. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House which prohibits the use of funds for gaming or entertainment that involves nude entertainers. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House which prohibits the use of funds for Base Realignment and Closure. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement modifies a provision proposed by the House which grants the Secretary of Defense the authority to use funds for Office of Personnel and Management background investigations. The Senate bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement modifies a provision proposed by the House which restricts the use of funds for the Joint Surveillance Target Attack Radar System recapitalization program for pre-milestone B activities after March 31, 2018. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement modifies a provision proposed by the House which prohibits the use of funds to close or transfer from the jurisdiction of the Department of Defense the United States Naval Station Guantanamo Bay. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House which provides authority to use readiness funds for Zika related activities. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement modifies a provision proposed by the House which restricts the use of funds to maintain or establish a computer network unless it blocks pornography. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

(RESCISSION)

The agreement adds a provision which terminates the Ship Modernization, Operations and Sustainment Fund and rescinds unobligated balances. The House and Senate bills contained no similar provisions.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House which prohibits the use of funds to provide arms, training, or other assistance to the Azov Battalion. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement adds a provision which provides reprogramming authority for the Global Engagement Center. The House and Senate bills contained no similar provisions.

The agreement adds a provision addressing the transfer of funds out of the Defense Acquisition Workforce Development Fund. The House and Senate bills contained no similar provisions.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the Senate which prohibits the use of funds to impede certain investigations conducted by Inspectors General funded under this Act. The House bill contained no similar provision.

TITLE IX—OVERSEAS CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS/GLOBAL WAR ON TERRORISM

The agreement provides $61,822,000,000 in Title IX, Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

The agreement includes a number of reporting requirements related to contingency operations and building capacity efforts. The Secretary of Defense is directed to continue to report incremental costs for all named operations in the Central Command Area of Responsibility on a quarterly basis and to submit, also on a quarterly basis, commitment, obligation, and expenditure data for the Afghanistan Security Forces Fund, the Counter- Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant Train and Equip Fund, and for all security cooperation programs funded under the Defense Security Cooperation Agency in the Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide account.

The agreement eliminates the Cost of War reporting requirement for detailed monthly obligation and expenditure data by appropriation account. This reporting requirement is burdensome for the Department of Defense and the information provided is either duplicative of information available through other means or is unnecessary for effective budget oversight.

MILITARY PERSONNEL

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS
[In thousands of dollars]

M-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
MILITARY PERSONNEL, ARMY		
BA-1: PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF OFFICERS		
BASIC PAY	315,786	315,786
RETIRED PAY ACCRUAL	74,526	74,526
BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR HOUSING	133,911	133,911
BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR SUBSISTENCE	11,866	11,866
INCENTIVE PAYS	1,543	1,543
SPECIAL PAYS	15,411	15,411
ALLOWANCES	11,970	11,970
SEPARATION PAY	4,541	4,541
SOCIAL SECURITY TAX	24,158	24,158
TOTAL, BA-1	593,712	593,712
BA-2: PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF ENLISTED PERSONNEL		
BASIC PAY	506,209	506,209
RETIRED PAY ACCRUAL	119,465	119,465
BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR HOUSING	255,613	255,613
INCENTIVE PAYS	959	959
SPECIAL PAYS	47,347	47,347
ALLOWANCES	46,094	46,094
SEPARATION PAY	10,063	10,063
SOCIAL SECURITY TAX	38,725	38,725
TOTAL, BA-2	1,024,475	1,024,475
BA-4: SUBSISTENCE OF ENLISTED PERSONNEL		
BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR SUBSISTENCE	59,079	59,079
SUBSISTENCE-IN-KIND	222,742	222,742
TOTAL, BA-4	281,821	281,821
BA-5: PERMANENT CHANGE OF STATION TRAVEL		
OPERATIONAL TRAVEL	32,597	32,597
ROTATIONAL TRAVEL	12,059	12,059
TOTAL, BA-5	44,656	44,656
BA-6: OTHER MILITARY PERSONNEL COSTS		
INTEREST ON UNIFORMED SERVICES SAVINGS	2,194	2,194
DEATH GRATUITIES	1,200	1,200
UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS	89,464	89,464
SGLI EXTRA HAZARD PAYMENTS	8,184	8,184
TRAUMATIC INJURY PROTECTION COVERAGE	5,872	5,872
TOTAL, BA-6	106,914	106,914
PREVIOUSLY FUNDED REQUIREMENT		-102,930
TOTAL, MILITARY PERSONNEL, ARMY	2,051,578	1,948,648
MILITARY PERSONNEL, NAVY		
BA-1: PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF OFFICERS		
BASIC PAY	58,913	58,913
RETIRED PAY ACCRUAL	13,903	13,903
BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR HOUSING	19,879	19,879
BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR SUBSISTENCE	2,141	2,141
INCENTIVE PAYS	480	480
SPECIAL PAYS	3,128	3,128

M-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
ALLOWANCES	7,280	7,280
SOCIAL SECURITY TAX	4,507	4,507
TOTAL, BA-1	110,231	110,231
BA-2: PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF ENLISTED PERSONNEL		
BASIC PAY	76,964	76,964
RETIRED PAY ACCRUAL	18,163	18,163
BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR HOUSING	40,353	40,353
INCENTIVE PAYS	211	211
SPECIAL PAYS	5,931	5,931
ALLOWANCES	16,913	16,913
SOCIAL SECURITY TAX	5,888	5,888
TOTAL, BA-2	164,423	164,423
BA-4: SUBSISTENCE OF ENLISTED PERSONNEL		
BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR SUBSISTENCE	8,693	8,693
SUBSISTENCE-IN-KIND	25,446	25,446
TOTAL, BA-4	34,139	34,139
BA-5: PERMANENT CHANGE OF STATION TRAVEL		
ACCESSION TRAVEL	1,427	1,427
OPERATIONAL TRAVEL	1,825	1,825
ROTATIONAL TRAVEL	4,634	4,634
SEPARATION TRAVEL	1,937	1,937
TOTAL, BA-5	9,823	9,823
BA-6: OTHER MILITARY PERSONNEL COSTS		
DEATH GRATUITIES	300	300
UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS	6,959	6,959
RESERVE INCOME REPLACEMENT PROGRAM	9	9
SGLI EXTRA HAZARD PAYMENTS	4,673	4,673
TOTAL, BA-6	11,941	11,941
PREVIOUSLY FUNDED REQUIREMENT		-3,130
TOTAL, MILITARY PERSONNEL, NAVY	330,557	327,427
MILITARY PERSONNEL, MARINE CORPS		
BA-1: PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF OFFICERS		
BASIC PAY	29,855	29,855
RETIRED PAY ACCRUAL	7,046	7,046
BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR HOUSING	8,814	8,814
BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR SUBSISTENCE	996	996
SPECIAL PAYS (AND INCENTIVE PAYS)	1,616	1,616
ALLOWANCES	1,939	1,939
SEPARATION PAY	5,939	5,939
SOCIAL SECURITY TAX	2,284	2,284
TOTAL, BA-1	58,489	58,489
BA-2: PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF ENLISTED PERSONNEL		
BASIC PAY	17,509	17,509
RETIRED PAY ACCRUAL	4,132	4,132
BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR HOUSING	8,798	8,798
INCENTIVE PAYS	16	16
SPECIAL PAYS	4,449	4,449
ALLOWANCES	6,012	6,012
SEPARATION PAY	74,707	74,707
SOCIAL SECURITY TAX	1,339	1,339

M-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
TOTAL, BA-2	116,962	116,962
BA-4: SUBSISTENCE OF ENLISTED PERSONNEL		
BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR SUBSISTENCE	2,103	2,103
TOTAL, BA-4	2,103	2,103
BA-6: OTHER MILITARY PERSONNEL COSTS		
INTEREST ON UNIFORMED SERVICES SAVINGS	302	302
SGLI EXTRA HAZARD PAYMENTS	1,877	1,877
TOTAL, BA-6	2,179	2,179
TOTAL, MILITARY PERSONNEL, MARINE CORPS	179,733	179,733
MILITARY PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE		
BA-1: PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF OFFICERS		
BASIC PAY	104,751	104,751
RETIRED PAY ACCRUAL	24,721	24,721
BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR HOUSING	33,351	33,351
BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR SUBSISTENCE	3,745	3,745
SPECIAL PAYS	5,227	5,227
ALLOWANCES	5,610	5,610
SOCIAL SECURITY TAX	8,013	8,013
TOTAL, BA-1	185,418	185,418
BA-2: PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF ENLISTED PERSONNEL		
BASIC PAY	199,730	199,730
RETIRED PAY ACCRUAL	47,136	47,136
BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR HOUSING	86,671	86,671
SPECIAL PAYS	20,006	20,006
ALLOWANCES	19,146	19,146
SOCIAL SECURITY TAX	15,279	15,279
TOTAL, BA-2	387,968	387,968
BA-4: SUBSISTENCE OF ENLISTED PERSONNEL		
BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR SUBSISTENCE	22,208	22,208
SUBSISTENCE-IN-KIND	93,369	93,369
TOTAL, BA-4	115,577	115,577
BA-6: OTHER MILITARY PERSONNEL COSTS		
DEATH GRATUITIES	1,000	1,000
UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS	24,626	24,626
SGLI EXTRA HAZARD PAYMENTS	5,307	5,307
TOTAL, BA-6	30,933	30,933
PREVIOUSLY FUNDED REQUIREMENT		-14,190
TOTAL, MILITARY PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE	719,896	705,706
RESERVE PERSONNEL, ARMY		
BA-1: UNIT AND INDIVIDUAL TRAINING		
PAY GROUP A TRAINING (15 DAYS and DRILLS 24/48)	2,773	2,773
SPECIAL TRAINING	39,733	39,733
TOTAL, BA-1	42,506	42,506
TOTAL, RESERVE PERSONNEL, ARMY	42,506	42,506

M-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
RESERVE PERSONNEL, NAVY		
BA-1: UNIT AND INDIVIDUAL TRAINING		
SPECIAL TRAINING	11,574	11,574
ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT	355	355
TOTAL, BA-1	11,929	11,929
TOTAL, RESERVE PERSONNEL, NAVY	11,929	11,929
RESERVE PERSONNEL, MARINE CORPS		
BA-1: UNIT AND INDIVIDUAL TRAINING		
SPECIAL TRAINING	3,700	3,700
ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT	64	64
TOTAL, BA-1	3,764	3,764
TOTAL, RESERVE PERSONNEL, MARINE CORPS	3,764	3,764
RESERVE PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE		
BA-1: UNIT AND INDIVIDUAL TRAINING		
SPECIAL TRAINING	20,535	20,535
TOTAL, BA-1	20,535	20,535
TOTAL, RESERVE PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE	20,535	20,535
NATIONAL GUARD PERSONNEL, ARMY		
BA-1: UNIT AND INDIVIDUAL TRAINING		
PAY GROUP A TRAINING (15 DAYS and DRILLS 24/48)	33,702	33,702
SCHOOL TRAINING	47,658	47,658
SPECIAL TRAINING	105,939	105,939
ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT	9,173	9,173
TOTAL, BA-1	196,472	196,472
TOTAL, NATIONAL GUARD PERSONNEL, ARMY	196,472	196,472
NATIONAL GUARD PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE		
BA-1: UNIT AND INDIVIDUAL TRAINING		
SPECIAL TRAINING	5,288	5,288
TOTAL, BA-1	5,288	5,288
TOTAL, NATIONAL GUARD PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE	5,288	5,288
TOTAL, MILITARY PERSONNEL	3,562,258	3,442,008

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS
[In thousands of dollars]

O-1		Budget Request	Final Bill
	OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY		
111	MANEUVER UNITS	723,945	938,145
	Army requested transfer to title IX WTCV,A lines 5 and 13		-10,800
	OCO/GWOT operations - transfer from title II		225,000
112	MODULAR SUPPORT BRIGADES	5,904	5,904
113	ECHELONS ABOVE BRIGADE	38,614	38,614
114	THEATER LEVEL ASSETS	1,651,817	1,651,817
115	LAND FORCES OPERATIONS SUPPORT	835,138	703,138
	Army requested transfer to title IX WTCV,A lines 5 and 13		-132,000
116	AVIATION ASSETS	165,044	197,544
	Program increase - support eleventh CAB		32,500
121	FORCE READINESS OPERATIONS SUPPORT	1,756,378	2,254,378
	Army requested transfer to title IX WTCV,A lines 5 and 13		-2,000
	OCO/GWOT operations - transfer from title II		500,000
122	LAND FORCES SYSTEMS READINESS	348,174	348,174
123	LAND FORCES DEPOT MAINTENANCE	350,000	350,000
131	BASE OPERATIONS SUPPORT	40,000	51,000
	Program increase - support eleventh CAB		11,000
135	ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES	5,990,878	5,755,878
	LOGCAP - unjustified program growth		-235,000
136	COMMANDERS' EMERGENCY RESPONSE PROGRAM	5,000	5,000
137	RESET	1,092,542	1,625,250
	OCO/GWOT operations - transfer from title II		532,708
138	COMBATANT COMMAND DIRECT MISSION SUPPORT	79,568	79,568
212	ARMY PREPOSITIONED STOCKS	350,200	130,000
	Army requested transfer to line 421 and title IX WTCV,A lines 5 and 13		-220,200
321	SPECIALIZED SKILL TRAINING	3,565	3,565
323	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION	9,021	9,021
324	TRAINING SUPPORT	2,434	2,434
334	CIVILIAN EDUCATION AND TRAINING	1,254	1,254
421	SERVICEWIDE TRANSPORTATION	740,400	860,400
	Army requested transfer from line 212		120,000

O-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
424 AMMUNITION MANAGEMENT	13,974	13,974
434 OTHER PERSONNEL SUPPORT	105,508	105,508
437 REAL ESTATE MANAGEMENT	165,678	165,678
CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	835,551	835,551
PREVIOUSLY FUNDED REQUIREMENT		-438,727
TOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY	15,310,587	15,693,068
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, NAVY		
1A1A MISSION AND OTHER FLIGHT OPERATIONS	860,621	1,260,621
OCO/GWOT operations - transfer from Title II		400,000
1A4A AIR OPERATIONS AND SAFETY SUPPORT	4,603	4,603
1A4N AIR SYSTEMS SUPPORT	159,049	159,049
1A5A AIRCRAFT DEPOT MAINTENANCE	113,994	113,994
1A6A AIRCRAFT DEPOT OPERATIONS SUPPORT	1,840	1,840
1A9A AVIATION LOGISTICS	35,529	35,529
1B1B MISSION AND OTHER SHIP OPERATIONS	1,073,080	1,498,080
OCO/GWOT operations - transfer from title II		425,000
1B2B SHIP OPERATIONS SUPPORT & TRAINING	17,306	17,306
1B4B SHIP DEPOT MAINTENANCE	2,903,431	3,303,431
OCO/GWOT operations - transfer from title II		400,000
1C1C COMBAT COMMUNICATIONS	21,257	21,257
1C4C WARFARE TACTICS	22,603	22,603
1C5C OPERATIONAL METEOROLOGY AND OCEANOGRAPHY	22,934	22,934
1C6C COMBAT SUPPORT FORCES	568,511	568,511
1C7C EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE	11,358	11,358
1D3D IN-SERVICE WEAPONS SYSTEMS SUPPORT	61,000	61,000
1D4D WEAPONS MAINTENANCE	289,045	289,045
1D7D OTHER WEAPONS SYSTEMS SUPPORT	8,000	8,000
BSM1 FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION	27,089	27,089
BSS1 BASE OPERATING SUPPORT	219,525	219,525
2B1G AIRCRAFT ACTIVIATIONS / INACTIVATIONS	1,530	1,530
2C1H EXPEDITIONARY HEALTH SERVICE SYSTEM	8,904	8,904

O-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
2C3H COAST GUARD SUPPORT	162,692	0
Coast Guard funded in Department of Homeland Security bill		-162,692
3B1K SPECIALIZED SKILL TRAINING	43,365	43,365
4A1M ADMINISTRATION	3,764	3,764
4A2M EXTERNAL RELATIONS	515	515
4A4M MILITARY MANPOWER AND PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT	5,409	5,409
4A5M OTHER PERSONNEL SUPPORT	1,578	1,578
4A6M SERVICEWIDE COMMUNICATIONS	25,617	25,617
4B1N SERVICEWIDE TRANSPORTATION	126,700	126,700
4B3N ACQUISITION AND PROGRAM MANAGEMENT	9,261	9,261
999 CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	17,281	17,281
PREVIOUSLY FUNDED REQUIREMENT		-2,350
TOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, NAVY	6,827,391	7,887,349
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, MARINE CORPS		
1A1A OPERATIONAL FORCES	703,489	878,489
OCO/GWOT operations - transfer from title II		175,000
1A2A FIELD LOGISTICS	266,094	266,094
1A3A DEPOT MAINTENANCE	147,000	147,000
BSS1 BASE OPERATING SUPPORT	18,576	218,576
OCO/GWOT operations - transfer from title II		200,000
3B4D TRAINING SUPPORT	31,750	31,750
4A3G SERVICEWIDE TRANSPORTATION	73,800	73,800
999 OTHER PROGRAMS	3,650	3,650
PREVIOUSLY FUNDED REQUIREMENT		-12,100
TOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, MARINE CORPS	1,244,359	1,607,259
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE		
011A PRIMARY COMBAT FORCES	1,339,461	1,764,461
OCO/GWOT operations - transfer from title II		425,000
011C COMBAT ENHANCEMENT FORCES	1,096,021	986,021
Classified program transfer		-110,000
011D AIR OPERATIONS TRAINING (OJT, MAINTAIN SKILLS)	152,278	152,278
011M DEPOT MAINTENANCE	1,185,506	1,185,506

O-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
011R FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION	56,700	56,700
011Z BASE SUPPORT	941,714	941,714
012A GLOBAL C3I AND EARLY WARNING	30,219	30,219
012C OTHER COMBAT OPS SPT PROGRAMS	207,696	207,696
012F TACTICAL INTEL AND OTHER SPECIAL ACTIVITIES	79,893	79,893
013A LAUNCH FACILITIES	869	869
013C SPACE CONTROL SYSTEMS	5,008	5,008
015A COMBATANT COMMANDERS DIRECT MISSION SUPPORT	100,081	100,081
021A AIRLIFT OPERATIONS	2,774,729	3,174,729
OCO/GWOT operations - transfer from title II		400,000
021D MOBILIZATION PREPAREDNESS	108,163	108,163
021M DEPOT MAINTENANCE	891,102	1,291,102
OCO/GWOT operations - transfer from title II		400,000
021Z BASE SUPPORT	3,686	3,686
031Z BASE SUPPORT	52,740	52,740
032A SPECIALIZED SKILL TRAINING	4,500	4,500
041A LOGISTICS OPERATIONS	86,716	86,716
041Z BASE SUPPORT	59,133	59,133
042B SERVICEWIDE COMMUNICATIONS	165,348	165,348
042G OTHER SERVICEWIDE ACTIVITIES	141,883	116,825
Authorization adjustment - Office of Security Cooperation-Iraq		-25,058
044A INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT	61	61
999 CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	15,323	15,323
BASE OPERATIONS SUPPORT UNJUSTIFIED GROWTH		-10,000
PREVIOUSLY FUNDED REQUIREMENT		-45,550
OPERATIONAL SUPPORT FOR INTELLIGENCE, SURVEILLANCE, AND RECONNAISSANCE	0	23,376
TOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE	9,498,830	10,556,598
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, DEFENSE-WIDE		
1PL2 SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND	2,650,651	2,636,522
Previously funded requirement		-14,129
4GT6 DEFENSE CONTRACT AUDIT AGENCY	13,436	13,436

O-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
4GT9 DEFENSE INFORMATION SYSTEMS AGENCY	47,579	47,579
4GTA DEFENSE LEGAL SERVICES	111,986	111,986
ES18 DEFENSE MEDIA ACTIVITY	13,317	13,317
4GTJ DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE EDUCATION AGENCY	67,000	67,000
4GT0 DEFENSE CONTRACT MANAGEMENT AGENCY	13,564	13,564
4GTD DEFENSE SECURITY COOPERATION AGENCY	1,412,000	1,882,000
Lift and Sustain		-100,000
Jordan and Lebanon border security - transfer to Counter-ISIL Train and Equip Fund		-180,000
Consolidation of building partner capacity efforts - Transfer from CTPF		750,000
DEFENSE THREAT REDUCTION AGENCY	0	62,800
Mission enablers - Transfer from title IX JIDF		62,800
4GTN OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE	31,106	31,106
4GTQ WASHINGTON HEADQUARTERS SERVICE	3,137	3,137
9999 OTHER PROGRAMS	1,618,397	1,594,202
Previously funded requirement		-19,195
Classified program adjustment		-5,000
TOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, DEFENSE-WIDE	5,982,173	6,476,649
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY RESERVE		
112 MODULAR SUPPORT BRIGADES	708	708
113 ECHELONS ABOVE BRIGADE	14,822	14,822
114 THEATER LEVEL ASSETS	375	375
115 LAND FORCES OPERATIONS SUPPORT	2,088	2,088
116 AVIATION ASSETS	608	608
121 FORCES READINESS OPERATIONS SUPPORT	5,425	5,425
131 BASE OPERATIONS SUPPORT	14,653	14,653
TOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY RESERVE	38,679	38,679
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, NAVY RESERVE		
1A5A AIRCRAFT DEPOT MAINTENANCE	16,500	16,500
1A9A AVIATION LOGISTICS	2,522	2,522
1C6C COMBAT SUPPORT FORCES	7,243	7,243
TOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, NAVY RESERVE	26,265	26,265

O-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, MARINE CORPS RESERVE		
1A1A OPERATING FORCES	2,500	2,500
BSS1 BASE OPERATING SUPPORT	804	804
TOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, MARINE CORPS RESERVE	3,304	3,304
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE RESERVE		
011M DEPOT MAINTENANCE	51,086	51,086
011Z BASE OPERATING SUPPORT	6,500	6,500
TOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE RESERVE	57,586	57,586
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
111 MANEUVER UNITS	16,149	16,149
112 MODULAR SUPPORT BRIGADES	748	748
113 ECHELONS ABOVE BRIGADE	34,707	34,707
114 THEATER LEVEL ASSETS	10,472	10,472
116 AVIATION ASSETS	32,804	32,804
121 FORCE READINESS OPERATIONS SUPPORT	12,435	12,435
131 BASE OPERATIONS SUPPORT	18,800	18,800
133 MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONAL HEADQUARTERS	920	920
TOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY NATIONAL GUARD	127,035	127,035
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
011G MISSION SUPPORT OPERATIONS	3,400	3,400
011Z BASE SUPPORT	16,600	16,600
TOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR NATIONAL GUARD	20,000	20,000
AFGHANISTAN SECURITY FORCES FUND		
Defense Forces		
Sustainment	2,173,341	2,173,341
Infrastructure	48,262	48,262
Equipment and Transportation	76,216	821,216
Program increase – Afghan aviation		745,000
Training and Operations	220,139	289,139
Program increase – Afghan aviation		69,000

O-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
Interior Forces		
Sustainment	860,441	860,441
Infrastructure	20,837	20,837
Equipment and Transportation	8,153	8,153
Training and Operations	41,326	41,326
TOTAL, AFGHANISTAN SECURITY FORCES FUND	3,448,715	4,262,715
COUNTERTERRORISM PARTNERSHIPS FUND		
COUNTERTERRORISM PARTNERSHIPS FUND	1,000,000	0
Program decrease		-250,000
Consolidation of building partner capacity efforts - transfer to title IX OM,DW		-750,000
TOTAL, COUNTERTERRORISM PARTNERSHIPS FUND	1,000,000	0
IRAQ TRAIN AND EQUIP FUND		
IRAQ TRAIN AND EQUIP FUND	630,000	0
Transfer to Counter-ISIL Train and Equip Fund		-580,000
Program decrease		-50,000
TOTAL, IRAQ TRAIN AND EQUIP FUND	630,000	0
SYRIA TRAIN AND EQUIP FUND		
SYRIA TRAIN AND EQUIP	250,000	0
Transfer to Counter-ISIL Train and Equip Fund		-220,000
Program decrease		-30,000
TOTAL, SYRIA TRAIN AND EQUIP FUND	250,000	0
COUNTER-ISIL TRAIN AND EQUIP FUND		
COUNTER-ISIL TRAIN AND EQUIP FUND	0	980,000
Transfer from Iraq Train and Equip Fund		580,000
Transfer from Syria Train and Equip Fund		220,000
Jordan and Lebanon border security - transfer from title IX OM,DW		180,000
TOTAL, COUNTER-ISIL TRAIN AND EQUIP FUND	0	980,000
TOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE	44,464,924	47,736,507

COMMANDERS' EMERGENCY RESPONSE PROGRAM

The agreement recommends $5,000,000 for the Commanders' Emergency Response Program (CERP) in Afghanistan for fiscal year 2017. As directed in section 9005 of this Act, not later than 30 days after the end of each fiscal quarter, the Army shall submit commitment, obligation, and expenditure data for the CERP to the congressional defense committees.

PROCUREMENT

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS
[In thousands of dollars]

P-1		Budget Request	Final Bill
	AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, ARMY		
6	AH-64 APACHE BLOCK IIIA REMAN (OCO/GWOT)	78,040	78,040
15	MULTI SENSOR ABN RECON (OCO/GWOT)	21,400	21,400
20	EMARSS SEMA MODS (OCO/GWOT)	42,700	42,700
26	RQ-7 UAV MODS (OCO/GWOT)	1,775	1,775
27	UAS MODS (OCO/GWOT)	4,420	4,420
30	CMWS (OCO/GWOT)	56,115	56,115
31	CIRCM (OCO/GWOT)	108,721	108,721
	TOTAL, AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, ARMY	313,171	313,171
	MISSILE PROCUREMENT, ARMY		
4	HELLFIRE SYSTEM SUMMARY (OCO/GWOT)	455,830	228,330
	Previously funded requirement		-227,500
7	JAVELIN SYSTEM SUMMARY (OCO/GWOT)	15,567	15,567
8	TOW 2 SYSTEM SUMMARY (OCO/GWOT)	80,652	80,652
10	GUIDED MLRS ROCKET (GMLRS) (OCO/GWOT)	75,991	75,991
12	LETHAL MINIATURE AERIAL MISSILE SYSTEM (LMAMS) (OCO/GWOT)	4,777	4,777
	TOTAL, MISSILE PROCUREMENT, ARMY	632,817	405,317
	PROCUREMENT OF WEAPONS AND TRACKED COMBAT VEHICLES, ARMY		
6	BRADLEY UPGRADE PROGRAM (OCO/GWOT)	0	72,800
	Army requested transfer from title IX OM,A lines 111, 113, 115, 121, and 212		72,800
8	PALADIN INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT (PIM) (OCO/GWOT)	125,184	122,584
	Estimated contract savings		-2,600
10	ASSAULT BRIGADE (MOD) (OCO/GWOT)	5,950	5,950
15	M1 ABRAMS UPGRADE PROGRAM (OCO/GWOT)	0	172,200
	Army requested transfer from title IX OM,A lines 111, 113, 115, 121, and 212		172,200
18	MORTAR SYSTEMS (OCO/GWOT)	22,410	22,410
	TOTAL, PROCUREMENT OF WEAPONS AND TRACKED COMBAT VEHICLES, ARMY	153,544	395,944

P-1		Budget Request	Final Bill
	PROCUREMENT OF AMMUNITION, ARMY		
2	CTG, 7.62MM, ALL TYPES (OCO/GWOT)	9,642	9,642
4	CTG, .50 CAL, ALL TYPES (OCO/GWOT)	6,607	6,607
5	CTG, 20MM, ALL TYPES (OCO/GWOT)	1,077	1,077
6	CTG, 25MM, ALL TYPES (OCO/GWOT)	28,534	28,534
7	CTG, 30MM, ALL TYPES (OCO/GWOT)	20,000	20,000
8	CTG, 40MM, ALL TYPES (OCO/GWOT)	7,423	6,923
	Unit cost growth		-500
9	60MM MORTAR, ALL TYPES (OCO/GWOT)	10,000	10,000
10	81MM MORTAR, ALL TYPES (OCO/GWOT)	2,677	2,677
12	CARTRIDGES, TANK, 105MM AND 120MM, ALL TYPES (OCO/GWOT)	8,999	8,999
14	ARTILLERY PROJECTILE, 155M, ALL TYPES (OCO/GWOT)	30,348	30,348
15	PROJ 155MM EXTENDED RANGE M982 (OCO/GWOT)	140	140
16	ARTILLERY PROPELLANTS, FUZES AND PRIMERS, ALL TYPES (OCO/GWOT)	29,655	29,655
17	MINES & CLEARING CHARGES, ALL TYPES (OCO/GWOT)	16,866	16,866
18	SPIDER NETWORK MUNITIONS, ALL TYPES (OCO/GWOT)	10,353	0
	Army identified excess funds		-10,353
19	SHOULDER LAUNCHED MUNITIONS, ALL TYPES (OCO/GWOT)	63,210	63,210
20	ROCKET, HYDRA 70, ALL TYPES (OCO/GWOT)	42,851	42,851
22	DEMOLITION MUNITIONS, ALL TYPES (OCO/GWOT)	6,373	6,373
23	GRENADES, ALL TYPES (OCO/GWOT)	4,143	4,143
24	SIGNALS, ALL TYPES (OCO/GWOT)	1,852	1,852
27	NON-LETHAL AMMUNITION, ALL TYPES (OCO/GWOT)	773	773
	TOTAL, PROCUREMENT OF AMMUNITION, ARMY	301,523	290,670
	OTHER PROCUREMENT, ARMY		
2	SEMITRAILERS, FLATBED (OCO/GWOT)	4,180	4,180
8	FAMILY OF MEDIUM TACTICAL VEHICLES (OCO/GWOT)	299,476	299,476
10	FAMILY OF HEAVY TACTICAL VEHICLES (OCO/GWOT)	6,122	6,122
11	PLS ESP (OCO/GWOT)	106,358	106,358

P-1		Budget Request	Final Bill
12	HEAVY EXPANDED MOBILE TACTICAL TRUCK EXT SERV (OCO/GWOT)	203,766	203,766
13	TACTICAL WHEELED VEHICLE PROTECTION KITS	101,154	101,154
14	MODIFICATION OF IN SVC EQUIP (OCO/GWOT) Maintain level of effort	155,456	125,456 -30,000
19	WIN-T - GROUND FORCES TACTICAL NETWORK (OCO/GWOT)	9,572	9,572
25	SHF TERM (OCO/GWOT)	24,000	24,000
47	CI AUTOMATION ARCHITECTURE (OCO/GWOT)	1,550	1,550
51	COMSEC (OCO/GWOT)	1,928	1,928
56	INSTALLATION INFO INFRASTRUCTURE MOD PROGRAM (OCO/GWOT)	20,510	20,510
62	DCGS-A (OCO/GWOT)	33,032	33,032
64	TROJAN (OCO/GWOT)	3,305	3,305
66	CI HUMINT AUTO REPORTING AND COLL (CHARCS) (OCO/GWOT)	7,233	7,233
69	BIOMETRIC TACTICAL COLLECTION DEVICES (OCO/GWOT)	5,670	5,670
70	LIGHTWEIGHT COUNTER MORTAR RADAR (OCO/GWOT)	25,892	25,892
74	FAMILY OF PERSISTENT SURVEILLANCE CAPABILITIES (OCO/GWOT)	11,610	11,610
75	COUNTERINTELLIGENCE/SECURITY COUNTERMEASURES (OCO/GWOT)	23,890	23,890
80	INDIRECT FIRE PROTECTION FAMILY OF SYSTEMS (OCO/GWOT)	4,270	4,270
89	MORTAR FIRE CONTROL SYSTEM (OCO/GWOT)	2,572	2,572
92	AIR & MSL DEFENSE PLANNING & CONTROL SYSTEM (OCO/GWOT)	69,958	69,958
102	AUTOMATED DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT (OCO/GWOT)	9,900	9,900
108	ITEMS LESS THAN $5M (SURVEYING EQUIPMENT) (OCO/GWOT)	96	96
114	CBRN DEFENSE (OCO/GWOT)	1,841	1,841
115	TACTICAL BRIDGING (OCO/GWOT)	26,000	26,000
124	ROBOTICS AND APPLIQUE SYSTEMS (OCO/GWOT)	268	268
128	FAMILY OF BOATS AND MOTORS (OCO/GWOT)	280	280

P-1		Budget Request	Final Bill
129	HEATERS AND ECU'S (OCO/GWOT)	894	894
134	FORCE PROVIDER (OCO/GWOT)	53,800	53,800
135	FIELD FEEDING EQUIPMENT (OCO/GWOT)	2,665	2,665
136	CARGO AERIAL DELIVERY & PERSONNEL PARACHUTE SYSTEM (OCO/GWOT)	2,400	2,400
137	FAMILY OF ENGINEER COMBAT AND CONSTRUCTION SETS (OCO/GWOT)	9,789	9,789
138	ITEMS LESS THAN $5M (ENG SPT) (OCO/GWOT)	300	300
139	QUALITY SURVEILLANCE EQUIPMENT (OCO/GWOT)	4,800	4,800
140	DISTRIBUTION SYSTEMS, PETROLEUM & WATER (OCO/GWOT)	78,240	78,240
141	COMBAT SUPPORT MEDICAL (OCO/GWOT)	5,763	5,763
142	MOBILE MAINTENANCE EQUIPMENT SYSTEMS (OCO/GWOT)	1,609	1,609
143	ITEMS LESS THAN $5M (MAINT EQ) (OCO/GWOT)	145	145
144	GRADER, ROAD MTZD, HVY, 6X4 (CCE) (OCO/GWOT)	3,047	3,047
148	TRACTOR, FULL TRACKED (OCO/GWOT)	4,426	4,426
151	HIGH MOBILITY ENGINEER EXCAVATOR (HMEE) (OCO/GWOT)	2,900	2,900
155	ITEMS LESS THAN $5M (CONST EQUIP) (OCO/GWOT)	96	96
158	GENERATORS AND ASSOCIATED EQUIP (OCO/GWOT)	31,761	31,761
160	FAMILY OF FORKLIFTS (OCO/GWOT)	846	846
168	TEST EQUIPMENT MODERNIZATION (TEMOD) (OCO/GWOT)	1,140	1,140
170	RAPID EQUIPPING SOLDIER SUPPORT EQUIPMENT (OCO/GWOT)	8,500	8,500
	TOTAL, OTHER PROCUREMENT, ARMY	1,373,010	1,343,010
	AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, NAVY		
2	F/A-18E/F (FIGHTER) HORNET (OCO/GWOT)	184,912	167,912
	Excess cost growth		-17,000
26	STUASL0 UAV (OCO/GWOT)	70,000	61,900
	ICS excess growth		-8,100
35	SH-60 SERIES (OCO/GWOT)	3,000	3,000
36	H-1 SERIES (OCO/GWOT)	3,740	3,740
39	EP-3 SERIES (OCO/GWOT)	7,505	7,505
47	SPECIAL PROJECT AIRCRAFT (OCO/GWOT)	14,869	14,869

P-1		Budget Request	Final Bill
51	COMMON ECM EQUIPMENT (OCO/GWOT)	98,240	98,240
59	V-22 OSPREY (OCO/GWOT)	8,740	8,740
63	SPARES AND REPAIR PARTS (OCO/GWOT)	1,500	1,500
65	AIRCRAFT INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES (OCO/GWOT)	524	524
	TOTAL, AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, NAVY	393,030	367,930
	WEAPONS PROCUREMENT, NAVY		
10	HELLFIRE (OCO/GWOT)	8,600	8,600
	TOTAL, WEAPONS PROCUREMENT, NAVY	8,600	8,600
	PROCUREMENT OF AMMO, NAVY & MARINE CORPS		
1	GENERAL PURPOSE BOMBS (OCO/GWOT)	40,366	40,366
2	AIRBORNE ROCKETS, ALL TYPES (OCO/GWOT)	8,860	8,860
6	AIR EXPENDABLE COUNTERMEASURES (OCO/GWOT)	7,060	7,060
13	PYROTECHNIC AND DEMOLITION (OCO/GWOT)	1,122	1,122
14	AMMUNITION LESS THAN $5 MILLION (OCO/GWOT)	3,495	3,495
15	SMALL ARMS AMMUNITION (OCO/GWOT)	1,205	1,205
17	40MM, ALL TYPES (OCO/GWOT)	539	481
	MK281 unit cost growth		-58
18	60MM, ALL TYPES (OCO/GWOT)	909	909
20	120MM, ALL TYPES (OCO/GWOT)	530	0
	Forward financing		-530
22	ROCKETS, ALL TYPES (OCO/GWOT)	469	469
23	ARTILLERY, ALL TYPES (OCO/GWOT)	1,196	1,196
24	DEMOLITION MUNITIONS, ALL TYPES (OCO/GWOT)	261	0
	Prior year carryover		-261
25	FUZE, ALL TYPES (OCO/GWOT)	217	217
	TOTAL, PROCUREMENT OF AMMO, NAVY & MARINE CORPS	66,229	65,380
	OTHER PROCUREMENT, NAVY		
81	DCGS-N (OCO/GWOT)	12,000	12,000
116	EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL EQUIP (OCO/GWOT)	99,329	74,934
	Prior year carryover due to contract delay		-24,395
124	FIRE FIGHTING EQUIPMENT (OCO/GWOT)	630	630

P-1		Budget Request	Final Bill
133	FIRST DESTINATION TRANSPORTATION (OCO/GWOT)	25	0
	Excess to need		-25
137	COMMAND SUPPPORT EQUIPMENT (OCO/GWOT)	10,562	10,562
999	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS (OCO/GWOT)	1,660	1,660
	TOTAL, OTHER PROCUREMENT, NAVY	124,206	99,786
	PROCUREMENT, MARINE CORPS		
6	WEAPONS AND COMBAT VEHICLES UNDER $5 MILLION (OCO/GWOT)	572	572
10	JAVELIN (OCO/GWOT)	1,606	1,606
18	MODIFICATION KITS (OCO/GWOT)	2,600	2,600
19	ITEMS UNDER $5 MILLION (COMM & ELEC) (OCO/GWOT)	2,200	2,200
26	INTELLIGENCE SUPPORT EQUIPMENT (OCO/GWOT)	20,981	20,981
29	RQ-11 UAV (OCO/GWOT)	3,817	3,817
35	COMMON COMPUTER RESOURCES (OCO/GWOT)	2,600	2,600
37	RADIO SYSTEMS (OCO/GWOT)	9,563	9,563
53	EOD SYSTEMS (OCO/GWOT)	75,000	75,000
	TOTAL, PROCUREMENT, MARINE CORPS	118,939	118,939
	AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE		
4	C-130J (OCO/GWOT)	73,000	73,000
11	CV-22 (OCO/GWOT)	0	97,000
	Program increase - one aircraft for attrition reserve		97,000
15	MQ-9 (OCO/GWOT)	453,030	366,030
	Air Force requested transfer to line 61 for spares		-60,000
	Excess initial spares		-27,000
19	LAIRCM (OCO/GWOT)	135,801	135,801
20	A-10 (OCO/GWOT)	23,850	43,000
	Excess funds		-850
	Program increase - A-10 wing replacements		20,000
22	F-16 (OCO/GWOT)	0	17,000
	Program increase - missile warning system		12,000
	Program increase - anti-jam GPS		5,000
47	E-3 (OCO/GWOT)	6,600	6,600
56	HC/MC-130 MODIFICATIONS (OCO/GWOT)	13,550	13,550
57	OTHER AIRCRAFT (OCO/GWOT)	7,500	7,500

P-1		Budget Request	Final Bill
59	MQ-9 MODS (OCO/GWOT)	112,068	73,768
	Early to need		-38,300
61	INITIAL SPARES/REPAIR PARTS (OCO/GWOT)	25,600	85,600
	Air Force requested transfer from line 15 for spares		60,000
77	OTHER PRODUCTION CHARGES (OCO/GWOT)	8,400	8,400
	TOTAL, AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE	859,399	927,249
	MISSILE PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE		
6	PREDATOR HELLFIRE MISSILE (OCO/GWOT)	145,125	141,375
	Pricing adjustment		-3,750
7	SMALL DIAMETER BOMB (OCO/GWOT)	167,800	67,100
	Unit cost growth		-16,800
	Previously funded requirement		-83,900
11	AGM-65 MAVERICK (OCO/GWOT)	26,620	26,620
	TOTAL, MISSILE PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE	339,545	235,095
	PROCUREMENT OF AMMUNITION, AIR FORCE		
1	ROCKETS (OCO/GWOT)	60,000	60,000
2	CARTRIDGES (OCO/GWOT)	9,830	9,830
4	GENERAL PURPOSE BOMBS (OCO/GWOT)	7,921	7,921
6	JOINT DIRECT ATTACK MUNITION (OCO/GWOT)	403,126	189,063
	Pricing adjustment		-12,500
	Previously funded requirement		-201,563
12	FLARES (OCO/GWOT)	6,531	6,531
	TOTAL, PROCUREMENT OF AMMUNITION, AIR FORCE	487,408	273,345
	OTHER PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE		
1	PASSENGER CARRYING VEHICLES (OCO/GWOT)	2,003	2,003
2	MEDIUM TACTICAL VEHICLE (OCO/GWOT)	9,066	9,066
4	ITEMS LESS THAN $5M (CARGO & UTILITY) (OCO/GWOT)	12,264	12,264
6	ITEMS LESS THAN $5M (SPECIAL PURPOSE) (OCO/GWOT)	16,789	16,789
7	FIRE FIGHTING/CRASH RESCUE VEHICLES (OCO/GWOT)	48,590	48,590
8	ITEMS LESS THAN $5M (MHE) (OCO/GWOT)	2,366	2,366
9	RUNWAY SNOW REMOVAL & CLEANING EQUIPMENT (OCO/GWOT)	6,468	6,468

P-1		Budget Request	Final Bill
10	ITEMS LESS THAN $5M (BASE MAINTENANCE SUPPORT) (OCO/GWOT)	9,271	9,271
16	AIR TRAFFIC LANDING & CONTROL SYSTEMS (OCO/GWOT)	42,650	21,325
	D-ILS schedule slip		-21,325
29	AIR FORCE PHYSICAL SECURITY SYSTEM (OCO/GWOT)	7,500	7,500
33	C3 COUNTERMEASURES (OCO/GWOT)	620	620
52	TACTICAL C-E EQUIPMENT (OCO/GWOT)	8,100	8,100
56	COMM ELECT MODS (OCO/GWOT)	3,800	3,800
61	ENGINEERING AND EOD EQUIPMENT (OCO/GWOT)	53,900	46,400
	JCREW - unjustified unit cost increase		-7,500
67	DCGS-AF (OCO/GWOT)	800	800
999	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS (OCO/GWOT)	3,472,094	3,334,094
	Classified adjustment		-138,000
	TOTAL, OTHER PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE	3,696,281	3,529,456
	PROCUREMENT, DEFENSE-WIDE		
7	TELEPORT PROGRAM (OCO/GWOT)	3,900	3,900
16	DEFENSE INFORMATION SYSTEMS NETWORK (OCO/GWOT)	2,000	2,000
999	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS (OCO/GWOT)	32,482	32,482
41	MC-12 (OCO/GWOT)	5,000	5,000
43	UNMANNED ISR (OCO/GWOT)	11,880	11,880
46	U-28 (OCO/GWOT)	38,283	38,283
48	CV-22 SOF MODIFICATION (OCO/GWOT)	0	25,000
	Program increase		25,000
57	ORDNANCE ITEMS <$5M (OCO/GWOT)	52,504	52,504
58	INTELLIGENCE SYSTEMS (OCO/GWOT)	22,000	22,000
60	OTHER ITEMS <$5M (OCO/GWOT)	11,580	11,580
62	SPECIAL PROGRAMS (OCO/GWOT)	13,549	13,549
63	TACTICAL VEHICLES (OCO/GWOT)	3,200	3,200
69	SOF OPERATIONAL ENHANCEMENTS (OCO/GWOT)	42,056	22,806
	Classified adjustment		-19,250
	TOTAL, PROCUREMENT, DEFENSE-WIDE	238,434	244,184

P-1	Budget Request	Final Bill
NATIONAL GUARD & RESERVE EQUIPMENT		
RESERVE EQUIPMENT		
ARMY RESERVE	0	105,000
MISCELLANEOUS EQUIPMENT (OCO/GWOT)		105,000
NAVY RESERVE	0	37,500
MISCELLANEOUS EQUIPMENT (OCO/GWOT)		37,500
MARINE CORPS RESERVE	0	7,500
MISCELLANEOUS EQUIPMENT (OCO/GWOT)		7,500
AIR FORCE RESERVE	0	105,000
MISCELLANEOUS EQUIPMENT (OCO/GWOT)		105,000
TOTAL, RESERVE EQUIPMENT	0	255,000
NATIONAL GUARD EQUIPMENT		
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD	0	247,500
MISCELLANEOUS EQUIPMENT (OCO/GWOT)		247,500
AIR NATIONAL GUARD	0	247,500
MISCELLANEOUS EQUIPMENT (OCO/GWOT)		247,500
TOTAL, NATIONAL GUARD EQUIPMENT	0	495,000
TOTAL, NATIONAL GUARD & RESERVE EQUIPMENT	0	750,000
TOTAL PROCUREMENT	9,106,136	9,368,076

NATIONAL GUARD AND RESERVE EQUIPMENT

The agreement provides $750,000,000 for National Guard and Reserve Equipment. Of that amount $247,500,000 is designated for the Army National Guard, $247,500,000 for the Air National Guard, $105,000,000 for the Army Reserve, $105,000,000 for the Air Force Reserve, $37,500,000 for the Navy Reserve, and $7,500,000 for the Marine Corps Reserve.

This funding will allow the reserve components to procure high priority equipment that may be used for combat and domestic response missions. Current reserve component equipping levels are among the highest in recent history and the funding provided by the agreement will help ensure component interoperability and sustained reserve component modernization.

The Secretary of Defense is directed to ensure that the account be executed by the Chiefs of the National Guard and reserve components with priority consideration given to the following items: acoustic hailing devices including hail and warning escalation of force systems, advanced cargo handling systems for CH–47, air broadband for C–12, airborne sense and avoid systems for remotely piloted aircraft, all-digital radar warning receivers, chemical biological protective shelters, combat uniforms and cold weather protective clothing, common access card for remote access virtual private network with pre-tunnel authentication, computer-assisted language learning software, crashworthy ballistically tolerant auxiliary fuel systems, integrated facial protection components for standard issue helmets, large aircraft infrared countermeasures, advanced targeting pods, electromagnetic in-flight propeller balance systems, electro-optical infrared sensors, frequency hopping multiplexers, handheld and manpack and mid-tier networking vehicular radios, handheld explosives and chemical weapons detection capabilities, HMMWV rollover mitigation and control technologies, lightweight wide-area motion imagery systems, modular small arms and self-contained ranges, joint threat emitters, mandible protection, Marine Corps tactical radio digital communications, the mobile user objective system, modular fuel systems, palletized loading systems, multi-temperature refrigerated container systems, near infrared aiming and illumination systems, out of band infrared pointer and illuminator systems, radiac sets, semi-trailers, unstabilized gunnery crew trainer and small arms simulation trainers, and wireless mobile mesh self-healing network systems.

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS
[In thousands of dollars]

R-1		Budget Request	Final Bill
	RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST & EVALUATION, ARMY		
55	ARMY SPACE SYSTEM INTEGRATION (OCO/GWOT)	9,375	9,375
90	NON-SYSTEM TRAINING DEVICES - ENG DEV (OCO/GWOT)	33	33
117	COMMON INFRARED COUNTERMEASURES (CIRCM) (OCO/GWOT)	10,900	10,900
122	AIRCRAFT SURVIVABILITY DEVELOPMENT (OCO/GWOT)	73,110	73,110
208	BIOMETRICS ENABLED INTELLIGENCE (OCO/GWOT)	7,104	7,104
	TOTAL, RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST & EVALUATION, ARMY	100,522	100,522
	RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST & EVALUATION, NAVY		
38	RETRACT LARCH (OCO/GWOT)	3,907	3,907
78	TACTICAL AIR DIRECTIONAL INFRARED COUNTERMEASURES (TADIRCM) (OCO/GWOT)	37,990	37,990
999	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS (OCO/GWOT)	36,426	36,426
	TOTAL, RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST & EVALUATION, NAVY	78,323	78,323
	RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST & EVALUATION, AIR FORCE		
58	COUNTERSPACE SYSTEMS (OCO/GWOT)	425	425
131	MQ-9 (OCO/GWOT)	0	35,000
	Program increase - auto takeoff and landing capability		35,000
200	SPACE INNOVATION, INTEGRATION AND RAPID TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT (OCO/GWOT)	4,715	4,715
999	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS (OCO/GWOT)	27,765	27,765
	TOTAL, RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST & EVALUATION, AIR FORCE	32,905	67,905
	RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST & EVALUATION, DEFENSE-WIDE		
999	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS (OCO/GWOT)	162,419	159,919
	Classified adjustment		-2,500
	TOTAL, RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST & EVALUATION, DEFENSE-WIDE	162,419	159,919
	TOTAL RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST & EVALUATION	374,169	406,669

REVOLVING AND MANAGEMENT FUNDS

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS

[In thousands of dollars]

	Budget request	Final bill
WORKING CAPITAL FUND, ARMY	46,833	46,833
WORKING CAPITAL FUND, DEFENSE-WIDE	93,800	93,800
TOTAL, DEFENSE WORKING CAPITAL FUNDS	140,633	140,633

OTHER DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PROGRAMS

DEFENSE HEALTH PROGRAM

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS

[In thousands of dollars]

	Budget request	Final bill
IN-HOUSE CARE	95,366	95,366
PRIVATE SECTOR CARE	233,073	233,073
CONSOLIDATED HEALTH SUPPORT	3,325	3,325
TOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE	331,764	331,764

DRUG INTERDICTION AND COUNTER-DRUG ACTIVITIES, DEFENSE

The agreement provides $215,333,000 for Drug Interdiction and Counter-drug Activities, Defense.

JOINT IMPROVISED-THREAT DEFEAT FUND

The agreement on items addressed by either the House or the Senate is as follows:

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS

[In thousands of dollars]

	Budget request	Final bill
RAPID ACQUISITION AND THREAT RESPONSE	345,472	339,472
Prior year carryover		−6,000
MISSION ENABLERS	62,800	0
Transfer to title IX OM, DW		−62,800
TOTAL, JOINT IMPROVISED-THREAT FUND	408,272	339,472

JOINT IMPROVISED-THREAT DEFEAT FUND

The fiscal year 2017 budget request includes $408,272,000 in Overseas Contingency Operations funding for the Joint Improvised-Threat Defeat Fund. To preserve the essential joint capabilities of the Joint Improvised-Threat Defeat Organization (JIDO) and eliminate any duplication with Service capabilities, the agreement recommends transferring $62,800,000 to the Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide account in title IX.

The budget request proposed consolidating the sub-accounts under the appropriation into a single account titled Rapid Acquisition and Threat Response. This flexibility would allow for quick reaction changes in spending; however, it would prevent the congressional defense committees from having any insight into why or when these funding changes occur. Therefore, the agreement provides the following funding levels for JIDO programs: $101,286,000 for Rapid Capability Delivery; $200,886,000 for Assist Situational Understanding; and $37,300,000 for Enable Department of Defense Responsiveness. The Director of the JIDO is directed to provide quarterly reports to the congressional defense committees should funding be shifted between the accounts not later than 15 days after the end of the fiscal quarter.

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

The agreement provides $22,062,000 for the Office of the Inspector General.

GENERAL PROVISIONS—THIS TITLE

The agreement for title IX incorporates general provisions from the House and Senate versions of the bill which were not amended. Those general provisions that were addressed in the agreement are as follows:

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the Senate which provides for special transfer authority within title IX. The House bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the Senate which provides funds for logistical support to allied forces supporting military and stability operations in Afghanistan and to counter the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant. The House bill contained a similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House which provides funds for the Office of Security Cooperation in Iraq. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement modifies a provision proposed by the House which provides security assistance to the Government of Jordan. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement modifies a provision proposed by the House which prohibits the use of the Counter-ISIL Train and Equip Fund to procure or transfer man-portable air defense systems. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House which provides assistance and sustainment to the military and national security forces of Ukraine. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House related to the replacement of funds for items provided to the Government of Ukraine. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House which prohibits the use of assistance and sustainment to the military and national security forces of Ukraine to procure or transfer man-portable air defense systems. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the House which provides funds to the Department of Defense to improve intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance capabilities. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement retains a provision proposed by the Senate which prohibits the use of funds to transfer additional C–130 aircraft to Afghanistan until the Department of Defense conducts a review of the country's medium airlift requirements. The House bill contained no similar provision.

(RESCISSIONS)

The agreement modifies a provision proposed by the House recommending rescissions and provides for the rescission of $819,000,000. The Senate bill contained a similar provision. The rescissions agreed to are:

2016 Appropriations:
Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide:
DSCA Coalition Support Fund $300,000,000
Counterterrorism Partnership Fund:
Counterterrorism Partnership Fund 200,000,000
Afghanistan Security Forces Fund:
Afghanistan Security Forces Fund 150,000,000
Other Procurement, Air Force:
Classified adjustment 169,000,000

(RESCISSION)

The agreement modifies a provision proposed by the Senate recommending rescissions and provides for the rescission of $11,524,000. The House bill contained no similar provision. The rescission agreed to is:

2011/XXXX Appropriation:
Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide:
DSCA Coalition Support Fund $11,524,000

The agreement adds a provision which terminates the Mine Resistant Ambush Protected Vehicle Fund. The House and Senate bills contained no similar provisions.

TITLE X

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

The agreement provides $14,752,267,000 in Title X, Additional Appropriations. The additional appropriations provided in this title are intended to invest in items and programs to improve the training and equipment of the military Services in order to rebuild both near-term and long-term readiness, directly support overseas contingency operations, fulfill urgent or emergent operational needs of the combatant commanders, replace operational losses of equipment, and address other unforeseen requirements.

MILITARY PERSONNEL

The agreement provides an additional appropriation of $131,375,000 for Military Personnel. The amount provided for each military personnel account is as follows:

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS
[In thousands of dollars]

M-1	Recommended
MILITARY PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE	
BA-1: PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF OFFICERS	
BASIC PAY	10,047
RETIRED PAY ACCRUAL	1,421
BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR HOUSING	1,944
BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR SUBSISTENCE	275
SPECIAL PAYS	800
ALLOWANCES	1,000
SOCIAL SECURITY TAX	764
TOTAL, BA-1	16,251
BA-2: PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF ENLISTED PERSONNEL	
BASIC PAY	64,270
RETIRED PAY ACCRUAL	13,037
BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR HOUSING	23,994
SPECIAL PAYS	1,800
ALLOWANCES	2,900
SOCIAL SECURITY TAX	4,917
TOTAL, BA-2	110,918
BA-4: SUBSISTENCE OF ENLISTED PERSONNEL	
BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR SUBSISTENCE	6,306
SUBSISTENCE-IN-KIND	7,100
TOTAL, BA-4	13,406
BA-6: OTHER MILITARY PERSONNEL COSTS	
UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS	-10,000
SGLI EXTRA HAZARD PAYMENTS	800
TOTAL, BA-6	-9,200
TOTAL, MILITARY PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE	131,375
TOTAL, MILITARY PERSONNEL	131,375

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

The agreement provides an additional appropriation of $7,697,433,000 for Operation and Maintenance. The amount provided for each operation and maintenance account is as follows:

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS
[In thousands of dollars]

O-1		Recommended
	OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY	
111	MANEUVER UNITS	254,697
114	THEATER LEVEL ASSETS	229,217
115	LAND FORCES OPERATIONS SUPPORT	20,199
116	AVIATION ASSETS	18,000
121	FORCE READINESS OPERATIONS SUPPORT	8,000
123	LAND FORCES DEPOT MAINTENANCE	45,000
131	BASE OPERATIONS SUPPORT	3,700
132	FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION	206,336
133	MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONAL HEADQUARTERS	12,700
135	ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES	100,950
138	COMBATANT COMMANDERS ANCILLARY MISSIONS	35,200
411	SECURITY PROGRAMS	52,755
	TOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY	986,754
	OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, NAVY	
1A1A	MISSION AND OTHER FLIGHT OPERATIONS	290,543
1A2A	FLEET AIR TRAINING	61,971
1A4N	AIR SYSTEMS SUPPORT	46,698
1A5A	AIRCRAFT DEPOT MAINTENANCE	34,528
1A6A	AIRCRAFT DEPOT OPERATIONS SUPPORT	1,700
1A9A	AVIATION LOGISTICS	43,500
1B1B	MISSION AND OTHER SHIP OPERATIONS	273,250
1B4B	SHIP DEPOT MAINTENANCE	573,009
1B5B	SHIP DEPOT OPERATIONS SUPPORT	2,713
1C1C	COMBAT COMMUNICATIONS	4,069
1C3C	SPACE SYSTEMS AND SURVEILLANCE	4,700
1C4C	WARFARE TACTICS	30,100
1C5C	OPERATIONAL METEOROLOGY AND OCEANOGRAPHY	10,000

O-1	Recommended
1C6C COMBAT SUPPORT FORCES	105,613
1C7C EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE	11,800
1D1D CRUISE MISSILE	7,500
1D3D IN-SERVICE WEAPONS SYSTEMS SUPPORT	2,800
1D4D WEAPONS MAINTENANCE	70,500
BSM1 FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION	146,286
BSS1 BASE OPERATING SUPPORT	33,667
2A1F SHIP PREPOSITIONING AND SURGE	10,000
9999 OTHER PROGRAMS	7,684
TOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, NAVY	1,772,631
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, MARINE CORPS	
1A1A OPERATIONAL FORCES	29,383
1A2A FIELD LOGISTICS	15,214
BSM1 FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION	135,844
BSS1 BASE OPERATING SUPPORT	56,909
4A4G ADMINISTRATION [ONLY FOR ANALYTICAL SUPPORT]	17,900
TOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, MARINE CORPS	255,250
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE	
011A PRIMARY COMBAT FORCES	326,169
011C COMBAT ENHANCEMENT FORCES	12,500
011M DEPOT MAINTENANCE	267,411
011R FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION	417,800
011Z BASE OPERATING SUPPORT	272,417
012A GLOBAL C3I AND EARLY WARNING	26,800
012C OTHER COMBAT OPS SUPPORT PROGRAMS	72,435
013A LAUNCH FACILITIES	11,700
015A COMBATANT COMMANDERS DIRECT MISSION SUPPORT	36,200
021A AIRLIFT OPERATIONS	-196,989
021M DEPOT MAINTENANCE	-135,611
021Z BASE SUPPORT	148,370

O-1	Recommended
031Z BASE SUPPORT	-15,760
041A LOGISTICS OPERATIONS	15,760
041B TECHNICAL SUPPORT ACTIVITIES	8,500
041Z BASE SUPPORT	122,713
042B SERVICEWIDE COMMUNICATIONS	170,335
042G OTHER SERVICEWIDE ACTIVITIES	1,872
043A SECURITY PROGRAMS	3,650
TOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE	1,566,272
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, DEFENSE-WIDE	
1PL2 SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND	344,889
011A MISSILE DEFENSE AGENCY	20,300
4GTN OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE	25,116
9999 OTHER PROGRAMS	260,646
TOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, DEFENSE-WIDE	650,951
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, NAVY RESERVE	
1A5A AIRCRAFT DEPOT MAINTENANCE	3,208
TOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, NAVY RESERVE	3,208
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE RESERVE	
011M DEPOT MAINTENANCE	51,100
011R FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION	62,999
011Z BASE OPERATING SUPPORT	1,000
TOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE RESERVE	115,099
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY NATIONAL GUARD	
111 MANEUVER UNITS	8,000
116 AVIATION ASSETS	44,000
123 LAND FORCES DEPOT MAINTENANCE	30,000
131 BASE OPERATIONS SUPPORT	5,868
TOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY NATIONAL GUARD	87,868

O-1	Recommended
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR NATIONAL GUARD	
011M DEPOT MAINTENANCE	23,000
TOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR NATIONAL GUARD	23,000
COUNTER-ISIL TRAIN AND EQUIP FUND	
COUNTER-ISIL TRAIN AND EQUIP FUND	626,400
TOTAL, COUNTER-ISIL TRAIN AND EQUIP FUND	626,400
COUNTER-ISIL OVERSEAS CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS TRANSFER FUND	
COUNTER-ISIL OVERSEAS CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS TRANSFER FUND	1,610,000
TOTAL, COUNTER-ISIL OVERSEAS CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS TRANSFER FUND	1,610,000
TOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE	7,697,433

COUNTER-ISIL TRAIN AND EQUIP FUND

The agreement provides an additional appropriation of $626,400,000 for the Counter-ISIL Train and Equip Fund. Amounts made available in this title for the Fund may not be obligated or expended until 15 days after the President submits a report on the United States strategy for the defeat of the Islamic State of Iraq and al Sham in accordance with section 10005 of this Act.

COUNTER-ISIL OVERSEAS CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS TRANSFER FUND

The agreement provides an appropriation of $1,610,000,000 for the Counter-ISIL Overseas Contingency Operations Transfer Fund. The Secretary may transfer amounts provided in this Fund for expenses directly relating to overseas contingency operations by United States military forces to the military personnel, operation and maintenance, procurement, and working capital fund accounts. All transfers from the fund are subject to 15 day prior notification to the congressional defense committees. In addition, the first transfer from the Fund shall not be made until 15 days after the President submits a report on the United States strategy for the defeat of the Islamic State of Iraq and al Sham in accordance with section 10005 of this Act.

PROCUREMENT

The agreement provides an additional appropriation of $5,520,220,000 for Procurement. The amount provided for each procurement account is as follows:

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS
[in thousands of dollars]

P-1		Recommended
	AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, ARMY	
1	SATURN ARCH	23,000
3	MQ-1 UAV	80,000
6A	AH-64 APACHE BLOCK IIIB NEW BUILD	71,800
13	MQ-1 PAYLOAD	28,000
16	AH-64 MODS	50,000
26	RQ-7 UAV MODS	62,464
27	UAS MODS	1,520
	TOTAL, AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, ARMY	316,784
	MISSILE PROCUREMENT, ARMY	
2	MSE MISSILE	279,000
7	JAVELIN SYSTEM SUMMARY	73,200
8	TOW 2 SYSTEM SUMMARY	35,903
10	GUIDED MLRS ROCKET (GMLRS)	154,500
12	LETHAL MINIATURE AERIAL MISSILE SYSTEM (LMAMS)	12,300
14	ATACMS MODS	15,900
16	STINGER MODS	6,578
17	AVENGER MODS	2,373
	TOTAL, MISSILE PROCUREMENT, ARMY	579,754
	PROCUREMENT OF WEAPONS AND TRACKED COMBAT VEHICLES, ARMY	
2	STRYKER MOD	8,333
25	M777 MODS	21,687
31	M119 MODS	31,198
	TOTAL, PROCUREMENT OF WEAPONS AND TRACKED COMBAT VEHICLES, ARMY	61,218
	PROCUREMENT OF AMMUNITION, ARMY	
1	CTG, 5.56MM, ALL TYPES	4,000
2	CTG, 7.62MM, ALL TYPES	7,000
4	CTG, .50 CAL, ALL TYPES	7,000

P-1		Recommended
5	CTG, 20MM, ALL TYPES	28,000
7	CTG, 30MM, ALL TYPES	8,200
11	120MM MORTAR, ALL TYPES	27,300
13	ARTILLERY CARTRIDGES, 75M & 105MM, ALL TYPES	4,490
14	ARTILLERY PROJECTILE, 155M, ALL TYPES	2,238
15	PROJ 155MM EXTENDED RANGE M982	135,400
16	ARTILLERY PROPELLANTS, FUZES AND PRIMERS, ALL TYPES	51,667
20	ROCKET, HYDRA 70, ALL TYPES	10,000
32	PROVISION OF INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES	162,390
	TOTAL, PROCUREMENT OF AMMUNITION, ARMY	447,685
	OTHER PROCUREMENT, ARMY	
47	CI AUTOMATION ARCHITECTURE	8,500
62	DCGS-A	10,000
64	TROJAN	4,920
65	MOD OF IN-SVC EQUIPMENT	540
70	LIGHTWEIGHT COUNTER MORTAR RADAR	30,800
74	FAMILY OF PERSISTENT SURVEILLANCE CAPABILITIES	21,191
78	NIGHT VISION DEVICES	1,141
79	SMALL TACTICAL OPTICAL RIFLE MOUNTED MLRF	2,958
80	INDIRECT FIRE PROTECTION FAMILY OF SYSTEMS	102,640
85	JOINT BATTLE COMMAND - PLATFORM	90,072
92	AIR & MSL DEFENSE PLANNING & CONTROL SYSTEM	2,205
113	BASE DEFENSE SYSTEMS	26,572
114	CBRN DEFENSE	27,980
XX	BASE EXPEDITIONARY TARGETING AND SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM	82,590
	TOTAL, OTHER PROCUREMENT, ARMY	412,109
	AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, NAVY	
5	JSF STOVL	2,913
9	V-22	85,419
30	AV-8 SERIES	1,484

P-1		Recommended
34	H-53 SERIES	13,000
56	MAGTF EW FOR AVIATION	16,300
59	V-22 (TILT/ROTOR ACFT) OSPREY	99,000
63	SPARES AND REPAIR PARTS	96,141
	TOTAL, AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, NAVY	314,257
	WEAPONS PROCUREMENT, NAVY	
3	TOMAHAWK	85,000
8	RAM	24,000
11	LASER MAVERICK	20,000
	TOTAL, WEAPONS PROCUREMENT, NAVY	129,000
	PROCUREMENT OF AMMUNITION, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS	
1	GENERAL PURPOSE BOMBS	58,000
2	AIRBORNE ROCKETS, ALL TYPES	41,500
15	SMALL ARMS AMMUNITION	3,600
	TOTAL, PROCUREMENT OF AMMO, NAVY & MARINE CORPS	103,100
	OTHER PROCUREMENT, NAVY	
8	SUB PERISCOPES, IMAGING AND SUPT EQUIP PROG	18,000
9	DDG MOD	65,000
45	SSN ACOUSTIC EQUIPMENT	19,500
51	SURTASS	10,000
114	SSN COMBAT CONTROL SYSTEMS	14,000
115	ASW SUPPORT EQUIPMENT	10,000
116	EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL EQUIP	5,500
145	PHYSICAL SECURITY EQUIPMENT	9,297
	TOTAL, OTHER PROCUREMENT, NAVY	151,297
	PROCUREMENT, MARINE CORPS	
4	155MM LIGHTWEIGHT TOWED HOWITZER	14,000
5	HIGH MOBILITY ARTILLERY ROCKET SYSTEM	18,535
10	JAVELIN	77,009
19	ITEMS UNDER $5 MILLION (COMM & ELEC)	8,300

P-1		Recommended
23	RQ-21 UAS	8,960
26	INTELLIGENCE SUPPORT EQUIPMENT	36,394
31	DCGS-MC	11,382
37	RADIO SYSTEMS	4,600
53	EOD SYSTEMS	21,300
60	FAMILY OF CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT	11,500
62	ITEMS LESS THAN $5 MILLION	300
	TOTAL, PROCUREMENT, MARINE CORPS	212,280
	AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE	
1	F-35 (ONLY FOR TRAINING AND SUPPORT COSTS)	75,000
17	B-1B MODS	34,000
20	A-10 MODS	38,500
22	F-16 MODS	144,100
42	C-130 MODS	123,500
45	COMPASS CALL MODS	82,400
49	E-8 JSTARS MODS	3,000
50	AWACS MODS	21,800
54	H-60 MODS	7,700
56	HC/MC-130 MODS	7,000
61	INITIAL SPARES AND REPAIR PARTS	95,000
62	AIRCRAFT REPLACEMENT SUPPORT EQUIPMENT	61,520
77	OTHER PRODUCTION CHARGES	163,300
	TOTAL, AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE	856,820
	SPACE PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE	
3	COUNTERSPACE SYSTEMS	19,900
	TOTAL, SPACE PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE	19,900
	PROCUREMENT OF AMMUNITION, AIR FORCE	
4	GENERAL PURPOSE BOMBS	60,000
13	FUZES	10,000
	TOTAL, PROCUREMENT OF AMMUNITION, AIR FORCE	70,000

P-1		Recommended
	OTHER PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE	
6	ITEMS LESS THAN $5M (SPECIAL)	35,000
7	FIRE FIGHTING / CRASH RESCUE VEHICLES	69,000
9	RUNWAY SNOW REMOVAL / CLEANING EQUIPMENT	52,830
10	ITEMS LESS THAN $5M (BASE MAINTENANCE)	91,136
29	AIR FORCE PHYSICAL SECURITY SYSTEM	190,600
52	TACTICAL C-E EQUIPMENT	34,200
58	ITEMS LESS THAN $5M (SAFETY)	16,600
61	ENGINEERING AND EOD EQUIPMENT	221,000
63	MOBILITY EQUIPMENT	34,982
67	DISTRIBUTED GROUND SYSTEMS	28,454
69	SPECIAL UPDATE PROGRAM	1,000
72	SPARES AND REPAIR PARTS	816
999	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	559,763
	TOTAL, OTHER PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE	1,335,381
	PROCUREMENT, DEFENSE-WIDE	
6	INFORMATION SYSTEMS SECURITY, DISA	10,800
7	TELEPORT PROGRAM, DISA	6,000
17	MAJOR EQUIPMENT, DLA	1,750
23	THAAD SYSTEM, MDA	151,000
999	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	27,000
XX	MANNED ISR	4,800
41	MC-12	15,000
XX	MH-60 BLACKHAWK	18,600
43	SOF UNMANNED ISR	47,750
46	SOF U-28	34,300
49	SOF CV-22 MODIFICATION	5,700
51	MQ-9	43,435
53	SOF PRECISION STRIKE PACKAGE	30,500
54	SOF AC/MC-130J	6,500

P-1		Recommended
57	SOF ORDNANCE ITEMS <$5 MILLION	9,000
59	SOF DISTRIBUTED COMMON GROUND/SURFACE SYSTEMS	1,800
64	SOF WARRIOR SYSTEMS <$5M	600
65	SOF COMBAT MISSION REQUIREMENTS	10,000
69	SOF OPERATIONAL ENHANCEMENTS	16,900
999	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	69,200
	TOTAL, PROCUREMENT, DEFENSE-WIDE	510,635
	TOTAL, PROCUREMENT	5,520,220

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION

The agreement provides an additional appropriation of $990,558,000 for Research, Development, Test and Evaluation. The amount provided for each research, development, test and evaluation account is as follows:

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS

[In thousands of dollars]

R-1		Recommended
	RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST & EVALUATION, ARMY	
37	TRACTOR HIKE	13,300
57	SMOKE, OBSCURANT AND TARGET DEFEATING SYS-ADV DEV	16,020
90	NON-SYSTEM TRAINING DEVICE	5,000
91	AIR DEFENSE COMMAND, CONTROL AND INTELLIGENCE (ONLY FOR JUONS)	65,200
136	ELECTRONIC WARFARE DEVELOPMENT	4,000
144	ARMY TEST RANGES AND FACILITIES	14,134
164	WEAPONS AND MUNITIONS PRODUCT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS	5,100
179	COMBAT VEHICLE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS (ONLY FOR APS)	10,000
184	MISSILE/AIR DEFENSE PRODUCT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (ONLY FOR SHORAD)	20,000
185	OTHER MISSILE PRODUCT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS	1,080
187	INTEGRATED BASE DEFENSE - OPERATIONAL SYSTEM DEV	3,450
xx	FOREIGN COUNTERINTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES	4,100
208	BIOMETRICS ENABLED INTELLIGENCE	1,750
	TOTAL, RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST & EVALUATION, ARMY	163,134
	RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST & EVALUATION, NAVY	
38	RETRACT LARCH	32,000
42	ADVANCED SUBMARINE SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT (ONLY FOR PACOM JEON)	5,800
58	JOINT SERVICE EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DEVELOPMENT (ONLY FOR CENTCOM JUONS)	3,500
86	OFFENSIVE ANTI-SURFACE WARFARE WEAPON DEVELOPMENT	10,100
129	MINE DEVELOPMENT (ONLY FOR PACOM JEON)	4,800
176	TEST AND EVALUATION SUPPORT (ONLY FOR HURRICANE MATTHEW DAMAGE)	52,300
211	MARINE CORPS COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS (ONLY FOR MARCENT UUNS)	41,714
215	USMC INTELLIGENCE/ELECTRONIC WARFARE SYSTEMS (MIP) (ONLY FOR JWICS AND SIGINT)	5,800
999	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	92,200
	TOTAL, RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST & EVAL, NAVY	248,214

R-1		Recommended
	RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST & EVALUATION, AIR FORCE	
50	CYBER OPERATIONS TECHNOLOGY DEV	4,700
56	PHYSICAL SECURITY EQUIPMENT	27,000
133	A-10 SQUADRONS	6,500
134	F-16 SQUADRONS	15,000
216	JSPOC MISSION SYSTEM	6,700
220	SPACE SITUATION AWARENESS	58,800
230	CV-22	12,000
999	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	166,600
	TOTAL, RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST & EVALUATION, AIR FORCE	297,300
	RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST & EVALUATION, DEFENSE-WIDE	
32	ADVANCED RESEARCH (ONLY FOR ATMD JEON)	4,300
69	WALKOFF	8,500
76	BALLISTIC MISSILE SENSORS (ONLY FOR TPY-2 NOISE MITIGATION)	6,400
77	BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE ENABLING PROGRAMS (ONLY FOR ATMD JEON AND FE-01)	7,000
82	BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE COMMAND AND CONTROL, BATTLE MANAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS (ONLY FOR ATMD JEON)	16,650
86	SEA BASED X-BAND RADAR (SBX)	4,500
94	MISSILE DEFEAT PROJECT	70,500
95	ADVANCED INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES	1,600
104	LONG RANGE DISCRIMINATION RADAR (LRDR)	9,900
999	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	1,600
244	SOF AVIATION SYSTEMS	4,400
247	SOF WARRIOR SYSTEMS	400
999	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	143,435
	TOTAL, RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST & EVALUATION, DEFENSE-WIDE	279,185
	OPERATIONAL TEST AND EVALUATION, DEFENSE	
1	OPERATIONAL TEST AND EVALUATION	2,725
	TOTAL, OPERATIONAL TEST & EVALUATION, DEFENSE	2,725
	TOTAL, RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST & EVALUATION	990,558

REVOLVING AND MANAGEMENT FUNDS

DEFENSE WORKING CAPITAL FUNDS

The agreement provides an additional appropriation of $285,681,000 for the Defense Working Capital Funds accounts. The amount provided for each account is as follows:

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS

[In thousands of dollars]

	Recommended
WORKING CAPITAL FUND, ARMY	1,681
WORKING CAPITAL FUND, DEFENSE-WIDE	284,000
TOTAL, DEFENSE WORKING CAPITAL FUNDS	285,681

OTHER DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PROGRAMS

CHEMICAL AGENTS AND MUNITIONS DESTRUCTION, DEFENSE

The agreement provides an additional appropriation of $127,000,000 for Chemical Agents and Munitions Destruction, Defense, as follows:

EXPLANATION OF PROJECT LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS

[In thousands of dollars]

	Recommended
RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION	127,000
TOTAL, CHEMICAL AGENTS AND MUNITIONS DESTRUCTION, DEFENSE	127,000

GENERAL PROVISIONS

The agreement includes a provision which provides that funds provided in this title are in addition to amounts made available elsewhere in this Act. Funds made available in this title are subject to the terms and conditions set forth in titles VIII and IX of such Act except as explicitly provided for otherwise.

The agreement includes a provision which provides special transfer authority within this title.

The agreement includes a provision which provides that funds made available in this title for intelligence or intelligence-related activities are available for expenditure.

The agreement includes a provision which makes available additional funds for reimbursement of expenses related to the National Defense Reserve Fleet.

The agreement includes language which makes the obligation or expenditure of $2,476,200,000 provided in this title subject to the submission of a report on the United States strategy for the defeat of the Islamic State of Iraq and al Sham.

The agreement includes language which requires the submission of a report describing a strategy for Syria not later than 90 days after the enactment of this Act.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
TITLE I					
MILITARY PERSONNEL					
Military Personnel, Army	41,045,562	40,028,182	40,042,962	-1,002,600	+14,780
Military Personnel, Navy	27,835,183	27,951,605	27,889,405	+54,222	-62,200
Military Personnel, Marine Corps	12,859,152	12,813,412	12,735,182	-123,970	-78,230
Military Personnel, Air Force	27,679,066	27,944,615	27,958,795	+279,729	+14,180
Reserve Personnel, Army	4,463,164	4,561,703	4,524,863	+61,699	-36,840
Reserve Personnel, Navy	1,866,891	1,924,155	1,921,045	+54,154	-3,110
Reserve Personnel, Marine Corps	702,481	744,995	744,795	+42,314	-200
Reserve Personnel, Air Force	1,682,942	1,742,906	1,725,526	+42,584	-17,380
National Guard Personnel, Army	7,892,327	7,910,694	7,899,423	+7,096	-11,271
National Guard Personnel, Air Force	3,201,890	3,280,065	3,283,982	+82,092	+3,917
Total, Title I, Military Personnel	129,228,658	128,902,332	128,725,978	-502,680	-176,354
TITLE II					
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE					
Operation and Maintenance, Army	32,399,440	33,809,040	32,738,173	+338,733	-1,070,867
Operation and Maintenance, Navy	39,600,172	39,483,581	38,552,017	-1,048,155	-931,564

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
Operation and Maintenance, Marine Corps	5,718,074	5,954,258	5,676,152	-41,922	-278,106
Operation and Maintenance, Air Force	35,727,457	37,518,056	36,247,724	+520,267	-1,270,332
Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide	32,105,040	32,571,590	32,373,949	+268,909	-197,641
Operation and Maintenance, Army Reserve	2,646,911	2,712,331	2,743,688	+96,777	+31,357
Operation and Maintenance, Navy Reserve	998,481	927,656	929,656	-68,825	+2,000
Operation and Maintenance, Marine Corps Reserve	274,526	270,633	271,133	-3,393	+500
Operation and Maintenance, Air Force Reserve	2,980,768	3,067,929	3,069,229	+88,461	+1,300
Operation and Maintenance, Army National Guard	6,595,483	6,825,370	6,861,478	+265,995	+36,108
Operation and Maintenance, Air National Guard	6,820,569	6,703,578	6,615,095	-205,474	-88,483
United States Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces	14,078	14,194	14,194	+116	---
Environmental Restoration, Army	234,829	170,167	170,167	-64,662	---
Environmental Restoration, Navy	300,000	281,762	289,262	-10,738	+7,500
Environmental Restoration, Air Force	368,131	371,521	371,521	+3,390	---
Environmental Restoration, Defense-Wide	8,232	9,009	9,009	+777	---
Environmental Restoration, Formerly Used Defense Sites	231,217	197,084	222,084	-9,133	+25,000
Overseas Humanitarian, Disaster, and Civic Aid	103,266	105,125	123,125	+19,859	+18,000
Cooperative Threat Reduction Account	358,496	325,604	325,604	-32,892	---
Total, Title II, Operation and maintenance	167,485,170	171,318,488	167,603,260	+118,090	-3,715,228

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
TITLE III					
PROCUREMENT					
Aircraft Procurement, Army	5,866,367	3,614,787	4,587,598	-1,278,769	+972,811
Missile Procurement, Army	1,600,957	1,519,966	1,533,804	-67,153	+13,838
Procurement of Weapons and Tracked Combat Vehicles, Army	1,951,646	2,265,177	2,229,455	+277,809	-35,722
Procurement of Ammunition, Army	1,245,426	1,513,157	1,483,566	+238,140	-29,591
Other Procurement, Army	5,718,811	5,873,949	6,147,328	+428,517	+273,379
Aircraft Procurement, Navy	17,521,209	14,109,148	16,135,335	-1,385,874	+2,026,187
Weapons Procurement, Navy	3,049,542	3,209,262	3,265,285	+215,743	+56,023
Procurement of Ammunition, Navy and Marine Corps	651,920	664,368	633,678	-18,242	-30,690
Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy	18,704,539	18,354,874	21,156,886	+2,452,347	+2,802,012
Other Procurement, Navy	6,484,257	6,338,861	6,308,919	-175,338	-29,942
Procurement, Marine Corps	1,186,812	1,362,769	1,307,456	+120,644	-55,313
Aircraft Procurement, Air Force	15,756,853	13,922,917	14,253,623	-1,503,230	+330,706
Missile Procurement, Air Force	2,912,131	2,426,621	2,348,121	-564,010	-78,500
Space Procurement, Air Force	2,812,159	3,055,743	2,733,243	-78,916	-322,500
Procurement of Ammunition, Air Force	1,744,993	1,677,719	1,589,219	-155,774	-88,500
Other Procurement, Air Force	18,311,882	17,438,056	17,768,224	-543,658	+330,168
Procurement, Defense-Wide	5,245,443	4,524,918	4,881,022	-364,421	+356,104
Defense Production Act Purchases	76,680	44,065	64,065	-12,615	+20,000
Total, Title III, Procurement	110,841,627	101,916,357	108,426,827	-2,414,800	+6,510,470

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
TITLE IV					
RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION					
Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Army	7,565,327	7,515,399	8,332,965	+767,638	+817,566
Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Navy	18,117,677	17,276,301	17,214,530	-903,147	-61,771
Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Air Force	25,217,148	28,112,251	27,788,548	+2,571,400	-323,703
Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Defense-Wide	18,695,955	18,308,826	18,778,550	+82,595	+469,724
Operational Test and Evaluation, Defense	188,558	178,994	186,994	-1,564	+8,000
Total, Title IV, Research, Development, Test and Evaluation	69,784,665	71,391,771	72,301,587	+2,516,922	+909,816
TITLE V					
REVOLVING AND MANAGEMENT FUNDS					
Defense Working Capital Funds	1,738,768	1,371,613	1,511,613	-227,155	+140,000
National Defense Sealift Fund	474,164	---	---	-474,164	---
Total, Title V, Revolving and Management Funds	2,212,932	1,371,613	1,511,613	-701,319	+140,000

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
TITLE VI					
OTHER DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PROGRAMS					
Defense Health Program					
Operation and maintenance	29,842,167	32,231,390	31,277,002	+1,434,835	-954,388
Procurement	365,390	413,219	402,161	+36,771	-11,058
Research, development, test and evaluation	2,121,933	822,907	2,102,107	-19,826	+1,279,200
Total, Defense Health Program 1/ 3/	32,329,490	33,467,516	33,781,270	+1,451,780	+313,754
Chemical Agents and Munitions Destruction, Defense:					
Operation and maintenance	118,198	147,282	119,985	+1,787	-27,297
Procurement	2,281	15,132	15,132	+12,851	---
Research, development, test and evaluation	579,342	388,609	388,609	-190,733	---
Total, Chemical Agents 2/	699,821	551,023	523,726	-176,095	-27,297
Drug Interdiction and Counter-Drug Activities, Defense1/	1,050,598	844,800	998,800	-51,798	+154,000
Joint Urgent Operational Needs Fund	---	99,300	---	---	-99,300
Office of the Inspector General 1/	312,559	322,035	312,035	-524	-10,000
Total, Title VI, Other Department of Defense Programs	34,392,468	35,284,674	35,615,831	+1,223,363	+331,157

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
TITLE VII					
RELATED AGENCIES					
Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System Fund	514,000	514,000	514,000	---	---
Intelligence Community Management Account (ICMA)	505,206	533,596	515,596	+10,390	-18,000
Total, Title VII, Related agencies	1,019,206	1,047,596	1,029,596	+10,390	-18,000
TITLE VIII					
GENERAL PROVISIONS					
Additional transfer authority (Sec.8005)	(4,500,000)	(5,000,000)	(4,500,000)	---	(-500,000)
FFRDC (Sec.8025)	-65,000	---	-60,000	+5,000	-60,000
Overseas Military Facility Investment Recovery (Sec.8030)	1,000	---	---	-1,000	---
Rescissions (Sec.8043)	-1,768,937	---	-2,002,622	-233,685	-2,002,622
National grants (Sec.8051)	44,000	---	44,000	---	+44,000
O&M, Defense-wide transfer authority (Sec.8055)	(30,000)	(30,000)	(30,000)	---	---

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Development Trust Fund (O&M, Navy transfer authority) (Sec.8063)	(1,000)	---	(1,000)	---	(+1,000)
Fisher House Foundation (Sec.8071)	5,000	---	5,000	---	+5,000
Revised economic assumptions (Sec.8078)	-1,500,789	---	-157,000	+1,343,789	-157,000
Defense acquisition workforce development excess cash balances (Sec.8087)	---	---	-531,000	-531,000	-531,000
Fisher House O&M Army Navy Air Force transfer authority (Sec.8093)	(11,000)	(11,000)	(11,000)	---	---
Defense Health O&M transfer authority (Sec.8097)	(121,000)	(122,375)	(122,375)	(+1,375)	---
Basic allowance for housing	300,000	---	---	-300,000	---
Working Capital Fund, Army excess cash balances (Sec.8118)	-389,000	---	-336,000	+53,000	-336,000
Working Capital Fund, Defense-wide excess cash balances (rescission)	-1,037,000	---	---	+1,037,000	---
Revised fuel costs (Sec.8119)	-2,576,000	---	-1,155,000	+1,421,000	-1,155,000
Ship Modernization, Operation, and Sustainment Fund (rescission) (Sec.8130)	---	---	-1,391,070	-1,391,070	-1,391,070
Total, Title VIII, General Provisions	-6,986,726	---	-5,583,692	+1,403,034	-5,583,692

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
TITLE IX					
OVERSEAS CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS/GLOBAL WAR ON TERRORISM (GWOT)					
Military Personnel					
Military Personnel, Army (GWOT)					
OCO/GWOT Requirements (GWOT)	1,846,356	2,051,578	1,948,648	+102,292	-102,930
Military Personnel, Navy (GWOT)					
OCO/GWOT Requirements (GWOT)	251,011	330,557	327,427	+76,416	-3,130
Military Personnel, Marine Corps (GWOT)					
OCO/GWOT Requirements (GWOT)	171,079	179,733	179,733	+8,654	---
Military Personnel, Air Force (GWOT)					
OCO/GWOT Requirements (GWOT)	726,126	719,896	705,706	-20,420	-14,190
Reserve Personnel, Army (GWOT)					
OCO/GWOT Requirements (GWOT)	24,462	42,506	42,506	+18,044	---
Reserve Personnel, Navy (GWOT)					
OCO/GWOT Requirements (GWOT)	12,693	11,929	11,929	-764	---
Reserve Personnel, Marine Corps (GWOT)					
OCO/GWOT Requirements (GWOT)	3,393	3,764	3,764	+371	---
Reserve Personnel, Air Force (GWOT)					
OCO/GWOT Requirements (GWOT)	18,710	20,535	20,535	+1,825	---
National Guard Personnel, Army (GWOT)					
OCO/GWOT Requirements (GWOT)	166,015	196,472	196,472	+30,457	---
National Guard Personnel, Air Force (GWOT)					
OCO/GWOT Requirements (GWOT)	2,828	5,288	5,288	+2,460	---
Grand Total, Military Personnel (OCO/GWOT)	3,222,673	3,562,258	3,442,008	+219,335	-120,250

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
Operation and Maintenance					
Operation & Maintenance, Army (GWOT)					
OCO/GWOT Requirements (GWOT)	14,994,833	15,310,587	15,693,068	+698,235	+382,481
Operation & Maintenance, Navy (GWOT)					
OCO/GWOT Requirements (GWOT)	7,169,611	6,827,391	7,887,349	+717,738	+1,059,958
(Coast Guard) (by transfer) (GWOT)	---	(162,692)	---	---	(-162,692)
Operation & Maintenance, Marine Corps (GWOT)					
OCO/GWOT Requirements (GWOT)	1,372,534	1,244,359	1,607,259	+234,725	+362,900
Operation & Maintenance, Air Force (GWOT)					
OCO/GWOT Requirements (GWOT)	11,128,813	9,498,830	10,556,598	-572,215	+1,057,768
Operation & Maintenance, Defense-Wide (GWOT)					
OCO/GWOT Requirements (GWOT)	5,665,633	5,982,173	6,476,649	+811,016	+494,476
(Coalition support funds) (GWOT)	(1,160,000)	(1,100,000)	(920,000)	(-240,000)	(-180,000)
Operation & Maintenance, Army Reserve (GWOT)					
OCO/GWOT Requirements (GWOT)	99,559	38,679	38,679	-60,880	---
Operation & Maintenance, Navy Reserve (GWOT)					
OCO/GWOT Requirements (GWOT)	31,643	26,265	26,265	-5,378	---
Operation & Maintenance, Marine Corps Reserve (GWOT)					
OCO/GWOT Requirements (GWOT)	3,455	3,304	3,304	-151	---
Operation & Maintenance, Air Force Reserve (GWOT)					
OCO/GWOT Requirements (GWOT)	58,106	57,586	57,586	-520	---
Operation & Maintenance, Army National Guard (GWOT)					
OCO/GWOT Requirements (GWOT)	135,845	127,035	127,035	-8,810	---
Operation & Maintenance, Air National Guard (GWOT)					
OCO/GWOT Requirements (GWOT)	19,900	20,000	20,000	+100	---
Subtotal, Operation and Maintenance	40,679,932	39,136,209	42,493,792	+1,813,860	+3,357,583

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
Counterterrorism Partnerships Fund (GWOT)	1,100,000	1,000,000	---	-1,100,000	-1,000,000
Afghanistan Security Forces Fund (GWOT)	3,652,257	3,448,715	4,262,715	+610,458	+814,000
Iraq Train and Equip Fund (GWOT)	715,000	630,000	---	-715,000	-630,000
Counter-ISIL Train and Equip Fund (GWOT)	---	---	980,000	+980,000	+980,000
Syria Train and Equip Fund (GWOT)	---	250,000	---	---	-250,000
Grand Total, Operation and Maintenance (OCO/GWOT)	46,147,189	44,464,924	47,736,507	+1,589,318	+3,271,583
Procurement					
Aircraft Procurement, Army (GWOT) OCO/GWOT Requirements (GWOT)	161,987	313,171	313,171	+151,184	---
Missile Procurement, Army (GWOT) OCO/GWOT Requirements (GWOT)	37,260	632,817	405,317	+368,057	-227,500
Procurement of Weapons and Tracked Combat Vehicles, Army (GWOT) OCO/GWOT Requirements (GWOT)	486,630	153,544	395,944	-90,686	+242,400
Procurement of Ammunition, Army (GWOT) OCO/GWOT Requirements (GWOT)	222,040	301,523	290,670	+68,630	-10,853
Other Procurement, Army (GWOT) OCO/GWOT Requirements (GWOT)	1,175,596	1,373,010	1,343,010	+167,414	-30,000
Aircraft Procurement, Navy (GWOT) OCO/GWOT Requirements (GWOT)	210,990	393,030	367,930	+156,940	-25,100

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
Weapons Procurement, Navy (GWOT)					
OCO/GWOT Requirements (GWOT)	---	8,600	8,600	+8,600	---
Procurement of Ammunition, Navy and Marine Corps (GWOT)					
OCO/GWOT Requirements (GWOT)	117,966	66,229	65,380	-52,586	-849
Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy (GWOT)					
Other Procurement, Navy (GWOT)					
OCO/GWOT Requirements (GWOT)	12,186	124,206	99,786	+87,600	-24,420
Procurement, Marine Corps (GWOT)					
OCO/GWOT Requirements (GWOT)	56,934	118,939	118,939	+62,005	---
Aircraft Procurement, Air Force (GWOT)					
OCO/GWOT Requirements (GWOT)	128,900	859,399	927,249	+798,349	+67,850
Missile Procurement, Air Force (GWOT)					
OCO/GWOT Requirements (GWOT)	289,142	339,545	235,095	-54,047	-104,450
Procurement of Ammunition, Air Force (GWOT)					
OCO/GWOT Requirements (GWOT)	228,874	487,408	273,345	+44,471	-214,063
Other Procurement, Air Force (GWOT)					
OCO/GWOT Requirements (GWOT)	3,477,001	3,696,281	3,529,456	+52,455	-166,825
Procurement, Defense-Wide (GWOT)					
OCO/GWOT Requirements (GWOT)	173,918	238,434	244,184	+70,266	+5,750
National Guard and Reserve Equipment (GWOT)	1,000,000	---	750,000	-250,000	+750,000
Grand Total, Procurement (OCO/GWOT)	7,779,424	9,106,136	9,368,076	+1,588,652	+261,940

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
Research, Development, Test and Evaluation					
Research, Development, Test & Evaluation, Army (GWOT)					
OCO/GWOT Requirements (GWOT)	1,500	100,522	100,522	+99,022	---
Research, Development, Test & Evaluation, Navy (GWOT)					
OCO/GWOT Requirements (GWOT)	35,747	78,323	78,323	+42,576	---
Research, Development, Test & Evaluation, Air Force (GWOT)					
OCO/GWOT Requirements (GWOT)	17,100	32,905	67,905	+50,805	+35,000
Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Defense-Wide (GWOT)					
OCO/GWOT Requirements (GWOT)	177,087	162,419	159,919	-17,168	-2,500
Grand Total, Research, Development, Test and Evaluation (OCO/GWOT)	231,434	374,169	406,669	+175,235	+32,500
Revolving and Management Funds					
Defense Working Capital Funds (GWOT)	88,850	140,633	140,633	+51,783	---

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
Other Department of Defense Programs					
Defense Health Program:					
Operation and maintenance (GWOT) OCO/GWOT Requirements (GWOT)	272,704	331,764	331,764	+59,060	---
Drug Interdiction and Counter-Drug Activities, Defense (GWOT)	186,000	215,333	215,333	+29,333	---
Joint Improvised-Threat Defeat Fund (GWOT)	349,464	408,272	339,472	-9,992	-68,800
Office of the Inspector General (GWOT)	10,262	22,062	22,062	+11,800	---
Grand Total, Other Department of Defense Programs (OCO/GWOT)	818,430	977,431	908,631	+90,201	-68,800
TITLE IX General Provisions					
Additional transfer authority (GWOT) (Sec.9002)	(4,500,000)	(4,500,000)	(2,500,000)	(-2,000,000)	(-2,000,000)
Ukraine Security Assistance Initiative (GWOT) (Sec. 9014)	250,000	---	150,000	-100,000	+150,000
Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (GWOT) (Sec.9018)	500,000	---	500,000	---	+500,000
Rescissions (GWOT) (Sec.9021)	-400,000	---	-819,000	-419,000	-819,000
Coalition support funds (rescission) (GWOT) (Sec.9022)	---	---	-11,524	-11,524	-11,524
Total, General Provisions	350,000	---	-180,524	-530,524	-180,524
Grand Total, Title IX (OCO/GWOT)	58,638,000	58,625,551	61,822,000	+3,184,000	+3,196,449

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
RECAPITULATION					
Title I - Military Personnel	129,228,658	128,902,332	128,725,978	-502,680	-176,354
Title II - Operation and Maintenance	167,485,170	171,318,488	167,603,260	+118,090	-3,715,228
Title III - Procurement	110,841,627	101,916,357	108,426,827	-2,414,800	+6,510,470
Title IV - Research, Development, Test and Evaluation	69,784,665	71,391,771	72,301,587	+2,516,922	+909,816
Title V - Revolving and Management Funds	2,212,932	1,371,613	1,511,613	-701,319	+140,000
Title VI - Other Department of Defense Programs	34,392,468	35,284,674	35,615,831	+1,223,363	+331,157
Title VII - Related Agencies	1,019,206	1,047,596	1,029,596	+10,390	-18,000
Title VIII - General Provisions (net)	-6,986,726	---	-5,583,692	+1,403,034	-5,583,692
Title IX - Global War on Terrorism (GWOT)	58,638,000	58,625,551	61,822,000	+3,184,000	+3,196,449
Total, Department of Defense	566,616,000	569,858,382	571,453,000	+4,837,000	+1,594,618

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
Grand Total, Bill 4/	566,616,000	569,858,382	571,453,000	+4,837,000	+1,594,618
Appropriations	(510,783,937)	(511,232,831)	(513,024,692)	(+2,240,755)	(+1,791,861)
Global War on Terrorism (GWOT)	(59,038,000)	(58,625,551)	(62,652,524)	(+3,614,524)	(+4,026,973)
Rescissions	(-2,805,937)	---	(-3,393,692)	(-587,755)	(-3,393,692)
Rescissions (GWOT)	(-400,000)	---	(-830,524)	(-430,524)	(-830,524)

1/ Included in Budget under Operation and Maintenance
2/ Included in Budget under Procurement
3/ Budget request assumes enactment of DoD's pharmacy/Consolidated Health Plan proposals
4/ Grand Total excludes Title X, Additional Appropriations

DIVISION D—ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

The following statement to the House of Representatives and the Senate is submitted in explanation of the agreed upon Act making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2017, and for other purposes.

This explanatory statement, while repeating some report language for emphasis, does not intend to negate the language and allocations set forth in House Report 114–532 and Senate Report 114–236 and that direction shall be complied with unless specifically addressed to the contrary in the accompanying bill or explanatory statement. Additionally, where this explanatory statement states that the ''agreement only includes'' or ''the following is the only'' direction, any direction included in the House or Senate report on that matter shall be considered as replaced with the direction provided within this explanatory statement. In cases where the House or the Senate has directed the submission of a report, such report is to be submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress. House or Senate reporting requirements with deadlines prior to or within 15 days of the enactment of this Act shall be submitted no later than 60 days after the enactment of this Act. All other reporting deadlines not changed by this explanatory statement are to be met.

Funds for the individual programs and activities within the accounts in this Act are displayed in the detailed table at the end of the explanatory statement for this Act. Funding levels that are not displayed in the detailed table are identified in this explanatory statement.

In fiscal year 2017, for purposes of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (Public Law 99–177), the following information provides the definition of the term ''program, project, or activity'' for departments and agencies under the jurisdiction of the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act. The term ''program, project, or activity'' shall include the most specific level of budget items identified in the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act, 2017 and the explanatory statement accompanying the Act.

National Ocean Policy.—No specific funding was provided in fiscal year 2016 and none was requested by any agencies funded in this Act in fiscal year 2017 to implement the National Ocean Policy. Consequently, no specific funds for National Ocean Policy activities are included for any agency funded in this Act.

TITLE I—CORPS OF ENGINEERS—CIVIL
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

CORPS OF ENGINEERS—CIVIL

The summary tables included in this title set forth the dispositions with respect to the individual appropriations, projects, and activities of the Corps of Engineers. Additional items of the Act are discussed below.

Recent statutory changes regarding the Inland Waterways Trust Fund (IWTF) have resulted in an increase to the size of the capital improvement program that can be supported by the IWTF. The agreement reflects congressional interest in supporting this larger program. The Corps is directed to take the preparatory steps necessary to ensure that new construction projects can be initiated as soon as can be supported under the larger capital program (i.e., as ongoing projects approach completion).

Concerns persist that the effort to update the Water Resources Principles and Guidelines did not proceed consistent with the language or intent of section 2031 of the Water Resources Development Act of 2007. No funds provided to the Corps of Engineers shall be used to develop or implement rules or guidance to support implementation of the final Principles and Requirements for Federal Investments in Water Resources released in March 2013 or the final Interagency Guidelines released in December 2014. The Corps shall continue to use the document dated March 10, 1983, and entitled ''Economic and Environmental Principles and Guidelines for Water and Related Land Resources Implementation Studies'' during the fiscal year period covered by the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act for 2017.

Asian Carp.—In lieu of House direction on Asian Carp and Senate direction on Aquatic Nuisance Species, the Corps is expected to release the draft Great Lakes and Mississippi River Interbasin Study (GLMRIS) Brandon Road Study consistent with the urgency of its previous actions. The Corps is directed to adhere to a public and agency review process that is open and transparent. Further, the Corps is directed to provide quarterly updates to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress on the progress and status of efforts to prevent the further spread of the carp as well as the location and density of Asian Carp populations, including the use of emergency procedures.

Aquaculture Activities.—The agreement only includes direction on aquaculture activities in the Regulatory account.

ADDITIONAL FUNDING

The fiscal year 2017 budget request significantly underfunds the Civil Works program of the Corps of Engineers. The agreement, however, includes funding in addition to the budget request to ensure continued improvements to our national economy, public safety, and environmental health that result from water resources projects. This funding is for additional work that either was not included in the budget request or was inadequately budgeted. The bill contains a provision requiring the Corps to allocate funds in accordance with only the direction in this agreement. In lieu of all House and Senate report direction regarding additional funding and new starts, the Corps shall follow the direction included in this explanatory statement.

The Corps again is directed to develop rating systems for use in evaluating studies and projects for allocation of the additional funding provided in this title. These evaluation systems may be, but are not required to be, individualized for each account, category, or subcategory. Each study and project eligible for funding shall be evaluated under the applicable ratings system. A study or project may not be excluded from evaluation for being ''inconsistent with Administration policy.'' The Corps retains complete control over the methodology of these ratings systems. The executive branch retains complete discretion over project-specific allocation decisions within the additional funds provided, subject to only the direction here and under the heading ''Additional Funding'' or ''Additional Funding for Ongoing Work'' within each of the Investigations, Construction, Mississippi River and Tributaries, and Operation and Maintenance accounts.

The Administration is reminded that these funds are in addition to the budget request, and Administration budget metrics shall not be a reason to disqualify a study or project from being funded. It is expected that all of the additional funding provided will be allocated to specific programs, projects, or activities. The focus of the allocation process shall favor the obligation, rather than expenditure, of funds. With the significant backlog of work in the Corps' inventory, there is no reason for funds provided above the budget request to remain unallocated.

A project or study shall be eligible for additional funding within the Investigations, Construction, and Mississippi River and Tributaries accounts if: (1) it has received funding, other than through a reprogramming, in at least one of the previous three fiscal years; (2) it was previously funded and could reach a significant milestone, complete a discrete element of work, or produce significant outputs in fiscal year 2017; or (3) as appropriate, it is selected as one of the new starts allowed in accordance with this Act and the additional direction provided below. None of the additional funding in any account may be used for any item where funding was specifically denied or for projects in the Continuing Authorities Program. Funds shall be allocated consistent with statutory cost share requirements.

Funding associated with each category may be allocated to any eligible study or project, as appropriate, within that category; funding associated with each subcategory may be allocated only to eligible studies or projects, as appropriate, within that subcategory. The list of subcategories is not meant to be exhaustive.

Work Plan.—Not later than 45 days after the enactment of this Act, the Corps shall provide to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress a work plan including the following information: (1) a detailed description of the ratings system(s) developed and used to evaluate studies and projects; (2) delineation of how these funds are to be allocated; (3) a summary of the work to be accomplished with each allocation, including phase of work; and (4) a list of all studies and projects that were considered eligible for funding but did not receive funding, including an explanation of whether the study or project could have used funds in fiscal year 2017 and the specific reasons each study or project was considered as being less competitive for an allocation of funds.

New Starts.—The agreement includes up to six new study starts and six new construction starts to be distributed across the three main mission areas of the Corps. Of the new study starts, one shall be for a navigation study, one shall be for a flood and storm damage reduction study, three shall be for additional navigation or flood and storm damage reduction studies, and one shall be for an environmental restoration study. Of the new construction starts, one shall be for a navigation project, one shall be for a flood and storm damage reduction project, three shall be for additional navigation or flood and storm damage reduction projects, and one shall be for an environmental restoration project. No funding shall be used to initiate new studies, programs, projects, or activities in the Mississippi River and Tributaries or Operation and Maintenance accounts.

The Corps is directed to propose a single group of new starts as a part of the work plan. The Corps may not change or substitute the new starts selected once the work plan has been provided to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress. Each new start shall be funded from the appropriate additional funding line item. Any project for which the new start requirements are not met by the end of fiscal year 2017 shall be treated as if the project had not

been selected as a new start; such a project shall be required to compete again for new start funding in future years. Consideration of studies and projects for selection as new starts shall not be limited to only those proposed in the fiscal year 2017 budget request. As all new starts are to be chosen by the Corps, all shall be considered of equal importance, and the expectation is that future budget submissions will include appropriate funding for all new starts selected.

There continues to be confusion regarding the executive branch's policies and guidelines regarding which studies and projects require new start designations. Therefore, the Corps is directed to notify the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress at least 7 days prior to execution of an agreement for construction of any project except environmental infrastructure projects and projects under the Continuing Authorities Program. Additionally, the agreement reiterates and clarifies previous congressional direction as follows. Neither study nor construction activities related to individual projects authorized under section 1037 of the Water Resources Reform and Development Act (WRRDA) of 2014 shall require a new start or new investment decision; these activities shall be considered ongoing work. No new start or new investment decision shall be required when moving from feasibility to preconstruction engineering and design (PED). A new start designation shall be required to initiate construction of individually-authorized projects funded within programmatic line items. No new start or new investment decision shall be required to initiate work on a separable element of a project when construction of one or more separable elements of that project was initiated previously; it shall be considered ongoing work. A new construction start shall not be required for work undertaken to correct a design deficiency on an existing federal project; it shall be considered ongoing work.

In addition to the priority factors used to allocate all additional funding provided in the Investigations account, the Corps should give careful consideration to the out-year budget impacts of the studies selected and to whether there appears to be an identifiable local sponsor that will be ready and able to provide, in a timely manner, the necessary cost share for the feasibility and PED phases. The Corps is reminded that the flood and storm damage reduction mission area can include instances where non-federal sponsors are seeking assistance with flood control and unauthorized discharges from permitted wastewater treatment facilities.

In addition to the priority factors used to allocate all additional funding provided in the Construction account, the Corps also shall consider the out-year budget impacts of the selected new starts; legal requirements, including responsibilities to Tribes; and the cost sharing sponsor's ability and willingness to promptly provide the cash contribution (if any), as well as required lands, easements, rights-of-way, relocations, and disposal areas. When considering new construction starts, only those that can execute a project cost sharing agreement not later than September 30, 2017, shall be chosen.

To ensure that the new construction starts are affordable and will not unduly delay completion of any ongoing projects, the Secretary is required to submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress a realistic out-year budget scenario prior to issuing a work allowance for a new start. It is understood that specific budget decisions are made on an annual basis and that this scenario is neither a request for nor a guarantee of future funding for any project. Nonetheless, this scenario shall include an estimate of annual funding for each new start utilizing a realistic funding scenario through completion of the project, as well as the specific impacts of that estimated funding on the ability of the Corps to make continued progress on each previously funded construction project (including impacts to the optimum timeline and funding requirements of the ongoing projects) and on the ability to consider initiating new projects in the future. The scenario shall assume a Construction account funding level at the average of the past three budget requests.

INVESTIGATIONS

The agreement includes $121,000,000 for Investigations. The agreement includes legislative language regarding parameters for new study starts.

The allocation for projects and activities within the Investigations account is shown in the following table:

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - INVESTIGATIONS
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST		FINAL BILL	
	FEASIBILITY	PED	FEASIBILITY	PED
ALABAMA				
MOBILE HARBOR DEEPENING AND WIDENING, AL	1,246	---	1,246	---
ALASKA				
LOWELL CREEK TUNNEL FLOOD DIVERSION, AK	500	---	400	---
UNALASKA (DUTCH) HARBOR, AK	500	---	500	---
ARIZONA				
LOWER SANTA CRUZ RIVER, AZ	400	---	400	---
ARKANSAS				
THREE RIVERS, AR	580	---	580	---
CALIFORNIA				
DRY CREEK (WARM SPRINGS) RESTORATION, CA	425	---	425	---
LOS ANGELES RIVER ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION, CA	---	400	---	400
PORT OF LONG BEACH NAV IMP, CA	400	---	400	---
SACRAMENTO RIVER BANK PROTECTION PROJECT (PHASE 3), CA	625	---	625	---
SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO BAY SHORELINE, CA	---	500	---	500
YUBA RIVER FISH PASSAGE, CA	590	---	590	---
COLORADO				
ADAMS AND DENVER COUNTIES, CO	175	---	175	---

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - INVESTIGATIONS
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST		FINAL BILL	
	FEASIBILITY	PED	FEASIBILITY	PED
CONNECTICUT				
NEW HAVEN HARBOR DEEPENING, CT	500	---	500	---
DELAWARE				
DELAWARE INLAND BAYS AND DELAWARE BAY COAST, DE	300	---	300	---
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA				
THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, DC	300	---	300	---
FLORIDA				
MANATEE HARBOR IMPROVEMENTS, FL	275	---	---	---
GEORGIA				
PROCTOR CREEK, GA	200	---	200	---
SAVANNAH RIVER BELOW AUGUSTA ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION, GA	500	---	170	---
SWEETWATER CREEK, GA	500	---	500	---
IDAHO				
BOISE RIVER, BOISE, ID	73	---	---	---
ILLINOIS				
DU PAGE RIVER, IL	400	---	400	---
INTERBASIN CONTROL OF GREAT LAKES-MISSISSIPPI RIVER AQUATIC NUISANCE SPECIES, IL, IN, OH & WI	2,600	---	2,600	---
KASKASKIA RIVER BASIN, IL	600	---	---	---

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - INVESTIGATIONS
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST		FINAL BILL	
	FEASIBILITY	PED	FEASIBILITY	PED
IOWA				
DES MOINES LEVEE SYSTEM, DES MOINES AND RACCOON RIVERS, IA	300	---	---	---
GRAND RIVER BASIN, IA & MO	500	---	500	---
LOUISIANA				
INNER HARBOR NAVIGATION CANAL LOCK, LA	550	---	550	---
LOUISIANA COASTAL AREA ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION, LA	520	---	520	---
MISSISSIPPI RIVER SHIP CHANNEL, GULF TO BATON ROUGE, LA	450	---	450	---
MARYLAND				
CHESAPEAKE BAY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN, MD, PA & VA	1,950	---	1,460	---
MINNESOTA				
MINNESOTA RIVER WATERSHED STUDY, MN & SD (MINNESOTA RIVER AUTHORITY)	873	---	873	---
MISSOURI				
ST LOUIS RIVERFRONT, MO & IL	150	---	150	---
NEW JERSEY				
NEW JERSEY BACKBAYS, NJ	575	---	575	---
RAHWAY RIVER BASIN (UPPER BASIN), NJ	379	---	379	---
NEW MEXICO				
RIO GRANDE, SANDIA PUEBLO TO ISLETA PUEBLO, NM	500	---	---	---

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - INVESTIGATIONS
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST		FINAL BILL	
	FEASIBILITY	PED	FEASIBILITY	PED
NEW YORK				
NASSAU COUNTY BACK BAYS, NY	300	---	300	---
NEW YORK-NEW JERSEY HARBOR AND TRIBUTARIES, NY & NJ	575	---	575	---
NORTH DAKOTA				
RED RIVER OF THE NORTH BASIN, ND, MN, SD & MANITOBA, CANADA	496	---	496	---
SOURIS RIVER, ND	500	---	500	---
OKLAHOMA				
ARKANSAS RIVER CORRIDOR, OK	415	---	415	---
PUERTO RICO				
CAÑO MARTIN PEÑA, SAN JUAN, PR	---	750	---	750
SAN JUAN HARBOR CHANNEL IMPROVEMENT, PR	730	---	730	---
TEXAS				
COASTAL TEXAS PROTECTION AND RESTORATION STUDY, TX	1,825	---	1,825	---
GIWW - BRAZOS RIVER FLOODGATES & COLORADO RIVER LOCK, TX	1,000	---	1,000	---
HOUSTON SHIP CHANNEL, TX	1,750	---	1,750	---
MATAGORDA SHIP CHANNEL, TX	500	---	500	---
SPARKS ARROYO COLONIA, EL PASO COUNTY, TX	47	---	---	---
VIRGINIA				
CITY OF NORFOLK, VA	575	---	575	---
NORFOLK HARBOR AND CHANNELS, VA (DEEPENING)	350	---	350	---

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - INVESTIGATIONS
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST		FINAL BILL	
	FEASIBILITY	PED	FEASIBILITY	PED
WASHINGTON				
SEATTLE HARBOR, WA	500	---	500	---
SUBTOTAL, PROJECTS LISTED UNDER STATES	27,999	1,650	25,284	1,650
REMAINING ITEMS				
ADDITIONAL FUNDING				
FLOOD AND STORM DAMAGE REDUCTION	---	---	5,608	---
FLOOD CONTROL	---	---	4,500	---
SHORE PROTECTION	---	---	2,750	---
NAVIGATION	---	---	5,000	---
COASTAL AND DEEP-DRAFT	---	---	5,000	---
INLAND	---	---	5,000	---
OTHER AUTHORIZED PROJECT PURPOSES	---	---	2,675	---
ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION OR COMPLIANCE	---	---	1,500	---
COORDINATION STUDIES WITH OTHER AGENCIES				
ACCESS TO WATER DATA	360	---	360	---
COMMITTEE ON MARINE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS	90	---	90	---
OTHER COORDINATION PROGRAMS				
COORDINATION WITH OTHER WATER RESOURCE AGENCIES	455	---	455	---
INTERAGENCY AND INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT	300	---	300	---
INTERAGENCY WATER RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT	175	---	175	---
INVENTORY OF DAMS	400	---	400	---
SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS	1,300	---	1,300	---
FERC LICENSING	100	---	100	---
PLANNING ASSISTANCE TO STATES	5,500	---	6,750	---
COLLECTION AND STUDY OF BASIC DATA				
AUTOMATED INFORMATION SYSTEMS SUPPORT TRI-CADD	251	---	251	---
COASTAL FIELD DATA COLLECTION	1,000	---	1,000	---
FLOOD DAMAGE DATA	220	---	220	---
FLOOD PLAIN MANAGEMENT SERVICES	15,000	---	15,000	---

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - INVESTIGATIONS
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST		FINAL BILL	
	FEASIBILITY	PED	FEASIBILITY	PED
HYDROLOGIC STUDIES	500	---	500	---
INTERNATIONAL WATER STUDIES	125	---	125	---
PRECIPITATION STUDIES	200	---	200	---
REMOTE SENSING/GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM SUPPORT	75	---	75	---
SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL INFORMATION CENTERS	47	---	47	---
STREAM GAGING	550	---	550	---
TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS	985	---	985	---
WATER RESOURCES PRIORITIES STUDY	1,000	---	---	---
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT	16,818	---	22,000	---
OTHER - MISCELLANEOUS				
DISPOSITION OF COMPLETED PROJECTS	1,000	---	1,000	---
NATIONAL FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT PROGRAM	5,000	---	5,000	---
NATIONAL SHORELINE MANAGEMENT STUDY	400	---	400	---
PLANNING SUPPORT PROGRAM	3,000	---	3,000	---
TRIBAL PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM	500	---	1,750	---
SUBTOTAL, REMAINING ITEMS	55,351	---	94,066	---
TOTAL, INVESTIGATIONS	83,350	1,650	119,350	1,650

Updated Capability.—The agreement adjusts some project-specific allocations downward from the budget request based on updated information regarding the amount of work that could be accomplished in fiscal year 2017.

Additional Funding.—The Corps is expected to allocate the additional funding provided in this account primarily to specific feasibility and PED phases, rather than to Remaining Items line items as has been the case in past work plans. The activities funded under Remaining Items address core agency competencies, which means the budget request should reflect sufficient funding. When allocating the additional funding provided in this account, the Corps shall consider giving priority to completing or accelerating ongoing studies or to initiating new studies that will enhance the nation's economic development, job growth, and international competitiveness; are for projects located in areas that have suffered recent natural disasters; or are for projects to address legal requirements. While the additional funding is shown in the feasibility column, the Corps shall use these funds for additional work in both the feasibility and PED phases. The agreement includes sufficient additional funding to undertake a significant amount of feasibility and PED work. The Administration is reminded that a project study is not complete until the PED phase is complete.

Hydraulic Modeling.—The agreement does not include direction included in the Senate report.

Water Resources Priorities Study.—No funding shall be used for this study.

Research and Development, Additional Topic—Urban Flood Damage Reduction and Stream Restoration in Arid Regions.—The agreement supports but includes no specific level of funding for activities included in the Senate report.

Disposition of Completed Projects.—The agreement includes funding only for reviews included in the budget request.

National Flood Risk Management Program.—The agreement does not include direction included in the House report.

Flood Control and Wastewater Treatment Facilities.—The agreement includes direction included in the House report with the further direction that the list be developed using readily available information.

Puget Sound.—The Corps is encouraged to proceed with the tiered implementation strategy using all existing authorities as outlined in the Puget Sound Nearshore Ecosystem Restoration Project Feasibility Study, Completion Strategy Guidance dated June 2015. The Corps is directed to recognize the Puget Sound Nearshore Study as the feasibility component for the purposes of section 544 of the Water Resources Development Act of 2000.

Missouri River Projects.—None of the funds made available by this Act may be used for the study of the Missouri River Projects authorized in section 108 of the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2009 (Public Law 111–8).

Coastal Resiliency Projects.—The agreement only includes language in the Construction account under the heading ''Continuing Authorities Program''.

CONSTRUCTION

The agreement includes $1,876,000,000 for Construction. The agreement includes legislative language regarding parameters for new construction starts.

The allocation for projects and activities within the Construction account is shown in the following table:

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - CONSTRUCTION
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
CALIFORNIA		
AMERICAN RIVER COMMON FEATURES, NATOMAS BASIN, CA	21,150	21,150
AMERICAN RIVER WATERSHED (FOLSOM DAM MODIFICATIONS), CA	20,740	20,740
AMERICAN RIVER WATERSHED (FOLSOM DAM RAISE), CA	21,040	---
HAMILTON CITY, CA	8,500	---
ISABELLA LAKE, CA (DAM SAFETY)	70,500	70,500
OAKLAND HARBOR (50 FOOT PROJECT), CA	1,056	1,056
SACRAMENTO RIVER BANK PROTECTION PROJECT, CA	8,000	8,000
SANTA ANA RIVER MAINSTEM, CA	37,200	37,200
YUBA RIVER BASIN, CA	7,000	7,000
FLORIDA		
HERBERT HOOVER DIKE, FL (SEEPAGE CONTROL)	49,500	49,500
SOUTH FLORIDA ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION, FL	106,000	106,000
GEORGIA		
RICHARD B RUSSELL DAM AND LAKE, GA & SC	930	930
SAVANNAH HARBOR EXPANSION, GA	42,700	42,700
ILLINOIS		
CHICAGO SANITARY AND SHIP CANAL DISPERSAL BARRIER, IL	---	12,000
OLMSTED LOCKS AND DAM, OHIO RIVER, IL & KY	225,000	225,000
UPPER MISSISSIPPI RIVER RESTORATION, IL, IA, MN, MO & WI	20,000	20,000
IOWA		
MISSOURI RIVER FISH AND WILDLIFE RECOVERY, IA, KS, MO, MT, NE, ND & SD	18,000	18,000
KANSAS		
TOPEKA, KS	8,034	8,034
LOUISIANA		
BENEFICIAL USE OF DREDGED MATERIAL PROGRAM, LOUISIANA COASTAL AREA ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION, LA	9,000	9,000
MARYLAND		
ASSATEAGUE, MD	600	600
POPLAR ISLAND, MD	62,300	62,300

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - CONSTRUCTION
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
MISSOURI		
MONARCH - CHESTERFIELD, MO	7,000	50
NEW JERSEY		
DELAWARE RIVER MAIN CHANNEL, NJ, PA & DE	33,125	33,125
RARITAN RIVER BASIN, GREEN BROOK SUB-BASIN, NJ	10,000	10,000
OHIO		
BOLIVAR DAM, OH (DAM SAFETY)	5,000	5,000
OREGON		
COLUMBIA RIVER AT THE MOUTH, OR & WA	21,900	21,900
PENNSYLVANIA		
EAST BRANCH CLARION RIVER LAKE, PA	56,250	56,250
TENNESSEE		
CENTER HILL LAKE, TN	40,000	40,000
TEXAS		
BUFFALO BAYOU AND TRIBUTARIES, TX	13,300	13,300
VIRGINIA		
ATLANTIC INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY BRIDGE REPLACEMENT AT DEEP CREEK, CHESAPEAKE, VA	12,000	12,000
WASHINGTON		
COLUMBIA RIVER FISH MITIGATION, WA, OR & ID	84,000	70,300
MUD MOUNTAIN DAM, WA	22,350	---
WEST VIRGINIA		
BLUESTONE LAKE, WV	4,000	4,000
SUBTOTAL, PROJECTS LISTED UNDER STATES	1,046,175	985,635

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - CONSTRUCTION
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
REMAINING ITEMS		
ADDITIONAL FUNDING		
FLOOD AND STORM DAMAGE REDUCTION	---	190,090
FLOOD CONTROL	---	150,000
SHORE PROTECTION	---	50,000
NAVIGATION	---	211,200
INLAND WATERWAYS TRUST FUND REVENUES	---	75,250
OTHER AUTHORIZED PROJECT PURPOSES	---	48,000
ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION OR COMPLIANCE	---	25,000
ENVIRONMENTAL INFRASTRUCTURE	---	55,000
AQUATIC PLANT CONTROL PROGRAM	---	9,000
CONTINUING AUTHORITIES PROGRAM		
AQUATIC ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION (SECTION 206)	1,000	8,000
BENEFICIAL USES DREDGED MATERIAL (SECTION 204)	1,000	1,000
EMERGENCY STREAMBANK AND SHORELINE PROTECTION (SECTION 14)	---	5,000
FLOOD CONTROL PROJECTS (SECTION 205)	500	8,000
MITIGATION OF SHORE DAMAGES (SECTION 111)	---	500
NAVIGATION PROGRAM (SECTION 107)	---	8,500
PROJECT MODIFICATIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT (SECTION 1135)	1,000	3,000
SHORE PROTECTION (SECTION 103)	---	500
DAM SAFETY AND SEEPAGE/STABILITY CORRECTION PROGRAM	21,000	21,000
EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION	19,000	19,000
INLAND WATERWAYS USERS BOARD - BOARD EXPENSE	50	50
INLAND WATERWAYS USERS BOARD - CORPS EXPENSE	275	275
RESTORATION OF ABANDONED MINES	---	2,000
SUBTOTAL, REMAINING ITEMS	43,825	890,365
TOTAL, CONSTRUCTION	1,090,000	1,876,000

Updated Capability.—The agreement adjusts some project-specific allocations downward from the budget request based on updated information regarding the amount of work that could be accomplished in fiscal year 2017.

Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal Dispersal Barrier, Illinois.—The budget request includes funding for this project in the Operation and Maintenance account. During the period of the continuing resolution, however, the Corps informed the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress that the budget request is required in the Construction account. The agreement accommodates this shift in funding.

Additional Funding.—The agreement includes additional funds for projects and activities to enhance the nation's economic growth and international competitiveness. Of the additional funds provided in this account, the Corps shall allocate not less than $12,450,000 to projects with riverfront development components. Of the additional funding provided in this account for flood and storm damage reduction and flood control, the Corps shall allocate not less than $14,000,000 to additional nonstructural flood control projects. Of the additional funds provided in this account for flood and storm damage reduction, navigation, and other authorized project purposes, the Corps shall allocate not less than $10,000,000 to authorized reimbursements for projects with executed project cooperation agreements and that have completed construction or where non-federal sponsors intend to use the funds for additional water resources development activities. Of the additional funding provided in this account for flood and storm damage reduction and flood control, the Corps shall allocate not less than $10,500,000 to continue construction of projects that principally include improvements to rainfall drainage systems that address flood damages.

When allocating the additional funding provided in this account, the Corps is encouraged to evaluate authorized reimbursements in the same manner as if the projects were being evaluated for new or ongoing construction and shall consider giving priority to the following:

1. benefits of the funded work to the national economy;

2. extent to which the work will enhance national, regional, or local economic development;

3. number of jobs created directly by the funded activity;

4. ability to obligate the funds allocated within the calendar year, including consideration of the ability of the non-federal sponsor to provide any required cost share;

5. ability to complete the project, separable element, or project phase with the funds allocated;

6. for flood and storm damage reduction projects (including authorized nonstructural measures and periodic beach renourishments),

a. population, economic activity, or public infrastructure at risk, as appropriate; and

b. the severity of risk of flooding or the frequency with which an area has experienced flooding;

7. for shore protection projects, projects in areas that have suffered severe beach erosion requiring additional sand placement outside of the normal beach renourishment cycle or in which the normal beach renourishment cycle has been delayed;

8. for navigation projects, the number of jobs or level of economic activity to be supported by completion of the project, separable element, or project phase;

9. for projects cost shared with the Inland Waterways Trust Fund (IWTF), the economic impact on the local, regional, and national economy if the project is not funded, as well as discrete elements of work that can be completed within the funding provided in this line item;

10. for other authorized project purposes and environmental restoration or compliance projects, to include the beneficial use of dredged material; and

11. for environmental infrastructure, projects with the greater economic impact, projects in rural communities, projects in communities with significant shoreline and instances of runoff, projects in or that benefit counties or parishes with high poverty rates, and projects in financially distressed municipalities.

The agreement provides funds making use of all estimated annual revenues in the IWTF. The Corps shall allocate all funds provided in the IWTF Revenues line item along with the statutory cost share from funds provided in the Navigation line item prior to allocating the remainder of funds in the Navigation line item. The Corps has indicated that several construction contract options are set to expire in the very near future. If the decision is made by the Administration to fund any of those projects in the work plan, but the funding is not made available in time to exercise the existing options, costs could escalate unnecessarily. Therefore, notwithstanding the work plan deadline established in the title I front matter, the Corps shall allocate the additional funding provided for construction of IWTF projects, and notify the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress of such allocations, not later than 10 days after the enactment of this Act.

Aquatic Plant Control Program.—Of the funding provided for the Aquatic Plant Control Program, $4,000,000 shall be for nationwide research and development to address invasive aquatic plants; within this funding, the Corps is encouraged to support cost shared aquatic plant management programs. Of the funding provided for the Aquatic Plant Control Program, $5,000,000 shall be for watercraft inspection stations, as authorized by section 1039 of the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014, and related monitoring.

Continuing Authorities Program (CAP).—The agreement continues to support all sections of the Continuing Authorities Program. Funding is provided for eight CAP sections at a total of $34,500,000, an increase of $31,000,000 above the budget request, which proposed funding for only four sections. This program provides a useful tool for the Corps to undertake small localized projects without the lengthy study and authorization process typical of larger Corps projects. Within the Continuing Authorities Program and to the extent already authorized by law, the Corps is encouraged to consider projects that enhance coastal and ocean ecosystem resiliency. The management of the Continuing Authorities Program should continue consistent with direction provided in previous fiscal years.

Public-Private Partnerships.—The agreement only includes direction in the Expenses account.

Reimbursements.—The agreement only includes direction under the heading ''Additional Funding'' in this account.

Environmental Infrastructure.—The agreement does not include direction included in the Senate report.

Efficiency Review.—The agreement only includes direction in the Expenses account.

MISSISSIPPI RIVER AND TRIBUTARIES

The agreement includes $362,000,000 for Mississippi River and Tributaries.

The allocation for projects and activities within the Mississippi River and Tributaries account is shown in the following table:

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - MISSISSIPPI RIVER AND TRIBUTARIES
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
CONSTRUCTION		
CHANNEL IMPROVEMENT, AR, IL, KY, LA, MS, MO & TN	39,769	39,769
MISSISSIPPI RIVER LEVEES, AR, IL, KY, LA, MS, MO & TN	21,600	21,600
ATCHAFALAYA BASIN, FLOODWAY SYSTEM, LA	400	400
ATCHAFALAYA BASIN, LA	2,505	2,505
OPERATION & MAINTENANCE		
CHANNEL IMPROVEMENT, AR, IL, KY, LA, MS, MO & TN	63,490	63,490
HELENA HARBOR, PHILLIPS COUNTY, AR	15	15
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, AR	532	532
LOWER ARKANSAS RIVER, NORTH BANK, AR	294	294
LOWER ARKANSAS RIVER, SOUTH BANK, AR	198	198
MISSISSIPPI RIVER LEVEES, AR, IL, KY, LA, MS, MO & TN	9,795	9,795
ST FRANCIS BASIN, AR & MO	5,900	5,900
TENSAS BASIN, BOEUF AND TENSAS RIVERS, AR & LA	2,579	2,579
WHITE RIVER BACKWATER, AR	1,000	1,000
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, IL	38	38
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, KY	28	28
ATCHAFALAYA BASIN, FLOODWAY SYSTEM, LA	1,692	1,692
ATCHAFALAYA BASIN, LA	12,898	12,898
BATON ROUGE HARBOR, DEVIL SWAMP, LA	55	55
BAYOU COCODRIE AND TRIBUTARIES, LA	48	48
BONNET CARRE, LA	2,331	2,331
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, LA	1,106	1,106
LOWER RED RIVER, SOUTH BANK LEVEES, LA	498	498
MISSISSIPPI DELTA REGION, LA	496	496
OLD RIVER, LA	8,086	8,086
TENSAS BASIN, RED RIVER BACKWATER, LA	3,345	3,345
GREENVILLE HARBOR, MS	24	24
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, MS	67	67
VICKSBURG HARBOR, MS	42	42
YAZOO BASIN, ARKABUTLA LAKE, MS	5,483	5,483
YAZOO BASIN, BIG SUNFLOWER RIVER, MS	185	185
YAZOO BASIN, ENID LAKE, MS	5,024	5,024
YAZOO BASIN, GREENWOOD, MS	807	807
YAZOO BASIN, GRENADA LAKE, MS	5,487	5,487
YAZOO BASIN, MAIN STEM, MS	1,344	1,344
YAZOO BASIN, SARDIS LAKE, MS	6,668	6,668
YAZOO BASIN, TRIBUTARIES, MS	967	967
YAZOO BASIN, WILL M WHITTINGTON AUX CHAN, MS	384	384
YAZOO BASIN, YAZOO BACKWATER AREA, MS	544	544
YAZOO BASIN, YAZOO CITY, MS	731	731
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, MO	237	237
WAPPAPELLO LAKE, MO	4,912	4,912

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - MISSISSIPPI RIVER AND TRIBUTARIES
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, TN	47	47
MEMPHIS HARBOR, MCKELLAR LAKE, TN	2,132	2,132
SUBTOTAL, PROJECTS LISTED UNDER STATES	213,783	213,783
REMAINING ITEMS		
ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR ONGOING WORK		
DREDGING	---	3,968
FLOOD CONTROL	---	95,122
OTHER AUTHORIZED PROJECT PURPOSES	---	41,000
COLLECTION AND STUDY OF BASIC DATA (INVESTIGATIONS)	7,000	7,000
MAPPING (MAINTENANCE)	1,127	1,127
MISSISSIPPI RIVER COMMISSION	90	---
SUBTOTAL, REMAINING ITEMS	8,217	148,217
TOTAL, MISSISSIPPI RIVER AND TRIBUTARIES	222,000	362,000

Additional Funding for Ongoing Work.—When allocating the additional funding provided in this account, the Corps shall consider giving priority to completing or accelerating ongoing work that will enhance the nation's economic development, job growth, and international competitiveness, or are for studies or projects located in areas that have suffered recent natural disasters. While this funding is shown under remaining items, the Corps shall use these funds in investigations, construction, and operation and maintenance, as applicable. Of the additional funds provided in this account for flood control, the Corps shall allocate not less than $24,300,000 for additional flood control construction projects. Of the additional funds provided in this account for other authorized project purposes, the Corps shall allocate not less than $2,378,000 for operation and maintenance of facilities that are educational or to continue land management of mitigation features.

Mississippi River Commission.—No funding is provided for this new line item. The Corps is directed to continue funding the costs of the commission from within the funds provided for activities within the Mississippi River and Tributaries project.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

The agreement includes $3,149,000,000 for Operation and Maintenance.

The allocation for projects and activities within the Operation and Maintenance account is shown in the following table:

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
ALABAMA		
ALABAMA - COOSA COMPREHENSIVE WATER STUDY, AL	176	176
ALABAMA RIVER LAKES, AL	14,080	14,080
BLACK WARRIOR AND TOMBIGBEE RIVERS, AL	24,101	24,101
GULF INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY, AL	6,075	6,075
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, AL	215	215
MOBILE HARBOR, AL	23,389	23,389
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, AL	190	190
SCHEDULING RESERVOIR OPERATIONS, AL	100	100
TENNESSEE - TOMBIGBEE WATERWAY WILDLIFE MITIGATION, AL & MS	1,700	1,700
TENNESSEE - TOMBIGBEE WATERWAY, AL & MS	29,218	29,218
WALTER F GEORGE LOCK AND DAM, AL & GA	11,930	11,930
WATER/ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION, AL	20	20
ALASKA		
ANCHORAGE HARBOR, AK	11,868	10,668
CHENA RIVER LAKES, AK	9,663	9,663
CHIGNIK HARBOR, AK	200	200
DILLINGHAM HARBOR, AK	1,050	860
HOMER HARBOR, AK	462	462
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, AK	225	225
KETCHIKAN, THOMAS BASIN, AK	3,100	3,100
LOWELL CREEK TUNNEL (SEWARD) AK	591	591
NINILCHIK HARBOR, AK	345	345
NOME HARBOR, AK	2,920	2,420
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, AK	700	700
ARIZONA		
ALAMO LAKE, AZ	1,260	1,260
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, AZ	96	96
PAINTED ROCK DAM, AZ	830	830
SCHEDULING RESERVOIR OPERATIONS, AZ	102	102
WHITLOW RANCH DAM, AZ	317	317
ARKANSAS		
BEAVER LAKE, AR	9,019	9,019
BLAKELY MT DAM, LAKE OUACHITA, AR	8,157	8,157
BLUE MOUNTAIN LAKE, AR	1,908	1,908
BULL SHOALS LAKE, AR	8,305	8,305
DEGRAY LAKE, AR	6,121	6,121
DEQUEEN LAKE, AR	1,780	1,780
DIERKS LAKE, AR	1,768	1,768
GILLHAM LAKE, AR	1,556	1,556

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
GREERS FERRY LAKE, AR	9,403	9,403
HELENA HARBOR, AR	15	15
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, AR	490	490
MCCLELLAN-KERR ARKANSAS RIVER NAVIGATION SYSTEM, AR	42,464	42,464
MILLWOOD LAKE, AR	2,631	2,631
NARROWS DAM, LAKE GREESON, AR	4,912	4,912
NIMROD LAKE, AR	2,163	2,163
NORFORK LAKE, AR	5,098	5,098
OSCEOLA HARBOR, AR	515	515
OUACHITA AND BLACK RIVERS, AR & LA	8,445	8,445
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, AR	1	1
WHITE RIVER, AR	25	25
YELLOW BEND PORT, AR	115	115
CALIFORNIA		
BLACK BUTTE LAKE, CA	3,040	3,040
BODEGA BAY, CA	4,285	4,285
BUCHANAN DAM, HV EASTMAN LAKE, CA	2,078	2,078
CHANNEL ISLANDS HARBOR, CA	7,980	7,980
COYOTE VALLEY DAM, LAKE MENDOCINO, CA	4,284	4,284
DRY CREEK (WARM SPRINGS) LAKE AND CHANNEL, CA	6,888	6,888
FARMINGTON DAM, CA	478	478
HIDDEN DAM, HENSLEY LAKE, CA	2,377	2,377
HUMBOLDT HARBOR AND BAY, CA	3,000	3,000
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS, CA	6	6
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, CA	3,588	3,588
ISABELLA LAKE, CA	1,582	1,582
LOS ANGELES COUNTY DRAINAGE AREA, CA	17,447	17,447
MERCED COUNTY STREAMS, CA	484	484
MOJAVE RIVER DAM, CA	375	375
MORRO BAY HARBOR, CA	4,400	4,400
NAPA RIVER, CA	350	350
NEW HOGAN LAKE, CA	3,058	3,058
NEW MELONES LAKE, DOWNSTREAM CHANNEL, CA	2,695	2,695
OAKLAND HARBOR, CA	17,155	17,155
OCEANSIDE HARBOR, CA	2,275	2,275
PINE FLAT LAKE, CA	3,440	3,440
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, CA	1,698	1,698
REDWOOD CITY HARBOR, CA	4,201	4,201
RICHMOND HARBOR, CA	8,132	8,132
SACRAMENTO RIVER (30 FOOT PROJECT), CA	1,600	1,600
SACRAMENTO RIVER AND TRIBUTARIES (DEBRIS CONTROL), CA	1,548	1,548
SACRAMENTO RIVER SHALLOW DRAFT CHANNEL, CA	175	175
SALINAS DAM, CA	1	1
SAN FRANCISCO BAY DELTA MODEL STRUCTURE, CA	1,096	1,096
SAN FRANCISCO BAY LONG TERM MANAGEMENT STRATEGY, CA	600	600
SAN FRANCISCO HARBOR AND BAY, CA (DRIFT REMOVAL)	3,870	3,870

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
SAN FRANCISCO HARBOR, CA	3,220	3,220
SAN JOAQUIN RIVER, PORT OF STOCKTON, CA	3,242	3,242
SAN PABLO BAY AND MARE ISLAND STRAIT, CA	2,025	2,025
SANTA ANA RIVER BASIN, CA	4,871	4,871
SANTA BARBARA HARBOR, CA	2,695	2,695
SCHEDULING RESERVOIR OPERATIONS, CA	1,198	1,198
SUCCESS LAKE, CA	2,509	2,509
SUISUN BAY CHANNEL, CA	4,031	4,031
TERMINUS DAM, LAKE KAWEAH, CA	2,227	2,227
VENTURA HARBOR, CA	4,300	4,300
YUBA RIVER, CA	1,422	1,422
COLORADO		
BEAR CREEK LAKE, CO	437	437
CHATFIELD LAKE, CO	1,702	1,702
CHERRY CREEK LAKE, CO	1,159	1,159
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, CO	376	376
JOHN MARTIN RESERVOIR, CO	2,951	2,951
SCHEDULING RESERVOIR OPERATIONS, CO	576	576
TRINIDAD LAKE, CO	1,565	1,565
CONNECTICUT		
BLACK ROCK LAKE, CT	601	601
COLEBROOK RIVER LAKE, CT	709	709
HANCOCK BROOK LAKE, CT	448	448
HOP BROOK LAKE, CT	1,203	1,203
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, CT	345	345
MANSFIELD HOLLOW LAKE, CT	605	605
NORTHFIELD BROOK LAKE, CT	491	491
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, CT	850	850
STAMFORD HURRICANE BARRIER, CT	626	626
THOMASTON DAM, CT	800	800
WEST THOMPSON LAKE, CT	661	661
DELAWARE		
HARBOR OF REFUGE, DELAWARE BAY, DE	45	45
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, DE	58	58
INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY, DELAWARE RIVER TO CHESAPEAKE BAY, DE & MD	21,622	21,622
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, DE	200	200
WILMINGTON HARBOR, DE	4,355	4,355
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA		
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, DC	72	72
POTOMAC AND ANACOSTIA RIVERS, DC (DRIFT REMOVAL)	875	875

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, DC	25	25
WASHINGTON HARBOR, DC	25	25
FLORIDA		
CANAVERAL HARBOR, FL	4,069	4,069
CENTRAL & SOUTHERN FLORIDA, FL	14,889	14,889
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, FL	1,272	1,272
INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY, JACKSONVILLE TO MIAMI, FL	850	850
JACKSONVILLE HARBOR, FL	7,280	7,280
JIM WOODRUFF LOCK AND DAM, LAKE SEMINOLE, FL, AL & GA	6,506	6,506
MANATEE HARBOR, FL	500	500
MIAMI HARBOR, FL	100	100
OKEECHOBEE WATERWAY, FL	2,790	2,790
PALM BEACH HARBOR, FL	3,330	3,330
PENSACOLA HARBOR, FL	1,915	1,915
PORT EVERGLADES HARBOR, FL	300	300
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, FL	1,425	1,425
REMOVAL OF AQUATIC GROWTH, FL	3,130	3,130
SCHEDULING RESERVOIR OPERATIONS, FL	33	33
SOUTH FLORIDA ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION, FL	299	299
TAMPA HARBOR, FL	8,715	8,715
WATER/ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION, FL	165	165
GEORGIA		
ALLATOONA LAKE, GA	7,925	7,925
APALACHICOLA, CHATTAHOOCHEE AND FLINT RIVERS, GA, AL & FL	1,026	1,026
ATLANTIC INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY, GA	181	181
BRUNSWICK HARBOR, GA	4,528	4,528
BUFORD DAM AND LAKE SIDNEY LANIER, GA	9,823	9,823
CARTERS DAM AND LAKE, GA	7,724	7,724
HARTWELL LAKE, GA & SC	11,343	11,343
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, GA	227	227
J STROM THURMOND LAKE, GA & SC	18,399	18,399
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, GA	128	128
RICHARD B RUSSELL DAM AND LAKE, GA & SC	7,842	7,842
SAVANNAH HARBOR, GA	23,527	23,527
SAVANNAH RIVER BELOW AUGUSTA, GA	137	137
WEST POINT DAM AND LAKE, GA & AL	8,450	8,450
HAWAII		
BARBERS POINT HARBOR, HI	319	260
HILO HARBOR, HI	400	---
HONOLULU HARBOR, HI	400	---
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, HI	600	600
NAWILIWILI HARBOR, HI	400	400

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
PORT ALLEN HARBOR, KAUAI, HI	275	---
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, HI	706	706
IDAHO		
ALBENI FALLS DAM, ID	1,274	1,274
DWORSHAK DAM AND RESERVOIR, ID	2,862	2,862
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, ID	361	361
LUCKY PEAK LAKE, ID	4,405	4,405
SCHEDULING RESERVOIR OPERATIONS, ID	640	640
ILLINOIS		
CALUMET HARBOR AND RIVER, IL & IN	2,827	2,827
CARLYLE LAKE, IL	6,287	6,287
CHICAGO HARBOR, IL	2,824	2,824
CHICAGO RIVER, IL	572	572
CHICAGO SANITARY AND SHIP CANAL DISPERSAL BARRIER, IL	12,000	---
FARM CREEK RESERVOIRS, IL	446	446
ILLINOIS WATERWAY (MVR PORTION), IL & IN	34,059	34,059
ILLINOIS WATERWAY (MVS PORTION), IL & IN	1,847	1,847
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, IL	2,560	2,560
KASKASKIA RIVER NAVIGATION, IL	2,093	2,093
LAKE MICHIGAN DIVERSION, IL	800	800
LAKE SHELBYVILLE, IL	5,975	5,975
MISSISSIPPI RIVER BETWEEN MISSOURI RIVER AND MINNEAPOLIS (MVR PORTION), IL	84,666	84,666
MISSISSIPPI RIVER BETWEEN MISSOURI RIVER AND MINNEAPOLIS (MVS PORTION), IL	21,968	21,968
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, IL	105	105
REND LAKE, IL	5,655	5,655
SURVEILLANCE OF NORTHERN BOUNDARY WATERS, IL	719	719
WAUKEGAN HARBOR, IL	1,580	1,580
INDIANA		
BROOKVILLE LAKE, IN	1,357	1,357
BURNS WATERWAY HARBOR, IN	3,034	3,034
CAGLES MILL LAKE, IN	1,074	1,074
CECIL M HARDEN LAKE, IN	1,180	1,180
INDIANA HARBOR, IN	11,795	11,795
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, IN	1,316	1,316
J EDWARD ROUSH LAKE, IN	1,136	1,136
MISSISSINEWA LAKE, IN	1,168	1,168
MONROE LAKE, IN	1,324	1,324
PATOKA LAKE, IN	1,136	1,136
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, IN	185	185

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
SALAMONIE LAKE, IN	1,253	1,253
SURVEILLANCE OF NORTHERN BOUNDARY WATERS, IN	143	143
IOWA		
CORALVILLE LAKE, IA	4,326	4,326
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS, IA	21	21
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, IA	1,370	1,370
MISSOURI RIVER - SIOUX CITY TO THE MOUTH, IA, KS, MO & NE	9,049	9,049
MISSOURI RIVER FISH AND WILDLIFE RECOVERY, IA, KS, MO, MT, NE, ND & SD	2,810	2,810
RATHBUN LAKE, IA	2,484	2,484
RED ROCK DAM AND LAKE RED ROCK, IA	4,711	4,711
SAYLORVILLE LAKE, IA	5,526	5,526
KANSAS		
CLINTON LAKE, KS	2,953	2,953
COUNCIL GROVE LAKE, KS	1,535	1,535
EL DORADO LAKE, KS	801	801
ELK CITY LAKE, KS	970	970
FALL RIVER LAKE, KS	1,581	1,581
HILLSDALE LAKE, KS	891	891
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS, KS	4	4
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, KS	1,206	1,206
JOHN REDMOND DAM AND RESERVOIR, KS	1,565	1,565
KANOPOLIS LAKE, KS	4,968	4,968
MARION LAKE, KS	4,482	4,482
MELVERN LAKE, KS	2,490	2,490
MILFORD LAKE, KS	2,549	2,549
PEARSON - SKUBITZ BIG HILL LAKE, KS	1,392	1,392
PERRY LAKE, KS	2,845	2,845
POMONA LAKE, KS	2,480	2,480
SCHEDULING RESERVOIR OPERATIONS, KS	369	369
TORONTO LAKE, KS	1,191	1,191
TUTTLE CREEK LAKE, KS	7,464	7,464
WILSON LAKE, KS	1,711	1,711
KENTUCKY		
BARKLEY DAM AND LAKE BARKLEY, KY & TN	11,404	11,404
BARREN RIVER LAKE, KY	2,754	2,754
BIG SANDY HARBOR, KY	1,908	1,908
BUCKHORN LAKE, KY	1,693	1,693
CARR CREEK LAKE, KY	1,882	1,882
CAVE RUN LAKE, KY	1,094	1,094
DEWEY LAKE, KY	1,749	1,749
ELVIS STAHR (HICKMAN) HARBOR, KY	925	925
FALLS OF THE OHIO NATIONAL WILDLIFE, KY & IN	223	223

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
FISHTRAP LAKE, KY	2,190	2,190
GRAYSON LAKE, KY	1,525	1,525
GREEN AND BARREN RIVERS, KY	2,180	2,180
GREEN RIVER LAKE, KY	2,575	2,575
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, KY	1,301	1,301
KENTUCKY RIVER, KY	10	10
LAUREL RIVER LAKE, KY	2,173	2,173
MARTINS FORK LAKE, KY	1,193	1,193
MIDDLESBORO CUMBERLAND RIVER BASIN, KY	264	264
NOLIN LAKE, KY	2,709	2,709
OHIO RIVER LOCKS AND DAMS, KY, IL, IN & OH	30,930	30,930
OHIO RIVER OPEN CHANNEL WORK, KY, IL, IN, OH, PA & WV	5,600	5,600
PAINTSVILLE LAKE, KY	1,263	1,263
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, KY	1	1
ROUGH RIVER LAKE, KY	3,116	3,116
TAYLORSVILLE LAKE, KY	1,096	1,096
WOLF CREEK DAM, LAKE CUMBERLAND, KY	9,195	9,195
YATESVILLE LAKE, KY	1,279	1,279
LOUISIANA		
ATCHAFALAYA RIVER AND BAYOUS CHENE, BOEUF & BLACK, LA	6,645	6,645
BARATARIA BAY WATERWAY, LA	100	100
BAYOU BODCAU RESERVOIR, LA	1,471	1,471
BAYOU LAFOURCHE AND LAFOURCHE JUMP WATERWAY, LA	911	911
BAYOU PIERRE, LA	23	23
BAYOU SEGNETTE WATERWAY, LA	20	20
BAYOU TECHE AND VERMILION RIVER, LA	12	12
BAYOU TECHE, LA	50	50
CADDO LAKE, LA	209	209
CALCASIEU RIVER AND PASS, LA	21,393	21,393
FRESHWATER BAYOU, LA	1,424	1,424
GULF INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY, LA	32,844	32,844
HOUMA NAVIGATION CANAL, LA	1,057	1,057
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, LA	962	962
J BENNETT JOHNSTON WATERWAY, LA	8,714	8,714
LAKE PROVIDENCE HARBOR, LA	14	14
MADISON PARISH PORT, LA	150	150
MERMENTAU RIVER, LA	1,297	1,297
MISSISSIPPI RIVER OUTLETS AT VENICE, LA	1,449	1,449
MISSISSIPPI RIVER, BATON ROUGE TO THE GULF OF MEXICO, LA	82,885	82,885
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, LA	54	54
REMOVAL OF AQUATIC GROWTH, LA	200	200
WALLACE LAKE, LA	226	226
WATERWAY FROM EMPIRE TO THE GULF, LA	8	8
WATERWAY FROM INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY TO BAYOU DULAC, LA	22	22

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
MAINE		
DISPOSAL AREA MONITORING, ME	1,050	1,050
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, ME	104	104
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, ME	1,100	1,100
SURVEILLANCE OF NORTHERN BOUNDARY WATERS, ME	25	25
MARYLAND		
BALTIMORE HARBOR AND CHANNELS (50 FOOT), MD	20,575	20,575
BALTIMORE HARBOR, MD (DRIFT REMOVAL)	325	325
CUMBERLAND, MD AND RIDGELEY, WV	186	186
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, MD	119	119
JENNINGS RANDOLPH LAKE, MD & WV	2,151	2,151
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, MD	450	450
SCHEDULING RESERVOIR OPERATIONS, MD	78	78
WICOMICO RIVER, MD	2,000	2,000
MASSACHUSETTS		
BARRE FALLS DAM, MA	1,081	1,081
BIRCH HILL DAM, MA	926	926
BOSTON HARBOR, MA	12,000	3,100
BUFFUMVILLE LAKE, MA	740	740
CAPE COD CANAL, MA	10,552	10,552
CHARLES RIVER NATURAL VALLEY STORAGE AREA, MA	332	332
CHATHAM (STAGE) HARBOR, MA	470	470
CONANT BROOK LAKE, MA	703	703
EAST BRIMFIELD LAKE, MA	687	687
GLOUCESTER HARBOR AND ANNISQUAM RIVER, MA	150	150
GREEN HARBOR, MA	350	350
HODGES VILLAGE DAM, MA	609	609
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, MA	328	328
KNIGHTVILLE DAM, MA	1,019	1,019
LITTLEVILLE LAKE, MA	742	742
NEW BEDFORD FAIRHAVEN AND ACUSHNET HURRICANE BARRIER, MA	489	489
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, MA	900	900
TULLY LAKE, MA	911	911
WEST HILL DAM, MA	727	727
WESTVILLE LAKE, MA	572	572
MICHIGAN		
CHANNELS IN LAKE ST CLAIR, MI	1,580	1,580
DETROIT RIVER, MI	5,241	5,241
GRAND HAVEN HARBOR, MI	511	511
HOLLAND HARBOR, MI	650	650
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, MI	215	215

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
KEWEENAW WATERWAY, MI	906	906
MONROE HARBOR, MI	500	500
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, MI	720	720
SAGINAW RIVER, MI	3,973	3,973
SEBEWAING RIVER, MI	52	52
ST CLAIR RIVER, MI	680	680
ST JOSEPH HARBOR, MI	750	750
ST MARYS RIVER, MI	31,549	31,549
SURVEILLANCE OF NORTHERN BOUNDARY WATERS, MI	2,825	2,825
MINNESOTA		
BIGSTONE LAKE - WHETSTONE RIVER, MN & SD	257	257
DULUTH - SUPERIOR HARBOR, MN & WI	7,166	7,166
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, MN	408	408
LAC QUI PARLE LAKES, MINNESOTA RIVER, MN	891	891
MINNESOTA RIVER, MN	260	260
MISSISSIPPI RIVER BETWEEN MISSOURI RIVER AND MINNEAPOLIS (MVP PORTION), MN	66,866	66,866
ORWELL LAKE, MN	475	475
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, MN	93	93
RED LAKE RESERVOIR, MN	165	165
RESERVOIRS AT HEADWATERS OF MISSISSIPPI RIVER, MN	3,648	3,648
SURVEILLANCE OF NORTHERN BOUNDARY WATERS, MN	490	490
MISSISSIPPI		
BILOXI HARBOR, MS	1,812	1,812
CLAIBORNE COUNTY PORT, MS	1	1
EAST FORK, TOMBIGBEE RIVER, MS	285	285
GULFPORT HARBOR, MS	5,222	5,222
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, MS	110	110
MOUTH OF YAZOO RIVER, MS	34	34
OKATIBBEE LAKE, MS	2,150	2,150
PASCAGOULA HARBOR, MS	1,360	1,360
PEARL RIVER, MS & LA	150	150
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, MS	151	151
ROSEDALE HARBOR, MS	9	9
WATER/ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION, MS	20	20
YAZOO RIVER, MS	21	21
MISSOURI		
CARUTHERSVILLE HARBOR, MO	815	815
CLARENCE CANNON DAM AND MARK TWAIN LAKE, MO	6,994	6,994
CLEARWATER LAKE, MO	3,328	3,328
HARRY S TRUMAN DAM AND RESERVOIR, MO	11,087	11,087
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS, MO	2	2

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, MO	1,606	1,606
LITTLE BLUE RIVER LAKES, MO	879	879
LONG BRANCH LAKE, MO	733	733
MISSISSIPPI RIVER BETWEEN THE OHIO AND MISSOURI RIVERS (REG WORKS), MO & IL	24,608	24,608
NEW MADRID COUNTY HARBOR, MO	10	10
NEW MADRID HARBOR, MO (MILE 889)	15	15
POMME DE TERRE LAKE, MO	3,327	3,327
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, MO	1	1
SCHEDULING RESERVOIR OPERATIONS, MO	169	169
SMITHVILLE LAKE, MO	1,551	1,551
SOUTHEAST MISSOURI PORT, MISSISSIPPI RIVER, MO	401	401
STOCKTON LAKE, MO	5,857	5,857
TABLE ROCK LAKE, MO & AR	8,638	8,638
MONTANA		
FT PECK DAM AND LAKE, MT	5,535	5,535
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, MT	274	274
LIBBY DAM, MT	2,025	2,025
SCHEDULING RESERVOIR OPERATIONS, MT	95	95
NEBRASKA		
GAVINS POINT DAM, LEWIS AND CLARK LAKE, NE & SD	9,306	9,306
HARLAN COUNTY LAKE, NE	4,393	4,393
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS, NE	33	33
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, NE	1,213	1,213
MISSOURI RIVER - KENSLERS BEND, NE TO SIOUX CITY, IA	90	90
PAPILLION CREEK, NE	880	880
SALT CREEKS AND TRIBUTARIES, NE	2,934	2,934
NEVADA		
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, NV	77	77
MARTIS CREEK LAKE, NV & CA	1,132	1,132
PINE AND MATHEWS CANYONS LAKES, NV	333	333
NEW HAMPSHIRE		
BLACKWATER DAM, NH	860	860
EDWARD MACDOWELL LAKE, NH	563	563
FRANKLIN FALLS DAM, NH	809	809
HOPKINTON - EVERETT LAKES, NH	1,625	1,625
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, NH	71	71
OTTER BROOK LAKE, NH	775	775
PORTSMOUTH HARBOR AND PISCATAQUA RIVER, NH	1,100	150

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, NH	250	250
SURRY MOUNTAIN LAKE, NH	810	810
NEW JERSEY		
BARNEGAT INLET, NJ	425	425
COLD SPRING INLET, NJ	375	375
DELAWARE RIVER AT CAMDEN, NJ	15	15
DELAWARE RIVER, PHILADELPHIA TO THE SEA, NJ, PA & DE	28,455	28,455
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS, NJ	15	15
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, NJ	339	339
MANASQUAN RIVER, NJ	420	420
NEW JERSEY INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY, NJ	960	960
NEWARK BAY, HACKENSACK AND PASSAIC RIVERS, NJ	3,635	3,635
PASSAIC RIVER FLOOD WARNING SYSTEMS, NJ	600	600
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, NJ	1,944	1,944
SHARK RIVER, NJ	420	420
NEW MEXICO		
ABIQUIU DAM, NM	3,263	3,263
COCHITI LAKE, NM	3,452	3,452
CONCHAS LAKE, NM	3,137	3,137
GALISTEO DAM, NM	772	772
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, NM	650	650
JEMEZ CANYON DAM, NM	1,085	1,085
MIDDLE RIO GRANDE ENDANGERED SPECIES COLLABORATIVE PROGRAM, NM	2,367	2,367
SANTA ROSA DAM AND LAKE, NM	1,712	1,712
SCHEDULING RESERVOIR OPERATIONS, NM	213	213
TWO RIVERS DAM, NM	599	599
UPPER RIO GRANDE WATER OPERATIONS MODEL STUDY, NM	1,300	1,300
NEW YORK		
ALMOND LAKE, NY	437	437
ARKPORT DAM, NY	305	305
BLACK ROCK CHANNEL AND TONAWANDA HARBOR, NY	1,785	1,785
BUFFALO HARBOR, NY	2,650	2,650
EAST ROCKAWAY INLET, NY	7,000	7,000
EAST SIDNEY LAKE, NY	652	652
FIRE ISLAND INLET TO JONES INLET, NY	50	50
HUDSON RIVER, NY (MAINT)	1,600	1,600
HUDSON RIVER, NY (O & C)	2,600	2,600
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, NY	1,011	1,011
MOUNT MORRIS DAM, NY	3,575	3,575
NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY HARBOR, NY & NJ	5,650	5,650
NEW YORK HARBOR, NY	5,977	5,977
NEW YORK HARBOR, NY & NJ (DRIFT REMOVAL)	9,300	9,300

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
NEW YORK HARBOR, NY (PREVENTION OF OBSTRUCTIVE DEPOSITS)	1,200	1,200
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, NY	2,252	2,252
SOUTHERN NEW YORK FLOOD CONTROL PROJECTS, NY	702	702
SURVEILLANCE OF NORTHERN BOUNDARY WATERS, NY	610	610
WHITNEY POINT LAKE, NY	792	792
NORTH CAROLINA		
ATLANTIC INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY, NC	1,750	1,750
B EVERETT JORDAN DAM AND LAKE, NC	1,719	1,719
CAPE FEAR RIVER ABOVE WILMINGTON, NC	931	931
FALLS LAKE, NC	2,000	2,000
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, NC	200	200
MANTEO (SHALLOWBAG) BAY, NC	1,876	1,876
MASONBORO INLET AND CONNECTING CHANNELS, NC	26	26
MOREHEAD CITY HARBOR, NC	5,950	5,950
NEW RIVER INLET, NC	220	220
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, NC	700	700
ROLLINSON CHANNEL, NC	765	765
SILVER LAKE HARBOR, NC	580	580
W KERR SCOTT DAM AND RESERVOIR, NC	3,376	3,376
WILMINGTON HARBOR, NC	13,400	13,400
NORTH DAKOTA		
BOWMAN HALEY, ND	195	195
GARRISON DAM, LAKE SAKAKAWEA, ND	14,913	14,913
HOMME LAKE, ND	285	285
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, ND	375	375
LAKE ASHTABULA AND BALDHILL DAM, ND	1,510	1,510
PIPESTEM LAKE, ND	597	597
SCHEDULING RESERVOIR OPERATIONS, ND	95	95
SOURIS RIVER, ND	357	357
SURVEILLANCE OF NORTHERN BOUNDARY WATERS, ND	30	30
OHIO		
ALUM CREEK LAKE, OH	1,553	1,553
ASHTABULA HARBOR, OH	2,315	2,315
BERLIN LAKE, OH	2,681	2,681
CAESAR CREEK LAKE, OH	2,061	2,061
CLARENCE J BROWN DAM, OH	1,232	1,232
CLEVELAND HARBOR, OH	5,855	5,855
DEER CREEK LAKE, OH	1,451	1,451
DELAWARE LAKE, OH	1,508	1,508
DILLON LAKE, OH	1,519	1,519
FAIRPORT HARBOR, OH	1,700	1,700
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, OH	836	836

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
MASSILLON LOCAL PROTECTION PROJECT, OH	86	86
MICHAEL J KIRWAN DAM AND RESERVOIR, OH	1,390	1,390
MOSQUITO CREEK LAKE, OH	1,222	1,222
MUSKINGUM RIVER LAKES, OH	11,281	11,281
NORTH BRANCH KOKOSING RIVER LAKE, OH	517	517
OHIO-MISSISSIPPI FLOOD CONTROL, OH	1,840	1,840
PAINT CREEK LAKE, OH	1,403	1,403
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, OH	305	305
ROSEVILLE LOCAL PROTECTION PROJECT, OH	35	35
SANDUSKY HARBOR, OH	1,618	1,618
SURVEILLANCE OF NORTHERN BOUNDARY WATERS, OH	255	255
TOLEDO HARBOR, OH	5,905	5,405
TOM JENKINS DAM, OH	774	774
WEST FORK OF MILL CREEK LAKE, OH	858	858
WILLIAM H HARSHA LAKE, OH	1,314	1,314
OKLAHOMA		
ARCADIA LAKE, OK	3,122	3,122
BIRCH LAKE, OK	674	674
BROKEN BOW LAKE, OK	2,788	2,788
CANTON LAKE, OK	2,341	2,341
COPAN LAKE, OK	1,053	1,053
EUFAULA LAKE, OK	6,158	6,158
FORT GIBSON LAKE, OK	6,024	6,024
FORT SUPPLY LAKE, OK	1,072	1,072
GREAT SALT PLAINS LAKE, OK	340	340
HEYBURN LAKE, OK	638	638
HUGO LAKE, OK	1,813	1,813
HULAH LAKE, OK	1,857	1,857
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, OK	221	221
KAW LAKE, OK	2,000	2,000
KEYSTONE LAKE, OK	4,793	4,793
MCCLELLAN-KERR ARKANSAS RIVER NAVIGATION SYSTEM, OK	17,161	17,161
OOLOGAH LAKE, OK	2,485	2,485
OPTIMA LAKE, OK	112	112
PENSACOLA RESERVOIR, LAKE OF THE CHEROKEES, OK	163	163
PINE CREEK LAKE, OK	6,535	6,535
SARDIS LAKE, OK	889	889
SCHEDULING RESERVOIR OPERATIONS, OK	1,200	1,200
SKIATOOK LAKE, OK	4,843	4,843
TENKILLER FERRY LAKE, OK	4,953	4,953
WAURIKA LAKE, OK	1,561	1,561
WISTER LAKE, OK	849	849

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
OREGON		
APPLEGATE LAKE, OR	1,180	1,180
BLUE RIVER LAKE, OR	4,189	4,189
BONNEVILLE LOCK AND DAM, OR & WA	8,346	8,346
CHETCO RIVER, OR	734	734
COLUMBIA RIVER AT THE MOUTH, OR & WA	18,118	18,118
COOS BAY, OR	6,523	6,523
COTTAGE GROVE LAKE, OR	1,332	1,332
COUGAR LAKE, OR	2,330	2,330
DETROIT LAKE, OR	1,007	1,007
DORENA LAKE, OR	1,324	1,324
ELK CREEK LAKE, OR	390	390
FALL CREEK LAKE, OR	1,158	1,158
FERN RIDGE LAKE, OR	1,622	1,622
GREEN PETER - FOSTER LAKES, OR	2,497	2,497
HILLS CREEK LAKE, OR	3,775	3,775
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, OR	1,066	1,046
JOHN DAY LOCK AND DAM, OR & WA	4,901	4,901
LOOKOUT POINT LAKE, OR	1,937	1,937
LOST CREEK LAKE, OR	4,269	4,269
MCNARY LOCK AND DAM, OR & WA	8,252	8,252
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, OR	400	400
ROGUE RIVER AT GOLD BEACH, OR	673	673
SCHEDULING RESERVOIR OPERATIONS, OR	98	98
SIUSLAW RIVER, OR	746	746
SURVEILLANCE OF NORTHERN BOUNDARY WATERS, OR	5,300	5,300
WILLAMETTE RIVER AT WILLAMETTE FALLS, OR	63	63
WILLAMETTE RIVER BANK PROTECTION, OR	200	200
WILLOW CREEK LAKE, OR	977	977
YAQUINA BAY AND HARBOR, OR	2,806	2,806
PENNSYLVANIA		
ALLEGHENY RIVER, PA	5,009	5,009
ALVIN R BUSH DAM, PA	627	627
AYLESWORTH CREEK LAKE, PA	278	278
BELTZVILLE LAKE, PA	1,410	1,410
BLUE MARSH LAKE, PA	2,981	2,981
CONEMAUGH RIVER LAKE, PA	1,346	1,346
COWANESQUE LAKE, PA	2,113	2,113
CROOKED CREEK LAKE, PA	1,900	1,900
CURWENSVILLE LAKE, PA	876	876
DELAWARE RIVER, PHILADELPHIA, PA TO TRENTON, NJ	11,985	11,985
EAST BRANCH CLARION RIVER LAKE, PA	1,408	1,408
FOSTER JOSEPH SAYERS DAM, PA	1,148	1,148
FRANCIS E WALTER DAM, PA	1,140	1,140
GENERAL EDGAR JADWIN DAM AND RESERVOIR, PA	380	380

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS, PA	10	10
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, PA	932	932
JOHNSTOWN, PA	46	46
KINZUA DAM AND ALLEGHENY RESERVOIR, PA	1,695	1,695
LOYALHANNA LAKE, PA	1,588	1,588
MAHONING CREEK LAKE, PA	1,449	1,449
MONONGAHELA RIVER, PA	17,905	17,905
OHIO RIVER LOCKS AND DAMS, PA, OH & WV	33,197	33,197
OHIO RIVER OPEN CHANNEL WORK, PA, OH & WV	800	800
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, PA	170	170
PROMPTON LAKE, PA	655	655
PUNXSUTAWNEY, PA	48	48
RAYSTOWN LAKE, PA	4,522	4,522
SCHEDULING RESERVOIR OPERATIONS, PA	35	35
SHENANGO RIVER LAKE, PA	2,303	2,303
STILLWATER LAKE, PA	503	503
SURVEILLANCE OF NORTHERN BOUNDARY WATERS, PA	105	105
TIOGA - HAMMOND LAKES, PA	2,784	2,784
TIONESTA LAKE, PA	2,080	2,080
UNION CITY LAKE, PA	404	404
WOODCOCK CREEK LAKE, PA	1,120	1,120
YORK INDIAN ROCK DAM, PA	735	735
YOUGHIOGHENY RIVER LAKE, PA & MD	2,523	2,523
PUERTO RICO		
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, PR	281	281
SAN JUAN HARBOR, PR	2,300	2,300
RHODE ISLAND		
BLOCK ISLAND HARBOR OF REFUGE, RI	350	350
FOX POINT BARRIER, NARRANGANSETT BAY, RI	1,067	1,067
GREAT SALT POND, BLOCK ISLAND, RI	350	350
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, RI	52	52
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, RI	350	350
PROVIDENCE RIVER AND HARBOR, RI	200	200
WOONSOCKET, RI	544	544
SOUTH CAROLINA		
ATLANTIC INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY, SC	100	100
CHARLESTON HARBOR, SC	13,920	13,920
COOPER RIVER, CHARLESTON HARBOR, SC	6,370	6,370
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, SC	65	65
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, SC	875	875

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
SOUTH DAKOTA		
BIG BEND DAM, LAKE SHARPE, SD	10,393	10,393
COLD BROOK LAKE, SD	346	346
COTTONWOOD SPRINGS LAKE, SD	258	258
FORT RANDALL DAM, LAKE FRANCIS CASE, SD	11,139	11,139
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, SD	325	325
LAKE TRAVERSE, SD & MN	579	579
OAHE DAM, LAKE OAHE, SD & ND	12,128	12,128
SCHEDULING RESERVOIR OPERATIONS, SD	107	107
TENNESSEE		
CENTER HILL LAKE, TN	6,675	6,675
CHEATHAM LOCK AND DAM, TN	7,787	7,787
CORDELL HULL DAM AND RESERVOIR, TN	7,255	7,255
DALE HOLLOW LAKE, TN	7,255	7,255
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, TN	309	309
J PERCY PRIEST DAM AND RESERVOIR, TN	5,244	5,244
NORTHWEST TENNESSEE REGIONAL HARBOR, LAKE COUNTY, TN	10	10
OLD HICKORY LOCK AND DAM, TN	9,636	9,636
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, TN	1	1
TENNESSEE RIVER, TN	23,386	23,386
WOLF RIVER HARBOR, TN	1,366	1,366
TEXAS		
AQUILLA LAKE, TX	1,093	1,093
ARKANSAS - RED RIVER BASINS CHLORIDE CONTROL - AREA VIII, TX	1,575	1,575
BARDWELL LAKE, TX	1,629	1,629
BELTON LAKE, TX	4,135	4,135
BENBROOK LAKE, TX	2,582	2,582
BRAZOS ISLAND HARBOR, TX	2,700	2,700
BUFFALO BAYOU AND TRIBUTARIES, TX	2,912	2,912
CANYON LAKE, TX	3,711	3,711
CHANNEL TO HARLINGEN, TX	1,395	1,395
CHANNEL TO PORT BOLIVAR, TX	50	50
CORPUS CHRISTI SHIP CHANNEL, TX	7,400	7,400
DENISON DAM, LAKE TEXOMA, TX	17,854	17,854
ESTELLINE SPRINGS EXPERIMENTAL PROJECT, TX	35	35
FERRELLS BRIDGE DAM, LAKE O' THE PINES, TX	4,210	4,210
FREEPORT HARBOR, TX	8,300	8,300
GALVESTON HARBOR AND CHANNEL, TX	10,350	10,350
GIWW, CHANNEL TO VICTORIA, TX	2,700	2,700
GRANGER DAM AND LAKE, TX	2,877	2,877
GRAPEVINE LAKE, TX	3,045	3,045
GULF INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY, TX	21,871	21,871
HORDS CREEK LAKE, TX	1,734	1,734

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
HOUSTON SHIP CHANNEL, TX	30,000	30,000
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, TX	1,701	1,701
JIM CHAPMAN LAKE, TX	1,624	1,624
JOE POOL LAKE, TX	1,602	1,602
LAKE KEMP, TX	277	277
LAVON LAKE, TX	3,579	3,579
LEWISVILLE DAM, TX	4,639	4,639
MATAGORDA SHIP CHANNEL, TX	5,200	5,200
NAVARRO MILLS LAKE, TX	3,072	3,072
NORTH SAN GABRIEL DAM AND LAKE GEORGETOWN, TX	2,355	2,355
O C FISHER DAM AND LAKE, TX	1,167	1,167
PAT MAYSE LAKE, TX	1,287	1,287
PROCTOR LAKE, TX	2,603	2,603
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, TX	224	224
RAY ROBERTS LAKE, TX	1,530	1,530
SABINE - NECHES WATERWAY, TX	13,625	13,625
SAM RAYBURN DAM AND RESERVOIR, TX	6,769	6,769
SCHEDULING RESERVOIR OPERATIONS, TX	281	281
SOMERVILLE LAKE, TX	3,420	3,420
STILLHOUSE HOLLOW DAM, TX	2,448	2,448
TEXAS CITY SHIP CHANNEL, TX	4,000	4,000
TOWN BLUFF DAM, B A STEINHAGEN LAKE, TX	2,968	2,968
WACO LAKE, TX	3,717	3,717
WALLISVILLE LAKE, TX	2,175	2,175
WHITNEY LAKE, TX	6,419	6,419
WRIGHT PATMAN DAM AND LAKE, TX	3,371	3,371
UTAH		
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, UT	40	40
SCHEDULING RESERVOIR OPERATIONS, UT	506	506
VERMONT		
BALL MOUNTAIN, VT	1,158	1,158
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, VT	88	88
NARROWS OF LAKE CHAMPLAIN, VT & NY	45	45
NORTH HARTLAND LAKE, VT	963	963
NORTH SPRINGFIELD LAKE, VT	923	923
TOWNSHEND LAKE, VT	910	910
UNION VILLAGE DAM, VT	1,029	1,029
VIRGIN ISLANDS		
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, VI	170	170

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
VIRGINIA		
ATLANTIC INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY - ACC, VA	2,650	2,650
ATLANTIC INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY - DSC, VA	1,380	1,380
CHINCOTEAGUE INLET, VA	511	511
GATHRIGHT DAM AND LAKE MOOMAW, VA	2,223	2,223
HAMPTON ROADS, NORFOLK & NEWPORT NEWS HARBOR, VA (DRIFT REMOVAL)	1,500	1,500
HAMPTON ROADS, VA (PREVENTION OF OBSTRUCTIVE DEPOSITS)	114	114
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, VA	372	372
JAMES RIVER CHANNEL, VA	4,100	4,100
JOHN H KERR LAKE, VA & NC	16,940	16,940
JOHN W FLANNAGAN DAM AND RESERVOIR, VA	2,292	2,292
LYNNHAVEN INLET, VA	300	300
NORFOLK HARBOR, VA	10,390	10,390
NORTH FORK OF POUND RIVER LAKE, VA	619	619
PHILPOTT LAKE, VA	4,615	4,615
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, VA	1,163	1,163
RUDEE INLET, VA	350	350
TANGIER CHANNEL, VA	500	500
WATER/ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION, VA	135	135
WATERWAY ON THE COAST OF VIRGINIA, VA	100	100
WASHINGTON		
CHIEF JOSEPH DAM, WA	628	628
COLUMBIA AND LOWER WILLAMETTE RIVERS BELOW VANCOUVER, WA & PORTLAND, OR	38,181	38,181
COLUMBIA RIVER AT BAKER BAY, WA & OR	1,959	1,959
COLUMBIA RIVER BETWEEN VANCOUVER, WA AND THE DALLES, OR	1,371	200
COLUMBIA RIVER FISH MITIGATION, WA, OR & ID (CRFM)	2,194	2,194
EVERETT HARBOR AND SNOHOMISH RIVER, WA	1,638	1,638
GRAYS HARBOR, WA	9,998	9,998
HOWARD HANSON DAM, WA	3,822	3,822
ICE HARBOR LOCK AND DAM, WA	4,760	4,760
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, WA	1,150	1,150
LAKE WASHINGTON SHIP CANAL, WA	12,325	12,325
LITTLE GOOSE LOCK AND DAM, WA	2,741	2,741
LOWER GRANITE LOCK AND DAM, WA	3,218	3,218
LOWER MONUMENTAL LOCK AND DAM, WA	2,860	2,860
MILL CREEK LAKE, WA	2,490	2,490
MOUNT SAINT HELENS SEDIMENT CONTROL, WA	399	399
MUD MOUNTAIN DAM, WA	12,106	12,106
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, WA	612	612
PUGET SOUND AND TRIBUTARY WATERS, WA	1,240	1,240
QUILLAYUTE RIVER, WA	1,619	1,619
SCHEDULING RESERVOIR OPERATIONS, WA	423	423
SEATTLE HARBOR, WA	1,547	1,547

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
STILLAGUAMISH RIVER, WA	292	292
SURVEILLANCE OF NORTHERN BOUNDARY WATERS, WA	64	64
SWINOMISH CHANNEL, WA	436	436
TACOMA, PUYALLUP RIVER, WA	155	155
THE DALLES LOCK AND DAM, WA & OR	4,206	4,206
WEST VIRGINIA		
BEECH FORK LAKE, WV	1,386	1,386
BLUESTONE LAKE, WV	2,000	2,000
BURNSVILLE LAKE, WV	2,768	2,768
EAST LYNN LAKE, WV	2,564	2,564
ELKINS, WV	46	46
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, WV	466	466
KANAWHA RIVER LOCKS AND DAMS, WV	8,927	8,927
OHIO RIVER LOCKS AND DAMS, WV, KY & OH	31,867	31,867
OHIO RIVER OPEN CHANNEL WORK, WV, KY & OH	2,822	2,822
R D BAILEY LAKE, WV	2,183	2,183
STONEWALL JACKSON LAKE, WV	1,405	1,405
SUMMERSVILLE LAKE, WV	2,653	2,653
SUTTON LAKE, WV	2,525	2,525
TYGART LAKE, WV	1,453	1,453
WISCONSIN		
EAU GALLE RIVER LAKE, WI	804	804
FOX RIVER, WI	2,378	2,378
GREEN BAY HARBOR, WI	3,895	3,895
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, WI	54	54
KEWAUNEE HARBOR, WI	11	11
MILWAUKEE HARBOR, WI	1,250	1,250
PROJECT CONDITION SURVEYS, WI	310	310
STURGEON BAY HARBOR AND LAKE MICHIGAN SHIP CANAL, WI	819	819
SURVEILLANCE OF NORTHERN BOUNDARY WATERS, WI	575	575
WYOMING		
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED WORKS, WY	118	118
JACKSON HOLE LEVEES, WY	1,617	1,617
SCHEDULING RESERVOIR OPERATIONS, WY	85	85
SUBTOTAL, PROJECTS LISTED UNDER STATES	2,536,110	2,509,545

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
REMAINING ITEMS		
ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR ONGOING WORK		
NAVIGATION MAINTENANCE	---	24,365
DEEP-DRAFT HARBOR AND CHANNEL	---	268,000
DONOR AND ENERGY TRANSFER PORTS	---	28,000
INLAND WATERWAYS	---	46,500
SMALL, REMOTE, OR SUBSISTENCE NAVIGATION	---	49,000
OTHER AUTHORIZED PROJECT PURPOSES	---	40,000
AQUATIC NUISANCE CONTROL RESEARCH	675	675
ASSET MANAGEMENT/FACILITIES AND EQUIP MAINT (FEM)	3,250	3,250
BUDGET MANAGEMENT SUPPORT FOR O&M BUSINESS PROGRAMS		
STEWARDSHIP SUPPORT PROGRAM	950	950
PERFORMANCE-BASED BUDGETING SUPPORT PROGRAM	4,200	4,200
RECREATION MANAGEMENT SUPPORT PROGRAM	1,550	1,550
OPTIMIZATION TOOLS FOR NAVIGATION	322	322
CIVIL WORKS WATER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (CWWMS)	10,000	10,000
COASTAL INLET RESEARCH PROGRAM	2,700	2,700
COASTAL OCEAN DATA SYSTEM (CODS)	2,500	6,000
CULTURAL RESOURCES (NAGPRA/CURATION)	1,500	1,500
DREDGE MCFARLAND READY RESERVE	11,690	11,690
DREDGE WHEELER READY RESERVE	15,000	15,000
DREDGING DATA AND LOCK PERFORMANCE MONITORING SYSTEM	1,119	1,119
DREDGING OPERATIONS AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH (DOER)	6,450	6,450
DREDGING OPERATIONS TECHNICAL SUPPORT PROGRAM (DOTS)	2,820	2,820
EARTHQUAKE HAZARDS REDUCTION PROGRAM	100	100
FACILITY PROTECTION	3,500	4,000
FISH & WILDLIFE OPERATING FISH HATCHERY REIMBURSEMENT	5,400	5,400
GREAT LAKES TRIBUTARY MODEL	600	600
HARBOR MAINTENANCE FEE DATA COLLECTION	795	795
INLAND WATERWAY NAVIGATION CHARTS	4,500	4,500
INSPECTION OF COMPLETED FEDERAL FLOOD CONTROL PROJECTS	30,500	30,500
INTERAGENCY PERFORMANCE EVALUATION TASK FORCE/HURRICANE PROTECTION DECISION-CHRONOLOGY (IPET/HPDC) LESSONS LEARNED IMPLEMENTATION	2,000	2,000
MONITORING OF COMPLETED NAVIGATION PROJECTS	2,300	8,000
NATIONAL COASTAL MAPPING PROGRAM	6,300	6,300
NATIONAL DAM SAFETY PROGRAM (PORTFOLIO RISK ASSESSMENT)	10,000	10,000
NATIONAL EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PROGRAM (NEPP)	4,500	4,500
NATIONAL (LEVEE) FLOOD INVENTORY	5,000	5,000
NATIONAL (MULTIPLE PROJECT) NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES	5,000	5,000
NATIONAL PORTFOLIO ASSESSMENT FOR REALLOCATIONS	800	800
REGIONAL SEDIMENT MANAGEMENT PROGRAM	1,800	1,800
RESPONSE TO CLIMATE CHANGE AT CORPS PROJECTS	6,000	6,000
REVIEW OF NON-FEDERAL ALTERATIONS OF CIVIL WORKS PROJECTS (SECTION 408)	3,000	3,000
SUSTAINABLE RIVERS PROGRAM (SRP)	400	400

CORPS OF ENGINEERS - OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST	FINAL BILL
VETERAN'S CURATION PROGRAM AND COLLECTIONS MANAGEMENT	6,500	6,500
WATERBORNE COMMERCE STATISTICS	4,669	4,669
WATER OPERATIONS TECHNICAL SUPPORT (WOTS)	500	5,500
SUBTOTAL, REMAINING ITEMS	168,890	639,455
TOTAL, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE	2,705,000	3,149,000

Updated Capability.—The agreement adjusts some project-specific allocations downward from the budget request based on updated information regarding the amount of work that could be accomplished in fiscal year 2017.

Additional Funding for Ongoing Work.—When allocating the additional funding provided in this account, the Corps shall consider giving priority to the following:

1. ability to complete ongoing work maintaining authorized depths and widths of harbors and shipping channels, including where contaminated sediments are present;
2. ability to address critical maintenance backlog;
3. presence of the U.S. Coast Guard;
4. extent to which the work will enhance national, regional, or local economic development, including domestic manufacturing capacity;
5. extent to which the work will promote job growth or international competitiveness;
6. number of jobs created directly by the funded activity;
7. ability to obligate the funds allocated within the calendar year;
8. ability to complete the project, separable element, project phase, or useful increment of work within the funds allocated;
9. risk of imminent failure or closure of the facility;
10. for harbor maintenance activities,
   a. total tonnage handled;
   b. total exports;
   c. total imports;
   d. dollar value of cargo handled;
   e. energy infrastructure and national security needs served;
   f. designation as strategic seaports;
   g. lack of alternative means of freight movement; and
   h. savings over alternative means of freight movement; and
11. for other authorized project purposes, authorized activities related to flood and drought monitoring.

The additional funding provided in this account for donor and energy transfer ports shall be allocated in accordance with 33 U.S.C. 2238c.

Facility Protection.—The agreement includes direction included in the House report.

Monitoring of Completed Navigation Projects.—Of the funding provided, $3,700,000 shall be for continued development and field-testing of platforms to enable scalable, cost effective structural health monitoring of critical civil infrastructure and not less than $2,000,000 shall be for research described in the Senate report under the heading ''Operations and Maintenance—Fisheries.''

Water Operations Technical Support.—Funding in addition to the budget request is included for research into atmospheric rivers first funded in fiscal year 2015.

Great Lakes Navigation System.—The agreement includes funding for individual projects within this System that exceeds the funding level envisioned in section 210(d)(1)(B)(ii) of the Water Resources Development Act of 1986.

REGULATORY PROGRAM

The agreement includes $200,000,000 for the Regulatory Program.

Aquaculture Activities.—Since 2007, shellfish growers in the State of Washington have submitted approximately 1,000 requests to initiate or expand aquaculture activities. Significant progress has been made in the last year to process permit requests. The Corps of Engineers completed Endangered Species Act consultations with the National Marine Fisheries Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in September 2016. The Corps is directed to expeditiously process the shellfish growers' requests using the final Biological Opinions and in accordance with the recently completed 2017 Nationwide Permit 48. The Corps is encouraged to communicate directly with the regulated industry and other interested stakeholders to ensure all have clarity on permitting requirements.

Army Corps of Engineers and Underserved Communities.—The Corps is encouraged to take steps to expedite and support economic development projects in underserved urban communities, particularly economically disadvantaged communities with populations of less than 100,000 residents. These communities often are overlooked unintentionally and face complex challenges that impede economic development due to years of neglect, an abundance of abandoned industrial areas, or a lack of consistent local funding sources.

FORMERLY UTILIZED SITES REMEDIAL ACTION PROGRAM

The agreement includes $112,000,000 for the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program.

FLOOD CONTROL AND COASTAL EMERGENCIES

The agreement includes $32,000,000 for Flood Control and Coastal Emergencies.

EXPENSES

The agreement includes $181,000,000 for Expenses. The agreement includes $1,000,000 for the Corps to initiate the evaluation of project partnership agreements authorized under section 1013 of the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014.

Public-Private Partnership Program.—As discussed in fiscal year 2016, there is strong support among many Members of the Congress and within the senior leadership of the Corps for public-private partnerships (P3). These arrangements have the potential to be project delivery tools to help sustain the performance of existing infrastructure and construct new infrastructure more quickly. Unfortunately, actions to date will serve to undermine, rather than promote, the use of P3s. For instance, the executive branch selected a P3 project as one of its fiscal year 2016 new starts, yet did not include funding for this project in its fiscal year 2017 budget request, claiming the project did not meet budget criteria. Without a clear signal from the federal government that it will honor its commitments under a P3 arrangement, it is unlikely that communities or private investors will put their resources at risk with a P3 arrangement.

More broadly, concerns persist that the Corps is attempting to develop individual, project-specific P3 arrangements, rather than developing the policy by which such arrangements, developed by project stakeholders and private investors, will be evaluated. This program will generate stronger interest and allow all interested non-federal sponsors equal opportunity to develop P3 proposals for the Corps to review under established guidelines. An established policy would also ensure that selected projects will meet budget criteria.

It was for these reasons that the Congress, in fiscal year 2016, directed the Corps to develop a policy on how P3 proposals will be considered by the Corps and how these partnerships will be incorporated into the budget policy. There has been no indication that the Corps has done any work to comply with this direction. Therefore, due to the concerns detailed above and until such time as a comprehensive policy is established and provided to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress, the Corps shall discontinue all work on project-specific public-private partnerships beyond the P3 project selected as a new start in fiscal year 2016.

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY FOR CIVIL WORKS

The agreement includes $4,764,000 for the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works. The agreement includes legislative language that restricts the availability of funding until the Secretary submits a work plan that allocates at least 95 percent of the additional funding provided in each account (i.e., 95 percent of additional funding provided in Investigations, 95 percent of additional funding provided in Construction, etc.). This restriction shall not affect the roles and responsibilities established in previous fiscal years of the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works, the Corps headquarters, the Corps field operating agencies, or any other executive branch agency.

The Congress counts on a timely and accessible executive branch in the course of fulfilling its constitutional role in the appropriations process. The requesting and receiving of basic, factual information is vital in order to maintain a transparent and open governing process. Some discussions internal to the executive branch are pre-decisional in nature and, therefore, not subject to disclosure. However, the access to facts, figures, and statistics that inform these decisions are not subject to this same sensitivity and are critical to the budget process. The Administration needs to ensure timely and complete responses to these inquiries.

GENERAL PROVISIONS—CORPS OF ENGINEERS—CIVIL

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The agreement includes a provision relating to reprogramming.

The agreement includes a provision regarding the allocation of funds.

The agreement includes a provision prohibiting the use of funds to carry out any contract that commits funds beyond the amounts appropriated for that program, project, or activity.

The agreement includes a provision concerning funding transfers related to fish hatcheries.

The agreement includes a provision regarding certain dredged material disposal activities.

The agreement includes a provision regarding acquisitions.

The agreement includes a provision regarding reallocations at a project.

The agreement includes a provision prohibiting funds from being used to develop or implement changes to certain definitions for the purposes of the Clean Water Act during fiscal year 2017.

The agreement includes a provision regarding section 404 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act.

TITLE II—DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

CENTRAL UTAH PROJECT

CENTRAL UTAH PROJECT COMPLETION ACCOUNT

The agreement includes a total of $10,500,000 for the Central Utah Project Completion Account, which includes $7,850,000 for Central Utah Project construction, $1,300,000 for transfer to the Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Account for use by the Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Commission, and $1,350,000 for necessary expenses of the Secretary of the Interior.

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

In lieu of all House and Senate report direction regarding additional funding and the fiscal year 2017 work plan, the agreement includes direction under the heading ''Additional Funding for Water and Related Resources Work'' in the Water and Related Resources account.

Salt Cedar.—The WIIN Act authorized the Secretary of the Interior, in coordination with the Secretary of Agriculture, to enter into an agreement with the National Academy of Sciences to conduct a comprehensive study on the effectiveness and environmental impacts of salt cedar biological control efforts on increasing water supplies and improving riparian habitats of the Colorado River and its principal tributaries. Not later than 180 days after completion of such a study, the Bureau of Reclamation shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress a report on the conclusions applicable to the Bureau of Reclamation and any plans for changes at Reclamation-managed lands.

Implementation Plans.—The Secretary of the Interior is directed to provide to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress, not later than September 30, 2017, implementation plans to execute the Delta smelt distribution study pursuant to section 4010(a)(4), the expanded use of conservation fish hatcheries pursuant to section 4010(b)(5), and the pilot projects to implement the CALFED invasive species program pursuant to section 4010(e) of Public Law 114–322. The Secretary of the Interior is directed to work with the Secretary of Commerce to provide to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress, not later than September 30, 2017, an implementation plan to execute the Delta Cross Channel Gates pilot program and the installation of the deflection barrier at Georgiana Slough pursuant to section 4001(b)(1)–(3), as well as a progress report to develop improved consultation procedures pursuant to section 4004 of Public Law 114–322. The Secretary of the Interior is directed to work with the Secretary of Commerce to provide to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress, not later than September 30, 2017, an implementation plan to execute the activities benefiting endangered species pursuant to section 4010(b)(2)(A) of Public Law 114–322. At a minimum, each implementation plan shall describe the roles and responsibilities, including funding, of each relevant agency.

WATER AND RELATED RESOURCES

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The agreement includes $1,155,894,000 for Water and Related Resources.

The agreement for Water and Related Resources is shown in the following table:

WATER AND RELATED RESOURCES
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST			FINAL BILL		
	RESOURCES MANAGEMENT	FACILITIES OM&R	TOTAL	RESOURCES MANAGEMENT	FACILITIES OM&R	TOTAL
ARIZONA						
AK CHIN INDIAN WATER RIGHTS SETTLEMENT ACT PROJECT	---	15,735	15,735	---	15,735	15,735
COLORADO RIVER BASIN - CENTRAL ARIZONA PROJECT	6,272	648	6,920	6,272	648	6,920
COLORADO RIVER FRONT WORK AND LEVEE SYSTEM	2,303	---	2,303	2,303	---	2,303
SALT RIVER PROJECT	649	250	899	649	250	899
SAN CARLOS APACHE TRIBE WATER SETTLEMENT ACT PROJECT	1,550	---	1,550	1,550	---	1,550
YUMA AREA PROJECTS	1,315	24,999	26,314	1,315	24,999	26,314
CALIFORNIA						
CACHUMA PROJECT	647	674	1,321	647	674	1,321
CENTRAL VALLEY PROJECTS:						
AMERICAN RIVER DIVISION, FOLSOM DAM UNIT/MORMON ISLAND	1,577	8,888	10,465	1,577	8,888	10,465
AUBURN-FOLSOM SOUTH UNIT	35	2,056	2,091	35	2,056	2,091
DELTA DIVISION	5,468	5,511	10,979	5,468	5,511	10,979
EAST SIDE DIVISION	1,290	2,644	3,934	1,290	2,644	3,934
FRIANT DIVISION	2,192	3,273	5,465	2,192	3,273	5,465
SAN JOAQUIN RIVER RESTORATION SETTLEMENT	---	---	---	36,000	---	36,000
MISCELLANEOUS PROJECT PROGRAMS	8,589	454	9,043	8,589	454	9,043
REPLACEMENTS, ADDITIONS, AND EXTRAORDINARY MAINT. PROGRAM	---	16,362	16,362	---	16,362	16,362
SACRAMENTO RIVER DIVISION	1,307	694	2,001	1,307	694	2,001
SAN FELIPE DIVISION	271	75	346	271	75	346
SAN JOAQUIN DIVISION	52	---	52	52	---	52
SHASTA DIVISION	720	8,530	9,250	720	8,530	9,250
TRINITY RIVER DIVISION	12,178	5,177	17,355	12,178	5,177	17,355
WATER AND POWER OPERATIONS	3,989	10,543	14,532	3,989	10,543	14,532
WEST SAN JOAQUIN DIVISION, SAN LUIS UNIT	2,957	5,915	8,872	2,957	5,915	8,872
ORLAND PROJECT	---	930	930	---	930	930
SALTON SEA RESEARCH PROJECT	300	---	300	300	---	300
SOLANO PROJECT	1,329	2,367	3,696	1,329	2,367	3,696
VENTURA RIVER PROJECT	313	33	346	313	33	346
COLORADO						
ANIMAS-LA PLATA PROJECT	669	1,983	2,652	669	1,983	2,652
ARMEL UNIT, P-SMBP	5	480	485	5	480	485

WATER AND RELATED RESOURCES
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST			FINAL BILL		
	RESOURCES MANAGEMENT	FACILITIES OM&R	TOTAL	RESOURCES MANAGEMENT	FACILITIES OM&R	TOTAL
COLLBRAN PROJECT	229	1,960	2,189	229	1,960	2,189
COLORADO-BIG THOMPSON PROJECT	732	16,024	16,756	732	16,024	16,756
FRUITGROWERS DAM PROJECT	101	136	237	101	136	237
FRYINGPAN-ARKANSAS PROJECT	141	12,574	12,715	141	12,574	12,715
FRYINGPAN-ARKANSAS PROJECT - ARKANSAS VALLEY CONDUIT	3,000	---	3,000	3,000	---	3,000
GRAND VALLEY UNIT, CRBSCP, TITLE II	260	1,691	1,951	260	1,691	1,951
LEADVILLE/ARKANSAS RIVER RECOVERY PROJECT	---	1,914	1,914	---	1,914	1,914
MANCOS PROJECT	61	237	298	61	237	298
NARRROWS UNIT, P-SMBP	---	36	36	---	36	36
PARADOX VALLEY UNIT, CRBSCP, TITLE II	399	3,000	3,399	399	3,000	3,399
PINE RIVER PROJECT	123	321	444	123	321	444
SAN LUIS VALLEY PROJECT, CLOSED BASIN	267	3,656	3,923	267	3,656	3,923
SAN LOUIS VALLEY PROJECT, CONEJOS DIVISION	23	54	77	23	54	77
UNCOMPAHGRE PROJECT	838	159	997	838	159	997
UPPER COLORADO RIVER OPERATIONS PROGRAM	270	---	270	270	---	270
IDAHO						
BOISE AREA PROJECTS	2,741	1,930	4,671	2,741	1,930	4,671
COLUMBIA AND SNAKE RIVER SALMON RECOVERY PROJECT	18,000	---	18,000	18,000	---	18,000
LEWISTON ORCHARDS PROJECT	3,578	27	3,605	3,578	27	3,605
MINIDOKA AREA PROJECTS	2,631	2,169	4,800	2,631	2,169	4,800
PRESTON BENCH PROJECT	4	8	12	4	8	12
KANSAS						
ALMENA UNIT, P-SMBP	43	471	514	43	471	514
BOSTWICK UNIT, P-SMBP	365	894	1,259	365	894	1,259
CEDAR BLUFF UNIT, P-SMBP	40	541	581	40	541	581
GLEN ELDER UNIT, P-SMBP	65	1,238	1,303	65	1,238	1,303
KANSAS RIVER UNIT, P-SMBP	---	100	100	---	100	100
KIRWIN UNIT, P-SMBP	37	472	509	37	472	509
WEBSTER UNIT, P-SMBP	15	490	505	15	490	505
WICHITA PROJECT - CHENEY DIVISION	147	384	531	147	384	531

WATER AND RELATED RESOURCES
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST			FINAL BILL		
	RESOURCES MANAGEMENT	FACILITIES OM&R	TOTAL	RESOURCES MANAGEMENT	FACILITIES OM&R	TOTAL
MONTANA						
CANYON FERRY UNIT, P-SMBP	246	5,442	5,688	246	5,442	5,688
EAST BENCH UNIT, P-SMBP	202	652	854	202	652	854
FORT PECK RESERVATION / DRY PRAIRIE RURAL WATER SYSTEM	4,625	---	4,625	4,625	---	4,625
HELENA VALLEY UNIT, P-SMBP	19	155	174	19	155	174
HUNGRY HORSE PROJECT	---	508	508	---	508	508
HUNTLEY PROJECT	12	51	63	12	51	63
LOWER MARIAS UNIT, P-SMBP	102	1,636	1,738	102	1,636	1,738
LOWER YELLOWSTONE PROJECT	364	16	380	364	16	380
MILK RIVER PROJECT	548	1,148	1,696	548	1,148	1,696
MISSOURI BASIN O&M, P-SMBP	1,028	273	1,301	1,028	273	1,301
ROCKY BOYS/NORTH CENTRAL MT RURAL WATER SYSTEM	3,700	---	3,700	3,700	---	3,700
SUN RIVER PROJECT	153	260	413	153	260	413
YELLOWTAIL UNIT, P-SMBP	22	6,780	6,802	22	6,780	6,802
NEBRASKA						
AINSWORTH UNIT, P-SMBP	70	103	173	70	103	173
FRENCHMAN-CAMBRIDGE UNIT, P-SMBP	325	1,842	2,167	325	1,842	2,167
MIRAGE FLATS PROJECT	13	98	111	13	98	111
NORTH LOUP UNIT, P-SMBP	89	121	210	89	121	210
NEVADA						
LAHONTAN BASIN PROJECT	6,325	3,526	9,851	6,325	3,526	9,851
LAKE TAHOE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM	115	---	115	115	---	115
LAKE MEAD /LAS VEGAS WASH PROGRAM	700	---	700	700	---	700
NEW MEXICO						
CARLSBAD PROJECT	2,915	1,224	4,139	2,915	1,224	4,139
EASTERN NEW MEXICO RURAL WATER SUPPLY	1,000	---	1,000	1,000	---	1,000
MIDDLE RIO GRANDE PROJECT	14,329	11,536	25,865	14,329	11,536	25,865
RIO GRANDE PROJECT	1,399	4,007	5,406	1,399	4,007	5,406
RIO GRANDE PUEBLOS PROJECT	300	---	300	300	---	300
TUCUMCARI PROJECT	18	5	23	18	5	23

WATER AND RELATED RESOURCES
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST			FINAL BILL		
	RESOURCES MANAGEMENT	FACILITIES OM&R	TOTAL	RESOURCES MANAGEMENT	FACILITIES OM&R	TOTAL
NORTH DAKOTA						
DICKINSON UNIT, P-SMBP	212	569	781	212	569	781
GARRISON DIVERSION UNIT, P-SMBP	16,406	7,122	23,528	16,406	7,122	23,528
HEART BUTTE UNIT, P-SMBP	82	947	1,029	82	947	1,029
OKLAHOMA						
ARBUCKLE PROJECT	67	171	238	67	171	238
MCGEE CREEK PROJECT	189	795	984	189	795	984
MOUNTAIN PARK PROJECT	84	602	686	84	602	686
NORMAN PROJECT	71	298	369	71	298	369
WASHITA BASIN PROJECT	244	1,006	1,250	244	1,006	1,250
W.C. AUSTIN PROJECT	59	539	598	59	539	598
OREGON						
CROOKED RIVER PROJECT	284	516	800	284	516	800
DESCHUTES PROJECT	367	205	572	367	205	572
EASTERN OREGON PROJECTS	536	222	758	536	222	758
KLAMATH PROJECT	11,379	4,621	16,000	11,379	4,621	16,000
ROGUE RIVER BASIN PROJECT, TALENT DIVISION	1,601	1,236	2,837	1,601	1,236	2,837
TUALATIN PROJECT	367	223	590	367	223	590
UMATILLA PROJECT	503	2,347	2,850	503	2,347	2,850
SOUTH DAKOTA						
ANGOSTURA UNIT, P-SMBP	249	719	968	249	719	968
BELLE FOURCHE UNIT, P-SMBP	270	1,025	1,295	270	1,025	1,295
KEYHOLE UNIT, P-SMBP	198	577	775	198	577	775
LEWIS AND CLARK RURAL WATER SYSTEM	2,775	---	2,775	2,775	---	2,775
MID-DAKOTA RURAL WATER PROJECT	---	15	15	---	15	15
MNI WICONI PROJECT	---	12,200	12,200	---	12,200	12,200
OAHE UNIT, P-SMBP	36	71	107	36	71	107
RAPID VALLEY PROJECT	---	69	69	---	69	69
RAPID VALLEY UNIT, P-SMBP	---	195	195	---	195	195
SHADEHILL UNIT, P-SMBP	75	456	531	75	456	531

WATER AND RELATED RESOURCES
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST			FINAL BILL		
	RESOURCES MANAGEMENT	FACILITIES OM&R	TOTAL	RESOURCES MANAGEMENT	FACILITIES OM&R	TOTAL
TEXAS						
BALMORHEA PROJECT	27	13	40	27	13	40
CANADIAN RIVER PROJECT	84	135	219	84	135	219
LOWER RIO GRANDE WATER CONSERVATION PROGRAM	50	---	50	50	---	50
NUECES RIVER PROJECT	108	708	816	108	708	816
SAN ANGELO PROJECT	38	597	635	38	597	635
UTAH						
HYRUM PROJECT	178	176	354	178	176	354
MOON LAKE PROJECT	9	84	93	9	84	93
NEWTON PROJECT	29	95	124	29	95	124
OGDEN RIVER PROJECT	218	256	474	218	256	474
PROVO RIVER PROJECT	1,293	458	1,751	1,293	458	1,751
SANPETE PROJECT	60	10	70	60	10	70
SCOFIELD PROJECT	529	86	615	529	86	615
STRAWBERRY VALLEY PROJECT	505	100	605	505	100	605
WEBER BASIN PROJECT	1,135	925	2,060	1,135	925	2,060
WEBER RIVER PROJECT	60	86	146	60	86	146
WASHINGTON						
COLUMBIA BASIN PROJECT	4,273	9,989	14,262	4,273	9,989	14,262
WASHINGTON AREA PROJECTS	459	64	523	459	64	523
YAKIMA PROJECT	1,104	5,240	6,344	1,104	5,240	6,344
YAKIMA RIVER BASIN WATER ENHANCEMENT PROJECT	15,799	---	15,799	15,799	---	15,799
WYOMING						
BOYSEN UNIT, P-SMBP	231	1,872	2,103	231	1,872	2,103
BUFFALO BILL DAM DAM MODIFICATION, P-SMBP	32	2,747	2,779	32	2,747	2,779
KENDRICK PROJECT	106	3,692	3,798	106	3,692	3,798
NORTH PLATTE PROJECT	205	1,153	1,358	205	1,153	1,358
NORTH PLATTE AREA, P-SMBP	109	5,120	5,229	109	5,120	5,229
OWL CREEK UNIT, P-SMBP	6	105	111	6	105	111
RIVERTON UNIT, P-SMBP	8	566	574	8	566	574
SHOSHONE PROJECT	76	753	829	76	753	829

WATER AND RELATED RESOURCES
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST			FINAL BILL		
	RESOURCES MANAGEMENT	FACILITIES OM&R	TOTAL	RESOURCES MANAGEMENT	FACILITIES OM&R	TOTAL
SUBTOTAL, PROJECTS	191,491	279,866	471,357	227,491	279,866	507,357
REGIONAL PROGRAMS						
ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR ONGOING WORK:						
RURAL WATER	---	---	---	46,500	---	46,500
FISH PASSAGE AND FISH SCREENS	---	---	---	5,000	---	5,000
WATER CONSERVATION AND DELIVERY	---	---	---	79,000	---	79,000
ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION OR COMPLIANCE	---	---	---	7,000	---	7,000
WESTERN DROUGHT RESPONSE	---	---	---	40,000	---	40,000
FACILITIES OPERATION, MAINTENANCE, AND REHABILITATION	---	---	---	---	1,800	1,800
COLORADO RIVER BASIN SALINITY CONTROL PROJECT, TITLE I	---	15,453	15,453	---	15,453	15,453
COLORADO RIVER BASIN SALINITY CONTROL PROJECT, TITLE II	8,162	---	8,162	8,162	---	8,162
COLORADO RIVER STORAGE PROJECT (CRSP), SECTION 5	3,935	6,500	10,435	3,935	6,500	10,435
COLORADO RIVER STORAGE PROJECT (CRSP), SECTION 8	2,765	---	2,765	2,765	---	2,765
COLORADO RIVER WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT	620	---	620	620	---	620
DAM SAFETY PROGRAM:						
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR DAM SAFETY PROGRAM	---	1,300	1,300	---	1,300	1,300
INITIATE SAFETY OF DAMS CORRECTIVE ACTION	---	64,500	64,500	---	64,500	64,500
SAFETY EVALUATION OF EXISTING DAMS	---	20,284	20,284	---	20,284	20,284
EMERGENCY PLANNING & DISASTER RESPONSE PROGRAM	---	1,250	1,250	---	1,250	1,250
ENDANGERED SPECIES RECOVERY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM	27,305	---	27,305	27,305	---	27,305
ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION	1,828	---	1,828	1,828	---	1,828
EXAMINATION OF EXISTING STRUCTURES	---	8,854	8,854	---	8,854	8,854
GENERAL PLANNING ACTIVITIES	2,000	---	2,000	2,000	---	2,000
INDIAN WATER RIGHTS SETTLEMENTS:						
AAMODT LITIGATION SETTLEMENT	---	---	---	6,379	---	6,379
CROW TRIBE RIGHTS	---	---	---	12,772	---	12,772
NAVAJO-GALLUP	---	---	---	87,000	---	87,000
LAND RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PROGRAM	9,813	---	9,813	9,813	---	9,813
LOWER COLORADO RIVER OPERATIONS PROGRAM	27,433	---	27,433	27,433	---	27,433
MISCELLANEOUS FLOOD CONTROL OPERATIONS	---	819	819	---	819	819
NATIVE AMERICAN AFFAIRS PROGRAM	10,425	---	10,425	11,425	---	11,425
NEGOTIATION & ADMINISTRATION OF WATER MARKETING	1,764	---	1,764	1,764	---	1,764
OPERATION & PROGRAM MANAGEMENT	1,132	1,656	2,788	1,132	1,656	2,788
POWER PROGRAM SERVICES	2,391	307	2,698	2,391	307	2,698
PUBLIC ACCESS AND SAFETY PROGRAM	593	206	799	593	206	799

WATER AND RELATED RESOURCES
(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	BUDGET REQUEST			FINAL BILL		
	RESOURCES MANAGEMENT	FACILITIES OM&R	TOTAL	RESOURCES MANAGEMENT	FACILITIES OM&R	TOTAL
RECLAMATION LAW ADMINISTRATION	2,189	---	2,189	2,189	---	2,189
RECREATION & FISH & WILDLIFE PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION	2,189	---	2,189	2,189	---	2,189
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT:						
DESALINATION AND WATER PURIFICATION PROGRAM	4,653	1,150	5,803	10,653	1,150	11,803
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM	22,765	---	22,765	22,765	---	22,765
SITE SECURITY ACTIVITIES	---	26,220	26,220	---	26,220	26,220
UNITED STATES/MEXICO BORDER ISSUES - TECHNICAL SUPPORT	90	---	90	90	---	90
WATERSMART PROGRAM:						
WATERSMART GRANTS	23,365	---	23,365	24,000	---	24,000
WATER CONSERVATION FIELD SERVICES PROGRAM	4,179	---	4,179	4,179	---	4,179
COOPERATIVE WATERSHED MANAGEMENT	1,750	---	1,750	2,250	---	2,250
BASIN STUDIES	5,200	---	5,200	5,200	---	5,200
DROUGHT RESPONSE & COMPREHENSIVE DROUGHT PLANS	4,000	---	4,000	4,000	---	4,000
RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENTS	---	1,500	1,500	---	1,500	1,500
TITLE XVI WATER RECLAMATION & REUSE PROGRAM	21,500	---	21,500	34,406	---	34,406
SUBTOTAL, REGIONAL PROGRAMS	192,046	149,999	342,045	496,738	151,799	648,537
TOTAL, WATER AND RELATED RESOURCES	383,537	429,865	813,402	724,229	431,665	1,155,894

Central Valley Project, Friant Division, San Joaquin River Restoration.—The agreement does not include a separate account for this item. Funding is included in the Water and Related Resources account as a separate line item under the Friant Division of the Central Valley Project.

Scoggins Dam, Tualatin Project, Oregon.—The agreement includes only the language in the House report.

Additional Funding for Water and Related Resources Work.—The agreement includes funds in addition to the budget request for Water and Related Resources studies, projects, and activities. Priority in allocating these funds should be given to advance and complete ongoing work, including preconstruction activities and where environmental compliance has been completed; improve water supply reliability; improve water deliveries; enhance national, regional, or local economic development; promote job growth; advance tribal and nontribal water settlement studies and activities; or address critical backlog maintenance and rehabilitation activities. Of the additional funding provided under the heading ''Water Conservation and Delivery'', $67,000,000 shall be for water storage projects as authorized in section 4007 of Public Law 114–322. Of the additional funding provided under the heading ''Environmental Restoration or Compliance'', $7,000,000 shall be for activities authorized under sections 4001 and 4010 of Public Law 114–322 or as set forth in federal-state plans for restoring threatened and endangered fish species affected by the operation of the Bureau of Reclamation's water projects. Not later than 45 days after the enactment of this Act, Reclamation shall provide to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress a report delineating how these funds are to be distributed, in which phase the work is to be accomplished, and an explanation of the criteria and rankings used to justify each allocation.

Indian Water Rights Settlements.—The agreement includes funds for these activities in the Water and Related Resources account, instead of in a separate account as proposed in the budget request. To maintain the visibility of these projects, the agreement includes the three projects under the Regional Programs heading with a subheading called Indian Water Rights Settlements.

Research and Development: Desalination and Water Purification Program.—Of the funding provided for this program, $6,000,000 shall be for desalination projects as authorized in section 4009(a) of Public Law 114–322.

WaterSMART Program.—The agreement recommends that grants funded under the WaterSMART Program have a near-term impact on water conservation and improved water management. Reclamation is urged to prioritize funding for projects in regions most stricken by drought.

WaterSMART Program: Title XVI Water Reclamation & Reuse Program.—Of the funding provided for this program, $10,000,000 shall be for water recycling and reuse projects as authorized in section 4009(c) of Public Law 114–322.

Rural Water.—Voluntary funding in excess of legally required cost shares for rural water projects is acceptable, but shall not be used by Reclamation as a criterion for allocating additional funding provided in this agreement or for budgeting in future years. The agreement does not include Senate report direction regarding legislative solutions.

CALFED Water Storage Feasibility Studies.—With the passage of California Proposition 1 in 2014, the California Water Commission is expected to begin allocating $2,700,000,000 for the public benefits of water storage projects in 2018. To ensure that the CALFED water supply projects are able to compete for the available State funding, Reclamation is directed to take such steps as are necessary to ensure that each of the authorized CALFED water storage feasibility studies, and associated environmental impact statements, are completed as soon as practicable, and that, at a minimum, publicly available drafts of such studies and environmental reviews are completed expeditiously in accordance with congressional direction.

Buried Metallic Water Pipe.—The agreement only includes direction in the Policy and Administration account.

CENTRAL VALLEY PROJECT RESTORATION FUND

The agreement provides $55,606,000 for the Central Valley Project Restoration Fund.

CALIFORNIA BAY-DELTA RESTORATION

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides $36,000,000 for the California Bay-Delta Restoration Program.

POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION

The agreement provides $59,000,000 for Policy and Administration. In lieu of House and Senate report direction regarding buried metallic water pipe, Reclamation shall continue following its temporary design guidance.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION

The agreement includes a provision limiting the Bureau of Reclamation to purchase not more than five passenger vehicles for replacement only.

GENERAL PROVISIONS—DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

The agreement includes a provision outlining the circumstances under which the Bureau of Reclamation may reprogram funds.

The agreement includes a provision regarding the San Luis Unit and Kesterson Reservoir in California.

The agreement includes a provision regarding completion of certain feasibility studies.

TITLE III—DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

The agreement provides $30,786,009,000 for the Department of Energy to fund programs in its primary mission areas of science, energy, environment, and national security. The agreement includes no specific funding for the cross-program partnership on seismic simulation. The Department is prohibited from funding fellowship and scholarship programs in fiscal year 2017 unless the programs were explicitly included in the budget justification or funded within this agreement. The Department shall follow the provisions of Public Law 114–328 in carrying out the laboratory directed research and development program.

Five-Year Plan.—The Department is directed to submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress not later than 100 days after the enactment of this Act a report on the plan to comply with 42 U.S.C. 7279a.

Crosscutting Initiatives.—The Department is directed to prioritize funds that are provided within this agreement to support all the Department's crosscutting initiatives to the maximum extent possible. The Grid Modernization Laboratory Consortium is an example of a crosscutting initiative. Program offices are encouraged to collaborate when making investment decisions about foundational research.

REPROGRAMMING REQUIREMENTS

The agreement carries the Department's reprogramming authority in statute to ensure that the Department carries out its programs consistent with congressional direction. The Department should, when possible, submit consolidated, cumulative notifications to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

Definition.—A reprogramming includes the reallocation of funds from one program, project, or activity to another within an appropriation. For construction projects, a reprogramming constitutes the reallocation of funds from one construction project to another project or a change of $2,000,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less, in the scope of an approved project.

ENERGY PROGRAMS

ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

The agreement provides $2,090,200,000 for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE).

The Department is encouraged to facilitate training and workforce development programs that assist and support workers in trades and activities required for the U.S. energy efficiency and clean energy sectors.

SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION

Vehicle Technologies.—Within available funds, the agreement provides $20,000,000 for the SuperTruck II program to further improve the efficiency of heavy-duty class 8 long- and regional-haul vehicles and continue support of the fiscal year 2016 SuperTruck II awards. The Department is directed to make five awards using the multiyear allocation process that was used successfully by the SuperTruck I program. The agreement provides no direction for the topline funding level of the Batteries and Electric Drive Technology subprogram. Within available funds, the agreement provides $42,000,000 for advanced battery development and up to $7,000,000 to continue national laboratory performance testing and life cycle diagnostic assessment activities that validate and verify advanced battery performance. The agreement provides $42,500,000 for Outreach, Deployment, and Analysis. Within this amount, $34,000,000 is provided for Deployment through the Clean Cities Program and $2,500,000 is for year three of EcoCAR3. Within available funds for Fuel and Lubricant Technologies, the agreement provides up to $5,000,000 to support improving the energy efficiency of fluid power systems for commercial off-road vehicles.

Bioenergy Technologies.—Within available funds, the agreement provides $20,000,000 to support the development of the Synthetic Biology Foundry and $30,000,000 for algal biofuels. The Department is directed to sustain the investment in development of algal biofuels.

Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Technologies.—Within available funds, the agreement provides $18,000,000 for Technology Validation, of which $2,000,000 is for the EERE share of the integrated energy systems work with the Office of Nuclear Energy. Within available funds, the agreement also provides $7,000,000 to enable integrated energy systems using high and low temperature electrolyzers with the intent of advancing the H2@Scale concept.

RENEWABLE ENERGY

Solar Energy.—Within available funds, $55,000,000 is provided for concentrating solar power research, development, and demonstration of technologies that reduce overall system costs, better integrate subsystem

components, develop higher-temperature receivers, and improve the design of solar collection and thermal energy storage.

Wind Energy.—The agreement provides $40,000,000 and no further direction for the Offshore Wind Advanced Technology Demonstration Projects. Within available funds, the agreement provides not less than $30,000,000 for the National Wind Technology Center.

Water Power.—The Department is directed to continue competitive solicitations for a balanced portfolio of industry-led research, development, and deployment of ocean, river, and tidal energy conversion components and systems. Within available funds, $25,000,000 is provided for conventional hydropower and pumped storage activities, including $6,600,000 for the purposes of section 242 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (Public Law 109–58). The agreement provides up to $3,000,000 within available funds for a techno-economic analysis of the value of pumped storage hydropower at two sites with high levels of intermittent renewable energy generation in the U.S.

The agreement provides $59,000,000 for marine and hydrokinetic technology research, development, and deployment. Within available funds $30,000,000 is provided for design, procurement, and construction for the recently awarded open-water wave energy test facility. The agreement provides not less than $4,000,000 to support collaborations between universities, the previously designated Marine Renewable Energy Centers, and the National Laboratories. In addition, the Department is directed to continue its coordination with the U.S. Navy on marine energy technology demonstration.

Geothermal Technologies.—The agreement provides $35,000,000 for ongoing activities for the Frontier Observatory for Research in Geothermal Energy project.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Advanced Manufacturing.—The agreement provides $150,500,000 for Advanced Manufacturing Research and Development Facilities, of which $84,000,000 is for six Clean Energy Manufacturing Innovation (CEMI) Institutes to include the establishment of one new CEMI Institute, $25,000,000 is for the Critical Materials Hub, $20,000,000 is for the Manufacturing Demonstration Facility, $1,500,000 is for the joint additive manufacturing pilot institute with the Department of Defense, and $20,000,000 is to establish the Energy-Water Desalination Hub.

Building Technologies.—The agreement provides $98,400,000 for Emerging Technologies and $54,000,000 for Equipment and Buildings Standards. Within available funds, $25,000,000 is for solid-state lighting technology development and, if the Secretary finds solid-state lighting technology eligible for the Bright Tomorrow Lighting Prize, $5,000,000 is included in addition to funds for solid-state lighting research and development. The agreement also provides $10,000,000, within available funds, for research and development for energy efficiency efforts related to the direct use of natural gas in residential applications, including gas heat pump heating and water heating, on-site combined heat and power, and natural gas appliance venting.

ELECTRICITY DELIVERY AND ENERGY RELIABILITY

The agreement provides $230,000,000 for Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability.

Within Smart Grid Research and Development, the agreement provides $15,000,000 for regional demonstrations of on-site generation and micro grids and $5,000,000 for development of advanced, secure, low-cost sensors that measure, analyze, predict, and control the future grid during steady state and under extreme conditions. The Department is urged to continue research in transactive controls given the increasing prevalence of distributed energy on the grid and the shift away from a utility-centric model, wherein the customer is a passive participant.

Within Cyber Security for Energy Delivery Systems, the agreement provides $9,000,000 to continue development of the industry-scale electric grid test bed and not less than $5,000,000 to develop cyber and cyber-physical solutions for advanced control concepts for distribution and municipal utility companies. The Department is urged to prioritize the Cybersecurity Risk Information Sharing Program, which will build on the existing public-private partnership to share threat information and enable utilities to identify and respond to suspicious activity on the electric grid.

Within Transformer Resilience and Advanced Components, the Department is directed to support research and development on low-cost power flow control devices, including both solid state and hybrid concepts that use power electronics to control electromagnetic devices and enable improved controllability, flexibility, and resiliency.

Within available funds, the Department is directed to continue efforts to establish one or more grid integration demonstration modules.

NUCLEAR ENERGY

The agreement provides $1,016,616,000 for Nuclear Energy activities.

Nuclear Energy Enabling Technologies.—The agreement provides $115,100,000 for Nuclear Energy Enabling Technologies, of which not less than $4,500,000 shall be to support implementation of the GAIN initiative. Within available funds, $27,000,000 is for Crosscutting Technology Development and $31,100,000 is for the National Science User Facilities. Within available funds for the National Science User Facilities, the Department shall continue the focus on irradiation testing and examinations of irradiated materials.

SMR Licensing Technical Support Program.—The agreement provides $95,000,000 for the SMR Licensing Technical Support Program. Within this amount, $60,000,000 is for the second award for design certification and first-of-a-kind engineering activities, $9,500,000 is for the second award for site characterization and combined construction and operating license application activities, and $25,100,000 is for the first award for siting permitting and combined construction and operating license application activities. The agreement funds the three existing cooperative agreements up to the current cost caps.

Reactor Concepts Research and Development.—The agreement provides $40,000,000 for the Light Water Reactor Sustainability program to continue research and development work on the technical basis for subsequent license renewal. Within available funds, $92,000,000 is for Advanced Reactor Concepts, of which $3,000,000 is for testing and development of dynamic convection technology.

Fuel Cycle Research and Development.—The agreement provides $68,000,000 for the Advanced Fuels program, of which not less than $21,800,000 is to initiate Phase 2 of the industry-led, appropriately cost-shared basic research program on Accident Tolerant Fuels; $3,000,000 is for continuation of the previously competitively awarded Small Business projects to develop ceramic cladding for Accident Tolerant Fuels; and $15,000,000 is for additional support of capability development of transient testing, including test design, modeling, and simulation. Within available funds, $12,000,000 is for Systems Analysis and Integration, of which funding above the request is to assess advanced nuclear energy deployment scenarios.

The agreement provides $85,000,000 for Used Nuclear Fuel Disposition, of which $62,500,000 is to continue generic research and development activities. Within available funds, not less than $14,250,000 shall be to continue research and development activities on behavior of spent fuel during storage, transportation, and disposal, with priority on preparation activities for testing high-burnup fuel and post-irradiation examination of spent fuel rods and on the direct disposal of dry storage canister technologies. The agreement includes $22,500,000 for Integrated Waste Management System activities. Within the amounts for Used Nuclear Fuel Disposition, the agreement does not include defense funds.

Radiological Facilities Management.—In lieu of direction included in the Senate report, the agreement includes $10,000,000 for continued safe operation of Oak Ridge National Laboratory hot cells.

INL Operations and Infrastructure.—In lieu of House report direction, the agreement provides $10,000,000 for design and construction of the Advanced Test Reactor technical support building to support reactor core internal change-out, reliability improvement, and provide mock-up space for the nuclear demonstration platform and includes defense funds at the budget request level.

Use of Prior-Year Balances.—The agreement includes the use of $10,000,000 in prior-year balances.

FOSSIL ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

The agreement provides $668,000,000 for Fossil Energy Research and Development. The agreement includes $50,000,000 to support a new solicitation for two large-scale pilots which focus on transformational coal technologies that represent a new way to convert energy to enable a step change in performance, efficiency, and the cost of electricity compared to today's technologies. Such technologies include thermodynamic improvements in energy conversion and heat transfer, such as pressurized oxygen combustion and chemical looping, and improvements in carbon capture systems technology. In making the awards for large-scale pilots, the Department should prioritize entities that have previously received funding for these technologies at the lab and bench scale.

Coal Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) and Power Systems.—The Department is directed to use funds from Coal CCS and Power Systems for both coal and natural gas research and development as it determines to be merited, as long as such research does not occur at the expense of coal research and development. The agreement provides $6,000,000 to support a new solicitation for initial engineering, testing, and design-related work for a commercial-scale, post-combustion carbon dioxide capture project on an existing coal-fueled generating unit. Within available funds, the Department shall provide to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress an estimate of the costs required to fully retrofit such a unit. The agreement also includes funding for the Department's National Carbon Capture Center consistent with the budget request.

The agreement provides $101,000,000 for Carbon Capture and provides no further direction. The agreement provides $95,300,000

for Carbon Storage, of which $28,000,000 is for Advanced Storage Research and Development, $10,000,000 is for Carbon Use and Reuse, $12,000,000 is for Carbon Sequestration Science, and $45,300,000 is for Storage Infrastructure. The agreement includes no further direction for the Storage Infrastructure subprogram. Within Advanced Energy Systems, the agreement provides $25,000,000 for Gasification Systems, of which $8,000,000 is for the Advanced Air Separation Program to continue activities improving advanced air separation technologies. Within Cross Cutting Research, the agreement provides $20,000,000 for Coal Utilization Science, $21,450,000 for Plant Optimization Technologies, $9,800,000 for Water Management Research and Development, and $1,000,000 to award research grants to qualifying universities and institutions in the Department's Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Hispanic-Serving Institutions education and training program. Within National Energy Technology Laboratory Coal Research and Development, the agreement provides $15,000,000 for the Department to expand its external agency activities to develop and test commercially viable advanced separation technologies at proof-of-concept or pilot scale that can be deployed near term for the extraction and recovery of rare earth elements and minerals from U.S. coal and coal byproduct sources having the highest potential for success.

Natural Gas Technologies.—The agreement rejects the Department's approach to limit methane hydrates funding on only a fuel supply impact mitigation subprogram that would conduct research on the nature and regional context of gas hydrate deposits in the Gulf of Mexico, and provides, within available funds, $19,800,000 for methane hydrates.

The agreement provides $5,200,000 to continue the Risk Based Data Management System (RBDMS) and supports including water tracking in pre- and post-drilling applications where required by States. The Department is directed to provide these funds to integrate FracFocus and RBDMS for improved public access to State oil and gas related data, as well as for State regulatory agencies to support electronic permitting for operators, eForms for improved processing time for new permits, operator training from the improved FracFocus 3.0, and additional reports.

The agreement provides $7,000,000 for Environmentally Prudent Development, $7,000,000 for Emissions Mitigation from Midstream Infrastructure, and $4,000,000 for Emissions Quantification from Natural Gas Infrastructure.

Unconventional Technologies.—The agreement provides $21,000,000, for Unconventional Technologies. The Department is encouraged to consider the ''Domestic Unconventional Fossil Energy Resource Opportunities and Technology Applications Report to Congress'', which the Department submitted in September 2011, in allocating these funds. Within available funds, $10,000,000 is for two or more research awards to address issues associated with emerging shale plays in the U.S. The funding shall be awarded to either a not-for-profit or university based consortium. The consortium must be comprised of industry, academia, and stakeholder groups which may include NGOs. The projects shall include research studies to improve environmental, water quality, infrastructure, and societal impacts of oil and gas development in these emerging plays. These plays shall include unconventional or shale formations where there is currently less than 50,000 barrels per day (equivalent) production. The objective of the awards is to improve existing technologies, encourage prudent development, provide cost effective solutions, investigate utilization of captured carbon dioxide for hydraulic fracturing, and develop best practices and tools. While the final completion date for the crude oil characterization study has been delayed, it is expected that Tasks 2 and 3 will be completed by the end of the calendar year 2017. Task 4 is the final phase of the study, and the Department is directed to continue this research in partnership with the Department of Transportation to improve the safety of crude oil transported by rail in this country.

NETL Infrastructure.—The agreement provides $5,500,000 for financing NETL's Supercomputer, Joule, through a 3-year lease and directs the Department to prioritize funds to provide site-wide upgrades for safety and avoid an increase in deferred maintenance.

Use of Prior-Year Balances.—The agreement includes the use of $14,000,000 in prior-year balances from the Power Plant Improvement Initiative program.

NAVAL PETROLEUM AND OIL SHALE RESERVES

The agreement provides $14,950,000 for the operation of the Naval Petroleum and Oil Shale Reserves.

STRATEGIC PETROLEUM RESERVE

The agreement provides $223,000,000 for the Strategic Petroleum Reserve. The agreement includes legislative language authorizing the Department to use all receipts from the discretionary sale of crude oil directed in Public Law 114–254.

NORTHEAST HOME HEATING OIL RESERVE

The agreement provides $6,500,000 for the Northeast Home Heating Oil Reserve. The agreement includes the use of $4,000,000 in prior-year balances.

ENERGY INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION

The agreement provides $122,000,000 for the Energy Information Administration. Within available funds, $1,500,000 is for the creation of a National Oil and Gas Gateway that works in concert with State-run databases.

NON-DEFENSE ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANUP

The agreement provides $247,000,000 for Non-Defense Environmental Cleanup.

Small Sites.—The agreement provides $77,043,000 for Small Sites. Within this amount, $5,500,000 shall be for the Southwest Experimental Fast Oxide Reactor, $9,200,000 shall be for Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, $6,000,000 shall be for Oak Ridge activities, and $37,884,000 shall be for Moab. If the total project costs of any construction activities at any of the sites funded within Small Sites exceeds the minor construction threshold, the Department shall submit a project data sheet to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

URANIUM ENRICHMENT DECONTAMINATION AND DECOMMISSIONING FUND

The agreement provides $768,000,000 for activities funded from the Uranium Enrichment Decontamination and Decommissioning Fund.

SCIENCE

The agreement provides $5,392,000,000 for the Office of Science. The agreement includes legislative language and reprogramming authority for the Secretary regarding U.S. participation in the ITER project. The agreement provides up to $2,000,000, to be funded from across all Office of Science programs, to support the Distinguished Scientist Program, as authorized in section 5011 of Public Law 110–69.

Advanced Scientific Computing Research.—Within available funds, the agreement provides $164,000,000 for the exascale initiative, $80,000,000 for the Argonne Leadership Computing Facility, $110,000,000 for the Oak Ridge Leadership Computing Facility, $92,145,000 for the National Energy Research Scientific Computing Center at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, $10,000,000 for the Computational Sciences Graduate Fellowship program, and $45,000,000 for ESnet. Within available funds, the agreement provides up to $20,000,000 for meeting the challenges surrounding memory and storage architecture.

Basic Energy Sciences (BES).—The following is the only direction provided for BES. The agreement provides $15,000,000 for the Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research; $26,000,000 for exascale systems; $24,088,000 for the Batteries and Energy Storage Hub; $15,000,000 for the Fuels from Sunlight Hub; $42,500,000 for the Advanced Photon Source Upgrade; $494,059,000 for optimal operations of the five BES light sources, of which $5,000,000 is for the Advanced Light Source Upgrade; and $266,000,000 for the High-Flux Neutron Sources, of which $200,000,000 is for the Spallation Neutron Source, $65,000,000 is for the High-Flux Isotope Reactor, and $1,000,000 is for the Lujan Neutron Scattering Center. The agreement provides the requested level of funding for the Nanoscale Science Research Centers.

Biological and Environmental Research (BER).—Within available funds, the agreement provides $75,000,000 for the three BioEnergy Research Centers and $10,000,000 for exascale computing. The Department is urged to give priority to optimizing the operation of BER user facilities.

Fusion Energy Sciences.—The agreement provides $212,027,000 for burning plasma science foundations, $41,569,000 for burning plasma science long pulse, and $76,404,000 for discovery plasma science. Within available funds, the agreement provides not less than $74,090,000 for the National Spherical Torus Experiment and not less than $87,100,000 for DIII–D. The Department is directed to hold additional workshops and submit not later than 180 days after enactment of this Act to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress a report summarizing the fusion energy science community's continued efforts hosting workshops to advance and plan for the long term vision of the fusion energy sciences field.

High Energy Physics.—The following is the only direction provided for High Energy Physics. Within available funds, the agreement provides $15,220,000 for PIP–II, $45,000,000 for the Large Synoptic Survey Telescope Camera, $12,000,000 for DESI, and $12,500,000 for LUX ZEPLIN.

Nuclear Physics.—Within available funds, the Department is encouraged to fund optimal operations for the Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider at Brookhaven National Laboratory.

Science Laboratories Infrastructure.—The Office of Science is directed to work with the Office of Nuclear Energy in future budget requests to demonstrate a commitment to operations and maintenance of nuclear facilities at Oak Ridge National Laboratory that support multiple critical missions.

ADVANCED RESEARCH PROJECTS AGENCY—ENERGY

The agreement provides $306,000,000 for the Advanced Research Projects Agency—Energy.

Title 17—Innovative Technology Loan Guarantee Program

The agreement provides $37,000,000 for administrative expenses for the Title 17 Innovative Technology Loan Guarantee Program.

This amount is offset by estimated revenues of $30,000,000, resulting in a net appropriation of $7,000,000.

The Department is directed to provide to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress not later than 45 days after enactment of this Act a report that includes a list of each conditional commitment the Department has offered as of the date of enactment of this Act and a status of each project listed.

ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY VEHICLES MANUFACTURING LOAN PROGRAM

The agreement provides $5,000,000 for the Advanced Technology Vehicles Manufacturing Loan Program.

TRIBAL ENERGY LOAN GUARANTEE PROGRAM

(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides $9,000,000 for the Tribal Energy Loan Guarantee Program. Within the funds, $8,500,000 shall be for the credit subsidy cost and $500,000 for administrative expenses. The loan guarantees shall support the development or expansion of generation projects which employ commercially proven and available renewable energy technologies.

DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION

The agreement provides $143,000,000 for Departmental Administration.

Control Points.—In lieu of House and Senate direction on control points, the agreement includes six reprogramming control points in this account to provide flexibility in the management of support functions. The Other Departmental activity includes Management, Project Management Oversight and Assessments, Chief Human Capital Officer, Office of Technology Transitions, Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization, General Counsel, Energy Policy and Systems Analysis, International Affairs, and Public Affairs. The Department is directed to continue to submit a budget request that proposes a separate funding level for each of these activities.

Office of Energy Jobs Development.—The agreement rejects the request to consolidate and expand the collection of energy jobs data. However, to the extent the Department was collecting data and coordinating with other entities related to energy job data, the Department may continue those activities to the extent and in the manner they were funded in fiscal year 2016.

Cybersecurity.—Within the amounts provided for the Chief Information Officer, the agreement provides not less than $21,006,000 for Cybersecurity.

In lieu of Senate direction, the Department is directed to provide a quarterly report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress on the status of projects approved under 42 U.S.C. 16421, with the first such report to be provided 30 days after the enactment of this Act.

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

The agreement provides $44,424,000 for the Office of the Inspector General.

ATOMIC ENERGY DEFENSE ACTIVITIES

NATIONAL NUCLEAR SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

The agreement provides $12,938,252,000 for the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA).

WEAPONS ACTIVITIES

(INCLUDING RESCISSIONS OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides $9,318,093,000 for Weapons Activities. The agreement rescinds $8,400,000 as proposed in an amendment to the fiscal year 2017 budget request to offset the costs to resolve New Mexico Environment Department claims against the Department of Energy, including associated activities at Los Alamos National Laboratory. In addition, the agreement rescinds $64,126,000 in prior-year balances that were not available to the NNSA because they were placed in a Category C apportionment by the Office of Management and Budget.

Integrated Surety Solutions for Transportation.—The agreement fully funds the budget request for an Integrated Surety Solutions for Transportation program and does not include a requirement in the House report regarding future budget requests for this program.

Enhanced Capabilities for Subcritical Experiments (ESCE).—The agreement includes funding for new radiographic capabilities at U1A as part of the ESCE project within the Science program and Infrastructure and Operations as requested. If additional funding is sought for these activities in future budget requests, the NNSA is directed to consolidate its request within the Science program and submit a single project data sheet that combines the total cost of all equipment and infrastructure investments needed for this new experimental capability.

Life Extension Program Reporting.—The NNSA is directed to provide to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress a classified summary of each ongoing life extension and major refurbishment program that includes explanatory information on the progress and planning for each program beginning with the award of the phase 6.3 milestone and annually thereafter until completion of the program.

Weapons Dismantlement and Disposition.—The agreement provides $56,000,000 for weapons dismantlement and disposition activities. The dismantlement of nuclear warheads is an important work-leveling activity in the management of the nuclear weapons stockpile and plays a critical role in preparing workers for future warhead life extension program production efforts scheduled to begin in 2020. It is also essential to extending the life of the nuclear weapons stockpile by enabling the reuse of components and recycling of strategic materials.

Science.—The agreement provides $436,500,000 for the Science program. Within Advanced Certification, the agreement includes additional funding above the budget request to support establishment of a stockpile responsiveness program. The agreement provides $49,800,000 for Academic Alliances and Partnerships, of which $18,959,000 is for the Minority Serving Institution Partnerships Program (MSIPP), including the Tribal College Initiative. The NNSA is directed to account for MSIPP funds within Academic Alliances and Partnerships in its budget request and to clearly specify the source of funding for any other academic programs within the NNSA's budget request, including those that contribute to the Integrated University Program.

Inertial Confinement Fusion and High Yield.—The agreement provides $522,959,000 for the Inertial Confinement Fusion and High Yield program. Within this amount, $330,000,000 shall be for the National Ignition Facility, $68,000,000 shall be for OMEGA, and $8,500,000 shall be for the Naval Research Laboratory.

Advanced Simulation and Computing.—The agreement provides $663,184,000 for the Advanced Simulation and Computing program. Within this amount, $95,000,000 is for the exascale initiative. The Department is directed to provide to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act a report that differentiates the roles and responsibilities of the NNSA and the Office of Science for carrying out the exascale computing initiative and describes how those respective roles and responsibilities are complementary and not duplicative.

Infrastructure and Operations.—The agreement provides $324,000,000 for Maintenance and Repair of Facilities and $743,148,000 for Recapitalization projects. The agreement provides funds above the budget request to address the NNSA's high-risk excess facilities and its significant backlog of deferred facility maintenance. The agreement does not include direction in the House report regarding a new funding line for facility disposition and provides $200,000,000 for the disposition of the Kansas City Plant's Bannister Road Federal Complex within the Recapitalization program.

Uranium Processing Facility.—The agreement includes $575,000,000 for the Uranium Processing Facility project. The NNSA is directed to provide the plan for reviewing critical decision-2 to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress not later than June 15, 2017. In lieu of language in the House report, the Project Management Risk Committee is directed to provide to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress not later than September 30, 2017, a briefing that describes the readiness of the UPF project to commence major construction activities, including an evaluation of the maturity of the safety basis for the project.

DEFENSE NUCLEAR NONPROLIFERATION

(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides $1,902,000,000 for Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation. The agreement rescinds $19,128,000 in prior-year balances that were not available to the NNSA because they were placed in a Category C apportionment by the Office of Management and Budget.

Conversion.—The agreement includes $75,615,000 for the Conversion program, including the full amount requested for research and development activities for domestic Mo–99 production. The NNSA is encouraged to competitively award new cooperative agreements that are funded up to the full amount of the 50/50 government/industry cost share authorized by the American Medical Isotopes Production Act and to consider the needs of green field projects that do not rely on highly enriched uranium.

Material Disposition.—The agreement provides $143,833,000 for Material Disposition, of which $1,000,000 is for the Uranium Lease and Takeback Program. The NNSA may use up to $15,000,000 to advance planning, to resolve regulatory and other issues, and to complete conceptual design activities for the dilute and dispose alternative to the Mixed Oxide (MOX) Fuel Fabrication Facility.

Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation Research and Development (DNN R&D).—The agreement provides $469,750,000 for DNN R&D, of which $52,744,000 is to develop new fuels for U.S. high performance research reactors. The NNSA is directed to provide to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress not later than 180 days after the enactment of this Act a long-term roadmap that describes the timeline, milestones, costs, and technology off-ramps to develop low-enriched uranium fuels for high performance research reactors. The roadmap shall incorporate regular independent technical and programmatic evaluations, as recommended by the National Academies.

Mixed Oxide Fuel Fabrication Facility project, Savannah River.—The agreement provides $335,000,000 for the MOX Fuel Fabrication Facility project. Funds shall be available only for construction and for project support activities.

Nuclear Counterterrorism Incident Response.—The agreement does not include a restriction in the Senate report regarding the award of blanket purchase agreements.

NAVAL REACTORS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER AND RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides $1,420,120,000 for Naval Reactors. The agreement includes a provision to transfer $75,100,000 to Nuclear Energy for operation and maintenance of the Advanced Test Reactor. In addition, the agreement rescinds $307,000 in prior-year balances that were not available to the NNSA because they were placed in a Category C apportionment by the Office of Management and Budget.

FEDERAL SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement provides $390,000,000 for the federal salaries and expenses of the Office of the NNSA Administrator.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND OTHER DEFENSE ACTIVITIES

DEFENSE ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANUP

The agreement provides $5,405,000,000 for Defense Environmental Cleanup. Within these funds, the Department is directed to fund hazardous waste worker training at $10,000,000.

Budget Structure Changes.—The agreement rejects the request for a separate Infrastructure Recapitalization budget line. The Department is directed to include funding for these activities in the appropriate site budget requests. The Department is specifically prohibited from requesting any changes to the budget structure provided in this Act unless the Department has obtained agreement in advance from the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

Project Planning.—In lieu of House language restricting funding for the Low Activity Waste Pretreatment System, the Department shall update the project data sheets of all Environmental Management projects in its fiscal year 2018 budget request to include all scheduled milestones and full multi-year funding plans to ensure that the five-year budget plans that are required to be submitted by statute are clearly presented for all projects, not just for the projects for which the Department has established a performance baseline.

Richland.—The agreement provides $24,701,000 for Richland Community and Regulatory Support, $5,000,000 above fiscal year 2016. The amount provided for Richland Community and Regulatory Support includes the full amount permitted for Payments in Lieu of Taxes in fiscal year 2017.

Savannah River Site.—The agreement provides $1,233,429,000 for the Savannah River Site. Within funds for Site Risk Management, the agreement includes $3,000,000 to support the disposition of spent fuel from the High Flux Isotope Reactor. The unique facilities at the Savannah River Site provide vital capabilities to our national security programs. The Department is directed to provide to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress not later than June 30, 2017, a briefing on its long-term vision for sustainment of the site.

Technology Development and Deployment.—The agreement provides $25,025,000 for Technology Development and Deployment. Within this amount, $4,000,000 is for the National Spent Fuel Program at Idaho National Laboratory and $3,500,000 is to work on qualification, testing and research to advance the state of the art of containment ventilation systems through cooperative university affiliated research activities. The Department is directed to submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress a report outlining its plans for cleanup technology development and demonstration, as directed in the Senate report.

DEFENSE URANIUM ENRICHMENT DECONTAMINATION AND DECOMMISSIONING

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides $563,000,000 for Defense Uranium Enrichment Decontamination and Decommissioning. Funds provide for a federal contribution into the Uranium Decontamination and Decommissioning Fund.

OTHER DEFENSE ACTIVITIES

The agreement provides $784,000,000 for Other Defense Activities. Within funds for Environment, Health, Safety and Security, not less than $500,000 is for the Epidemiologic Study of One Million U.S. Radiation Workers and Veterans and not less than $39,071,000 is for headquarters security operations. Beginning in fiscal year 2018, the Department is directed to ensure that funding for security clearances of headquarters personnel is requested within funding of the responsible program office.

POWER MARKETING ADMINISTRATIONS

BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION FUND

The agreement provides no appropriation for the Bonneville Power Administration, which derives its funding from revenues deposited into the Bonneville Power Administration Fund.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, SOUTHEASTERN POWER ADMINISTRATION

The agreement provides a net appropriation of $0 for the Southeastern Power Administration. The agreement includes the use of $5,000,000 in prior-year balances.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, SOUTHWESTERN POWER ADMINISTRATION

The agreement provides a net appropriation of $11,057,000 for the Southwestern Power Administration.

CONSTRUCTION, REHABILITATION, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, WESTERN AREA POWER ADMINISTRATION

The agreement provides a net appropriation of $95,581,000 for the Western Area Power Administration. The agreement includes the use of $34,000,000 in prior-year balances.

The Western Area Power Administration is directed to provide to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress, not later than 60 days after the enactment of this Act, a report examining the use of a termination clause, described in section 11 of the general power contract provisions of the Western Area Power Administration effective September 1, 2007, in any power contracts that were executed before or on the date of enactment of this Act. The report shall also explain the circumstances for not including the termination clause provision in power contracts executed before or on the date of enactment of this Act.

FALCON AND AMISTAD OPERATING AND MAINTENANCE FUND

The agreement provides a net appropriation of $232,000 for the Falcon and Amistad Operating and Maintenance Fund. The agreement includes legislative language authorizing the acceptance and use of contributed funds in fiscal year 2017 for operating, maintaining, repairing, rehabilitating, replacing, or upgrading the hydroelectric facilities at the Falcon and Amistad Dams.

Concerns persist that additional infrastructure investments are necessary at the Falcon and Amistad dams, yet nothing is included in the budget request. Western is directed to coordinate with the International Boundary and Water Commission to determine a plan for addressing any needed improvements.

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement provides $346,800,000 for the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). Revenues for FERC are set to an amount equal to the budget authority, resulting in a net appropriation of $0.

FERC is directed to provide to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress monthly notification of approvals of licensing applications for interstate natural gas pipelines; nonfederal hydropower projects; and pipeline, storage, and facility construction for the export of liquefied natural gas.

GENERAL PROVISIONS—DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

(INCLUDING TRANSFER AND RESCISSIONS OF FUNDS)

The agreement includes a provision prohibiting the use of funds provided in this title to initiate requests for proposals, other solicitations, or arrangements for new programs or activities that have not yet been approved and funded by the Congress; requires notification or a report for certain funding actions; prohibits funds to be used for certain multi-year ''Energy Programs'' activities without notification; and prohibits the obligation or expenditure of funds provided in this title through a reprogramming of funds except in certain circumstances.

The agreement includes a provision authorizing intelligence activities of the Department of Energy for purposes of section 504 of the National Security Act of 1947.

The agreement includes a provision prohibiting the use of funds in this title for capital construction of high hazard nuclear facilities, unless certain independent oversight is conducted.

The agreement includes a provision prohibiting the use of funds provided in this title to approve critical decision-2 or critical decision-3 for certain construction projects, unless a separate independent cost estimate has been developed for that critical decision.

The agreement includes a provision prohibiting funds in the Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation account for certain activities and assistance in the Russian Federation.

The agreement includes a provision regarding management of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve.

The agreement includes a provision rescinding prior-year unobligated funds that are in excess of five years old and additional unobligated funds from fiscal year 2016 and prior, as described in the following table:

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY - SEC. 307.

(AMOUNTS IN THOUSANDS)

	FINAL BILL
FISCAL YEAR 2012 AND PRIOR FUNDS	
ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND RENEWABLE ENERGY	-17,150
ELECTRICITY DELIVERY AND ENERGY RELIABILITY	-349
NUCLEAR ENERGY	-300
FOSSIL ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT	-6,515
NAVAL PETROLEUM AND OIL SHALE RESERVES	-2
STRATEGIC PETROLEUM RESERVE	-305
NON-DEFENSE ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANUP	-238
URANIUM ENRICHMENT DECONTAMINATION AND DECOMMISSIONING FUND	-71
SCIENCE	-239
ADVANCED RESEARCH PROJECTS AGENCY - ENERGY	-755
TITLE 17 INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY LOAN GUARANTEE PROGRAM	-446
ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY VEHICLES MANUFACTURING LOAN PROGRAM	-1,117
DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION	-136
CONSTRUCTION, REHABILITATION, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, WESTERN AREA POWER ADMINISTRATION	-839
WEAPONS ACTIVITIES (050)	-2,630
DEFENSE NUCLEAR NONPROLIFERATION (050)	-2,532
FEDERAL SALARIES AND EXPENSES (050)	-2,634
OTHER DEFENSE ACTIVITIES (050)	-2,297
DEFENSE ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANUP (050)	-483
ENERGY SECURITY AND ASSISTANCE (050)	-43
SUBTOTAL, FISCAL YEAR 2012 AND PRIOR	-39,081
FISCAL YEAR 2013 FUNDS	
TITLE 17 INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY LOAN GUARANTEE PROGRAM	-9,415
ENERGY PROGRAMS	-3,186
ATOMIC ENERGY DEFENSE ACTIVITIES	-3,121
SUBTOTAL, FISCAL YEAR 2013	-15,722
FISCAL YEAR 2014 THROUGH FISCAL YEAR 2016 FUNDS	
ENERGY PROGRAMS	-40,000
TOTAL, SEC. 307.	-94,803

The agreement includes a provision rescinding prior-year unobligated funds from clean coal power initiative projects.

The agreement includes a provision that allows funding to be allocated to certain project and engineering and design activities.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill
ENERGY PROGRAMS			
ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND RENEWABLE ENERGY			
Sustainable Transportation:			
Vehicle technologies	310,000	468,500	306,959
Bioenergy technologies	225,000	278,900	205,000
Hydrogen and fuel cell technologies	100,950	105,500	101,000
Subtotal, Sustainable Transportation	635,950	852,900	612,959
Renewable Energy:			
Solar energy	241,600	285,100	207,600
Wind energy	95,450	156,000	90,000
Water power	70,000	80,000	84,000
Geothermal technologies	71,000	99,500	69,500
Subtotal, Renewable Energy	478,050	620,600	451,100
Energy Efficiency:			
Advanced manufacturing	228,500	261,000	257,500
Building technologies	200,500	289,000	199,141
Federal energy management program	27,000	43,000	27,000
Weatherization and intergovernmental:			
Weatherization:			
Weatherization assistance program	211,600	225,000	225,000
Training and technical assistance	3,000	5,000	3,000
NREL Site-Wide Facility Support	400	---	---
Subtotal, Weatherization	215,000	230,000	228,000
State energy program grants	50,000	70,000	50,000
Cities, counties and communities energy program	---	26,000	---
Subtotal, Weatherization and intergovernmental program	265,000	326,000	278,000
Subtotal, Energy Efficiency	721,000	919,000	761,641
Crosscutting Innovation Initiatives	---	215,000	---
Corporate Support:			
Facilities and infrastructure:			
National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL)	62,000	92,000	92,000
Program direction	155,000	170,900	153,500
Strategic programs	21,000	28,000	19,000
Subtotal, Corporate Support	238,000	290,900	264,500
Subtotal, Energy efficiency and renewable energy	2,073,000	2,898,400	2,090,200
TOTAL, ENERGY EFFICENCY AND RENEWABLE ENERGY	2,073,000	2,898,400	2,090,200
ELECTRICITY DELIVERY AND ENERGY RELIABILITY			
Research and development:			
Clean energy transmission and reliability	39,000	30,300	36,000
Smart grid research and development	35,000	30,000	50,000
Cyber security for energy delivery systems	62,000	45,500	62,000
Energy storage	20,500	44,500	31,000

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill
Transformer resilience and advanced components	5,000	15,000	6,000
Subtotal	161,500	165,300	185,000
National electricity delivery	7,500	6,500	7,500
State Distribution-level Reform Program	---	15,000	---
Infrastructure security and energy restoration	9,000	17,500	9,000
State energy reliability and assurance	---	15,000	---
Program direction	28,000	29,000	28,500
Grid Institute	---	14,000	---
TOTAL, ELECTRICITY DELIVERY AND ENERGY RELIABILITY	206,000	262,300	230,000
NUCLEAR ENERGY			
Research and development:			
Integrated university program	5,000	---	5,000
STEP R&D	5,000	---	5,000
Small modular reactor licensing technical support	62,500	89,600	95,000
Nuclear energy enabling technologies	111,600	89,510	115,100
Reactor concepts RD&D	141,718	108,760	132,000
Fuel cycle research and development	203,800	249,938	207,500
International nuclear energy cooperation	3,000	4,500	3,000
Subtotal	532,618	542,308	562,600
Infrastructure:			
Radiological facilities management:			
Space and defense infrastructure	18,000	---	10,000
Research reactor infrastructure	6,800	7,000	7,000
Subtotal	24,800	7,000	17,000
INL facilities management:			
INL operations and infrastructure	220,582	220,585	231,713
Construction:			
16-E-200 Sample preparation laboratory	2,000	6,000	6,000
Subtotal, INL facilities management	222,582	226,585	237,713
Subtotal, Infrastructure	247,382	233,585	254,713
Idaho sitewide safeguards and security	126,161	129,303	129,303
Program direction	80,000	88,700	80,000
Subtotal, Nuclear Energy	986,161	993,896	1,026,616
Use of prior-year balances	---	---	-10,000
TOTAL, NUCLEAR ENERGY	986,161	993,896	1,016,616
FOSSIL ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT			
Coal CCS and power systems:			
Carbon capture	101,000	109,200	101,000
Carbon storage	106,000	90,875	95,300
Advanced energy systems	105,000	53,652	105,000
Cross cutting research	50,000	58,650	45,500
NETL coal research and development	53,000	35,000	53,000
STEP (Supercritical CO2)	15,000	24,300	24,000
Subtotal, CCS and power systems	430,000	371,677	423,800

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill
Natural Gas Technologies:			
Research	43,000	26,500	43,000
CCS:			
Natural gas carbon capture	---	31,000	---
Subtotal, Natural gas technologies	43,000	57,500	43,000
Unconventional fossil energy technologies from petroleum - oil technologies	20,321	---	21,000
Program direction	114,202	60,998	60,000
Plant and capital equipment	15,782	---	---
Fossil energy environmental restoration	7,995	---	---
Special recruitment programs	700	700	700
NETL Research and Operations	---	44,984	43,000
NETL Infrastructure	---	64,141	40,500
Subtotal, Fossil Energy Research and Development	632,000	600,000	632,000
Use of prior year balances	---	-240,000	-14,000
Fossil Proviso	---	---	50,000
TOTAL, FOSSIL ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT	632,000	360,000	668,000
OFFICE OF TECHNOLOGY TRANSITIONS	---	8,400	---
NAVAL PETROLEUM AND OIL SHALE RESERVES	17,500	14,950	14,950
STRATEGIC PETROLEUM RESERVE			
STRATEGIC PETROLEUM RESERVE	212,000	257,000	223,000
Sale of crude oil (P.L. 114-254 Div A Sec 159)	---	-375,400	-340,000
Use of sale proceeds (P.L. 114-254 Div A Sec 159)	---	375,400	340,000
TOTAL, STRATEGIC PETROLEUM RESERVE	212,000	257,000	223,000
NORTHEAST HOME HEATING OIL RESERVE			
NORTHEAST HOME HEATING OIL RESERVE	7,600	10,500	10,500
Use of prior year balances	---	-4,000	-4,000
TOTAL, NORTHEAST HOME HEATING OIL RESERVE	7,600	6,500	6,500
ENERGY INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION	122,000	131,125	122,000
NON-DEFENSE ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANUP			
Fast Flux Test Reactor Facility (WA)	2,562	2,240	2,240
Gaseous Diffusion Plants	104,403	101,304	101,304
Small sites	87,522	53,243	77,043
West Valley Demonstration Project	59,213	61,613	66,413
Mercury storage facility	1,300	---	---
TOTAL, NON-DEFENSE ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANUP	255,000	218,400	247,000
URANIUM ENRICHMENT DECONTAMINATION AND DECOMMISSIONING FUND			
Oak Ridge	194,673	---	194,673

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill
Paducah:			
Nuclear facility D&D, Paducah	198,729	---	205,530
Construction:			
16-U-401 Solid waste management units 5&6	1,196	---	---
Total, Paducah	199,925	---	205,530
Portsmouth:			
Nuclear facility D&D, Portsmouth	203,417	---	274,000
Construction:			
15-U-408 On-site waste disposal facility, Portsmouth	21,749	---	41,168
Total, Portsmouth	225,166	---	315,168
Pension and community and regulatory support	21,026	---	22,953
Title X uranium/thorium reimbursement program	32,959	---	30,000
Use of prior year balances	---	---	-324
TOTAL, UED&D FUND	673,749	---	768,000
SCIENCE			
Advanced scientific computing research	621,000	509,180	483,000
Construction:			
17-SC-20 SC Exascale Computing Project	---	154,000	164,000
Subtotal, Advanced scientific computing research	621,000	663,180	647,000
Basic energy sciences:			
Research	1,648,700	1,746,730	1,681,500
Construction:			
13-SC-10 LINAC coherent light source II, SLAC	200,300	190,000	190,000
Subtotal, Basic energy sciences	1,849,000	1,936,730	1,871,500
Biological and environmental research	609,000	661,920	612,000
Fusion energy sciences:			
Research	323,000	273,178	330,000
Construction:			
14-SC-60 ITER	115,000	125,000	50,000
Subtotal, Fusion energy sciences	438,000	398,178	380,000
High energy physics:			
Research	728,900	729,476	731,500
Construction:			
11-SC-40 Long baseline neutrino facility / deep underground neutrino experiment, FNAL	26,000	45,021	50,000
11-SC-41 Muon to electron conversion experiment, FNAL	40,100	43,500	43,500
Subtotal, Construction	66,100	88,521	93,500
Subtotal, High energy physics	795,000	817,997	825,000
Nuclear physics:			
Operations and maintenance	509,600	535,658	522,000

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill
Construction:			
14-SC-50 Facility for rare isotope beams, Michigan State University	100,000	100,000	100,000
06-SC-01 12 GeV continuous electron beam facility upgrade, TJNAF	7,500	---	---
Subtotal, Construction	107,500	100,000	100,000
Subtotal, Nuclear physics	617,100	635,658	622,000
Workforce development for teachers and scientists	19,500	20,925	19,500
Science laboratories infrastructure:			
Infrastructure support:			
Payment in lieu of taxes	1,713	1,764	1,764
Oak Ridge landlord	6,177	6,182	6,182
Facilities and infrastructure	24,800	32,603	32,603
Oak Ridge nuclear operations	12,000	26,000	26,000
Subtotal	44,690	66,549	66,549
Construction:			
17-SC-71 Integrated Engineering Research Center, FNAL	---	2,500	2,500
17 SC-73 Core Facility Revitalization, BNL	---	1,800	1,800
15-SC-78 Integrative genomics building, LBNL	20,000	19,561	19,561
15-SC-77 Photon science laboratory building, SLAC	25,000	20,000	20,000
15-SC-76 Materials design laboratory, ANL	23,910	19,590	19,590
Subtotal	68,910	63,451	63,451
Subtotal, Science laboratories infrastructure	113,600	130,000	130,000
Safeguards and security	103,000	103,000	103,000
Science program direction	185,000	204,481	182,000
TOTAL, SCIENCE	5,350,200	5,572,069	5,392,000
ADVANCED RESEARCH PROJECTS AGENCY-ENERGY			
ARPA-E projects	261,750	318,000	276,750
Program direction	29,250	32,000	29,250
TOTAL, ARPA-E	291,000	350,000	306,000
INDIAN ENERGY PROGRAMS			
Program direction	---	4,800	---
Tribal energy program	---	18,130	---
TOTAL, INDIAN ENERGY PROGRAMS	---	22,930	---
TITLE 17 - INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY LOAN GUARANTEE PGM			
Administrative expenses	42,000	37,000	37,000
Offsetting collection	-25,000	-30,000	-30,000
Proposed change in subsidy cost	---	1,020,000	---
TOTAL, TITLE 17 - INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY LOAN GUARANTEE PROGRAM	17,000	1,027,000	7,000

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill
ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY VEHICLES MANUFACTURING LOAN PGM			
Administrative expenses	6,000	5,000	5,000
TOTAL, ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY VEHICLES MANUFACTURING LOAN PROGRAM	6,000	5,000	5,000
TRIBAL ENERGY LOAN GUARANTEE PROGRAM	---	---	9,000
Rescission	---	---	-9,000
TOTAL, TRIBAL ENERGY LOAN GUARANTEE PROGRAM	---	---	---
DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION			
Administrative operations:			
Salaries and expenses:			
Office of the Secretary:			
Program direction	5,008	5,300	5,089
Chief Financial Officer	47,024	53,084	49,242
Management	65,000	59,114	---
Project Management Oversight and Assessments	---	18,000	---
Cost Estimating and Program Evaluation	---	5,000	---
Office Of Energy jobs development	---	3,700	---
Chief human capital officer	24,500	25,424	---
Chief Information Officer	31,988	93,074	74,492
Office of Indian energy policy and programs	16,000	---	16,000
Congressional and intergovernmental affairs	6,300	6,200	6,200
Office Of Small and disadvantaged business utilization	3,000	3,300	---
Economic impact and diversity	10,000	11,319	10,169
General Counsel	33,000	33,000	---
Energy policy and systems analysis	31,297	31,000	---
International Affairs	18,000	19,107	---
Public affairs	3,431	3,431	---
Other Departmental Administration	---	---	185,134
Subtotal, Salaries and expenses	294,548	370,053	346,326
Program support:			
Cybersecurity and secure communications	21,006	---	---
Corporate IT program support (CIO)	20,224	---	---
Subtotal, Program support	41,230	---	---
Subtotal, Administrative operations	335,778	370,053	346,326
Strategic partnership projects	40,000	40,000	40,000
Subtotal, Departmental administration	375,778	410,053	386,326
Use of prior-year balances	-8,800	-20,300	-20,610
Funding from other defense activities	-118,836	-119,716	-119,716
Total, Departmental administration (gross)	248,142	270,037	246,000
Miscellaneous revenues	-117,171	-103,000	-103,000
TOTAL, DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION (net)	130,971	167,037	143,000

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill
OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL			
Office of the inspector general	46,424	44,424	44,424
TOTAL, ENERGY PROGRAMS	11,026,605	12,339,431	11,283,690
ATOMIC ENERGY DEFENSE ACTIVITIES			
NATIONAL NUCLEAR SECURITY ADMINISTRATION			
WEAPONS ACTIVITIES			
Directed stockpile work:			
B61 Life extension program	643,300	616,079	616,079
W76 Life extension program	244,019	222,880	222,880
W88 Alteration program	220,176	281,129	281,129
W80-4 Life extension program	195,037	220,253	220,253
Stockpile systems:			
B61 Stockpile systems	52,247	57,313	57,313
W76 Stockpile systems	50,921	38,604	38,604
W78 Stockpile systems	64,092	56,413	56,413
W80 Stockpile systems	68,005	64,631	64,631
B83 Stockpile systems	42,177	41,659	41,659
W87 Stockpile systems	89,299	81,982	81,982
W88 Stockpile systems	115,685	103,074	103,074
Subtotal	482,426	443,676	443,676
Weapons dismantlement and disposition	52,000	68,984	56,000
Stockpile services:			
Production support	447,527	457,043	447,527
Research and Development support	41,059	34,187	34,187
R and D certification and safety	185,000	156,481	156,481
Management, technology, and production	264,994	251,978	251,978
Subtotal	938,580	899,689	890,173
Strategic materials:			
Uranium sustainment	32,916	20,988	20,988
Plutonium sustainment	174,698	184,970	184,970
Tritium sustainment	104,600	109,787	109,787
Domestic uranium enrichment	50,000	50,000	50,000
Strategic materials sustainment	250,040	212,092	212,092
Subtotal	612,254	577,837	577,837
Subtotal, Directed stockpile work	3,387,792	3,330,527	3,308,027
Research, Development, Test and Evaluation (RDT&E):			
Science:			
Advanced certification	58,747	58,000	60,000
Primary assessment technologies	95,512	99,000	99,000
Dynamic materials properties	100,400	106,000	106,000
Advanced radiography	45,700	50,500	45,700
Secondary assessment technologies	72,900	76,000	76,000
Academic alliances and partnerships	49,800	52,484	49,800
Subtotal	423,059	441,984	436,500

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill
Engineering:			
Enhanced surety	50,821	37,196	37,196
Weapons system engineering assessment technology	17,371	16,958	16,958
Nuclear survivability	24,461	43,105	36,100
Enhanced surveillance	38,724	42,228	42,228
Subtotal	131,377	139,487	132,482
Inertial confinement fusion ignition and high yield:			
Ignition	76,334	75,432	77,932
Support of other stockpile programs	22,843	23,363	23,363
Diagnostics, cryogenics and experimental support	58,587	68,696	64,196
Pulsed power inertial confinement fusion	4,963	5,616	5,616
Joint program in high energy density laboratory plasmas	8,900	9,492	9,492
Facility operations and target production	339,423	340,360	342,360
Subtotal	511,050	522,959	522,959
Advanced simulation and computing	623,006	663,184	663,184
Advanced manufacturing development:			
Additive manfacturing	12,600	12,000	12,000
Component manufacturing development	99,656	46,583	46,583
Process technology development	17,800	28,522	28,522
Subtotal	130,056	87,105	87,105
Subtotal, RDT&E	1,818,548	1,854,719	1,842,230
Infrastructure and Operations (formerly RTBF):			
Operations of facilities	---	---	824,000
Operations of facilities:			
Kansas City Plant	100,250	101,000	---
Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory	70,671	70,500	---
Los Alamos National Laboratory	196,460	196,500	---
Nevada Test Site	89,000	92,500	---
Pantex	58,021	55,000	---
Sandia National Laboratory	115,300	118,000	---
Savannah River Site	80,463	83,500	---
Y-12 National Security Complex	120,625	107,000	---
Subtotal	830,790	824,000	---
Safety and environmental operations	107,701	110,000	110,000
Maintenance and repair of facilities	277,000	294,000	324,000
Recapitalization:			
Infrastructure and safety	253,724	554,643	430,509
Capability based investments	98,800	112,639	112,639
Bannister federal complex disposition	---	---	200,000
Subtotal, Recapitalization	352,524	667,282	743,148
Construction:			
17-D-125 RLUOB reconfiguration project, LANL	---	---	1,000
17-D-126 PF-4 reconfiguration project, LANL	---	---	8,000
17-D-640 U1a complex enhancements project, NNSA	---	11,500	11,500
17-D-630 Electrical distribution system, LLNL	---	25,000	25,000
16-D-515 Albuquerque Complex project	8,000	15,047	15,047
16-D-621 TA-3 Substation replacement, LANL	25,000	---	---

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill
15-D-613 Emergency Operations Center, Y-12	17,919	2,000	2,000
15-D-302 TA-55 Reinvestment project III, LANL	18,195	21,455	2,000
11-D-801 TA-55 Reinvestment project II, LANL	3,903	---	---
07-D-220 Radioactive liquid waste treatment facility, LANL	11,533	---	---
07-0-220-04 TRU liquid waste facility, LANL	40,949	17,053	17,053
06-D-141 Uranium Processing Facility, Y-12	430,000	575,000	575,000
Chemistry and metallurgy replacement (CMRR):			
04-D-125 Chemistry and metallurgy replacement project, LANL	---	159,615	---
04-D-125-04 RLUOB equipment installation, phase 2	117,000	---	75,000
04-D-125-05 PF-4 equipment installation	38,610	---	75,615
Subtotal, CMRR	155,610	159,615	150,615
Subtotal, Construction	711,109	826,670	807,215
Subtotal, Infrastructure and Operations	2,279,124	2,721,952	2,808,363
Secure transportation asset:			
Operations and equipment	140,000	179,132	151,771
Program direction	97,118	103,600	97,118
Subtotal, Secure transportation asset	237,118	282,732	248,889
Defense nuclear security:			
Defense nuclear security	639,891	657,133	670,000
Security improvements program	30,000	---	---
Construction:			
17-D-710 West end protected area reduction project, Y-12	---	---	2,500
14-D-710 Device assembly facility argus installation project, NV	13,000	13,000	13,000
Subtotal, Defense nuclear security	682,891	670,133	685,500
Information technology and cyber security	157,588	176,592	176,592
Legacy contractor pensions	283,887	248,492	248,492
Subtotal, Weapons Activities	8,846,948	9,285,147	9,318,093
Rescission	---	-42,000	-64,126
Budget amendment rescission	---	-8,400	-8,400
TOTAL, WEAPONS ACTIVITIES	8,846,948	9,234,747	9,245,567
DEFENSE NUCLEAR NONPROLIFERATION			
Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation Programs:			
Global material security:			
International nuclear security	130,527	46,027	66,027
Radiological security	153,749	146,106	---
Domestic radiologic security	---	---	87,199
International radiologic security	---	---	68,907
Nuclear smuggling detection	142,475	144,975	144,975
Subtotal, Global material security	426,751	337,108	367,108

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill
Material management and minimization:			
HEU reactor conversion	115,000	128,359	75,615
Nuclear material removal	115,000	68,902	68,902
Material disposition	86,584	143,833	143,833
Subtotal, Material management and minimization	316,584	341,094	288,350
Nonproliferation and arms control	130,203	124,703	124,703
Defense nuclear nonproliferation R&D	419,333	393,922	469,750
Nonproliferation construction:			
99-D-143 Mixed Oxide (MOX) Fuel Fabrication Facility, SRS	340,000	270,000	335,000
Subtotal, Nonproliferation construction	340,000	270,000	335,000
Legacy contractor pensions	94,617	83,208	83,208
Nuclear counterterrorism and incident response	234,390	271,881	271,881
Use of prior-year balances	-21,576	---	-38,000
Subtotal, Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation	1,940,302	1,821,916	1,902,000
Rescission	---	-14,000	-19,128
TOTAL, DEFENSE NUCLEAR NONPROLIFERATION	1,940,302	1,807,916	1,882,872
NAVAL REACTORS			
Naval reactors development	446,896	437,338	440,338
OHIO replacement reactor systems development	186,800	213,700	213,700
S8G Prototype refueling	133,000	124,000	124,000
Naval reactors operations and infrastructure	445,196	449,682	449,682
Construction:			
17-D-911 BL Fire System Upgrade	---	1,400	1,400
15-D-904 NRF Overpack Storage Expansion 3	900	700	700
15-D-903 KL Fire System Upgrade	600	---	---
15-D-902 KS Engineroom team trainer facility	3,100	33,300	33,300
14-D-902 KL Materials characterization laboratory expansion, KAPL	30,000	---	---
14-D-901 Spent fuel handling recapitalization project, NRF	86,000	100,000	100,000
10-D-903, Security upgrades, KAPL	500	12,900	12,900
Subtotal, Construction	121,100	148,300	148,300
Program direction	42,504	47,100	44,100
Subtotal, Naval Reactors	1,375,496	1,420,120	1,420,120
Rescission	---	---	-307
TOTAL, NAVAL REACTORS	1,375,496	1,420,120	1,419,813
FEDERAL SALARIES AND EXPENSES	383,666	412,817	390,000
Rescission	-19,900	---	---
TOTAL, FEDERAL SALARIES AND EXPENSES	363,766	412,817	390,000
TOTAL, NATIONAL NUCLEAR SECURITY ADMINISTRATION	12,526,512	12,875,600	12,938,252

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill
DEFENSE ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANUP			
Closure sites	4,889	9,389	9,389
Richland:			
River corridor and other cleanup operations	270,710	69,755	143,755
Central plateau remediation	555,163	620,869	659,818
RL community and regulatory support	19,701	14,701	24,701
Construction:			
15-D-401 Containerized sludge removal annex, RL	77,016	11,486	11,486
Subtotal, Richland	922,590	716,811	839,760
Office of River Protection:			
Waste treatment and immobilization plant commissioning	---	3,000	3,000
Rad liquid tank waste stabilization and disposition	649,000	721,456	733,965
Construction:			
15-D-409 Low activity waste pretreatment sysem, ORP	75,000	73,000	73,000
01-D-16 A-D, Waste treatment and immobilization plant, ORP	595,000	593,000	593,000
01-D-16 E, Waste treatment and immobilization plant, Pretreatment facility, ORP	95,000	97,000	97,000
Total, Construction	765,000	763,000	763,000
Subtotal, Office of river protection	1,414,000	1,487,456	1,499,965
Idaho National Laboratory:			
Idaho cleanup and waste disposition	393,000	359,088	379,088
Idaho community and regulatory support	3,000	3,000	3,000
Total, Idaho National Laboratory	396,000	362,088	382,088
NNSA sites and Nevada offsites:			
Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory	1,366	1,396	1,396
Separations Process Research Unit	---	3,685	3,685
Nevada	62,385	62,176	62,176
Sandia National Laboratory	2,500	4,130	4,130
Los Alamos National Laboratory	185,000	189,000	194,000
Total, NNSA sites and Nevada off-sites	251,251	260,387	265,387
Oak Ridge Reservation:			
OR Nuclear facility D&D	111,958	93,851	131,851
U233 disposition program	35,895	37,311	43,311
OR cleanup and waste disposition	74,597	54,557	68,457
Construction:			
17-D-401 On-site waste disposal facility	---	---	6,000
14-D-403 Outfall 200 mercury treatment facility	9,400	5,100	5,100
Subtotal, Construction	9,400	5,100	11,100
OR community & regulatory support	4,400	4,400	5,500
OR Technology development and deployment	2,800	3,000	3,000
Total, Oak Ridge Reservation	239,050	198,219	263,219

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill
Savannah River Site:			
SR site risk management operations	413,652	---	448,980
Nuclear Material Management	---	311,062	---
Environmental Cleanup	---	152,504	---
SR community and regulatory support	11,249	11,249	11,249
SR radioactive liquid tank waste stabilization and disposition	554,878	645,332	600,123
Construction:			
17-D-402 Saltstone disposal Unit #7, SRS	---	9,729	5,500
15-D-402 Saltstone disposal Unit #6, SRS	34,642	7,577	7,577
05-D-405 Salt waste processing facility, SRS	194,000	160,000	160,000
Total, Savannah River Site	1,208,421	1,297,453	1,233,429
Waste Isolation Pilot Plant:			
Waste Isolation Pilot Plant	269,260	257,188	260,188
Construction:			
15-D-411 Safety significant confinement ventilation system, WIPP	23,218	2,532	2,532
15-D-412 Exhaust shaft, WIPP	7,500	2,533	30,000
Total, Waste isolation pilot plant	299,978	262,253	292,720
Program direction	281,951	290,050	290,050
Program support	14,979	14,979	14,979
Safeguards and Security	236,633	255,973	262,189
Technology development	20,000	30,000	25,025
Infrastructure recapitalization	---	41,892	---
CB-0101 Economic assistance to the state of NM	---	---	26,800
Subtotal, Defense Environmental Cleanup	5,289,742	5,226,950	5,405,000
Budget amendment	---	8,400	---
TOTAL, DEFENSE ENVIRONMENTAL CLEAN UP	5,289,742	5,235,350	5,405,000
Defense Environmental Cleanup (Legislative proposal)	---	155,100	---
DEFENSE URANIUM ENRICHMENT DECONTAMINATION AND DECOMMISSIONING	---	---	563,000
OTHER DEFENSE ACTIVITIES			
Environment, health, safety and security:			
Environment, health, safety and security	118,763	130,693	126,972
Program direction	62,235	66,519	64,000
Subtotal, Environment, Health, safety and security	180,998	197,212	190,972
Independent enterprise assessments:			
Independent enterprise assessments	24,068	24,580	24,580
Program direction	49,466	51,893	51,000
Subtotal, Independent enterprise assessments	73,534	76,473	75,580
Specialized security activities	230,377	237,912	237,912
Office of Legacy Management:			
Legacy management	154,080	140,306	140,306
Program direction	13,100	14,014	14,014
Subtotal, Office of Legacy Management	167,180	154,320	154,320

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill
Defense related administrative support	118,836	119,716	119,716
Office of hearings and appeals	5,500	5,919	5,500
TOTAL, OTHER DEFENSE ACTIVITIES	776,425	791,552	784,000
TOTAL, ATOMIC ENERGY DEFENSE ACTIVITIES	18,592,679	19,057,602	19,690,252
POWER MARKETING ADMINISTRATIONS (1)			
SOUTHEASTERN POWER ADMINISTRATION			
Operation and maintenance:			
Purchase power and wheeling	83,600	78,929	78,929
Program direction	6,900	6,000	6,000
Subtotal, Operation and maintenance	90,500	84,929	84,929
Less alternative financing (PPW)	-17,100	-18,169	-18,169
Offsetting collections (for PPW)	-66,500	-60,760	-60,760
Offsetting collections (PD)	-6,900	-1,000	-1,000
Use of prior-year balances	---	-5,000	-5,000
TOTAL, SOUTHEASTERN POWER ADMINISTRATION	---	---	---
SOUTHWESTERN POWER ADMINISTRATION			
Operation and maintenance:			
Operating expenses	19,279	13,896	13,896
Purchase power and wheeling	73,000	83,000	83,000
Program direction	31,932	31,516	31,516
Construction	12,012	12,486	12,486
Subtotal, Operation and maintenance	136,223	140,898	140,898
Less alternative financing (for O&M)	-8,288	-6,269	-6,269
Less alternative financing (for PPW)	-10,000	-10,000	-10,000
Less alternative financing (Const)	-7,574	-5,986	-5,986
Offsetting collections (PD)	-29,938	-29,271	-29,271
Offsetting collections (for O&M)	-6,023	-5,315	-5,315
Offsetting collections (for PPW)	-63,000	-73,000	-73,000
TOTAL, SOUTHWESTERN POWER ADMINISTRATION	11,400	11,057	11,057
WESTERN AREA POWER ADMINISTRATION			
Operation and maintenance:			
Construction and rehabilitation	58,374	62,442	62,442
Operation and maintenance	80,901	76,697	76,697
Purchase power and wheeling	565,927	581,634	581,634
Program direction	236,398	226,497	226,497
Subtotal, Operation and maintenance	941,600	947,270	947,270
Less alternative financing (for O&M)	-1,757	---	---
Less alternative financing (for Construction)	-53,585	-43,884	-43,884
Less alternative financing (for Program Dir.)	-5,273	-6,343	-6,343
Less alternative financing (for PPW)	-213,114	-214,625	-214,625
Offsetting collections (for program direction)	-177,697	-178,441	-150,441
Offsetting collections (for O&M)	-36,645	-33,122	-27,122
Offsetting collections (P.L. 108-477, P.L. 109-103)	-352,813	-367,009	-367,009

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill
Offsetting collections (P.L. 98-381)	-7,344	-8,265	-8,265
Use of prior-year balances	---	---	-34,000
TOTAL, WESTERN AREA POWER ADMINISTRATION	93,372	95,581	95,581
FALCON AND AMISTAD OPERATING AND MAINTENANCE FUND			
Operation and maintenance	4,950	4,393	4,393
Offsetting collections	-4,262	-3,838	-3,838
Less alternative financing	-460	-323	-323
TOTAL, FALCON AND AMISTAD O&M FUND	228	232	232
TOTAL, POWER MARKETING ADMINISTRATIONS	105,000	106,870	106,870
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION			
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission	319,800	346,800	346,800
FERC revenues	-319,800	-346,800	-346,800
General Provisions			
Title III Rescissions:			
Department of Energy:			
Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy	-3,806	---	---
Science	-3,200	---	---
Fossil Energy Research and Development	---	---	-240,000
Energy Programs and PMAs	---	---	-81,063
Atomic Energy Defense Activities	---	---	-13,740
Total, General Provisions	-7,006	---	-334,803
GRAND TOTAL, DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY	29,717,278	31,503,903	30,746,009
(Total amount appropriated)	(29,744,184)	(31,568,303)	(31,181,773)
(Rescissions)	(-26,906)	(-64,400)	(-435,764)
SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS			
Energy efficiency and renewable energy	2,073,000	2,898,400	2,090,200
Electricity delivery and energy reliability	206,000	262,300	230,000
Nuclear energy	986,161	993,896	1,016,616
Fossil Energy Research and Development	632,000	360,000	668,000
Office of technology transitions	---	8,400	---
Naval Petroleum & Oil Shale Reserves	17,500	14,950	14,950
Strategic petroleum reserves	212,000	257,000	223,000
Northeast home heating oil reserve	7,600	6,500	6,500
Energy Information Administration	122,000	131,125	122,000
Non-Defense Environmental Cleanup	255,000	218,400	247,000
Uranium enrichment D&D fund	673,749	---	768,000
Science	5,350,200	5,572,069	5,392,000
Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy	291,000	350,000	306,000
Departmental administration	130,971	167,037	143,000
Indian energy program	---	22,930	---
Office of the Inspector General	46,424	44,424	44,424
Title 17 Innovative technology loan guarantee program	17,000	1,027,000	7,000
Advanced technology vehicles manufacturing loan pgm	6,000	5,000	5,000

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill
Atomic energy defense activities:			
National Nuclear Security Administration:			
Weapons activities	8,846,948	9,234,747	9,245,567
Defense nuclear nonproliferation	1,940,302	1,807,916	1,882,872
Naval reactors	1,375,496	1,420,120	1,419,813
Federal Salaries and Expenses	363,766	412,817	390,000
Subtotal, National Nuclear Security Admin	12,526,512	12,875,600	12,938,252
Defense environmental cleanup	5,289,742	5,235,350	5,405,000
Defense environmental cleanup (legislative proposal)	---	155,100	---
Other defense activities	776,425	791,552	784,000
Total, Atomic Energy Defense Activities	18,592,679	19,057,602	19,690,252
Power marketing administrations (1):			
Southeastern Power Administration	---	---	---
Southwestern Power Administration	11,400	11,057	11,057
Western Area Power Administration	93,372	95,581	95,581
Falcon and Amistad operating and maintenance fund	228	232	232
Total, Power Marketing Administrations	105,000	106,870	106,870
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission:			
Salaries and expenses	319,800	346,800	346,800
Revenues	-319,800	-346,800	-346,800
General Provisions	-7,006	---	-334,803
Total Summary of Accounts, Department of Energy	29,717,278	31,503,903	30,746,009

1/ Totals include alternative financing costs, reimbursable agreement funding, and power purchase and wheeling expenditures. Offsetting collection totals reflect funds collected for annual expenses, including power purchase and wheeling

Note: The FY 2017 Request column reflects the budget submitted on February 9, 2016, as amended

TITLE IV—INDEPENDENT AGENCIES

APPALACHIAN REGIONAL COMMISSION

The agreement provides $152,000,000 for the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC). To diversify and enhance regional business development, $10,000,000 is provided to continue the program of high-speed broadband deployment in distressed counties within the Central Appalachian region that have been most negatively impacted by the downturn in the coal industry. This funding shall be in addition to the 30 percent directed to distressed counties.

Within available funds, $70,000,000 is provided for base funds and $50,000,000 is for the POWER Plus Plan.

Within available funds, $16,000,000 is provided for a program of industrial site and workforce development in Southern and South Central Appalachia, focused primarily on the automotive supplier sector and the aviation sector. Up to $13,500,000 of that amount is provided for activities in Southern Appalachia. The funds shall be distributed according to ARC's Distressed Counties Formula, which comprises land area, population estimates, and a proportion of the number of distressed counties.

In addition, the agreement provides $6,000,000 for a program of basic infrastructure improvements in distressed counties in Central Appalachia. Funds shall be distributed according to ARC's Distressed Counties Formula and shall be in addition to the regular allocation to distressed counties.

DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement provides $30,872,000 for the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board.

DELTA REGIONAL AUTHORITY

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement provides $25,000,000 for the Delta Regional Authority (DRA). The agreement includes a waiver of DRA's 5 percent administration cap. However, DRA is encouraged to prioritize and allocate funding consistent with its authorized purposes and prevent administrative expenses from exceeding 5 percent of the appropriated amount.

DENALI COMMISSION

The agreement provides $15,000,000 for the Denali Commission. The agreement includes a provision regarding cost share payments.

NORTHERN BORDER REGIONAL COMMISSION

The agreement provides $10,000,000 for the Northern Border Regional Commission.

SOUTHEAST CRESCENT REGIONAL COMMISSION

The agreement provides $250,000 for the Southeast Crescent Regional Commission.

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The Commission's mission is to ensure the safety and security of the nation's use of nuclear power and nuclear materials and protect the workers and public who use and benefit from these materials and facilities. The agreement provides $905,000,000 for Nuclear Regulatory Commission (Commission) salaries and expenses. This amount is offset by estimated revenues of $794,580,000, resulting in a net appropriation of $110,420,000. The agreement reflects additional savings identified by the Commission as part of its rebaselining efforts. The agreement does not include the savings from the rebaselining proposal to reduce resources devoted to maintaining expertise in deep geological repository analysis. The Commission shall apply these rebaselining savings in a manner that continues to ensure the protection of public health and safety and maintain the effectiveness of the current inspection program. The agreement includes $5,000,000 for activities related to the development of regulatory infrastructure for advanced nuclear reactor technologies, which are not subject to the Commission's general fee recovery collection requirements. The agreement also directs the use of $23,000,000 in prior-year unobligated balances.

The agreement includes the following direction in lieu of all direction included in the House and Senate reports:

Nuclear Reactor Safety.—The agreement includes $462,300,000 for Nuclear Reactor Safety. This control point includes the Commission's Operating Reactors and New Reactors business lines.

Integrated University Program.—The agreement includes $15,000,000 for the Integrated University Program. Of this amount, $5,000,000 is to be used for grants to support projects that do not align with programmatic missions but are critical to maintaining the discipline of nuclear science and engineering.

Nuclear Materials and Waste Safety.—The agreement includes $113,700,000 for Nuclear Materials and Waste Safety. Included within this control point are the Fuel Facilities, Nuclear Material Users, and Spent Fuel Storage and Transportation business lines.

Decommissioning and Low-Level Waste.—The agreement includes $27,200,000 for Decommissioning and Low-Level Waste.

Corporate Support.—The agreement includes $309,800,000 for Corporate Support. The agreement provides, within available funds, not more than $7,500,000 for the salaries, travel, and other support costs for the Office of the Commission. These salaries and expenses shall include only salaries and benefit and travel costs, and are not to include general, administrative, or infrastructure costs. The use and expenditure of these funds shall be jointly managed through majority vote of the Commission. The Commission shall continue to include a breakout and explanation of the Commission salaries and expenses in its annual budget requests. If the Commission wishes to change the composition of the funds in future years, it must do so in an annual budget request or through a reprogramming.

Budget Execution Plan.—The Commission shall provide a specific budget execution plan to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress no later than 30 days after the enactment of this Act. The plan shall include details at the product line level within each of the control points.

Budget Realignment.—The Commission shall execute appropriations consistent with the realignment of overhead activities as proposed in the budget request, without deviation, except as authorized under section 402 of the bill. Any additional realignments shall be proposed in future budget requests after consultation with the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

Rulemaking.—The Commission shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress a report by August 1, 2017, on how the rulemaking process will adhere to the backfit rule and on the roles of the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safety and the Committee to Review Generic Requirements. The Commission is further directed to list all rulemaking activities planned, to include their priority and schedule, in the annual budget request and the semi-annual report to Congress on licensing and regulatory activities.

Reporting.—The agreement directs the Commission to submit the following reports:

- by June 1, 2017, a report on the Commission's progress to be fully prepared to effectively and efficiently review any subsequent license renewal applications by mid-2017; and
- a quarterly report on licensing goals and right-sizing commitments as described in the explanatory statement for P.L. 114–113.

Digital Accountability and Transparency Act.—The agreement provides $543,000 to meet the requirements of the Digital Accountability and Transparency Act of 2014.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

The agreement includes $12,129,000 for the Office of Inspector General in the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. This amount is offset by revenues of $10,044,000, for a net appropriation of $2,085,000.

The agreement includes $969,000 to provide Inspector General services for the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board.

NUCLEAR WASTE TECHNICAL REVIEW BOARD

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement provides $3,600,000 for the Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board.

GENERAL PROVISIONS—INDEPENDENT AGENCIES

The agreement includes a provision instructing the Nuclear Regulatory Commission on responding to congressional requests for information.

The agreement includes a provision relating to reprogramming.

TITLE V—GENERAL PROVISIONS

The agreement includes a provision relating to lobbying restrictions.

The agreement includes a provision relating to transfer authority. No additional transfer authority is implied or conveyed by this provision. For the purposes of this provision, the term ''transfer'' shall mean the shifting of all or part of the budget authority in one account to another. In addition to transfers provided in this Act or other appropriations Acts, and existing authorities, such as the Economy Act (31 U.S.C. 1535), by which one part of the United States Government may provide goods or services to another part, the Act allows transfers using Section 4705 of the Atomic Energy Defense Act (50 U.S.C. 2745) and 15 U.S.C. 638 regarding SBIR/STTR.

The agreement includes a provision prohibiting funds to be used in contravention of the executive order entitled ''Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations.''

The agreement includes a provision prohibiting the use of funds to establish or maintain a computer network unless such network blocks the viewing, downloading, and exchanging of pornography, except for law enforcement investigation, prosecution, or adjudication activities.

DIVISION D, ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2016	Final Bill vs Request
TITLE I - DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE - CIVIL					
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY					
Corps of Engineers - Civil					
Investigations	121,000	85,000	121,000	---	+36,000
Construction	1,862,250	1,090,000	1,876,000	+13,750	+786,000
Mississippi River and Tributaries	345,000	222,000	362,000	+17,000	+140,000
Operation and Maintenance	3,137,000	2,705,000	3,149,000	+12,000	+444,000
Regulatory Program	200,000	200,000	200,000	---	---
Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP)	112,000	103,000	112,000	---	+9,000
Flood Control and Coastal Emergencies	28,000	30,000	32,000	+4,000	+2,000
Expenses	179,000	180,000	181,000	+2,000	+1,000
Office of Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works)	4,750	5,000	4,764	+14	-236
Total, title I, Department of Defense - Civil	5,989,000	4,620,000	6,037,764	+48,764	+1,417,764
Appropriations	(5,989,000)	(4,620,000)	(6,037,764)	(+48,764)	(+1,417,764)
TITLE II - DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR					
Central Utah Project					
Central Utah Project Completion Account	10,000	5,600	10,500	+500	+4,900

DIVISION D, ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2016	Final Bill vs Request
Bureau of Reclamation					
Water and Related Resources	1,118,972	813,402	1,155,894	+36,922	+342,492
Central Valley Project Restoration Fund	49,528	55,606	55,606	+6,078	---
California Bay-Delta Restoration	37,000	36,000	36,000	-1,000	---
Policy and Administration	59,500	59,000	59,000	-500	---
Indian Water Rights Settlements	---	106,151	---	---	-106,151
San Joaquin River Restoration Fund	---	36,000	---	---	-36,000
Total, Bureau of Reclamation	1,265,000	1,106,159	1,306,500	+41,500	+200,341
Total, title II, Department of the Interior	1,275,000	1,111,759	1,317,000	+42,000	+205,241
Appropriations	(1,275,000)	(1,111,759)	(1,317,000)	(+42,000)	(+205,241)
TITLE III - DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY					
Energy Programs					
Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy	2,073,000	2,898,400	2,090,200	+17,200	-808,200
Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability	206,000	262,300	230,000	+24,000	-32,300
Nuclear Energy	860,000	842,020	880,000	+20,000	+37,980
Defense function	126,161	151,876	136,616	+10,455	-15,260
Subtotal	986,161	993,896	1,016,616	+30,455	+22,720

DIVISION D, ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2016	Final Bill vs Request
Fossil Energy Research and Development	632,000	360,000	618,000	-14,000	+258,000
Fossil proviso	---	---	50,000	+50,000	+50,000
Subtotal	632,000	360,000	668,000	+36,000	+308,000
Office of Technology Transitions	---	8,400	---	---	-8,400
Naval Petroleum and Oil Shale Reserves	17,500	14,950	14,950	-2,550	---
Strategic Petroleum Reserve	212,000	257,000	223,000	+11,000	-34,000
Sale of crude oil (P.L. 114-254 Div A Sec 159)	---	-375,400	-340,000	-340,000	+35,400
Use of sale proceeds (P.L. 114-254 Div A Sec 159)	---	375,400	340,000	+340,000	-35,400
Subtotal	212,000	257,000	223,000	+11,000	-34,000
Northeast Home Heating Oil Reserve	7,600	6,500	6,500	-1,100	---
Energy Information Administration	122,000	131,125	122,000	---	-9,125
Non-defense Environmental Cleanup	255,000	218,400	247,000	-8,000	+28,600
Uranium Enrichment Decontamination and Decommissioning Fund	673,749	---	768,000	+94,251	+768,000
Science	5,350,200	5,572,069	5,392,000	+41,800	-180,069
Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy	291,000	350,000	306,000	+15,000	-44,000
Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs	---	22,930	---	---	-22,930
Title 17 Innovative Technology Loan Guarantee Program	42,000	37,000	37,000	-5,000	---
Offsetting collection	-25,000	-30,000	-30,000	-5,000	---
Proposed change in subsidy cost	---	1,020,000	---	---	-1,020,000
Subtotal	17,000	1,027,000	7,000	-10,000	-1,020,000

DIVISION D, ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2016	Final Bill vs Request
Advanced Technology Vehicles Manufacturing Loans program	6,000	5,000	5,000	-1,000	---
Tribal Energy Loan Guarantee Program	---	---	9,000	+9,000	+9,000
Rescission	---	---	-9,000	-9,000	-9,000
Subtotal	---	---	---	---	---
Departmental Administration	248,142	270,037	246,000	-2,142	-24,037
Miscellaneous revenues	-117,171	-103,000	-103,000	+14,171	---
Net appropriation	130,971	167,037	143,000	+12,029	-24,037
Office of the Inspector General	46,424	44,424	44,424	-2,000	---
Total, Energy programs	11,026,605	12,339,431	11,283,690	+257,085	-1,055,741
Atomic Energy Defense Activities					
National Nuclear Security Administration					
Weapons Activities	8,846,948	9,285,147	9,318,093	+471,145	+32,946
Rescission	---	-42,000	-64,126	-64,126	-22,126

DIVISION D, ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2016	Final Bill vs Request
Budget amendment rescission	---	-8,400	-8,400	-8,400	---
Subtotal	8,846,948	9,234,747	9,245,567	+398,619	+10,820
Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation	1,940,302	1,821,916	1,902,000	-38,302	+80,084
Rescission	---	-14,000	-19,128	-19,128	-5,128
Subtotal	1,940,302	1,807,916	1,882,872	-57,430	+74,956
Naval Reactors	1,375,496	1,420,120	1,420,120	+44,624	---
Rescission	---	---	-307	-307	-307
Subtotal	1,375,496	1,420,120	1,419,813	+44,317	-307
Federal Salaries and Expenses	383,666	412,817	390,000	+6,334	-22,817
Rescission	-19,900	---	---	+19,900	---
Subtotal	363,766	412,817	390,000	+26,234	-22,817
Total, National Nuclear Security Administration	12,526,512	12,875,600	12,938,252	+411,740	+62,652

DIVISION D, ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2016	Final Bill vs Request
Environmental and Other Defense Activities					
Defense Environmental Cleanup	5,289,742	5,226,950	5,405,000	+115,258	+178,050
Budget amendment	---	8,400	---	---	-8,400
Subtotal	5,289,742	5,235,350	5,405,000	+115,258	+169,650
Defense Environmental cleanup (Legislative proposal)	---	155,100	---	---	-155,100
Defense Uranium Enrichment Decontamination and Decommissioning	---	---	563,000	+563,000	+563,000
Other Defense Activities	776,425	791,552	784,000	+7,575	-7,552
Total, Environmental and Other Defense Activities	6,066,167	6,182,002	6,752,000	+685,833	+569,998
Total, Atomic Energy Defense Activities	18,592,679	19,057,602	19,690,252	+1,097,573	+632,650
Power Marketing Administrations /1					
Operation and maintenance, Southeastern Power Administration	6,900	1,000	1,000	-5,900	---
Offsetting collections	-6,900	-1,000	-1,000	+5,900	---
Subtotal	---	---	---	---	---
Operation and maintenance, Southwestern Power Administration	47,361	45,643	45,643	-1,718	---

DIVISION D, ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2016	Final Bill vs Request
Offsetting collections	-35,961	-34,586	-34,586	+1,375	---
Subtotal	11,400	11,057	11,057	-343	---
Construction, Rehabilitation, Operation and Maintenance, Western Area Power Administration	307,714	307,144	273,144	-34,570	-34,000
Offsetting collections	-214,342	-211,563	-177,563	+36,779	+34,000
Subtotal	93,372	95,581	95,581	+2,209	---
Falcon and Amistad Operating and Maintenance Fund	4,490	4,070	4,070	-420	---
Offsetting collections	-4,262	-3,838	-3,838	+424	---
Subtotal	228	232	232	+4	---
Total, Power Marketing Administrations	105,000	106,870	106,870	+1,870	---
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission					
Salaries and expenses	319,800	346,800	346,800	+27,000	---
Revenues applied	-319,800	-346,800	-346,800	-27,000	---
General Provisions					
Title III Rescissions:					
Department of Energy:					
Energy Programs and PMAs	---	---	-81,063	-81,063	-81,063
Atomic Energy Defense Activities (050)	---	---	-13,740	-13,740	-13,740

DIVISION D, ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2016	Final Bill vs Request
Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy	-3,806	---	---	+3,806	---
Science	-3,200	---	---	+3,200	---
Fossil Energy Research and Development	---	---	-240,000	-240,000	-240,000
Subtotal	-7,006	---	-334,803	-327,797	-334,803
Total, title III, Department of Energy	29,717,278	31,503,903	30,746,009	+1,028,731	-757,894
Appropriations	(29,744,184)	(31,568,303)	(31,181,773)	(+1,437,589)	(-386,530)
Rescissions	(-26,906)	(-64,400)	(-435,764)	(-408,858)	(-371,364)
TITLE IV - INDEPENDENT AGENCIES					
Appalachian Regional Commission	146,000	120,000	152,000	+6,000	+32,000
Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board	29,150	31,000	30,872	+1,722	-128
Delta Regional Authority	25,000	15,936	25,000	---	+9,064
Denali Commission	11,000	15,000	15,000	+4,000	---
Northern Border Regional Commission	7,500	5,000	10,000	+2,500	+5,000
Southeast Crescent Regional Commission	250	---	250	---	+250
Nuclear Regulatory Commission:					
Salaries and expenses	990,000	970,163	905,000	-85,000	-65,163
Revenues	-872,864	-851,161	-794,580	+78,284	+56,581
Subtotal	117,136	119,002	110,420	-6,716	-8,582

DIVISION D, ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2016	Final Bill vs Request
Office of Inspector General	12,136	12,129	12,129	-7	---
Revenues	-10,060	-10,044	-10,044	+16	---
Subtotal	2,076	2,085	2,085	+9	---
Total, Nuclear Regulatory Commission	119,212	121,087	112,505	-6,707	-8,582
Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board	3,600	3,600	3,600	---	---
Total, title IV, Independent agencies	341,712	311,623	349,227	+7,515	+37,604
Appropriations	(341,712)	(311,623)	(349,227)	(+7,515)	(+37,604)
Grand total	37,322,990	37,547,285	38,450,000	+1,127,010	+902,715
Appropriations	(37,349,896)	(37,611,685)	(38,885,764)	(+1,535,868)	(+1,274,079)
Rescissions	(-26,906)	(-64,400)	(-435,764)	(-408,858)	(-371,364)

1/ Totals adjusted to net out alternative financing costs, reimbursable agreement funding, and power purchase and wheeling expenditures. Offsetting collection totals only reflect funds collected for annual expenses, excluding power purchase wheeling

Note: The FY 2017 Request column reflects the budget submitted on February 9, 2016, as amended

DIVISION E—FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

Language included in House Report 114–624 or Senate Report 114–280 that is not changed by this explanatory statement is approved. This explanatory statement, while repeating some report language for emphasis, is not intended to negate the language referenced in the House and Senate Committee reports unless expressly provided herein. Where the House or Senate has directed the submission of a report, that report is to be submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of both the House of Representatives and the Senate.

TITLE I—DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

DEPARTMENTAL OFFICES

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides $224,376,000 for departmental offices salaries and expenses. Within the amount provided under this heading, up to $24,000,000 is available until September 30, 2018, for the Treasury-wide Financial Statement Audit; information technology modernization; the audit, oversight, and administration of the Gulf Coast Restoration Trust Fund; the development and implementation of programs within the Office of Critical Infrastructure Protection and Compliance Policy; and international operations.

OFFICE OF TERRORISM AND FINANCIAL INTELLIGENCE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides $123,000,000 for the Office of Terrorism and Financial Intelligence, of which up to $28,000,000 is for administrative expenses and $5,000,000 is available until September 30, 2018.

Economic Sanctions and Divestments.—The Department of the Treasury will fully implement sanctions and divestment measures applicable to the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, terrorism, transnational organized crime, the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, Russia, Belarus, North Korea, Iran, Sudan, Syria, Venezuela, Zimbabwe, and designated rebel groups operating in and around the Democratic Republic of Congo. The Department will promptly notify the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate of any resource constraints that adversely impact the implementation of these sanctions programs.

CYBERSECURITY ENHANCEMENT ACCOUNT

The bill provides $47,743,000 for the Cybersecurity Enhancement Account.

DEPARTMENT-WIDE SYSTEMS AND CAPITAL INVESTMENTS PROGRAMS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill provides $3,000,000 for the Department-Wide Systems and Capital Investments Programs.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides $37,044,000 for the Office of Inspector General.

TREASURY INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR TAX ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides $169,634,000 for salaries and expenses of the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration.

SPECIAL INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR THE TROUBLED ASSET RELIEF PROGRAM

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides $41,160,000 for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Special Inspector General for the Troubled Asset Relief Program.

FINANCIAL CRIMES ENFORCEMENT NETWORK

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill includes $115,003,000 for salaries and expenses for the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network.

TREASURY FORFEITURE FUND

(RESCISSION)

Of the unobligated balances available under this heading, $1,115,000,000 are rescinded, of which $314,000,000 are permanently rescinded.

BUREAU OF THE FISCAL SERVICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides $353,057,000 for salaries and expenses of the Bureau of the Fiscal Service, and provides $165,000 to be derived from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund to reimburse Fiscal Service personnel for financial management of the Fund. Within the amount provided in the bill, $4,210,000 is available until September 30, 2019, for information systems modernization.

ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO TAX AND TRADE BUREAU

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides $111,439,000 for salaries and expenses of the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau. Within this amount, $5,000,000 is provided for costs associated with accelerating the processing of label and formula applications, and $5,000,000 is available until September 30, 2018 for the costs of enforcement of trade practice violations.

UNITED STATES MINT

UNITED STATES MINT PUBLIC ENTERPRISE FUND

The bill specifies that not more than $30,000,000 in new liabilities and obligations may be incurred during fiscal year 2017 for circulating coinage and protective service capital investments of the U.S. Mint.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS FUND PROGRAM ACCOUNT

The bill provides $248,000,000 for the Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI) Fund program. Within this amount, not less than $161,500,000 is for financial and technical assistance grants, of which up to $3,000,000 may be used to provide technical and financial assistance to CDFIs that fund projects to help individuals with disabilities; not less than $15,500,000 is for technical assistance and other purposes for Native American, Native Hawaiian, and Alaska Native communities; not less than $23,000,000 is for the Bank Enterprise Award program; not less than $22,000,000 is for the Healthy Food Financing Initiative; and up to $26,000,000 is for administrative expenses, of which $1,000,000 is for the development of information technology tools to better measure and assess CDFI investment performance, improve data quality, and enable more efficient allocation of CDFI Fund resources. The bill limits the total loan principal for the Bond Guarantee program to $500,000,000.

CDFI Program Integration for Individuals with Disabilities.—In lieu of the House report language on CDFI program integration for individuals with disabilities, the agreement provides funds for financial and technical assistance grants that may be used to position more CDFIs to incorporate the needs of the disabled into their business plans and practices.

If the Fund elects to issue grants in this manner, the Fund is directed to submit a report not later than the end of calendar year 2017 to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate, the Committee on Financial Services of the House, and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate to include parameters for award issuance, a profile of CDFI participants competing for these funds, and metrics to be used by the Fund to track how funds are spent to support projects for individuals with disabilities.

Not later than the end of fiscal year 2019, the CDFI Fund must submit a second report that includes the number of awards, amount of each award, and anticipated projects funded, if funds are dispersed for this purpose, as well as findings and recommendations related to the efficacy of award efforts and impacts on the disability community.

Persistent Poverty.—As was previously enacted in fiscal year 2012, the bill requires that no less than 10 percent of funds are awarded to persistent poverty counties, using decennial census data from 1990, 2000, and 2010. The CDFI Fund previously used the American Community Survey (ACS) data, which was a subset of the decennial census, to fulfill this requirement, but the ACS has since been published separately from the decennial census. Therefore, the CDFI Fund may use the 2015 ACS data to fulfill this requirement.

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

TAXPAYER SERVICES

The bill provides $2,156,554,000 for Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Taxpayer Services. Within the overall amount, not less than $8,890,000 is for the Tax Counseling for the Elderly program, not less than $12,000,000 is for low-income taxpayer clinic grants, and not less than $206,000,000 is provided for operating expenses of the IRS Taxpayer Advocate Service, of which not less than $5,000,000 is for identity theft casework.

In addition, within the overall amount provided, not less than $15,000,000, available until September 30, 2018, is included for the Community Volunteer Income Tax Assistance matching grants program.

ENFORCEMENT

The bill provides $4,860,000,000 for Enforcement.

OPERATIONS SUPPORT

The bill provides $3,638,446,000 for Operations Support.

BUSINESS SYSTEMS MODERNIZATION

The bill provides $290,000,000 for Business Systems Modernization.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The bill includes the following provisions:

Section 101 provides transfer authority.

Section 102 requires the IRS to maintain an employee training program on topics such as taxpayers' rights.

Section 103 requires the IRS to safeguard taxpayer information and to protect taxpayers against identity theft.

Section 104 permits funding for 1–800 help line services for taxpayers and directs the Commissioner to make improving phone service a priority and to enhance response times.

Section 105 prohibits funds for videos unless reviewed in advance by the IRS' Video Editorial Board for cost, topic, tone, and purpose.

Section 106 requires the IRS to issue notices to employers of any address change request and to give special consideration to offers in compromise for taxpayers who have been victims of payroll tax preparer fraud.

Section 107 prohibits the use of funds by the IRS to target United States citizens for

exercising any right guaranteed under the First Amendment to the Constitution.

Section 108 prohibits the use of funds by the IRS to target groups for regulatory scrutiny based on their ideological beliefs.

Section 109 requires the IRS to comply with procedures and policies on conference spending in accordance with IRS policies issued as a result of Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration recommendations.

Section 110 prohibits funds for giving bonuses to employees or hiring former employees without considering conduct and compliance with Federal tax law.

Section 111 prohibits the IRS from using funds made available by this Act to contravene a provision of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 related to the confidentiality and disclosure of returns and return information.

Section 112 prohibits funds for pre-populated returns.

Section 113 provides $290,000,000 to be used solely for measurable improvements in the customer service representative level of service rate, to improve the identification and prevention of refund fraud and identity theft, and to enhance cybersecurity to safeguard taxpayer data. None of the funds are to implement the Affordable Care Act and the Commissioner is required to submit a spend plan.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The bill includes the following provisions:

Section 114 allows Treasury to use funds for certain specified expenses.

Section 115 allows for the transfer of up to 2 percent of funds among various Treasury bureaus and offices.

Section 116 allows for the transfer of up to 2 percent from the IRS accounts to the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration.

Section 117 prohibits funding to redesign the $1 note.

Section 118 allows for the transfer of funds from the Bureau of Fiscal Service-Salaries and Expenses to the Debt Collection Fund conditional on future reimbursement.

Section 119 prohibits funds to build a United States Mint museum without the approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate and the authorizing committees of jurisdiction.

Section 120 prohibits funding for consolidating the functions of the United States Mint and the Bureau of Engraving and Printing without the approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate and the authorizing committees of jurisdiction.

Section 121 specifies that funds for Treasury intelligence activities are deemed to be specifically authorized until enactment of the fiscal year 2017 Intelligence Authorization Act.

Section 122 permits the Bureau of Engraving and Printing to use up to $5,000 from the Industrial Revolving Fund for reception and representation expenses.

Section 123 requires the Secretary to submit a Capital Investment Plan.

Section 124 requires a Franchise Fund report.

Section 125 requires the Department to submit a report on economic warfare and financial terrorism.

Section 126 prohibits the Department from finalizing any regulation related to the standards used to determine the tax-exempt status of a 501(c)(4) organization.

Section 127 requires the Office of Financial Research and Office of Financial Stability to submit quarterly reports.

TITLE II—EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT AND FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT

THE WHITE HOUSE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides $55,214,000 for the salaries and expenses of the White House.

EXECUTIVE RESIDENCE AT THE WHITE HOUSE

OPERATING EXPENSES

The bill provides $12,723,000 for the Executive Residence at the White House.

WHITE HOUSE REPAIR AND RESTORATION

The bill provides $750,000 for repair, alteration and improvement of the Executive Residence at the White House.

COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides $4,201,000 for salaries and expenses of the Council of Economic Advisers.

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL AND HOMELAND SECURITY COUNCIL

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides $12,000,000 for salaries and expenses of the National Security Council and Homeland Security Council.

OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides $96,116,000 for salaries and expenses of the Office of Administration, of which not to exceed $12,760,000, to remain available until expended, is for information technology modernization. Further, the bill provides an additional $4,925,000, available until September 30, 2018, for additional physical security improvements. The Office is directed to brief the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations within 180 days of enactment on the use of funds.

PRESIDENTIAL TRANSITION ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill provides $7,582,000 for costs associated with the change in Presidential administrations. The bill allows for the funds to be transferred to other accounts within the Executive Office of the President.

OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides $95,000,000 for the salaries and expenses of the Office of Management and Budget.

OFFICE OF NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL POLICY

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides $19,274,000 for salaries and expenses of the Office of National Drug Control Policy.

FEDERAL DRUG CONTROL PROGRAMS

HIGH INTENSITY DRUG TRAFFICKING AREAS PROGRAM

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The bill provides $254,000,000 for the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas Program.

OTHER FEDERAL DRUG CONTROL PROGRAMS

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The bill provides $114,871,000 for Other Federal Drug Control Programs. The agreement allocates funds among specific programs as follows:

Drug-Free Communities Program	97,000,000
(Training)	(2,000,000)
Drug court training and technical assistance	2,000,000
Anti-Doping activities	9,500,000
World Anti-Doping Agency (U.S. membership dues)	2,121,000
Discretionary Grants as authorized by P.L. 109–469, section 1105	1,250,000
Activities authorized by Section 103 of P.L. 114–198, section 103	3,000,000

UNANTICIPATED NEEDS

The bill provides $800,000 for unanticipated needs of the Administration.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY OVERSIGHT AND REFORM

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill provides $27,000,000 for information technology oversight and reform activities.

SPECIAL ASSISTANCE TO THE PRESIDENT

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides $4,228,000 for salaries and expenses to enable the Vice President to provide special assistance to the President.

OFFICIAL RESIDENCE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT

OPERATING EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill provides $299,000 for operating expenses for the official residence of the Vice President.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT AND FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill includes the following administrative provisions under this title:

Section 201 provides transfer authority among various Executive Office of the President accounts.

Section 202 requires the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to report on the costs of implementing the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (Public Law 111–203).

Section 203 requires the Director of the OMB to include a statement of budgetary impact with any Executive Order issued or revoked during fiscal year 2017 and for Presidential memoranda estimated to have a regulatory cost in excess of $100,000,000.

TITLE III—THE JUDICIARY

SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides $76,668,000 for salaries and expenses of the Supreme Court. In addition, the bill provides mandatory costs as authorized by current law for the salaries of the chief justice and associate justices of the court.

CARE OF THE BUILDING AND GROUNDS

The bill provides $14,868,000 for the care of the Supreme Court building and grounds.

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE FEDERAL CIRCUIT

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides $30,108,000 for salaries and expenses of the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. In addition, the bill provides mandatory costs as authorized by current law for the salaries of the chief judge and judges of the court.

UNITED STATES COURT OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides $18,462,000 for salaries and expenses of the United States Court of International Trade. In addition, the bill provides mandatory costs as authorized by current law for the salaries of the chief judge and judges of the court.

COURTS OF APPEALS, DISTRICT COURTS, AND OTHER JUDICIAL SERVICES

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides $4,996,445,000 for salaries and expenses of the Courts of Appeals, District Courts, and Other Judicial Services. In addition, the bill provides mandatory costs as authorized by current law for the salaries of circuit and district judges (including judges of the territorial courts of the United States), bankruptcy judges, and justices and judges retired from office or from regular active service. The bill provides for the consolidation of district and bankruptcy clerks of courts offices within the District of Montana and District of Vermont. The bill also provides $6,510,000 from the Vaccine Injury Compensation Trust Fund.

DEFENDER SERVICES

The bill provides $1,044,647,000 for Defender Services. The bill includes a $2 increase to the hourly non-capital panel attorney rate above the COLA-adjusted level.

FEES OF JURORS AND COMMISSIONERS

The bill provides $39,929,000 for Fees of Jurors and Commissioners.

COURT SECURITY

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The bill provides $565,388,000 for Court Security.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES COURTS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides $87,500,000 for salaries and expenses of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts.

FEDERAL JUDICIAL CENTER

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides $28,335,000 for salaries and expenses of the Federal Judicial Center.

UNITED STATES SENTENCING COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides $18,100,000 for salaries and expenses of the United States Sentencing Commission.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—THE JUDICIARY

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill includes the following administrative provisions:

Section 301 makes funds appropriated for salaries and expenses available for services authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109.

Section 302 provides transfer authority among Judiciary appropriations.

Section 303 permits not more than $11,000 to be used for official reception and representation expenses of the Judicial Conference.

Section 304 extends through fiscal year 2017 the delegation of authority to the Judiciary for contracts for repairs of less than $100,000.

Section 305 continues a pilot program where the United States Marshals Service provides perimeter security services at selected courthouses.

Section 306 extends temporary judgeships in the eastern district of Missouri, Kansas, Arizona, the central district of California, the northern district of Alabama, the southern district of Florida, New Mexico, the western district of North Carolina, and the eastern district of Texas.

Section 307 extends temporary bankruptcy judgeships in Virginia, Michigan, Puerto Rico, Delaware, and Florida.

TITLE IV—DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

FEDERAL FUNDS

FEDERAL PAYMENT FOR RESIDENT TUITION SUPPORT

The bill provides $40,000,000 for District of Columbia resident tuition support.

FEDERAL PAYMENT FOR EMERGENCY PLANNING AND SECURITY COSTS IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

The bill provides $34,895,000 for emergency planning and security costs in the District of Columbia, of which $19,995,000 is for costs associated with the Presidential Inauguration.

FEDERAL PAYMENT TO THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURTS

The bill provides $274,611,000 for the District of Columbia courts. Within the amount provided, $14,359,000 is for the District of Columbia Court of Appeals; $125,380,000 is for the Superior Court of the District of Columbia; $75,184,000 is for the District of Columbia Court System; and $59,688,000 is available until September 30, 2018 for capital improvements for District of Columbia court facilities.

FEDERAL PAYMENT FOR DEFENDER SERVICES IN DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURTS

The bill provides $49,890,000 for defender services in District of Columbia Courts.

FEDERAL PAYMENT TO THE COURT SERVICES AND OFFENDER SUPERVISION AGENCY FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

The bill provides $248,008,000 to the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency for the District of Columbia. Within the amount provided, $182,721,000 is for the Community Supervision Program and sex offender registration; and $65,287,000 is for the Pretrial Services Agency for the District of Columbia, of which $1,800,000 is available until September 30, 2018, for costs associated with IT improvements for a comprehensive in-house synthetics testing program.

FEDERAL PAYMENT TO THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICE

The bill provides $41,829,000 for the District of Columbia Public Defender Service.

FEDERAL PAYMENT TO THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY

The bill provides $14,000,000 for the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority.

FEDERAL PAYMENT TO THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL

The bill provides $2,000,000 for the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council.

FEDERAL PAYMENT FOR JUDICIAL COMMISSIONS

The bill provides $585,000 for Judicial Commissions. Within the amount provided, $310,000 is for the Commission on Judicial Disabilities and Tenure, and $275,000 is for the Judicial Nomination Commission.

FEDERAL PAYMENT FOR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

The bill provides $45,000,000 for school improvement in the District of Columbia in accordance with the provisions of the Scholarships for Opportunity and Results Act (SOAR Act). Of that amount, $3,200,000 is for administrative expenses and evaluation costs.

FEDERAL PAYMENT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA NATIONAL GUARD

The bill provides $450,000 for the Major General David F. Wherley, Jr. District of Columbia National Guard Retention and College Access Program.

FEDERAL PAYMENT FOR TESTING AND TREATMENT OF HIV/AIDS

The bill provides $5,000,000 for the purpose of HIV/AIDS testing and treatment.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA FUNDS

The bill provides authority for the District of Columbia to spend its local funds in accordance with the Fiscal Year 2017 Budget Request Act of 2016.

TITLE V—INDEPENDENT AGENCIES

ADMINISTRATIVE CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED STATES

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides $3,100,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, for the Administrative Conference of the United States.

COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

The bill provides $250,000,000 for the Commodity Futures Trading Commission. Within the amount provided, $50,000,000 is available—until September 30, 2018, for the purchase of information technology.

The agreement directs the Commission to continue to look for savings in its leasing costs, including the subleasing of excess space.

The Commission has taken administrative action to delay the de minimis threshold phase-in termination date—until December 31, 2018. The agency is encouraged to continue consideration of this issue.

CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill includes $126,000,000 for the Consumer Product Safety Commission. Within the amount provided, $1,300,000 is available until expended, for the pool and spa safety grants program established by the Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act.

Voluntary Recalls and Public Disclosure.—The bill does not adopt House report language regarding voluntary recalls and public disclosures of information.

Advisory Committees.—The bill does not adopt House report language establishing advisory committees.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION—CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

Section 501 prohibits funds from being used in fiscal year 2017 to finalize or implement the proposed rule on recreational off-highway vehicles until a study is completed by the National Academy of Sciences.

ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill provides $9,600,000 for salaries and expenses of the Election Assistance Commission, of which $1,400,000 is transferred to the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides $339,844,000 for salaries and expenses of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). In addition, the bill provides $16,866,992 for moving expenses. The bill provides that $356,710,992 be derived from offsetting collections, resulting in no net appropriation.

Fines.—The agreement adopts language in the House report regarding the collection of monetary penalties; however, in lieu of a quarterly report, the Commission is directed to provide this report no later than September 1, 2017.

Broadband Connectivity on Tribal Lands.—In lieu of the Senate report language on tribal consultation, the agreement adopts the following language:

Significant concerns remain about the lack of access to broadband services on tribal lands. The Commission is directed to set interim goals and performance measures for increasing access to broadband on tribal lands, and the agreement recommends $300,000 to support consultation with federally recognized Indian tribes, Alaska Native

villages, and entities related to Hawaiian home lands.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

The bill includes the following administrative provisions for the Federal Communications Commission:

Section 510 extends an exemption for the Universal Service Fund.

Section 511 prohibits the FCC from changing rules governing the Universal Service Fund regarding single connection or primary line restrictions.

FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

The bill provides a transfer of $35,958,000 to fund the Office of Inspector General (OIG) for the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. The OIG's appropriations are derived from the Deposit Insurance Fund and the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation Resolution Fund.

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides $79,119,000 for salaries and expenses of the Federal Election Commission, of which $8,000,000 is available until September 30, 2018 for costs associated with expiring facility leases.

FEDERAL LABOR RELATIONS AUTHORITY

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides $26,200,000 for the Federal Labor Relations Authority.

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides $313,000,000 for salaries and expenses of the Federal Trade Commission. This appropriation is partially offset by premerger filing and Telemarketing Sales Rule fees estimated at $125,000,000 and $15,000,000, respectively.

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

Land Border Partnerships.—The agreement adopts language in the Senate report directing the General Services Administration (GSA) to submit a report on improvements to donation and gift agreements for land border partnerships. GSA is directed to provide this report within 120 days of enactment of this Act.

REAL PROPERTY ACTIVITIES

FEDERAL BUILDINGS FUND

LIMITATIONS ON AVAILABILITY OF REVENUE

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The bill provides resources from the General Services Administration (GSA) Federal Buildings Fund totaling $8,845,147,000.

Construction and Acquisition.—The bill provides $5,749,000 for construction and acquisition for the United States Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service facility, Pembina, North Dakota. In addition, the bill provides $200,000,000 for the Federal Bureau of Investigation headquarters consolidation. It is the intent of Congress to provide funding in fiscal year 2018 necessary for the project to proceed expeditiously.

Repairs and Alterations.—The bill provides $676,035,000 for repairs and alterations. Funds are provided in the amounts indicated:

Major Repairs and Alterations	$289,245,000
Basic Repairs and Alterations	$312,090,000
Judiciary Capital Security Program	$26,700,000
Consolidation Activities	$48,000,000

For Major Repairs and Alterations, GSA is directed to submit a spending plan, by project, as specified in Section 526 of this Act to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate (Committees) and to provide notification to the Committees, within 15 days prior to any changes in the use of these funds. The agreement provides no funding for the Fire and Life Safety Program and Energy and Water Retrofit and Conservation Measures.

Rental of Space.—The bill provides $5,628,363,000 for rental of space.

Building Operations.—The bill provides $2,335,000,000 for building operations. Within this amount, $1,184,240,000 is for building services and $1,150,760,000 is for salaries and expenses. Up to five percent of the funds may be transferred between these activities upon the advance notification to Committees.

GENERAL ACTIVITIES

GOVERNMENT–WIDE POLICY

The bill provides $60,000,000 for General Services Administration government-wide policy activities. GSA is directed to spend not less than $2,000,000 on the Unified Shared Services Management Office.

OPERATING EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill provides $58,541,000 for operating expenses. Within the amount provided under this heading, the bill provides $25,869,000 for Real and Personal Property Management and Disposal, $23,397,000 for the Office of the Administrator, and $9,275,000 for the Civilian Board of Contract Appeals. Up to five percent of the funds for the Office of the Administrator may be transferred to Real and Personal Property Management and Disposal upon the advance notification to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

The bill provides $65,000,000 for the Office of Inspector General.

ALLOWANCES AND OFFICE STAFF FOR FORMER PRESIDENTS

The bill provides $3,865,000 for allowances and office staff for former Presidents.

EXPENSES, PRESIDENTIAL TRANSITION

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill provides $9,500,000 for presidential transition expenses.

FEDERAL CITIZEN SERVICES FUND

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The bill provides $55,894,000 for deposit into the Federal Citizen Services Fund (the Fund) and authorizes use of appropriations, revenues and collections in the Fund in an aggregate amount not to exceed $100,000,000. Any deviation from the spending plan required for Electronic Government projects shall require a notification within 30 days to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

(INCLUDING RESCISSION AND TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill includes the following provisions:

Section 520 specifies that funds are available for hire of motor vehicles.

Section 521 authorizes transfers within the Federal Buildings Fund, with advance approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate.

Section 522 requires transmittal of a fiscal year 2018 request for courthouse construction that meets design guide standards, reflects the priorities in the Judicial Conference's 5-year construction plan, and includes a standardized courtroom utilization study.

Section 523 specifies that funds in this Act may not be used to increase the amount of occupiable space or provide services such as cleaning or security for any agency that does not pay the rental charges assessed by GSA.

Section 524 permits GSA to pay certain construction-related claims against the Federal Government from savings achieved in other projects.

Section 525 requires that the delineated area of procurement for leased space match the approved prospectus, unless the Administrator provides an explanatory statement to the appropriate congressional committees.

Section 526 requires a spending plan for certain accounts and programs.

Section 527 rescinds prior year unobligated balances from the Civilian Cyber Campus project funded in Public Law 113–235.

HARRY S TRUMAN SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides $1,000,000 for payment to the Harry S Truman Scholarship Foundation Trust Fund.

MERIT SYSTEMS PROTECTION BOARD

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill provides $47,131,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, for salaries and expenses of the Merit Systems Protection Board. Within the amount provided, $44,786,000 is a direct appropriation and $2,345,000 is a transfer from the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund to adjudicate retirement appeals.

MORRIS K. UDALL AND STEWART L. UDALL FOUNDATION

MORRIS K. UDALL AND STEWART L. UDALL TRUST FUND

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill provides $1,895,000 for payment to the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, of which $200,000 is transferred to the Office of Inspector General of the Department of the Interior to conduct audits and investigations.

ENVIRONMENTAL DISPUTE RESOLUTION FUND

The bill provides $3,249,000 for payment to the Environmental Dispute Resolution Fund.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION

OPERATING EXPENSES

The bill provides $380,634,000 for the operating expenses of the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA).

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

The bill provides $4,801,000 for the Office of Inspector General of the National Archives and Records Administration.

REPAIRS AND RESTORATION

The bill provides $7,500,000 for repairs and restoration.

NATIONAL HISTORICAL PUBLICATIONS AND RECORDS COMMISSION GRANTS PROGRAM

The bill provides $6,000,000 for the National Historical Publications and Records Commission grants program.

NATIONAL CREDIT UNION ADMINISTRATION

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REVOLVING LOAN FUND

The bill provides $2,000,000 for the Community Development Revolving Loan Fund.

OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT ETHICS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides $16,090,000 for salaries and expenses of the Office of Government Ethics.

OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF TRUST FUNDS)

The bill provides $259,000,000 for salaries and expenses of the Office of Personnel Management (OPM). Within the amount provided, $119,000,000 is a direct appropriation and $140,000,000 is a transfer from OPM trust funds.

The bill provides $11,000,000 for OPM to improve information technology (IT) security and infrastructure. OPM is directed to provide quarterly briefings to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate outlining progress on its infrastructure improvement project to increase network security and migrate legacy systems, including the Consolidated Business Information Systems. Prior to obligating the $11,000,000 for IT security improvements, OPM is directed to consult with the Office of Management and Budget, the U.S. Digital Service, and the Department of Homeland Security regarding the plan of expenditure of funds and the modernization project. The OPM IG is to review and comment upon this plan within 90 days.

OPM shall report, within 180 days after enactment of this Act, on Retirement Services customer service staff increases, as a result of funding provided, including call and email handling rate as well as average processing time.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF TRUST FUNDS)

The bill provides $30,184,000 for salaries and expenses of the Office of Inspector General. Within the amount provided, $5,072,000 is a direct appropriation and $25,112,000 is a transfer from OPM trust funds.

OFFICE OF SPECIAL COUNSEL

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill includes $24,750,000 for the salaries and expenses of the Office of Special Counsel.

POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill provides $16,200,000 for salaries and expenses of the Postal Regulatory Commission.

PRIVACY AND CIVIL LIBERTIES OVERSIGHT BOARD

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides $10,100,000 for salaries and expenses of the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board.

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides $1,605,000,000 for the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). The bill provides $72,049,000 for the Division of Economic and Risk Analysis, and stipulates that $1,605,000,000 be derived from offsetting collections resulting in no net appropriation. The bill provides that the SEC Office of Inspector General shall receive no less than $14,700,000.

The agreement does not include a section pertaining to electronic delivery of shareholder reports. The SEC did not adopt proposed rule 30e–3 when the Commission adopted the new rules and forms to modernize reporting and the disclosure of information by registered investment companies.

SELECTIVE SERVICE SYSTEM

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides $22,900,000 for salaries and expenses of the Selective Service System.

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides $269,500,000 for salaries and expenses of the Small Business Administration (SBA).

Credit Elsewhere.—The agreement adopts language in the House report regarding credit elsewhere; however, in lieu of a report due 120 days after enactment, GAO is directed to provide this report no later than one year after the date of enactment.

ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

The bill provides $245,100,000 for SBA Entrepreneurial Development Programs. The SBA shall not reduce these amounts and shall not merge any of the entrepreneurial development programs without the advance written approval from the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate.

Project	($000)
7(j) Technical Assistance Program (Contracting Assistance)	2,800
Entrepreneurship Education	10,000
Growth Accelerators	1,000
HUBZone Program	3,000
Microloan Technical Assistance	31,000
National Women's Business Council	1,500
Native American Outreach	2,000
PRIME Technical Assistance	5,000
Regional Innovation Clusters	5,000
SCORE	10,500
Small Business Development Centers (SBDC)	125,000
State Trade Expansion Program (STEP)	18,000
Veterans Outreach	12,300
Women's Business Centers (WBC)	18,000
Total, Entrepreneurial Development Programs	245,100

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

The bill provides $19,900,000 for the Office of Inspector General of the Small Business Administration.

OFFICE OF ADVOCACY

The bill provides $9,220,000 for the Office of Advocacy.

BUSINESS LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill provides $157,064,000 for the Business Loans Program Account. Of the amount provided, $4,338,000 is for the cost of direct loans in the microloan program, and $152,726,000 is for administrative expenses to carry out the direct and guaranteed loan programs which may be transferred to and merged with Salaries and Expenses. The bill provides a $27,500,000,000 cap for SBA 7(a) loans.

DISASTER LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The bill includes $185,977,000 for the administrative costs of the Disaster Loans Program Account.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

(INCLUDING RESCISSION AND TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill includes the following administrative provisions for the Small Business Administration:

Section 530 concerns transfer authority and availability of funds.

Section 531 rescinds prior year unobligated balances related to business loan subsidy programs that are now zero subsidy.

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

PAYMENT TO THE POSTAL SERVICE FUND

The bill provides $34,658,000 for payment to the Postal Service Fund.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill provides $253,600,000 for the Office of Inspector General.

UNITED STATES TAX COURT

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The bill provides $51,226,000 for salaries and expenses of the United States Tax Court.

TITLE VI—GENERAL PROVISIONS—THIS ACT

(INCLUDING RESCISSION)

The bill includes the following provisions:

Section 601 prohibits paying expenses or otherwise compensating non-Federal parties in regulatory or adjudicatory proceedings funded in this Act.

Section 602 prohibits obligations beyond the current fiscal year and transfers of funds unless expressly so provided herein.

Section 603 limits consulting service expenditures to contracts where such expenditures are a matter of public record, with exceptions.

Section 604 prohibits funds from being transferred to any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States without express authority provided in this or any other appropriations Act.

Section 605 prohibits the use of funds to engage in activities that would prohibit the enforcement of section 307 of the 1930 Tariff Act.

Section 606 prohibits funds from being expended unless the recipient agrees to comply with the Buy American Act.

Section 607 prohibits funding to a person or entity convicted of violating the Buy American Act.

Section 608 provides reprogramming authority and requires agencies to submit operating plans to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate.

Section 609 provides that not to exceed 50 percent of unobligated balances from salaries and expenses may remain available for certain purposes.

Section 610 prohibits funds for the Executive Office of the President to request either a Federal Bureau of Investigation background investigation, except with the express consent of the individual involved in an investigation or in extraordinary circumstances involving national security, or an Internal Revenue Service determination with respect to section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

Section 611 provides that cost accounting standards not apply to a contract under the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program.

Section 612 permits the Office of Personnel Management to accept funds related to nonforeign area cost-of-living allowances.

Section 613 prohibits the expenditure of funds for abortions under the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program.

Section 614 provides an exemption from section 613 if the life of the mother is in danger or the pregnancy is a result of an act of rape or incest.

Section 615 waives certain restrictions on the purchase of non-domestic articles, materials, and supplies for information technology acquired by the Federal Government.

Section 616 prohibits the acceptance by any regulatory agency or commission funded by this Act, or by their officers or employees, of payment or reimbursement for travel, subsistence, or related expenses from any person or entity, or their representative, that engages in activities regulated by such agency or commission.

Section 617 permits the Securities and Exchange Commission and Commodity Futures Trading Commission to fund a joint advisory committee to advise on emerging regulatory issues, notwithstanding section 708 of this Act.

Section 618 requires agencies covered by this Act with independent leasing authority to consult with the General Services Administration before seeking new office space or making alterations to existing office space.

Section 619 provides funding for several appropriated mandatory accounts. These are accounts where authorizing language requires the payment of funds. The budget request assumes the following estimated cost for the programs addressed in this provision: $450,000 for Compensation of the President including $50,000 for expenses, $161,000,000 for the Judicial Retirement Funds (Judicial Officers' Retirement Fund, Judicial Survivors' Annuities Fund, and the United States Court of Federal Claims Judges' Retirement Fund), $12,699,000,000 for the Government Payment for Annuitants, Employee Health Benefits, $47,000,000 for the Government Payment for Annuitants, Employee Life Insurance, and $8,469,000,000 for the Payment to the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund.

Section 620 provides authority for the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board to obligate funds for a scholarship program.

Section 621 prohibits funds for the Federal Trade Commission to complete the draft report on food marketed to children unless certain requirements are met.

Section 622 prohibits funds for certain positions.

Section 623 prevents conflicts of interest by prohibiting contractor security clearance-related background investigators from undertaking final Federal reviews of their own work.

Section 624 provides authority for Chief Information Officers over information technology spending.

Section 625 prohibits funds from being used in contravention of the Federal Records Act.

Section 626 prohibits agencies from requiring Internet Service Providers (ISPs) to disclose electronic communications information in a manner that violates the Fourth Amendment.

Section 627 prohibits any modification of Universal Service Fund rules related to Mobility Fund Phase II.

Section 628 prohibits funds to be used to deny Inspectors General access to records, documents, or other materials.

Section 629 prohibits the termination or modification of a Joint Sales Agreement as a condition for sale of a license or transfer of ownership.

Section 630 requires the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to submit a cybersecurity report.

Section 631 dissolves the Christopher Columbus Fellowship Foundation (CCFF) as a Federal agency within one year of enactment of this Act.

Section 632 prohibits any funds made available in this Act from being used to establish a computer network unless such network blocks the viewing, downloading, and exchanging of pornography.

Section 633 requires the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) to offer 10 years of credit monitoring and identity protection to individuals affected by the data breaches. OPM shall report annually to the Committees on Appropriations of both the House of Representatives and the Senate on the cost of implementation of this provision.

Section 634 rescinds $25,000,000 from the Securities and Exchange Commission Reserve Fund established by the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act.

Section 635 prohibits the Securities and Exchange Commission to require the disclosure of political contributions to tax exempt organizations, or dues paid to trade associations.

TITLE VII—GENERAL PROVISIONS—GOVERNMENT-WIDE

DEPARTMENTS, AGENCIES, AND CORPORATIONS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill includes the following provisions:

Section 701 requires all agencies to have a written policy for ensuring a drug-free workplace.

Section 702 sets specific limits on the cost of passenger vehicles with exceptions for police, protective, heavy duty, electric hybrid and clean fuels vehicles.

Section 703 makes appropriations available for quarters and cost-of-living allowances.

Section 704 prohibits the use of appropriated funds to compensate officers or employees of the Federal Government in the continental United States unless they are citizens of the United States or qualify under other specified exceptions.

Section 705 ensures that appropriations made available to any department or agency for space, services and rental charges shall also be available for payment to the General Services Administration.

Section 706 allows the use of receipts from the sale of materials for acquisition, waste reduction and prevention, environmental management programs and other Federal employee programs as appropriate.

Section 707 allows funds for administrative expenses of government corporations and certain agencies to also be available for rent in the District of Columbia, services under 5 U.S.C. 3109, and the objects specified under this head.

Section 708 prohibits funds for interagency financing of boards (with exception), commissions, councils, committees or similar groups to receive multi-agency funding without prior statutory approval.

Section 709 precludes funds for regulations which have been disapproved by joint resolution.

Section 710 limits the amount of funds that can be used for redecoration of offices under certain circumstances to $5,000, unless advance notice is transmitted to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate.

Section 711 allows for interagency funding of national security and emergency preparedness telecommunications initiatives.

Section 712 requires agencies to certify that a Schedule C appointment was not created solely or primarily to detail the employee to the White House.

Section 713 prohibits the salary payment of any employee who prohibits, threatens, prevents or otherwise penalizes another employee from communicating with Congress.

Section 714 prohibits Federal employee training not directly related to the performance of official duties.

Section 715 prohibits executive branch agencies from using funds for propaganda or publicity purposes in support or defeat of legislative initiatives.

Section 716 prohibits any Federal agency from disclosing an employee's home address to any labor organization, absent employee authorization or court order.

Section 717 prohibits funds to be used to provide non-public information such as mailing, electronic mailing, or telephone lists to any person or organization outside the government without the approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate.

Section 718 prohibits the use of funds for propaganda and publicity purposes not authorized by Congress.

Section 719 directs agency employees to use official time in an honest effort to perform official duties.

Section 720 authorizes the use of funds to finance an appropriate share of the Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board administrative costs.

Section 721 authorizes the transfer of funds to the General Services Administration to finance an appropriate share of various government-wide boards and councils and for Federal Government Priority Goals under certain conditions.

Section 722 permits breastfeeding in a Federal building or on Federal property if the woman and child are authorized to be there.

Section 723 permits interagency funding of the National Science and Technology Council and requires the Office of Management and Budget to provide a report to the House and Senate on the budget and resources of the National Science and Technology Council.

Section 724 requires that the Federal forms that are used in distributing Federal funds to a State must indicate the agency providing the funds, the Federal Domestic Assistance Number, and the amount provided.

Section 725 prohibits Federal agencies from monitoring individuals' internet use.

Section 726 requires health plans participating in the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program to provide contraceptive coverage and provides exemptions to certain religious plans.

Section 727 recognizes the United States is committed to ensuring the health of the Olympic, Pan American and Paralympic athletes, and supports the strict adherence to antidoping in sport activities.

Section 728 allows funds for official travel to be used by departments and agencies, if consistent with OMB and Budget Circular A–126, to participate in the fractional aircraft ownership pilot program.

Section 729 prohibits funds for implementation of the Office of Personnel Management regulations limiting detailees to the Legislative Branch or implementing limitations on the Coast Guard Congressional Fellowship Program.

Section 730 restricts the use of funds for Federal law enforcement training facilities with an exception for the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center.

Section 731 prohibits executive branch agencies from creating prepackaged news stories that are broadcast or distributed in the United States unless the story includes a clear notification within the text or audio of that news story that the prepackaged news story was prepared or funded by that executive branch agency.

Section 732 prohibits funds from being used in contravention of the Privacy Act or associated regulations.

Section 733 prohibits funds in this or any other Act to be used for Federal contracts with inverted domestic corporations, unless the contract preceded this Act or the Secretary grants a waiver in the interest of national security.

Section 734 requires agencies to pay a fee to the Office of Personnel Management for processing retirements of employees who separate under Voluntary Early Retirement Authority or who receive Voluntary Separation Incentive Payments.

Section 735 prohibits funds to require any entity submitting an offer for a Federal contract to disclose political contributions.

Section 736 prohibits funds for the painting of a portrait of an employee of the Federal government including the President, the

Vice President, a Member of Congress, the head of an executive branch agency, or the head of an office of the legislative branch.

Section 737 limits the pay increases of certain prevailing rate employees.

Section 738 eliminates automatic statutory pay increases for the Vice President, political appointees paid under the executive schedule, ambassadors who are not career members of the Foreign Service, politically appointed (noncareer) Senior Executive Service employees, and any other senior political appointee paid at or above level IV of the executive schedule.

Section 739 requires reports to Inspectors General concerning expenditures for agency conferences.

Section 740 prohibits the use of funds to increase, eliminate, or reduce a program or project unless such change is made pursuant to reprogramming or transfer provisions.

Section 741 prohibits agencies from using funds to implement regulations changing the competitive areas under reductions-in-force for Federal employees.

Section 742 prohibits funds to begin or announce a study or public-private competition regarding conversion to contractor performance pursuant to OMB Circular A–76.

Section 743 ensures that contractors are not prevented from reporting waste, fraud, or abuse by signing confidentiality agreements that would prohibit such disclosure.

Section 744 prohibits the expenditure of funds for the implementation of certain nondisclosure agreements unless certain provisions are included in the agreements.

Section 745 prohibits funds to any corporation with certain unpaid Federal tax liabilities unless an agency has considered suspension or debarment of the corporation and made a determination that further action is not necessary to protect the interests of the Government.

Section 746 prohibits funds to any corporation that was convicted of a felony criminal violation within the preceding 24 months unless an agency has considered suspension or debarment of the corporation and made a determination that further action is not necessary to protect the interests of the Government.

Section 747 requires the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection to notify the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate, the Committee on Financial Services of the House, and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate of requests for a transfer of funds from the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System as well as post any such notifications on the Bureau's website.

Budget Briefing.—Given the need for transparency and accountability in the Federal budgeting process, and that the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection's budget is funded independently of the annual appropriations spending bills, the Bureau is directed to provide an informal, nonpublic full briefing at least annually before the relevant subcommittee of the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate on the Bureau's finances and expenditures. All other directive report language regarding the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection is not adopted.

Section 748 prohibits funds for implementing Executive Order 13690 with certain exceptions.

Section 749 declares references to this Act contained in any title other than title IV or VIII shall not apply to such titles IV or VIII.

TITLE VIII—GENERAL PROVISIONS—DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The bill includes the following general provisions for the District of Columbia:

Section 801 allows the use of local funds for making refunds or paying judgments against the District of Columbia government.

Section 802 prohibits the use of Federal funds for publicity or propaganda designed to support or defeat legislation before Congress or any State legislature.

Section 803 establishes reprogramming procedures for Federal funds.

Section 804 prohibits the use of Federal funds for the salaries and expenses of a shadow U.S. Senator or U.S. Representative.

Section 805 places restrictions on the use of District of Columbia government vehicles.

Section 806 prohibits the use of Federal funds for a petition or civil action which seeks to require voting rights for the District of Columbia in Congress.

Section 807 prohibits the use of Federal funds in this Act to distribute, for the purpose of preventing the spread of blood borne pathogens, sterile needles or syringes in any location that has been determined by local public health officials or local law enforcement authorities to be inappropriate for such distribution.

Section 808 concerns a conscience clause on legislation that pertains to contraceptive coverage by health insurance plans.

Section 809 prohibits the use of Federal funds to enact or carry out any law, rule, or regulation to legalize or reduce penalties associated with the possession, use or distribution of any schedule I substance under the Controlled Substances Act or any tetrahydrocannabinols derivative. In addition, section 809 prohibits the use of Federal and local funds to enact any law, rule, or regulation to legalize or reduce penalties associated with the possession, use or distribution of any schedule I substance under the Controlled Substances Act or any tetrahydrocannabinols derivative for recreational purposes.

Section 810 prohibits the use of funds for abortion except in the cases of rape or incest or if necessary to save the life of the mother.

Section 811 requires the CFO to submit a revised operating budget no later than 30 calendar days after the enactment of this Act for agencies the CFO certifies as requiring a reallocation in order to address unanticipated program needs.

Section 812 requires the CFO to submit a revised operating budget for the District of Columbia Public Schools, no later than 30 calendar days after the enactment of this Act, that aligns schools budgets to actual enrollment.

Section 813 allows for transfers of local funds between operating funds and capital and enterprise funds.

Section 814 prohibits the obligation of Federal funds beyond the current fiscal year and transfers of funds unless expressly provided herein.

Section 815 provides that not to exceed 50 percent of unobligated balances from Federal appropriations for salaries and expenses may remain available for certain purposes. This provision will apply to the District of Columbia Courts, the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency and the District of Columbia Public Defender Service.

Section 816 appropriates local funds during fiscal year 2018 if there is an absence of a continuing resolution or regular appropriation for the District of Columbia. Funds are provided under the same authorities and conditions and in the same manner and extent as provided for fiscal year 2017.

Section 817 specifies that references to this Act in this title or title IV are treated as referring only to the provisions of this title and title IV.

TITLE IX—SCHOLARSHIPS FOR OPPORTUNITY AND RESULTS ACT

The agreement includes the reauthorization of the Scholarships for Opportunity and Results Act.

This division may be cited as ''Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2017.''

Division E - Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
TITLE I - DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY					
Departmental Offices					
Salaries and Expenses	222,500	334,376	224,376	+1,876	-110,000
Office of Terrorism and Financial Intelligence	---	(117,000)	---	---	(-117,000)
Office of Terrorism and Financial Intelligence	117,000	---	123,000	+6,000	+123,000
Cybersecurity Enhancement Account	---	109,827	47,743	+47,743	-62,084
Department-wide Systems and Capital Investments Programs	5,000	5,000	3,000	-2,000	-2,000
Office of Inspector General	35,416	37,044	37,044	+1,628	---
Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration	167,275	169,634	169,634	+2,359	---
Special Inspector General for TARP	40,671	41,160	41,160	+489	---
Financial Crimes Enforcement Network	112,979	115,003	115,003	+2,024	---
Subtotal, Departmental Offices	700,841	812,044	760,960	+60,119	-51,084
Treasury Forfeiture Fund (rescission)	-700,000	-657,000	-314,000	+386,000	+343,000
Treasury Forfeiture Fund (rescission) (temporary)	---	---	-801,000	-801,000	-801,000
Total, Departmental Offices	841	155,044	-354,040	-354,881	-509,084

Division E - Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Bureau of the Fiscal Service	363,850	353,057	353,057	-10,793	---
Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau	106,439	106,439	111,439	+5,000	+5,000
Franchise Fund	---	3,000	---	---	-3,000
Community Development Financial Institutions Fund Program Account	233,523	245,923	248,000	+14,477	+2,077
Payment of Government Losses in Shipment	2,000	2,000	2,000	---	---
Total, Department of the Treasury, non-IRS	706,653	865,463	360,456	-346,197	-505,007
Internal Revenue Service					
Taxpayer Services	2,156,554	2,406,318	2,156,554	---	-249,764
Enforcement	4,860,000	4,984,919	4,860,000	---	-124,919
Program integrity initiatives	---	231,344	---	---	-231,344
Subtotal	4,860,000	5,216,263	4,860,000	---	-356,263
Operations Support	3,638,446	4,030,695	3,638,446	---	-392,249
Program integrity initiatives	---	283,404	---	---	-283,404
Subtotal	3,638,446	4,314,099	3,638,446	---	-675,653

Division E - Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Business Systems Modernization	290,000	343,415	290,000	---	-53,415
General Provision (Sec. 115)	290,000	---	290,000	---	+290,000
Total, Internal Revenue Service	11,235,000	12,280,095	11,235,000	---	-1,045,095
Total, title I, Department of the Treasury	11,941,653	13,145,558	11,595,456	-346,197	-1,550,102
Appropriations	(12,641,653)	(13,802,558)	(12,710,456)	(+68,803)	(-1,092,102)
Rescissions	(-700,000)	(-657,000)	(-1,115,000)	(-415,000)	(-458,000)
(Mandatory)	(2,000)	(2,000)	(2,000)	---	---
(Discretionary)	(11,939,653)	(13,143,558)	(11,593,456)	(-346,197)	(-1,550,102)

Division E - Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
TITLE II - EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT AND FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT					
The White House					
Salaries and Expenses	55,000	55,214	55,214	+214	---
Executive Residence at the White House:					
Operating Expenses	12,723	12,723	12,723	---	---
White House Repair and Restoration	750	750	750	---	---
Subtotal	13,473	13,473	13,473	---	---
Council of Economic Advisers	4,195	4,201	4,201	+6	---
National Security Council and Homeland Security Council	12,800	13,069	12,000	-800	-1,069
Office of Administration	96,116	96,116	101,041	+4,925	+4,925
Presidential Transition Administrative Support	---	7,582	7,582	+7,582	---
Total, The White House	181,584	189,655	193,511	+11,927	+3,856

Division E - Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Office of Management and Budget	95,000	100,725	95,000	---	-5,725
Office of National Drug Control Policy					
Salaries and Expenses	20,047	19,274	19,274	-773	---
High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas Program	250,000	196,410	254,000	+4,000	+57,590
Other Federal Drug Control Programs	109,810	98,480	114,871	+5,061	+16,391
Total, Office of National Drug Control Policy	379,857	314,164	388,145	+8,288	+73,981
Unanticipated Needs	800	1,000	800	---	-200
Information Technology Oversight and Reform	30,000	35,200	27,000	-3,000	-8,200
Special Assistance to the President and Official Residence of the Vice President:					
Salaries and Expenses	4,228	4,228	4,228	---	---
Operating Expenses	299	299	299	---	---
Subtotal	4,527	4,527	4,527	---	---
Total, title II, Executive Office of the President and Funds Appropriated to the President	691,768	645,271	708,983	+17,215	+63,712

Division E - Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
TITLE III - THE JUDICIARY					
Supreme Court of the United States					
Salaries and Expenses:					
Salaries of Justices	2,557	3,000	3,000	+443	---
Other salaries and expenses	75,838	76,668	76,668	+830	---
Subtotal	78,395	79,668	79,668	+1,273	---
Care of the Building and Grounds	9,964	14,868	14,868	+4,904	---
Total, Supreme Court of the United States	88,359	94,536	94,536	+6,177	---
United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit					
Salaries and Expenses:					
Salaries of judges	2,922	3,000	3,000	+78	---
Other salaries and expenses	30,872	30,108	30,108	-764	---
Total, United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit	33,794	33,108	33,108	-686	---

Division E - Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
United States Court of International Trade					
Salaries and Expenses:					
Salaries of judges	2,005	2,000	2,000	-5	---
Other salaries and expenses	18,160	18,462	18,462	+302	---
Total, U.S. Court of International Trade	20,165	20,462	20,462	+297	---
Courts of Appeals, District Courts, and Other Judicial Services					
Salaries and Expenses:					
Salaries of judges and bankruptcy judges	417,000	424,000	424,000	+7,000	---
Other salaries and expenses	4,918,969	5,045,785	4,996,445	+77,476	-49,340
Subtotal	5,335,969	5,469,785	5,420,445	+84,476	-49,340
Vaccine Injury Compensation Trust Fund	6,050	6,260	6,510	+460	+250
Defender Services	1,004,949	1,056,326	1,044,647	+39,698	-11,679
Fees of Jurors and Commissioners	44,199	43,723	39,929	-4,270	-3,794
Court Security	538,196	565,388	565,388	+27,192	---
Total, Courts of Appeals, District Courts, and Other Judicial Services	6,929,363	7,141,482	7,076,919	+147,556	-64,563

Division E - Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Administrative Office of the United States Courts					
Salaries and Expenses	85,665	87,748	87,500	+1,835	-248
Federal Judicial Center					
Salaries and Expenses	27,719	28,335	28,335	+616	---
United States Sentencing Commission					
Salaries and Expenses	17,570	18,150	18,100	+530	-50
Total, title III, the Judiciary	7,202,635	7,423,821	7,358,960	+156,325	-64,861
(Mandatory)	(424,484)	(432,000)	(432,000)	(+7,516)	---
(Discretionary)	(6,778,151)	(6,991,821)	(6,926,960)	(+148,809)	(-64,861)

Division E - Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
TITLE IV - DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA					
Federal Payment for Resident Tuition Support	40,000	40,000	40,000	---	---
Federal Payment for Emergency Planning and Security Costs in the District of Columbia	13,000	34,895	34,895	+21,895	---
Federal Payment to the District of Columbia Courts	274,401	274,681	274,611	+210	-70
Federal Payment for Defender Services in District of Columbia Courts	49,890	49,890	49,890	---	---
Federal Payment to the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency for the District of Columbia	244,763	248,008	248,008	+3,245	---
Federal Payment to the District of Columbia Public Defender Service	40,889	41,829	41,829	+940	---
Federal Payment to the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority	14,000	14,000	14,000	---	---
Federal Payment to the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council	1,900	2,000	2,000	+100	---
Federal Payment for Judicial Commissions	565	585	585	+20	---

Division E - Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Federal Payment for School Improvement	45,000	43,200	45,000	---	+1,800
Federal Payment for the D.C. National Guard	435	450	450	+15	---
Federal Payment for Testing and Treatment of HIV/AIDS	5,000	5,000	5,000	---	---
Federal Payment for the Federal City Shelter	---	9,000	---	---	-9,000
Total, Title IV, District of Columbia	729,843	763,538	756,268	+26,425	-7,270
TITLE V - OTHER INDEPENDENT AGENCIES					
Administrative Conference of the United States	3,100	3,200	3,100	---	-100
Commodity Futures Trading Commission	250,000	330,000	250,000	---	-80,000
Consumer Product Safety Commission	125,000	130,500	126,000	+1,000	-4,500
Election Assistance Commission	9,600	9,800	9,600	---	-200

Division E - Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Federal Communications Commission					
Salaries and Expenses	384,012	358,286	356,711	-27,301	-1,575
Offsetting fee collections	-384,012	-358,286	-356,711	+27,301	+1,575
Direct appropriation	---	---	---	---	---
Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation					
Office of Inspector General (by transfer)	(34,568)	(35,958)	(35,958)	(+1,390)	---
Deposit Insurance Fund (transfer)	(-34,568)	(-35,958)	(-35,958)	(-1,390)	---
Federal Election Commission	76,119	80,540	79,119	+3,000	-1,421
Federal Labor Relations Authority	26,200	27,062	26,200	---	-862
Federal Trade Commission					
Salaries and Expenses	306,900	342,000	313,000	+6,100	-29,000
Offsetting fee collections (mergers)	-124,000	-125,000	-125,000	-1,000	---
Offsetting fee collections (telephone)	-14,000	-15,000	-15,000	-1,000	---
Direct appropriation	168,900	202,000	173,000	+4,100	-29,000

Division E - Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
General Services Administration					
Federal Buildings Fund					
Limitations on Availability of Revenue:					
Construction and acquisition of facilities	1,607,738	1,330,522	205,749	-1,401,989	-1,124,773
Repairs and alterations	735,331	841,617	676,035	-59,296	-165,582
Rental of space	5,579,055	5,655,581	5,628,363	+49,308	-27,218
Building operations	2,274,000	2,350,618	2,335,000	+61,000	-15,618
Subtotal, Limitations on Availability of Revenue	10,196,124	10,178,338	8,845,147	-1,350,977	-1,333,191
Rental income to fund	-9,807,722	-10,178,338	-10,178,338	-370,616	---
Total, Federal Buildings Fund	388,402	---	-1,333,191	-1,721,593	-1,333,191
Government-wide Policy	58,000	64,497	60,000	+2,000	-4,497
Operating Expenses	49,376	50,174	58,541	+9,165	+8,367
Civilian Board of Contract Appeals	9,184	9,275	---	-9,184	-9,275
Office of Inspector General	65,000	66,000	65,000	---	-1,000
Allowances and Office Staff for Former Presidents	3,277	3,865	3,865	+588	---

Division E - Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Expenses, Presidential Transition	---	9,500	9,500	+9,500	---
Federal Citizen Services Fund	55,894	58,428	55,894	---	-2,534
Pre-Election Presidential Transition	13,278	---	---	-13,278	---
Information Technology Modernization Fund	---	100,000	---	---	-100,000
Civilian Cyber Campus (rescission)	---	---	-15,000	-15,000	-15,000
Total, General Services Administration	642,411	361,739	-1,095,391	-1,737,802	-1,457,130
Harry S Truman Scholarship Foundation	1,000	---	1,000	---	+1,000
Merit Systems Protection Board					
Salaries and Expenses	44,490	45,083	44,786	+296	-297
Limitation on administrative expenses	2,345	2,345	2,345	---	---
Total, Merit Systems Protection Board	46,835	47,428	47,131	+296	-297
Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Foundation					
Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund	1,995	1,895	1,895	-100	---
Environmental Dispute Resolution Fund	3,400	3,249	3,249	-151	---
Total, Morris K. Udall and Stewart L Udall Foundation	5,395	5,144	5,144	-251	---

Division E - Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
National Archives and Records Administration					
Operating Expenses	379,393	380,634	380,634	+1,241	---
Reduction of debt	-21,208	-23,000	-23,049	-1,841	-49
Subtotal	358,185	357,634	357,585	-600	-49
Office of Inspector General	4,180	4,801	4,801	+621	---
Repairs and Restoration	7,500	7,500	7,500	---	---
National Historical Publications and Records Commission Grants Program	5,000	5,000	6,000	+1,000	+1,000
Total, National Archives and Records Administration	374,865	374,935	375,886	+1,021	+951
NCUA Community Development Revolving Loan Fund	2,000	2,000	2,000	---	---
Office of Government Ethics	15,742	16,090	16,090	+348	---

Division E - Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Office of Personnel Management					
Salaries and Expenses	120,688	144,867	119,000	-1,688	-25,867
Limitation on administrative expenses	124,550	144,653	140,000	+15,450	-4,653
Subtotal, Salaries and Expenses	245,238	289,520	259,000	+13,762	-30,520
Office of Inspector General	4,365	5,072	5,072	+707	---
Limitation on administrative expenses	22,479	26,662	25,112	+2,633	-1,550
Subtotal, Office of Inspector General	26,844	31,734	30,184	+3,340	-1,550
Total, Office of Personnel Management	272,082	321,254	289,184	+17,102	-32,070
Office of Special Counsel	24,119	26,535	24,750	+631	-1,785
Postal Regulatory Commission	15,200	17,726	16,200	+1,000	-1,526
Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board	21,297	10,081	10,100	-11,197	+19
Securities and Exchange Commission	1,605,000	1,781,457	1,605,000	---	-176,457
SEC fees	-1,605,000	-1,781,457	-1,605,000	---	+176,457
SEC Reserve Fund (rescission)	-25,000	---	-25,000	---	-25,000
Selective Service System	22,703	22,900	22,900	+197	---

Division E - Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Small Business Administration					
Salaries and expenses	268,000	275,033	269,500	+1,500	-5,533
Entrepreneurial Development Programs	231,100	230,600	245,100	+14,000	+14,500
Office of Inspector General	19,900	19,900	19,900	---	---
Office of Advocacy	9,120	9,320	9,220	+100	-100
Business Loans Program Account:					
Direct loans subsidy	3,338	4,338	4,338	+1,000	---
Administrative expenses	152,726	152,726	152,726	---	---
Total, Business loans program account	156,064	157,064	157,064	+1,000	---
Disaster Loans Program Account:					
Administrative expenses	186,858	27,148	185,977	-881	+158,829
Disaster relief category	---	158,829	---	---	-158,829
Total, Small Business Administration	871,042	877,894	886,761	+15,719	+8,867
Subtotal, Disaster Relief Category	---	158,829	---	---	-158,829

Division E - Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
General Provision (rescission) (Sec. 531)	---	-55,000	-55,000	-55,000	---
United States Postal Service					
Payment to the Postal Service Fund	55,075	63,658	34,658	-20,417	-29,000
Total, Payment to the Postal Service Fund	55,075	63,658	34,658	-20,417	-29,000
Office of Inspector General	248,600	258,800	253,600	+5,000	-5,200
Total, United States Postal Service	303,675	322,458	288,258	-15,417	-34,200
United States Tax Court	51,300	53,861	51,226	-74	-2,635
Total, title V, Independent Agencies	3,303,585	3,188,147	1,528,258	-1,775,327	-1,659,889
Appropriations	(3,328,585)	(3,084,318)	(1,623,258)	(-1,705,327)	(-1,461,060)
Rescissions	(-25,000)	(-55,000)	(-95,000)	(-70,000)	(-40,000)
Disaster relief category	---	(158,829)	---	---	(-158,829)
(by transfer)	(34,568)	(35,958)	(35,958)	(+1,390)	---
(Discretionary)	(3,303,585)	(3,188,147)	(1,528,258)	(-1,775,327)	(-1,659,889)

Division E - Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
TITLE VI - GENERAL PROVISIONS					
Mandatory appropriations (Sec. 619)	20,961,450	21,376,450	21,376,450	+415,000	---
PCA Oversight Board scholarships (sec. 620)	1,000	1,000	1,000	---	---
Total, title VI, General Provisions	20,962,450	21,377,450	21,377,450	+415,000	---
Grand total	44,831,934	46,543,785	43,325,375	-1,506,559	-3,218,410
Appropriations	(45,556,934)	(47,096,956)	(44,535,375)	(-1,021,559)	(-2,561,581)
Rescissions	(-725,000)	(-712,000)	(-1,210,000)	(-485,000)	(-498,000)
Disaster relief category	---	(158,829)	---	---	(-158,829)
(by transfer)	(34,568)	(35,958)	(35,958)	(+1,390)	---
Discretionary total	23,485,000	24,757,335	21,514,925	-1,970,075	-3,242,410

Note: House Reported funding for CFTC in FY17 was provided by the House Agriculture Subcommittee. FY2016 funds were provided in the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2016

Note: The FY 2017 Request column reflects the budget submitted on February 9, 2016

DIVISION F—DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

The following is an explanation of Division F, which makes appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) for fiscal year 2017. Funding provided in this Act not only sustains existing programs that protect the nation from all manner of threats, it ensures DHS's ability to improve preparedness at the federal, state, and local levels, to prevent and respond to terrorist attacks, and to hire, train, and equip DHS frontline forces protecting the homeland.

Unless otherwise noted, references to the House and Senate reports are to House Report 114–668 and Senate Report 114–264, respectively. The language and allocations contained in the House and Senate reports carry the same weight as language included in this explanatory statement unless specifically addressed to the contrary in the bill or this explanatory statement. While this explanatory statement repeats some language from the House or Senate reports for emphasis, it does not negate the language contained in those reports unless expressly stated. When this explanatory statement refers to the Committees or the Committees on Appropriations, these references are to the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security and the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security.

This explanatory statement refers to certain laws and organizations as follows: the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007, Public Law 110–53, is referenced as the 9/11 Act; the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, Public Law 93–288, is referenced as the Stafford Act; the Department of Homeland Security is referenced as DHS or the Department; the Government Accountability Office is referenced as GAO; and the Office of Inspector General of the Department of Homeland Security is referenced as OIG. In addition, ''full-time equivalents'' are referred to as FTE; ''full-time positions'' are referred to as FTP; ''Information Technology'' is referred to as IT; the DHS ''Working Capital Fund'' is referred to as WCF; ''program, project, and activity'' is referred to as PPA; and any reference to ''the Secretary'' should be interpreted to mean the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security.

On March 16, 2017, the President delivered a budget amendment to the Congress that requested an additional $3,000,000,000 for DHS to strengthen border security and enhance enforcement of immigration laws. Appropriations related to that request are included in title VI of this division.

CHANGES TO THE STRUCTURE OF THE BILL AND REPORT

Since DHS was established in 2002, the 22 agencies that were consolidated into a single department have formulated and executed their respective budgets using their legacy appropriation account structures and budgeting practices. Within months of being confirmed, then-Secretary Jeh Johnson announced a Unity of Effort campaign with the goal of maturing DHS into an organization that functions in a more integrated and joint fashion. A strategic imperative of that campaign was to develop and institutionalize standard planning, budgeting, acquisition, and resourcing processes that every component would be required to follow.

The Department's more than 70 disparate accounts were contributing to a lack of transparency and comparability among components and programs, and were adding unnecessary complexity to spending prioritization. To address these issues, the Department recommended that the existing account structure be simplified into four common account categories under which programs and activities could be funded consistently across departmental components based on common assumptions and definitions. The categories are: Operations and Support; Procurement, Construction, and Improvements; Research and Development; and Federal Assistance. In fiscal year 2016, Congress supported the concept of common appropriations accounts for every component and authorized DHS to propose the fiscal year 2017 DHS budget in a structure that incorporated these four account types.

In accordance with this authority, DHS proposed the fiscal year 2017 budget request in a common format for every organization except the Coast Guard, which requires additional time to coordinate the change as it also transitions to a new financial management system. The appropriations account and PPA structure reflected in this Act is the culmination of that two year effort.

In addition to incorporating the new standard structure, the fiscal year 2017 Department of Homeland Security Appropriations bill has been re-written, updated, and streamlined. The bill continues to be divided into titles, the first four of which contain appropriations. Each appropriations paragraph begins with a lump sum appropriation, followed by any necessary carve-outs of amounts for specific activities or for multi-year availability, and concludes with spending limitations, when needed. Administrative provisions specific to a single component are included at the end of its respective title, while general provisions that pertain to multiple components are located in title V. This explanatory statement is organized in the same manner.

Every appropriating paragraph has been scrutinized and drafted to follow the Comptroller General's *Federal Principles of Appropriations Law* and adheres to a core principal that the purpose of a lump sum appropriation is determined in the context of the agency's enabling and authorizing legislation. As such, appropriations paragraphs do not enumerate every statute that authorizes DHS to act, in order for funding to be available for those purposes.

Likewise, the appropriating paragraphs do not need, nor is it possible, to explicitly enumerate every item or activity for which the appropriation is available. Accordingly, previously enumerated activities that are considered to be part of a component's necessary expenses are no longer expressly included. Further, the format of the bill has been restructured to move those provisions not organic to the appropriation of funds into administrative or general provisions. Certain language from prior Acts that directed policies or practices was eliminated if its appearance in statute is no longer required, although directives related to such policies or practices are in some cases continued through language in this statement or in the House or Senate reports.

DHS provided assistance in identifying instances where specificity in appropriations paragraphs was required for funds to be used for certain purposes. As presented, the bill reflects that careful consideration. With regard to expired authorizations, the bill provides explicit extensions where so intended.

CHEMICAL, BIOLOGICAL, RADIOLOGICAL, NUCLEAR, AND EXPLOSIVES OFFICE

The fiscal year 2017 budget request proposed the consolidation of the Office of Health Affairs, the Domestic Nuclear Detection Office, the Office of Bombing Prevention, and selected activities of the Science and Technology Directorate, into a new Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosives (CBRNE) Office. As this proposed CBRNE consolidation was not authorized by Congress, the amounts appropriated for these activities for fiscal year 2017 are provided to the component for which the funds were appropriated in prior years. The amounts requested for CBRNE are displayed in the table at the end of this statement.

CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS

Recommended adjustments to classified programs are addressed in a classified annex to this explanatory statement.

TITLE I—DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT, OPERATIONS, INTELLIGENCE, AND OVERSIGHT

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY AND EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT

OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

A total of $137,034,000 is provided for Operations and Support, including not more than $40,000 for official reception and representation (ORR) expenses. A decrease of $5,000 is assessed to the Secretary's ORR funds due to the assumption of $880,000,000 in unauthorized fee revenue in the fiscal year 2017 budget request that artificially reduced the amount of net discretionary appropriations required to fully fund the Transportation Security Administration. DHS should be prepared for additional decrements to ORR funds and other headquarters activities in the future should future requests include similar proposals.

The amount provided for this appropriation by PPA is as follows:

	Budget Estimate	Final Bill
Operations and Support:		
Office of the Secretary	$22,287,000	$18,632,000
Office of Policy	37,049,000	37,461,000
Office of Public Affairs	5,384,000	5,000,000
Office of Legislative Affairs	5,287,000	5,080,000
Office of Partnership and Engagement	11,692,000	15,206,000
Office of General Counsel	19,298,000	19,298,000
Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties	21,403,000	22,571,000
Office of the Citizenship and Immigration Services Ombudsman	6,200,000	5,935,000
Privacy Office	7,851,000	7,851,000
Subtotal, Operations and Support	$136,451,000	$137,034,000
Total, Office of the Secretary and Executive Management	$136,451,000	$137,034,000

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

A total of $18,632,000 is provided for the Office of the Secretary. Instead of including funds for the Office of Community Partnerships within this amount, as proposed by the Senate, funds for that program are included in the Office of Partnership and Engagement PPA, as proposed by the House.

In lieu of direction provided in the House and Senate reports regarding activities of the Joint Requirements Council (JRC), the Department shall provide status updates on these activities to the Committees on a monthly basis. Specifically, the updates shall include a list of the requirements documents that have been validated as well as those that remain in the analysis phase at the DHS JRC level. Validated documents

shall be made available to the Committees upon request.

The Secretary is directed to convene a Public Complaint and Feedback System working group, as described in the House Report, and to provide briefings to the Committees within 90 days and 270 days of the date of enactment of this Act on the group's progress and findings.

OFFICE OF POLICY

A total of $37,461,000 is provided for the Office of Policy.

Section 107 of the Act withholds $2,000,000 from the Office of the Secretary until two long-standing required reports are provided to the Congress. First, as described in the Senate report, DHS is legally obliged to submit an annual report estimating the U.S. population of nonimmigrant aliens who have overstayed their visas. The Department submitted such a report for fiscal year 2015, but has not yet submitted a report for fiscal year 2016. DHS is expected to improve upon the scope of the data provided in the fiscal year 2015 report in its forthcoming report.

Second, under the headings ''Border Security Metrics'' and ''Public Reporting of Operational Statistics,'' the Senate report outlines congressional and public interest in border security metrics and immigration operations data. Recently issued executive orders also require public reporting of such data, which the Department has begun to post. For years, Congress has directed DHS to develop border security metrics that quantify the operational impact of border security investments. Though progress has been made, DHS has still failed to produce these metrics. The Department shall brief the Committees within 90 days of the date of enactment of this Act on its plan to develop and publish the metrics described in the Senate report.

As directed in the Senate report, $600,000 above the request shall support qualified data analysts in the Office of Immigration Statistics.

In addition to the House directive to provide a comprehensive review of the number and locations of all DHS personnel deployed overseas, the Office of Policy shall identify where redundant staff are located and explain why they are required.

As directed in the Senate report, the Department shall report on the deployment and usage of International Mobile Subscriber Identity (IMSI) catchers and related technologies within 180 days of the date of enactment of this Act.

OFFICE OF PARTNERSHIP AND ENGAGEMENT

A total of $15,206,000 is provided for the Office of Partnership and Engagement, which includes $3,514,000 for the Office of Community Partnerships.

A total of $819,000 is provided for the Blue Campaign, as requested. DHS is directed to fully account for and provide justification material for this program in future budget requests.

OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS AND CIVIL LIBERTIES

A total of $22,571,000 is provided for the Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties.

As directed in the House Report, the increase of $1,168,000 above the President's request supports enhancements to programs in the Compliance Branch.

MANAGEMENT DIRECTORATE

OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

A total of $597,817,000 is provided for Operations and Support of the Management Directorate. Of this amount, not more than $2,000 is available for official reception and representation expenses. Within the total, $194,092,000 is available until September 30, 2018, to include $4,800,000 for St. Elizabeths, $186,361,000 for the Chief Information Officer (CIO), and $2,931,000 for headquarters operations at the Nebraska Avenue Complex.

The amount provided for this appropriation by PPA is as follows:

	Budget Estimate	Final Bill
Operations and Support:		
Immediate Office of the Under Secretary for Management	$3,758,000	$3,564,000
Office of the Chief Readiness Support Officer	128,177,000	54,275,000
Office of the Chief Human Capital Officer	36,446,000	39,026,000
Office of the Chief Security Officer	61,723,000	63,102,000
Office of the Chief Procurement Officer	101,450,000	98,076,000
Office of the Chief Financial Officer	100,041,000	53,700,000
Office of the Chief Information Officer	296,176,000	286,074,000
Subtotal, Operations and Support	$727,771,000	$597,817,000

IMMEDIATE OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR MANAGEMENT

A total of $3,564,000 is provided for the Immediate Office of the Under Secretary for Management, reflecting a reduction to the request of $194,000 based on updated hiring projections. The requirement from prior years to submit a Comprehensive Acquisition Status Report with future budget requests and quarterly updates is discontinued.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF READINESS SUPPORT OFFICER

A total of $54,275,000 is provided for the Office of the Chief Readiness Support Officer, to include $26,180,000 for St. Elizabeths headquarters operations and a reduction of $500,000 from the request based on updated hiring projections.

In addition to the funding provided under this heading for St. Elizabeths, $13,253,000 is provided in title V of this Act for tenant designs for a new FEMA headquarters and remaining elements of the Center Building Complex.

For several years, CBP's Air and Marine Operations has been refining a flight hour model similar to that of the Coast Guard to track costs and link them to mission requirements. The Department is directed to review the model to ensure consistency across both CBP and the Coast Guard, and to brief the Committees on a quarterly basis until flight hour costs are captured completely and accurately across the Department's air fleet.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF HUMAN CAPITAL OFFICER

A total of $39,026,000 is provided for the Office of the Chief Human Capital Officer. A reduction of $240,000 is assessed based on an updated hiring projection, and an increase of $2,820,000 is provided to transition the Cyber Student Volunteer Program into a DHS Cybersecurity Internship Program.

As directed in the Senate and House reports, DHS is directed to continue working with every component to develop metrics on hiring, attrition, the processes used to bring staff on board, and a hiring corrective action plan. DHS shall brief the Committees not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act on its strategy to decrease the number of days it takes to hire new employees. As part of this briefing, DHS shall provide quarterly hiring metrics by component and detail its progress toward monthly metrics reporting. Further, the briefing shall address progress made to establish reciprocity with other agencies on polygraph examinations and security clearances. CBP shall continue monthly reporting of hiring gains and attrition losses.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SECURITY OFFICER

A total of $63,102,000 is provided for the Office of the Chief Security Officer, to include an increase of $1,379,000 for recurring security needs at the Nebraska Avenue Complex.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF PROCUREMENT OFFICER

A total of $98,076,000 is made available for the Office of the Chief Procurement Officer, to include a reduction of $3,347,000 based on an updated hiring projection.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

A total of $53,700,000 is provided for the Office of the Chief Financial Officer (OCFO). DHS is directed to retain its Appropriations Liaison Office as part of OCFO.

The Department shall continue submitting obligation plans to the Committees on a quarterly basis, with the first plan due within 45 days of enactment of this Act. These plans shall be consistent with direction provided in the explanatory statement accompanying Public Law 114–113, which required comparisons of planned and actual obligations, by PPA, of all salaries and benefits funding.

At congressional direction, DHS plans to improve the clarity and completeness of budget justification materials, particularly for procurement accounts. Clarity and completeness is equally important for Operations and Support accounts, given the size of many of these appropriations and the flexibility DHS currently has to move funds among PPAs. Therefore, in future budget justification materials, DHS is directed to include a breakout of each account by cost driver, including cost drivers for any proposed programmatic changes. Additionally, the materials must clearly justify any changes in cost driver assumptions from the prior fiscal year to the budget year.

Funding provided in this Act shall be obligated in accordance with Section 2.0 of Chapter 2 of the Department of Homeland Security Financial Management Policy Manual, dated October 1, 2016, entitled ''DHS Appropriations Structure.'' The Department is directed to notify the Committees regarding any substantive revisions to this manual.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

A total of $286,074,000 is provided for the Office of the Chief Information Officer, to include reductions of $8,002,000 based on an updated hiring projection and $2,100,000 to Legacy Information Technology Services.

PROCUREMENT, CONSTRUCTION, AND IMPROVEMENTS

A total of $18,839,000 is provided for the Management Directorate for procurement, construction, and improvements.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

A total of $2,500,000 is provided for the Management Directorate for research and development.

INTELLIGENCE, ANALYSIS, AND OPERATIONS COORDINATION

OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

A total of $263,551,000 is provided for Intelligence, Analysis, and Operations Coordination, of which $106,115,000 is available until September 30, 2018.

Within the amount, the Office of Intelligence and Analysis (I&A) is directed to implement the Document and Media Exploitation program and to build an Analytic Innovation Cell. Both programs will provide actionable intelligence to DHS's front line, enabling capabilities ranging from the identification of fraudulent passports to the exploitation of information that disrupts transnational criminal organizations. I&A is commended for prioritizing its budget requirements to support DHS's operational components.

As directed by the Senate, I&A is directed to assess the level of effort it provides to support the Department's critical border security mission.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

A total of $175,000,000 is provided for the Office of Inspector General (OIG). The agreement does not include a proposed $24,000,000 transfer to the OIG from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Disaster Relief Fund (DRF). Instead, the OIG is directed to allocate not less than $20,856,000 to disaster-related investigations and audits. Additionally, the recommendation includes a decrease of $3,000,000 from the request based on updated hiring projections.

TITLE I—ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—THIS ACT

Section 101. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued requiring the Secretary to submit the Future Years Homeland Security Program at the time of the President's budget proposal for fiscal year 2018.

Section 102. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued and modified requiring the Chief Financial Officer to submit monthly budget execution and staffing reports within 30 days after the last day of each month.

Section 103. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued requiring the Inspector General to review grants and contracts awarded by means other than full and open competition and report the results to the Committees.

Section 104. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued directing the Secretary to require contracts providing award fees to link such fees to successful acquisition outcomes.

Section 105. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued requiring the Secretary, in conjunction with the Secretary of the Treasury, to notify the Committees of any proposed transfers from the Department of Treasury Forfeiture Fund to any agency at DHS. No funds may be obligated prior to such notification.

Section 106. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued related to the official travel costs of the Department's Secretary and Deputy Secretary.

Section 107. A provision proposed by the Senate is continued and modified requiring the Secretary to submit a report on visa overstay data and to post border security metrics on the Department's website. The House proposed no similar provision.

Section 108. A new provision is included requiring the Secretary to certify whether U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement is administering and executing its Enforcement and Removal Operations activities consistent with available budgetary authority.

TITLE II—SECURITY, ENFORCEMENT, AND INVESTIGATIONS

U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION

OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

A total of $10,900,636,000 is provided for Operations and Support, of which $681,441,500 is made available for two years to provide flexibility in the year of execution. The total includes increases of $3,000,000 for the Border Security Deployment Program; $4,000,000 for small unmanned aerial systems (UAS); and $15,000,000 for UAS fleet upgrades. Reductions to the request include: $236,430,000 due to the denial of the requested transfer of the Office of Biometric Identity Management (OBIM) into CBP; and to support a realistic number of FTE, $200,633,000 from pay and benefits and $10,000,000 for non-pay and benefit funding.

The bill reduces funding for staffing by $200,633,000 based on technical assistance provided by CBP in March of 2017 indicating it would hire 3,000 fewer staff than originally projected. Analysis of this revised hiring projection, however, indicates a further problem with CBP's funding estimates for personnel, because a reduction of 3,000 personnel should translate into savings of at least $450,000,000. CBP is directed to provide greater details underlying its personnel costs and FTE model in the fiscal year 2018 request, and to revise its hiring projections at least quarterly to ensure the Committees have timely, accurate projections while formulating the funding levels for CBP's fiscal year 2018 appropriations.

The amount provided for this appropriation by PPA is as follows:

	Budget Estimate	Final Bill
Operations and Support:		
Border Security Operations:		
U.S. Border Patrol:		
Operations	$3,760,054,000	$3,681,084,000
Assets and Support	492,508,000	486,508,000
Office of Training and Development	56,819,000	54,221,000
Subtotal, Border Security Operations	$4,309,381,000	$4,221,813,000
Trade and Travel Operations:		
Office of Field Operations:		
Domestic Operations	2,886,008,000	2,734,840,000
International Operations	126,225,000	131,425,000
Targeting Operations	131,941,000	149,773,000
Assets and Support	1,001,815,000	832,367,000
Office of Trade	196,997,000	192,330,000
Office of Training and Development	49,929,000	50,354,000
Subtotal, Trade and Travel Operations	$4,392,915,000	$4,091,089,000
Integrated Operations:		
Air and Marine Operations:		
Operations	301,908,000	266,764,000
Assets and Support	484,704,000	507,704,000
Air and Marine Operations Center	37,133,000	45,138,000
Office of International Affairs	35,018,000	36,513,000
Office of Intelligence	66,566,000	58,492,000
Office of Training and Development	5,807,000	5,807,000
Operations Support	93,080,000	93,259,000
Subtotal, Integrated Operations	$1,024,216,000	$1,013,677,000
Mission Support:		
Enterprise Services	1,336,054,000	1,312,986,000
(Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund)	(3,274,000)	(3,274,000)
Office of Professional Responsibility	180,583,000	167,163,000
Executive Leadership and Oversight	97,809,000	93,908,000
Subtotal, Mission Support	$1,614,446,000	$1,574,057,000
Total, Operations and Support	$11,340,958,000	$10,900,636,000
(by Discretionary Appropriation)	(11,337,684,000)	(10,897,362,000)
(by Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund)	(3,274,000)	(3,274,000)

BORDER SECURITY OPERATIONS

Although the agreement does not include a provision from prior years mandating a workforce floor for Border Patrol Agents (BPA), CBP is directed to continue working to develop a fully justified workforce staffing model that will provide validated requirements for all U.S. borders and to brief the Committees on its progress in this regard not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

Prior to completion of a BPA workforce staffing model, CBP is directed to maintain a minimum staffing presence of 2,212 agents along the northern border, and is expected to increase that number as warranted by ongoing assessments of risk.

Within 120 days of the date of enactment of this Act, CBP shall brief the Committees on actions taken to track the costs and measure the effectiveness of consequence delivery

systems. In addition, CBP and the Science and Technology Directorate shall jointly brief the Committees on requirements and a concept of operations for small UAS, as directed in the House report.

TRADE AND TRAVEL OPERATIONS

As directed in the House report, CBP shall provide a detailed expenditure plan for biometric exit activities within 90 days of the date of enactment of this Act. To the extent practicable, the plan should outline how innovative technology and effective collaboration with airports and airlines will minimize the need for additional CBP staffing.

Within 180 days of the date of enactment of this Act, CBP shall provide an updated resource allocation model for the Office of Field Operations detailing specific staffing, overtime, hours of operation, and funding for and implementation of planned enforcement initiatives, delineated by field office.

As directed in the House and Senate reports, CBP shall provide a multi-year investment plan for Non-Intrusive Inspection equipment with the fiscal year 2019 budget.

CBP recently implemented its Electronic Visa Update System (EVUS) before securing authority from Congress to impose fees that would cover its costs. As a result, U.S. taxpayers are left to foot a bill of $27,800,000 for activities that are more appropriately borne by visitors to the United States who use the system. The Committees caution that providing appropriated resources for a program benefitting a selected group of travelers is not sustainable. CBP shall provide monthly updates on its efforts to secure statutory authority for fee collections.

INTEGRATED OPERATIONS

An increase of $15,000,000 above the request is provided to upgrade the UAS fleet to a single configuration. CBP is directed to use any contract savings associated with the UAS reconfiguration to implement high-priority improvements to UAS operations. CBP is also directed to utilize any contract savings from other programs for the deployment, operation, and maintenance of modern DoD-Reuse aerostats to help modernize and enhance surveillance capability, including increased maritime domain awareness of the littoral borders and the integration of data from deployed aerostats into the Air and Marine Operations Center network for analysis and information sharing. An increase of $8,000,000 above the request is provided for facilities improvements, buildout, and other enhancements necessary to ensure continuity of UAS training programs.

MISSION SUPPORT

In the fiscal year 2018 request, CBP is directed to detail all of the costs associated with operating Enterprise Services, including all staffing and administrative support, planned contract awards, and efficiencies realized by establishing this new organizational unit.

CBP is directed to provide quarterly briefings on progress in implementing each of the 39 recommendations made by the CBP Integrity Advisory Panel, as detailed in the Senate report, and on the status of implementing other recommendations on the use of force and employee misconduct, as described in the House report.

CBP continues to struggle in hiring and retaining funded levels of Border Patrol agents and CBP officers, particularly at remote locations along the northern and southern borders. CBP is directed to work with the Office of Personnel Management as necessary to identify and utilize incentives to improve retention in hard to fill locations and to evaluate the potential impact of offering additional career path enhancements to personnel who choose those locations. CBP is encouraged to work with community, local, and tribal colleges to assist with recruitment efforts. In addition, CBP should continue collaborating with DOD, as required by the Border Jobs for Veterans Act (Public Law 114–68), to facilitate the recruitment of personnel exiting the military.

Within 120 days of the date of enactment of this Act, CBP shall brief the Committees on a comprehensive recruitment and retention strategy, including an assessment of options to address agency human capital requirements. In addition, CBP is directed to include the most critical components of this strategy in the fiscal year 2018 budget request, and to continue providing monthly data to the Committees on frontline staffing levels.

CBP continues performing capabilities gap (C–GAP) analyses, and more than one year after inquiries on how the analyses fit together, has not articulated how CBP leadership will use the reviews to improve CBP and DHS-wide collaboration and coordination. Within 90 days of the date of enactment of this Act, CBP shall brief the Committees on coordination and results of the requirements analysis process, as detailed in the Senate report.

CBP's finalization of the Single Window streamlined certain manual and automated processes, but more work remains to ensure that industry and Partner Government Agencies communicate efficiently and effectively. Within 90 days of the date of enactment of this Act, CBP shall brief the Committees on the prioritization of development efforts, as well as estimated timelines and costs for refining the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE). CBP is directed to ensure that the rescission of prior year funding included in this Act does not impact the development or operation and maintenance of ACE.

PROCUREMENT, CONSTRUCTION, AND IMPROVEMENTS

A total of $273,617,000 is provided for Procurement, Construction, and Improvements. The bill includes increases of $15,941,000 for an additional multi-role enforcement aircraft, $31,500,000 for additional light enforcement helicopters, and $43,459,000, as requested, for continued deployment of Integrated Fixed Towers, including replacement of SBInet Block 1. The bill also includes the following reductions to the request: $11,000,000 from Non-Intrusive Inspection equipment due to planned carryover of funds into fiscal year 2018; $19,000,000 associated with a proposed construction project for which insufficient funds were requested; and $56,507,000 due to the denial of the request to transfer OBIM from NPPD to CBP.

The amount provided for this appropriation by PPA is as follows:

	Budget Estimate	Final Bill
Procurement, Construction, and Improvements:		
Border Security Assets and Infrastructure	$45,942,000	$45,942,000
Trade and Travel Assets and Infrastructure	130,349,000	60,842,000
Integrated Operations Assets and Infrastructure:		
Airframes and Sensors	68,617,000	116,058,000
Construction and Facility Improvements	39,775,000	20,775,000
Mission Support Assets and Infrastructure	38,707,000	30,000,000
Subtotal, Procurement, Construction, and Improvements	$323,390,000	$273,617,000

U.S. IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT

OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

A total of $6,168,532,000 is provided for Operations and Support. ICE is directed to brief the Committees on its obligation plan for the use of these funds, as specified under title I of this statement.

ICE continues to struggle with financial management across the agency. The underlying problems stem, in large part, from the limited authority and organizational placement of the ICE Chief Financial Officer (CFO) position, which is subordinated to the Executive Associate Directors of the operational units—Homeland Security Investigations and ERO.

The Director of ICE has an inherent fiduciary responsibility to ensure that funding provided by taxpayers to the agency is executed in the most efficient and effective manner possible. As the senior resource manager, the CFO has a vital role as a neutral advisor to the Director on financial management issues. Unless the CFO reports directly to the Director, that individual is not positioned to provide the Director with unfiltered financial information, provide advance warning of concerns, or recommend resource-conscious alternatives. In essence, this lack of information denies the Director full knowledge of resource issues and the ability to make sound decisions based on all relevant information. The Director of ICE is strongly urged to elevate the position of CFO within the organization and to expand the CFO's responsibilities to include agency-wide resource management activities and funds control.

Financial management weaknesses have been a particular problem within ERO, as discussed below under the Custody Operations heading. The lack of fiscal discipline and cavalier management of funding for detention operations, evidenced by inaccurate budget formulation and uneven execution, seems to be the result of a perception that ERO is funded by an indefinite appropriation. This belief is incorrect. ICE has a duty and responsibility to the Department, the Congress, and to taxpayers to be forthright in the identification of its requirements and the proper execution of its funding. It must manage-to-budget and cannot operate under the false perception that Congress will provide a bailout if financial controls fail or are simply ignored.

To begin to address these concerns, a provision in this Act requires the Secretary or the DHS CFO to certify to the Committees on a monthly basis whether ERO is operating consistently with the annual funding levels provided in this Act. The first certification will occur not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

Another obstacle to sound financial management at ICE has been its approach to paying for service-wide costs (SWC), such as rent, overtime, utilities, and security. Instead of budgeting transparently for these costs, ICE has historically relied on post-enactment assessments against the appropriations of agency components and programs to support them. Burying SWC in mission budgets makes oversight by ICE leadership and Congress significantly more difficult, leading to unchecked cost growth. In Custody Operations, for instance, SWC funding within the bed rate grew by 40 percent between fiscal year 2015 and fiscal year 2016; it is estimated to increase by another 33 percent in fiscal year 2017.

OMB Circular A–76 sets a standard of 12 percent as the estimated federal agency overhead factor. Given that ICE also budgets for these types of costs in its Mission Support PPA, it is likely that the agency's overhead total significantly exceeds the OMB standard. For the fiscal year 2018 budget, ICE is directed to provide separate budget estimates and detailed justifications for SWC in appropriate Mission Support sub-PPAs or through one or more new SWC PPAs.

The amount provided for this appropriation by PPA is as follows:

	Budget Estimate	Final Bill
Operations and Support:		
Homeland Security Investigations:		
Domestic Investigations	$1,892,183,000	$1,834,017,000
International Investigations	146,751,000	159,035,000
Intelligence	81,996,000	80,141,000
Subtotal, Homeland Security Investigations	$2,120,930,000	$2,073,193,000
Enforcement and Removal Operations:		
Custody Operations	2,178,963,000	2,557,542,000
Fugitive Operations	133,133,000	151,795,000
Criminal Alien Program	347,455,000	312,350,000
Alternatives to Detention	125,966,000	125,883,000
Transportation and Removal Program	322,694,000	324,236,000
Subtotal, Enforcement and Removal Operations	$3,108,211,000	$3,471,806,000
Mission Support	364,489,000	364,533,000
Office of Principal Legal Advisor	268,393,000	259,000,000
Subtotal, Operations and Support	$5,862,023,000	$6,168,532,000

HOMELAND SECURITY INVESTIGATIONS

Domestic Investigations. A total of $1,834,017,000 is provided for Domestic Investigations to support activities outlined in the House and Senate reports. ICE is directed to maintain increased levels of effort for all high-priority mission areas, including overstay enforcement and efforts to combat human trafficking and child exploitation, as detailed in the statement accompanying Public Law 114–113.

Not less than $305,000 is to promote public awareness of the child pornography tip line and for activities to counter child exploitation, and not less than $15,770,000 is for investigations of forced labor law violations, to include forced child labor. ICE is directed to submit an annual report on expenditures and performance metrics associated with forced labor law enforcement activities.

Of the total amount provided, $10,000,000 is for continuing expanded overstay enforcement investigations and investigative support. ICE is expected to target such investigations on individuals who pose a risk to the public, and shall brief the Committees on the proposed use of these funds and on its overall overstay enforcement efforts, including its support of Department-wide activities as described in Senate Report 114–264, within 60 days of the date of enactment of this Act.

In addition, not less than $10,000,000 is for expanding investigations into severe forms of human trafficking and against suspected human traffickers.

Within the total for Domestic Investigations, $5,000,000 is provided above the request to fully fund ICE's implementation of International Megan's Law, including the Angel Watch Center. In addition, $3,000,000 above the request is provided for enhancements at the Child Exploitation Investigations Unit (CEIU) at the Cyber Crimes Center, including $2,000,000 for the Child Victim Identification Section and $1,000,000 for CEIU operations.

The Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) was launched in 2002 to mitigate critical vulnerabilities exploited by the 9/11 hijackers. ICE is urged to make use of the full $171,000,000 in anticipated fee revenue for SEVIS, $26,000,000 more than the estimate included in the budget request, to expedite system development and dedicate additional investigative hours to ensuring that students who fail to comply with the terms of their visas face appropriate consequences.

International Investigations. A total of $159,035,000 is provided for International Investigations, including $18,000,000 above the request for the Visa Security Program to annualize the costs of the previously funded program expansion and for expansion to additional high priority locations. ICE is directed to use the risk-based methodologies and enforcement metrics outlined in the Senate report to continue to plan and budget for Visa Security Program expansion to at least two high-threat locations per year in future budget requests. Efforts to combat the smuggling and trafficking of children from Central America shall be continued in fiscal year 2017 at not less than the fiscal year 2016 level.

ICE shall allocate not less than $5,300,000 for war crime investigations, including but not limited to training, transportation, and hiring additional personnel at the OPLA Human Rights Law Section and the HSI Human Rights Violators and War Crimes Unit.

ENFORCEMENT AND REMOVAL OPERATIONS

A total of $3,471,806,000 is provided for Enforcement and Removal Operations.

ICE's sex offender notifications are not consistently reaching the appropriate law enforcement agencies, despite prior direction from the Senate to remediate this problem. The agreement includes an additional $2,000,000 to enhance and augment current efforts to apprise local law enforcement agencies of offender releases. This funding shall be used for contracts with entities to notify the appropriate local law enforcement agencies in real time based on an address given by offenders upon their release from ICE. Notifications should include specific crime code information so that they can be properly handled and received by the assigned personnel within the local law enforcement agencies.

Custody Operations. A total of $2,557,542,000 is provided for Custody Operations, an increase of $378,579,000 over the requested amount. This additional funding reflects the surge in the number of aliens placed into removal proceedings and detention after crossing our southern border during the first quarter of fiscal year 2017.

Even without the increased flow of aliens into the country, ICE's fiscal year 2017 budget request negligently and knowingly used a flawed projection of the Average Daily Population (ADP) based on a seasonally low data point, despite knowing full well that historical trends supported a higher annual detention bed requirement. Further, the daily bed rate used to calculate the funding requirement for family detention was almost half of the actual rate because ICE assumed substantial but unrealistic savings that were not based on a validated cost estimation methodology.

For the past several years, the agency's forecast for the required number of detention beds and its cost estimates have resulted in budget requests that missed the mark by wide margins. In fiscal years 2014 and 2015, ICE reprogrammed a combined total of $83,000,000 out of Custody Operations because of a lower than planned ADP, only to reprogram $127,000,000 into Custody Operations in fiscal year 2016 because the estimated number of beds needed and the average daily cost used in the budget request were grossly insufficient.

Accurately formulating the budget request for detention beds depends on two key variable—the cost per bed and the number of beds needed, as determined by the ADP. While ICE has the tools to develop reliable and detailed cost estimates for detention beds, it does not consistently use those tools in the formulation of the budget request. Even with more accurate estimates of bed rates, however, ICE simply has no model for estimating ADP. While there are factors beyond ICE's control that affect the size of the ADP in detention, such as the number of apprehensions by CBP, a model better informed by historical averages and seasonal trends would be a more prudent approach for forecasting the number of beds needed in the next fiscal year.

It is apparent that additional oversight and audit work in this area is needed. Therefore, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) is directed to review ICE's current methodologies for determining detention resource requirements, including its approach to estimating the ADP requirement; evaluate ICE's efforts to improve the accuracy of its cost estimates and projections; and report to the Committees within 180 days of the date of enactment of this Act on GAO's conclusions, including any appropriate recommendations.

To ensure costs are estimated using sound methodology, in the fiscal year 2018 Congressional Budget Justification, ICE shall fully detail the methodology used to determine the bed rate, including the bed model output costs assumed for each area of responsibility and facility type. All changes in the various cost categories must be fully explained, rather than generally justified as an increase in the bed rate. The inclusion of indirect, service-wide costs into the calculation for beds obscures the actual cost for detention beds and allows ICE to increase overhead costs without identifying the true nature of the increase. Therefore, ICE shall no longer include indirect costs in the calculation for detention beds.

ICE must also improve its contracting process for detention beds. The agency has approximately 400 contracts with more than 200 detention facilities, each having varying services, costs, terms, and conditions. While contracts for detention beds are negotiated by the Office of Acquisition Management (OAQ), the Field Offices notify OAQ when more beds are needed and are responsible for reviewing vendor invoices for accuracy before submitting them for payment. However, there is neither a standard template for contracts nor a consistent method for Field Offices to validate invoices. ICE is directed to brief the Committees on actions it has taken to improve this process not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

Also within 30 days of the date of enactment of this Act, and quarterly thereafter, ICE shall provide an update on its oversight of adult and family detention facilities. These updates shall include information on the number of detention facility inspections conducted, detailed results of the inspections, and the estimated costs of such reviews. Additionally, updates on family facilities are to incorporate recommendations for improvements made by the Advisory Committee on Family Residential Centers or as a result of ICE's community liaison office.

Within 45 days after the date of enactment of this Act, ICE shall report on its progress in implementing the 2011 Performance Based National Detention Standards, including the 2016 revisions, and requirements related to the Prison Rape Elimination Act, as detailed in the House report.

Fugitive Operations. A total of $151,795,000 is provided for Fugitive Operations. ICE is directed to continue support for Mobile Criminal Alien Teams and to target individuals who pose a threat to the public, as described in the Senate report.

Criminal Alien Program. A total of $312,350,000 is provided for the Criminal Alien Program, including support for 287(g) memoranda of agreement and $34,500,000 for resources and full-time law enforcement personnel at the Law Enforcement Support Center (LESC). As discussed in the Senate report, ICE shall avoid duplicating LESC activities in other parts of the country. While ICE has expanded its enforcement priorities, it is expected that the agency will continue to emphasize the apprehension and removal of individuals posing the greatest threat to the safety and security of communities.

Section 10 of Executive Order 13768, *Enhancing Public Safety in the Interior of the United States*, directed the Secretary to terminate the Priority Enforcement Program (PEP) and reinstate the Secure Communities program. The essential distinction between the two programs is the manner in which ICE seeks the transfer of individuals into its custody from local law enforcement agencies (LEA). Under Secure Communities, ICE issues detainers to LEAs, requesting that they maintain custody of individuals identified by ICE as enforcement priorities for up to 48 hours beyond the time the individuals would otherwise be released. Under PEP, ICE primarily issued requests that law enforcement agencies notify ICE prior to when such individuals would normally be released, although detainers were still issued under some circumstances.

In 2016, ICE reported that PEP's notification alternative was effective in eliciting cooperation from most jurisdictions that, by 2015, had stopped honoring ICE detainers. Before Secure Communities was replaced by PEP, 377 jurisdictions refused to comply with some or all ICE detainers. By the end of 2016, 280 of those jurisdictions (74 percent) had reestablished some level of cooperation with ICE by responding to requests for notification, honoring detainers, or both, including 21 out of the largest 25 such jurisdictions. ICE should ensure that the reinstatement of the Secure Communities program does not undermine the progress it made through PEP in 2015 and 2016. Specifically, ICE should continue to work with LEAs that are willing to notify ICE prior to releasing individuals who are enforcement priorities. To the extent that notifications from LEAs have not always provided ICE with enough advance warning to take custody of criminal aliens, ICE should continue working with LEAs to ensure that notifications are made in a more timely fashion.

Within 60 days of the date of enactment of this Act and quarterly thereafter, ICE shall provide a report to the Committees on the number of detention requests issued and actual custody transfers to ICE by state and local law enforcement jurisdiction, criminal category, immigration status, gender, country of citizenship, and enforcement priority. In addition, the report shall detail the same information for criminal aliens released by non-participating jurisdictions, and should describe ICE's efforts to solicit the cooperation of such jurisdictions.

ICE is actively planning to expand participation in the 287(g) program to several jurisdictions. A state or local law enforcement entity selected for the program receives specialized training in immigration law and other topics at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers and enters into a joint Memorandum of Agreement with ICE in order to receive delegated authority to enforce immigration laws within their jurisdictions. Upon arrest of a suspect, the local law enforcement partner enters identifying information into both criminal and immigration databases during booking. Historically, this approach, used in penitentiaries, jails, or other dentition facilities, has proven effective in identifying and removing criminal aliens while reducing allegations of racial profiling more common in the task force model. The specific funding level provided for the program has been eliminated from the bill, as the level was outdated and did not reflect the current, let alone the proposed, level of resources dedicated to this program. ICE is directed to brief the Committees on proposed expansion and metrics used to evaluate participation within 90 days of the date of enactment of this Act.

Alternatives to Detention. A total of $125,883,000 is provided for the Alternatives to Detention (ATD) program. ICE shall prioritize ATD participation for vulnerable populations, including families, as appropriate.

Transportation and Removal Program. A total of $324,236,000 is provided for the Transportation and Removal Program, an increase of $1,542,000 above the amount requested.

MISSION SUPPORT

A total of $364,533,000 is provided for Mission Support. Within the total, $82,000,000 is for the Office of Professional Responsibility and $6,000,000 is provided to develop and execute a comprehensive plan for immigration data improvement, as detailed in the Senate report. To ensure high-level engagement in support of this critical endeavor, the Act withholds $25,000,000 from obligation under ICE's Operations and Support account until the Director submits a comprehensive plan to the Committees.

PROCUREMENT, CONSTRUCTION, AND IMPROVEMENTS

A total of $29,800,000 is provided for Procurement, Construction, and Improvements. Within the total, $16,000,000 is for TECS Modernization, a funding level in line with projected fiscal year 2017 obligations. ICE is directed to brief the Committees on the development of this system as specified in the Committee reports.

The amount provided for this appropriation by PPA is as follows:

	Budget Estimate	Final Bill
Procurement, Construction, and Improvements:		
Operational Communications/Information Technology	$21,000,000	$16,000,000
Construction and Facility Improvements	7,000,000	– – –
Mission Support Assets and Infrastructure	22,230,000	13,800,000
Subtotal, Procurement, Construction, and Improvements	$50,230,000	$29,800,000

TRANSPORTATION SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

A total of $7,105,047,000 is provided for Operations and Support, an amount that is partially offset by $2,130,000,000 in estimated aviation security fee collections that are credited to this appropriation, as authorized, resulting in a net appropriation of $4,975,047,000. In addition, a mandatory appropriation totaling $250,000,000 is available through the Aviation Security Capital Fund.

The amount provided for this appropriation by PPA is as follows:

	Budget Estimate	Final Bill
Operations and Support:		
Aviation Screening Operations:		
Screening Workforce:		
Screening Partnership Program	$170,382,000	$177,982,000
Screener Personnel, Compensation, and Benefits	3,045,941,000	3,221,124,000
Screener Training and Other	235,668,000	239,119,000
Airport Management	572,564,000	572,967,000
Canines	131,391,000	153,969,000
Screening Technology Maintenance	284,834,000	284,834,000
Secure Flight	101,721,000	101,721,000
Subtotal, Aviation Screening Operations	$4,542,501,000	$4,751,716,000
Other Operations and Enforcement:		
Inflight Security:		
Federal Air Marshals	$815,313,000	$802,953,000
Federal Flight Deck Officer and Crew Training	19,773,000	22,273,000
Aviation Regulation	218,296,000	218,296,000
Air Cargo	95,692,000	94,682,000
Intelligence and TSOC	83,520,000	80,820,000
Surface Programs	122,716,000	122,716,000
Vetting Programs	65,751,000	65,751,000
Subtotal, Other Operations and Enforcement	$1,421,061,000	$1,407,491,000
Mission Support	$951,375,000	$945,840,000
Subtotal, Operations and Support (gross)	$6,914,937,000	$7,105,047,000
Subtotal, Operations and Support (net)	$3,904,937,000	$4,975,047,000

AVIATION SCREENING OPERATIONS

A total of $4,751,716,000 is provided for Aviation Screening Operations.

In fiscal year 2016, the air travel industry experienced significant growth, resulting in passenger volume at TSA checkpoints that exceeded the capacity supported by the agency's budgeted resources. In response, Congress swiftly approved three requests to reprogram and transfer funds to address immediate staffing needs and other urgent operational requirements to reduce wait times and increase security at TSA checkpoints, including the hiring of additional Transportation Security Officers (TSOs) and the procurement of critical screening equipment and canines. The total provided for fiscal year 2017 reflects increases to annualize the costs of these actions and address the continued growth in passenger volume, including: $136,592,000 for an additional 1,396 FTE; $38,591,000 for additional overtime and other unanticipated screener costs; $3,451,000 for training for TSOs; $22,528,000 to annualize the cost of 50 additional canine teams and associated requirements; and $4,443,000 for support costs associated with the hiring of new TSOs and canine teams. An increase of $7,600,000 is also provided to fully fund fiscal year 2017 requirements for the Screening Partnership Program. The total also reflects decreases to the request totaling $6,040,000 due to projected under execution of proposed FTE in non-screener programs.

As directed in the House and Senate reports, TSA shall brief the Committees not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act on a comprehensive assessment of operational requirements to improve the security and efficiency of passenger and baggage screening, including long-term efforts and contingency plans to predict and respond to changing passenger volumes without compromising security.

TSA is directed to brief the Committees on its canine requirements and future plans for expanding the National Explosives Detection Canine Team Program not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act. TSA shall consider passenger volume and risk assessments when determining the deployment of the 50 new canine teams and the re-deployment of existing teams.

In lieu of the funding and direction in the House and Senate reports, the bill includes $3,400,000 to establish a program whereby third parties can perform air cargo screening services using canines. TSA shall work with the air cargo industry and canine providers, as well as any relevant law enforcement organizations to identify initial locations for implementing the program. Based on lessons learned at the initial sites, TSA shall work with stakeholders to outline minimum criteria for future entrance to the program. The criteria should consider the potential benefits of using third-party canine teams in the air cargo environment. Further, in assessing the right model for canine team certification, TSA shall ensure that costs to taxpayers are minimized and that scalability to meet industry demand is maximized. TSA is directed to brief the Committees not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act on a timeline for implementation of the program.

Sufficient funds are included to support TSA's training activities at the Glynco Campus of the Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers, which now provides a basic training program for all new screeners. Before TSA moves forward with permanent investments in the campus related to this training, it must develop a business case to justify the cost of such training, including metrics related to increased TSO performance, improved morale, and better managed attrition. Further, TSA must assess the appropriate timing in a screener's onboarding process for such basic training to occur. TSA shall brief the Committees within 30 days of the date of enactment of this Act on the business case.

In lieu of the direction in the Senate report, TSA shall implement a pilot program for airports that procure, install, and operate exit lane breach control (ELBC) systems on a non-reimbursable basis that, for the duration of the pilot, reallocates any resulting FTE savings to address screening capacity challenges at the same airport where the exit lane pilot is being conducted. The reallocated personnel shall be in addition to existing screening staff assigned to the airport checkpoint prior to the deployment of ELBC technology. The procurement of ELBC systems shall be consistent with TSA's Airport Exit Lane toolbox and exit lane security guidelines, including technologies in use at airports today.

OTHER OPERATIONS AND ENFORCEMENT

A total of $1,407,491,000 is provided for Other Operations and Enforcement. Within the total are decreases totaling $21,130,000 due to projected under execution of proposed FTE. Also within the total is an increase of $2,500,000 for the Federal Flight Deck Officer (FFDO) and Flight Crew Training Program, including $2,000,000 to ensure training slots are available to interested pilots and $500,000 to conduct an analysis of training facility requirements for the FFDO Program.

TSA has convened appropriate stakeholders to initiate a national partnership framework for public area security in airports. This effort is overdue, given long-acknowledged threats and tragic incidents in the U.S. and around the globe, and stakeholders should be commended for their active participation. TSA shall brief the Committees within 180 days of the date of enactment of this Act on its progress in establishing principles and developing the framework.

MISSION SUPPORT

A total of $945,840,000 is provided for Mission Support, which accounts for the annualized support costs associated with the hiring and training of additional TSOs and canine teams, as well as the projected under execution of proposed FTE and other administrative savings.

PROCUREMENT, CONSTRUCTION, AND IMPROVEMENTS

A total of $206,093,000 is provided for Procurement, Construction, and Improvements (PC&I).

Under the new DHS appropriations structure, all components are expected to use common, standardized appropriations and PPAs to fund activities and other spending items that are based on a consistent definition. As defined in the DHS Financial Policy Manual, the PC&I appropriation is intended to fund the ''costs associated with buying, building, or improving end items—tools, assets, systems, and facilities—prior to sustainment.'' However, TSA's proposed fiscal year 2017 PC&I budget included numerous spending items that are not appropriately funded within this appropriation. TSA is directed to adhere to the guidance in the DHS Financial Policy Manual in its fiscal year 2018 budget request.

The amount provided for this appropriation by PPA is as follows:

	Budget Estimate	Final Bill
Procurement, Construction, and Improvements:		
Aviation Screening Infrastructure:		
Checkpoint Support	$111,079,000	$111,079,000
Checked Baggage	59,331,000	59,331,000
Infrastructure for Other Operations:		
Air Cargo	14,383,000	14,383,000
Surface Programs	15,000,000	15,000,000
Vetting Programs	6,300,000	6,300,000
Subtotal, Procurement, Construction, and Improvements	$206,093,000	$206,093,000

AVIATION SCREENING INFRASTRUCTURE

A total of $170,410,000 is provided for Aviation Screening Infrastructure. TSA is directed to brief the Committees not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act on the progress of the Innovation Task Force and the status of any pilot programs.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

A total of $5,000,000 is provided for Research and Development.

COAST GUARD

OPERATING EXPENSES

A total of $7,079,628,000 is provided for Operating Expenses, including $502,692,000 for defense activities, of which $162,692,000 is designated for overseas contingency operations (OCO) and the global war on terrorism (GWOT), which may be allocated without regard to section 503 in title V of this Act.

Included in the total is $4,490,000 to increase the staffing of the Coast Guard's Cyber Command and to establish a Cyber Protection Team to enhance the Coast Guard's cyber capabilities. Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Coast Guard shall brief the Committees on plans, including a funding strategy, for improving the cybersecurity posture of the Coast Guard and balancing requirements of operating within the ''.mil'' domain while adhering to DHS cyber directives.

The Coast Guard is directed to submit to the Committees a Capital Investment Plan (CIP) for fiscal years 2018 through 2022 by June 30, 2017.

The Coast Guard is directed to move quickly in approving additional ballast water management systems (BWMS) and shall work with the Environmental Protection Agency to reexamine whether the most probable number method can be used as an alternative for testing the effectiveness of treatment systems. The Coast Guard is further directed to brief the Committees on the status of its ballast water management systems (BWMS) testing efforts as set forth in the House report.

Within the amount appropriated for Operating Expenses, a total of $6,000,000 is included to initiate fishing safety grant programs, as authorized by the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2010. This amount is offset by savings derived from lower than expected fuel costs.

Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committees a report on the Coast Guard's plans to ensure long-term search and rescue coverage for the Arctic. This report shall also address the Coast Guard's capability for conducting response missions throughout the Western Alaska Captain of the Port Zone, including the Bering Sea and Arctic Ocean. The report shall provide details on pollution response equipment; spill response organizations; spill prevention and mitigation methods; and response partnerships with federal, state, and local entities.

Within the total for Operating Expenses, an additional $4,750,000 is provided for the procurement of small response boats in fiscal year 2017. This amount is offset by savings derived from lower than expected fuel costs. In addition, long-standing language is included in the bill authorizing the use of up to $31,000,000 from the Operating Expenses appropriation for certain small boat purchases and repairs.

Within the amount appropriated for Operating Expenses, $5,000,000 is included for the National Coast Guard Museum, subject to the limitations specified in 98(b) of title 14, United States Code.

The Coast Guard Yard, located at Curtis Bay, Maryland, directly supports fleet readiness and has been a vital part of the Coast Guard's readiness and infrastructure for more than 100 years. Sufficient industrial work should be assigned to the Yard to maintain this capability.

The amount provided for this appropriation by PPA is as follows:

	Budget Estimate	Final Bill
Operating Expenses:		
Military Pay and Allowances	$3,597,319,000	$3,544,111,000
Civilian Pay and Benefits	817,324,000	808,969,000
Training and Recruiting	198,605,000	196,346,000
Operating Funds and Unit Level Maintenance	996,204,000	995,519,000
Centrally Managed Accounts	329,099,000	328,746,000
Intermediate and Depot Level Maintenance	1,048,264,000	1,043,245,000
Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism	– – –	162,692,000
Subtotal, Operating Expenses	$6,986,815,000	$7,079,628,000
(Defense, less OCO)	(340,000,000)	(340,000,000)

Military Pay and Allowances. A total of $3,544,111,000 is provided for Military Pay and Allowances. The funded level reflects $53,208,000 in savings resulting from a more realistic recruiting and retention level for the fiscal year.

Civilian Pay and Benefits. A total of $808,969,000 is provided for Civilian Pay and Benefits, including $8,355,000 in adjustments reflecting a more realistic hiring and attrition level for the fiscal year. The total includes $788,000 for additional personnel needed to implement the Blended Retirement System.

Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism Funding. Funding for Coast Guard OCO/GWOT activities is provided directly through the Operating Expenses appropriation instead of through the Navy's Operation and Maintenance account. The Coast Guard is directed to brief the Committees not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act on any changes expected in the funding requirement for OCO/GWOT activities during fiscal year 2017. Further, the Coast Guard is directed to include details of its current and future support to Central Command in the classified annex of the fiscal year 2018 budget request.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE AND RESTORATION

A total of $13,315,000 is provided for Environmental Compliance and Restoration.

RESERVE TRAINING

A total of $112,302,000 is provided for Reserve Training.

ACQUISITION, CONSTRUCTION, AND IMPROVEMENTS

A total of $1,370,007,000 is provided for Acquisition, Construction, and Improvements.

The amount provided for this appropriation by PPA is as follows:

	Budget Estimate	Final Bill
Acquisition, Construction, and Improvements:		
Vessels:		
Survey and Design—Vessel and Boats	$6,500,000	$9,500,000
In-Service Vessel Sustainment	79,000,000	94,000,000
National Security Cutter	127,000,000	255,400,000
Offshore Patrol Cutter	100,000,000	75,000,000
Fast Response Cutter	240,000,000	325,000,000
Cutter Boats	4,000,000	4,000,000
Polar Ice Breaking Vessel	147,600,000	25,000,000
Subtotal, Vessels	$704,100,000	$787,900,000
Aircraft:		
HC–144 Conversion/Sustainment	25,500,000	25,500,000
HC–27J Conversion/Sustainment	130,000,000	130,000,000

	Budget Estimate	Final Bill
HC–130J Acquisition/Conversion/Sustainment	20,800,000	111,800,000
HH–65 Conversion/Sustainment Projects	25,000,000	40,000,000
Subtotal, Aircraft	$201,300,000	$307,300,000
Other Acquisition Programs:		
Other Equipment and Systems	8,055,000	8,055,000
Program Oversight and Management	20,000,000	20,000,000
C4ISR	24,300,000	24,300,000
CG—Logistics Information Management System (CG–LIMS)	7,000,000	7,000,000
Subtotal, Other Acquisition Programs	$59,355,000	$59,355,000
Shore Facilities and Aids to Navigation:		
Major Construction; Housing; ATON; and Survey & Design	18,100,000	44,519,000
Major Acquisition Systems Infrastructure	28,000,000	50,000,000
Minor Shore	5,000,000	5,000,000
Subtotal, Shore Facilities and Aids to Navigation	$51,100,000	$99,519,000
Personnel and Related Support Costs	$120,933,000	$115,933,000
Subtotal, Acquisition, Construction, and Improvements	$1,136,788,000	$1,370,007,000

VESSELS

Survey and Design—Vessels and Boats. A total of $9,500,000 is provided in support of survey and design, including $2,000,000 for initial survey and design work associated with the acquisition of icebreaking capacity on the Great Lakes, as detailed in the Senate report, and $1,000,000 for the Inland River Tender fleet.

National Security Cutter. A total of $255,400,000 is provided for the National Security Cutter (NSC) program. The total includes $95,000,000 for procurement of long lead time materials associated with a tenth National Security Cutter, and $3,400,000 for post-delivery activities for the ninth NSC. In addition, $30,000,000 is included to support a necessary Structural Enhancement Dry-dock Availability (SEDA) for the second NSC.

Offshore Patrol Cutter. The policy requiring the Coast Guard to obtain appropriations for the total acquisition cost of a vessel, including long lead time materials, production costs, and post-production costs, before a production contract can be awarded has the potential to create shipbuilding inefficiencies, force delays in the obligation of production funds, and require post-production funds far in advance of when they will be used. The Office of Management and Budget is expected to give the Coast Guard the flexibility to acquire vessels, including the Offshore Patrol Cutter (OPC), in the most efficient manner within the guidelines of strict governance measures.

Fast Response Cutter. A total of $325,000,000 is provided for the Fast Response Cutter program for the acquisition of six cutters.

Polar Ice Breaker. To support the procurement of a heavy ice breaker, $25,000,000 is provided for a new joint acquisition strategy developed by the Coast Guard and the U.S. Navy through a Polar Ice Breaking Vessel Integrated Program Office (IPO). These funds are in addition to $30,000,000 already reprogrammed to this effort in fiscal year 2017. Under the new strategy, the IPO will obtain detailed industry feedback through trade-off analyses to further refine and validate operational requirements. A report on polar icebreaker requirements, preferred design, overall acquisition strategy, and a breakout of funds necessary to support the acquisition shall be submitted to the Committees not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

AIRCRAFT

HC–130J Aircraft. An additional $90,000,000 above the request is provided for one fully-missionized HC–130J aircraft.

SHORE FACILITIES

Within the AC&I total, $44,519,000 is for construction of shore facilities, including $10,000,000 for addressing needs on the Unfunded Priorities List and $15,005,000 to begin repairs on facilities damaged by Hurricane Matthew.

The Senate report encouraged the Coast Guard to explore the use of water purification systems free of bromine. Within 90 days of the date of enactment of this Act, the Coast Guard shall brief the Committees on the costs, benefits, and feasibility of adopting this new type of system.

Major Acquisition Systems Infrastructure. A total of $50,000,000 is provided, including $22,000,000 to support the Coast Guard's plan to homeport OPCs in the arctic region to replace aging assets.

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST, AND EVALUATION

A total of $36,319,000 is provided for Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation (RDT&E). The Coast Guard is directed to examine the feasibility, costs, and benefits of conducting intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance missions in transit zones using long range/ultra-long endurance, land based, unmanned aerial systems. Within the total provided for RDT&E, $18,000,000 is included for the Coast Guard, in collaboration with CBP and S&T to perform an analysis of alternatives (AoA) on available systems and mission equipment packages before conducting a proof of concept demonstration of selected systems. The Coast Guard shall brief the Committees on its plans for conducting the AoA and proof of concept within 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act. Further, the Coast Guard, along with CBP and S&T, shall brief the Committees on the results of the demonstration within 90 days following its completion.

UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE

OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

A total of $1,821,451,000 is provided for Operations and Support, including the following increases above the request: $13,000,000 for additional overtime pay; $28,500,000 for additional agent relocation costs; $8,000,000 for retention efforts; an additional $9,000,000 for the electronic crimes special agent training program; and $6,000,000 for missing and exploited children investigations. The recommendation includes a decrease to the President's budget request of $21,044,000 to fund a realistic and achievable number of FTE. Within the total, $42,966,000 is available until September 30, 2018, to include $6,000,000 for investigations related to missing and exploited children; $5,557,000 for the James J. Rowley Training Center; $8,909,000 for Operational Mission Support; $18,000,000 for protective travel; and $4,500,000 for National Special Security Events (NSSE).

The amount provided for this appropriation by PPA is as follows:

	Budget Estimate	Final Bill
Operations and Support:		
Protective Operations:		
Protection of Persons and Facilities	$586,988,000	$599,759,000
Protective Countermeasures	58,193,000	58,193,000
Protective Intelligence	40,732,000	44,490,000
Presidential Campaigns and National Special Security Events	48,634,000	51,734,000
Subtotal, Protective Operations	$734,547,000	$754,176,000
Field Operations:		
Domestic and International Field Operations	761,427,000	763,271,000
Support for Missing and Exploited Children Investigations	– – –	6,000,000
Support for Computer Forensics Training	4,869,000	13,869,000
Subtotal, Field Operations	$766,296,000	$783,140,000
Basic and In-Service Training and Professional Development	59,575,000	59,507,000
Mission Support	217,574,000	224,628,000
Subtotal, Operations and Support	$1,777,992,000	$1,821,451,000

The recommendation includes $13,000,000 to implement new overtime payment authority for agents and officers authorized by Public Law 114–31. Due to the heavy demands of the 2016 presidential campaign, and also as a result of the attrition and hiring challenges that have plagued the United States Secret Service (USSS) over the last several years,

many agents and officers exceeded the previous legislative cap on overtime pay. This additional funding supports compensation for overtime, combined with basic pay, up to the annual rate of basic pay for level II of the Executive Schedule.

Increases to the request are also included to fully support permanent change of station requirements and for necessary retention initiatives. The USSS is directed to fully budget for all known requirements in future years for these efforts. Congress should not be forced to fund known requirements purposely omitted from the budget request.

The agreement includes $13,869,000 to enhance current USSS investigative initiatives, including the Electronic Crimes Special Agent Program and Electronic Crimes Task Force missions, and basic and advanced computer forensics training. The Secret Service shall provide periodic briefings to the Committees on the status of investigations and ensure that the associated funding and personnel resources continue to be identified in future budgets.

The bill sustains the fiscal year 2016 funding level of $2,366,000 for forensic and investigative support related to missing and exploited children and $6,000,000 for grants related to investigations of missing and exploited children.

In addition, the bill continues to provide $4,500,000, as requested, to defray costs specific to Secret Service execution of its statutory responsibilities to direct the planning and coordination of NSSEs. A general provision in the Act prohibits the use of funds to reimburse any federal department or agency for its participation in an NSSE. The Secret Service is directed to provide periodic updates to the Committees on NSSEs planned for fiscal year 2017 prior to and following each event.

PROCUREMENT, CONSTRUCTION, AND IMPROVEMENTS

A total of $90,627,000 is provided for Procurement, Construction, and Improvements, including reductions of $10,000,000 from protection infrastructure and $10,000,000 from investments in Information Integration and Technology Transformation programs due to carryover of prior year funds.

The amount provided for this appropriation by PPA is as follows:

	Budget Estimate	Final Bill
Procurement, Construction, and Improvements:		
Protection Assets and Infrastructure	$47,737,000	$37,737,000
Operational Communications/Information Technology	62,890,000	52,890,000
Subtotal, Procurement, Construction, and Improvements	$110,627,000	$90,627,000

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

A total of $2,500,000 is provided for Research and Development, as requested.

TITLE II—ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—THIS ACT

Section 201. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued and modified regarding overtime compensation.

Section 202. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued and modified allowing CBP to sustain or increase operations in Puerto Rico with appropriated funds.

Section 203. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued prohibiting the transfer of aircraft and related equipment out of CBP unless certain conditions are met.

Section 204. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued regarding the availability of COBRA fee revenue.

Section 205. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued and modified allowing CBP access to certain reimbursements for preclearance activities.

Section 206. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued regarding the importation of prescription drugs by an individual for personal use.

Section 207. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued and modified regarding waivers of the Jones Act.

Section 208. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued prohibiting the collection of new land border fees or the study of the imposition of such fees.

Section 209. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued allowing the Secretary to reprogram and transfer funds within and into ''U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement—Operations and Support'' to ensure the detention of aliens prioritized for removal.

Section 210. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued prohibiting the use of funds provided under the heading ''U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement—Operations and Support'' for the 287(g) program if the terms of the agreement governing the delegation of authority have been materially violated.

Section 211. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued prohibiting the use of funds provided under the heading ''U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement—Operations and Support'' to contract for detention services if the facility receives less than ''adequate'' ratings in two consecutive performance evaluations.

Section 212. A provision proposed by the Senate is included requiring the Secretary to submit a plan for immigration data improvement not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act. The House proposed no similar provision.

Section 213. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued clarifying that certain elected and appointed officials are not exempt from federal passenger and baggage screening.

Section 214. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued that directs TSA to deploy explosives detection systems based on risk and other factors.

Section 215. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued authorizing TSA to use funds from the Aviation Security Capital Fund for the procurement and installation of explosives detection systems or for other purposes authorized by law.

Section 216. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued that requires TSA to submit a report on TSA passenger and baggage screening.

Section 217. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued prohibiting the use of funds in abrogation of the statutory requirement for TSA to monitor certain airport exit points.

Section 218. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued under the heading ''Coast Guard—Operating Expenses'' prohibiting funds made available by this Act for recreational vessel expenses, except to the extent fees are collected from owners of yachts and credited to this appropriation.

Section 219. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued and modified allowing up to $10,000,000 to be reprogrammed to or from the ''Coast Guard—Operating Expenses'' Military Pay and Allowances PPA.

Section 220. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued prohibiting funds from being used to reduce the Coast Guard's Operations Systems Center mission or its government-employed or contract staff.

Section 221. A provision proposed by the Senate is continued prohibiting funds to be used to conduct or implement the results of a competition under Office of Management and Budget Circular A–76 with respect to the Coast Guard National Vessel Documentation Center. The House proposed no similar provision.

Section 222. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued prohibiting the Secretary from reducing operations within the Coast Guard's Civil Engineering Program except as specifically authorized by a statute enacted after the date of enactment of this Act.

Section 223. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued related to the allocation of funds for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism.

Section 224. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued allowing the Secret Service to obligate funds in anticipation of reimbursement for personnel receiving training.

Section 225. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued prohibiting funds made available to the Secret Service for the protection of the head of a federal agency other than the Secretary of Homeland Security, except where the Director has entered into an agreement for such protection services.

Section 226. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued limiting the opening of domestic and international field offices by the Secret Service.

Section 227. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued and modified allowing the reprogramming of funds within ''United States Secret Service—Operations and Support''.

Section 228. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued and modified allowing for funds made available for the ''United States Secret Service—Operations and Support'' to be available for travel of employees on protective missions without regard to the limitations on such expenditures.

TITLE III—PROTECTION, PREPAREDNESS, RESPONSE, AND RECOVERY

NATIONAL PROTECTION AND PROGRAMS DIRECTORATE

OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

A total of $1,372,268,000 is provided for Operations and Support of the National Protection and Programs Directorate (NPPD), including $235,429,000 for the Office of Biometric Identity Management (OBIM). Based on under-execution of funding for personnel, the Act reduces the request by $37,781,890 and 386 FTE. To help address the need to retain and hire personnel with the requisite cybersecurity skills, however, the total includes all funding requested for special cyber pay and bonuses.

In lieu of the briefing required in Senate Report 114–264, NPPD is directed to include with the fiscal year 2018 budget request a five-year plan to ensure appropriate office space for headquarters, regional, and field staff. The plan shall ensure headquarters staff is appropriately consolidated and whenever possible regional offices are collocated with other components to maximize mission collaboration.

Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, NPPD shall provide a report to the Committees describing the definition and process used to categorize each amount in the NPPD PPAs as either defense or non-defense.

In lieu of the requirement in the Senate report regarding strategic documentation for proposed increases for Protective Security Advisors or Cyber Security Advisors, NPPD shall include detailed justifications in the budget request.

The amount provided for this appropriation by PPA is as follows:

	Budget Estimate	Final Bill
Operations and Support:		
Cybersecurity:		
Cyber Readiness and Response:		
NCCIC Operations	$116,168,000	$108,402,000
(CERT)	(94,134,000)	(86,368,000)
NCCIC Planning and Exercises	92,683,000	88,502,000
(CERT)	(65,788,000)	(61,607,000)
Cyber Infrastructure Resilience:		
Cybersecurity Advisors	13,535,000	12,970,000
Enhanced Cybersecurity Services	16,830,000	16,950,000
Cybersecurity Education and Awareness	7,886,000	14,133,000
Federal Cybersecurity:		
Federal Network Resilience	37,005,000	35,013,000
Continuous Diagnostics and Mitigation	8,878,000	7,565,000
National Cybersecurity Protection System	389,355,000	385,879,000
Subtotal, Cybersecurity	$682,340,000	$669,414,000
Infrastructure Protection:		
Infrastructure Capacity Building:		
Sector Risk Management	41,611,000	42,396,000
Protective Security Advisors	39,490,000	39,723,000
Bombing Prevention	– – –	15,070,000
Infrastructure Information and Sensitive Data Protection	19,889,000	19,546,000
Infrastructure Security Compliance	76,876,000	69,557,000
Subtotal, Infrastructure Protection	$177,866,000	$186,292,000
Emergency Communications:		
Emergency Communications Preparedness	43,260,000	44,097,000
Priority Telecommunications Services GETS/WPS/SRAS/TSP	55,406,000	55,730,000
Next Generation Networks Priority Services	1,966,000	2,214,000
Subtotal, Emergency Communications	$100,632,000	$102,041,000
Integrated Operations:		
Cyber and Infrastructure Analysis:		
National Infrastructure Simulation Analysis Center (NISAC)	12,993,000	18,650,000
Infrastructure Analysis	24,443,000	23,230,000
Critical Infrastructure Situational Awareness	16,344,000	16,176,000
Stakeholder Engagement and Requirements	43,150,000	41,959,000
Strategy, Policy, and Plans	14,707,000	9,669,000
Subtotal, Integrated Operations	$111,637,000	$109,684,000
Office of Biometric Identity Management:		
Identity and Screening Program Operations	– – –	71,954,000
IDENT/Homeland Advanced Recognition Technology	– – –	163,475,000
Subtotal, Office of Biometric Identity Management	– – –	$235,429,000
Mission Support	$75,027,000	$69,408,000
Defense	(23,390,000)	(21,516,000)
Subtotal, Operations and Support	$1,147,502,000	$1,372,268,000

CYBERSECURITY

A total of $669,414,000 is provided for Cybersecurity, including $9,500,000 for the Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center (MS–ISAC) to support its updated requirement for fiscal year 2017, and $12,970,000 for Cyber Security Advisors. The National Cybersecurity and Communications Integration Center (NCCIC) is funded at $196,904,000, including $147,975,000 for Computer Emergency Response Teams (CERT).

Within 120 days of the date of enactment of this Act, NPPD shall brief the Committees on the types of assistance, including technical and formal ongoing engagement, available to state and local governments, including law enforcement agencies, to protect their networks. The Department shall also work to include state and local law enforcement agencies in the National Cybersecurity Review, and shall continue raising awareness among these agencies on the need to strengthen their own cyber-defenses and on the resources available for such purposes.

Cybersecurity Education and Awareness. The bill includes a total of $14,133,000 for cybersecurity education, of which $13,698,000 is provided through the Cyber Infrastructure Resilience PPA and $435,000 is provided through the Mission Support PPA. Any future proposed funding reductions to cybersecurity education will not be considered unless the Directorate provides a clear plan for how the funded activities would be fully realigned within other agencies in a manner that sustains the objectives of this critical effort.

Federal Cybersecurity. NPPD continues efforts to find common strategies and security solutions across the federal government for cybersecurity, such as Einstein and Continuous Diagnostics and Mitigation. Funds appropriated to DHS, however, should supplement but not supplant appropriations of other federal departments and agencies. NPPD is directed to develop a strategic plan, in conjunction with OMB and partner departments and agencies, for securing civilian federal networks. The plan shall include an effective cost model whereby departments and agencies assume responsibility for the costs of their own systems while also using NPPD subject matter expertise and bulk-buying capabilities when it enhances security and is cost effective. NPPD shall provide the strategic plan to the Committees not later than 250 days after the date of enactment of this Act, including a proposed governance structure, roles and responsibilities of departments and agencies, responsibilities inherent to NPPD, and a model for ensuring a long-term and sound financing structure for federal cybersecurity needs.

INFRASTRUCTURE PROTECTION

A total of $186,292,000 is provided for Infrastructure Protection, including the requested level of funding for the National Infrastructure Coordination Center and $39,723,000 for Protective Security Advisors. Reductions to the request reflect adjustments to hiring projections.

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

A total of $102,041,000 is provided for Emergency Communications, including $2,000,000 to continue projects supporting the development of the National Emergency Communications Plan.

INTEGRATED OPERATIONS

A total of $109,684,000 is provided for Integrated Operations, of which $1,679,000 is for Stakeholder Engagement and Requirements to continue the Software Assurance Program.

OFFICE OF BIOMETRIC IDENTITY MANAGEMENT

A total of $235,429,000 is provided for OBIM, $11,600,000 below the amount requested due to delays in the Homeland Advanced Recognition Technology (HART) program and $8,000,000 in contract savings. Although the fiscal year 2017 request proposed the transfer of OBIM from NPPD to CBP, in the absence of authorizing legislation directing such a realignment, this Act continues to fund OBIM through NPPD.

Until the Secretary or his designee briefs the Committees, as specified in section 301 of this Act, on how OBIM is addressing stakeholder concerns regarding requirements and priorities, $20,000,000 is withheld from obligation.

FEDERAL PROTECTIVE SERVICE

A total of $1,451,078,000 is made available for the Federal Protective Service (FPS), as requested. This funding is generated by collections of security fees from federal agencies based on security services provided by FPS. The Secretary and the Director of OMB shall certify in writing to the Committees, not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, that FPS operations will be fully funded in fiscal year 2017 through the collection of security fees. Should sufficient revenue not be collected to fully fund operations, an expenditure plan is required describing how security risks will be adequately addressed. In lieu of direction in the Senate bill regarding a strategic human capital plan, the Director of FPS shall provide a semi-annual briefing to the Committees detailing the alignment of staffing resources with mission requirements based on a current threat assessment.

The amount provided for this appropriation by PPA is as follows:

	Budget Estimate	Final Bill
Federal Protective Service:		
FPS Operations:		
Operating Expenses	$368,892,000	$368,892,000
Countermeasures:		
Protective Security Officers	1,059,825,000	1,059,825,000
Technical Countermeasures	22,361,000	22,361,000
Subtotal, Federal Protective Service (gross)	$1,451,078,000	$1,451,078,000
Offsetting Collections	−1,451,078,000	−1,451,078,000
Subtotal, Federal Protective Service (net)	– – –	– – –

PROCUREMENT, CONSTRUCTION, AND IMPROVEMENTS

A total of $440,035,000 is provided for Procurement, Construction, and Improvements.

Within the total is $52,800,000 for OBIM's continued HART acquisition, which reflects savings realized by not transferring the program to CBP. As noted above, the Act includes a withholding of funds under Operations and Support until OBIM provides a plan to accelerate the multi-modal biometric capabilities of HART Increment 2.

The amount provided for this appropriation by PPA is as follows:

	Budget Estimate	Final Bill
Procurement, Construction, and Improvements:		
Cybersecurity:		
Continuous Diagnostics and Mitigation	$266,971,000	$217,409,000
National Cybersecurity Protection System	81,771,000	81,771,000
Subtotal, Cybersecurity	$348,742,000	$299,180,000
Emergency Communications:		
Next Generation Networks Priority Services	88,055,000	88,055,000
Subtotal, Emergency Communications	$88,055,000	$88,055,000
Biometric Identity Management:		
IDENT/Homeland Advanced Recognition Technology	– – –	52,800,000
Subtotal, Biometric Identity Management	– – –	$52,800,000
Subtotal, Procurement, Construction, and Improvements	$436,797,000	$440,035,000

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

A total of $6,469,000 is provided for Research and Development. Of the amount provided for Infrastructure Protection, $2,000,000 is designated for the Technology Development and Deployment Program to define agency needs, identify requirements for community level critical infrastructure protection and resilience, and rapidly develop, test, and transition to use technologies that address these needs and requirements.

The amount provided for this appropriation by PPA is as follows:

	Budget Estimate	Final Bill
Research and Development:		
Cybersecurity	$2,030,000	$2,030,000
Infrastructure Protection	2,439,000	4,439,000
Subtotal, Research and Development	$4,469,000	$6,469,000

OFFICE OF HEALTH AFFAIRS

OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

A total of $123,548,000 is provided for Operations and Support.

The amount provided for this appropriation by PPA is as follows:

	Budget Estimate	Final Bill
Operations and Support:		
Chemical and Biological Readiness	– – –	$82,689,000
Health and Medical Readiness	– – –	4,352,000
Integrated Operations	– – –	11,809,000
Mission Support	– – –	24,698,000
Subtotal, Operations and Support	– – –	$123,548,000

CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL READINESS

A total of $82,689,000 is provided for the Chemical and Biological Readiness PPA, which fully funds operations of the current BioWatch program. The bill includes a provision withholding $2,000,000 from OHA Mission Support until OHA, in conjunction with the Science and Technology Directorate (S&T) and other components as appropriate, submits a strategic plan to the Committees. This plan shall include: a plan to advance early detection of a bioterrorism event; details on the responsibilities of OHA, S&T, and other departmental components as appropriate for implementing such strategy; details on coordination with other federal agencies, including the Department of Defense, which have made investments in bioterrorism detection research; specific timelines and benchmarks; an expenditure plan for fiscal year 2017 BioWatch funds; and cost estimates for the next generation of biosurveillance tools. The bill also permits the transfer of up to $2,000,000 from OHA to S&T for activities related to implementation of this plan.

INTEGRATED OPERATIONS

A total of $11,809,000 is provided for Integrated Operations. The amount includes an increase of $2,500,000 above the request to support the operationalization of successful pilot programs of the National Biosurveillance Integration Center, promising new pilots, or other high priority or emerging requirements.

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

A total of $1,048,551,000 is provided for Operations and Support. This amount reflects

reductions to the request totaling $5,144,000 due to projected under execution of proposed FTE.

The amount provided for this appropriation by PPA is as follows:

	Budget Estimate	Final Bill
Operations and Support:		
Regional Operations	$157,134,000	$157,134,000
Mitigation	24,887,000	28,213,000
Preparedness and Protection	146,356,000	146,356,000
Response and Recovery:		
Response	178,500,000	187,806,000
(Urban Search and Rescue)	(27,513,000)	(38,280,000)
Recovery	58,687,000	56,126,000
Mission Support	472,916,000	472,916,000
Subtotal, Operations and Support	$1,038,480,000	$1,048,551,000
(Defense)	(46,788,000)	(46,788,000)

MITIGATION

A total of $28,213,000 is provided for Mitigation. Within the total, not less than $8,500,000 is for the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program and not less than $9,100,000 is for the National Dam Safety Program, maintaining both programs at fiscal year 2016 funding levels.

PREPAREDNESS AND PROTECTION

A total of $146,356,000 is provided for Preparedness and Protection. Within the total, not less than $2,000,000 is for the Emergency Management Assistance Compact.

RESPONSE AND RECOVERY

A total of $243,932,000 is provided for Response and Recovery. Within the total, $38,280,000 is for the Urban Search and Rescue Response System (USAR), which maintains the fiscal year 2016 funding level to support 28 USAR Task Forces and includes a one-time increase of $3,100,000 to ensure teams are uniformly equipped.

In lieu of additional funding recommended in Senate Report 114–264, FEMA shall brief the Committees on efforts to build upon the findings of the 2011 Mid-Atlantic Supply Chain Resiliency Study by developing innovative and efficient ways to use the national supply chain for post-disaster delivery of commodities, including future budgetary needs to implement such a strategy.

MISSION SUPPORT

A total of $472,916,000 is provided for Mission Support, including $3,460,000 for the Office of National Capital Region Coordination.

PROCUREMENT, CONSTRUCTION, AND IMPROVEMENTS

A total of $35,273,000 is provided for Procurement, Construction, and Improvements.

The amount provided for this appropriation by PPA is as follows:

	Budget Estimate	Final Bill
Procurement, Construction, and Improvements:		
Operational Communications/Information Technology	$2,800,000	$2,800,000
Construction and Facility Improvements	21,050,000	21,050,000
Mission Support, Assets, and Infrastructure	11,423,000	11,423,000
Subtotal, Procurement, Construction, and Improvements	$35,273,000	$35,273,000
(Defense)	(15,500,000)	(15,500,000)

CONSTRUCTION AND FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS

A total of $21,050,000 is provided for Construction and Facility Improvements, including $15,500,000 for the Mount Weather Emergency Operations Center.

FEMA shall provide an updated capital infrastructure investment plan for fiscal years 2017 through 2021, consistent with the direction in House Report 114–09215.

FEDERAL ASSISTANCE

A total of $2,983,458,000 is provided for Federal Assistance.

The amount provided for this appropriation by PPA is as follows:

	Budget Estimate	Final Bill
Federal Assistance:		
Grants:		
State Homeland Security Grant Program	$200,000,000	$467,000,000
(Operation Stonegarden)	– – –	(55,000,000)
Urban Area Security Initiative	330,000,000	605,000,000
(Nonprofit Security)	– – –	(25,000,000)
Public Transportation Security Assistance	85,000,000	100,000,000
(Amtrak Security)	(10,000,000)	(10,000,000)
(Over-the-Road Bus Security)	– – –	(2,000,000)
Port Security Grants	93,000,000	100,000,000
Countering Violent Extremism	49,000,000	– – –
Regional Competitive Grant Program	100,000,000	– – –
Assistance to Firefighter Grants	335,000,000	345,000,000
Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grants	335,000,000	345,000,000
Emergency Management Performance Grants	350,000,000	350,000,000
Predisaster Mitigation Fund	54,485,000	100,000,000
Flood Hazard Mapping and Risk Analysis Program (RiskMAP)	177,531,000	177,531,000
Emergency Food and Shelter	100,000,000	120,000,000
Subtotal, Grants	$2,209,016,000	$2,709,531,000
Education, Training, and Exercises:		
Center for Domestic Preparedness	63,939,000	63,939,000
Center for Homeland Defense and Security	18,000,000	18,000,000
Emergency Management Institute	19,643,000	20,569,000
U.S. Fire Administration	40,812,000	42,500,000
National Domestic Preparedness Consortium	36,000,000	101,000,000
Continuing Training Grants		8,000,000
National Exercise Program	19,911,000	19,919,000
Subtotal, Education, Training, and Exercises	$198,305,000	$273,927,000
Subtotal, Federal Assistance	$2,407,321,000	$2,983,458,000

GRANTS

A total of $2,709,531,000 is provided for Grants. FEMA grantees shall continue to provide reports on their use of funds, as determined necessary by the Secretary.

FEMA preparedness grants are primarily designed to build core capabilities to address terrorist attacks. Because the threat environment has become more dynamic, however, it has created a tension between sustaining current capabilities and addressing changes in the threat landscape. The FEMA risk formula, which determines the distribution of homeland security preparedness grants, should evolve with the changing threat environment while also maintaining capabilities for traditional and known threats. While FEMA updates data points for incorporation, and considers comments from grantees on how the risk formula might be improved, it is not clear that there is a comprehensive process for re-evaluating the risk formula as part of the larger strategic context. FEMA is directed to brief the Committees not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act on how developing and

maintaining core capabilities addresses current and emerging threats; how FEMA adjusts the risk formula and training needs for emerging threats; and on innovative ways to increase responsiveness of the annual grant allocation process to address current threats.

Urban Area Security Initiative. Consistent with the 9/11 Act, FEMA shall conduct risk assessments for the 100 most populous metropolitan statistical areas prior to making UASI grant awards. It is expected that UASI funding will be limited to urban areas representing up to 85 percent of the cumulative national terrorism risk to urban areas and that resources will continue to be allocated in proportion to risk.

Countering Violent Extremism. The fiscal year 2016 Consolidated Appropriations Act provided $50,000,000, available until September 30, 2017, for emergent threats from violent extremism and from complex, coordinated terrorist attacks, like the 2015 incident in Paris, France. Of this total, $10,000,000 was dedicated specifically for countering violent extremism (CVE) to explore ways to prevent radicalization and deter recruitment of vulnerable people who could be inspired to commit acts of terror. Although grant awards were announced in accordance with congressional intent on January 13, 2017, Congress has learned the grants have so far been withheld from obligation. The Department is reminded of the requirements set forth in the Impoundment Control Act (ICA). If the Administration is withholding this budget authority from obligation—temporarily or permanently—it is required under the ICA to send a ''special message'' to Congress and the Comptroller General of the United States that specifies why the funds are being withheld from obligation. Importantly, funds cannot be deferred for policy reasons. Given the current impasse and the currently available funds, no additional funds are provided for CVE grants in this Act. The Secretary is directed to fulfill congressional intent by releasing the fiscal year 2016 funding without delay.

Flood Hazard Mapping and Risk Analysis. A total of $177,531,000 is provided for Flood Hazard Mapping and Risk Analysis. FEMA shall ensure data collection and modeling processes are transparent from beginning to end and involve the active participation of local jurisdictions to ensure maps accurately reflect local conditions and minimize costs to local communities.

Emergency Food and Shelter Program. A total of $120,000,000 is provided for the Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP). Once again, the budget request included a provision allowing the FEMA Administrator to transfer EFSP to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). While this proposal may have merit, Congress and other stakeholders have not been properly consulted in developing support for such a transfer. If future budget requests again propose moving EFSP to HUD, they should do so directly within the HUD budget, including the justification for moving the program; a plan for funds transfer, including previously obligated amounts and recoveries; a five-year strategic outlook for the program within HUD; a timeline for an interagency agreement effecting the transfer; and a description of efforts to consult with the EFSP National Board on the proposed move.

EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND EXERCISES

A total of $273,927,000 is provided for Education, Training, and Exercises. Within the total, $8,000,000 is for Continuing Training, including $3,500,000 for rural first responder training.

A total of $44,000,000 is provided for the United States Fire Administration, including $42,500,000 under this heading and $1,500,000 under the Procurement, Construction, and Improvements appropriation. Funding described in the Senate report for facilities at the Center for Domestic Preparedness is also included as part of the Procurement, Construction, and Improvements appropriation.

DISASTER RELIEF FUND

A total of $7,328,515,000 is provided for the Disaster Relief Fund (DRF), of which $6,713,000,000 is designated as being for disaster relief for major disasters pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(D) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985. In lieu of transferring funding from the DRF to the OIG for audits of disaster-related grant awards, as proposed in the budget and directed in prior appropriations Acts, funding for DRF audits is provided directly to the OIG for better congressional oversight.

As directed in Senate Report 114–264, FEMA shall provide a report, not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, outlining specific actions and timeframes for state and local governments to better share information about fiscal preparation for disaster costs.

NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE FUND

A total of $181,799,000 is provided for the National Flood Insurance Fund.

TITLE III—ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—THIS ACT

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Section 301. A new provision proposed by the House is included restricting obligations until a briefing and plan for modernizing the biometric identity management system is submitted. The Senate proposed no similar provision.

Section 302. A new provision is included requiring the submission of a report on bio-detection capabilities.

Section 303. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued and modified limiting expenses for administration of grants.

Section 304. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued specifying timeframes for certain grant applications and awards.

Section 305. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued that requires five day advance notification for certain grant awards under ''FEMA—Federal Assistance''.

Section 306. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued that addresses the availability of certain grant funds for the installation of communications towers.

Section 307. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued that authorizes the use of funds for certain purposes pertaining to FEMA training facilities. Funding used for such purpose shall only come from funds specifically appropriated to the facility for which the property is acquired.

Section 308. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued and modified allowing reimbursements for the costs of providing humanitarian relief to unaccompanied alien children, and for public safety in support of a state declaration of emergency, to be an eligible use for certain Homeland Security grants.

Section 309. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued that requires the submission of the monthly DRF report.

Section 310. A new provision proposed by the Senate is included transferring unobligated balances from the Disaster Assistance Direct Loan Program to the Disaster Relief Fund.

Section 311. A new provision proposed by the Senate is included related to earthen levees. The House proposed no similar provision.

Section 312. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued providing for the receipt and expenditure of fees collected for the Radiological Emergency Preparedness Program, as authorized by Public Law 105–276.

TITLE IV—RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TRAINING, AND SERVICES

U.S. CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION SERVICES

OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

A total of $103,912,000 is provided in discretionary appropriations for E-Verify. DHS is continuing to evaluate tools to analyze relevant social media in vetting for certain types of immigration benefits. It is crucial that DHS efficiently, effectively, and appropriately examine all relevant social media data sources from both conventional networks and the ''dark web,'' with special emphasis on those networks used outside the U.S. where most of the postings are in languages other than English. In addition, DHS must maintain persistent access to these sources throughout the adjudication process. Until DHS is able to incorporate social media more comprehensively into its vetting processes, USCIS is directed to work with the Department of State to ensure appropriate social media vetting for the highest risk persons seeking admission into the United States or seeking benefits while in the United States.

PROCUREMENT, CONSTRUCTION, AND IMPROVEMENTS

A total of $15,227,000 is provided in discretionary appropriations for E-Verify.

FEDERAL ASSISTANCE

In lieu of a discretionary appropriation for the Citizenship and Integration Grant Program, and consistent with prior years, an administrative provision is included at the end of title IV to permit USCIS to obligate not more than $10,000,000 from user fee revenue to support grants to benefit individuals who are lawfully admitted into the United States. In addition to the fee revenue made available for this purpose, the Department has the authority to accept private donations that will support activities that promote citizenship and integration. To facilitate the acceptance and use of such donations by USCIS, the bill establishes a Treasury account for that purpose.

FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING CENTERS

OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

A total of $242,518,000 is provided for Operations and Support, including $50,748,000, made available for two years, for materials and support costs related to Federal law enforcement basic training and $27,553,000, made available for three years, for minor alterations and maintenance of facilities. FLETC shall provide to the Committees quarterly plans for the obligation of funds, as specified in the explanatory statement accompanying Public Law 114–113, and include a review of FLETC's hiring campaigns and attrition levels.

FLETC shall detail in its annual budget submission how data supports its core business decision-making processes, including its facility utilization processes, and shall provide semi-annual updates on this ongoing initiative, beginning within the first 90 days of the date of the enactment of this Act.

FLETC is encouraged to support continued testing and evaluation of both prototype and proven active shooter response technologies and to share its findings with its partner organizations.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY DIRECTORATE

OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

A total of $311,122,000 is provided for Operations and Support.

The amount provided for this appropriation by PPA is as follows:

	Budget Estimate	Final Bill
Operations and Support:		
Laboratory Facilities	$133,942,000	$133,942,000
Acquisition and Operations Analysis	48,392,000	48,392,000
Mission Support	127,904,000	128,788,000
Subtotal, Operations and Support	$310,238,000	$311,122,000

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

A total of $470,624,000 is provided for Research and Development.

The amount provided for this appropriation by PPA is as follows:

	Budget Estimate	Final Bill
Research and Development:		
Research, Development, and Innovation	$417,420,000	$430,124,000
University Programs	31,085,000	40,500,000
Subtotal, Research and Development	$448,505,000	$470,624,000

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, AND INNOVATION

A total of $430,124,000 is provided for Research, Development, and Innovation (RD&I). In lieu of the $12,000,000 transfer from BioWatch proposed by the Senate, the bill allows up to $2,000,000 to be transferred from OHA to S&T for the advancement of next generation biosurveillance tools. In addition, $3,900,000 is included for S&T RD&I to initiate long-term research in leap-ahead technologies that can be applied across more varied operational biosurveillance environments. This work includes the establishment of key performance parameters for biodetection, while leveraging the bioterrorism research investments of other federal agencies, most notably the Department of Defense.

S&T is directed to brief the Committees on the proposed allocation of RD&I funds by not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

In lieu of the direction in the Senate report, S&T is directed to brief the Committees not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act on how external peer review is incorporated into its current processes.

As directed in the House report, DHS shall issue a Management Directive formalizing the Integrated Product Team construct to ensure continued progress towards institutionalizing repeatable processes within S&T.

S&T has formalized relationships with academic partners on UAS research, testing, and development, as directed in the Senate report. S&T is directed to expeditiously execute agreements for activities necessary to mature and institutionalize DHS's efficient, effective use of UAS.

As directed in the Senate report, S&T shall update the Committees on the outcome of the feasibility study for installing grid reliability technology not later than 30 days after its completion. In the event of a favorable outcome from the study, S&T is encouraged to continue development of the Resilient Electric Grid in partnership with the relevant utility companies.

UNIVERSITY PROGRAMS

A total of $40,500,000 is provided for University Programs. S&T shall prioritize collaborations with qualified research universities to support critical research topics in priority areas, including border security, cybersecurity, and first responder technology.

DOMESTIC NUCLEAR DETECTION OFFICE

OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

A total of $50,042,000 is provided for Operations and Support, which includes a reduction of $500,000 due to personnel vacancies.

PROCUREMENT, CONSTRUCTION, AND IMPROVEMENTS

A total of $101,053,000 is provided for Procurement, Construction, and Improvements, of which $53,709,000 is for Large Scale Detection Systems and $47,344,000 is for Human Portable Radiation/Nuclear Detection Systems. The reduction below the request reflects $1,300,000 in unobligated carryover balances that should be used to support planned Human Portable Radiation/Nuclear Detection System procurements in fiscal year 2017.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

A total of $155,061,000 is provided for Research and Development.

The amount provided for this appropriation by PPA is as follows:

	Budget Estimate	Final Bill
Research and Development:		
Architecture Planning and Analysis	---	$15,072,000
Transformational Research and Development	---	62,028,000
Detection Capability Development	---	19,851,000
Detection Capability Assessments	---	39,272,000
Nuclear Forensics	---	18,838,000
Subtotal, Research and Development	---	$155,061,000

FEDERAL ASSISTANCE

A total of $46,328,000 is provided for Federal Assistance.

Including the funds provided within the Operations and Support appropriation, the bill provides a total of $22,000,000 for Securing the Cities.

TITLE IV—ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—THIS ACT

Section 401. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued allowing USCIS to acquire, operate, equip, and dispose of up to five vehicles under certain scenarios.

Section 402. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued prohibiting USCIS from granting immigration benefits unless the results of background checks are completed prior to the granting of the benefit and the results do not preclude the granting of the benefit.

Section 403. A provision proposed by the Senate is continued limiting the use of A–76 competitions by USCIS. The House proposed no similar provision.

Section 404. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued and modified making immigration examination fee collections explicitly available for immigrant integration grants, not to exceed $10,000,000, in fiscal year 2017, and allowing for related donations.

Section 405. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued authorizing the Director of FLETC to distribute funds for incurred training accreditation.

Section 406. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued directing the Director of FLETC to ensure FLETC training facilities are operated at capacity throughout the fiscal year.

Section 407. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued directing the FLETC Accreditation Board to lead the Federal law enforcement training accreditation process to measure and assess federal law enforcement training programs, facilities, and instructors.

Section 408. A new provision proposed by the House is modified establishing the ''Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers—Procurement, Construction, and Improvements'' appropriation, and allowing for the acceptance of transfers from government agencies into this appropriation. The Senate proposed no similar provision.

Section 409. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued classifying FLETC instructor staff as inherently governmental for certain considerations.

TITLE V—GENERAL PROVISIONS

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS AND RESCISSIONS OF FUNDS)

Section 501. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued directing that no part of any appropriation shall remain available for obligation beyond the current year unless expressly provided.

Section 502. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued providing authority to merge unexpended balances of prior appropriations with new appropriation accounts, to be used for the same purpose, subject to reprogramming guidelines.

Section 503. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued and modified limiting reprogramming authority for funds within an appropriation and providing limited authority for transfers between appropriations. The Department must notify the Committees on Appropriations prior to each reprogramming of funds that would reduce programs, projects, activities, or personnel by more than ten percent. Notifications are also required for each reprogramming of funds that would increase a program, project, or activity by more than $5,000,000 or ten percent, whichever is less. The Department must submit these notifications to the Committees on Appropriations at least 15 days in advance of any such reprogramming.

For transfers, accounts may not be reduced by more than five percent or increased by more than ten percent. The Committees on Appropriations must be notified 30 days in advance of any transfer.

Transfer authority is provided to give the Department flexibility in responding to emerging requirements and significant changes in circumstances, but is not primarily intended to facilitate the implementation of new programs, projects, or activities that were not proposed in a formal budget submission. To avoid violations of the Anti-Deficiency Act, the Secretary shall ensure that any transfer of funds is carried out in compliance with the limitations and requirements of section 503(b). In particular, the Secretary should ensure that any such transfers adhere to the opinion of the Comptroller General's decision in *The Matter of: John D. Webster, Director, Financial Services, Library of Congress, dated November 7, 1997,* with regard to the definition of an appropriation subject to transfer limitations.

For purposes of reprogramming notifications, ''program, project, or activity'' is defined as an amount identified in the detailed funding table located at the end of this statement or an amount directed for a specific purpose in this statement.

Also for purposes of reprogramming notifications, the creation of a new program, project, or activity is defined as any significant new activity that has not been explicitly justified to the Congress in budget justification material and for which funds have not been appropriated by the Congress. For further guidance when determining which movements of funds are subject to section 503, the Department is reminded to follow GAO's definition of ''program, project, or activity'' as detailed in GAO's *A Glossary of Terms Used in the Federal Budget Process.* Within 30 days of the date of enactment of this Act, the Department shall submit to the Committees a table delineating PPAs subject to section 503 notification requirements, as defined in this paragraph.

All agencies funded by the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2017, must comply with these reprogramming requirements. In addition, the Department shall submit requests on a timely basis and provide complete explanations of the proposed reallocations, including detailed justifications for the increases and offsets, and any specific impact the proposed changes would have on the budget request for the following fiscal year and future-year appropriations requirements. Each notification submitted to the Committees should include a detailed table showing the proposed revisions to funding and FTE—at the account, program, project, and activity level—for the current fiscal year, along with any funding and FTE impacts on the budget year.

The Department shall manage its PPAs within the levels appropriated, and should only submit reprogramming or transfer notifications in cases of unforeseeable and compelling circumstances that could not have been predicted when formulating the budget request for the current fiscal year. When the Department submits a reprogramming or transfer notification and does not receive identical responses from the House and Senate Committees, it is expected to reconcile the differences before proceeding.

The Department is not to submit a reprogramming or transfer notification after June 30 except in extraordinary circumstances that imminently threaten the safety of human life or the protection of property. If an above-threshold reprogramming or a transfer is needed after June 30, the notice should contain sufficient documentation as to why it meets this statutory exception.

The section 503(a)(5) limitation on reprogramming funds for the purpose of reorganizing components is not intended to apply to routine or small reallocations of personnel or functions within components. Instead, this language is directed at larger reorganizations of the Department, to include the allocation or reallocation of functions across components and the establishment, consolidation, alteration, or discontinuation of organizational units authorized pursuant to section 872 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002. A notification under this subsection is not required for a change of homeport for USCG vessels.

Deobligated funds are also subject to the reprogramming and transfer limitations and requirements set forth in this section.

Section 503(e) authorizes the Secretary to transfer up to $20,000,000 to address immigration emergencies after notifying the Committees of such transfer at least five days in advance.

Section 504. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued prohibiting funds appropriated or otherwise made available to the Department to make payment to the Working Capital Fund (WCF), except for activities and amounts allowed in the President's fiscal year 2017 budget request. Funds provided to the WCF are available until expended. The Department can only charge components for direct usage of the WCF and these funds may be used only for the purposes consistent with the contributing component. Any funds paid in advance or for reimbursement must reflect the full cost of each service. The Department shall submit a notification prior to adding a new activity to the fund or eliminating an existing activity from the fund. For activities added to the fund, such notifications shall detail the source of funds by PPA. In addition, the Department shall submit quarterly WCF execution reports to the Committees that include activity-level detail.

Section 505. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued and modified providing that not to exceed 50 percent of unobligated balances from prior year appropriations for each Operations and Support appropriation, the Coast Guard's Operating Expenses appropriation, and amounts for salaries and expenses in the Coast Guard's Reserve Training and Acquisition, Construction, and Improvements accounts, shall remain available through fiscal year 2018, subject to section 503 reprogramming requirements.

Section 506. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued that deems intelligence activities to be specifically authorized during fiscal year 2017 until the enactment of an Act authorizing intelligence activities for fiscal year 2017.

Section 507. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued requiring notification to the Committees at least three days before DHS executes or announces grant allocations; grant awards; contract awards, including contracts covered by the Federal Acquisition Regulation; other transaction agreements; letters of intent; a task or delivery order on multiple award contracts totaling $1,000,000 or more; a task or delivery order greater than $10,000,000 from multi-year funds; or sole-source grant awards. Notifications shall include a description of projects or activities to be funded and their location, including city, county, and state.

Section 508. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued prohibiting all agencies from purchasing, constructing, or leasing additional facilities for Federal law enforcement training without advance notification to the Committees.

Section 509. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued prohibiting the use of funds for any construction, repair, alteration, or acquisition project for which a prospectus, if required under chapter 33 of title 40, United States Code, has not been approved.

Section 510. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued and modified that includes and consolidates by reference prior-year statutory provisions related to a contracting officer's technical representative training; sensitive security information; and the use of funds in conformance with section 303 of the Energy Policy Act of 1992.

Section 511. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued prohibiting the use of funds in contravention of the Buy American Act.

Section 512. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued regarding the oath of allegiance required by section 337 of the Immigration and Nationality Act.

Section 513. A provision proposed by the House is continued prohibiting funds for the Principal Federal Official during a Stafford Act declared disaster or emergency, with certain exceptions. The Senate proposed no similar provision.

Section 514. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued and modified extending other transactional authority for DHS through fiscal year 2017.

Section 515. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued prohibiting funds for planning, testing, piloting, or developing a national identification card.

Section 516. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued directing that any official required by this Act to report or certify to the Committees on Appropriations may not delegate such authority unless expressly authorized to do so in this Act.

Section 517. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued prohibiting the use of funds for the transfer or release of

individuals detained at United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba into or within the United States.

Section 518. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued prohibiting funds in this Act to be used for first-class travel.

Section 519. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued prohibiting the use of funds to employ illegal workers as described in Section 274A(h)(3) of the Immigration and Nationality Act.

Section 520. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued prohibiting funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act to pay for award or incentive fees for contractors with below satisfactory performance or performance that fails to meet the basic requirements of the contract.

Section 521. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued requiring that any new processes developed to screen aviation passengers and crews for transportation or national security consider privacy and civil liberties, consistent with applicable laws, regulations, and guidance.

Section 522. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued prohibiting the use of funds to enter into a federal contract unless the contract meets requirements of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 or chapter 137 of title 10 U.S.C., and the Federal Acquisition Regulation, unless the contract is otherwise authorized by statute without regard to this section.

Section 523. A provision proposed by the House and the Senate is included and modified providing a total of $13,253,000 for DHS headquarters consolidation activities at St. Elizabeths.

Section 524. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is included and modified providing $41,215,000 for financial systems modernization activities, which the Secretary may transfer between appropriations for the same purpose after notifying the Committees 15 days in advance. Funding is available for two years.

Section 525. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued requiring DHS computer systems to block electronic access to pornography, except for law enforcement purposes.

Section 526. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued regarding the transfer of firearms by Federal law enforcement personnel.

Section 527. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued regarding funding restrictions and reporting requirements related to conferences occurring outside of the United States.

Section 528. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued prohibiting funds to reimburse any federal department or agency for its participation in a National Special Security Event.

Section 529. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued and modified requiring a notification, including justification materials, prior to implementing any structural pay reform that affects more than 100 full time positions or costs more than $5,000,000.

Section 530. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued and modified directing the Department to post on a public website reports required by the Committees on Appropriations unless public posting compromises homeland or national security or contains proprietary information.

Section 531. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is continued related to the Arms Trade Treaty.

Section 532. A provision proposed by the Senate is continued and modified requiring submission of offsets should the fiscal year 2018 budget request assume revenue not enacted into law at the time of the budget submission. The House proposed no similar provision.

Section 533. A provision proposed by the House is included authorizing minor procurement, construction, and improvements under Operations and Support appropriations, as specified. The Senate proposed no similar provision.

Section 534. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is included and modified rescinding unobligated balances from specified programs.

Section 535. A provision is continued and modified rescinding unobligated balances made available to the Department when it was created in 2003.

Section 536. A provision is continued and modified rescinding lapsed balances made available pursuant to section 505 of this Act.

Section 537. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is included and modified rescinding specified funds from the Treasury Forfeiture Fund.

Section 538. A provision proposed by the House and Senate is included and modified rescinding unobligated balances from FEMA DRF.

Section 539. A new provision is included extending the authorization of USCIS' E–Verify Program until September 30, 2017.

Section 540. A new provision is included extending the non-minister religious worker immigrant visa authorization until September 30, 2017.

Section 541. A new provision is included extending until September 30, 2017, the authority to waive the two-year home-country physical presence requirement for foreign doctors with expiring J–1 visas who apply to remain in the United States and commit to working in medically underserved areas.

Section 542. A new provision is included extending the Regional Center program within the ''EB–5'' immigrant investor program authorization until September 30, 2017.

Section 543. A provision proposed by the House is continued and modified amending 8 U.S.C. 1184(g)(9)(A), related to H–2B visas. The Senate proposed no similar provision.

Section 544. A new provision is included providing an additional $41,000,000 to reimburse extraordinary law enforcement personnel costs for protection activities directly and demonstrably associated with a residence of the President that is designated for protection. Although the federal government does not otherwise reimburse costs of state or local law enforcement for activities in support of the United States Secret Service protection mission, these funds are being provided in recognition of the extraordinary costs borne by a small number of jurisdictions in which a residence of the President is located. The funding may not be used to supplant state or local funds for personnel costs that would otherwise have been expended by a jurisdiction, and shall not be available to reimburse the cost of equipment.

TITLE VI—DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY—ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

SECURITY, ENFORCEMENT, AND INVESTIGATIONS

A total of $1,520,242,000 is provided for enhanced border security, including $1,140,121,000 in this title and $380,121,000 in title II of this Act. As directed in title I of this Act, DHS shall provide obligation plans to the Committees for these funds not later than 45 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

U.S. Customs and Border Protection

OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

An additional appropriation of $274,813,000 is provided for Operations and Support.

The Anti-Border Corruption Act (ABCA) of 2010 requires U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to administer polygraph examinations to all law enforcement applicants prior to their hiring. As an alternative to its current polygraph exam, the Law Enforcement Pre-employment Test (LEPET), CBP is considering adopting a shorter, alternative test, the Test for Espionage, Sabotage, and Corruption (TES–C). As a precursor to adopting any alternative to the LEPET, CBP is directed to first carry out a trial implementation of the alternative standard for a subset of Border Patrol applicants for no longer than a six month period. After completing the trial, CBP shall submit a detailed report to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives, the Committee on Homeland Security and Government Affairs of the Senate, and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives describing the trial and its results, including the rationale for considering an alternate standard; changes in hiring efficiencies; comparisons between the results of the LEPET and the alternative standard; an analysis of risks that would be associated with adopting the alternative standard and planned efforts to mitigate such risk; and the costs of implementation.

The additional amount provided for this appropriation by PPA is as follows:

	Final Bill
Operations and Support:	
Border Security Operations:	
U.S. Border Patrol:	
Operations:	
United States Border Patrol Relocations	$25,000,000
Surge Operations	8,920,000
Subtotal, Operations	33,920,000
Assets and Support:	
Border Technology—Tactical Communications	20,000,000
Border Road Maintenance—758 miles	22,400,000
Facilities Maintenance Backlog	30,000,000
Surge Operations	12,310,000
Subtotal, Assets and Support	84,710,000
Subtotal, Border Security Operations	118,630,000

	Final Bill
Trade and Travel Operations:	
Office of Field Operations:	
Targeting Operations:	
Border Technology—CBP National Targeting Center Enhancements	10,000,000
Surge Operations	14,460,000
Subtotal, Targeting Operations	24,460,000
Assets and Support:	
Owned Facilities Maintenance Backlog	17,500,000
Border Technology—Port of Entry Technology Enhancements	39,804,000
Surge Operations	12,310,000
Subtotal, Assets and Support	69,614,000
Subtotal, Trade and Travel Operations	94,074,000
Integrated Operations:	
Air and Marine Operations:	
Assets and Support:	
Border Technology—Tethered Aerostat Radar System	18,143,000
Subtotal, Assets and Support	18,143,000
Subtotal, Integrated Operations	18,143,000
Mission Support:	
Enterprise Services:	
Expand Human Resource Management (HRM) Capacity	21,129,000
Additional HRM and Internal Affairs Staffing	10,910,000
Border Technology—Office of Infrastructure and Technology	3,368,000
Surge Operations	198,000
Subtotal, Enterprise Services	35,605,000
Office of Professional Responsibility:	
Polygraph Examiner Retention	4,271,000
Additional HRM and Internal Affairs Staffing	4,090,000
Subtotal, Office of Professional Responsibility	8,361,000
Subtotal, Mission Support	43,966,000
Subtotal, Operations and Support	$274,813,000

PROCUREMENT, CONSTRUCTION, AND IMPROVEMENTS

An additional appropriation of $497,400,000 is provided for Procurement, Construction, and Improvements.

The additional amount provided for this appropriation by PPA is as follows:

	Final Bill
Procurement, Construction, and Improvements:	
Border Security Assets and Infrastructure:	
Replacement of primary pedestrian fencing in high priority areas—20 miles	$146,000,000
Replacement of vehicle fencing with primary pedestrian fencing in high priority areas—20 miles	146,000,000
Gates for existing barriers—35 gates	49,200,000
Roads—New Road Construction—26 miles	77,400,000
Border Technology—18 Remote Video Surveillance Systems, Rio Grande Valley (RGV) and Laredo (LRT) Sectors	37,000,000
Border Technology—19 Mobile Video Surveillance Systems (MVSS) in LRT and Del Rio Sectors	11,500,000
Border Technology—Additional RVSS and MVSS in RGV	20,000,000
Subtotal, Border Security Assets and Infrastructure	487,100,000
Trade and Travel Assets and Infrastructure:	
Border Technology—Port of Entry Technology	10,300,000
Subtotal, Trade and Travel Assets and Infrastructure	10,300,000
Subtotal, Procurement, Construction, and Improvements	$497,400,000

U.S. IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT

OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

An additional appropriation of $236,908,000 is provided in this title for Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO). This amount augments the $380,121,000 above the fiscal year 2017 budget request for custody operations and transportation provided in title II for ERO. The total ERO increase of $617,029,000 supports custody and related transportation requirements, along with an increase in the average daily number of participants in the Alternatives to Detention program.

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) shall refrain from entering into new contracts or other agreements, or changing or significantly modifying existing contracts or other agreements, to detain individuals unless such contracts or agreements meet or exceed the Performance Based National Detention Standards (PBNDS) 2011, as revised in 2016 and which were in effect on January 1, 2017, unless the Secretary submits a report to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives at least 30 days in advance justifying the rationale for requiring changed standards.

Within 45 days after the date of enactment of this Act, ICE shall report on its progress in implementing the 2011 PBNDS and requirements related to Public Law 108–79 (PREA). This report shall include a list of detention facilities delineated by the detention standards with which they are obligated to comply; a plan and schedule for bringing into compliance each facility that is not currently obligated to comply with PBNDS 2011 and PREA requirements; and estimated costs for fiscal year 2017 and future years for bringing all such facilities into compliance. If ICE does not plan to bring certain facilities or categories of facilities into compliance with PBNDS 2011, the plan shall include the rationale for such decision.

The additional amount provided for this appropriation by PPA is as follows:

	Final Bill
Operations and Support:	
Enforcement & Removal Operations:	
Custody Operations	$147,870,000
Alternatives to Detention	57,392,000
Transportation & Removal Program	31,646,000
Subtotal, Enforcement & Removal Operations	236,908,000
Subtotal, Operations & Support	$236,908,000

UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE

OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

An additional appropriation of $58,012,000 is provided for Operations and Support, of which $24,000,000 is for the settlement of *Moore* vs. *Napolitano* and $34,012,000 is for increased physical presidential and other security requirements.

PROCUREMENT, CONSTRUCTION, AND IMPROVEMENTS

An additional appropriation of $72,988,000 is provided for Procurement, Construction, and Improvements, of which $22,988,000 is for increased facilities security requirements and $50,000,000 is for the installation of new White House Crown Fence segments.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—THIS ACT

Section 601. A provision is included directing that funds made available in this title are additional to amounts appropriated or otherwise made available for DHS for fiscal year 2017.

Divison F - Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY					
TITLE I - DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT, OPERATIONS, INTELLIGENCE, & INSIGHT					
Office of the Secretary and Executive Management					
Operations and Support					
Office of the Secretary	18,967	22,287	18,632	-335	-3,655
Office of Policy	39,077	37,049	37,461	-1,616	+412
Office of Public Affairs	5,472	5,384	5,000	-472	-384
Office of Legislative Affairs	5,363	5,287	5,080	-283	-207
Office of Partnership and Engagement	13,074	11,692	15,206	+2,132	+3,514
Office of General Counsel	19,472	19,298	19,298	-174	---
Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties	21,800	21,403	22,571	+771	+1,168
Office of the Citizenship and Immigration Services Ombudsman	6,272	6,200	5,935	-337	-265
Privacy Office	7,969	7,851	7,851	-118	---
Subtotal, Operations and Support	137,466	136,451	137,034	-432	+583
Total, Office of the Secretary and Executive Management	137,466	136,451	137,034	-432	+583

Divison F - Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Management Directorate					
Operations and Support					
Immediate Office of the Under Secretary for Management	3,393	3,758	3,564	+171	-194
Office of the Chief Readiness Support Officer	31,691	128,177	54,275	+22,584	-73,902
Office of the Chief Human Capital Officer	29,697	36,446	39,026	+9,329	+2,580
Office of the Chief Security Officer	69,120	61,723	63,102	-6,018	+1,379
Office of the Chief Procurement Officer	60,630	101,450	98,076	+37,446	-3,374
Office of the Chief Financial Officer	56,420	100,041	53,700	-2,720	-46,341
Office of the Chief Information Officer	291,800	296,176	286,074	-5,726	-10,102
Subtotal, Operations and Support	542,751	727,771	597,817	+55,066	-129,954
Procurement, Construction, and Improvements					
Construction and Facility Improvements	---	125,950	---	---	-125,950
Mission Support Assets and Infrastructure	17,955	18,839	18,839	+884	---
Subtotal, Procurement, Construction, and Improvements	17,955	144,789	18,839	+884	-125,950
Research and Development	2,500	2,500	2,500	---	---
Subtotal, Research and Development	2,500	2,500	2,500	---	---
Total, Management Directorate	563,206	875,060	619,156	+55,950	-255,904

Divison F - Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Intelligence, Analysis, and Operations Coordination					
Operations and Support	264,714	265,719	263,551	-1,163	-2,168
Subtotal, Operations and Support	264,714	265,719	263,551	-1,163	-2,168
Total, Intelligence, Analysis, and Operations Coordination	264,714	265,719	263,551	-1,163	-2,168
Office of Inspector General					
Operations and Support	137,488	157,144	175,000	+37,512	+17,856
Subtotal, Operations and Support	137,488	157,144	175,000	+37,512	+17,856
(Transfer from Disaster Relief Fund)	(24,000)	(24,000)	---	(-24,000)	(-24,000)
Total, Office of Inspector General	137,488	157,144	175,000	+37,512	+17,856
(By transfer)	(24,000)	(24,000)	---	(-24,000)	(-24,000)
Gross Budget Authority, Office of Inspector General	(161,488)	(181,144)	(175,000)	(+13,512)	(-6,144)
Total, Title I, Departmental Management, Operations, Intelligence, and Oversight	1,102,874	1,434,374	1,194,741	+91,867	-239,633
(Discretionary Funding)	(1,102,874)	(1,434,374)	(1,194,741)	(+91,867)	(-239,633)
By transfer	24,000	24,000	---	-24,000	-24,000

Divison F - Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
TITLE II - SECURITY, ENFORCEMENT, AND INVESTIGATIONS					
U.S. Customs and Border Protection					
Operations and Support					
Border Security Operations					
U.S. Border Patrol					
Operations	3,632,456	3,760,054	3,681,084	+48,628	-78,970
(UAC Contingency Fund)	---	(13,000)	---	---	(-13,000)
Assets and Support	515,513	492,508	486,508	-29,005	-6,000
Office of Training and Development	54,937	56,819	54,221	-716	-2,598
Subtotal, Border and Security Operations	4,202,906	4,309,381	4,221,813	+18,907	-87,568
Trade and Travel Operations					
Office of Field Operations					
Domestic Operations	2,695,679	2,886,008	2,734,840	+39,161	-151,168
International Operations	125,867	126,225	131,425	+5,558	+5,200
Targeting Operations	89,909	131,941	149,773	+59,864	+17,832
Assets and Support	828,255	1,001,815	832,367	+4,112	-169,448
Office of Trade	213,844	196,997	192,330	-21,514	-4,667
Office of Training and Development	38,258	49,929	50,354	+12,096	+425
Subtotal, Trade and Travel Operations	3,991,812	4,392,915	4,091,089	+99,277	-301,826

Divison F - Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Integrated Operations					
Air and Marine Operations					
Operations	288,434	301,908	266,764	-21,670	-35,144
Assets and Support	507,545	484,704	507,704	+159	+23,000
Air and Marine Operations Center	25,487	37,133	45,138	+19,651	+8,005
Office of International Affairs	32,579	35,018	36,513	+3,934	+1,495
Office of Intelligence	62,566	66,566	58,492	-4,074	-8,074
Office of Training and Development	---	5,807	5,807	+5,807	---
Operations Support	65,796	93,080	93,259	+27,463	+179
Subtotal, Integrated Operations	982,407	1,024,216	1,013,677	+31,270	-10,539
Mission Support					
Enterprise Services	1,251,565	1,336,054	1,312,986	+61,421	-23,068
(Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund)	(3,274)	(3,274)	(3,274)	---	---
Office of Professional Responsibility	159,560	180,583	167,163	+7,603	-13,420
Executive Leadership and Oversight	86,255	97,809	93,908	+7,653	-3,901
Subtotal, Mission Support	1,497,380	1,614,446	1,574,057	+76,677	-40,389
Subtotal, Operations and Support	10,674,505	11,340,958	10,900,636	+226,131	-440,322

Divison F - Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Procurement, Construction, and Improvements					
Border Security Assets and Infrastructure	76,421	45,942	45,942	-30,479	---
Trade and Travel Assets and Infrastructure	116,553	130,349	60,842	-55,711	-69,507
Integrated Operations Assets and Infrastructure					
Airframes and Sensors	80,900	68,617	116,058	+35,158	+47,441
Operational Communications/Information Technology	7,000	---	---	-7,000	---
Construction and Facility Improvements	62,870	39,775	20,775	-42,095	-19,000
Mission Support Assets and Infrastructure	30,000	38,707	30,000	---	-8,707
Subtotal, Procurement, Construction, and Improvements	373,744	323,390	273,617	-100,127	-49,773
CBP Services at User Fee Facilities (Small Airport) (Permanent Indefinite Discretionary)	9,097	9,415	9,415	+318	---
Fee Funded Programs					
Immigration Inspection User Fee	(652,699)	(677,894)	(677,894)	(+25,195)	---
Immigration Enforcement Fines	(633)	(860)	(860)	(+227)	---
Electronic System for Travel Authorization (ESTA) Fee	(57,332)	(58,301)	(58,301)	(+969)	---
Land Border Inspection Fee	(34,724)	(46,517)	(46,517)	(+11,793)	---
COBRA Passenger Inspection Fee	(506,877)	(523,737)	(523,737)	(+16,860)	---
APHIS Inspection Fee	(515,810)	(534,515)	(534,515)	(+18,705)	---

Divison F - Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Global Entry Fee	(91,789)	(96,297)	(96,297)	(+4,508)	---
Puerto Rico Trust Fund	(99,058)	(99,551)	(99,551)	(+493)	---
Virgin Island Fee	(11,867)	(11,176)	(11,176)	(-691)	---
Customs Unclaimed Goods	(5,992)	(5,992)	(5,992)	---	---
Subtotal, Fee Funded Programs	1,976,781	2,054,840	2,054,840	+78,059	---
Administrative Provisions					
Colombia Free Trade Act Collections	220,000	220,000	231,000	+11,000	+11,000
Reimbursable Preclearance	14,000	39,000	39,000	+25,000	---
Subtotal, Adminstrative Provisions (Gross)	234,000	259,000	270,000	+36,000	+11,000
Reimbursable Preclearance (Offsetting Collections)	-14,000	-31,000	-39,000	-25,000	-8,000
Subtotal, Adminstrative Provisions (Net)	220,000	228,000	231,000	+11,000	+3,000
Total, U.S. Customs and Border Protection	11,277,346	11,901,763	11,414,668	+137,322	-487,095
(Discretionary Funding)	(11,277,346)	(11,901,763)	(11,414,668)	(+137,322)	(-487,095)
(Non-Defense)	(11,277,346)	(11,901,763)	(11,414,668)	(+137,322)	(-487,095)
(Discretionary Appropriation)	(11,291,346)	(11,932,763)	(11,453,668)	(+162,322)	(-479,095)
(Offsetting Collection)	(-14,000)	(-31,000)	(-39,000)	(-25,000)	(-8,000)
Fee Funded Programs	1,976,781	2,054,840	2,054,840	+78,059	---
Gross Budget Authority, U.S. Customs and Border Protection	13,268,127	13,987,603	13,508,508	+240,381	-479,095

Divison F - Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement					
Operations and Support					
Homeland Security Investigations					
Domestic Investigations	1,761,829	1,892,183	1,834,017	+72,188	-58,166
International Investigations	139,771	146,751	159,035	+19,264	+12,284
Intelligence	79,768	81,996	80,141	+373	-1,855
Subtotal, Homeland Security Investigations	1,981,368	2,120,930	2,073,193	+91,825	-47,737
Enforcement and Removal Operations					
Custody Operations	2,316,744	2,178,963	2,557,542	+240,798	+378,579
Fugitive Operations	156,572	133,133	151,795	-4,777	+18,662
Criminal Alien Program	317,177	347,455	312,350	-4,827	-35,105
Alternatives to Detention	114,275	125,966	125,883	+11,608	-83
Transportation and Removal Program	313,174	322,694	324,236	+11,062	+1,542
(UAC Contingency Fund)	---	(7,000)	---	---	(-7,000)
Subtotal, Enforcement and Removal Operations	3,217,942	3,108,211	3,471,806	+253,864	+363,595

Divison F - Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Mission Support	339,837	364,489	364,533	+24,696	+44
Office of the Principal Legal Advisor	239,894	268,393	259,000	+19,106	-9,393
Subtotal, Operations and Support	5,779,041	5,862,023	6,168,532	+389,491	+306,509
Procurement, Construction, and Improvements					
Operational Communications/Information Technology	44,000	21,000	16,000	-28,000	-5,000
Construction and Facility Improvements	---	7,000	---	---	-7,000
Mission Support Assets and Infrastructure	9,000	22,230	13,800	+4,800	-8,430
Subtotal, Procurement, Construction, and Improvements	53,000	50,230	29,800	-23,200	-20,430

Divison F - Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Fee Funded Programs					
Immigration Inspection User Fee	(135,000)	(135,000)	(135,000)	---	---
Breached Bond/Detention Fund	(42,000)	(42,000)	(55,000)	(+13,000)	(+13,000)
Student Exchange and Visitor Fee	(145,000)	(145,000)	(171,000)	(+26,000)	(+26,000)
Subtotal, Fee Funded Programs	322,000	322,000	361,000	+39,000	+39,000
Total, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement	5,832,041	5,912,253	6,198,332	+366,291	+286,079
(Discretionary Funding)	(5,832,041)	(5,912,253)	(6,198,332)	(+366,291)	(+286,079)
(Non-Defense)	(5,832,041)	(5,912,253)	(6,198,332)	(+366,291)	(+286,079)
(Discretonary Appropriation)	(5,832,041)	(5,912,253)	(6,198,332)	(+366,291)	(+286,079)
Fee Funded Programs	322,000	322,000	361,000	+39,000	+39,000
Gross Budget Authority, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement	6,154,041	6,234,253	6,559,332	+405,291	+325,079

Divison F - Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Transportation Security Administration					
Operations and Support					
Aviation Screening Operations					
Screening Workforce					
Screening Partnership Program	166,928	170,382	177,982	+11,054	+7,600
Screener Personnel, Compensation, and Benefits	2,973,839	3,045,941	3,221,124	+247,285	+175,183
Screener Training and Other	239,025	235,668	239,119	+94	+3,451
Airport Management	571,916	572,564	572,967	+1,051	+403
Canines	121,709	131,391	153,969	+32,260	+22,578
Screening Technology Maintenance	284,284	284,834	284,834	+550	---
Secure Flight	105,651	101,721	101,721	-3,930	---
Subtotal, Aviation Screening Operations	4,463,352	4,542,501	4,751,716	+288,364	+209,215
Other Operations and Enforcement					
Inflight Security					
Federal Air Marshals	805,076	815,313	802,953	-2,123	-12,360
Federal Flight Deck Officer and Crew Training	20,758	19,773	22,273	+1,515	+2,500

Divison F - Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Aviation Regulation	215,636	218,296	218,296	+2,660	---
Air Cargo	93,659	95,692	94,682	+1,023	-1,010
Intelligence and TSOC	77,986	83,520	80,820	+2,834	-2,700
Surface programs	110,798	122,716	122,716	+11,918	---
Vetting Programs	74,939	65,751	65,751	-9,188	---
Subtotal, Other Operations and Enforcement	1,398,852	1,421,061	1,407,491	+8,639	-13,570
Mission Support	924,015	951,375	945,840	+21,825	-5,535
Subtotal, Operations and Support (Gross)	6,786,219	6,914,937	7,105,047	+318,828	+190,110
Aviation Passenger Security Fees (offsetting collections)	-2,130,000	-2,130,000	-2,130,000	---	---
Passenger Security Fee Increase (offsetting collections)(legislative proposal)	---	-460,000	---	---	+460,000
Aviation Security Infrastructure Fee (offsetting collections)(legislative proposal)	---	-420,000	---	---	+420,000
Subtotal, Operations and Support (Net)	4,656,219	3,904,937	4,975,047	+318,828	+1,070,110

Divison F - Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Procurement, Construction, and Improvements					
Aviation Screening Infrastructure					
Checkpoint Support	107,198	111,079	111,079	+3,881	---
Checked Baggage	60,574	59,331	59,331	-1,243	---
Infrastructure for Other Operations					
Air Cargo	14,007	14,383	14,383	+376	---
Surface Programs	13,845	15,000	15,000	+1,155	---
Vetting Programs	4,100	6,300	6,300	+2,200	---
Subtotal, Procurement, Construction, and Improvements	199,724	206,093	206,093	+6,369	---
Research and Development	5,000	5,000	5,000	---	---
Subtotal, Research and Development	5,000	5,000	5,000	---	---

Divison F - Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Fee Funded Programs					
TWIC Fee	(82,267)	(88,314)	(88,314)	(+6,047)	---
Hazardous Materials Endorsement Fee	(21,083)	(21,083)	(21,083)	---	---
General Aviation at DCA Fee	(400)	(400)	(400)	---	---
Commercial Aviation and Airports Fee	(6,500)	(6,500)	(6,500)	---	---
Other Security Threat Assessments Fee	(50)	(50)	(50)	---	---
Air Cargo/Certified Cargo Screening Program Fee	(3,500)	(3,500)	(3,500)	---	---
TSA PreCheck Fee	(80,153)	(80,153)	(80,153)	---	---
Alien Flight School Fee	(5,200)	(5,200)	(5,200)	---	---
Subtotal, Fee Funded Programs	(199,153)	(205,200)	(205,200)	(+6,047)	---
Aviation Security Capital Fund (Mandatory)	(250,000)	(250,000)	(250,000)	---	---
Total, Transportation Security Administration	4,860,943	4,116,030	5,186,140	+325,197	+1,070,110
(Discretionary Funding)	(4,860,943)	(4,116,030)	(5,186,140)	(+325,197)	(+1,070,110)
(Discretionary Appropriations)	(6,990,943)	(7,126,030)	(7,316,140)	(+325,197)	(+190,110)
(Offsetting Collections)	(-2,130,000)	(-2,130,000)	(-2,130,000)	---	---
(Offsetting Collections) (Legislative Proposals)	---	(-880,000)	---	---	(+880,000)
Aviation Security Capital Fund (mandatory)	250,000	250,000	250,000	---	---
Fee Funded Programs	199,153	205,200	205,200	+6,047	---
Gross Budget Authority, Transportation Security Administration	7,440,096	7,581,230	7,771,340	+331,244	+190,110

Divison F - Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Coast Guard					
Operating Expenses					
Military Pay and Allowances	3,488,617	3,597,319	3,544,111	+55,494	-53,208
Civilian Pay and Benefits	792,229	817,324	808,969	+16,740	-8,355
Training and Recruiting	206,498	198,605	196,346	-10,152	-2,259
Operating Funds and Unit Level Maintenance	1,027,780	996,204	995,519	-32,261	-685
Centrally Managed Accounts	329,906	329,099	328,746	-1,160	-353
Intermediate and Depot Level Maintenance	1,056,458	1,048,264	1,043,245	-13,213	-5,019
Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism (Defense)	160,002	---	162,692	+2,690	+162,692
Subtotal, Operating Expenses	7,061,490	6,986,815	7,079,628	+18,138	+92,813
(Defense)	(500,002)	(340,000)	(502,692)	(+2,690)	(+162,692)
(Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism)	(160,002)	---	(162,692)	(+2,690)	(+162,692)
(Other Defense)	(340,000)	(340,000)	(340,000)	---	---
Environmental Compliance and Restoration	13,221	13,315	13,315	+94	---
Reserve Training	110,614	112,302	112,302	+1,688	---
Acquisition, Construction, and Improvements					
Vessels					
Survey and Design-Vessel and Boats	15,000	6,500	9,500	-5,500	+3,000
In-Service Vessel Sustainment	68,000	79,000	94,000	+26,000	+15,000
National Security Cutter	743,400	127,000	255,400	-488,000	+128,400
Offshore Patrol Cutter	89,000	100,000	75,000	-14,000	-25,000
Fast Response Cutter	340,000	240,000	325,000	-15,000	+85,000

Divison F - Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Cutter Boats	3,000	4,000	4,000	+1,000	---
Polar Ice Breaking Vessel	6,000	147,600	25,000	+19,000	-122,600
Subtotal, Vessels	1,264,400	704,100	787,900	-476,500	+83,800
Aircraft					
HC-144 Conversion/Sustainment	3,000	25,500	25,500	+22,500	---
HC-27J Conversion/Sustainment	102,000	130,000	130,000	+28,000	---
HC-130J Acquisition/Conversion/Sustainment	150,000	20,800	111,800	-38,200	+91,000
HH-65 Conversion/Sustainment Projects	40,000	25,000	40,000	---	+15,000
Subtotal, Aircraft	295,000	201,300	307,300	+12,300	+106,000
Other Acquisition Programs					
Other Equipment and Systems	---	8,055	8,055	+8,055	---
Program Oversight and Management	20,000	20,000	20,000	---	---
C4ISR	36,600	24,300	24,300	-12,300	---
CG-Logistics Information Management System (CG-LIMS)	8,500	7,000	7,000	-1,500	---
Subtotal, Other Acquisition Programs	65,100	59,355	59,355	-5,745	---

Divison F - Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Shore Facilities and Aids to Navigation					
Major Construction; Housing; ATON; and Survey and Design	124,600	18,100	44,519	-80,081	+26,419
Major Acquisition Systems Infrastructure	52,000	28,000	50,000	-2,000	+22,000
Minor Shore	5,000	5,000	5,000	---	---
Subtotal, Shore Facilities and Aids to Navigation	181,600	51,100	99,519	-82,081	+48,419
Military Housing	21,000	---	---	-21,000	---
Personnel and Related Support Costs	118,069	120,933	115,933	-2,136	-5,000
Subtotal, Acquisition, Construction, and Improvements	1,945,169	1,136,788	1,370,007	-575,162	+233,219
Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation	18,019	18,319	36,319	+18,300	+18,000

Divison F - Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Health Care Fund Contribution (Permanent Indefinite Discretionary)	169,306	176,000	176,000	+6,694	---
Mandatory					
Retired Pay (Mandatory)	1,604,000	1,666,940	1,666,940	+62,940	---
Subtotal, Mandatory	1,604,000	1,666,940	1,666,940	+62,940	---
Total, Coast Guard	10,921,819	10,110,479	10,454,511	-467,308	+344,032
(Discretionary Funding)	(9,317,819)	(8,443,539)	(8,787,571)	(-530,248)	(+344,032)
(Non-Defense)	(8,817,817)	(8,103,539)	(8,284,879)	(-532,938)	(+181,340)
(Defense)	(500,002)	(340,000)	(502,692)	(+2,690)	(+162,692)
(Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism)	(160,002)	---	(162,692)	(+2,690)	(+162,692)
(Other Defense)	(340,000)	(340,000)	(340,000)	---	---
(Mandatory Funding)	(1,604,000)	(1,666,940)	(1,666,940)	(+62,940)	---
United States Secret Service					
Operations and Support					
Protective Operations					
Protection of Persons and Facilities	509,825	586,988	599,759	+89,934	+12,771
Protective Countermeasures	55,000	58,193	58,193	+3,193	---
Protective Intelligence	38,700	40,732	44,490	+5,790	+3,758
Presidential Campaigns and National Special Security Events	149,487	48,634	51,734	-97,753	+3,100
Subtotal, Protective Operations	753,012	734,547	754,176	+1,164	+19,629

Divison F - Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Field Operations					
Domestic and International Field Operations	792,348	761,427	763,271	-29,077	+1,844
Support for Missing and Exploited Children Investigations	8,366	---	6,000	-2,366	+6,000
Support for Computer Forensics Training	12,784	4,869	13,869	+1,085	+9,000
Subtotal, Field Operations	813,498	766,296	783,140	-30,358	+16,844
Basic and In-Service Training and Professional Development	59,709	59,575	59,507	-202	-68
Mission Support	243,694	217,574	224,628	-19,066	+7,054
Subtotal, Operations and Support	1,869,913	1,777,992	1,821,451	-48,462	+43,459
Procurement, Construction, and Improvements					
Protection Assets and Infrastructure	11,000	47,737	37,737	+26,737	-10,000
Operational Communications/Information Technology	34,332	62,890	52,890	+18,558	-10,000
Construction and Facility Improvements	18,050	---	---	-18,050	---
Subtotal, Procurement, Construction, and Improvements	63,382	110,627	90,627	+27,245	-20,000

Divison F - Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Research and Development	250	2,500	2,500	+2,250	---
Subtotal, Research and Development	250	2,500	2,500	+2,250	---
Total, United States Secret Service	1,933,545	1,891,119	1,914,578	-18,967	+23,459
Total, Title II, Security, Enforcement, and Investigations	34,825,694	33,931,644	35,168,229	+342,535	+1,236,585
(Discretionary Funding)	(33,221,694)	(32,264,704)	(33,501,289)	(+279,595)	(+1,236,585)
(Non-Defense)	(32,721,692)	(31,924,704)	(32,998,597)	(+276,905)	(+1,073,893)
(Discretionary Appropriation)	(34,865,692)	(34,965,704)	(35,167,597)	(+301,905)	(+201,893)
(Offsetting Collections)	(-2,144,000)	(-2,161,000)	(-2,169,000)	(-25,000)	(-8,000)
(Offsetting Collections)(Legislative Proposals)	---	(-880,000)	---	---	(+880,000)
(Defense)	(500,002)	(340,000)	(502,692)	(+2,690)	(+162,692)
(Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism)	(160,002)	---	(162,692)	(+2,690)	(+162,692)
(Other Defense)	(340,000)	(340,000)	(340,000)	---	---
(Mandatory Funding)	(1,604,000)	(1,666,940)	(1,666,940)	(+62,940)	---
Aviation Security Capital Fund (Mandatory)	250,000	250,000	250,000	---	---
Fee Funded Programs	2,497,934	2,582,040	2,621,040	+123,106	+39,000

Divison F - Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Title III - PROTECTION, PREPAREDNESS, RESPONSE, AND RECOVERY					
National Protection and Programs Directorate					
Operations and Support					
Cybersecurity					
Cyber Readiness and Response					
NCCIC Operations	87,491	116,168	108,402	+20,911	-7,766
(CERT)	(64,119)	(94,134)	(86,368)	(+22,249)	(-7,766)
NCCIC Planning and Exercises	64,942	92,683	88,502	+23,560	-4,181
(CERT)	(48,590)	(65,788)	(61,607)	(+13,017)	(-4,181)
Cyber Infrastructure Resilience					
Cybersecurity Advisors	8,243	13,535	12,970	+4,727	-565
Enhanced Cybersecurity Services	16,597	16,830	16,950	+353	+120
Cybersecurity Education and Awareness	17,350	7,886	14,133	-3,217	+6,247
Federal Cybersecurity					
Federal Network Resilience	28,186	37,005	35,013	+6,827	-1,992
Continuous Diagnostics and Mitigation	5,149	8,878	7,565	+2,416	-1,313
National Cybersecurity Protection System	367,948	389,355	385,879	+17,931	-3,476
Subtotal, Cybersecurity	595,906	682,340	669,414	+73,508	-12,926

Divison F - Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Infrastructure Protection					
Infrastructure Capacity Building					
Sector Risk Management	42,227	41,611	42,396	+169	+785
Protective Security Advisors	36,294	39,490	39,723	+3,429	+233
Bombing Prevention	14,206	---	15,070	+864	+15,070
Infrastructure Information and Sensitive Data Protection	23,119	19,889	19,546	-3,573	-343
Infrastructure Security Compliance	76,609	76,876	69,557	-7,052	-7,319
Subtotal, Infrastructure Protection	192,455	177,866	186,292	-6,163	+8,426
Emergency Communications					
Emergency Communications Preparedness	44,306	43,260	44,097	-209	+837
Priority Telecommunications Service					
GETS/WPS/SRAS/TSP	55,173	55,406	55,730	+557	+324
Next Generation Networks Priority Services	1,824	1,966	2,214	+390	+248
Subtotal, Emergency Communications	101,303	100,632	102,041	+738	+1,409

Division F - Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Integrated Operations					
Cyber and Infrastructure Analysis					
National Infrastructure Simulation Analysis Center (NISAC)	18,650	12,993	18,650	---	+5,657
Infrastructure Analysis	21,605	24,443	23,230	+1,625	-1,213
Critical Infrastructure Situational Awareness	13,702	16,344	16,176	+2,474	-168
(Defense)	(12,082)	(14,724)	(14,720)	(+2,638)	(-4)
Stakeholder Engagement and Requirements	46,603	43,150	41,959	-4,644	-1,191
(Defense)	(42,843)	(38,830)	(37,763)	(-5,080)	(-1,067)
Strategy, Policy and Plans	13,759	14,707	9,669	-4,090	-5,038
(Defense)	(9,619)	(10,207)	(6,382)	(-3,237)	(-3,825)
Subtotal, Integrated Operations	114,319	111,637	109,684	-4,635	-1,953
Office of Biometric Identity Management					
Identity and Screening Program Operations	69,828	---	71,954	+2,126	+71,954
IDENT/Homeland Advanced Recognition Technology	145,425	---	163,475	+18,050	+163,475
Subtotal, Office of Biometric Identity Management	215,253	---	235,429	+20,176	+235,429
Mission Support	76,727	75,027	69,408	-7,319	-5,619
(Defense)	(22,695)	(23,390)	(21,516)	(-1,179)	(-1,874)
Subtotal, Operations and Support	1,295,963	1,147,502	1,372,268	+76,305	+224,766

Divison F - Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Federal Protective Service					
FPS Operations					
Operating Expenses	336,458	368,892	368,892	+32,434	---
Countermeasures					
Protective Security Officers	1,079,534	1,059,825	1,059,825	-19,709	---
Technical Countermeasures	27,457	22,361	22,361	-5,096	---
Subtotal, Federal Protective Service (Gross)	1,443,449	1,451,078	1,451,078	+7,629	---
Offsetting Collections	-1,443,449	-1,451,078	-1,451,078	-7,629	---
Subtotal, Federal Protective Service (Net)	---	---	---	---	---
Procurement, Construction, and Improvements					
Cybersecurity					
Continuous Diagnostics and Mitigation	97,435	266,971	217,409	+119,974	-49,562
National Cybersecurity Protection System	91,738	81,771	81,771	-9,967	---
Subtotal, Cybersecurity	189,173	348,742	299,180	+110,007	-49,562
Emergency Communications					
Next Generation Networks Priority Services	78,550	88,055	88,055	+9,505	---
Subtotal, Emergency Communications	78,550	88,055	88,055	+9,505	---

Divison F - Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Biometric Identity Management					
IDENT/Homeland Advanced Recognition Technology	65,800	---	52,800	-13,000	+52,800
Subtotal, Biometric Identity Management	65,800	---	52,800	-13,000	+52,800
Subtotal, Procurement, Construction, and Improvements	333,523	436,797	440,035	+106,512	+3,238
Research and Development					
Cybersecurity	2,030	2,030	2,030	---	---
Infrastructure Protection	4,089	2,439	4,439	+350	+2,000
Subtotal, Research and Development	6,119	4,469	6,469	+350	+2,000
Total, National Protection and Programs Directorate	1,635,605	1,588,768	1,818,772	+183,167	+230,004
(Discretionary Funding)	(1,635,605)	(1,588,768)	(1,818,772)	(+183,167)	(+230,004)
(Non-Defense)	(344,605)	(62,077)	(345,060)	(+455)	(+282,983)
(Discretionary Appropriations)	(1,788,054)	(1,513,155)	(1,796,138)	(+8,084)	(+282,983)
(Offsetting Collections)	(-1,443,449)	(-1,451,078)	(-1,451,078)	(-7,629)	---
(Defense)	(1,291,000)	(1,526,691)	(1,473,712)	(+182,712)	(-52,979)
Gross Budget Authority, National Protection and Programs Directorate	3,079,054	3,039,846	3,269,850	+190,796	+230,004

Divison F - Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Office of Health Affairs					
Operations and Support					
Chemical and Biological Readiness	82,902	---	82,689	-213	+82,689
Health and Medical Readiness	4,495	---	4,352	-143	+4,352
Integrated Operations	10,962	---	11,809	+847	+11,809
Mission Support	27,010	---	24,698	-2,312	+24,698
Subtotal, Operations and Support	125,369	---	123,548	-1,821	+123,548
Total, Office of Health Affairs	125,369	---	123,548	-1,821	+123,548
Federal Emergency Management Agency					
Operations and Support					
Regional Operations	151,460	157,134	157,134	+5,674	---
Mitigation	27,957	24,887	28,213	+256	+3,326
Preparedness and Protection	149,281	146,356	146,356	-2,925	---
Response and Recovery					
Response	172,624	178,500	187,806	+15,182	+9,306
(Urban Search and Rescue)	(35,180)	(27,153)	(38,280)	(+3,100)	(+11,127)
Recovery	49,763	58,687	56,126	+6,363	-2,561
Mission Support	367,869	472,916	472,916	+105,047	---
Subtotal, Operations and Support	918,954	1,038,480	1,048,551	+129,597	+10,071
(Defense)	(46,500)	(46,788)	(46,788)	(+288)	---

Divison F - Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Procurement, Construction, and Improvements					
Operational Communications/Information Technology	2,800	2,800	2,800	---	---
Construction and Facility Improvements	29,000	21,050	21,050	-7,950	---
Mission Support, Assets, and Infrastructure	11,500	11,423	11,423	-77	---
Subtotal, Procurement, Construction, and Improvements	43,300	35,273	35,273	-8,027	---
(Defense)	(27,500)	(15,500)	(15,500)	(-12,000)	---
Federal Assistance					
Grants					
State Homeland Security Grant Program	467,000	200,000	467,000	---	+267,000
(Operation Stonegarden)	(55,000)	---	(55,000)	---	(+55,000)
Urban Area Security Initiative	600,000	330,000	605,000	+5,000	+275,000
(Nonprofit Security)	(20,000)	---	(25,000)	(+5,000)	(+25,000)
Public Transportation Security Assistance	100,000	85,000	100,000	---	+15,000
(Amtrak Security)	(10,000)	(10,000)	(10,000)	---	---
(Over-the-Road Bus Security)	---	---	(2,000)	(+2,000)	(+2,000)
Port Security Grants	100,000	93,000	100,000	---	+7,000
Countering Violent Extremism	---	49,000	---	---	-49,000
Regional Competitive Grant Program	---	100,000	---	---	-100,000
Assistance to Firefighter Grants	345,000	335,000	345,000	---	+10,000
Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grants	345,000	335,000	345,000	---	+10,000
Emergency Management Performance Grants	350,000	350,000	350,000	---	---
National Predisaster Mitigation Fund	100,000	54,485	100,000	---	+45,515

Divison F - Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Flood Hazard Mapping and Risk Analysis Program	190,000	177,531	177,531	-12,469	---
Emergency Food and Shelter	120,000	100,000	120,000	---	+20,000
Subtotal, Grants	2,717,000	2,209,016	2,709,531	-7,469	+500,515
Education, Training, and Exercises					
Center for Domestic Preparedness	64,991	63,939	63,939	-1,052	---
Center for Homeland Defense and Security	18,000	18,000	18,000	---	---
Emergency Management Institute	20,569	19,643	20,569	---	+926
U.S. Fire Administration	42,500	40,812	42,500	---	+1,688
National Domestic Preparedness Consortium	98,000	36,000	101,000	+3,000	+65,000
Continuing Training Grants	11,521	---	8,000	-3,521	+8,000
National Exercise Program	19,919	19,911	19,919	---	+8
Subtotal, Education, Training, and Exercises	275,500	198,305	273,927	-1,573	+75,622
Subtotal, Federal Assistance	2,992,500	2,407,321	2,983,458	-9,042	+576,137
Disaster Relief Fund					
Base Disaster Relief	661,740	639,515	615,515	-46,225	-24,000

Divison F - Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Disaster Relief Category	6,712,953	6,709,000	6,713,000	+47	+4,000
Subtotal, Disaster Relief Fund (Gross)	7,374,693	7,348,515	7,328,515	-46,178	-20,000
(transfer to Office of Inspector General)	(-24,000)	(-24,000)	---	(+24,000)	(+24,000)
Subtotal, Disaster Relief Fund (Net)	7,350,693	7,324,515	7,328,515	-22,178	+4,000
National Flood Insurance Fund					
Floodplain Management and Mapping	158,192	168,363	168,363	+10,171	---
Mission Support	23,006	13,436	13,436	-9,570	---
Subtotal, National Flood Insurance Fund	181,198	181,799	181,799	+601	---
Offsetting Fee Collections	-181,198	-181,799	-181,799	-601	---

Divison F - Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Administrative Provisions					
Radiological Emergency Preparedness Program	-305	-265	-265	+40	---
Total, Federal Emergency Management Agency	11,329,142	10,829,324	11,395,532	+66,390	+566,208
(Discretionary Funding)	(11,329,142)	(10,829,324)	(11,395,532)	(+66,390)	(+566,208)
(Non-Defense)	(11,255,142)	(10,767,036)	(11,333,244)	(+78,102)	(+566,208)
(Discretionary Appropriations)	(4,723,387)	(4,239,835)	(4,802,043)	(+78,656)	(+562,208)
(Offsetting Collections)	(-181,198)	(-181,799)	(-181,799)	(-601)	---
(Disaster Relief Category)	(6,712,953)	(6,709,000)	(6,713,000)	(+47)	(+4,000)
(Defense)	(74,000)	(62,288)	(62,288)	(-11,712)	---
Transfer Out	-24,000	-24,000	---	+24,000	+24,000
Gross Budget Authority, Federal Emergency Management Agency	11,486,340	10,987,123	11,577,331	+90,991	+590,208
Total, Title III, Protection, Preparedness, Response, and Recovery	13,090,116	12,418,092	13,337,852	+247,736	+919,760
(Discretionary Funding)	(13,090,116)	(12,418,092)	(13,337,852)	(+247,736)	(+919,760)
(Non-Defense)	(11,725,116)	(10,829,113)	(11,801,852)	(+76,736)	(+972,739)
(Discretionary Appropriations)	(6,636,810)	(5,752,990)	(6,721,729)	(+84,919)	(+968,739)
(Offsetting Collections)	(-1,624,647)	(-1,632,877)	(-1,632,877)	(-8,230)	---
(Disaster Relief Category)	(6,712,953)	(6,709,000)	(6,713,000)	(+47)	(+4,000)
(Defense)	(1,365,000)	(1,588,979)	(1,536,000)	(+171,000)	(-52,979)
Transfer out	-24,000	-24,000	---	+24,000	+24,000

Divison F - Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
TITLE IV - RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT, TRAINING, AND SERVICES					
United States Citizenship and Immigration Services					
Operations and Support					
Employment Status Verification	104,560	103,912	103,912	-648	---
Subtotal, Operations and Support	104,560	103,912	103,912	-648	---
Procurement, Construction, and Improvements	15,111	15,227	15,227	+116	---
Subtotal, Procurement, Construction, and Improvements	15,111	15,227	15,227	+116	---
Federal Assistance	---	10,000	---	---	-10,000
Subtotal, Federal Assistance	---	10,000	---	---	-10,000

Divison F - Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Fee Funded Programs					
Immigration Examinations Fee Account					
Adjudication Services					
District Operations	(1,615,409)	(1,607,655)	(1,675,716)	(+60,307)	(+68,061)
(Immigrant Integration Grants)	(10,000)	---	(10,000)	---	(+10,000)
Service Center Operations	(669,891)	(1,001,363)	(609,367)	(-60,524)	(-391,996)
Asylum, Refugee, and International Operations	(259,042)	(274,437)	(358,474)	(+99,432)	(+84,037)
Records Operations	(124,177)	(124,671)	(133,509)	(+9,332)	(+8,838)
Premium Processing (Including Transformation)	(226,380)	(226,380)	(573,976)	(+347,596)	(+347,596)
Subtotal, Adjudication Services	(2,894,899)	(3,234,506)	(3,351,042)	(+456,143)	(+116,536)
Information and Customer Services					
Operating Expenses	(124,041)	(138,915)	(103,625)	(-20,416)	(-35,290)
Administration					
Operating Expenses	(384,585)	(418,639)	(509,420)	(+124,835)	(+90,781)
Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE)	(27,021)	(37,071)	(34,410)	(+7,389)	(-2,661)
Subtotal, Immigration Examinations Fee Account	(3,430,546)	(3,829,131)	(3,998,497)	(+567,951)	(+169,366)

Divison F - Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
H1-B Non-Immigrant Petititioner Account					
Adjudication Services					
Service Center Operations	(15,000)	(15,000)	(15,000)	---	---
Subtotal, H-1B Non-Immigrant Petitioner Account	(15,000)	(15,000)	(15,000)	---	---
Fraud Prevention and Detection Account					
Adjudication Services					
District Operations	(29,523)	(29,523)	(26,789)	(-2,734)	(-2,734)
Service Center Operations	(15,169)	(15,169)	(19,631)	(+4,462)	(+4,462)
Asylum and Refugee Operating Expenses	(308)	(308)	(308)	---	---
Subtotal, Fraud Prevention and Detection Account	(45,000)	(45,000)	(46,728)	(+1,728)	(+1,728)
Subtotal, Fee Funded Programs	(3,490,546)	(3,889,131)	(4,060,225)	(+569,679)	(+171,094)

Divison F - Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Administrative Provisions					
H2B returning worker	1,000	---	1,000	---	+1,000
Immigration Authorization Extensions	1,000	---	1,000	---	+1,000
U-Visa Immigration Proposal	---	3,000	---	---	-3,000
Subtotal, Administrative Provisions	2,000	3,000	2,000	---	-1,000
Total, United States Citizenship and Immigration Services	121,671	132,139	121,139	-532	-11,000
(Discretionary Funding)	(121,671)	(132,139)	(121,139)	(-532)	(-11,000)
Fee Funded Programs	3,490,546	3,889,131	4,060,225	+569,679	+171,094
Gross Budget Authority, United States Citizenship and Immigration Services	3,612,217	4,021,270	4,181,364	+569,147	+160,094

Divison F - Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers					
Operations and Support					
Law Enforcement Training	216,963	213,804	213,804	-3,159	---
Mission Support	28,075	28,714	28,714	+639	---
Subtotal, Operations and Support	245,038	242,518	242,518	-2,520	---
Total, Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers	245,038	242,518	242,518	-2,520	---
Science and Technology Directorate					
Operations and Support					
Laboratory Facilities	125,412	133,942	133,942	+8,530	---
Acquisition and Operations Analysis	47,103	48,392	48,392	+1,289	---
Mission Support	131,530	127,904	128,788	-2,742	+884
Subtotal, Operations and Support	304,045	310,238	311,122	+7,077	+884

Divison F - Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Procurement, Construction, and Improvements					
Laboratory Facilities	8,319	---	---	-8,319	---
Subtotal, Procurement, Construction, and Improvements	8,319	---	---	-8,319	---
Research and Development					
Research, Development, and Innovation	434,850	417,420	430,124	-4,726	+12,704
University Programs	39,724	31,085	40,500	+776	+9,415
Subotal, Research and Development	474,574	448,505	470,624	-3,950	+22,119
Total, Science and Technology	786,938	758,743	781,746	-5,192	+23,003
Domestic Nuclear Detection Office					
Operations and Support					
Mission Support	51,545	---	50,042	-1,503	+50,042
Subtotal, Operations and Support	51,545	---	50,042	-1,503	+50,042

Divison F - Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Procurement, Construction, and Improvements					
Large Scale Detection Systems	36,527	---	53,709	+17,182	+53,709
Human Portable Rad/Nuclear Detection Systems	51,762	---	47,344	-4,418	+47,344
Subotal, Procurement, Construction, and Improvements	88,289	---	101,053	+12,764	+101,053
Research and Development					
Architecture Planning and Analysis	15,758	---	15,072	-686	+15,072
Transformational Research and Development	64,684	---	62,028	-2,656	+62,028
Detection Capability Development	21,029	---	19,851	-1,178	+19,851
Detection Capability Assessments	39,503	---	39,272	-231	+39,272
Nuclear Forensics	19,031	---	18,838	-193	+18,838
Subtotal, Research and Development	160,005	---	155,061	-4,944	+155,061
Federal Assistance					
Federal, State, Local, Territorial, and Tribal Support	26,168	---	25,193	-975	+25,193
Securing the Cities	21,113	---	21,135	+22	+21,135
Subtotal, Federal Assistance	47,281	---	46,328	-953	+46,328
Total, Domestic Nuclear Detection Office	347,120	---	352,484	+5,364	+352,484

Divison F - Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosives Office					
Operations & Support					
Chemical, Biological, and Emerging Infectious Diseases Capability					
Chemical and Biological Capability	---	94,862	---	---	-94,862
Health and Emerging Infectious Diseases	---	9,951	---	---	-9,951
Integrated Operations	---	13,107	---	---	-13,107
Subtotal, Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosives Office	---	117,920	---	---	-117,920
Rad/Nuclear Detection, Forensics, and Prevention Capability	---	20,552	---	---	-20,552
Management & Administration	---	41,561	---	---	-41,561
Subtotal, Operations and Support	---	180,033	---	---	-180,033
Procurement, Construction, and Improvements					
Rad/Nuclear Detection Equipment Acquisition	---	103,860	---	---	-103,860
Subtotal, Procurement, Construction, and Improvements	---	103,860	---	---	-103,860

Divison F - Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Research and Development					
Rad/Nuclear Detection, Forensics, and Prevention Capability					
Transformational Research and Development	---	64,771	---	---	-64,771
Detection Capability Development	---	21,536	---	---	-21,536
Detection Capability Assessments	---	44,722	---	---	-44,722
Nuclear Forensics	---	20,576	---	---	-20,576
Subtotal, Rad/Nuclear Detection, Forensics, and Prevention Capability	---	151,605	---	---	-151,605
Subtotal, Research and Development	---	151,605	---	---	-151,605

Divison F - Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Federal Assistance					
Rad/Nuclear Detection, Forensics, and Prevention					
Capability	---	51,684	---	---	-51,684
Bombing Prevention (Defense Function)	---	14,263	---	---	-14,263
Subtotal, Rad/Nuclear Detection, Forensics, and Prevention Capability	---	65,947	---	---	-65,947
Subtotal, Federal Assistance	---	65,947	---	---	-65,947
Total, Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosives Office	---	501,445	---	---	-501,445
(Discretionary Funding)	---	(501,445)	---	---	(-501,445)
(Non-Defense)	---	(487,182)	---	---	(-487,182)
(Defense)	---	(14,263)	---	---	(-14,263)
Total, Title IV, Research and Development, Training, and Services	1,500,767	1,634,845	1,497,887	-2,880	-136,958
(Discretionary Funding)	(1,500,767)	(1,634,845)	(1,497,887)	(-2,880)	(-136,958)
(Non-Defense)	(1,500,767)	(1,620,582)	(1,497,887)	(-2,880)	(-122,695)
(Defense)	---	(14,263)	---	---	(-14,263)
Fee Funded Programs	3,490,546	3,889,131	4,060,225	+569,679	+171,094

Divison F - Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
TITLE V - GENERAL PROVISIONS					
DHS HQ Consolidation Project	215,679	---	13,253	-202,426	+13,253
Financial Systems Modernization	52,977	---	41,215	-11,762	+41,215
OCIO Cyber Security Fund	100,000	---	---	-100,000	---
OCIO Unobligated Balances (Rescisson)	---	---	-3,000	-3,000	-3,000
Emergent Threats	50,000	---	---	-50,000	---
FEMA Disaster Assistance Direct Loan Program Account (P.L. 109-88) (FY05) (Rescission)	-27,338	-95,000	-95,000	-67,662	---
Analysis and Operations (Rescission)	-4,188	---	---	+4,188	---
CBP Automation Modernization (Rescission)	-7,000	---	-31,293	-24,293	-31,293
CBP Air and Marine Operations (Rescission)	---	---	-21,450	-21,450	-21,450
CBP, BSFIT (P.L. 114-4) (Rescission)	-21,856	---	---	+21,856	---
CBP, BSFIT (Prior Year Balances) (Rescission)	---	---	-21,150	-21,150	-21,150
CBP Construction and Facilities Management (Rescission)	-4,500	---	-20,690	-16,190	-20,690
ICE Salaries and Expenses (P.L. 114-4) (FY 15) (Rescission)	---	---	-13,500	-13,500	-13,500
ICE Salaries and Expenses (P.L. 114-113)(FY16) (Rescission)	---	---	-45,000	-45,000	-45,000
ICE Construction (Rescission)	---	---	-2,900	-2,900	-2,900
TSA Aviation Security (P.L. 114-113) (FY16) (Rescission)	---	---	-104,650	-104,650	-104,650
TSA Surface Transportation Security (P.L. 114-113) (FY16) (Rescission)	---	---	-2,582	-2,582	-2,582
TSA Intelligence and Vetting (P.L. 114-113) (FY16) (Rescission)	---	---	-9,930	-9,930	-9,930

Divison F - Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
TSA Transportation Security Support (P.L. 114-113) (FY16) (Rescission)	---	---	-2,518	-2,518	-2,518
TSA Aviation Security (P.L. 114-4) (FY15) (Rescission)	-158,414	---	---	+158,414	---
TSA Surface Transportation Security (P.L. 114-4) (FY15) (Rescission)	-14,000	---	---	+14,000	---
Coast Guard AC&I (P.L. 112-74) (FY12) (Rescission)	-5,800	---	---	+5,800	---
Coast Guard AC&I (P.L. 113-6) (FY13) (Rescission)	---	---	-4,200	-4,200	-4,200
Coast Guard AC&I (P.L. 113-76) (FY14) (Rescission)	-16,445	---	-19,300	-2,855	-19,300
Coast Guard AC&I (P.L. 114-4) (FY15) (Rescission)	---	---	-16,500	-16,500	-16,500
Coast Guard AC&I (P.L. 114-113) (FY16) (Rescission)	---	---	-31,000	-31,000	-31,000
FEMA Predisaster Mitigation (Rescission)	-13,758	---	---	+13,758	---
FEMA State and Local Programs (70X0560) (Rescission)	---	---	-11,071	-11,071	-11,071
S&T RDA&O (PL113-6) (FY13) (Rescission)	-393	---	---	+393	---
S&T RDA&O (PL113-76) (FY14) (Rescission)	-8,500	---	-977	+7,523	-977
S&T RDA&O (PL114-4) (FY15) (Rescission)	-1,107	---	-5,000	-3,893	-5,000
S&T RDA&O (PL114-113) (FY16) (Rescission)	---	---	-1,523	-1,523	-1,523
Legacy Funds (Rescission)	-1,006	---	-1,841	-835	-1,841
DHS Lapsed Balances (Rescission)	-23,968	---	-42,343	-18,375	-42,343
Treasury Asset Forfeiture Fund (Rescission)	-176,000	---	-187,000	-11,000	-187,000

Divison F - Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
FEMA Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) (Rescission)	-1,021,879	-325,000	-789,248	+232,631	-464,248
Presidential Residence Protection Assistance	---	---	41,000	+41,000	+41,000
Total, Title V, General Provisions	-1,087,496	-420,000	-1,388,198	-300,702	-968,198
(Discretionary Funding)	(418,656)	---	(95,468)	(-323,188)	(+95,468)
(Rescissions/Cancellations)	(-1,506,152)	(-420,000)	(-1,483,666)	(+22,486)	(-1,063,666)
Grand Total, Titles I-V	49,431,955	48,998,955	49,810,511	+378,556	+811,556
(Discretionary Funding)	(47,827,955)	(47,332,015)	(48,143,571)	(+315,616)	(+811,556)
(Non-Defense)	(45,962,953)	(45,388,773)	(46,104,879)	(+141,926)	(+716,106)
(Discretionary Appropriations)	(44,524,799)	(43,773,650)	(44,677,422)	(+152,623)	(+903,772)
(Offsetting Collections)	(-3,768,647)	(-3,793,877)	(-3,801,877)	(-33,230)	(-8,000)
(Offsetting Collections)(Legislative Proposals)	---	(-880,000)	---	---	(+880,000)
(Disaster Relief Category)	(6,712,953)	(6,709,000)	(6,713,000)	(+47)	(+4,000)
(Rescissions)	(-1,506,152)	(-420,000)	(-1,483,666)	(+22,486)	(-1,063,666)
(Defense)	(1,865,002)	(1,943,242)	(2,038,692)	(+173,690)	(+95,450)
(Overseas Contingency on Operations/Global War on Terrorism)	(160,002)	---	(162,692)	(+2,690)	(+162,692)
(Other Defense)	(1,705,000)	(1,943,242)	(1,876,000)	(+171,000)	(-67,242)
(Mandatory Funding)	(1,604,000)	(1,666,940)	(1,666,940)	(+62,940)	---

Divison F - Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
TITLE VI - ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS					
SECURITY ENFORCEMENT AND INVESTIGATIONS					
Office of the Secretary and Executive Management					
Operations and Support					
Office of Policy (budget amendment)	---	11,304	---	---	-11,304
Subtotal, Operations and Support	---	11,304	---	---	-11,304
Total, Office of the Secretary and Executive Management	---	11,304	---	---	-11,304
U.S. Customs and Border Protection					
Operations and Support					
Border Security Operations					
U.S. Border Patrol					
Operations (budget amendment)	---	53,920	33,920	+33,920	-20,000
Assets and Support (budget amendment)	---	89,575	84,710	+84,710	-4,865
Subtotal, Border Security Operations	---	143,495	118,630	+118,630	-24,865

Divison F - Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Trade and Travel Operations					
Office of Field Operations					
Domestic Operations (budget amendment)	---	28,798	24,460	+24,460	-4,338
Assets and Support (budget amendment)	---	30,492	69,614	+69,614	+39,122
Subtotal, Trade and Travel Operations	---	59,290	94,074	+94,074	+34,784
Integrated Operations					
Air and Marine Operations					
Assets and Support (budget amendment)	---	43,284	18,143	+18,143	-25,141
Operations Support (budget amendment)	---	6,000	---	---	-6,000
Subtotal, Integrated Operations	---	49,284	18,143	+18,143	-31,141
Mission Support					
Enterprise Services (budget amendment)	---	45,859	35,605	+35,605	-10,254
Office of Professional Responsibility (budget amendment)	---	8,361	8,361	+8,361	---
Executive Leadership and Oversight (budget amendment)	---	2,112	---	---	-2,112
Subtotal, Mission Support	---	56,332	43,966	+43,966	-12,366
Subtotal, Operations and Support	---	308,401	274,813	+274,813	-33,588

Divison F - Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Procurement, Construction, and Improvements					
Border Security Assets and Infrastructure (budget amendment)	---	1,355,083	487,100	+487,100	-867,983
Trade and Travel Assets and Infrastructure	---	---	10,300	+10,300	+10,300
Subtotal, Procurement, Construction, and Improvements	---	1,355,083	497,400	+497,400	-857,683
Total, U.S. Customs and Border Protection	---	1,663,484	772,213	+772,213	-891,271
(Discretionary Funding)	---	(1,663,484)	(772,213)	(+772,213)	(-891,271)
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement					
Operations and Support					
Homeland Security Investigations (budget amendment)	---	15,136	---	---	-15,136
Enforcement and Removal Operations					
Custody Operations (budget amendment)	---	994,914	147,870	+147,870	-847,044
Criminal Alien Program (budget amendment)	---	5,000	---	---	-5,000
Alternatives to Detention (budget amendment)	---	57,392	57,392	+57,392	---
Transportation and Removal Program (budget amendment)	---	98,946	31,646	+31,646	-67,300
Subtotal, Enforcement and Removal Operations	---	1,156,252	236,908	+236,908	-919,344

Divison F - Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Mission Support (budget amendment)	---	65,824	---	---	-65,824
Subtotal, Operations and Support	---	1,237,212	236,908	+236,908	-1,000,304
Total, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement	---	1,237,212	236,908	+236,908	-1,000,304
(Discretionary Funding)	---	(1,237,212)	(236,908)	(+236,908)	(-1,000,304)
United States Secret Service					
Operations and Support					
Protective Operations					
Protection of Persons and Facilities	---	---	28,228	+28,228	+28,228
Subtotal, Protective Operations	---	---	28,228	+28,228	+28,228
Field Operations					
Domestic and International Field Operations	---	---	4,875	+4,875	+4,875
Subtotal, Field Operations	---	---	4,875	+4,875	+4,875
Mission Support	---	---	24,909	+24,909	+24,909
Subtotal, Operations and Support	---	---	58,012	+58,012	+58,012

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Divison F - Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Procurement, Construction, and Improvements					
Protection Assets and Infrastructure	---	---	16,103	+16,103	+16,103
Operational Communications/Information Technology	---	---	6,885	+6,885	+6,885
Construction and Facility Improvements	---	---	50,000	+50,000	+50,000
Subtotal, Procurement, Construction, and Improvements	---	---	72,988	+72,988	+72,988
Total, United States Secret Service	---	---	131,000	+131,000	+131,000
Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers					
Operations and Support					
Law Enforcement Training (budget amendment)	---	24,291	---	---	-24,291
Mission Support (budget amendment)	---	709	---	---	-709
Subtotal, Operations and Support	---	25,000	---	---	-25,000

Divison F - Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Procurement, Construction, and Improvements					
Construction and Facility Improvements (budget amendment)	---	63,000	---	---	-63,000
Subtotal, Procurement, Construction, and Improvements	---	63,000	---	---	-63,000
Total, Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers	---	88,000	---	---	-88,000
Total, Title VI, Additional Appropriations	---	3,000,000	1,140,121	+1,140,121	-1,859,879
Grand Total, Titles I-VI	49,431,955	51,998,955	50,950,632	+1,518,677	-1,048,323
(Discretionary Funding)	(47,827,955)	(50,332,015)	(49,283,692)	(+1,455,737)	(-1,048,323)

Note: The FY 2017 Request column reflects the budget submitted on February 9, 2016, as amended.

DIVISION G—DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

The following statement is an explanation of the effects of Division G, which makes appropriations for the Department of the Interior, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Forest Service, the Indian Health Service, and related agencies for fiscal year 2017. Report language contained in House Report 114–632 and Senate Report 114–281 providing specific guidance to agencies regarding the administration of appropriated funds and any corresponding reporting requirements carries the same emphasis as the language included in this explanatory statement and should be complied with unless specifically addressed to the contrary herein. This explanatory statement, while repeating some language for emphasis, is not intended to negate the language referred to above unless expressly provided herein.

In cases where the House report, Senate report, or this explanatory statement directs the submission of a report, such report is to be submitted to both the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations.— Where this explanatory statement refers to the Committees or the Committees on Appropriations, unless otherwise noted, this reference is to the House Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies and the Senate Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies.

The Committees direct each department and agency funded in this Act to follow the directions set forth in this Act and the accompanying statement, and not reallocate resources or reorganize activities except as provided herein or otherwise approved by the Committees through the reprogramming process as described in this explanatory statement. This explanatory statement addresses only those agencies and accounts for which there is a need for greater explanation than provided in the Act itself. Funding levels for appropriations by account, program, and activity, with comparisons to the fiscal year 2016 enacted level and the fiscal year 2017 budget request, can be found in the table at the end of this division.

Unless expressly stated otherwise, any reference to ''this Act'' or ''at the end of this statement'' shall be treated as referring only to the provisions of this division.

Recreation Fee Authority.—The one-year extension of recreation fee authority for the Department of the Interior and U.S. Forest Service contained in the budget request and included in both fiscal year 2017 House and Senate Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations bills was included in the Continuing Appropriations and Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017 and Zika Response and Preparedness Act (Public Law 114–223).

Making Litigation Costs Transparent.—The Department of the Interior, EPA, and the Forest Service are directed to provide to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations, and to make publicly available no later than 60 days after enactment of this Act, detailed Equal Access to Justice Act (EAJA) fee information as specified in the explanatory statement accompanying Division G of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2016 (Public Law 114–113).

State Wildlife Data.—The Department of the Interior and U.S. Forest Service are expected to prioritize continued coordination with other Federal agencies and State fish and wildlife agencies to recognize and fully utilize State fish and wildlife data and analyses as a primary source to inform land use, planning, and related natural resource decisions. Federal agencies should not unnecessarily duplicate raw data, but when appropriate, evaluate existing analysis of data prepared by the States, and reciprocally share data with State wildlife managers, to ensure that the most complete data set is available for decision support systems.

Paper Reduction Efforts.—The Committees urge each agency funded by this Act to work with the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to reduce printing and reproduction costs and direct each agency to report to the Committees as part of its fiscal year 2018 budget request on specific management actions taken to achieve this goal and estimated cost savings created by these actions.

Land Grants, Acequias and Community Ditches.—The Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture are urged to recognize the traditional use of State-recognized community land grants, acequias, and community ditches in the American Southwest during the land use planning process.

Executive Order #13783.—On March 28, 2017, Executive Order #13783 established policies for domestic energy production. The Order directs executive branch departments and agencies to immediately review all actions with respect to domestic energy resources. The Committees note that several specific directives apply to entities under the jurisdiction of the Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, including a review of the Clean Power Plan and related rules, and a review of methane and other regulations related to oil and gas development. The Committees also note that the Secretary of the Interior signed two secretarial orders on March 29, 2017, to overturn the moratorium on all new coal leases on Federal land, and to take additional steps to immediately comply with the Executive Order. The Committees expect the Department of the Interior and the Environmental Protection Agency to keep the Committees fully apprised of any actions taken to comply with the directives specified in the Executive Order or related secretarial orders.

Transparency of Information—The Committees expect that Federal agencies funded under this Act shall, to the extent practicable, clearly state within materials used for advertising or educational purposes that the communication is funded by taxpayer dollars.

Fleet Management Practices.—Agencies shall provide supporting documentation on their methods for determining their optimal fleet inventories and justification for any deviation from the General Services Administration's Federal Property Management Regulations upon request of the Committees on Appropriation. Agency inspectors general shall provide results from audits of fleet management practices and make them publicly available.

Land and Water Conservation Fund.—The agreement includes $400,000,000 derived from the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) for programs consistent with chapter 2003 of title 54 of the United States Code, as identified in the table below.

	FY 2016 Enacted	Budget Request (Discretionary)	This Bill
Land and Water Conservation Fund	$450,000,000	$475,000,000	$400,000,000
State and Local Programs	160,800,000	173,501,000	160,806,000
National Park Service State Assistance	110,000,000	110,006,000	110,006,000
Coop. Endangered Species Conservation Fund	30,800,000	53,495,000	30,800,000
American Battlefield Protection Act	10,000,000	10,000,000	10,000,000
Highlands Conservation Act	10,000,000	0	10,000,000
Forest Legacy Program	62,347,000	62,347,000	62,347,000
Rescission			−12,002,000
Federal Land Acquisition	226,853,000	239,152,000	188,849,000
Forest Service	63,435,000	65,653,000	54,415,000
Fish and Wildlife Service	58,500,000	58,655,000	49,995,000
National Park Service	53,670,000	58,242,000	42,023,000
Bureau of Land Management	38,630,000	43,959,000	31,416,000
Department of the Interior Valuation Services	12,618,000	12,643,000	11,000,000

The Committees urge each of the agencies to comply with any Congressional requests for full and accurate accounting of cost, acreage, and location data of lands acquired with LWCF funds. In future budget justifications, the agencies are directed to include a detailed explanation on the use of prior year funds for recreational access projects and inholdings.

The Committees direct the agencies to continue to consider and rank Federal land acquisition projects consistent with the process used in prior years, and upon request, to provide a prioritized project list for any funding levels above the budget request being considered by the House or Senate Committees.

The Committees believe increasing access to our public lands for hunting, fishing, and other recreational activities is important and again include funding for these projects. The Committees expect the same factors used to determine suitability of listed projects will apply to recreational access projects and the agencies should work through their respective regions, State offices, and/or management units to consider projects that may not rise to the level of listed projects. The agencies are directed to include an explanation of the process and criteria used for allocating funds for recreational access in future budget justifications. Further, the Committees are to be informed about the selection process and how the agencies are meeting the outlined objectives prior to proceeding with projects.

Public Access.—The Department of the Interior and the Forest Service are directed to notify the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations in advance of any proposed project specifically intending to close an area to recreational shooting, hunting, or fishing on a non-emergency basis of more than 30 days.

National Ocean Policy.—The President's budget submission for fiscal year 2018 shall

identify by agency and account all funding and associated actions proposed for the implementation of the coastal and marine spatial planning and ecosystem-based management components of the National Ocean Policy developed under Executive Order 13547.

Harassment-Free Workplace.—The Committees believe all Federal employees have the right to a harassment-free workplace and continue to be deeply concerned about reports of harassment and hostile work environments at some of the agencies funded through this Act, especially the long-term pattern of unacceptable behavior at several national park system units. The Committees direct the Department of the Interior to report to the Committees regarding: 1) what specific corrective actions the National Park Service is taking to preclude additional incidents from occurring in the future, and 2) what steps the Department is taking to ensure that all of its bureaus and offices have strong and consistent anti-harassment policies in place. The Forest Service is also directed to provide a report that describes in detail the policy and process changes it has made to address past incidents. Finally, the EPA Office of Inspector General is directed to provide a report describing existing EPA policy, procedure and training regarding harassment at the Agency and any policy and process changes it has made. The reports shall be provided to the Committees within 120 days of enactment of this Act.

Access for Inspectors General.—Consistent with the Inspector General Act of 1978, the Committees expect departments and agencies funded by this Act to provide their respective Inspectors General access to all appropriate records, documents, and other materials in a timely manner. Accordingly, agencies and departments shall not prevent or impede access to records, documents or materials unless otherwise provided by law.

Restrictions on lobbying with appropriated funds.—The Committees remind the entities and employees funded under the jurisdiction of this bill that no part of the money appropriated by any enactment of Congress shall, in the absence of express authorization by Congress, be used in a manner inconsistent with 18 U.S.C 1913.

REPROGRAMMING GUIDELINES

The agreement retains the reprogramming guidelines contained in the joint explanatory statement of Division G of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2016 (Public Law 114–113).

TITLE I—DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

MANAGEMENT OF LANDS AND RESOURCES

Bureau of Land Management Directives.—The Bureau is reminded of the importance of the directives included in House Report 114–632 and Senate Report 114–281 not addressed herein, as well as the new directives in this statement, including the front matter.

The agreement provides $1,095,375,000 for Management of Lands and Resources. In addition to the funding allocation table at the end of this explanatory statement, the agreement includes the following instructions:

Rangeland Management.—The Bureau is directed, to the greatest extent practicable, to make vacant grazing allotments available to a holder of a grazing permit or lease when lands covered by the holder of the permit or lease are unusable because of drought or wildfire.

Wild Horses and Burros.—The Committees are aware of proposals to overhaul the program to ensure the humane treatment of animals in holding and on the range, improve the use of annual appropriations, and continue implementing the reforms recommended by the 2013 National Academy of Sciences' report. The Bureau is expected to review all serious proposals from non-governmental organizations, to keep the Committees informed throughout its decision-making process, and to transmit to Congress within 180 days of enactment of this Act a plan to achieve long-term sustainable populations on the range in a humane manner.

Greater Sage-grouse Conservation.—The agreement provides a total of $68,900,000 for greater sage-grouse conservation activities, including the implementation of the National Seed Strategy, which is an increase of $8,900,000 above the fiscal year 2016 enacted level. The Committees direct that the funds provided for greater sage-grouse be used for on-the-ground conservation measures as indicated in the fiscal year 2017 budget justification and House and Senate reports.

The Committees believe conservation is most successful when all partners trust and work cooperatively together. The Committees expect the Secretary and the Bureau to work collaboratively with States, communities, industry, and partners to address concerns with the Resource Management Plans and related Land Use Planning Amendments. The Committees remind the Bureau of the concerns noted in the House and Senate reports and direct the Bureau to report within 60 days of enactment of this Act how it has addressed each issue.

Internet Oil and Gas Leasing.—The Bureau is directed to provide the House and Senate Appropriations Committees with a plan to achieve cost-savings and efficiencies by transitioning to Internet-based oil and gas leasing within 180 days of enactment of this Act.

BLM and ONRR Coordination.—The Bureau and Office of Natural Resources Revenue are encouraged to better coordinate their respective leasing and revenue collection databases to increase efficiency and improve customer service.

Abandoned Mine Lands.—The agreement provides that funds may be used for projects included on the Bureau's high-priority mine reclamation list, such as the Red Devil Mine.

Pipeline Safety.—The Bureau is encouraged to continue to share standardized pipeline safety data, when appropriate, to enhance pipeline safety.

Law Enforcement.—The Bureau is encouraged to focus on visitor safety and archaeological resource protection, and work with the Department of Justice and the Department of Homeland Security on other matters of Federal law not unique to Bureau lands or property.

Cooperative Efforts in Alaska.—The Bureau, as the largest Federal landowner in the State of Alaska's Arctic region, is directed to work cooperatively with local stakeholders to enhance economic opportunities for the people who live and work in the region. The Bureau also is reminded of the directions contained in the Senate report regarding Legacy Wells, and Alaska Native lands in need of remediation. The Bureau is instructed to review recently executed land management plans to determine whether decisions to retain certain mineral closures are consistent with Federal law, including the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act and the Federal Land Policy Management Act, including a determination whether sufficient notice was provided prior to the creation of Areas of Critical Environmental Concern. Further, the Bureau is encouraged to work cooperatively with the State of Alaska to lift Public Land Orders that no longer serve their original purpose.

Bureau of Land Management Foundation.—The agreement provides for the creation of a Bureau of Land Management Foundation, the purpose of which is to undertake, conduct, and encourage programs and activities that support the mission of the Bureau. This should include educational, technical, scientific, and other assistance or activities to assist the Bureau with wild free-roaming horses and burros; recreation, cultural, and historic resources; protection of Native American archaeological and cultural sites; and activities that support the reclamation and remediation of abandoned mine lands, contaminated Native lands, legacy and orphaned oil and gas well sites, and public lands affected by development connected to mineral exploration and development activities. Reclamation activities should include, but not be limited to, the remediation of soil and water contamination, the restoration of wildlife habitat in order to restore the natural, scenic, historic, cultural, and ecological values of such areas, or the promotion of the economic potential of such areas.

LAND ACQUISITION

The bill provides $31,416,000 for Land Acquisition. The amounts recommended by this bill compared with the budget estimates by activity and project are shown in the table below, listed in priority order pursuant to the budget request for fiscal year 2017. Further instructions are contained under the Land and Water Conservation Fund heading in the front of this explanatory statement.

State	Project—Unit	Budget Request	This Bill
MT	High Divide—Madison River SRMA	$4,000,000	$4,000,000
ID	High Divide—Henry's Lake ACEC	50,000	50,000
ID	High Divide—Salmon River SRMA	700,000	700,000
ID	High Divide—Thousand Springs ACEC	300,000	300,000
ID	High Divide—Craters of the Moon NM and Preserve/Oregon NHT	1,200,000	1,200,000
ID	High Divide—Sands Desert Habitat Mgmt Area/Teton River	2,750,000	2,750,000
NM	Rio Grande del Norte NM	1,250,000	1,250,000
CO	Dominguez-Escalante NCA	350,000	350,000
CO	Upper Colorado River SRMA	1,500,000	1,500,000
VA	Rivers of the Chesapeake—Meadowood SRMA	1,400,000	1,400,000
MD	Rivers of the Chesapeake—Nanjemoy NRMA	1,600,000	1,600,000
AZ	Agua Fria NM	3,300,000	3,300,000
CA	Dos Palmas ACEC	650,000	650,000
NM	Kasha-Katuwe Tent Rocks NM	750,000	750,000
	Additional Project Requests and Updated Appraisals	12,501,000	0
	Subtotal, Line Item Projects	32,301,000	19,800,000
	Recreational Access	8,000,000	8,000,000
	Emergencies, Hardships, and Inholdings	1,616,000	1,616,000
	Acquisition Management	2,042,000	2,000,000
	Total, BLM Land Acquisition	43,959,000	31,416,000

OREGON AND CALIFORNIA GRANT LANDS

The agreement provides $106,985,000 for Oregon and California Grant Lands, to be distributed as displayed in the funding allocation table at the end of this explanatory statement.

RANGE IMPROVEMENTS

The agreement provides $10,000,000 to be derived from public lands receipts and Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act lands grazing receipts.

SERVICE CHARGES, DEPOSITS, AND FORFEITURES

The agreement provides an indefinite appropriation estimated to be $31,050,000 for Service Charges, Deposits, and Forfeitures.

MISCELLANEOUS TRUST FUNDS

The agreement provides an indefinite appropriation estimated to be $24,000,000 for Miscellaneous Trust Funds.

UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

The bill provides $1,258,761,000 for Resource Management. In addition to the funding allocation table at the end of this explanatory statement, the agreement includes the following details and instructions. The Service is also reminded of the guidance and reporting requirements contained in House Report 114–632 and Senate Report 114–281 that should be complied with unless specifically addressed to the contrary herein, as explained in the front matter of this explanatory statement.

Listing.—The agreement does not include the critical habitat directive contained in the House report. The Service is urged to follow the guidance contained in House Report 114–170 regarding the yellow-billed cuckoo.

Planning and Consultation.—The agreement includes: $2,859,000 as requested for activities in the Bay Delta; $4,000,000 as requested to handle the Service's increased permitting workload in the Gulf of Mexico as a result of the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill; and a $1,000,000 general program increase to be distributed in accordance with the backlog of requests from outside the Service for technical assistance and consultations, including habitat conservation planning and hatchery genetic management planning. The House directive regarding the Gulf of Mexico is not included.

Conservation and Restoration.—The agreement includes: $1,390,000 as requested to implement the Coastal Barrier Resources Act; $3,471,000 for the national wetlands inventory; and $3,250,000 as requested for the sagebrush steppe ecosystem.

Recovery.—The agreement includes: $1,659,000 as requested for activities in the Bay Delta; $2,500,000 for the annual State of the Birds assessment; $3,000,000 to reduce the delisting and downlisting backlog, a $1,016,000 general program increase; $1,000,000 to implement the wolf-livestock demonstration program as authorized by Public Law 111–11; $2,000,000 to recover native bat species exposed to white-nose syndrome; and $500,000 for multi-partner recovery actions. The Service is directed to prioritize the recovery of the California condor and northern aplomado falcon and provide the necessary funding to enable the longstanding public-private partnerships to continue to support the wild populations through captive propagation, releases, and management, as the Service and the States work to address the continued environmental threats to these species.

The Committees urge the Service to focus on only those ESA mandates which are inherently Federal, and not to engage in other activities such as implementing recovery actions unless the costs are at least matched by partners outside the Service. The Service is urged to complete all status reviews within the five-year period required by law, and, for any determination on the basis of such review whether a species should be delisted, downlisted, or uplisted, promulgate an associated regulation prior to initiating the next status review for such species. So that trends in the endangered species recovery program may be observed, the Service is encouraged to include in its next such report to Congress ''species status'' and all categories from the report entitled, ''Report to Congress on the Recovery of Threatened and Endangered Species, Fiscal Years 2009–2010''.

The agreement contains the directive in Senate Report 114–281 that, should a status review of the American Burying Beetle make a finding that delisting or downlisting is warranted, the Service is directed to prioritize this rulemaking and move forward with a delisting or downlisting proposal as soon as is practicable.

The Service is urged to address consultations and permitting of public and private projects related to the Preble's meadow jumping mouse and the New Mexico meadow jumping mouse as one of the highest priorities.

Regarding exotic wildlife, the Committees acknowledge the important role private landowners play in conserving some exotic wildlife species. The Committees recognize current permitting practices by the Service regarding the following exotic U.S. bred wildlife: Red Lechwe, Barasingha, Arabian Oryx, Eld's Deer. Prior to changing current permitting practices, the Committees encourage the Service to engage stakeholders and brief the Committees about the outcome of such engagement.

On April 26, 2017, the Service announced its intention to take the final administrative step necessary to delist recovered gray wolves in the State of Wyoming. This action occurred as the result of a unanimous ruling in the Court of Appeals upholding the Service's 2012 rule delisting wolves in Wyoming. The Committees note that the Service's 2012 final rule delisting gray wolves in the western Great Lakes region remains in litigation. The Service has determined that the wolf population in the western Great Lakes region exceeds recovery goals in that region, and the Committees remain supportive of science-based decisions. If the court upholds the Service's 2012 rule, the Service is urged to reissue the rule.

Partners for Fish and Wildlife.—The agreement includes $1,285,000 as requested for regional fisheries enhancement.

National Wildlife Refuge System.—The agreement includes: $2,835,000 as requested to manage subsistence fishing and hunting; $9,726,000 as requested for invasive species; $1,500,000 for the Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument; a $500,000 increase for maintenance support; and a $500,000 increase to reduce the maintenance backlog. The agreement also continues funding for volunteers and for urban wildlife refuge partnerships at not less than the fiscal year 2016 enacted levels. Budget justifications are the vehicles for the Administration to clearly explain how they propose to expend the funds they are requesting. This information should not be difficult to discern and future justifications should note base funding that will be used to enhance any program increases requested.

The Committees support the directive in the House report instituting signage on any individual refuge where trapping occurs and establishing guidance to be included in the refuge manual. The Committees understand that different authorities creating Waterfowl Production Areas, easements, and Coordination Areas will influence the signage at these locations.

The agreement includes the directive in Senate Report 114–281 for the Service to prepare a formal compatibility determination to determine whether nutrient enrichment in Karluk Lake for fish rehabilitation is compatible with the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge's Comprehensive Conservation Plan. In addition, if the Service determines the enrichment is compatible with the refuge's Comprehensive Conservation Plan, the Service is directed to engage with interested stakeholders and publish a list of approved tools to accomplish such rehabilitation.

The Service is reminded that solutions to recreational-use conflicts in national wildlife refuges should begin with refuge managers engaging their local communities and collaborating with local officials and other

representatives of recreational users to find mutually-agreeable solutions to conflicts. Failure to do so can result in significant public backlash, as happened with boating restrictions at Havasu National Wildlife Refuge.

The Committees urge the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service not to place stricter environmental or financial standards on oil and gas operators on national wildlife refuges than oil and gas operators on other Federal lands set aside for conservation purposes.

Migratory Bird Management.—The agreement includes: $1,738,000 as requested for aviation management; $350,000 to minimize predation on livestock; and $3,371,000 to issue permits.

The Service is directed to expedite the review process to authorize take of double-crested cormorants, ensuring they have satisfied the NEPA requirements and addressed the court's concerns, and should include an analysis of the economic impacts of cormorant control activities on several stakeholder groups, including aquaculture producers. While advancing this review, the Service should explore any and all viable alternatives to assist impacted aquaculture producers, including through the issuance of individual predation permits.

Law Enforcement.—The agreement includes $75,053,000 as requested for law enforcement, including $7,500,000 to fight wildlife trafficking.

International Affairs.—The agreement includes $15,816,000 as requested for international affairs, including $550,000 to support the Arctic Council and $1,920,000 to fight wildlife trafficking.

Fish and Aquatic Conservation.—Within National Fish Hatchery System Operations, the agreement includes: a $2,000,000 general program increase; $1,475,000 for the mass marking program; $800,000 for the Aquatic Animal Drug Approval Partnership; and $1,430,000 for the national wild fish health survey program. None of the funds may be used to terminate operations or to close any facility of the National Fish Hatchery System. None of the production programs listed in the March, 2013, National Fish Hatchery System Strategic Hatchery and Workforce Planning Report may be reduced or terminated without advance, informal consultation with affected States and Tribes. The Service is commended for recommitting to the National Fishery Artifacts and Records Center and the Collection Management Facility in South Dakota, and for sharing the costs nationwide.

The agreement includes the directive in the Senate report related to the continued operation of mitigation hatcheries. The agreement requires that future budget requests ensure Federal partners have committed to sufficiently reimbursing the Service for mitigation hatcheries before the Service proposes to eliminate funding for mitigation hatcheries.

Within Maintenance and Equipment, the agreement includes a $3,000,000 increase as requested to reduce the maintenance backlog.

Within Aquatic Habitat and Species Conservation, the agreement includes: $13,998,000 for the National Fish Passage Program; $3,000,000 to continue implementing the Klamath Basin Restoration Agreement; $9,554,000 as requested to manage subsistence fishing; and $16,660,000 to manage aquatic invasive species, of which $8,400,000 is for Asian carp, $2,000,000 is for quagga and zebra mussels, $711,000 is for sea lamprey, $2,038,000 is for other prevention efforts nationwide, and $2,566,000 is for State plans, National Invasive Species Act implementation, and coordination.

Cooperative Landscape Conservation.—The agreement includes $12,988,000, of which $700,000 is for Gulf Coast ecosystem restoration as requested.

Science Support.—The agreement includes $931,000 as requested to restore the Gulf Coast ecosystem and $2,500,000 as requested to continue to search for a cure for white-nose syndrome in bats.

General Operations.—The agreement includes the requested $153,000 transfer from External Affairs to Recovery and the requested $2,600,000 increase for maintenance of the National Conservation Training Center.

CONSTRUCTION

The bill provides $18,615,000 for Construction. The detailed allocation of funding by activity is included in the table at the end of this explanatory statement. The Service is expected to follow the project priority list in the table below. When a construction project is completed or terminated and appropriated funds remain, the Service may use those balances to respond to unforeseen reconstruction, replacement, or repair of facilities or equipment damaged or destroyed by storms, floods, fires and similar unanticipated events.

State	Refuge, Hatchery, or Other Unit	Budget Request	This Bill
	National Wildlife Refuge System		
IL	Crab Orchard NWR	$400,000	$400,000
NM	Valle de Oro NWR	3,063,000	3,063,000
	National Fish Hatchery System		
VA	Harrison Lake NFH	1,839,000	1,839,000
CO	Hotchkiss NFH	500,000	500,000
	Other		
OR	Clark R. Bavin National Fish and Wildlife Forensics Lab	2,500,000	2,500,000
N/A	Service Wide Seismic Safety	465,000	465,000
N/A	Unanticipated damages	0	715,000
N/A	Other projects	5,787,000	0
	Total, Line Item Construction	14,554,000	9,482,000

LAND ACQUISITION

The bill provides $59,995,000 for Land Acquisition. The amounts recommended by this bill compared with the budget estimates by activity and project are shown in the table below, listed in priority order pursuant to the budget request for fiscal year 2017. Further instructions are contained under the Land and Water Conservation Fund heading in the front of this explanatory statement.

In a time when budgetary constraints allow for only a limited number of new land acquisition projects, the Committees are encouraged by programs that leverage public/private partnerships for land conservation like the Highlands Conservation Act, which has a record of more than a 2 to 1 ratio in non-Federal matching funds. Therefore, the Committees include $10,000,000 for the Highlands Conservation Act Grants and direct the Fish and Wildlife Service to work with the Highlands States regarding priority projects for fiscal year 2017.

State	Project—Unit	Budget Request	This Bill
HI	Island Forests at Risk—Hakalau Forest NWR	$6,200,000	$6,200,000
ND/SD	Dakota Grassland Conservation Area	8,000,000	8,000,000
MT	High Divide—Red Rock Lakes NWR	2,000,000	2,000,000
ND/SD	Dakota Tallgrass Prairie WMA	3,000,000	3,000,000
MD	Rivers of the Chesapeake—Blackwater NWR	1,200,000	1,200,000
VA	Rivers of the Chesapeake—James River NWR	900,000	900,000
FL	Everglades Headwaters NWR and Conservation Area	2,500,000	2,500,000
PA	National Trails System—Cherry Valley NWR	2,200,000	2,200,000
AR	Cache River NWR	1,406,000	1,406,000
	Additional Project Requests	8,478,000	0
	Subtotal, Line Item Projects	35,884,000	27,406,000
	Recreational Access	2,500,000	2,500,000
	Emergencies, Hardships, and Inholdings	5,351,000	5,351,000
	Exchanges	1,500,000	1,500,000
	Acquisition Management	12,955,000	12,773,000
	Land Protection Planning	465,000	465,000
	Highlands Conservation Act Grants	0	10,000,000
	Total, FWS Land Acquisition	58,655,000	59,995,000

COOPERATIVE ENDANGERED SPECIES CONSERVATION FUND

The bill provides $53,495,000 for the Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund, of which $22,695,000 is to be derived from the Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund, and $30,800,000 is to be derived from the Land and Water Conservation Fund. The detailed allocation of funding by activity is included in the table at the end of this explanatory statement.

NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE FUND

The bill provides $13,228,000 for payments to counties authorized by the National Wildlife Refuge Fund.

NORTH AMERICAN WETLANDS CONSERVATION FUND

The bill provides $38,145,000 for the North American Wetlands Conservation Fund.

NEOTROPICAL MIGRATORY BIRD CONSERVATION FUND

The bill provides $3,910,000 for the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Fund.

MULTINATIONAL SPECIES CONSERVATION FUND

The bill provides $11,061,000 for the Multinational Species Conservation Fund. The detailed allocation of funding by activity is included in the table at the end of this explanatory statement.

STATE AND TRIBAL WILDLIFE GRANTS

The bill provides $62,571,000 for State and Tribal Wildlife Grants. The detailed allocation of funding by activity is included in the table at the end of this explanatory statement.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

OPERATION OF THE NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM

The agreement provides $2,425,018,000 for the Operation of the National Park System. The detailed allocation of funding by program area and activity is included in the table at the end of this division.

Operation of the National Park System. The agreement includes $55,422,000 in new discretionary funding within the Operation of the National Park System (ONPS) account which support the Centennial Initiative and related efforts including 50 percent of the fixed costs included in the budget request to cover the balance of the fiscal year remaining.

Specifically, the agreement includes $11,000,000 in new funds within the Park Support line item to support the Centennial, which fully funds the budget request to support new areas and critical responsibilities across the System including, but not limited to, the 2017 Presidential inauguration; operations at sites associated with the Civil Rights Movement; and the Manhattan Project National Historical Park. Funds are also provided to support new park units including the Pullman and Honouliuli units as well as critical operating needs as described in further detail below. The recommendation also provides requested funding for the Valles Caldera National Preserve and the Belmont-Paul Women's Equality National Monument. The agreement provides discretionary funding to address deferred maintenance needs including a $25,000,000 increase for repair and rehabilitation projects and a $13,689,000 increase to address cyclic maintenance needs. These funds are supplemented by $20,000,000 provided within the Centennial Challenge matching grant program account dedicated to funding joint public-private investments in parks. The agreement continues directives provided within the Visitor Services line item contained in House Report 114–632. The final allocation of funds supporting the Centennial Initiative, including the detailed allocation of new areas and critical responsibilities funding described above, shall be provided to the Committees as part of the Service's annual operating plan for the ONPS account no later than 60 days after enactment of this Act. Such plan shall be subject to the reprogramming guidelines contained in this explanatory statement.

Quagga and Zebra Mussel Control.—The Committees remain concerned about the spread of quagga and zebra mussels in the West and, consistent with fiscal year 2016, have provided $2,000,000 for continued containment, prevention, and enforcement efforts.

White-Nose Syndrome in Bats.—The Committees provide funds as requested to support monitoring and surveillance activities associated with white-nose syndrome in bats.

Eastern Legacy Study (Lewis and Clark Trail Study).—The Eastern Legacy Study, authorized to determine the feasibility of extending the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, is now three years overdue. The Committees direct the Service to complete the study expeditiously.

Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area.—The Committees urge the Service to identify and assess the potential costs of visitor experience improvements including year-round restroom facilities and campsite enhancements at Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area.

Death Valley National Park.—The Committees urge the Service to provide in its fiscal year 2018 budget justification a detailed estimate of funds necessary to complete repairs to Scotty's Castle, a historic national landmark in Death Valley National Park, which has been closed to the public since flash floods damaged the visitor center, museum, and nearby roads in 2015. The Committees further direct the Service to take steps to ensure the security and protection of Scotty's Castle, and the contents of the museum, from theft and trespassing.

Mississippi National River and Recreation Area.—The Committees direct the Service to report, within 180 days of enactment of this Act, on progress in identifying potential site options and associated costs for the development of a permanent headquarters and visitor use facility, in collaboration with suitable governmental and non-governmental partners, at the Mississippi National River and Recreation Area as described in the explanatory statement accompanying Public Law 114–113.

James A. Garfield Memorial.—The Committees direct the Service to expeditiously complete its ongoing reconnaissance study to assess the eligibility of the James A. Garfield Memorial at Lake View Cemetery for designation as an affiliated area of the national park system.

Biscayne National Park.—The Committees are aware of the considerable controversy relating to natural resource management actions at Biscayne National Park, including the decision to implement a new marine reserve zone as outlined by the park's new General Management Plan (GMP). These issues are articulated in House Report 114–632, including concerns raised by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and local anglers and recreational and boating-dependent businesses regarding limitations on fishing within the park. The Committees recognize that it was the intent of the Service to create the marine reserve zone to protect the park's natural coral reef ecosystem, as mandated by the legislation creating the park. Nonetheless, the Committees are concerned that adequate consideration was not given to the economic impact of this action nor to data provided by the FWC. However, the Committees are pleased with recent efforts by Biscayne National Park to re-establish open dialogue and productive coordination with Congress and the FWC regarding special rulemaking for the marine reserve zone. The Committees understand the importance of preparing an economic analysis and baseline scientific monitoring report for the proposed marine reserve zone as required by the record of decision on the park's GMP. The Service is directed to make these documents available to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations and to the public no less than 90 days before proposing any special rule to designate the marine reserve zone. The Committees understand that the park is moving forward, in partnership with FWC, to implement some non-controversial, common sense elements of the plan without unnecessary delay, including the installation of mooring buoys to help protect coral reefs from anchors and markers to indicate shallow waters and manatee zones. The Committees recognize the State of Florida's openness toward partnering on these initiatives and believe a close working partnership between the Park and the FWC may serve as an important step toward future cooperation on other areas of the GMP. Consistent with the record of decision, the Service is also expected to defer enforcement actions related to the marine reserve zone until the agency has finalized this special rule.

Arlington Memorial Bridge.—The Memorial Bridge rehabilitation and reconstruction effort requires the active, bipartisan support of Federal, State, and local leaders. The Committees are aware of the recent approval of a $90 million Department of Transportation grant for bridge repairs and urge the Service to work with Federal, State, and local entities to build coalitions and partnerships to leverage and secure additional necessary funding to complete this critical project in a timely manner.—The Committees further direct the Service to provide a funding plan and construction schedule for completion of this work as part of the fiscal year 2018 budget request.

Bottled Water.—The Committees note continued expressions of concern relating to a bottled water ban implemented under Policy Memorandum 11–03. The report provided to the Committees in April 2016, in response to a directive in the explanatory statement accompanying Division G of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2016, did not provide sufficient data to justify the Service's actions. The Committees understand that the Service plans to reconsider this policy and therefore directs the incoming National Park Service Director to review Policy Memorandum 11–03 and to report to the Committees on the results of this evaluation. Accordingly, the Committees direct the Service to suspend further implementation of Policy Memorandum 11–03 and urge the Service to examine opportunities to partner with non-governmental entities in developing a comprehensive program that uniformly addresses plastic waste recycling system-wide.

Ozark National Scenic Riverways.—The Service is directed to work collaboratively with affected parties to ensure that implementation of the General Management Plan for the Ozark National Scenic Riverways addresses the concerns of affected stakeholders including, but not limited to, local communities and businesses.

Point Reyes National Seashore.—The Committees have noted the importance of historic dairying and ranching operations within the Point Reyes National Seashore and reiterate the directives contained in House Report 114–632 and Senate Report 114–281 regarding the completion of planning and use authorizations related to ranching operations.

Leasing of Historic Buildings.—The agreement maintains the directive related to Leasing of Historic Buildings contained in House Report 114–632.

Ste. Genevieve Special Resource Study.—With regard to the Ste. Genevieve Special Resource Study, the Service shall follow the guidance contained in Senate Report 114–281.

Blackstone River Valley National Historical Park.—The agreement includes requested funding for the Blackstone River Valley National Historical Park with the expectation that the Service will continue to make funds available to the local coordinating entity to maintain staffing and capacity to assist in management of the park as authorized in Public Law 113–291.

Nicodemus, Kansas.—The Committees are encouraged by discussions between the Service and the Nicodemus Historic Society regarding a new or enhanced cooperative agreement that will increase visitor interaction and transfer greater control of the onsite interpretive services of the Nicodemus National Historic Site to descendants of Nicodemus and local community members. The Committees urge the Service to work in an expedited manner with local community leaders to finalize such agreement.

Golden Gate National Recreation Area.—The Committees understand that the Service has placed a hold on the proposed rule for dog management at the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. The Service is directed to conduct an independent assessment of the planning process used to develop the proposed rule and report back to the Committees on its findings within 90 days of enactment of this Act.

NATIONAL RECREATION AND PRESERVATION

The agreement provides $62,638,000 for National Recreation and Preservation with the following specific directives:

Chesapeake Gateways and Trails Program.—As requested, the agreement includes $2,020,000 for the Chesapeake Gateways and Trails Program.

Heritage Partnership Program.—The agreement provides $19,821,000 for the Heritage Partnership Program. In order to provide stable funding for all national heritage areas, the agreement continues funding for longstanding areas at fiscal year 2016 levels; provides a total of $300,000 to areas with recently approved management plans, known as tier 2 areas; and provides $150,000 to each tier 1 area that has been authorized and is still in the process of having its management plan approved. The Committees believe that the current method used to allocate funding for individual heritage areas is likely to be unsustainable given the fiscal environment and the need for areas with more recent Congressional authorizations to build program capacity. The Committees expect participating heritage areas to reach agreement and propose a new funding allocation model to the Committees and the Service within 90 days of enactment of this Act that maintains the core services of the more established areas but allows for more resources to newer areas to expand and provide additional economic and cultural opportunities in the communities they serve.

Mormon Pioneer National Heritage Area (MPNHA).—The Service and the Mormon Pioneer National Heritage Area are encouraged to work cooperatively with Snow College's Mormon Pioneer Heritage Institute to ensure the long-term viability of the MPNHA.

Feasibility Study.—The Committees understand that the Service has no intent to initiate or conduct a feasibility study to establish a national heritage area in Baca, Bent, Crowley, Huerfano, Kiowa, Las Animas, Otero, Prowers, and Pueblo counties, Colorado. In the event the Service alters its intentions, the Committees direct the Service to notify the Committees 120 days in advance of initiating such a study.

American Battlefield Protection Program Assistance Grants.—The Committees are aware of increased workload and associated delays in grant processing due to the program's expansion of eligibility to sites associated with the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812, and have provided funds within the Land Acquisition and State Assistance account to allow for timely review and processing of grants.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION FUND

The agreement provides $80,910,000 for the Historic Preservation Fund. Within this amount, $47,925,000 is provided for grants to States and $10,485,000 is provided for grants to Tribes. The recommendation also includes $13,500,000 for competitive grants of which $500,000 is for grants to underserved communities and $13,000,000 is for competitive grants to document, interpret, and preserve historical sites associated with the Civil Rights Movement. The agreement also includes $4,000,000 for competitive grants to Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and $5,000,000 for the Save America's Treasures competitive grant program for preservation of nationally significant sites, structures, and artifacts. Prior to execution of these funds, the Service shall submit a spend plan to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate.

CONSTRUCTION

The agreement provides $209,353,000 for Construction with the following specific directive:

Line Item Construction.—The agreement provides $131,992,000 for line item construction projects in the fiscal year 2017 budget request as revised by the Service and provided to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations on April 6, 2017, and shown in the table below. Increases above fiscal year 2016 base funds support the Centennial Initiative, particularly deferred maintenance needs nationwide, and construction projects as described in Senate Report 114–281. Requests for reprogramming will be considered pursuant to the guidelines in the front of this explanatory statement.

State	Park Unit	Budget Request	This Bill
DC	National Mall and Memorial Parks	$2,210,000	$2,210,000
NY	Gateway National Recreation Area	9,144,000	9,144,000
DC	White House	17,160,000	17,160,000
AK	Wrangell-St. Elias National Park & Preserve	5,758,000	5,758,000
GA	Ocmulgee National Monument	2,006,000	2,006,000
WA	Mount Rainier National Park	13,211,000	13,211,000
MA	Lowell National Historical Park	4,601,000	4,601,000
PR	San Juan National Historic Site	1,947,000	1,947,000
DC	National Mall and Memorial Parks	9,456,000	9,456,000
SD	Jewel Cave National Monument	6,797,000	6,797,000
CA	Yosemite National Park	13,929,000	13,929,000
NY	Gateway National Recreation Area	1,597,000	1,597,000
MD	Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park	7,770,000	7,770,000
AL	Selma to Montgomery National Historic Trail	2,080,000	2,080,000
DC	National Mall and Memorial Parks	8,240,000	8,240,000
NE	Scotts Bluff National Monument	3,514,000	3,514,000
SD	Mount Rushmore National Memorial	2,465,000	2,465,000
MO	Ozark National Scenic Riverways	2,330,000	2,330,000
AZ	Grand Canyon National Park	10,966,000	10,966,000
WI	Apostle Islands National Lakeshore	2,041,000	2,041,000
NM	Old Santa Fe Trail Building	4,770,000	4,770,000
	Additional Project Requests	9,104,000	0
	Total, Line Item Construction	141,096,000	131,992,000

LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND

(RESCISSION)

The agreement includes a rescission of $28,000,000 in annual contract authority. This authority has not been used in recent years and there are no plans to use this authority in fiscal year 2017.

LAND ACQUISITION AND STATE ASSISTANCE

The bill provides $162,029,000 for Land Acquisition and State Assistance. The amounts recommended by this bill compared with the budget estimates by activity and project are shown in the table below, listed in priority order pursuant to the budget request for fiscal year 2017. Funds provided for the ''Grand Teton NP—State Land'' shall be used to repay fiscal year 2016 land acquisition projects and other balances reprogrammed during the first quarter of fiscal year 2017 in order to complete this project before December 31, 2016. From within funds for acquisition management, $252,000 is provided to support the administration of the American Battlefield Protection Program and to ensure the timely awarding of grants. Further instructions are contained under the Land and Water Conservation Fund heading in the front of this explanatory statement.

State	Project—Unit	Budget Request	This Bill
WY	Grand Teton NP—State Land	$22,500,000	$14,572,000
HI	Island Forests at Risk—Hawaii Volcanoes NP	6,000,000	6,000,000
ID	High Divide—Nez Perce NHP	400,000	400,000
AL	Little River Canyon National Preserve	516,500	516,000
	Additional Project Requests	7,897,500	0
	Subtotal, Line Item Projects	37,314,000	21,488,000
	American Battlefield Protection Program	10,000,000	10,000,000
	Emergencies, Hardships, Relocations, and Deficiencies	3,928,000	3,928,000
	Acquisition Management	10,000,000	9,679,000
	Inholdings, Donations, and Exchanges	5,000,000	4,928,000
	Recreational Access	2,000,000	2,000,000
	Total, NPS Land Acquisition	68,242,000	52,023,000
Assistance to States:			
	State conservation grants (formula)	94,000,000	94,000,000
	State conservation grants (competitive)	12,000,000	12,000,000
	Administrative expenses	4,006,000	4,006,000
	Total, Assistance to States	110,006,000	110,006,000
	Total, NPS Land Acquisition and State Assistance	178,248,000	162,029,000

CENTENNIAL CHALLENGE

The agreement provides $20,000,000 for the Centennial Challenge matching grant program, a key component of the Service's Centennial Initiative. The program provides dedicated Federal funding to leverage partnerships for signature projects and programs for the national park system. The Committees expect these funds to be used by the Service to address projects which have a deferred maintenance component in order to alleviate the sizeable deferred maintenance backlog within the national park system. A one-to-one matching requirement is required for projects to qualify for these funds. The Service is urged to give preference to projects that demonstrate additional leveraging capacity from its partners.

UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

SURVEYS, INVESTIGATIONS, AND RESEARCH

The agreement provides $1,085,167,000 for Surveys, Investigations, and Research of the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). The detailed allocation of funding by program area and activity is included in the table at the end of this explanatory statement. The Survey is directed to report to the Committees within 180 days of enactment of this Act on what new studies and projects over $1,000,000 have been initiated within the last three fiscal years.

Ecosystems.—The bill provides $159,732,000, which includes an increase of $250,000 to address white-nose syndrome in bats and $250,000 as requested, for Great Lakes Fisheries Assessments. The Committees expect Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) funds to be allocated in accordance with the funding allocation methodology used in fiscal year 2016, and provide $5,620,000 for the Survey to address Asian Carp issues in the Great Lakes and Upper Mississippi River. The Committees remain concerned about new and emerging invasive species and expect the Survey to continue to focus on early detection and rapid response as a way to address the threats posed by invasive plants and animals.

Climate and Land Use Change.—The agreement provides $149,275,000, which includes the Senate directive for Arctic research, and $85,794,000 for the Land Remote Sensing program. The Survey is directed to apply carryover balances from the satellite operations account so that Landsat-9 is fully funded.

Energy, Minerals, and Environmental Health.—The bill provides $94,311,000 for Energy, Minerals, and Environmental Health. The Committees do not accept the proposed decrease of $1,500,000 for geophysical and remote sensing activities, and expect this work to continue in the Yukon-Tanana Upland. The Committees understand that the Survey is spending approximately $3,000,000 on studies related to oil and gas resources in low-permeability reservoirs and expect this work to continue. Further, the Committees direct the Survey to consult with State geological surveys to conduct the initial research needed for new assessments in the Artic petroleum province. The Committees support the Survey's comprehensive research on cyanobacterial harmful algal blooms within the Toxic Substances Hydrology program and expect this work to continue at the fiscal year 2016 enacted funding level.

Natural Hazards.—Funding for the Natural Hazards program includes $64,303,000 for earthquake hazards, of which $10,200,000 is provided for continued development of an earthquake early warning system. The bill also provides an additional $800,000 as requested for the Central and Eastern U.S. Seismic Network (CEUSN) and an increase of $1,000,000 for regional seismic networks to work with the Survey to meet ANSS standards by incorporating data from active Earthscope earthquake monitoring instruments. The Committees understand that the cost benefit analysis as required by P.L. 114–113 is complete; therefore, the Survey is directed to report back to the Committees within six months of enactment of this Act with an implementation plan, including cost estimates, for the adoption of future seismic stations.

The bill provides $28,121,000 for volcano hazards. A $1,000,000 increase over enacted is provided for the repair and upgrade of analog systems on high-threat volcanos, and an additional $1,000,000 is provided for next-generation lahar detection systems.

Water Resources.—The bill provides $214,754,000 for Water Resources, with $59,927,000 directed to activities associated with the Cooperative Matching Funds for the highest priority work in WaterSMART: Water Use Research, Tribal cooperative funding, and critical Enhanced Cooperative Activities and Urban Waters work. Specifically, the bill provides $45,052,000 for the Water Availability and Use Science program, including an additional $1,000,000 for Water Use Research and $2,000,000 for groundwater resource studies in the Mississippi River Alluvial Plain; $72,673,000 for the Groundwater and Streamflow Information program, including increases of $500,000 for the groundwater network, $700,000 for streamgages, and $160,000 to reestablish a transboundary river streamgage affected by discharges caused by mines across the Canadian border; $90,529,000 for the National Water Quality program, including a $717,000 increase for Enhanced Cooperative Activities and Urban Waters and $63,000,000 for NAWQA Cycle 3; and $6,500,000 for the Water Resources Research Act program.

Core Science Systems.—The bill provides $116,050,000, including increases to the 3D Elevation Program (3DEP), of which: $1,500,000 is for National Enhancement; $2,500,000 is for Alaska Mapping and Map Modernization; and $500,000 is for Landscape Level Assessments—Chesapeake Bay.

Facilities.—It has come to the Committees' attention that additional resources may be needed for facilities challenges in Menlo Park, California; Lakewood, Colorado; and Madison, Wisconsin. The Survey is expected to expeditiously move forward on innovative proposals for resolving these issues, to address funding needs in the fiscal year 2018 budget submission, and to keep the Committees informed of developments related to these facilities.

Prohibition on Destruction of Records.—The Office of Inspector General's report on Scientific Integrity at the USGS Energy Geochemistry Laboratory in Lakewood, Colorado, concluded the incident ''has had numerous real and potential adverse impacts on customers, products, and the organizational integrity of USGS.'' While the Survey has taken action and closed the laboratory involved, it is critical the Survey adhere to Federal records management requirements and abide by the prohibitions against unlawful removal or destruction of Federal records, specifically those regarding, related to, or generated by the Inorganic Section of this laboratory while USGS and Congressional assessments of the incident are ongoing.

BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT

OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT

The bill provides $169,560,000 for Ocean Energy Management to be partially offset with the collection of rental receipts and cost recovery fees totaling $94,944,000, for a net discretionary appropriation of $74,616,000. The request did not include any funds for coastal marine spatial planning and accordingly the bill provides no funds for such activities. The agreement includes the following additional guidance:

Air Quality Studies.—The Committees expect the Bureau to complete ongoing air quality modelling studies and consult with affected coastal States prior to finalizing any new requirements.

Financial Assurance.—The Committees understand that the Bureau has extended the implementation timeline for changes to its Risk Management and Financial Assurance Program to allow for continued stakeholder input.

Five-year lease plan.—The Committees are aware that the Department is reviewing the 2017–2022 offshore lease plan and expect the review to proceed expeditiously and to carefully consider updates for the plan consistent with stakeholder input.

Offshore Revenues.—The Committees expect the Department will distribute revenues from Gulf of Mexico operations in a manner consistent with the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006 (P.L. 109–432).

Offshore Wind Energy Development.—The Committees understand that the Bureau is continuing to work in North Carolina with local stakeholders, industry, and State task forces and that there will be no lease sales in the Wilmington Wind Energy Area during fiscal year 2017.

Renewable Energy.— The Bureau should follow the direction under this heading in Senate Report 114–281.

BUREAU OF SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT

OFFSHORE SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT

(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

The bill provides $189,772,000 for Offshore Safety and Environmental Enforcement to be partially offset with the collection of rental receipts, cost recovery fees and inspection fees totaling $96,530,000 for a net discretionary appropriation of $93,242,000. The bill also includes a $25,000,000 rescission of unobligated balances.

Blowout Preventer Systems and Well Control Rule.—The Committees encourage the Bureau to evaluate information learned from additional stakeholder input and ongoing technical conversations to inform implementation of this rule. To the extent additional information warrants revisions to the rule that require public notice and comment, the Bureau is encouraged to follow that process to ensure that offshore operations promote safety and protect the environment in a technically feasible manner.

Other.—The Committees direct the Bureau to review its current policy concerning the acquisition of helicopter fuel in the Gulf of Mexico from third parties and submit a report to the Committees within 90 days of enactment of this Act. The report should include an analysis of how frequently fuel is acquired by the agency and the criteria used to determine compensation for fuel owned by third parties.

OIL SPILL RESEARCH

The bill provides $14,899,000 for Oil Spill Research.

OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT

REGULATION AND TECHNOLOGY

The bill provides $121,017,000 for Regulation and Technology. Within this amount, the bill funds regulatory grants at $68,590,000, equal to the fiscal year 2016 enacted level.

ABANDONED MINE RECLAMATION FUND

The bill provides $132,163,000 for the Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund. Of the funds provided, $27,163,000 shall be derived from the Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund and $105,000,000 shall be derived from the General Fund. The agreement provides $105,000,000 for grants to States for the reclamation of abandoned mine lands in conjunction with economic and community development and reuse goals. As provided in the bill, $75,000,000 shall be distributed in equal amounts to the three Appalachian States with the greatest amount of unfunded needs and $30,000,000 shall be distributed in equal amounts to the three Appalachian States with the subsequent greatest amount of unfunded needs. Such grants shall be distributed to States in accordance with the goals, intent and direction provided under this heading in House Report 114–632.

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS AND BUREAU OF INDIAN EDUCATION

OPERATION OF INDIAN PROGRAMS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill provides $2,339,346,000 for Operation of Indian Programs. In addition to the funding allocation table at the end of this explanatory statement, the agreement includes requested fixed costs and transfers, and the following details and instructions. The Bureaus are reminded of the guidance and reporting requirements contained in House Report 114–632 and Senate Report 114–281 that should be complied with unless specifically addressed to the contrary herein, as explained in the front matter of this explanatory statement.

Tribal Government.—The agreement includes $308,185,000 for Tribal government programs, of which $160,000 is for new Tribes. If additional Tribes are recognized during fiscal year 2017 beyond those contemplated in the budget request, the Bureau is urged to support their capacity building efforts to the extent feasible. The Small and Needy Tribes program is funded at $4,448,000, ensuring that all Tribes receive the maximum base level provided by the Bureau to run Tribal governments.

Road maintenance is funded at $30,307,000. The Bureau is urged to focus the program increase on roads and bridges in poor or failing condition, particularly along school bus routes. The Bureau is directed to consolidate the reporting requirements for road maintenance contained in the House and Senate reports and to report back to the Committees within 60 days of enactment of this Act.

Human Services.—The Bureau is directed to report back to the Committees within 90 days of enactment of this Act on the performance measures being used to monitor and track the Tiwahe initiative's effectiveness in Indian Country.

Trust—Natural Resources Management.—The agreement includes $11,266,000 for the Tribal Management/Development Program and a $2,000,000 program increase for Alaska subsistence programs as requested, including consideration of funding for the projects and pilot programs referenced in the budget submission including the Ahtna Subsistence Cooperative Management Project and the Kuskokwim River Inter-Tribal Fisheries Commission. Forestry is funded at $54,155,000 and includes a $2,000,000 program increase for forest thinning projects. The Fish, Wildlife, and Parks program is funded at $15,203,000 and includes program increases of $545,000 for Tribal hatcheries currently not receiving BIA hatchery operations funding as outlined in the Senate report, and $1,000,000 for fish hatchery operations. The ongoing Seminole and Miccosukee water study is funded at $390,000 as requested.

The Bureau is directed to enter into a formal partnership with local Tribes and the United States Geological Survey to help develop a water quality strategy for transboundary rivers affected by discharges caused by mines across the Canadian border.

Trust—Real Estate Services.—The agreement includes $123,092,000 for real estate services and includes the following program changes: a decrease of $6,893,000 as requested from trust services; a $400,000 increase for the historical places and cemetery sites program, including ANCSA sites; and a $1,500,000 increase for settlement negotiations and implementation related to water rights and Tribal trust fishery resources in the Klamath Basin. The agreement does not include the directive contained in the House report regarding reservation boundary recognition.

The Committees are concerned that the Bureau does not adequately maintain rights-of-way records. The Bureau is encouraged to develop a plan to update and digitize its inventory of records and to make the records publicly available in a commonly used mapping format, consistent with the guidance provided in Senate Report 114–281.

Bureau of Indian Education.—The agreement includes $891,513,000 for the Bureau of Indian Education, of which: $400,223,000 is for ISEP formula funds; $2,500,000 is for the development and operation of Tribal departments or divisions of education (TEDs) as authorized by 25 U.S.C. 2020; $55,995,000 is for student transportation; $18,659,000 is for early child and family development and should be used to expand the Family and Child Education (FACE) program; $80,165,000 is to fully fund Tribal grant support costs, based upon updated information provided by the Bureau; $66,219,000 is for facilities operations; $59,043,000 is for facilities maintenance; $7,414,000 is for Tribal technical colleges; $22,117,000 is for the Bureau-owned and operated Haskell Indian University and Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute (SIPI), as requested; $34,783,000 is for scholarships and adult education; $2,992,000 is for special higher education scholarships; $24,763,000 is for education program management; $10,287,000 is for information technology; and $12,201,000 is for education program enhancements, which shall be supplemented by the use of $2,000,000 in prior year unobligated balances.

The Committees support efforts to revitalize and maintain Native languages and expand the use of language immersion programs and have provided $2,000,000 within education program enhancements for capacity building grants for Bureau and tribally operated schools to expand existing language immersion programs or to create new programs. Prior to distributing these funds, the Bureau shall coordinate with the Department of Education and Department of Health and Human Services to ensure that Bureau investments compliment, but do not duplicate, existing language immersion programs. The Committees also direct the Bureau to submit a report to the Committees within 180 days of enactment of this Act regarding the distribution of these funds and the status of Native language classes and immersion programs offered at Bureau-funded schools.

The Johnson O'Malley program is funded at the fiscal year 2016 enacted level. The Committees remain concerned that the distribution of funds is not an accurate reflection of the distribution of students. The Bureau is directed to consolidate the program reporting requirements contained in the House and Senate reports and to report back to the Committees within 60 days of enactment of this Act.

The one-time increase of $5,100,000 provided in fiscal year 2016 to forward fund Tribal technical colleges has been transferred to forward fund the Institute of American Indian Arts in fiscal year 2017. The Bureau is encouraged to forward fund Haskell and SIPI in future budget requests so that all Tribal colleges are on the same funding schedule.

The Committees remain concerned about recent Government Accountability Office (GAO) reports detailing problems within the K–12 Indian education system at the Department of the Interior, in particular as they pertain to organizational structure, accountability, finance, health and safety, and ultimately student performance. As the Department takes steps to reform the system, the Secretary is reminded that future support

from Congress will continue to be based in large part upon successful implementation of GAO report recommendations. In particular, consistent with GAO report 13–774, the Secretary is urged to reorganize Indian Affairs so that control and accountability of the BIE system is consolidated within the BIE, to present such reorganization proposal in the fiscal year 2018 budget request, and to submit to the Committees a corresponding updated workforce plan. Consistent with GAO testimonies 15–389T, 15–539T, 15–597T, and any subsequent reports, the Secretary is urged to personally oversee immediate actions necessary to ensure the continued health and safety of students and employees at BIE schools and facilities.

Public Safety and Justice.—The agreement includes $385,735,000 for public safety and justice programs, of which: $202,000,000 is for criminal investigations and police services and includes a $1,000,000 program increase to implement the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act; $96,507,000 is for detention/corrections; $10,319,000 is for law enforcement special initiatives; and $30,753,000 is for Tribal courts.

Funding for Tribal justice support is restored to $17,250,000, of which not less than $10,000,000 is to address the needs of Tribes affected by Public Law 83–280. The Committees remain concerned about Tribal court needs as identified in the Indian Law and Order Commission's November 2013 report, which notes Federal investment in Tribal justice in ''P.L. 280'' States has been more limited than elsewhere in Indian Country. The Committees expect the Bureau to work with Tribes and Tribal organizations in these States to fund plans that design, promote, sustain, or pilot courts systems subject to jurisdiction under Public Law 83–280. The Bureau is also directed to formally consult and maintain open communication throughout the process with Tribes and Tribal organizations on how this funding supports the technical infrastructure and future Tribal court needs for these jurisdictions.

Community and Economic Development.—The agreement includes $41,844,000 for community and economic development, of which: $12,504,000 is for job placement and training; $25,304,000 is for minerals and mining; and $2,235,000 is for community development central oversight.

Executive Direction and Administrative Services.—The agreement provides $228,824,000 for executive direction and administrative services, of which: $10,006,000 is for Assistant Secretary Support, $2,970,000 is for safety and risk management; $23,060,000 is for human capital management; $23,552,000 is for intragovernmental payments. The reductions from Assistant Secretary Support and human capital management reflect a transfer of school-related responsibilities, personnel, and budget to the Bureau of Indian Education.

Tribal Recognition.—The Committees acknowledge concerns expressed by certain Tribes, States, and bipartisan members of Congress regarding effects of recent changes in Tribal recognition policy on standards that have been applied to new applicants since 1978. Federal acknowledgement of a Tribe impacts the Federal budget, other Tribes, State and local jurisdictions, and individual rights. The Committees expect the Administration to maintain rigorous recognition standards while implementing a more transparent, efficient, and workable process.

CONTRACT SUPPORT COSTS

The bill provides an indefinite appropriation for contract support costs, consistent with fiscal year 2016 and estimated to be $278,000,000.

CONSTRUCTION

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The bill provides $192,017,000 for Construction. In addition to the funding allocation table at the end of this explanatory statement, the agreement includes the following instructions:

Education.—The agreement includes $133,257,000 for schools and related facilities within the Bureau of Indian Education system, equal to the fiscal year 2016 enacted level after accounting for a one-time funding surge in 2016 to reduce the backlog of critical deferred maintenance projects. The Bureau is directed to submit an allocation plan to the Committees for campus-wide replacement and facilities replacement within 30 days of enactment of this Act.

Indian Affairs is directed to reallocate $2,000,000 from prior year unobligated balances in order to accelerate advance planning and design of replacement schools and school facilities as proposed. Of these unobligated balances, $1,000,000 shall be from the Construction Management activity and $1,000,000 shall be from the General Administration activity.

The agreement does not include an authorizing provision in the House bill to reconstitute the National Fund for Excellence in American Indian Education. The Committees continue to strongly support innovative financing options to supplement annual appropriations and accelerate repair and replacement of Bureau of Indian Education schools, including through the use of construction bonds, tax credits, and grant programs. The Department is urged to revise and resubmit its proposal to reconstitute the Fund and to include authority for the Fund to facilitate public-private partnership construction projects.

INDIAN LAND AND WATER CLAIMS SETTLEMENTS AND MISCELLANEOUS PAYMENTS TO INDIANS

The bill provides $45,045,000 for Indian Land and Water Claims Settlements and Miscellaneous Payments to Indians. In addition, the Bureau shall reallocate $5,916,000 in prior-year unobligated funds that remain after completion of settlement requirements, for a total program level of $50,961,000. The Department is directed to submit an allocation plan for these funds to the Committees within 90 days of enactment of this Act.

INDIAN GUARANTEED LOAN PROGRAM ACCOUNT

The bill provides $8,757,000 for the Indian Guaranteed Loan Program Account to facilitate business investments in Indian Country.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

The bill includes a rescission of $3,400,000 from prior year unobligated balances within the Operation of Indian Programs account. The Bureau is directed to take the rescission from no-year funds within the Executive Direction and Administrative Services activity.

DEPARTMENTAL OFFICES

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

DEPARTMENTAL OPERATIONS

The agreement provides $271,074,000 for Departmental Offices, Office of the Secretary, Departmental Operations. The detailed allocation of funding by program area and activity is included in the table at the end of the statement.

Increases above the fiscal year 2016 enacted level within the Leadership and Administration activity are outlined within Senate Report 114–281 and include $225,000 as requested for equipment associated with monitoring classified computers and communications devices supporting the Office of the Secretary and the intelligence community in light of ongoing terrorist threats to national icons. Within the Management Services activity, an additional $110,000 is provided for law enforcement and investigative activities, including combatting counterfeit activities and enforcement functions related to Indian art and craftwork. The agreement provides $11,000,000 for the Office of Valuation Services. The agreement also includes an additional $968,000 as requested within the Office of Natural Resources Revenue (ONNR) to address certain Trust responsibilities for the Osage Nation consistent with the services ONRR already provides to every other Tribe. Full funding for the Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) program for fiscal year 2017 is included in a separate account under Department-Wide Programs. The agreement includes language as requested establishing the Department of the Interior Experienced Services Program.

National Monument Designations.—The Department is directed to collaboratively work with interested parties, including Congress, States, local communities, Tribal governments, and others before making national monument designations.

Arecibo Observatory.—The Committees recognize the importance of world-class scientific research conducted at the Arecibo Observatory in Puerto Rico and direct the Department to notify the Committees prior to taking any actions that could affect the future operation of the facility.

Energy and Minerals Programs and Management.—The Committees are aware that the Department is administratively addressing many of the energy-related provisions and directives contained in the House and Senate bills and reports with the goal of increasing responsible and sustainable energy development on Federal lands, while providing economic benefits to States, Tribes, communities, and the economy.

Office of Navajo and Hopi Indian Relocation.—The Department is directed to work with the Office of Navajo and Hopi Indian Relocation (ONHIR) on a plan to close ONHIR and transfer any remaining functions to another agency or organization, as described in further detail under the ONHIR heading within this explanatory statement.

INSULAR AFFAIRS

ASSISTANCE TO TERRITORIES

The agreement provides $91,925,000 for Assistance to Territories. The detailed allocation of funding is included in the table at the end of this explanatory statement.

COMPACT OF FREE ASSOCIATION

The agreement provides $3,318,000 for Compact of Free Association. The detailed allocation of funding is included in the table at the end of this explanatory statement.

OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement provides $65,769,000 for the Office of the Solicitor. The detailed allocation of funding is included in the table at the end of this explanatory statement.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement provides $50,047,000 for the Office of Inspector General. The detailed allocation of funding is included in the table at the end of this explanatory statement.

OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL TRUSTEE FOR AMERICAN INDIANS

FEDERAL TRUST PROGRAMS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides $139,029,000 for the Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians. The detailed allocation of funding by activity is included in the table at the end of this explanatory statement.

DEPARTMENT-WIDE PROGRAMS

WILDLAND FIRE MANAGEMENT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides a total of $942,671,000 for Department of the Interior Wildland Fire Management. Of the funds provided, $395,000,000 is for suppression operations. The bill fully funds wildland fire suppression at the 10-year average. The detailed allocation of funding for these accounts is included in the table at the end of this explanatory statement.

Fuels Management.—The agreement provides $180,000,000 for hazardous fuels management activities, which is $10,000,000 above the fiscal year 2016 enacted level.

FLAME WILDFIRE SUPPRESSION RESERVE FUND

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides $65,000,000 for the FLAME Wildfire Suppression Reserve Fund, which is designated as emergency spending.

CENTRAL HAZARDOUS MATERIALS FUND

The agreement provides $10,010,000 for the Central Hazardous Materials Fund.

NATURAL RESOURCE DAMAGE ASSESSMENT AND RESTORATION

NATURAL RESOURCE DAMAGE ASSESSMENT FUND

The agreement provides $7,767,000 for the Natural Resource Damage Assessment Fund. The detailed allocation of funding by activity is included in the table at the end of this explanatory statement.

WORKING CAPITAL FUND

The agreement provides $67,100,000 for the Department of the Interior, Working Capital Fund.

PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES

The agreement provides $465,000,000 for the Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) program, the fully authorized level of funding for fiscal year 2017 as determined by the most recent Department of the Interior calculation and provided to the Committees on April 20, 2017. The initial estimate was made during formulation of the fiscal year 2017 President's Budget, over 20 months before enactment of the appropriation. This estimate was overstated because it was predicated on the relevant inflation rate at the time—nearly twice the current rate. Additionally, the initial estimate presumed average historical prior-year payment information, which has now been updated with current data from States and counties.

GENERAL PROVISIONS, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The agreement includes various legislative provisions affecting the Department in Title I of the bill, ''General Provisions, Department of the Interior.'' The provisions are:

Section 101 provides Secretarial authority for the intra-bureau transfer of program funds for expenditures in cases of emergencies when all other emergency funds are exhausted.

Section 102 provides for the Department-wide expenditure or transfer of funds by the Secretary in the event of actual or potential emergencies including forest fires, range fires, earthquakes, floods, volcanic eruptions, storms, oil spills, grasshopper and Mormon cricket outbreaks, and surface mine reclamation emergencies.

Section 103 provides for the use of appropriated funds by the Secretary for contracts, rental cars and aircraft, telephone expenses, and other certain services.

Section 104 provides for the transfer of funds from the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Bureau of Indian Education, and Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians.

Section 105 permits the redistribution of Tribal priority allocation and Tribal base funds to alleviate funding inequities.

Section 106 authorizes the acquisition of lands for the purpose of operating and maintaining facilities that support visitors to Ellis, Governors, and Liberty Islands.

Section 107 continues Outer Continental Shelf inspection fees to be collected by the Secretary of the Interior.

Section 108 authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to continue the reorganization of the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation, and Enforcement in conformance with Committee reprogramming guidelines.

Section 109 provides the Secretary of the Interior with authority to enter into multiyear cooperative agreements with non-profit organizations for long-term care of wild horses and burros.

Section 110 addresses the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's responsibilities for mass marking of salmonid stocks.

Section 111 modifies a provision addressing Bureau of Land Management actions regarding grazing on public lands.

Section 112 continues a provision prohibiting funds to implement, administer, or enforce Secretarial Order 3310 issued by the Secretary of the Interior on December 22, 2010.

Section 113 allows the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Bureau of Indian Education to more efficiently and effectively perform reimbursable work.

Section 114 addresses the issuance of rules for sage-grouse.

Section 115 addresses National Heritage Areas.

Section 116 addresses the humane transfer of excess wild horses and burros.

Section 117 extends authorization for certain payments to the Republic of Palau for fiscal year 2017.

Section 118 provides for the establishment of a Department of the Interior Experienced Services Program.

Section 119 provides a boundary adjustment to the Natchez National Historical Park.

Section 120 establishes a special resources study to preserve Civil Rights sites.

Section 121 modifies the Continuous Operations rule.

Section 122 establishes the Bureau of Land Management Foundation.

TITLE II—ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

The bill provides $8,058,488,000 for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Congressional Budget Justification.—The Agency is directed to continue to include the information requested in House Report 112–331 and any proposals to change State allocation formulas that affect the distribution of appropriated funds in future budget justifications.

Reprogramming.—The Agency is held to the reprogramming limitation of $1,000,000 and should continue to follow the reprogramming directives as provided in the front of this explanatory statement. It is noted that such reprogramming directives apply to proposed reorganizations, workforce restructure, reshaping, transfer of functions, or downsizing, especially those of significant national or regional importance, and include closures, consolidations, and relocations of offices, facilities, and laboratories. Further, the Agency may not use any amount of deobligated funds to initiate a new program, office, or initiative, without the prior approval of the Committees.

Within 30 days of enactment of this Act, the Agency is directed to submit to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations its annual operating plan for fiscal year 2017, which shall detail how the Agency plans to allocate funds at the program project level.

Other.—It is noted that the current workforce is below the fiscal year 2016 level, therefore, the agreement includes rescissions in the Science and Technology and Environmental Programs and Management accounts that capture expected savings associated with such changes. The Agency is directed to first apply the rescissions across program project areas to reflect routine attrition that will occur in those program project areas in fiscal year 2017 and then to reflect efficiency savings in a manner that seeks, to the extent practicable, to be proportional among program project areas. Amounts provided in this Act are sufficient to fully fund Agency payroll estimates. The Committees understand that the Agency routinely makes funding payroll requirements a top priority, and the Committees expect the Agency will continue to do so as it executes its fiscal year 2017 appropriation and applies the rescissions. The Committees do not expect the Agency will undertake adverse personnel actions or incentive programs to comply with the rescissions. As specified in the bill language, the rescissions shall not apply to the Geographic Programs, the National Estuary Program, and the National Priorities funding in the Science and Technology and Environmental Programs and Management accounts. The Agency is directed to submit, as part of the operating plan, detail on the application of such rescissions at the program project level.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

For Science and Technology programs, the bill provides $713,823,000 to be partially offset by a $7,350,000 rescission for a net discretionary appropriation of $706,473,000. The bill transfers $15,496,000 from the Hazardous Substance Superfund account to this account. The bill provides the following specific funding levels and direction:

Research: National Priorities.—The bill provides $4,100,000 which shall be used for extramural research grants, independent of the Science to Achieve Results (STAR) grant program, to fund high-priority water quality and availability research by not-for-profit organizations who often partner with the Agency. Because these grants are independent of the STAR grant program, the Agency should strive to award grants in as large an amount as is possible to achieve the most scientifically significant research. Funds shall be awarded competitively with priority given to partners proposing research of national scope and who provide a 25 percent match. The Agency is directed to allocate funds to grantees within 180 days of enactment of this Act.

Additional Guidance.—The agreement includes the following additional guidance:

Computational Toxicology.—The Agency shall follow the direction under this heading in Senate Report 114–281.

Enhanced Aquifer Use.—The Agency shall follow the direction under this heading in Senate Report 114–281.

Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS).—The Committees are aware of efforts to implement the 2011 National Academy of Science's (NAS) Chapter 7 and 2014 NAS report recommendations for the IRIS program, including six specific recommendations. These recommendations include objective evaluation of the strengths and weaknesses of critical studies, the need for weight of evidence evaluation and integration, and clearer rationale for selecting studies to calculate toxicity values. Additionally, the NAS identified specific recommendations and considerations when evaluating the hazards of formaldehyde. The Committees believe that EPA should contract with the NAS to conduct the peer review of the revised draft IRIS assessment of formaldehyde, should it be released in fiscal year 2017, to verify the recommendations from the previous NAS report of 2011 have been fully resolved scientifically.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS AND MANAGEMENT

(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

For Environmental Programs and Management, the bill provides $2,619,799,000 to be partially offset by a $21,800,000 rescission for a net discretionary appropriation of $2,597,999,000. The bill provides the following specific funding levels and direction:

Environmental Protection: National Priorities.—The bill provides $12,700,000 for a competitive grant program to provide technical assistance for improved water quality or safe drinking water to rural and urban communities or individual private well owners. The Agency is directed to provide on a national or multi-State regional basis, $11,000,000 for grants to qualified not-for-profit organizations, including organizations authorized by Section 1442(e) of the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C.300j–1(e)(8)), for the sole purpose of providing on-site training and technical assistance for water systems in rural or urban communities. The Agency is also directed to provide $1,700,000 for grants to qualified not-for-profit organizations for technical assistance for individual private well owners, with priority given to organizations that currently provide technical and educational assistance to individual private well owners. The Agency shall require each grantee to provide a minimum 10 percent match, including in-kind contributions. The Agency is directed to allocate funds to grantees within 180 days of enactment of this Act.

Geographic Programs.—The bill provides $435,857,000, as distributed in the table at the end of this division, and includes the following direction:

Great Lakes Restoration Initiative.—The bill provides $300,000,000 and the Agency shall continue to follow the direction as provided in House Report 112–589. In addition, as EPA distributes funds across the five focus areas, Tribal related activities shall be maintained at not less than the fiscal year 2016 level.

Chesapeake Bay.—The bill provides $73,000,000 and the Agency shall allocate funds consistent with the direction under this heading in Senate Report 114–281.

Water: Ecosystems.—The agreement includes $47,788,000. The Committees recognize that Public Law 114–161 created a competitive grant program to help prioritize challenging issues within estuaries. Passage of this law occurred after the Agency's budget submission. After the Agency provides $600,000 to each of the 28 national estuaries in the program, the Committees urge the Agency to fund a competitive grant program using available resources, and consistent with House report 114–632. In addition, the Committees direct EPA to use the funds provided to accelerate the processing of mining permits with the Corps of Engineers. Further, the Committees direct EPA, in consultation with the Corps of Engineers, to continue to report monthly on the number of Section 404 permits under EPA's review, consistent with the direction under this heading in House Report 114–170.

Additional Guidance.—The agreement includes the following additional guidance:

Accidental Release Prevention Requirements.—The Committees note that EPA has postponed the effective date for implementation by 90 days as it reviews and reevaluates the rule. The Committees expect EPA to work with State regulators, facility managers, small businesses, and other stakeholders as it reevaluates the rule.

Agricultural Operations.—The Committees note that Congress never intended the Solid Waste Disposal Act to govern animal or crop waste, manure, or fertilizer, or constituents derived from such sources. The Agency's longstanding regulations accurately reflect Congress' intent not to regulate manure and crop residues under the Solid Waste Disposal Act, and the Committees support legislative efforts to clarify and codify the treatment of agricultural byproducts under the Solid Waste Disposal Act.

Clean Air Act Economic Analysis.—The Committees note that Section 321(a) of the Clean Air Act states that the EPA ''shall conduct continuing evaluations of potential loss or shifts of employment''. On October 17, 2016, a Federal district court opinion found that the Agency has a non-discretionary duty to compile such evaluations, and ordered the Agency to develop a plan for compliance. In January 2017, the Federal district court directed the EPA to develop an economic analysis of the effects of regulations on the coal mining and power generation industries by July 1, 2017. EPA has also been directed to demonstrate by the end of the year that it has measures in place to monitor employment shift as a result of its regulations. The Committees expect the Agency will keep the Committees apprised of progress to comply with the recent court orders.

Coal Combustion Residuals.—Section 2301 of the WIIN Act (P.L. 114–322) amended the Solid Waste Disposal Act to authorize the Agency to review and approve, as appropriate, State programs for permits or other systems of prior approval and conditions under State law for the regulation of coal combustion residuals. To expedite the process for reviewing and approving such State programs, the Agency should establish, as expeditiously as is practicable, streamlined procedures for prompt approval of those State programs.

Combined Sewer Overflows.—Senate Report 114–281 included language directing the EPA to report to Congress, within 60 days of enactment of this Act, the plan and timeline for the implementation of public notice requirements for treatment works discharging sewage into the Great Lakes as required by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2016. The Committees remind the Agency that the bill language in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2016, specifically defined the term ''Great Lakes'' for purpose of the public notice requirements. Additionally, the Committees note that the bill language did not require immediate public notice. As such, the Committees recommend the Agency give utilities flexibility to ensure that the ratepayers are not severely impacted by the cost of implementing this public notice requirement.

Ecolabels for Federal Procurement.—The agreement includes the direction in Senate Report 114–281 to provide a report on the Agency's Ecolabel program within 60 days of enactment of this Act. The Committees are aware that the Agency has been developing guidelines to evaluate ecolabels that are used in Federal purchasing for building construction and other uses and recommend that any process be fair, transparent, and consistent with other product requirements.

Exempt Aquifers.—The Committees are aware that EPA has received and will be receiving exempt aquifer applications from the State of California for processing and approval. The Committees continue to support protecting underground sources of drinking water and promoting robust economic development. Accordingly, the Committees continue to urge EPA to work expeditiously to process exempt aquifer applications and use the existing regulatory framework to process these applications as provided in House Report 114–170 and House Report 114–632.

Integrated Planning.—The Committees strongly support efforts to use an integrated planning approach to help municipalities meet Clean Water Act obligations. The Committees urge the Agency to work with communities in fiscal year 2017 to develop elements of integrated plans for municipal wastewater and stormwater management.

Lead Test Kit.—The Committees reiterate support for activities that result in safe and proper reduction of lead paint in homes and the protection of sensitive populations. Such support along with concerns about implementation challenges were expressed in House Report 114–632 and Senate Report 114–281. Consistent with the concerns outlined in the Committee reports, EPA should identify options to remedy implementation challenges that have persisted since 2009.

National Ambient Air Quality Standards.—Concerns remain about potentially overlapping implementation schedules related to the 2008 and 2015 standards for ground-level ozone. Because the Agency did not publish implementing regulations for the 2008 standard of 75 parts per billion [ppb] until February 2015, and then revised the standard to 70 ppb in October 2015, States now face the prospect of implementing two national ambient air quality standards for ozone simultaneously. It is likely that, based on Agency data, a number of counties will be in non-attainment with both the 2008 standard and the 2015 standard. Additionally, Agency data suggests that a number of marginal non-attainment counties will meet the 2015 standard by 2025 due to other air regulations. In an effort to find the most sensible path to reduce ground level ozone, some flexibility must be granted to States that face the burden of implementing these potentially overlapping standards. Within 90 days of the date of enactment of this Act, the Agency is directed to provide the Committees with a report examining the potential for administrative options to enable States to enter into cooperative agreements with the Agency that provide regulatory relief and meaningfully clean up the air.

Pesticides Registration Improvement Act.—In addition to the direction under this heading in Senate Report 114–281,—the Agency is directed to provide the Committees with a quarterly report detailing the amount of previously collected maintenance fees that are currently unavailable for obligation.

Science Advisory Board.—Regarding language under both the Science and Technology account and the Environmental Programs and Management account, the Committees are aware that EPA did not fulfill the fiscal year 2016 directive to provide updated policy statements to GAO for review.

Significant New Alternatives Policy (SNAP) Program.—The Committees reiterate the concern expressed in Senate Report 114–281 with respect to the proposed timeframes for delistings. Historical experience indicates that manufacturers often need several years to modify manufacturing processes in order to transition between new materials. Since EPA's deadlines are not driven by statutory mandates, additional transition time is allowable, and warranted, in order to avoid unintended consequences. To allow manufacturers to fully integrate new chemicals into their product lines following rigorous efficacy and safety testing, EPA is directed to consider harmonizing the status of any previously approved refrigerant or foam-blowing agent with other domestic and international programs for refrigeration and commercial air conditioning applications, and corresponding deadlines for military, space- and aeronautics-related applications.

Small and Art Glass Manufacturers.—The Committees note there are significant concerns in the small and art glass manufacturing industry over potential changes to the definitions and standards for National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants requirements. The Committees recommend that the Agency maintain current thresholds and definitions particularly related to operators that produce less than 50 tons per year or use non-continuous furnaces in their operations.

Small Refinery Relief.—The agreement includes the directive contained in Senate Report 114–281 related to small refinery relief.

Spill Prevention Requirements.—The WIIN Act (P.L. 114–322) modified the applicability of EPA's Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure regulations with respect to smaller containers on farms. The Committees urge EPA to continue to explore options for additional flexibilities for farmers and ranchers subject to the rule.

Toxic Substances Control Act Modernization.—The agreement includes bill language that will enable the EPA to collect and spend new fees to conduct additional chemical reviews, as authorized by the Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act (P.L. 114–182). Since collections will begin partway through the year, the Congressional Budget Office estimates that fee collections will total $3,000,000 for fiscal year 2017 and are estimated to increase to $25,000,000 per year once the program is fully implemented. Finally, this bill includes language ensuring that new fee collections will supplement, not supplant, appropriated resources for these activities.

Uranium.—The Committees note that EPA has decided to re-propose the Part 192 rule and solicit additional public comment. As the Agency works through the public comment process, the Committees encourage EPA to work with State regulators, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and the uranium recovery industry to collect sufficient data to determine if any updates are needed to the existing generally applicable standards.

Worker Protection Standards.—The Committees note that the process for developing and providing guidance, educational materials, and training resources to the States has not followed the schedule originally envisioned in the rule. Accordingly, the Agency has received petitions requesting extensions of implementation dates until January 2018 that would allow for a smoother transition to new requirements. The Agency should consider extending implementation deadlines until 2018, and whether further engagement with stakeholders regarding implementation issues would be beneficial.

HAZARDOUS WASTE ELECTRONIC MANIFEST SYSTEM FUND

The bill provides $3,178,000 for the Hazardous Waste Electronic Manifest System Fund.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

The bill provides $41,489,000 for the Office of Inspector General.

BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

The bill provides $34,467,000 for Buildings and Facilities.

HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE SUPERFUND

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The bill provides $1,088,769,000 for the Hazardous Substance Superfund account and includes bill language to transfer $8,778,000 to the Office of Inspector General account and $15,496,000 to the Science and Technology account. The bill provides the following additional direction:

Financial Assurance.—The Committees are aware of concerns raised by States, stakeholders, and the Small Business Administration's Office of Advocacy regarding the Agency's proposed rule on financial assurance for hardrock mining. The Agency has extended the comment period on the proposed rule for hardrock mining until July 11, 2017. It is expected that the Agency will take those comments into account in recommending its course of action to finalize the rule.

Sediment Guidance.—The Committees note that the Agency completed a report on sediment guidance in February 2017. The Committees urge the Agency to ensure compliance with the Agency's Contaminated Sediment Guidance.

LEAKING UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK TRUST FUND PROGRAM

The bill provides $91,941,000 for the Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund Program.

INLAND OIL SPILL PROGRAMS

The bill provides $18,209,000 for Inland Oil Spill Programs.

STATE AND TRIBAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS

The bill provides $3,527,161,000 for the State and Tribal Assistance Grants program and includes the following specific funding levels and direction:

Targeted Airshed Grants.—The bill provides $30,000,000 for targeted airshed grants to reduce air pollution in non-attainment areas. These grants shall be distributed on a competitive basis to non-attainment areas that EPA determines are ranked as the top five most polluted areas relative to annual ozone or particulate matter 2.5 standards as well as the top five areas based on the 24-hour particulate matter 2.5 standard where the design values exceed the 35 $\mu g/m^3$ standard. To determine these areas, the Agency shall use the most recent design values calculated from validated air quality data. The Committees note that these funds are available for emission reduction activities deemed necessary for compliance with national ambient air quality standards and included in a State Implementation Plan submitted to EPA. Not later than the end of fiscal year 2017, EPA should provide a report to the Committees on Appropriations that includes a table showing how fiscal year 2016 and 2017 funds were allocated. The table should also include grant recipients and metrics for anticipated or actual results.

Animas River Spill.—The Gold King Mine spill into the Animas River significantly impacted areas in New Mexico, Colorado, Arizona, Utah, and the Navajo Nation. As authorized by P.L. 114–322, the bill provides $4,000,000 for a long-term water quality monitoring program, and EPA is directed to continue to work in consultation with affected States and Tribes on that effort. The Agency is strongly encouraged to follow the requirements detailed in House report 114–632 regarding the temporary water treatment plant and in Senate Report 114–281 regarding reimbursements for State, local and Tribal costs related to the spill. Finally, a recent legal decision has left many stakeholders concerned that they will not be compensated for property damage, business losses, and other negative financial impacts. EPA should further explore all legal and financial recourses that could compensate individuals for such damages and, if available, should ensure that recourses will be extended to individuals located in all areas impacted by the spill in New Mexico, Colorado, Arizona, Utah, and the Navajo Nation. The Agency is required to report to the Committees within 60 days of enactment of this Act on the details and timeline for such efforts, including plans for stakeholder engagement in all areas affected by the spill.

Categorical Grants.—The bill provides $1,066,041,000 for Categorical Grants and funding levels are specified in the table at the end of this division. The Agency shall allocate radon grants in fiscal year 2017 following the direction in House Report 114–632. The amount also includes $228,219,000 for the State and Local Air Quality Management grant program, and the Agency is directed to allocate funds for this program using the same formula as fiscal year 2015. The Committees understand the Office of Air and Radiation was able to provide some additional funds to the States in fiscal year 2016 using balances. The Committees encourage the Agency to do the same in fiscal year 2017 and to provide those additional funds to the regions with the highest need.

Use of Iron and Steel.—The bill includes language in Title IV General Provisions that stipulates requirements for the use of iron and steel in State Revolving Fund projects, and the agreement includes only the following guidance. The Committees acknowledge that EPA may issue a waiver of said requirements for de minimis amounts of iron and steel building materials. The Committees emphasize that any coating processes that are applied to the external surface of iron and steel components that otherwise qualify under the procurement preference shall not render such products ineligible for the procurement preference regardless of where the coating processes occur, provided that final assembly of the products occurs in the United States.

WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCE AND INNOVATION PROGRAM ACCOUNT

This bill provides an additional $10,000,000 for the WIFIA program. When combined with funds provided under Sec. 197 of P.L. 114–254, the WIFIA program is funded at a total $30,000,000 for fiscal year 2017, which has the ability to be leveraged for a total of $3,049,000,000 in loans. Of the amounts provided in this bill and in P.L. 114–254, EPA may use up to $5,000,000 for administrative expenses to administer the program and

issue loans. The Committees note that $2,200,000 had previously been provided in other accounts for staffing and administrative needs in order to establish the program. The agreement concurs with the budget consolidation of those resources into this new account.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (INCLUDING TRANSFERS AND RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

The bill continues several administrative provisions from previous years.

Rescission.—The bill rescinds $61,198,000 of unobligated balances from the State and Tribal Assistance Grants account. The Agency shall calculate the requisite percent reduction necessary to rescind such amounts from new obligational authority and apply it across program areas by formula. The Agency is directed to submit, as part of the operating plan, detail on the application of such rescissions by program project area.

TITLE III—RELATED AGENCIES

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

FOREST SERVICE

Forest Service Directives.—The Forest Service is reminded of the importance of the directives included in House Report 114–632 and Senate Report 114–281 not addressed herein, as well as the new directives in this statement, including the front matter. The Service is expected to provide the research report, as required by the House report, within 30 days of enactment of this Act.

Forest Service Accounting, Budgeting, and Management.—The agreement includes bill language and directives to increase transparency and confidence in the Service's management of its programs and activities.

The agreement includes a new administrative provision requiring the Service to report within 30 days after the close of each quarter, through the Office of Budget and Program Analysis, its current and prior year unobligated balances to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations. The Service is directed to provide this report for all mandatory and discretionary funds, including receipts and permanent appropriations, as well as funds subject to notification requirements and transfers of unobligated balances.

Although the agreement does not include reprogramming guidelines in bill language, as proposed by the House, the Committees expect the Service to follow the letter and spirit of the reprogramming requirements in this explanatory statement and direct the Service to submit requests through the Office of Budget and Program Analysis.

The agreement assigns fiscal-year limits to certain Forest Service accounts. This modification will require funds to be tracked by year, budget line item, and account, and encourage the Service to expeditiously award contracts, settle reimbursable agreements, and conduct forest management activities. The agreement also establishes a non-recurring expenses account that will allow certain unobligated funds to be captured and used for fuel reduction and post-fire rehabilitation purposes. The Committees believe that fiscal-year limits will not impede the Service's ability to effectively fight wildfire or meet wildfire obligations relating to agreements with Federal, State, or other partners.

To further support the Service's efforts in centralizing and standardizing budgeting and accounting practices among the Regions and program offices, the Service is directed to improve and better manage its procurement and financial management processes to ensure funds are spent in an appropriate and timely manner. The Service should also make certain that sufficient internal controls are in place to ensure that unliquidated obligations are consistently and systematically evaluated for validity, and that unliquidated obligations found unnecessary are promptly adjusted to make funds available for authorized purposes.

According to the information provided as required by Senate Reports 114–82 and 114–70, the Service has significantly higher costs of printing for public distribution compared to other Department of Agriculture agencies. The Service is directed to update the information provided in the report to the Committees within 30 days of enactment of this Act, and to significantly reduce its printing expenditures.

FOREST AND RANGELAND RESEARCH

The agreement provides $288,514,000 for Forest and Rangeland Research, including $77,000,000 for Forest Inventory and Analysis.

Forest Products Laboratory.—Of the funds available to the Forest Products Laboratory, no less than $1,000,000 is to sustain funding with existing academic partners focused on research and technology development to create new and expanded markets and to advance high-value, high-volume wood markets from restorative actions on the Nation's public and private forests.

Joint Fire Science Research.—The agreement accepts the proposal to shift the Joint Fire Science Research program into the Forest and Rangeland Research account and provides no less than $3,000,000 for the program.

Forest Research Priorities.—The Committees are concerned that the research program is not well aligned with the needs of the National Forest System. When assessing the value of new proposals, significant weight should be given to projects whose findings could be incorporated into management and decision-making.

STATE AND PRIVATE FORESTRY

(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides $216,921,000 for State and Private Forestry. The following directions are also provided:

Federal and Cooperative Lands.—The Committees understand the Service has obligated $5,000,000 in prior year balances to address the forest health crisis in Region 5.

Forest Legacy.—The bill provides $62,347,000 for the Forest Legacy program. This includes $6,400,000 for program administration and $55,947,000 for projects. The Service should fund projects in priority order according to the competitively selected national priority list submitted by the Forest Service as part of its fiscal year 2017 budget request. In lieu of the direction included in the House report, the Committees expect the Forest Service to prudently track unobligated and deobligated balances and to provide the Committees with prompt notification of such changes to avoid accumulating large balances within the Forest Legacy account. The Committees include a rescission of $12,002,000 in Forest Legacy funds. This funding rescission is from cost savings of some projects and funds returned from failed or partially failed projects.

NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides $1,513,318,000 for the National Forest System. The following directions are also provided:

The agreement accepts the proposal to consolidate the Land Management Planning and Inventory and Monitoring accounts into a Land Management Planning, Assessment, and Monitoring account.

Integrated Resource Restoration (IRR).—The agreement continues the IRR pilot in Regions 1, 3, and 4, as proposed by the Senate. The Service is directed to require standardized, integrated planning and budgeting for all of its programs, projects, and activities in order to improve priority-setting and cooperation, and to continue to improve its integrated performance measures.

Rangeland Management.—The Service is directed, to the greatest extent practicable, to make vacant grazing allotments available to a holder of a grazing permit or lease when lands covered by the holder of the permit or lease are unusable because of drought or wildfire.

Forest Products.—The additional funds provided for forest products are directed to be used to build the timber program capacity by facilitating the necessary planning work and the hiring and training of timber management personnel to deliver increased volume levels.

Forest Product Outputs.—The Service is directed to include information on the amount of firewood removed for personal use in its reports on the forest products program.

Recreation, Heritage and Wilderness.—The agreement provides $264,595,000 for recreation, heritage and wilderness. Of the funds provided for recreation management, $750,000 shall be for the maintenance of rural airstrips.

Minerals and Geology Management.—The Committees understand that the Service has obligated $5,500,000 in prior year balances to address the Service's cleanup liabilities, pursuant to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, associated with historic uranium mining at the Ross-Adams Mine Site on Bokan Mountain.

Bighorn and Domestic Sheep.—The Committees direct the Forest Service to continue the quantitative, science-based analyses of the risk of disease transmission between domestic and bighorn sheep required in the fiscal year 2016 explanatory statement.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT AND MAINTENANCE

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides $364,014,000 for Capital Improvement and Maintenance programs offset by a $16,000,000 scoring credit related to the road and trail fund.

LAND ACQUISITION

The agreement provides $54,415,000 for Land Acquisition. The amounts recommended by this bill compared with the budget estimates by activity and project are shown in the table below, listed in priority order pursuant to the budget request for fiscal year 2017. The Committees have provided additional funding for the updated appraisal of projects, as requested, for the fiscal year 2017 project list. The Service is expected to use the Critical Inholdings/Wilderness account to acquire high priority lands, such as wilderness and lands of significant value in designated conservation units, to consolidate Federal ownership. Further instructions are contained under the Land and Water Conservation Fund heading in the front of this explanatory statement.

The Committees continue to encourage the Forest Service to explore all funding avenues to resolve the long-standing management challenges related to school trust lands within the Boundary Waters Canoe Area in Superior National Forest.

State	Project	Forest Units	Budget Request	This Bill
ID	High Divide	Sawtooth NRA	$2,800,000	$2,800,000
ID	High Divide	Caribou-Targhee	330,000	330,000
WY	Greater Yellowstone Area	Bridger-Teton	2,850,000	2,850,000
CA	Sierra Nevada Checkerboard	Eldorado/Tahoe	1,200,000	1,200,000
CA	National Trails	Pacific Crest NST	4,905,000	4,905,000
MN	Minnesota Northwoods	Superior	3,500,000	3,500,000
FL	FL/GA Longleaf Pine	Osceola	3,850,000	3,850,000
MT	Swan Valley	Flathead	4,000,000	4,000,000
IN	Hoosier Upland Treasures	Hoosier	1,600,000	1,600,000
AK	Cube Cove	Tongass	4,000,000	4,000,000
VA	Southern Blue Ridge	George Washington and Jefferson	2,280,000	2,280,000
TN	Southern Blue Ridge	Cherokee	3,400,000	3,400,000
NC	Southern Blue Ridge	Pisgah	1,850,000	1,850,000
NC	North Carolina's Threatened Treasures	Uwharrie	360,000	360,000
SC	South Carolina Coastal Legacy	Francis Marion	1,600,000	1,600,000
	Additional Project Requests and Updated Appraisals		11,178,000	888,000
	Subtotal, Acquisitions		49,703,000	39,413,000
	Acquisition Management		8,500,000	7,552,000
	Cash Equalization		750,000	750,000
	Recreational Access		4,700,000	4,700,000
	Critical Inholdings/Wilderness		2,000,000	2,000,000
		Total, FS Land Acquisition	65,653,000	54,415,000

ACQUISITION OF LANDS FOR NATIONAL FORESTS SPECIAL ACTS

The agreement provides $950,000 for the Acquisition of Lands for National Forests Special Acts.

ACQUISITION OF LANDS TO COMPLETE LAND EXCHANGES

The agreement provides $216,000 for the Acquisition of Lands to Complete Land Exchanges.

RANGE BETTERMENT FUND

The agreement provides $2,320,000 for the Range Betterment Fund.

GIFTS, DONATIONS AND BEQUESTS FOR FOREST AND RANGELAND RESEARCH

The agreement provides $45,000 for Gifts, Donations and Bequests for Forest and Rangeland Research.

MANAGEMENT OF NATIONAL FOREST LANDS FOR SUBSISTENCE USES

The agreement provides $2,500,000 for the Management of National Forest Lands for Subsistence Uses.

WILDLAND FIRE MANAGEMENT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides a total of $2,833,415,000 for Forest Service Wildland Fire Management. Of the funds provided, $1,248,000,000 is for suppression operations. The bill fully funds wildland fire suppression at the 10-year average.— The detailed allocation of funding for these accounts is included in the table at the end of this explanatory statement.

Hazardous Fuels Management.—The agreement provides $390,000,000 for hazardous fuels management activities, which is $15,000,000 above the fiscal year 2016 enacted level. Within this amount, $15,000,000 is for biomass utilization grants.

FLAME WILDFIRE SUPPRESSION RESERVE FUND

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides $342,000,000 for the FLAME Wildfire Suppression Reserve Fund, which is designated as emergency spending.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE

INDIAN HEALTH SERVICES

The agreement provides $3,694,462,000 for Indian Health Services. In addition to the funding allocation table at the end of this explanatory statement, the agreement includes specified fixed costs and transfers, as well as the following instructions and program changes to fiscal year 2016 enacted levels. The Service is also reminded of the guidance and reporting requirements contained in House Report 114–632 and Senate Report 114–281 that should be complied with unless specifically addressed to the contrary herein, as explained in the front matter of this explanatory statement.

Current Services.—The agreement includes $50,269,000 to partially maintain current levels of service, of which $13,164,000 is for pay costs and $37,105,000 is for inflation. Except as otherwise provided, the agreement includes an increase equal to 50 percent of pay and inflation costs requested in the fiscal year 2017 President's Budget for each program to cover the balance of the fiscal year remaining.

Staffing for New Facilities.—The agreement includes $14,323,000 for staffing newly opened health facilities, which is the full amount based upon updated estimates provided to the Committees. Funds for the staffing of new facilities are limited to facilities funded through the Health Care Facilities Construction Priority System or the Joint Venture Construction Program that have opened in fiscal year 2016 or will open in fiscal year 2017. None of these funds may be allocated to a facility until such facility has achieved beneficial occupancy status.

Accreditation Emergencies.—The Committees consider the loss or potential loss of a Medicare or Medicaid agreement with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) at any facility to be an accreditation emergency. The agreement includes a total of $29,000,000 for accreditation emergencies at an alarming number of facilities over the past year. Funds may be used for personnel or other expenses essential for sustaining operations of an affected service unit, including but not to exceed $4,000,000 for Purchased/Referred Care. These are not intended to be recurring base funds. The Director should reallocate the funds annually as necessary to ensure that agreements with CMS are reinstated, and to restore third-party collection shortfalls. Shortfalls should be calculated as described in the House report.

Hospitals and Health Clinics.—The agreement includes: $4,000,000 as requested for domestic violence prevention; a total of $11,000,000 for operations and maintenance of tribally leased clinics, of which $2,000,000 is transferred from Direct Operations; $1,000,000 for prescription drug monitoring as described in the House report; and $29,000,000 for accreditation emergencies as discussed above, of which $2,000,000 is transferred from Direct Operations, as requested.

Dental Health.—The agreement includes $3,914,000 for current services and a transfer of $800,000 to Direct Operations in order to backfill vacant dental health positions in headquarters. The Service is urged to establish a centralized credentialing system.

Mental Health.—The agreement includes $6,946,000 for behavioral health integration and $3,600,000 for the zero suicide initiative.

Alcohol and Substance Abuse.—The agreement includes: $6,500,000 for the Generation Indigenous initiative; $1,800,000 for the youth pilot project; and $2,000,000 to fund essential detoxification and related services provided by the Service's public and private partners to IHS beneficiaries.

The Committees are aware that the community of Gallup, N.M., continues to face significant demand for substance abuse treatment, residential services and detoxification services to address an ongoing crisis of alcohol-related deaths of Tribal members, and continues to depend on the non-profit Na' Nizhoozhi Center to provide an important safety net to help prevent these deaths. Consistent with the guidance in Senate Report 114–281, the Committees expect the Service to use funds provided in this Act to continue its partnership with the Center and to work with the Center and other Federal, State, local, and Tribal partners to develop a sustainable model for the Center to enhance its clinical capacity.

Purchased/Referred Care.—The agreement includes $14,691,000 for current services. The agreement does not include the directive in the House report regarding the allocation of funds.

Immunization.—The agreement includes $91,000 for current services.

Urban Indian Health.—The agreement includes $1,800,000 for current services and a $1,137,000 program increase.

Indian Health Professions.—The agreement includes a $500,000 program increase. The agreement does not include the House report language pertaining to the definition of health profession; instead the Service is urged to consider making health administrators a higher priority for loan repayments, in consultation with Tribes.

Direct Operations.—The agreement includes $1,282,000 for current services, and transfers as discussed above.

Governing Board.—The agreement does not include the House provision authorizing a pilot program for an alternate governing board model at direct service facilities. The accreditation crisis in the Great Plains and the subsequent House provision have highlighted the need for IHS facilities to be significantly more inclusive of Tribes in the decision-making process. The Committees are encouraged by the IHS's own recent initiative to reform its governing boards, but reforms are limited under existing statutes. The Committees are aware that the authorizing committees of jurisdiction are examining this issue and support these efforts to

improve the communication and collaboration between the IHS and Tribes at direct service facilities.

CONTRACT SUPPORT COSTS

The bill provides an indefinite appropriation for contract support costs, consistent with fiscal year 2016 and estimated to be $800,000,000.

INDIAN HEALTH FACILITIES

The agreement provides $545,424,000 for Indian Health Facilities. In addition to the funding allocation table at the end of this explanatory statement, the agreement includes the following details and changes relative to fiscal year 2016 enacted levels:

Current Services.—The agreement includes $9,274,000 to partially maintain current levels of service, of which $1,220,000 is for pay costs and $8,054,000 is for inflation. Except as otherwise provided, the agreement includes an increase equal to 50 percent of pay and inflation costs requested in the fiscal year 2017 President's Budget for each program to cover the balance of the fiscal year remaining.

Staffing for New Facilities.—The agreement includes $1,659,000 for staffing newly opened health facilities, which is the full amount based upon updated estimates provided to the Committees. The stipulations included in the ''Indian Health Services'' account regarding the allocation of funds pertain to this account as well.

Maintenance and Improvement.—The agreement fully funds inflation costs and provides a program increase of $259,000 to reduce the maintenance backlog.

Sanitation Facilities.—The agreement fully funds inflation costs.

Health Care Facilities Construction.—The agreement includes $6,000,000 for quarters and $5,000,000 for small ambulatory facilities. The committees encourage the Service to give strong consideration to utilizing the new resources provided for the small ambulatory clinic program to assist with infrastructure improvements at remote sites such as Gambell and Savoonga on St. Lawrence Island, Alaska.

The Committees remain dedicated to providing access to health care for IHS patients across the system. The IHS is expected to aggressively work down the current Health Facilities Construction Priority System list, as well as work with the Department and Tribes to examine alternative financing arrangements and meritorious regional demonstration projects authorized under the Indian Health Care Improvement Act that that would effectively close the service gap. Within 60 days of enactment of this Act, the Service shall submit a spending plan to the Committees that details the project-level distribution of funds provided for healthcare facilities construction.

The IHS has no defined benefit package and is not designed to be comparable to the private sector health care system. IHS does not provide the same health services in each area. Health services provided to a community depend upon the facilities and services available in the local area, the facilities' financial and personnel resources (42 CFR 136.11 (c)), and the needs of the service population. In order to determine whether IHS patients across the system have comparable access to healthcare, the IHS is directed to conduct and publish a gap analysis of the locations and capacities of patient health facilities relative to the IHS user population. The analysis should include: facilities within the IHS system, including facilities on the Health Facilities Construction Priority System list and the Joint Venture Construction Program list; and where possible facilities within private or other Federal health systems for which arrangements with IHS exist, or should exist, to see IHS patients.

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SCIENCES

The agreement provides $77,349,000 for the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences.

AGENCY FOR TOXIC SUBSTANCES AND DISEASE REGISTRY

TOXIC SUBSTANCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH

The agreement provides $74,691,000 for the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry.

OTHER RELATED AGENCIES

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY AND OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

The agreement provides $3,000,000 for the Council on Environmental Quality and Office of Environmental Quality.

CHEMICAL SAFETY AND HAZARD INVESTIGATION BOARD

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement provides $11,000,000 for the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board and includes the direction in the House report that funding has not been provided for organizing an annual symposium. The Board is directed to develop internal guidance over its annual budget process and provide it to the Committees within 90 days of enactment of this Act. Additionally, the Board is directed to provide a report and briefing to the Committees dealing with the scope of and justification for a study on land use and facility siting prior to expending any funds on the study.

The Committees remind the Board they are to avoid any communication with outside groups that would jeopardize their impartiality.— The Committees continue to closely monitor Inspector General reports on Board activities and expect expeditious implementation of any recommendations on internal controls, governance, operations, and management challenges. The Board should focus on its statutory jurisdiction and refrain from conducting official business over personal email.

OFFICE OF NAVAJO AND HOPI INDIAN RELOCATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides $15,431,000 for the Office of Navajo and Hopi Indian Relocation, as requested. The Committees have directed the Office to begin to communicate with Congress, the affected Tribes, and the Department of the Interior about what will be required to ensure relocation benefits and necessary support services are provided in accordance with the specifications in Public Law 93–531 and to initiate closure of the Office. The Committees request continuation of the quarterly reports and a comprehensive plan for closing the Office, as outlined in the House report. The comprehensive plan is to be submitted with the fiscal year 2018 budget request. Legal analysis on whether any enacting legislation is required to transfer or maintain any identified functions to another agency or organization should also be included. The Office should be transparent about the path forward and should actively consult with all affected parties and agencies.

INSTITUTE OF AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE CULTURE AND ARTS DEVELOPMENT

PAYMENT TO THE INSTITUTE

The bill provides $15,212,000 for the Institute of American Indian Arts. The increase provided shall be used to complete the Institute's transition to forward funding during fiscal year 2017. Amounts provided for fiscal year 2017 shall be supplemented by $2,000,000 in prior-year carryover funds, for a total operating level of $9,835,000. Requested increases for fixed costs and academic program requirements are included within the agreement.

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement provides a total of $863,347,000 for all Smithsonian Institution accounts, of which $729,444,000 is provided for salaries and expenses. The Committees maintain their longstanding commitment to the preservation of priceless, irreplaceable Smithsonian collections and have provided funds as requested for collections care and preservation. The recommendation provides sufficient funds for staffing and maintenance needs at the National Museum of African American History and Culture in 2017. The Committees have provided funds, as requested, to address security needs at the Smithsonian's highest risk facilities. The Committees provide funds as requested for the Institution's Latino initiatives and support the Smithsonian Latino Center's goal of promoting the inclusion of Latino contributions in Smithsonian Institution programs, exhibitions, collections, and public outreach. The Committees continue to urge collaboration between the Smithsonian Latino Center and appropriate Federal and local organizations in order to advance these goals and expand the American Latino presence at the Institution. Further, the Committees provide funds as requested for the Institution's Asian Pacific American initiatives and continue to support the Institution's efforts of developing programs and expanding outreach to promote a better understanding of the Asian Pacific American experience. The Committees also include funds as requested for the preservation of cultural heritage affected by natural and manmade disasters in the United States and around the world. The recommendation supplements funding from other government partners and leverages support for cultural recovery efforts from numerous private sources.

FACILITIES CAPITAL

The agreement provides $133,903,000 for the Facilities Capital account. The recommendation includes funding for the construction of the Dulles Storage Module at the National Air and Space Museum's Udvar-Hazy Center.

National Air and Space Museum Revitalization. The Committees recognize the critical need to replace the façade and the internal building systems of the National Air and Space Museum on the National Mall.— However, the Committees are also deeply concerned that the multi-year cost estimates for the revitalization project in future fiscal years are approaching $700 million, an amount nearly five times the size of the Institution's entire annual construction budget. Given the scale of the project and its potential impact on other critical funding priorities in this Act, it is imperative that the Institution make available to the Committees on a timely basis the most updated and comprehensive information on project requirements. It is essential that the Committees have sufficient, reliable information

about specific funding requirements and any additional costs that may arise in future fiscal years. Therefore, no later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, the Institution is directed to provide a report to the Committees that outlines the expected scope, scheduling, phasing, and overall projected costs for the project. The Government Accountability Office is also directed to review and analyze the Institution's cost estimates and report to the Committees on whether these estimates are comprehensive, accurate, and credible.

The Institution is directed to submit to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations, within 60 days of enactment of this Act, a detailed list and description of projects funded within the Facilities Capital account.

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement provides $132,961,000 for the Salaries and Expenses account of the National Gallery of Art, of which not to exceed $3,620,000 is for the special exhibition program.

REPAIR, RESTORATION AND RENOVATION OF BUILDINGS

The agreement provides $22,564,000 for the Repair, Restoration, and Renovation of Buildings account, which will allow critical fire protection and life safety improvements to continue.

JOHN F. KENNEDY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

The agreement provides $22,260,000 for the Operations and Maintenance account.

CAPITAL REPAIR AND RESTORATION

The agreement provides $14,140,000 for the Capital Repair and Restoration account.

WOODROW WILSON INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR SCHOLARS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement provides $10,500,000 for the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars.

NATIONAL FOUNDATION ON THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS

GRANTS AND ADMINISTRATION

The agreement provides $149,849,000 for the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). The Committees commend the NEA for its work through its Healing Arts Partnership program with Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, Fort Belvoir Community Hospital, and the new clinical sites included in the initiative to incorporate arts therapy into the treatment of active-duty military patients and their families. The Committees continue to support the expansion of this successful program to assist service members and their families in their recovery, reintegration, and transition to civilian life. The Committees also urge State arts agencies, which have a longstanding collaborative relationship with the NEA, to explore providing arts therapy programs to service members and their families at the local level. The Committees direct that priority be given to providing services and grant funding for projects, productions, or programs that encourage public knowledge, education, understanding, and appreciation of the arts. The Committees maintain support for the 40 percent allocation for State arts agencies as proposed in the NEA's budget. Any reduction in support to the States for arts education should be no more than proportional to other funding decreases taken in other NEA programs.

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES

GRANTS AND ADMINISTRATION

The agreement provides $149,848,000 for the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). The Committees commend the NEH for its support of grant programs to benefit wounded warriors and to ensure educational opportunities for American heroes transitioning to civilian life. The Committees commend the NEH for its ongoing support to American Indian and Alaska Native communities in preserving their cultural and linguistic heritage through the Documenting Endangered Languages program and a variety of preservation and access grants that enable American Indian and Alaska Native communities to preserve cultural artifacts and make them broadly accessible. The Committees also commend the NEH Federal/State partnership for its ongoing, successful collaboration with State humanities councils in each of the 50 States as well as Washington, DC, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa. The Committees urge the NEH to provide program funding to support the critical work of State humanities councils consistent with guidance provided in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2016 (P.L. 114–113).

COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement provides $2,762,000 for the Commission of Fine Arts.

NATIONAL CAPITAL ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

The agreement provides $2,000,000 for the National Capital Arts and Cultural Affairs program. Grant funds provided should be distributed consistent with the established formula and eligibility requirements used in fiscal year 2016.

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement provides $6,493,000 for the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation.

NATIONAL CAPITAL PLANNING COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement provides $8,099,000 for the National Capital Planning Commission.

UNITED STATES HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL MUSEUM

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL MUSEUM

The agreement provides $57,000,000 for the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER MEMORIAL COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement provides $1,600,000 for the Salaries and Expenses account. The Committees support the construction of a permanent memorial to Dwight D. Eisenhower and are pleased that concerns over the memorial's design have now been addressed. It is the Committees' expectation that, following necessary approvals from the Commission of Fine Arts and the National Capital Planning Commission, the Commission will use prior-year unobligated construction funds to begin site preparation in anticipation of memorial construction commencing in 2017. The agreement includes in Section 419 of Title IV General Provisions bill language extending the memorial's site authority.

CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION

The agreement provides $45,000,000 for the Capital Construction account.

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE CENTENNIAL COMMISSION

The agreement includes $2,000,000 to establish the Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission as authorized in this Act. The Commission shall plan, execute, and coordinate programs and activities in honor of the 100th anniversary of the passage and ratification of the Nineteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which guaranteed women the right to vote.

TITLE IV—GENERAL PROVISIONS

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The agreement includes various legislative provisions in Title IV of the bill. The provisions are:

Section 401 continues a provision providing that appropriations available in the bill shall not be used to produce literature or otherwise promote public support of a legislative proposal on which legislative action is not complete.

Section 402 continues a provision providing for annual appropriations unless expressly provided otherwise in this Act.

Section 403 continues a provision providing restrictions on departmental assessments unless approved by the Committees on Appropriations.

Section 404 continues a limitation on accepting and processing applications for patents and on the patenting of Federal lands.

Section 405 continues a provision regarding the payment of contract support costs.

Section 406 addresses the payment of contract support costs for fiscal year 2017.

Section 407 continues a provision providing that the Secretary of Agriculture shall not be considered in violation of certain provisions of the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act solely because more than 15 years have passed without revision of a forest plan, provided that the Secretary is working in good faith to complete the plan revision.

Section 408 continues a provision limiting preleasing, leasing, and related activities within the boundaries of National Monuments.

Section 409 restricts funding appropriated for acquisition of land or interests in land from being used for declarations of taking or complaints in condemnation.

Section 410 continues a provision addressing timber sales involving Alaska western red and yellow cedar.

Section 411 continues a provision which prohibits no-bid contracts.

Section 412 continues a provision which requires public disclosure of certain reports.

Section 413 continues a provision which delineates the grant guidelines for the National Endowment for the Arts.

Section 414 continues a provision which delineates the program priorities for the programs managed by the National Endowment for the Arts.

Section 415 requires the Department of the Interior, Environmental Protection Agency, Forest Service and Indian Health Service to provide the Committees on Appropriations quarterly reports on the status of balances of appropriations.

Section 416 requires the President to submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations no later than 120 days after submission of the fiscal year 2018 budget request describing Federal agency obligations and expenditures for climate change programs in fiscal years 2016 and 2017.

Section 417 continues a provision prohibiting the use of funds to promulgate or implement any regulation requiring the issuance of permits under Title V of the Clean Air Act for carbon dioxide, nitrous oxide, water vapor, or methane emissions.

Section 418 continues a provision prohibiting the use of funds to implement any provision in a rule if that provision requires

mandatory reporting of greenhouse gas emissions from manure management systems.

Section 419 extends the site authority relating to the Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial Commission.

Section 420 continues a provision prohibiting the use of funds to regulate the lead content of ammunition or fishing tackle.

Section 421 extends certain authorities through fiscal year 2017 allowing the Forest Service to renew grazing permits.

Section 422 clarifies the Bureau of Land Management's stewardship contracting authority.

Section 423 prohibits the use of funds to maintain or establish a computer network unless such network is designed to block access to pornography websites.

Section 424 addresses section 404 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act.

Section 425 sets requirements for the use of American iron and steel for certain loans and grants.

Section 426 revises the definition of the National Gallery of Art's buildings and grounds commensurate with the Gallery's geographic boundaries.

Section 427 prohibits the use of funds to destroy any building or structures on Midway Island that have been recommended by the U.S. Navy for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

Section 428 addresses carbon emissions from forest biomass.

Section 429 reauthorizes funding for one year for the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

Section 430 addresses a boundary adjustment to the Bob Marshall Wilderness.

Section 431 incorporates by reference the Morley Nelson Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area Boundary Modification Act of 2017; the Alaska Mental Health Trust Land Exchange Act of 2017; and the Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission Act.

DIVISION G -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
TITLE I - DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR					
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT					
Management of Lands and Resources					
Land Resources:					
Soil, water and air management	43,609	45,378	43,609	---	-1,769
Rangeland management	79,000	62,832	79,000	---	+16,168
Grazing administration management	---	16,500	---	---	-16,500
Grazing administration management offsetting collections	---	-16,500	---	---	+16,500
Forestry management	9,980	10,076	10,076	+96	---
Riparian management	21,321	22,920	21,321	---	-1,599
Cultural resources management	16,131	17,328	16,131	---	-1,197
Wild horse and burro management	80,555	80,108	80,555	---	+447
Subtotal	250,596	238,642	250,692	+96	+12,050
Wildlife and Fisheries:					
Wildlife management	89,381	108,691	103,281	+13,900	-5,410
Fisheries management	12,530	12,628	12,530	---	-98
Subtotal	101,911	121,319	115,811	+13,900	-5,508
Threatened and endangered species	21,567	21,698	21,567	---	-131

DIVISION G -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Recreation Management:					
Wilderness management	18,264	18,392	18,264	---	-128
Recreation resources management	51,197	53,465	53,465	+2,268	---
Subtotal	69,461	71,857	71,729	+2,268	-128
Energy and Minerals:					
Oil and gas management	59,671	80,574	67,574	+7,903	-13,000
Oil and gas permit processing	7,125	6,365	6,365	-760	---
Oil and gas inspection and enforcement	48,000	48,000	48,000	---	---
Subtotal, Oil and gas	114,796	134,939	121,939	+7,143	-13,000
Oil and gas permit processing fees	---	-48,000	---	---	+48,000
Subtotal, offsetting collections	---	-48,000	---	---	+48,000
Coal management	10,868	10,962	10,868	---	-94
Other mineral resources	11,879	10,978	10,978	-901	---
Renewable energy	29,061	29,189	29,061	---	-128
Subtotal, Energy and Minerals	166,604	138,068	172,846	+6,242	+34,778
Realty and Ownership Management:					
Alaska conveyance	22,000	17,327	22,000	---	+4,673
Cadastral, lands, and realty management	51,252	51,480	51,480	+228	---
Subtotal	73,252	68,807	73,480	+228	+4,673

DIVISION G -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Resource Protection and Maintenance:					
Resource management planning	48,125	65,203	52,125	+4,000	-13,078
Abandoned mine lands	19,946	20,036	20,036	+90	---
Resource protection and law enforcement	25,495	25,616	26,616	+1,121	+1,000
Hazardous materials management	15,612	15,463	15,463	-149	---
Subtotal	109,178	126,318	114,240	+5,062	-12,078
Transportation and Facilities Maintenance:					
Annual maintenance	38,942	39,125	39,125	+183	---
Deferred maintenance	31,387	29,201	29,201	-2,186	---
Subtotal	70,329	68,326	68,326	-2,003	---
Workforce and Organizational Support:					
Administrative support	50,942	51,139	51,139	+197	---
Bureauwide fixed costs	93,645	92,649	92,649	-996	---
Information technology management	25,958	26,077	26,077	+119	---
Subtotal	170,545	169,865	169,865	-680	---
Challenge cost share	2,413	---	---	-2,413	---
National landscape conservation system, base program	36,819	50,645	36,819	---	-13,826
Communication site management	2,000	2,000	2,000	---	---
Offsetting collections	-2,000	-2,000	-2,000	---	---
Subtotal, Management of lands and resources	1,072,675	1,075,545	1,095,375	+22,700	+19,830

DIVISION G -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Mining Law Administration:					
Administration	39,696	39,696	39,696	---	---
Offsetting collections	-56,000	-55,000	-55,000	+1,000	---
Subtotal, Mining Law Administration	-16,304	-15,304	-15,304	+1,000	---
Total, Management of Lands and Resources	1,056,371	1,060,241	1,080,071	+23,700	+19,830
Land Acquisition					
Land Acquisition	27,014	32,301	19,800	-7,214	-12,501
Emergencies, Hardships, and Inholdings	1,616	1,616	1,616	---	---
Acquisition Management	2,000	2,042	2,000	---	-42
Recreational Access	8,000	8,000	8,000	---	---
Total, Land acquisition	38,630	43,959	31,416	-7,214	-12,543
Oregon and California Grant Lands					
Western Oregon resources management	95,255	94,445	94,445	-810	---
Western Oregon information and resource data systems	1,786	1,798	1,798	+12	---
Western Oregon transportation & facilities maintenance	9,602	9,628	9,628	+26	---
Western Oregon construction and acquisition	324	335	335	+11	---
Western Oregon national monument	767	779	779	+12	---
Total, Oregon and California Grant Lands	107,734	106,985	106,985	-749	---

DIVISION G -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Range Improvements					
Current appropriations	10,000	10,000	10,000	---	---
Service Charges, Deposits, and Forfeitures					
Service charges, deposits, and forfeitures	31,050	31,050	31,050	---	---
Offsetting fees	-31,050	-31,050	-31,050	---	---
Total, Service Charges, Deposits & Forfeitures	---	---	---	---	---
Miscellaneous Trust Funds and Permanent Operating Funds					
Current appropriations	24,000	24,000	24,000	---	---
TOTAL, BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT	1,236,735	1,245,185	1,252,472	+15,737	+7,287
(Mandatory)	(34,000)	(34,000)	(34,000)	---	---
(Discretionary)	(1,202,735)	(1,211,185)	(1,218,472)	(+15,737)	(+7,287)

DIVISION G -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE					
Resource Management					
Ecological Services:					
Listing	20,515	22,901	20,515	---	-2,386
Planning and consultation	99,079	105,650	103,079	+4,000	-2,571
Conservation and restoration	32,396	34,562	32,396	---	-2,166
(National Wetlands Inventory)	(3,471)	(4,671)	(3,471)	---	(-1,200)
(Coastal Barrier Resources Act)	(1,390)	(1,390)	(1,390)	---	---
Recovery	82,016	89,180	84,032	+2,016	-5,148
Subtotal	234,006	252,293	240,022	+6,016	-12,271
Habitat conservation:					
Partners for fish and wildlife	51,776	54,047	51,776	---	-2,271
Coastal programs	13,375	13,494	13,375	---	-119
Subtotal	65,151	67,541	65,151	---	-2,390
National Wildlife Refuge System:					
Wildlife and habitat management	230,343	240,389	231,843	+1,500	-8,546
Visitor services	73,319	80,380	73,319	---	-7,061
Refuge law enforcement	38,054	40,712	38,054	---	-2,658
Conservation planning	2,523	2,544	2,523	---	-21
Refuge maintenance	137,188	142,594	138,188	+1,000	-4,406
Subtotal	481,427	506,619	483,927	+2,500	-22,692

DIVISION G -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Conservation and Enforcement:					
Migratory bird management	47,480	49,961	48,105	+625	-1,856
Law enforcement	74,725	75,053	75,053	+328	---
International affairs	14,696	15,816	15,816	+1,120	---
Subtotal	136,901	140,830	138,974	+2,073	-1,856
Fish and Aquatic Conservation:					
National fish hatchery system operations	53,418	53,759	55,418	+2,000	+1,659
Maintenance and equipment	19,920	22,920	22,920	+3,000	---
Aquatic habitat and species conservation	74,918	76,150	76,872	+1,954	+722
Subtotal	148,256	152,829	155,210	+6,954	+2,381
Cooperative landscape conservation	12,988	17,789	12,988	---	-4,801
Science Support:					
Adaptive science	10,517	11,522	10,517	---	-1,005
Service science	6,468	9,057	6,468	---	-2,589
Subtotal	16,985	20,579	16,985	---	-3,594
General Operations:					
Central office operations	40,722	42,149	40,569	-153	-1,580
Regional office operations	37,722	41,354	37,722	---	-3,632
Servicewide bill paying	35,177	35,778	35,177	---	-601

DIVISION G -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation	7,022	7,022	7,022	---	---
National Conservation Training Center	22,414	25,129	25,014	+2,600	-115
Subtotal	143,057	151,432	145,504	+2,447	-5,928
Total, Resource Management	1,238,771	1,309,912	1,258,761	+19,990	-51,151
Construction					
Construction and rehabilitation:					
Line item construction projects	14,554	14,554	9,482	-5,072	-5,072
Bridge and dam safety programs	1,972	1,972	1,972	---	---
Nationwide engineering service	7,161	7,214	7,161	---	-53
Total, Construction	23,687	23,740	18,615	-5,072	-5,125
Land Acquisition					
Acquisitions	35,911	35,884	27,406	-8,505	-8,478
Emergencies, Hardships, and Inholdings	5,351	5,351	5,351	---	---
Exchanges	1,500	1,500	1,500	---	---
Acquisition Management	12,773	12,955	12,773	---	-182
Highlands Conservation Act Grants	10,000	---	10,000	---	+10,000
Recreational Access	2,500	2,500	2,500	---	---
Land Protection Planning	465	465	465	---	---
Total, Land Acquisition	68,500	58,655	59,995	-8,505	+1,340

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(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund					
Grants and administration:					
Conservation grants	10,508	12,603	10,508	---	-2,095
HCP assistance grants	9,485	7,390	9,485	---	+2,095
Administration	2,702	2,702	2,702	---	---
Subtotal	22,695	22,695	22,695	---	---
Land acquisition:					
Species recovery land acquisition	11,162	11,162	11,162	---	---
HCP land acquisition grants to states	19,638	19,638	19,638	---	---
Subtotal	30,800	30,800	30,800	---	---
Total, Cooperatiave Endangered Species Conservation Fund	53,495	53,495	53,495	---	---
National Wildlife Refuge Fund					
Payments in lieu of taxes	13,228	---	13,228	---	+13,228
North American Wetlands Conservation Fund					
North American Wetlands Conservation Fund	35,145	35,145	38,145	+3,000	+3,000

DIVISION G -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation					
Migratory bird grants	3,910	3,910	3,910	---	---
Multinational Species Conservation Fund					
African elephant conservation fund	2,582	2,582	2,582	---	---
Rhinoceros and tiger conservation fund	3,440	3,440	3,440	---	---
Asian elephant conservation fund	1,557	1,557	1,557	---	---
Great ape conservation fund	1,975	1,975	1,975	---	---
Marine turtle conservation fund	1,507	1,507	1,507	---	---
Total, Multinational Species Conservation Fund	11,061	11,061	11,061	---	---
State and Tribal Wildlife Grants					
State wildlife grants (formula)	51,000	51,000	52,000	+1,000	+1,000
State wildlife grants (competitive)	5,487	9,981	6,362	+875	-3,619
Tribal wildlife grants	4,084	6,000	4,209	+125	-1,791
Total, State and tribal wildlife grants	60,571	66,981	62,571	+2,000	-4,410
TOTAL, U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE	1,508,368	1,562,899	1,519,781	+11,413	-43,118

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(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE					
Operation of the National Park System					
Park Management:					
Resource stewardship	328,040	340,352	328,955	+915	-11,397
Visitor services	251,280	276,206	252,103	+823	-24,103
Park protection	355,545	362,082	356,643	+1,098	-5,439
Facility operations and maintenance	738,487	842,453	778,584	+40,097	-63,869
Park support	515,641	522,537	528,066	+12,425	+5,529
Subtotal	2,188,993	2,343,630	2,244,351	+55,358	-99,279
External administrative costs	180,603	180,732	180,667	+64	-65
Total, Operation of the National Park System	2,369,596	2,524,362	2,425,018	+55,422	-99,344
National Recreation and Preservation					
Recreation programs	589	853	589	---	-264
Natural programs	13,575	13,659	13,581	+6	-78
Cultural programs	24,562	26,262	24,562	---	-1,700
International park affairs	1,648	1,656	1,648	---	-8
Environmental and compliance review	433	436	433	---	-3
Grant administration	2,004	2,079	2,004	---	-75
Heritage Partnership Programs	19,821	9,447	19,821	---	+10,374
Total, National Recreation and Preservation	62,632	54,392	62,638	+6	+8,246

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(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Historic Preservation Fund					
State historic preservation offices	46,925	46,925	47,925	+1,000	+1,000
Tribal grants	9,985	11,985	10,485	+500	-1,500
Competitive grants	8,500	25,500	13,500	+5,000	-12,000
Save America's Treasures grants	---	---	5,000	+5,000	+5,000
Grants to Historically Black Colleges and Universities	---	3,000	4,000	+4,000	+1,000
Total, Historic Preservation Fund	65,410	87,410	80,910	+15,500	-6,500
Construction					
General Program:					
Line item construction and maintenance	116,276	153,344	131,992	+15,716	-21,352
Emergency and unscheduled	3,855	3,855	3,855	---	---
Housing	2,200	2,203	2,200	---	-3
Dam safety	1,248	1,249	1,248	---	-1
Equipment replacement	13,500	17,545	13,500	---	-4,045
Planning, construction	7,266	15,518	7,966	+700	-7,552
Construction program management	36,771	46,431	36,771	---	-9,660
General management plans	11,821	11,893	11,821	---	-72
Total, Construction	192,937	252,038	209,353	+16,416	-42,685
Land and Water Conservation Fund (rescission of contract authority)	-28,000	-30,000	-28,000	---	+2,000

DIVISION G -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Land Acquisition and State Assistance					
Assistance to States:					
State conservation grants (formula)	94,839	94,000	94,000	-839	---
State conservation grants (competitive)	12,000	12,000	12,000	---	---
Administrative expenses	3,161	4,006	4,006	+845	---
Subtotal	110,000	110,006	110,006	+6	---
National Park Service:					
Acquisitions	33,135	37,314	21,488	-11,647	-15,826
Recreational Access	2,000	2,000	2,000	---	---
American Battlefield Protection Program	10,000	10,000	10,000	---	---
Emergencies, Hardships, Relocations, and Deficiencies	3,928	3,928	3,928	---	---
Acquisition Management	9,679	10,000	9,679	---	-321
Inholdings, Donations, and Exchanges	4,928	5,000	4,928	---	-72
Subtotal	63,670	68,242	52,023	-11,647	-16,219
Total, Land Acquisition and State Assistance	173,670	178,248	162,029	-11,641	-16,219
Centennial Challenge	15,000	35,000	20,000	+5,000	-15,000
TOTAL, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE	2,851,245	3,101,450	2,931,948	+80,703	-169,502

DIVISION G -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY					
Surveys, Investigations, and Research					
Ecosystems:					
Status and trends	20,473	22,267	20,473	---	-1,794
Fisheries: Aquatic and endangered resources	20,886	24,083	21,136	+250	-2,947
Wildlife: Terrestrial and endangered resources	45,757	46,125	46,007	+250	-118
Terrestrial, Freshwater and marine environments	38,415	43,352	37,415	-1,000	-5,937
Invasive species	17,330	19,877	17,330	---	-2,547
Cooperative research units	17,371	18,234	17,371	---	-863
Total, Ecosystems	160,232	173,938	159,732	-500	-14,206
Climate and Land Use Change:					
Climate variability:					
Climate science centers	26,435	30,908	25,335	-1,100	-5,573
Climate research and development	21,495	22,714	19,295	-2,200	-3,419
Carbon sequestration	9,359	9,381	8,959	-400	-422
Subtotal	57,289	63,003	53,589	-3,700	-9,414

DIVISION G -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Land Use Change:					
Land remote sensing	72,194	96,506	85,794	+13,600	-10,712
Land change science	10,492	11,935	9,892	-600	-2,043
Subtotal	82,686	108,441	95,686	+13,000	-12,755
Total, Climate and Land Use Change	139,975	171,444	149,275	+9,300	-22,169
Energy, Minerals, and Environmental Health:					
Mineral and Energy Resources:					
Minerals resources	48,371	48,695	48,371	---	-324
Energy resources	24,695	26,228	24,695	---	-1,533
Subtotal	73,066	74,923	73,066	---	-1,857
Environmental Health:					
Contaminant biology	10,197	11,465	10,197	---	-1,268
Toxic substances hydrology	11,248	13,095	11,048	-200	-2,047
Subtotal	21,445	24,560	21,245	-200	-3,315
Total, Energy, Minerals, and Environmental Health	94,511	99,483	94,311	-200	-5,172
Natural Hazards:					
Earthquake hazards	60,503	62,196	64,303	+3,800	+2,107
Volcano hazards	26,121	26,238	28,121	+2,000	+1,883

DIVISION G -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Landslide hazards	3,538	4,054	3,538	---	-516
Global seismographic network	6,453	7,322	6,653	+200	-669
Geomagnetism	1,888	3,598	1,888	---	-1,710
Coastal and marine geology	40,510	46,293	40,510	---	-5,783
Total, Natural Hazards	139,013	149,701	145,013	+6,000	-4,688
Water Resources:					
Water Availability and Use Science Program	42,052	54,388	45,052	+3,000	-9,336
Groundwater and Streamflow Information Program	71,535	72,957	72,673	+1,138	-284
National Water Quality Program	90,600	94,147	90,529	-71	-3,618
Water Resources Research Act Program	6,500	6,500	6,500	---	---
Total, Water Resources	210,687	227,992	214,754	+4,067	-13,238
Core Science Systems:					
Science, synthesis, analysis, and research	24,299	24,930	24,299	---	-631
National cooperative geological mapping	24,397	24,486	24,397	---	-89
National Geospatial Program	62,854	68,979	67,354	+4,500	-1,625
Total, Core Science Systems	111,550	118,395	116,050	+4,500	-2,345
Science Support:					
Administration and Management	81,981	86,319	81,981	---	-4,338
Information Services	23,630	24,273	23,630	---	-643
Total, Science Support	105,611	110,592	105,611	---	-4,981

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(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Facilities:					
Rental payments and operations & maintenance	93,141	109,978	93,141	---	-16,837
Deferred maintenance and capital improvement	7,280	7,280	7,280	---	---
Total, Facilities	100,421	117,258	100,421	---	-16,837
TOTAL, UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY	1,062,000	1,168,803	1,085,167	+23,167	-83,636
BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT					
Ocean Energy Management					
Renewable energy	24,278	23,887	23,887	-391	---
Conventional energy	59,869	64,156	58,963	-906	-5,193
Environmental assessment	68,045	68,399	68,045	---	-354
Executive direction	18,665	18,696	18,665	---	-31
Subtotal	170,857	175,138	169,560	-1,297	-5,578

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(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Offsetting rental receipts	-92,961	-88,487	-88,487	+4,474	---
Cost recovery fees	-3,661	-6,457	-6,457	-2,796	---
Subtotal, offsetting collections	-96,622	-94,944	-94,944	+1,678	---
TOTAL, BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT	74,235	80,194	74,616	+381	-5,578
BUREAU OF SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT					
Offshore Safety and Environmental Enforcement					
Environmental enforcement	8,314	8,314	8,314	---	---
Operations, safety and regulation	144,954	145,150	144,954	---	-196
Administrative operations	18,268	18,268	18,268	---	---
Executive direction	18,236	18,236	18,236	---	---
Subtotal	189,772	189,968	189,772	---	-196
Offsetting rental receipts	-49,399	-37,922	-37,922	+11,477	---
Inspection fees	-59,000	-65,000	-53,000	+6,000	+12,000
Cost recovery fees	-7,808	-5,608	-5,608	+2,200	---
Subtotal, offsetting collections	-116,207	-108,530	-96,530	+19,677	+12,000

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(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Rescission	---	---	-25,000	-25,000	-25,000
Total, Offshore Safety and Environmental Enforcement	73,565	81,438	68,242	-5,323	-13,196
Oil Spill Research					
Oil spill research	14,899	14,899	14,899	---	---
TOTAL, BUREAU OF SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT	88,464	96,337	83,141	-5,323	-13,196
OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT					
Regulation and Technology					
Environmental protection	91,832	90,138	90,138	-1,694	---
Permit fees	40	1,900	40	---	-1,860
Offsetting collections	-40	-1,900	-40	---	+1,860
Technology development and transfer	15,205	21,485	15,205	---	-6,280
Financial management	505	713	505	---	-208
Executive direction	15,711	15,214	15,169	-542	-45
Civil penalties (indefinite)	100	100	100	---	---
Subtotal	123,353	127,650	121,117	-2,236	-6,533

DIVISION G -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Civil penalties (offsetting collections)	-100	-100	-100	---	---
Total, Regulation and Technology	123,253	127,550	121,017	-2,236	-6,533
Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund					
Environmental restoration	9,480	9,825	9,480	---	-345
Technology development and transfer	3,544	6,367	3,544	---	-2,823
Financial management	6,396	6,440	6,396	---	-44
Executive direction	7,883	7,743	7,743	-140	---
State grants	90,000	---	105,000	+15,000	+105,000
Total, Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund	117,303	30,375	132,163	+14,860	+101,788
TOTAL, OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT	240,556	157,925	253,180	+12,624	+95,255

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(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS AND BUREAU OF INDIAN EDUCATION					
Operation of Indian Programs					
Tribal Budget System					
Tribal Government:					
Aid to tribal government	24,833	27,118	27,118	+2,285	---
Consolidated tribal government program	77,088	75,429	75,429	-1,659	---
Self governance compacts	162,321	162,346	162,346	+25	---
New tribes	464	---	160	-304	+160
Small and needy tribes	1,845	3,095	4,448	+2,603	+1,353
Road maintenance	26,693	26,783	30,307	+3,614	+3,524
Tribal government program oversight	8,273	12,377	8,377	+104	-4,000
Subtotal	301,517	307,148	308,185	+6,668	+1,037
Human Services:					
Social services	45,179	57,343	52,343	+7,164	-5,000
Welfare assistance	74,791	74,773	74,773	-18	---
Indian child welfare act	15,641	18,946	18,946	+3,305	---
Housing improvement program	8,021	9,708	9,708	+1,687	---
Human services tribal design	246	254	254	+8	---
Human services program oversight	3,126	3,137	3,137	+11	---
Subtotal	147,004	164,161	159,161	+12,157	-5,000

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(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Trust - Natural Resources Management:					
Natural resources, general	5,168	7,953	4,953	-215	-3,000
Irrigation operations and maintenance	11,398	12,905	12,905	+1,507	---
Rights protection implementation	37,638	40,161	39,661	+2,023	-500
Tribal management/development program	9,263	14,266	11,266	+2,003	-3,000
Endangered species	2,684	3,685	2,685	+1	-1,000
Cooperative landscape conservation	9,955	13,056	9,956	+1	-3,100
Integrated resource information program	2,996	3,996	2,996	---	-1,000
Agriculture and range	30,751	30,769	30,769	+18	---
Forestry	51,914	52,155	54,155	+2,241	+2,000
Water resources	10,367	15,000	10,450	+83	-4,550
Fish, wildlife and parks	13,646	15,658	15,203	+1,557	-455
Resource management program oversight	6,066	5,993	5,993	-73	---
Subtotal	191,846	215,597	200,992	+9,146	-14,605
Trust - Real Estate Services	127,486	136,192	123,092	-4,394	-13,100
Education:					
Elementary and secondary programs (forward funded)	553,458	574,075	575,155	+21,697	+1,080
(Tribal grant support costs)	(73,276)	(75,335)	(80,165)	(+6,889)	(+4,830)
Post secondary programs (forward funded)	74,893	77,207	77,207	+2,314	---
Subtotal, forward funded education	628,351	651,282	652,362	+24,011	+1,080

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(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Elementary and secondary programs	134,263	144,295	140,540	+6,277	-3,755
Post secondary programs	64,602	66,841	63,561	-1,041	-3,280
Education management	25,151	50,012	35,050	+9,899	-14,962
Subtotal, Education	852,367	912,430	891,513	+39,146	-20,917
Public Safety and Justice:					
Law enforcement	347,976	341,281	353,556	+5,580	+12,275
Tribal courts	28,173	30,753	30,753	+2,580	---
Fire protection	1,274	1,426	1,426	+152	---
Subtotal	377,423	373,460	385,735	+8,312	+12,275
Community and economic development	40,619	42,844	41,844	+1,225	-1,000
Executive direction and administrative services	229,662	243,954	228,824	-838	-15,130
(Amounts available until expended, account-wide)	(43,813)	(47,848)	(49,122)	(+5,309)	(+1,274)
Total, Operation of Indian Programs	2,267,924	2,395,786	2,339,346	+71,422	-56,440
Contract Support Costs					
Contract support costs	272,000	273,000	273,000	+1,000	---
Indian self-determination fund	5,000	5,000	5,000	---	---
Total, Contract Support Costs	277,000	278,000	278,000	+1,000	---

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(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Construction					
Education	138,245	138,257	133,257	-4,988	-5,000
Public safety and justice	11,306	11,306	11,306	---	---
Resources management	34,488	36,513	36,513	+2,025	---
General administration	9,934	10,941	10,941	+1,007	---
Total, Construction	193,973	197,017	192,017	-1,956	-5,000
Indian Land and Water Claim Settlements and Miscellaneous Payments to Indians					
Settlements and Miscellaneous Payments to Indians	49,475	55,155	45,045	-4,430	-10,110
Indian Guaranteed Loan Program Account					
Indian guaranteed loan program account	7,748	7,757	8,757	+1,009	+1,000
Administrative Provisions					
Rescission	---	---	-3,400	-3,400	-3,400
TOTAL, BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS AND INDIAN EDUCATION	2,796,120	2,933,715	2,859,765	+63,645	-73,950

DIVISION G -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
DEPARTMENTAL OFFICES					
Office of the Secretary					
Leadership and administration	122,885	127,394	124,112	+1,227	-3,282
Management services	21,365	21,676	20,475	-890	-1,201
Office of Natural Resources Revenue	125,519	129,306	126,487	+968	-2,819
Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT)	452,000	---	---	-452,000	---
Total, Office of the Secretary	721,769	278,376	271,074	-450,695	-7,302
Insular Affairs					
Assistance to Territories					
Territorial Assistance					
Office of Insular Affairs	9,448	9,863	9,448	---	-415
Technical assistance	15,504	21,064	16,784	+1,280	-4,280
Maintenance assistance fund	1,081	5,000	4,000	+2,919	-1,000
Brown tree snake	3,500	3,000	3,500	---	+500
Coral reef initiative	1,000	2,000	1,250	+250	-750
Empowering Insular Communities	2,971	5,000	3,471	+500	-1,529
Compact impact	3,000	3,000	3,000	---	---
Subtotal, Territorial Assistance	36,504	48,927	41,453	+4,949	-7,474

DIVISION G -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
American Samoa operations grants	22,752	22,752	22,752	---	---
Northern Marianas covenant grants	27,720	27,720	27,720	---	---
Total, Assistance to Territories	86,976	99,399	91,925	+4,949	-7,474
(discretionary)	(59,256)	(71,679)	(64,205)	(+4,949)	(-7,474)
(mandatory)	(27,720)	(27,720)	(27,720)	---	---
Compact of Free Association					
Compact of Free Association - Federal services	2,818	2,818	2,818	---	---
Enewetak support	500	500	500	---	---
Subtotal, Compact of Free Association	3,318	3,318	3,318	---	---
Compact payments, Palau (Title I, General Provision)	13,147	---	13,147	---	+13,147
Total, Compact of Free Association	16,465	3,318	16,465	---	+13,147
Total, Insular Affairs	103,441	102,717	108,390	+4,949	+5,673
(discretionary)	(75,721)	(74,997)	(80,670)	(+4,949)	(+5,673)
(mandatory)	(27,720)	(27,720)	(27,720)	---	---
Office of the Solicitor					
Legal services	59,091	62,781	59,091	---	-3,690
General administration	4,971	4,940	4,940	-31	---

DIVISION G -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Ethics	1,738	1,727	1,738	---	+11
Total, Office of the Solicitor	65,800	69,448	65,769	-31	-3,679
Office of Inspector General					
Audit and investigations	37,538	43,263	37,538	---	-5,725
Administrative services and information management	12,509	12,648	12,509	---	-139
Total, Office of Inspector General	50,047	55,911	50,047	---	-5,864
Office of Special Trustee for American Indians					
Federal Trust Programs					
Program operations, support, and improvements	136,998	138,335	136,998	---	-1,337
(Office of Historical Accounting)	(22,120)	(19,629)	(18,688)	(-3,432)	(-941)
Executive direction	2,031	2,044	2,031	---	-13
Total, Office of Special Trustee for American Indians	139,029	140,379	139,029	---	-1,350
TOTAL, DEPARTMENTAL OFFICES	1,080,086	646,831	634,309	-445,777	-12,522
(Discretionary)	(1,052,366)	(619,111)	(606,589)	(-445,777)	(-12,522)
(Mandatory)	(27,720)	(27,720)	(27,720)	---	---

DIVISION G -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
DEPARTMENT-WIDE PROGRAMS					
Wildland Fire Management					
Fire Operations:					
Preparedness	323,685	332,784	332,784	+9,099	---
Fire suppression	291,673	276,291	395,000	+103,327	+118,709
Subtotal, Fire operations	615,358	609,075	727,784	+112,426	+118,709
Other Operations:					
Fuels Management	170,000	149,089	180,000	+10,000	+30,911
Resilient Landscapes	---	30,000	---	---	-30,000
Burned area rehabilitation	18,970	20,470	20,470	+1,500	---
Fire facilities	6,427	10,000	8,427	+2,000	-1,573
Joint fire science	5,990	5,990	5,990	---	---
Subtotal, Other operations	201,387	215,549	214,887	+13,500	-662
Total, Wildland fire management	816,745	824,624	942,671	+125,926	+118,047
FLAME Wildfire Suppression Reserve Account					
FLAME wildfire suppression reserve account	177,000	---	---	-177,000	---

DIVISION G -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
FLAME wildfire suppression reserve account (emergency)	---	---	65,000	+65,000	+65,000
Total, all wildland fire accounts	993,745	824,624	1,007,671	+13,926	+183,047
Appropriations	(993,745)	(824,624)	(942,671)	(-51,074)	(+118,047)
Emergency appropriations	---	---	(65,000)	(+65,000)	(+65,000)
Suppression Cap Adjustment	---	290,000	---	---	-290,000
Total, Wildland Fire Management with cap adjustment	993,745	1,114,624	1,007,671	+13,926	-106,953
Appropriations	(993,745)	(1,114,624)	(942,671)	(-51,074)	(-171,953)
Emergency appropriations	---	---	(65,000)	(+65,000)	(+65,000)
Central Hazardous Materials Fund					
Central hazardous materials fund	10,010	13,513	10,010	---	-3,503
Natural Resource Damage Assessment Fund					
Damage assessments	2,500	2,071	2,000	-500	-71
Program management	2,192	2,438	2,192	---	-246
Restoration support	2,075	3,619	2,575	+500	-1,044
Oil Spill Preparedness	1,000	1,101	1,000	---	-101
Total, Natural Resource Damage Assessment Fund	7,767	9,229	7,767	---	-1,462
Working Capital Fund	67,100	111,524	67,100	---	-44,424

DIVISION G -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Payment in Lieu of Taxes					
Payments to local governments in lieu of taxes	---	---	465,000	+465,000	+465,000
TOTAL, DEPARTMENT-WIDE PROGRAMS	1,078,622	1,248,890	1,557,548	+478,926	+308,658
Appropriations	(1,078,622)	(958,890)	(1,492,548)	(+413,926)	(+533,658)
Emergency appropriations	---	---	(65,000)	(+65,000)	(+65,000)
Disaster Relief cap adjustment	---	(290,000)	---	---	(-290,000)
TOTAL, TITLE I, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR	12,016,431	12,242,229	12,251,927	+235,496	+9,698
Appropriations	(12,044,431)	(12,272,229)	(12,243,327)	(+198,896)	(-28,902)
Rescissions	---	---	(-28,400)	(-28,400)	(-28,400)
Rescissions of contract authority	(-28,000)	(-30,000)	(-28,000)	---	(+2,000)
Emergency appropriations	---	---	(65,000)	(+65,000)	(+65,000)
(Mandatory)	(61,720)	(61,720)	(61,720)	---	---
(Discretionary without cap adjustment)	(11,954,711)	(11,890,509)	(12,190,207)	(+235,496)	(+299,698)
(Disaster Relief cap adjustment)	---	(290,000)	---	---	(-290,000)

DIVISION G -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
TITLE II - ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY					
Science and Technology					
Clean Air and Climate	116,541	128,154	116,541	---	-11,613
(Climate protection program)	(8,018)	(8,127)	(8,018)	---	(-109)
Enforcement	13,669	14,608	13,669	---	-939
Homeland security	37,122	37,205	33,122	-4,000	-4,083
Indoor air and Radiation	5,997	7,510	5,997	---	-1,513
IT / Data management / Security	3,089	3,092	3,089	---	-3
Operations and administration	68,339	78,447	68,339	---	-10,108
Pesticide licensing	6,027	5,289	6,027	---	+738
Research: Air, climate and energy	91,906	101,151	91,906	---	-9,245
Research: Chemical safety and sustainability	126,930	134,221	126,930	---	-7,291
(Research: Computational toxicology)	(21,409)	(25,744)	(21,409)	---	(-4,335)
(Research: Endocrine disruptor)	(16,253)	(15,381)	(16,253)	---	(+872)
Research: National priorities	14,100	---	4,100	-10,000	+4,100
Research: Safe and sustainable water resources	107,434	106,257	106,257	-1,177	---
Research: Sustainable and healthy communities	139,975	134,327	134,327	-5,648	---
Water: Human health protection	3,519	3,923	3,519	---	-404
Subtotal, Science and Technology	734,648	754,184	713,823	-20,825	-40,361

DIVISION G -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Rescission	---	---	-7,350	-7,350	-7,350
Total, Science and Technology	734,648	754,184	706,473	-28,175	-47,711
(by transfer from Superfund)	(18,850)	(15,496)	(15,496)	(-3,354)	---
Environmental Programs and Management					
Brownfields	25,593	25,906	25,593	---	-313
Clean air and climate	273,108	340,974	273,108	---	-67,866
(Climate protection program)	(95,436)	(107,761)	(95,436)	---	(-12,325)
Compliance	101,665	111,270	101,665	---	-9,605
Enforcement	240,637	268,118	240,637	---	-27,481
(Environmental justice)	(6,737)	(15,291)	(6,737)	---	(-8,554)
Environmental protection: National priorities	12,700	---	12,700	---	+12,700

DIVISION G -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Geographic programs:					
Great Lakes Restoration Initiative	300,000	250,000	300,000	---	+50,000
Chesapeake Bay	73,000	70,000	73,000	---	+3,000
San Franciso Bay	4,819	4,040	4,819	---	+779
Puget Sound	28,000	30,034	28,000	---	-2,034
Long Island Sound	3,940	2,893	8,000	+4,060	+5,107
Gulf of Mexico	4,482	3,983	8,542	+4,060	+4,559
South Florida	1,704	1,339	1,704	---	+365
Lake Champlain	4,399	1,399	4,399	---	+3,000
Lake Pontchartrain	948	948	948	---	---
Southern New England Estuaries	5,000	5,000	5,000	---	---
Other geographic activities	1,445	965	1,445	---	+480
Subtotal	427,737	370,601	435,857	+8,120	+65,256
Homeland security	10,195	11,518	10,195	---	-1,323
Indoor air and radiation	27,637	29,908	27,637	---	-2,271
Information exchange / Outreach	126,538	152,445	126,538	---	-25,907
(Children and other sensitive populations: Agency coordination)	(6,548)	(7,842)	(6,548)	---	(-1,294)
(Environmental education)	(8,702)	(11,157)	(8,702)	---	(-2,455)
International programs	15,400	18,099	15,400	---	-2,699
IT / Data management / Security	90,536	126,974	90,536	---	-36,438
Legal/science/regulatory/economic review	111,414	145,683	111,414	---	-34,269
Operations and administration	482,751	520,316	480,751	-2,000	-39,565
Pesticide licensing	102,363	110,896	102,363	---	-8,533

DIVISION G -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA)	104,877	110,708	104,877	---	-5,831
Toxics risk review and prevention	92,521	99,043	92,521	---	-6,522
(Endocrine disruptors)	(7,553)	(4,329)	(7,553)	---	(+3,224)
Underground storage tanks (LUST / UST)	11,295	11,612	11,295	---	-317
Water: Ecosystems:					
National estuary program / Coastal waterways	26,723	27,191	26,723	---	-468
Wetlands	21,065	23,668	21,065	---	-2,603
Subtotal	47,788	50,859	47,788	---	-3,071
Water: Human health protection	98,507	109,437	98,507	---	-10,930
Water quality protection	210,417	238,526	210,417	---	-28,109
Subtotal, Environmental Programs and Management	2,613,679	2,852,893	2,619,799	+6,120	-233,094
Rescission	---	---	-21,800	-21,800	-21,800
Total, Environmental Programs and Management	2,613,679	2,852,893	2,597,999	-15,680	-254,894
Hazardous Waste Electronic Manifest System Fund					
E-Manifest System Fund	3,674	7,433	3,178	-496	-4,255

DIVISION G -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Office of Inspector General					
Audits, evaluations, and investigations	41,489	51,527	41,489	---	-10,038
(by transfer from Superfund)	(9,939)	(8,778)	(8,778)	(-1,161)	---
Buildings and Facilities					
Homeland security: Protection of EPA personnel and infrastructure	6,676	7,875	6,676	---	-1,199
Operations and administration	35,641	44,203	27,791	-7,850	-16,412
Total, Buildings and Facilities	42,317	52,078	34,467	-7,850	-17,611
Hazardous Substance Superfund					
Audits, evaluations, and investigations	9,939	8,778	8,778	-1,161	---
Compliance	995	1,099	995	---	-104
Enforcement	166,375	175,657	166,375	---	-9,282
Homeland security	36,362	32,616	32,616	-3,746	---
Indoor air and radiation	1,985	2,182	1,985	---	-197
Information exchange / Outreach	1,328	1,366	1,328	---	-38
IT /data management/security	14,485	20,141	14,485	---	-5,656
Legal/science/regulatory/economic review	1,253	1,278	1,253	---	-25
Operations and administration	128,105	130,608	128,105	---	-2,503
Research: Chemical safety and sustainability	2,843	2,824	2,824	-19	---
Research: Sustainable communities	14,032	11,463	11,463	-2,569	---

DIVISION G -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Superfund cleanup:					
Superfund: Emergency response and removal	181,306	185,233	181,306	---	-3,927
Superfund: Emergency preparedness	7,636	7,931	7,636	---	-295
Superfund: Federal facilities	21,125	26,770	21,125	---	-5,645
Superfund: Remedial	501,000	521,043	508,495	+7,495	-12,548
Subtotal	711,067	740,977	718,562	+7,495	-22,415
Total, Hazardous Substance Superfund	1,088,769	1,128,989	1,088,769	---	-40,220
(transfer out to Inspector General)	(-9,939)	(-8,778)	(-8,778)	(+1,161)	---
(transfer out to Science and Technology)	(-18,850)	(-15,496)	(-15,496)	(+3,354)	---
Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund (LUST)					
Enforcement	620	668	620	---	-48
Operations and administration	1,352	1,669	1,352	---	-317
Research: Sustainable communities	320	365	320	---	-45
Underground storage tanks (LUST / UST)	89,649	91,583	89,649	---	-1,934
(LUST/UST)	(9,240)	(9,322)	(9,240)	---	(-82)
(LUST cooperative agreements)	(55,040)	(54,402)	(55,040)	---	(+638)
(Energy Policy Act grants)	(25,369)	(27,859)	(25,369)	---	(-2,490)
Total, Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund	91,941	94,285	91,941	---	-2,344

DIVISION G -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Inland Oil Spill Program					
Compliance	139	160	139	---	-21
Enforcement	2,413	2,492	2,413	---	-79
Oil	14,409	20,461	14,409	---	-6,052
Operations and administration	584	1,763	584	---	-1,179
Research: Sustainable communities	664	534	664	---	+130
Total, Inland Oil Spill Program	18,209	25,410	18,209	---	-7,201
State and Tribal Assistance Grants (STAG)					
Alaska Native villages	20,000	17,000	20,000	---	+3,000
Brownfields projects	80,000	90,000	80,000	---	-10,000
Clean water state revolving fund (SRF)	1,393,887	979,500	1,393,887	---	+414,387
Diesel emissions grants	50,000	10,000	60,000	+10,000	+50,000
Drinking water state revolving fund (SRF)	863,233	1,020,500	863,233	---	-157,267
Mexico border	10,000	5,000	10,000	---	+5,000
Targeted airshed grants	20,000	---	30,000	+10,000	+30,000
Water quality monitoring (P.L. 114-322)	---	---	4,000	+4,000	+4,000
Subtotal, Infrastructure assistance grants	2,437,120	2,122,000	2,461,120	+24,000	+339,120

DIVISION G -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Categorical grants:					
Beaches protection	9,549	---	9,549	---	+9,549
Brownfields	47,745	49,500	47,745	---	-1,755
Environmental information	9,646	25,346	9,646	---	-15,700
Hazardous waste financial assistance	99,693	99,693	99,693	---	---
Lead	14,049	14,049	14,049	---	---
Nonpoint source (Sec. 319)	164,915	164,915	170,915	+6,000	+6,000
Pesticides enforcement	18,050	18,050	18,050	---	---
Pesticides program implementation	12,701	13,201	12,701	---	-500
Pollution control (Sec. 106)	230,806	246,164	230,806	---	-15,358
(Water quality monitoring)	(17,848)	(17,848)	(17,848)	---	---
Pollution prevention	4,765	4,765	4,765	---	---
Public water system supervision	101,963	109,700	101,963	---	-7,737
Radon	8,051	---	8,051	---	+8,051
State and local air quality management	228,219	268,229	228,219	---	-40,010
Toxics substances compliance	4,919	4,919	4,919	---	---
Tribal air quality management	12,829	12,829	12,829	---	---
Tribal general assistance program	65,476	96,375	65,476	---	-30,899
Underground injection control (UIC)	10,506	10,506	10,506	---	---
Underground storage tanks	1,498	2,498	1,498	---	-1,000
Wetlands program development	14,661	17,661	14,661	---	-3,000
Multipurpose grants	21,000	---	---	-21,000	---
Subtotal, Categorical grants	1,081,041	1,158,400	1,066,041	-15,000	-92,359
Total, State and Tribal Assistance Grants	3,518,161	3,280,400	3,527,161	+9,000	+246,761

DIVISION G -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Program					
Administrative Expenses	---	5,000	2,000	+2,000	-3,000
Direct Loan Subsidy	---	15,000	8,000	+8,000	-7,000
Total, Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Program	---	20,000	10,000	+10,000	-10,000
Administrative Provisions					
Cybersecurity	27,000	---	---	-27,000	---
Rescission	-40,000	---	-61,198	-21,198	-61,198
TOTAL, TITLE II, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY	8,139,887	8,267,199	8,058,488	-81,399	-208,711
Appropriations	(8,179,887)	(8,267,199)	(8,148,836)	(-31,051)	(-118,363)
Rescissions	(-40,000)	---	(-90,348)	(-50,348)	(-90,348)
(By transfer)	(28,789)	(24,274)	(24,274)	(-4,515)	---
(Transfer out)	(-28,789)	(-24,274)	(-24,274)	(+4,515)	---

DIVISION G -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
TITLE III - RELATED AGENCIES					
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE					
FOREST SERVICE					
Forest and Rangeland Research					
Forest inventory and analysis	75,000	77,000	77,000	+2,000	---
Research and development programs	216,000	214,982	211,514	-4,486	-3,468
Total, Forest and rangeland research	291,000	291,982	288,514	-2,486	-3,468
State and Private Forestry					
Landscape scale restoration	14,000	23,513	14,000	---	-9,513
Forest Health Management:					
Federal lands forest health management	58,922	51,382	55,500	-3,422	+4,118
Cooperative lands forest health management	40,678	40,678	39,000	-1,678	-1,678
Subtotal	99,600	92,060	94,500	-5,100	+2,440
Cooperative Forestry:					
Forest stewardship	23,036	22,398	20,036	-3,000	-2,362
Forest legacy	62,347	62,347	62,347	---	---
Rescission	---	---	-12,002	-12,002	-12,002

DIVISION G -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Community forest and open space conservation	2,000	2,000	2,000	---	---
Urban and community forestry	28,040	23,686	28,040	---	+4,354
Subtotal, Cooperative Forestry	115,423	110,431	100,421	-15,002	-10,010
International forestry	8,000	8,000	8,000	---	---
Total, State and Private Forestry	237,023	234,004	216,921	-20,102	-17,083
National Forest System					
Land management planning	36,998	---	---	-36,998	---
Inventory and monitoring	147,998	---	---	-147,998	---
Land management planning, assessment and monitoring	---	183,928	182,928	+182,928	-1,000
Recreation, heritage and wilderness	261,719	263,942	264,595	+2,876	+653
Grazing management	56,856	50,000	56,856	---	+6,856
Grazing administration management	---	15,000	---	---	-15,000
Grazing administration management offsetting collections	---	-15,000	---	---	+15,000
Forest products	359,805	359,805	367,805	+8,000	+8,000
Vegetation and watershed management	184,716	184,716	184,716	---	---
Wildlife and fish habitat management	140,466	140,466	140,466	---	---
Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Fund	40,000	40,000	40,000	---	---
Minerals and geology management	76,423	75,069	75,569	-854	+500
Landownership management	77,730	71,440	73,730	-4,000	+2,290
Law enforcement operations	126,653	131,630	126,653	---	-4,977
Total, National Forest System	1,509,364	1,500,996	1,513,318	+3,954	+12,322

DIVISION G -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Capital Improvement and Maintenance					
Facilities:					
Maintenance	55,369	55,369	55,369	---	---
Construction	16,021	16,231	16,021	---	-210
Subtotal	71,390	71,600	71,390	---	-210
Roads:					
Maintenance	145,454	126,840	146,954	+1,500	+20,114
Construction	26,640	23,160	28,140	+1,500	+4,980
Subtotal	172,094	150,000	175,094	+3,000	+25,094
Trails:					
Maintenance	69,777	70,597	69,777	---	-820
Construction	7,753	7,933	7,753	---	-180
Subtotal	77,530	78,530	77,530	---	-1,000
Deferred maintenance	3,150	3,150	---	-3,150	-3,150
Legacy road and trail remediation	40,000	40,000	40,000	---	---
Subtotal, Capital improvement and maintenance	364,164	343,280	364,014	-150	+20,734

DIVISION G -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Deferral of road and trail fund payment	-16,000	-17,000	-16,000	---	+1,000
Total, Capital improvement and maintenance	348,164	326,280	348,014	-150	+21,734
Land Acquisition					
Acquisitions	44,685	49,703	39,413	-5,272	-10,290
Acquisition Management	8,500	8,500	7,552	-948	-948
Cash Equalization	250	750	750	+500	---
Recreational Access	8,000	4,700	4,700	-3,300	---
Critical Inholdings/Wilderness	2,000	2,000	2,000	---	---
Total, Land Acquisition	63,435	65,653	54,415	-9,020	-11,238
Acquisition of land for national forests, special acts	950	950	950	---	---
Acquisition of lands to complete land exchanges	216	216	216	---	---
Range betterment fund	2,320	2,320	2,320	---	---
Gifts, donations and bequests for forest and rangeland research	45	45	45	---	---
Management of national forest lands for subsistence uses	2,500	2,441	2,500	---	+59
Wildland Fire Management					
Fire operations:					
Wildland fire preparedness	1,082,620	1,082,620	1,082,620	---	---

DIVISION G -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Wildland fire suppression operations	811,000	873,904	1,248,000	+437,000	+374,096
Subtotal, Fire operations	1,893,620	1,956,524	2,330,620	+437,000	+374,096
Other operations:					
Hazardous fuels	375,000	384,126	390,000	+15,000	+5,874
(Hazardous Fuels Base Program)	(360,000)	(369,126)	(375,000)	(+15,000)	(+5,874)
(Biomass Grants)	(15,000)	(15,000)	(15,000)	---	---
Fire plan research and development	19,795	19,795	19,795	---	---
Joint fire sciences program	6,914	---	---	-6,914	---
State fire assistance	78,000	78,000	78,000	---	---
Volunteer fire assistance	13,000	13,000	15,000	+2,000	+2,000
Subtotal, Other operations	492,709	494,921	502,795	+10,086	+7,874
Subtotal, Wildland Fire Management	2,386,329	2,451,445	2,833,415	+447,086	+381,970
FLAME Wildfire Suppression Reserve Account					
FLAME wildfire suppression reserve account	823,000	---	---	-823,000	---
FLAME wildfire suppression reserve account (emergency)	---	---	342,000	+342,000	+342,000
Total, all wildland fire accounts	3,209,329	2,451,445	3,175,415	-33,914	+723,970
Appropriations	(3,209,329)	(2,451,445)	(2,833,415)	(-375,914)	(+381,970)
Emergency appropriations	---	---	(342,000)	(+342,000)	(+342,000)

DIVISION G -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Suppression cap adjustment	---	864,096	---	---	-864,096
Total, Wildland Fire Management with cap adjustment	3,209,329	3,315,541	3,175,415	-33,914	-140,126
Appropriations	(3,209,329)	(3,315,541)	(2,833,415)	(-375,914)	(-482,126)
Emergency appropriations	---	---	(342,000)	(+342,000)	(+342,000)
Total, Forest Service without Wildland Fire Management	2,455,017	2,424,887	2,427,213	-27,804	+2,326
Administrative Provisions					
Rescission	---	---	-6,315	-6,315	-6,315
TOTAL, FOREST SERVICE	5,664,346	5,740,428	5,596,313	-68,033	-144,115
Appropriations	(5,664,346)	(4,876,332)	(5,272,630)	(-391,716)	(+396,298)
Rescissions	---	---	(-18,317)	(-18,317)	(-18,317)
Emergency appropriations	---	---	(342,000)	(+342,000)	(+342,000)
Disaster Relief cap adjustment	---	(864,096)	---	---	(-864,096)

DIVISION G -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES					
INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE					
Indian Health Services					
Clinical Services:					
Hospital and health clinics	1,857,225	1,979,998	1,935,178	+77,953	-44,820
Dental health	178,286	186,829	182,597	+4,311	-4,232
Mental health	82,100	111,143	94,080	+11,980	-17,063
Alcohol and substance abuse	205,305	233,286	218,353	+13,048	-14,933
Purchased/referred care	914,139	962,331	928,830	+14,691	-33,501
Subtotal	3,237,055	3,473,587	3,359,038	+121,983	-114,549
Preventive Health:					
Public health nursing	76,623	82,040	78,701	+2,078	-3,339
Health education	18,255	19,545	18,663	+408	-882
Community health representatives	58,906	62,428	60,325	+1,419	-2,103
Immunization (Alaska)	1,950	2,062	2,041	+91	-21
Subtotal	155,734	166,075	159,730	+3,996	-6,345

DIVISION G -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Other services:					
Urban Indian health	44,741	48,157	47,678	+2,937	-479
Indian health professions	48,342	49,345	49,345	+1,003	---
Tribal management grant program	2,442	2,488	2,465	+23	-23
Direct operations	72,338	69,620	70,420	-1,918	+800
Self-governance	5,735	5,837	5,788	+51	-51
Subtotal	173,598	175,447	175,694	+2,096	+247
Total, Indian Health Services	3,566,387	3,815,109	3,694,462	+128,075	-120,647
Contract Support Costs					
Contract support	717,970	800,000	800,000	+82,030	---
Indian Health Facilities					
Maintenance and improvement	73,614	76,981	75,745	+2,131	-1,236
Sanitation facilities construction	99,423	103,036	101,772	+2,349	-1,264
Health care facilities construction	105,048	132,377	117,991	+12,943	-14,386
Facilities and environmental health support	222,610	233,858	226,950	+4,340	-6,908
Equipment	22,537	23,654	22,966	+429	-688
Total, Indian Health Facilities	523,232	569,906	545,424	+22,192	-24,482
TOTAL, INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE	4,807,589	5,185,015	5,039,886	+232,297	-145,129

DIVISION G -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH					
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences...	77,349	77,349	77,349	---	---
AGENCY FOR TOXIC SUBSTANCES AND DISEASE REGISTRY					
Toxic substances and environmental public health.....	74,691	74,691	74,691	---	---
TOTAL, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES..	4,959,629	5,337,055	5,191,926	+232,297	-145,129
OTHER RELATED AGENCIES					
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT					
Council on Environmental Quality and Office of Environmental Quality.....	3,000	3,015	3,000	---	-15
CHEMICAL SAFETY AND HAZARD INVESTIGATION BOARD					
Salaries and expenses.....	11,000	12,436	11,000	---	-1,436
OFFICE OF NAVAJO AND HOPI INDIAN RELOCATION					
Salaries and expenses.....	15,000	15,431	15,431	+431	---

DIVISION G -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
INSTITUTE OF AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE CULTURE AND ARTS DEVELOPMENT					
Payment to the Institute	11,619	11,835	15,212	+3,593	+3,377
SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION					
Salaries and Expenses					
Museum and Research Institutes:					
National Air and Space Museum	18,937	19,853	19,853	+916	---
Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory	24,141	24,393	24,393	+252	---
Major scientific instrumentation	4,118	6,118	4,118	---	-2,000
Universe Center	184	184	184	---	---
National Museum of Natural History	48,503	49,205	49,205	+702	---
National Zoological Park	26,382	27,252	27,252	+870	---
Smithsonian Environmental Research Center	3,956	4,171	4,171	+215	---
Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute	14,166	14,344	14,344	+178	---
Biodiversity Center	1,523	4,230	1,530	+7	-2,700
Arthur M. Sackler Gallery/Freer Gallery of Art	6,111	6,197	6,197	+86	---
Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage	2,581	3,122	3,039	+458	-83
Cooper-Hewitt, National Design Museum	4,810	5,105	5,005	+195	-100
Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden	4,414	4,913	4,627	+213	-286
National Museum of African Art	4,263	4,576	4,576	+313	---
World Cultures Center	284	792	792	+508	---
Anacostia Community Museum	2,116	2,329	2,329	+213	---

DIVISION G -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Archives of American Art	1,880	2,005	1,909	+29	-96
National Museum of African American History and Culture	41,347	41,564	41,564	+217	---
National Museum of American History	23,122	26,142	26,036	+2,914	-106
National Museum of the American Indian	31,726	32,341	32,341	+615	---
National Portrait Gallery	6,064	6,460	6,460	+396	---
Smithsonian American Art Museum	9,587	10,115	10,115	+528	---
American Experience Center	595	596	596	+1	---
Subtotal, Museums and Research Institutes	280,810	296,007	290,636	+9,826	-5,371
Mission enabling:					
Program support and outreach:					
Outreach	9,229	9,214	9,214	-15	---
Communications	2,594	2,632	2,632	+38	---
Institution-wide programs	14,784	14,984	14,784	---	-200
Office of Exhibits Central	3,009	3,057	3,057	+48	---
Museum Support Center	1,866	1,890	1,890	+24	---
Museum Conservation Institute	3,277	3,320	3,320	+43	---
Smithsonian Institution Archives	2,203	2,316	2,316	+113	---
Smithsonian Institution Libraries	10,654	11,275	11,146	+492	-129
Subtotal, Program support and outreach	47,816	48,688	48,359	+743	-329
Office of Chief Information Officer	50,400	54,641	51,371	+971	-3,270
Administration	34,554	37,526	35,756	+1,202	-1,770
Inspector General	3,451	3,499	3,499	+48	---

DIVISION G -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Facilities services:					
Facilities maintenance	73,985	89,227	76,327	+2,342	-12,900
Facilities operations, security and support	205,229	229,636	223,496	+18,267	-6,140
Subtotal, Facilities services	279,214	318,863	299,823	+20,609	-19,040
Subtotal, Mission enabling	415,235	463,217	438,808	+23,573	-24,409
Total, Salaries and expenses	696,045	759,224	729,444	+33,399	-29,780
Facilities Capital					
Revitalization	92,788	83,650	73,603	-19,185	-10,047
Facilities planning and design	51,410	29,350	20,300	-31,110	-9,050
Construction	---	50,000	40,000	+40,000	-10,000
Total, Facilities Capital	144,198	163,000	133,903	-10,295	-29,097
TOTAL, SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION	840,243	922,224	863,347	+23,104	-58,877
NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART					
Salaries and Expenses					
Care and utilization of art collections	41,581	45,418	44,778	+3,197	-640
Operation and maintenance of buildings and grounds	33,858	35,011	34,554	+696	-457

DIVISION G -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Protection of buildings, grounds and contents	22,643	24,231	23,495	+852	-736
General administration	26,906	31,141	30,134	+3,228	-1,007
Total, Salaries and Expenses	124,988	135,801	132,961	+7,973	-2,840
Repair, Restoration and Renovation of Buildings					
Base program	22,564	22,600	22,564	---	-36
TOTAL, NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART	147,552	158,401	155,525	+7,973	-2,876
JOHN F. KENNEDY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS					
Operations and maintenance	21,660	22,260	22,260	+600	---
Capital repair and restoration	14,740	13,000	14,140	-600	+1,140
TOTAL, JOHN F. KENNEDY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS	36,400	35,260	36,400	---	+1,140
WOODROW WILSON INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR SCHOLARS					
Salaries and expenses	10,500	10,400	10,500	---	+100

DIVISION G -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
NATIONAL FOUNDATION ON THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES					
National Endowment for the Arts					
Grants and Administration					
Grants:					
Direct grants	63,420	63,906	63,906	+486	---
Challenge America grants	7,600	7,600	7,600	---	---
Subtotal	71,020	71,506	71,506	+486	---
State partnerships:					
State and regional	37,262	37,517	37,517	+255	---
Underserved set-aside	10,084	10,154	10,154	+70	---
Subtotal	47,346	47,671	47,671	+325	---
Subtotal, Grants	118,366	119,177	119,177	+811	---
Program support	1,780	1,950	1,950	+170	---
Administration	27,803	28,722	28,722	+919	---
Total, Arts	147,949	149,849	149,849	+1,900	---

DIVISION G -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
National Endowment for the Humanities					
Grants and Administration					
Grants:					
Special Initiative: The Common Good	5,500	10,190	7,230	+1,730	-2,960
Federal/State partnership	43,040	43,040	46,000	+2,960	+2,960
Preservation and access	15,200	14,385	14,385	-815	---
Public programs	13,454	12,730	12,730	-724	---
Research programs	14,536	13,755	13,755	-781	---
Education programs	13,040	12,000	12,000	-1,040	---
Program development	500	500	500	---	---
Digital humanities initiatives	4,480	4,600	4,600	+120	---
Subtotal, Grants	109,750	111,200	111,200	+1,450	---
Matching Grants:					
Treasury funds	2,400	2,200	2,200	-200	---
Challenge grants	8,500	8,500	8,500	---	---
Subtotal, Matching grants	10,900	10,700	10,700	-200	---

DIVISION G -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Administration	27,292	27,948	27,948	+656	---
Total, Humanities	147,942	149,848	149,848	+1,906	---
TOTAL, NATIONAL FOUNDATION ON THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES	295,891	299,697	299,697	+3,806	---
COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS					
Salaries and expenses	2,653	2,762	2,762	+109	---
NATIONAL CAPITAL ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS					
Grants	2,000	1,400	2,000	---	+600
ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION					
Salaries and expenses	6,080	6,493	6,493	+413	---
NATIONAL CAPITAL PLANNING COMMISSION					
Salaries and expenses	8,348	8,099	8,099	-249	---
UNITED STATES HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL MUSEUM					
Holocaust Memorial Museum	54,000	57,000	57,000	+3,000	---

DIVISION G -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER MEMORIAL COMMISSION					
Salaries and expenses	1,000	1,800	1,600	+600	-200
Construction	---	43,000	45,000	+45,000	+2,000
Total, DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER MEMORIAL COMMISSION	1,000	44,800	46,600	+45,600	+1,800
WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE CENTENNIAL COMMISSION					
Salaries and expenses	---	---	2,000	+2,000	+2,000
TOTAL, TITLE III, RELATED AGENCIES	12,069,261	12,666,736	12,323,305	+254,044	-343,431
Appropriations	(12,069,261)	(12,666,736)	(11,999,622)	(-69,639)	(-667,114)
Emergency appropriations	---	---	(342,000)	(+342,000)	(+342,000)
(Discretionary without cap adjustment)	(12,069,261)	(11,802,640)	(12,323,305)	(+254,044)	(+520,665)
(Disaster Relief cap adjustment)	---	(864,096)	---	---	(-864,096)

DIVISION G -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
GRAND TOTAL	32,225,579	33,176,164	32,633,720	+408,141	-542,444
Appropriations	(32,293,579)	(33,208,164)	(32,391,785)	(+98,206)	(-814,379)
Rescissions	(-40,000)	---	(-137,065)	(-97,065)	(-137,065)
Rescissions of contract authority	(-28,000)	(-30,000)	(-28,000)	---	(+2,000)
Emergency appropriations	---	---	(407,000)	(+407,000)	(+407,000)
(Disaster Relief cap adjustment)	---	(1,154,096)	---	---	(-1,154,096)
(By transfer)	(28,789)	(24,274)	(24,274)	(-4,515)	---
(Transfer out)	(-28,789)	(-24,274)	(-24,274)	(+4,515)	---

DIVISION H—DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

In implementing this agreement, the Departments and agencies should be guided by the language and instructions set forth in House Report 114–699 accompanying the House bill, H.R. 5926, and Senate Report 114–274 accompanying the Senate bill, S. 3040.

Where the explanatory statement speaks to an issue that was addressed in the House or Senate reports, the explanatory statement should supersede the language in the House or Senate reports. In cases where the House Report and the Senate Report address a particular issue not specifically cited in the explanatory statement, the House Report and the Senate Report should be complied with and carry the same emphasis as the language included in the explanatory statement.

Each department and agency funded in this Act shall follow the directions set forth in this Act and the accompanying statement, and shall not reallocate resources or reorganize activities except as provided herein. Funds for individual programs and activities are displayed in the detailed table at the end of the explanatory statement for this division. Funding levels that are not displayed in the detailed table are identified within this explanatory statement. Any action to eliminate or consolidate programs, projects, and activities should be pursued through a proposal in the President's Budget so it can be considered by the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

Congressional Reports.—Each Department and agency is directed to provide the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, within 30 days of enactment of this Act and quarterly thereafter, a summary describing each requested report to the Committees on Appropriations along with its status.

TITLE I

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION

TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

Reintegration of Ex-Offenders.—The agreement includes $88,078,000 for ex-offender retraining and reintegration activities, of which $25,000,000 is for competitive grants to national and regional intermediaries. Efforts to build partnerships with employers at the local level and to focus training on in-demand skills are strongly supported. In lieu of the report required by the House Report 114–699, the Department of Labor (DOL) is directed to provide detailed information in the fiscal year 2018 budget justification on efforts undertaken to date as well as any new activities or requirements that are intended to build effective industry partnerships and job-placement services, offer industry-recognized credentials, and focus training on high-demand occupations. Other than the reporting requirement, House and Senate report language is not superseded.

Apprenticeship Grants.—The agreement includes $95,000,000 to support Apprenticeship Grants, an increase of $5,000,000 above fiscal year 2016. The Department is directed to build on the success of the ApprenticeshipUSA program and continue funding innovative, job-driven approaches that expand apprenticeship programs in high-growth and new industries. In 2015 women comprised nearly half of the national labor force, but they made up less than ten percent of registered apprentices. The Department is directed to prioritize grant applications that engage, recruit, and serve women and other under-represented populations.

JOB CORPS

The agreement includes $1,704,155,000 for Job Corps, including $32,330,000 for administration, $1,587,325,000 for operations, and $84,500,000 for construction. The safety and security of students, staff, and facilities remains a very high priority. The Department is expected to use the increases in funding as necessary to prioritize safety and security improvements across the Job Corps system.

STATE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE AND EMPLOYMENT SERVICE OPERATIONS

The agreement includes $115,000,000, the same amount as fiscal year 2016, for the reemployment services and eligibility assessment program. The amount reflects continued strong support for a program that has been shown to reduce improper payments and to provide intensive, individualized intervention for unemployment compensation beneficiaries to help return them fully and quickly to the workforce. The agreement maintains Senate language clarifying flexibility for local workforce agencies to target ex-service member claimants, those most likely to exhaust benefits, as well as claimants from a variety of backgrounds and lengths of time receiving benefits as local officials deem necessary based on local needs.

The agreement includes $50,000,000 for the continued support of State consortia to modernize their Unemployment Insurance tax and benefit systems. The Department is expected to apply the full $50,000,000 to this purpose, including assistance to State consortia as needed to comply with requirements of 26 U.S.C. 6103(l)(10)(B).

The agreement notes a provision in the preamble for the Interim Final Rule (IFR) issued by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services and DOL in 2015 regarding H–2B mobile housing policy. The IFR was issued without the public review and comment period afforded in a typical rulemaking process, in order to continue operation of the program. DOL is urged to engage with all stakeholders to assess impacts of the housing policy in industries requiring a mobile workforce.

Unemployment Insurance (UI) Center of Excellence.—The agreement includes $5,500,000 for the UI Center of Excellence (Center), an increase of $2,500,000 above the fiscal year 2016 level. The increase of $2,500,000 is intended as a payment on behalf of States to the entity operating the Center.

OFFICE OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION PROGRAMS

The Office of Workers' Compensation Programs (OWCP) has established a Program Integrity unit and data analytics team to identify and remedy areas of improper payments and fraud. Despite these advancements, OWCP has been reticent to act quickly in addressing reports of possibly improper and fraudulent payments associated with compound drugs. Therefore, OWCP shall issue a report within 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act on its plan to strengthen OWCP's role in evaluating these payments, including enhanced utilization of program integrity measures in developing and implementing corrective actions for the timely identification and remediation of fraudulent and improper payments for programs it administers.

MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

The Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) is directed to provide assistance and data necessary for the National Academy of Sciences study previously provided in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health account. MSHA is directed to report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate and authorizing committees of jurisdiction within 72 hours of determining that compliance rates under the new sampling protocols taking effect in 2016 fall below 95 percent, and to provide such committees with quarterly reports on actual compliance rates under the new coal dust rule.

The agreement includes new language providing authority to use State grants funds for the purchase and maintenance of equipment required under the respirable coal dust standard. The authority is intended to assist entities determined by the Secretary to have demonstrated financial need to comply with the new regulation. The authority is not intended to be used for entities restructuring operations under bankruptcy laws.

IT MODERNIZATION

The agreement includes funding for the continuation of information technology (IT) modernization efforts. The Department is directed to take a risk-based approach to allocating fiscal year 2017 development funds and prioritize development projects that will result in more secure and cost-effective IT systems. Within 180 days of enactment of this Act, the Department is directed to submit a comprehensive update on the status of all IT development projects. This report should address both projects funded through the IT Modernization account as well as development projects being undertaken by individual agencies and offices. The report should provide information for each project including the name and type of project, current status including total expenditures to date, projected timelines to completion, expected improvements in agency processes, customer service and performance, total expected cost of development, expected annual cost of maintenance upon completion, and anticipated annual savings and cost avoidance from replacing or shutting down legacy systems.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

The agreement includes new transfer authority within the Employment and Training Administration to conduct program integrity activities.

TITLE II

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

HEALTH RESOURCES AND SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

PRIMARY HEALTH CARE

Of the available funding for fiscal year 2017, bill language directs that not less than $50,000,000 shall be awarded for services related to the treatment, prevention, and awareness of opioid abuse. In addition, not less than $50,000,000 will be awarded for services related to mental health.

Native Hawaiian Health Care.—The agreement expects that not less than $14,400,000 be provided for the Native Hawaiian Health Care Program.

HEALTH WORKFORCE

In response to the opioid epidemic, the agreement encourages medical schools and teaching hospitals to enhance existing curricular content on substance abuse and pain management for future prescribers. The agreement supports efforts by the Health Resources and Services Administration

(HRSA), through its Title VII health professions programs, to provide educational and training grants to medical schools and teaching hospitals to develop innovative educational materials related to substance use disorders and pain management.

Oral Health Training.—The agreement includes an additional $800,000 for the Dental Faculty Loan Repayment Program under section 748 of the Public Health Service Act. The agreement directs HRSA to publish a new funding opportunity announcement and to give preference in grant awards to pediatric dentistry faculty supervising residents and to applicants providing clinical services in dental clinics located in dental schools, hospitals, or community-based affiliated sites.

MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH

Maternal and Child Health Block Grant.—The agreement includes language setting aside $80,593,000 for Special Projects of Regional and National Significance (SPRANS). The agreement provides the following amounts within SPRANS:

Budget Activity	FY 2017 Agreement
Set-aside for oral health	$5,250,000
Set-aside for epilepsy	3,642,000
Set-aside for sickle cell disease	3,000,000
Set-aside for fetal alcohol syndrome	477,000

Children's Health and Development.—The agreement provides an additional $3,500,000 within SPRANS and directs HRSA to fund a study focused on improving child health through a Statewide system of early childhood developmental screenings and interventions. Priority shall be given to States with high rates of poverty among children under age 5, low rates of early childhood developmental screenings, and high rates of low birthweight infants with resultant complications of prematurity, developmental delays, and other health problems in early childhood. A successful program shall involve leaders in early childhood wellbeing, including State officials in health and education, as well as medical specialists in pediatrics. The end goal of the program should be to yield a model for other States to utilize in improving child health and development outcomes among diverse populations.

Autism and Other Developmental Disorders.—The agreement provides $47,099,000 for the Autism and Other Developmental Disorders program and directs that HRSA provide not less than $29,490,000 for the Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities (LEND) program. The increase will help the LEND program initiate or expand work in the area of interdisciplinary leadership training to meet the needs of children with Autism Spectrum Disorders and related developmental disabilities.

Heritable Disorders Program.—The agreement provides $13,883,000 for the Heritable Disorders Program, of which $2,000,000 is provided for newborn screening for Severe Combined Immune Deficiency and related disorders.

HEALTH CARE SYSTEMS

340B Drug Program.—HRSA is requested to provide a briefing to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate on the status of the secure website within 90 days of enactment of this Act.

RURAL HEALTH

Rural Health Outreach.—The agreement provides $65,500,000 for the Rural Health Outreach program. The agreement provides not more than $12,514,000 for Outreach Service Grants; not less than $15,000,000 for Rural Network Development Grants; not less than $12,000,000 for Delta States Network Grant Program; not less than $2,200,000 for Network Planning Grants; and not more than $6,500,000 for Small Healthcare Provider Quality Improvement Grants.

Delta States Rural Development Network Grant Program.—The agreement provides an additional $2,000,000 to support HRSA's collaboration with the Delta Regional Authority to develop a pilot program to help underserved rural communities identify and better address their health care needs and to help small rural hospitals improve their financial and operational performance.

Rural Hospital Flexibility Grant Program.—The agreement provides an additional $2,000,000 for rural hospital flexibility grant program. With the additional funds, HRSA is directed to issue a new funding opportunity announcement. The agreement directs HRSA to give preference in grant awards to Critical Access Hospitals serving rural communities with high rates of poverty, unemployment, and substance abuse.

Telehealth.—The agreement provides an additional $1,500,000 for telehealth. The agreement directs HRSA to develop a plan to create a telehealth center of excellence to test the efficacy of telehealth services in both urban and rural geographic locations. HHS should consider a public academic medical center with demonstrated success, a high volume of annual telehealth visits, and established programs that provide telehealth services in medically underserved areas with high chronic disease prevalence and high poverty rates. The selected site should also have established a reimbursement structure that allows telehealth services to be financially self-sustaining. The agreement allocates not less than $7,300,000 for the Telehealth Network Grant Program. For the additional new funds for the Telehealth Network Grant Program, HRSA is directed to issue a new funding opportunity announcement, giving preference in grant awards to small hospitals serving communities with high rates of poverty, unemployment, and substance abuse.

CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION

The agreement includes $6,273,503,000 for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), which includes $6,258,503,000 in discretionary funding and $15,000,000 in Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund (PHSSEF) unobligated balances from pandemic influenza supplemental appropriations. This provides a total program level of $7,255,161,000, which includes $35,000,000 in emergency funding for Flint, Michigan and $891,300,000 in transfers from the Prevention and Public Health Fund (PPH Fund). In addition, the Zika Response and Preparedness Appropriations Act, 2016 provided $394,000,000 to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the Zika virus.

IMMUNIZATION AND RESPIRATORY DISEASES

The agreement includes a total of $794,350,000 for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases, which includes $455,000,000 in discretionary appropriations, $324,350,000 in transfers from the PPH Fund, and $15,000,000 in transfers from PHSSEF unobligated balances. Within this total, the agreement includes the following amounts:

Budget Activity	FY 2017 Agreement
Section 317 Immunization Program	$606,792,000
Influenza Planning and Response	187,558,000

PHSSEF Unobligated Balances.—The agreement directs the Secretary to make these funds available within 30 days of enactment.

Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Vaccination Rates.—The agreement urges the CDC to expand outreach and coordination with other agencies to increase HPV vaccination rates. The CDC is encouraged to develop and implement an awareness campaign that informs clinicians, parents, and local immunization programs about the severity and prevalence of HPV-related cancers and the cancer prevention benefits of the vaccine. The CDC is directed to provide an update in the fiscal year 2018 budget justification on its strategy to increase HPV vaccination rates.

HIV/AIDS, VIRAL HEPATITIS, SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES AND TUBERCULOSIS PREVENTION

The agreement includes $1,117,278,000 for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, Sexually Transmitted Diseases and Tuberculosis Prevention. Within this total, the agreement includes the following amounts:

Budget Activity	FY 2017 Agreement
Domestic HIV/AIDS Prevention and Research	$788,712,000
HIV Prevention by Health Departments	397,161,000
HIV Surveillance	119,861,000
Activities to Improve Program Effectiveness	103,208,000
National, Regional, Local, Community and Other Organizations	135,401,000
School Health	33,081,000
Viral Hepatitis	34,000,000
Sexually Transmitted Infections	152,310,000
Tuberculosis	142,256,000

Hepatitis C Testing.—New research suggests that the percentage of individuals born between 1945 and 1965 that have been tested for the hepatitis C virus remains very low and has not substantially increased, despite recommendations from CDC and the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force that all members of this generation be tested at least once. CDC is strongly urged to develop a public health strategy to increase testing rates by raising awareness of these recommendations among healthcare providers and those at risk of infection.

EMERGING AND ZOONOTIC INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The agreement includes $584,922,000 for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases, which includes $532,922,000 in discretionary appropriations and $52,000,000 in transfers from the PPH Fund. Within this total, the agreement includes the following amounts:

Budget Activity	FY 2017 Agreement
Antibiotic Resistance Initiative	$163,000,000
Lab Safety and Quality	8,000,000
All Other Infectious Diseases	29,840,000
Vector-borne Diseases	26,410,000
Lyme Disease	10,700,000
Prion Disease	6,000,000
Chronic Fatigue Syndrome	5,400,000
Emerging Infectious Diseases	147,000,000
Food Safety	54,000,000
National Healthcare Safety Network	21,000,000
Quarantine	31,572,000
Advanced Molecular Detection	30,000,000
Epidemiology and Lab Capacity program	40,000,000
Healthcare-Associated Infections	12,000,000

CHRONIC DISEASE PREVENTION AND HEALTH PROMOTION

The agreement includes $1,115,596,000 for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, which includes $777,646,000 in discretionary appropriations and $337,950,000 in

transfers from the PPH Fund. Within this total, the agreement includes the following amounts:

Budget Activity	FY 2017 Agreement
Tobacco	$205,000,000
Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Obesity	49,920,000
High Obesity Rate Counties	10,000,000
School Health	15,400,000
Health Promotion	14,025,000
Glaucoma	3,300,000
Visual Screening Education	525,000
Alzheimer's Disease	3,500,000
Inflammatory Bowel Disease	750,000
Interstitial Cystitis	850,000
Excessive Alcohol Use	3,000,000
Chronic Kidney Disease	2,100,000
Prevention Research Centers	25,461,000
Heart Disease and Stroke	130,037,000
Diabetes	140,129,000
National Diabetes Prevention Program	22,500,000
Cancer Prevention and Control	356,674,000
Breast and Cervical Cancer	210,000,000
WISEWOMAN	21,120,000
Breast Cancer Awareness for Young Women	4,960,000
Cancer Registries	49,440,000
Colorectal Cancer	43,294,000
Comprehensive Cancer	19,675,000
Johanna's Law	5,500,000
Ovarian Cancer	8,000,000
Prostate Cancer	13,205,000
Skin Cancer	2,125,000
Cancer Survivorship Resource Center	475,000
Oral Health	18,000,000
Safe Motherhood/Infant Health	46,000,000
Preterm Birth	2,000,000
Arthritis	11,000,000
Epilepsy	8,500,000
National Lupus Patient Registry	6,000,000
Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH)	50,950,000
Good Health and Wellness in Indian Country	16,000,000
Million Hearts	4,000,000
National Early Child Care Collaboratives	4,000,000
Hospitals Promoting Breastfeeding	8,000,000

Tobacco.—The agreement includes funds for tobacco use prevention and cessation activities for adults and children.

Heart Disease & Stroke and Diabetes.—The agreement includes $130,037,000 and $140,129,000 for the Heart Disease & Stroke and Diabetes prevention formula programs. The Partnerships to Improve Community Health (PICH) program, which received $60,000,000 equally distributed between these lines last year for close-out activities, concluded in fiscal year 2016. The agreement does not include funding for continuation of PICH activities. The Division of Community Health is directed to follow directions provided in Senate Report 114–274 in regards to evaluation plans, data, or analysis related to the PICH program and related programs.

National Diabetes Prevention Program (NDPP).—The agreement includes $22,500,000 for the NDPP, an increase of $2,500,000 over the fiscal year 2016 level, and directs all new funds to support new program providers, including a focus on rural providers.

Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH).—The agreement includes $50,950,000 for the REACH program. Within the total amount, $34,950,000 is provided to begin a new five-year cooperative agreement for community programs and $16,000,000 is for Good Health and Wellness in Indian Country, as described in House Report 114–699. The CDC is urged to fund only the most effective approaches and implement evidence- and practice-based strategies in racial and ethnic communities with all future grant announcements.

BIRTH DEFECTS AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

The agreement includes $137,560,000 for Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities. Within the total for Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities, the agreement includes the following amounts:

Budget Activity	FY 2017 Agreement
Child Health and Development	$65,800,000
Birth Defects	19,000,000
Fetal Death	900,000
Fetal Alcohol Syndrome	11,000,000
Folic Acid	3,150,000
Infant Health	8,650,000
Autism	23,100,000
Health and Development for People with Disabilities	56,660,000
Disability & Health	24,000,000
Tourette Syndrome	2,000,000
Early Hearing Detection and Intervention	10,760,000
Muscular Dystrophy	6,000,000
Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder	1,900,000
Fragile X	2,000,000
Spina Bifida	6,000,000
Congenital Heart Failure	4,000,000
Public Health Approach to Blood Disorders	4,400,000
Hemophilia CDC Activities	3,500,000
Hemophilia Treatment Centers	5,100,000
Thalassemia	2,100,000

Health and Development with Disabilities.—The agreement includes $6,700,000 for the Healthy Athletes program.

Hereditary Hemorrhagic Telangiectasia (HHT) Pilot.—The agreement provides an increase of $100,000 in the Hemophilia Treatment Centers line to support a collaborative pilot model that enables up to three existing Federally-funded Hemophilia Treatment Centers (HTC) to serve as specialty centers for the evaluation and management of HHT. These additional funds are provided to support the first year of a two-year pilot program and should be awarded to an existing HTC with the capacity and expertise to evaluate the data produced in the two-year pilot.

PUBLIC HEALTH SCIENTIFIC SERVICES

The agreement includes a total of $489,397,000 for Public Health Scientific Services in discretionary appropriations. Within the total for Public Health Scientific Services, the agreement includes the following amounts:

Budget Activity	FY 2017 Agreement
Health Statistics	$160,397,000
Surveillance, Epidemiology, and Informatics	279,000,000
Lab Training	5,000,000
Public Health Workforce	50,000,000

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

The agreement includes $180,750,000 for Environmental Health programs, which includes $163,750,000 in discretionary appropriations, and $17,000,000 in transfers from the PPH Fund. The agreement provides support for CDC's environmental health research, evaluation, and surveillance activities. These activities are intended to be complementary to the biomedical research conducted at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences. Within this total, the agreement includes the following amounts:

Budget Activity	FY 2017 Agreement
Environmental Health Laboratory	$56,150,000
Newborn Screening Quality Assurance Program	8,400,000
Newborn Screening/Severe Combined Immuno-deficiency Diseases	1,250,000
Environmental Health Activities	44,600,000
Environmental Health Activities	16,000,000
Safe Water	8,600,000
Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Registry	10,000,000
Climate Change	10,000,000
Environmental and Health Outcome Tracking Network	34,000,000
Asthma	29,000,000
Childhood Lead Poisoning	17,000,000

Vitamin D.—The agreement notes that vitamin D is an essential nutrient. In 2010, the Institute of Medicine published a Dietary Reference Intake (DRI) for vitamin D that found that the evidence supports a role for vitamin D in bone health but not in other health conditions. It further found that emerging evidence indicates that too much vitamin D may be harmful. The agreement requests an update in the fiscal year 2018 budget justification on the current state of the science around vitamin D including what health benefits, if any, vitamin D offers other than bone health. The agreement also requests an update in the fiscal year 2018 budget justification on any plans for an update of the DRI for vitamin D.

Skin Cancer.—The agreement notes a concern about rising rates of skin cancer, the most common form of cancer in the United States. The agreement requests an update in the fiscal year 2018 budget justification on the current state of the science around skin cancer prevention including the link between sun exposure and skin cancer.

INJURY PREVENTION AND CONTROL

The agreement includes $286,059,000 for Injury Prevention and Control activities. Within this total, the agreement includes the following amounts:

Budget Activity	FY 2017 Agreement
Intentional Injury	$97,730,000
Domestic Violence and Sexual Violence	32,700,000
Child Maltreatment	7,250,000
Youth Violence Prevention	15,100,000
Domestic Violence Community Projects	5,500,000
Rape Prevention	44,430,000
National Violent Death Reporting System	16,000,000
Unintentional Injury	8,800,000
Traumatic Brain Injury	6,750,000
Elderly Falls	2,050,000
Injury Prevention Activities	28,950,000
Opioid Prescription Drug Overdose	112,000,000
Illicit Opioid Use Risk Factors	13,579,000
Injury Control Research Centers	9,000,000

Opioid Prescription Drug Overdose (PDO) Prevention Activity.—The agreement continues strong support for PDO prevention activities. In such, it reiterates its support for the interconnected language in both the House and Senate reports on this issue. Further, it notes within the funds provided for PDO prevention, no less than $107,000,000 shall be used to support core PDO activities with the remaining funds available to support, as needed, the prescription guideline distribution efforts.

Prescription Drug Monitoring Program.—In case a State does not have a prescription drug monitoring program, a county, consortium, or other unit of local government within the State that has a prescription drug monitoring program or has submitted an application to establish a prescription drug monitoring program shall be treated as a State for the purpose of this activity.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH

The agreement includes a total of $335,200,000 for the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) in discretionary appropriations. Within the total for NIOSH, the agreement includes the following amounts:

Budget Activity	FY 2017 Agreement
National Occupational Research Agenda	$116,000,000
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing	25,500,000
Education and Research Centers	29,000,000
Personal Protective Technology	20,000,000
Mining Research	59,500,000

Budget Activity	FY 2017 Agreement
Other Occupational Safety and Health Research	109,600,000
National Mesothelioma Registry and Tissue Bank	1,100,000

Total Worker Health.—The agreement provides funding in the Other Occupational Safety and Health Research line to continue to support the Total Worker Health program at no less than the fiscal year 2016 level.

ENERGY EMPLOYEES OCCUPATIONAL ILLNESS COMPENSATION PROGRAM

The agreement includes $55,358,000 in mandatory funding for CDC's responsibilities with respect to the Energy Employee Occupational Illness Compensation Program.

GLOBAL HEALTH

The agreement includes $435,121,000 for Global Health activities. Within this total, the agreement includes the following amounts:

Budget Activity	FY 2017 Agreement
Global AIDS Program	$128,421,000
Global Immunization Program	224,000,000
Polio Eradication	174,000,000
Measles and Other Vaccine Preventable Diseases	50,000,000
Parasitic Diseases/Malaria	24,500,000
Global Public Health Protection	58,200,000
Global Disease Detection and Emergency Response	48,400,000
Global Public Health Capacity	9,800,000

Global Disease Detection.—The agreement provides an increase of $3,000,000 for the Global Disease Detection program. The agreement directs the additional funds to be used to support existing longitudinal, population-based infectious disease surveillance platforms that enable comparative analysis between urban and rural populations in the developing world.

PUBLIC HEALTH PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

The agreement includes $1,405,000,000 for public health preparedness and response activities. Within the total for Public Health Preparedness and Response, the agreement includes the following amounts:

Budget Activity	FY 2017 Agreement
Public Health Emergency Preparedness Cooperative Agreements	$660,000,000
Academic Centers for Public Health Preparedness	8,200,000
CDC Preparedness and Response	161,800,000
BioSense	23,000,000
All Other CDC Preparedness	138,800,000
Strategic National Stockpile	575,000,000

BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

The agreement includes $10,000,000 for Buildings and Facilities.

CDC-WIDE ACTIVITIES

The agreement includes $273,570,000 for CDC-wide activities, which includes $113,570,000 in discretionary appropriations and $160,000,000 in transfers from the PPH Fund. Within this total, the agreement includes the following amounts:

Budget Activity	FY 2017 Agreement
Preventative Health and Health Services Block Grant	$160,000,000
Public Health Leadership and Support	113,570,000

Sodium.—The agreement directs the Director of CDC, within 90 days of enactment of this Act, to enter into an arrangement with the National Academy of Medicine (NAM) to develop a dietary reference intake report for sodium that takes into consideration studies on all-cause mortality. The agreement directs the CDC to provide a copy of the charter with NAM to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate and to include an update in the fiscal year 2018 budget justification on the timeline for the report.

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

The agreement provides $34,084,000,000 for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) activities, including $352,000,000 from the 21st Century Cures Act, an increase of $2,000,000,000, or 6.2 percent, above fiscal year 2016. In addition, $152,000,000 was provided to the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases in the Zika Response and Preparedness Appropriations Act, 2016 to research the Zika virus infection and for the preclinical and clinical development of vaccine and other countermeasures for the Zika virus and other vector-borne diseases.

The agreement continues the commitment to funding research on Alzheimer's disease and increases funding by $400,000,000 to a total of $1,391,000,000 in fiscal year 2017; increases funding for the Precision Medicine Initiative by $120,000,000; increases funding for the Brain Research through Advancing Innovative Neurotechnologies (BRAIN) Initiative by $110,000,000, and increases funding for antibiotic resistance research by $50,000,000. In addition, a funding increase above fiscal year 2016 is provided to every Institute and Center to continue investments in research that will save lives, lead to new drug and device development, reduce health care costs, and improve the lives of all Americans.

Funding from the 21st Century Cures Act was previously appropriated for fiscal year 2017 by section 194 of the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2017. Per the authorization, $300,000,000 is transferred to the National Cancer Institute for cancer research and $52,000,000 will be allocated from the NIH Innovation Fund, in this agreement reflected in the Office of the Director, for the Precision Medicine Initiative cohort ($40,000,000), the BRAIN Initiative ($10,000,000), and regenerative medicine research ($2,000,000).

The agreement increases funding for the Clinical and Translational Science Awards to $516,120,000; increases funding for the Institutional Development Award to $333,361,000; and continues to support the National Children's Study Follow-on program at $165,000,000.

The Common Fund is supported as a set-aside within the Office of the Director at $695,456,000, which includes $12,600,000 to support pediatric research as authorized by the Gabriella Miller Kids First Research Act.

The agreement expects the 6.2 percent increase of funds over the fiscal year 2016 level to support an increase in the number of new and competing Research Project Grants.

The agreement expects NIH to support a consistent NIH-wide inflationary policy across all ICs that is no less than the general increase provided to all ICs (3.0 percent) for non-competing grants.

The agreement expects that NIH will continue its focus on emerging investigators and first-time renewals of these young investigators with actions to significantly reduce the average age of an NIH-supported new investigator.

The agreement expects NIH to support the number of Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Awards and other training grants in proportion to at least the general IC level funding increase. The agreement expects NIH to provide a stipend level and inflationary increase to grantees that is at least consistent with any fiscal year 2017 Federal employee pay raise.

NATIONAL HEART, LUNG, AND BLOOD INSTITUTE

Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD).—The agreement expects CDC and NIH to work together to complete the COPD action plan on a timely basis and report on the implementation of the recommendations of the plan in the fiscal year 2018 budget justification.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF GENERAL MEDICAL SCIENCES (NIGMS)

Science Education Partnership Awards (SEPA).—SEPA fosters important connections between biomedical researchers and K–12 teachers and their students. These connections establish an education pipeline to careers in biomedical sciences, which is one of the most important areas of workforce development in the U.S. economy. The agreement expects SEPA to receive not less than $18,541,000, the fiscal year 2016 level, and transfers SEPA funding to NIGMS following NIH's transfer of the program earlier this year.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON MINORITY HEALTH AND HEALTH DISPARITIES (NIMHD)

Research Centers in Minority Institutions (RCMIs).—The agreement continues to support the core mission of RCMIs to develop new investigators from under-represented communities and to conduct world-class biomedical research that emphasizes minority health and health disparities. The agreement expects the RCMIs to receive not less than $58,461,000, which is the fiscal year 2016 level plus the proportional share of the general increase provided to NIMHD.

NATIONAL CENTER FOR ADVANCING TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCES (NCATS)

Clinical and Translational Science Awards (CTSA) Program.—The agreement includes additional funding for the CTSA program to ensure that recommendations from the 2013 Institute of Medicine report can be implemented without reducing the total number of CTSA awards. The agreement directs NCATS to maintain the number of CTSA awards—including the number of clinical and translational research institutions—at no less than the fiscal year 2016 level.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Gabriella Miller Kids First Research Act.—The agreement continues bill language for specific funds authorized by the Gabriella Miller Kids First Research Act within the Common Fund to support the third year of the 10-year Pediatric Research Initiative. The agreement requests an update in the fiscal year 2018 budget justification on this effort as described in the House and Senate reports.

Clinical Center Reorganization.—The ongoing restructuring of the NIH Clinical Center (CC) to ensure patient safety and care after last year's highly critical Food and Drug Administration (FDA) inspection of the CC Pharmacy remains a high priority. NIH has started the reorganization laid out in the Red Team's recommendations, including hiring a new CC director and establishing a comprehensive oversight and compliance office. These steps should greatly reduce risks, increase assurance of participant safety, and improve research quality. The agreement directs NIH to continue providing timely updates on the reorganization to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, including an update in the fiscal year 2018 budget justification.

Natural Products.—The agreement commends the FDA for issuing draft guidance related to botanical drug products. There are

reports that many alternative and potentially life-saving products are already helping those for whom traditional treatment is not enough or is ineffective. The agreement encourages the NIH, including NCCIH and NCI, and other Federal entities that fund cancer research, to speed development and testing of natural products and their derivatives, with the goal of accelerating the designation of Investigational New Drug applications to promising products. These drugs and their trials represent a promising complement to cancer treatment and the agreement urges NIH to conduct clinical trials in regions with disproportionally high cancer burden and late stage presentation.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION (SAMHSA)

The agreement continues bill language directing the Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use to exempt the Mental Health Block Grant and the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment (SAPT) Block Grant from being used as a source for the PHS evaluation set-aside in fiscal year 2017, as was done prior to fiscal year 2012. Within the total for SAMHSA, the agreement includes $20,000,000 to support programs authorized in the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act of 2016, P.L. 114–198.

MENTAL HEALTH

Within the total provided for Mental Health Programs of Regional and National Significance (PRNS), the agreement includes the following amounts:

Budget Activity	FY 2017 Agreement
Capacity:	
Seclusion & Restraint	$1,147,000
Project Aware State Grants	57,001,000
Mental Health First Aid	14,963,000
Healthy Transitions	19,951,000
National Child Traumatic Stress Network	48,887,000
Children and Family Programs	7,229,000
Consumer and Family Network Grants	4,954,000
Mental Health System Transformation and Health Reform	3,779,000
Project LAUNCH	23,605,000
Primary and Behavioral Health Care Integration	49,877,000
National Strategy for Suicide Prevention	11,000,000
Zero Suicide	*9,000,000*
American Indian and Alaska Native	*2,000,000*
Suicide Lifeline	7,198,000
Garrett Lee Smith—Youth Suicide Prevention—States	35,427,000
Garrett Lee Smith—Youth Suicide Prevention—Campus	6,488,000
American Indian and Alaskan Native Suicide Prevention Initiative	2,931,000
Homelessness Prevention Programs	30,696,000
Tribal Behavioral Grants	15,000,000
Minority AIDS	9,224,000
Criminal and Juvenile Justice Programs	4,269,000
Assisted Outpatient Treatment	15,000,000
Science and Service:	
Garrett Lee Smith—Suicide Prevention Resource Center	5,988,000
Practice Improvement and Training	7,828,000
Primary/Behavioral Health Integration T.A.	1,991,000
Consumer & Consumer Support T.A. Centers	1,918,000
Minority Fellowship Program	8,059,000
Disaster Response	1,953,000
Homelessness	2,296,000

Project AWARE.—Of the amount provided for Project AWARE, the agreement directs SAMHSA to use $10,000,000 for discretionary grants to support efforts in high-crime, high–poverty areas and, in particular, communities that are seeking to address relevant impacts and root causes of civil unrest. These grants should maintain the same focus as fiscal year 2016 grants and continue to be coordinated with the Department of Education grants.

Project LAUNCH.—The agreement provides continuation funding for all existing grant activities.

National Strategy for Suicide Prevention.—The agreement provides $11,000,000 for the National Strategy for Suicide Prevention, an increase of $9,000,000 above the fiscal year 2016 level. Of this amount, $9,000,000 is for the Zero Suicide initiative. The Zero Suicide initiative is a comprehensive, multi-setting approach to suicide prevention in health systems. The agreement also supports a set-aside for American Indian/Alaska Native populations of $2,000,000 within the total for Zero Suicide.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT

Within the total provided for Substance Abuse Treatment Programs of Regional and National Significance, the agreement includes the following amounts:

Budget Activity	FY 2017 Agreement
Capacity:	
Opioid Treatment Programs/Regulatory Activities	$8,724,000
Screening, Brief Intervention, Referral, and Treatment	30,000,000
PHS Evaluation Funds	*2,000,000*
Targeted Capacity Expansion—General	67,192,000
Medication-Assisted Treatment for Prescription Drug and Opioid Addiction	56,000,000
Pregnant & Postpartum Women	19,931,000
Improving Access to Overdose Treatment	1,000,000
Building Communities of Recovery	3,000,000
Recovery Community Services Program	2,434,000
Children and Families	29,605,000
Treatment Systems for Homeless	36,386,000
Minority AIDS	65,570,000
Criminal Justice Activities	78,000,000
Science and Service:	
Addiction Technology Transfer Centers	9,046,000
Minority Fellowship Program	3,539,000

Medication-Assisted Treatment for Prescription Drug and Opioid Addiction.—The agreement provides $56,000,000 for the Medication-Assisted Treatment for Prescription Drug and Opioid Addiction program. SAMHSA is directed to support continuation grants and expand the program to additional States. SAMHSA is directed to include as an allowable use medication-assisted treatment and other clinically appropriate services to achieve and maintain abstinence from all opioids and heroin. SAMHSA is directed to give preference in grant awards to treatment regimens that are less susceptible to diversion for illicit purposes. These grants should target States with the highest age adjusted rates of admissions, including those that have demonstrated a dramatic age adjusted increase in admissions for the treatment of opioid use disorders.

Criminal Justice Activities.—The agreement provides $78,000,000 for Criminal Justice Activities and directs that no less than $60,000,000 will be used exclusively for Drug Court activities. SAMHSA is directed to ensure that all Drug Treatment Court funding is allocated to serve people diagnosed with a substance use disorder as their primary condition. SAMHSA is further directed to ensure that all drug treatment court grant recipients work directly with the corresponding State substance abuse agency in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of the grant. SAMHSA is further directed to expand training and technical assistance to drug treatment court grant recipients to ensure evidence-based practices are fully implemented.

Pregnant and Postpartum Women.—The agreement includes an increase of $4,000,000 for grants authorized under section 501 of the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act of 2016, P.L. 114–198. Consistent with the authorization, the additional funding will be used to fund pilot programs to address treatment gaps for pregnant and postpartum women with substance use disorders, including opioid use disorders.

Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant-Overdose Fatality Prevention.—The agreement reflects strong concerns about the increasing number of unintentional overdose deaths attributable to prescription and nonprescription opioids. SAMHSA is urged to take steps to encourage and support the use of Substance Abuse and Prevention Block Grant funds for opioid safety education and training, including initiatives that improve access for licensed healthcare professionals, including paramedics, to emergency devices used to rapidly reverse the effects of opioid overdoses. Such initiatives should incorporate robust evidence based intervention training, and facilitate linkage to treatment and recovery services.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION

Within the total provided for Substance Abuse Prevention Programs of Regional and National Significance, the agreement includes the following amounts:

Budget Activity	FY 2017 Agreement
Capacity:	
Strategic Prevention Framework/Partnerships for Success	$109,484,000
Strategic Prevention Framework Rx	10,000,000
Grants to Prevent Prescription Drug/Opioid Overdose	12,000,000
First Responder Training	12,000,000
Rural Set-aside	*6,000,000*
Mandatory Drug Testing	4,894,000
Minority AIDS	41,205,000
Sober Truth on Preventing Underage Drinking (STOP Act)	7,000,000
National Adult-Oriented Media Public Service Campaign	*1,000,000*
Community-based Coalition Enhancement Grants	*5,000,000*
Intergovernmental Coordinating Committee on the Prevention of Underage Drinking	*1,000,000*
Tribal Behavioral Health Grants	15,000,000
Science and Service:	
Center for the Application of Prevention Technologies	7,493,000
Science and Service Program Coordination	4,072,000
Minority Fellowship Program	71,000

The agreement directs that all of the funding appropriated explicitly for substance abuse prevention purposes both in the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention's PRNS lines as well as the funding from the 20 percent prevention set-aside in the SAPT Block Grant be used only for bona fide substance abuse prevention programs and not for any other purpose.

Grants to Prevent Prescription Drug/Opioid Overdose.—The agreement provides $12,000,000 for discretionary grants to States to prevent opioid overdose-related deaths. This program will help States equip and train first responders with the use of devices that rapidly reverse the effects of opioids. SAMHSA is directed to ensure applicants outline how proposed activities in the grant would work with treatment and recovery communities in addition to first responders.

First Responder Training.—The agreement provides $12,000,000 for First Responder Training grants as authorized in the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act of 2016, P.L. 114–198. Of this amount, $6,000,000 is set aside for rural communities with high rates of substance abuse. Consistent with the authorization, SAMHSA is directed to ensure applicants outline how proposed activities in the grant would work with treatment and recovery communities in addition to first responders.

HEALTH SURVEILLANCE AND PROGRAM SUPPORT

Within the total provided for health surveillance and program support, the agreement includes the following amounts:

Budget Activity	FY 2017 Agreement
Health Surveillance	$47,258,000
PHS Evaluation Fund	*30,428,000*
Program Management	77,000,000
Performance and Quality Info. Systems	10,000,000
Public Awareness and Support	13,000,000
Behavioral Health Workforce Data	1,000,000
PHS Evaluation Funds	*1,000,000*

AGENCY FOR HEALTHCARE RESEARCH AND QUALITY

HEALTHCARE RESEARCH AND QUALITY

The agreement provides $324,000,000 for the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. Within the total, the agreement includes the following amounts:

Budget Activity	FY 2017 Agreement
Patient-Centered Health Research	$0
Prevention/Care Management	11,649,000
Health Information Technology (IT)	16,500,000
Health IT to Improve Quality	*14,500,000*
Patient Safety Research	70,276,000
Healthcare-Associated Infections Prevention	*36,000,000*
Combating Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria	*10,000,000*
Healthcare Delivery Systems	*10,000,000*
Crosscutting Activities Related to Quality, Effectiveness and Efficiency Research	88,731,000
Health Services Contract/IAA Research	*14,000,000*
Investigator-Initiated Research Grants	*46,731,000*
Medical Expenditure Panel Survey	66,000,000
Program Management	70,844,000

CENTERS FOR MEDICARE AND MEDICAID SERVICES

PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

Air Ambulance Services and Payment Structures.—In lieu of the language in Senate Report 114–274, the agreement directs the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate on fixed wing and helicopter air ambulance services, operational costs, and, as available, payment structures no later than 18 months after the enactment of this Act. The report should include an analysis of costs, including all operational, mechanical, medical, human capital, and business expenses. The report shall include analysis of the number of providers providing either fixed wing or rotor wing ambulance services and the number of transports, taking into consideration the volume of transports per provider over time, and the number in comparative volumes for accident site, inter-facility, and non-emergency/charter transports. The report should reflect demographic and urban/rural/super rural differences as well as differences in fixed wing and helicopter services. GAO may examine the source and amount of reimbursement for these services among private insurance companies, Medicare, Medicaid reimbursement rates, and other Federal government sponsored reimbursement rates such as TRICARE. The agreement understands that the GAO already has an ongoing effort in regards to the requested report on Air Ambulance Services and Payment issues. To prevent duplication of effort, GAO should include this information within the ongoing effort to the extent practicable. GAO shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate as it develops the methodology and scope for the review.

Critical Access Hospitals.—The agreement continues to note concerns about the proposal to eliminate Critical Access Hospitals (CAH) status from facilities located less than 10 miles from another hospital and reducing the reimbursement rate from 101 to 100 percent on the hospitals to properly provide care to local residents. The agreement directs the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to take steps to limit the negative impact of the proposed rate reduction on CAH.

Health Insurance Exchange Transparency.—The agreement continues to include bill language in section 221 that requires CMS to provide cost information for the following categories: Federal Payroll and Other Administrative Costs; Exchange-related Information Technology (IT); Non-IT Program Costs, including Health Plan Benefit and Rate Review, Exchange Oversight, Payment and Financial Management, Eligibility and Enrollment; Consumer Information and Outreach, including the Call Center, Navigator Grants and Consumer Education and Outreach; Exchange Quality Review; Small Business Health Options Program and Employer Activities; and Other Exchange Activities. Cost information should be provided for each fiscal year since the enactment of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Public Law 111–148). CMS is also required to include the estimated costs for fiscal year 2018.

Meaningful Use.—The agreement notes that some eligible hospitals met the substantive requirements for the Medicare Electronic Health Records Incentive Program, but failed to be certified due to administrative error. As a result, the eligible hospitals did not receive an incentive payment or were subject to a payment adjustment. The agreement directs CMS to reconsider options to provide an appeal to such eligible hospitals that met substantive program requirements.

Medicare Diabetes Prevention Program (MDPP).—The agreement supports CMS' expansion of the Medicare Diabetes Prevention Program beginning in January 2018 to improve health outcomes and reduce diabetes-related healthcare costs. The agreement encourages CMS to include virtual and remote technologies, in addition to in-person services, as allowable means for providing MDPP services to beneficiaries in future rulemaking.

Risk Corridor Program.—The agreement continues bill language to prevent the CMS Program Management appropriation account from being used to support risk corridor payments. The agreement directs CMS to provide a report starting with plan year 2014 and continuing through the duration of the program to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate detailing the receipts and transfer of payments for the Risk Corridor Program.

Severe Wounds.—The agreement notes CMS' prompt implementation of section 231 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2016 and directs CMS to implement this provision with an effective date of December 18, 2015.

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

REFUGEE AND ENTRANT ASSISTANCE

Victims of Trafficking.—The agreement includes $13,000,000 for services for foreign national victims, and $5,755,000 to improve services available for U.S. citizens and legal permanent residents.

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SERVICES PROGRAMS

Child Abuse Discretionary Activities.—The agreement includes funding to preserve, disseminate, and amplify the work of the Quality Improvement Center (QIC) for Research-based Infant-Toddler Court Teams by providing training and technical assistance in support of such court teams' efforts across the country. These efforts shall build upon and continue the work of sites established through the QIC initiative, which have brought together the court system, child welfare agencies, health professionals, and community leaders to improve current practices in the child welfare system and make better-informed decisions on behalf of the child. The agreement strongly encourages the Administration for Children and Families to allocate the funds promptly.

Child Welfare Research, Training, and Demonstration.—The agreement includes funding within this program to continue the National Survey of Child and Adolescent Well-Being.

Community Economic Development.—The agreement does not provide funds for the Healthy Food Financing Initiative.

Early Head Start-Child Care Partnerships.—The agreement includes an increase of $5,000,000 for Early Head Start-Child Care Partnerships for a cost of living adjustment.

Native American Programs.—The agreement includes $12,000,000 for Native American language preservation activities, including $3,000,000 for Generation Indigenous, and not less than $4,000,000 for language immersion programs authorized by section 803C(b)(7)(A)–(C) of the Native American Programs Act.

Preschool Development Grants.—Consistent with the authorization of the Preschool Development Grant program in the Every Student Succeeds Act, the agreement requests a report describing the transition of authority and program operations from the Department of Education to the Department of Health and Human Services. The report shall include a specific and clear outline of how HHS will administer the program, including an outline for the transition process that will occur as the Departments shift the program from Education to HHS. The report shall be provided to the Committees on Appropriations and Education and the Workforce in the House of Representatives and the Committees on Appropriations and Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions in the Senate.

Social Services and Income Maintenance Research.—The agreement includes $500,000 to complete the evidence-based, non-partisan analysis of the macroeconomic, health, and crime/social costs of child poverty—including a study of current efforts aimed at reducing poverty—and to propose recommendations with the goal of reducing the number of children living in poverty in the United States by half in 10 years. The funds are provided to extend the original agreement with the National Academy of Sciences.

ADMINISTRATION FOR COMMUNITY LIVING

AGING AND DISABILITY SERVICES PROGRAMS

The agreement is aware the Administrator and Assistant Secretary for Aging has committed to not using any funds from grant programs administered by the Administration For Community Living (ACL) to pay for administrative costs at ACL including additional staff or any other administrative or emergency expenses. The agreement expects ACL will maintain this commitment for fiscal year 2017 and further believes that in future budget years ACL should meet its administrative needs through targeted funding for its administrative accounts, not by shifting funds from grant programs.

Aging Network Support Activities.—The agreement provides $9,961,000 for Aging Network Support Activities, of which $2,500,000 is for the Holocaust Survivor Assistance program.

Senior Medicare Patrol Program.—The agreement includes bill language fully funding the Senior Medicare Patrol Program from the Health Care Fraud and Abuse Control Account in the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

Elder Rights Support Activities.—The agreement includes $13,874,000 for Elder Rights Support Activities, of which $10,000,000 is included for the Elder Justice and Adult Protective Services program.

Developmental Disabilities Projects of National Significance.—The agreement includes $10,000,000 for Developmental Disabilities Projects of National Significance, of which $575,000 is for technical assistance and training for the State Councils on Developmental Disabilities and $1,000,000 is to fund transportation assistance activities for older adults and persons with disabilities. The transportation activities should focus on the most cost-effective and sustainable strategies that can be replicated to other communities.

Independent Living.—The agreement provides $101,183,000 for the Independent Living program, of which $22,878,000 is for the Independent Living State Grants program and $78,305,000 is for the Centers for Independent Living program.

State Health Insurance Program.—The agreement includes $47,115,000 for the State Health Insurance Program, which provides health insurance information to Medicare beneficiaries and their families.

Assistive Technology.—The agreement includes $2,000,000 for competitive grants as specified in House Report 114–699 to accompany H.R. 5926.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

GENERAL DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Idea lab and Digital Services.—The agreement does not include funding for either the proposed ''Idea lab'' or the Digital Services team.

Lupus Initiative.—The agreement continues to provide $2,000,000 for Lupus activities at the Office of Minority Health.

Nonrecurring Expenses Fund (NEF).—The Secretary is directed to provide to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, within 30 days of enactment of this Act and quarterly thereafter, a report with the following information concerning each activity the Department plans to support with funding from the NEF in the current fiscal year and the upcoming fiscal year: (1) a statement identifying and describing each activity the Department proposes to fund; (2) the operating division or office that administers the activity; (3) the estimated total amount of funding proposed for allocation to the activity; and (4) the current status of the activity and the amount of funding (NEF or other) obligated toward it to date, as well as expected to be obligated through the current fiscal year. Finally, the Secretary is directed to include in these reports information on balances by contributing operating division or office in the NEF at the start of the fiscal year and the anticipated and actual balances transferred into the NEF during the fiscal year and at the end of the fiscal year.

Office of Women's Health.—The agreement includes $3,100,000 to continue the State partnership initiative to reduce violence against women, which provides funding to State-level public and private health programs to improve healthcare providers' ability to help victims of violence and improve prevention programs.

Overhead costs.—The agreement continues to direct the Department to include the amount and percentage of administrative and overhead costs spent by the Department for every program, project and activity in the fiscal year 2018 justification and each year thereafter.

Quick Health Data Online System.—The agreement directs the Secretary to continue the operation of the Quick Health Data Online System. The data query system should include all variables previously available, and access data from relevant datasets beyond HHS. User-friendly data queries should have the capacity to seek information by sex and by race/ethnicity simultaneously, at the State and county levels.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

The agreement includes $80,000,000 for the HHS Office of Inspector General (OIG) account. The agreement expects the OIG to continue to improve its annual budget justification with more details and performance measures related to discretionary oversight.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES EMERGENCY FUND

The agreement includes a program level of $1,532,958,000 for the Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund (PHSSEF), which includes $1,517,958,000 in appropriated funds and $15,000,000 in PHSSEF unobligated balances from pandemic influenza supplemental appropriations. This funding will support a comprehensive program to prepare for and respond to the health and medical consequences of all public health emergencies, including bioterrorism, and support the cybersecurity efforts of HHS. In addition, the Zika Response and Preparedness Appropriations Act, 2016 provided $387,000,000 to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the Zika virus.

Pandemic Influenza Supplemental Balances.—The agreement directs the Secretary to make PHSSEF unobligated balances available within 30 days of enactment.

Prevention and Public Health Fund.—The agreement reflects the allocation of the Prevention and Public Health Fund as included in the Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2017.

PREVENTION AND PUBLIC HEALTH FUND

Agency	Budget Activity	FY 2017 Agreement
ACL	Alzheimer's Disease Prevention Education and Outreach.	$14,700,000
ACL	Chronic Disease Self-Management	8,000,000
ACL	Falls Prevention	5,000,000
CDC	Breast Feeding Grants (Hospitals Promoting Breastfeeding).	8,000,000
CDC	Diabetes	72,000,000
CDC	Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity Grants	40,000,000
CDC	Healthcare Associated Infections	12,000,000
CDC	Heart Disease & Stroke Prevention Program	73,000,000
CDC	Million Hearts Program	4,000,000
CDC	Office of Smoking and Health	126,000,000
CDC	Preventative Health and Health Services Block Grants.	160,000,000
CDC	REACH	50,950,000
CDC	Section 317 Immunization Grants	324,350,000
CDC	Lead Poisoning Prevention	17,000,000
CDC	Early Care Collaboratives	4,000,000
SAMHSA	Garrett Lee Smith—Youth Suicide Prevention	12,000,000

TITLE III

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

EDUCATION FOR THE DISADVANTAGED

National Activities.—There is significant concern about the Department's allocation of resources available through various national activities authorities for pay for success projects. While pay for success and other innovative financing mechanisms may prove to be a worthy investment, these projects were explicitly authorized under the Every Student Succeeds Act only in three instances. However, the Department chose to use fiscal year 2016 national activities resources for these projects in programs where Congress did not authorize such a use of funds and did so without any consultation with the committees of jurisdiction. Therefore, the Department is directed to submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, Committee on Education and the Workforce in the House of Representatives, and Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions in the Senate operating plans describing in detail its planned use of funds for national activities program authorities funded in this title not later than 45 days prior to the announcement of the availability of funding for such activities.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS

The agreement allows Student Support and Academic Enrichment grants funding provided in this Act to be distributed within a State on a competitive basis at a State's discretion.

INDIAN EDUCATION

Native Youth Community Projects.—Within the total for Special Programs for Indian Children, the agreement includes $43,452,000 for Native Youth Community Projects. This program makes competitive awards to support culturally-relevant coordinated strategies to improve the college- and career-readiness of Native American youth.

State-Tribal Education Partnership.—The agreement includes continued funding for the State-Tribal Education Partnership (STEP) Program, which makes grants to tribes to build capacity to assume certain State responsibilities for the administration of ESEA programs.

National Activities.—Within the total for National Activities, the agreement includes funding for a new language immersion program to maintain and promote the use of Native languages. These funds should be allocated to support extensive distribution across geography and language diversity and support both existing and new Native language immersion programs and schools.

INNOVATION AND IMPROVEMENT

Supporting Effective Educator Development.—The agreement includes funding for competitive grants, which may include a consortia of programs operating in multiple States, to improve the academic preparation and college readiness, including the college-and-career pipeline, of rural youth. Such programs should support teachers in all grade levels and across disciplines, students, families, and community members, in high-need rural areas. Specific activities could include professional development and on-site programming for teachers and school administrators throughout the year; youth writing and literacy programs; and community-based workshops for students and families.

Ready to Learn.—The agreement provides for additional funding to help Ready to Learn grantees meet their project objectives and successfully produce the high-quality educational programming intended by Congress. The Department shall provide each grantee a proportional share of such funds based on grantees' initial budget submissions. There remains concern with the Department's poor management in administering this program; accordingly, the Department is advised to improve future communications with both grantees and the Congress.

SAFE SCHOOLS AND CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION

Promise Neighborhoods.—The agreement includes bill language extending authority provided under the Promise Neighborhoods program in the Every Student Succeeds Act to grants made under the previous authorization of the program. The Department is directed to use that authority to extend funding for current high-quality Promise Neighborhoods programs operating in underserved areas that have demonstrated promising results through their initial implementation grant and propose to continue pursuing ambitious goals through continued innovative activities during such extension of their award.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Within Technical Assistance and Dissemination, the agreement includes $12,583,000 for education activities authorized under P.L. 108–406, as amended.

Education Technology, Media, and Materials Program.—Progress has been made with tools and services provided under the Education Technology, Media and Materials program that have allowed more than 380,000 students free access to more than 325,000 books in multiple digitally accessible formats. The agreement directs the Department to include not less than the fiscal year 2016 level of funding to expand this program's reach to K–12 students in underserved areas.

SPECIAL INSTITUTIONS FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

American Printing House for the Blind.—The agreement continues to recognize the significant progress being made through the Resources with Enhanced Accessibility for Learning (REAL) Plan toward developing new technologies to translate educational materials for delivery to students who are blind and visually impaired. These technological advances will provide educational materials to students more quickly than ever before, enhancing opportunities for academic achievement. The agreement continues to support implementation of the REAL plan, and includes not less than $475,000 for such activities, the same as the fiscal year 2016 level.

National Technical Institute for the Deaf (NTID).—The agreement includes $2,000,000 in continued funding to support NTID's operational costs and to continue support for at least one regional partnership via a subcontract with an external organization consistent with its mission and strategic plan. These partnerships enable NTID to expand the geographic reach of services and activities supported by the college for individuals who are deaf and hard of hearing. The partnership activities include a focus on: promoting training and postsecondary participation in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math fields; working with NTID faculty to develop postsecondary preparation for students; providing professional development for teachers and developing partnerships with business and industry to promote employment opportunities for individuals who are deaf and hard of hearing.

STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Pell Grants.—The agreement includes a provision as included in the Senate bill regarding year-round Pell grants. The Department should implement this provision to maximize flexibility for institutions of higher education and avoid unnecessary administrative burdens while ensuring the best interests of students. The Department is directed to issue guidance on this expanded eligibility and flexibility in the Pell grant program not later than July 1, 2017. The Department is also directed to provide reliable data on the implementation of this provision.

STUDENT AID ADMINISTRATION

Student Loan Servicing.—The agreement directs the Department to permit borrowers who are consolidating their student loans to choose from among all Federal student loan servicers when choosing a servicer for their new consolidated loans. The Department is expected to make common performance metrics available to borrowers to help guide their decision for which servicer to select. This will allow student borrowers to stay with their existing servicer if they wish to, limit unnecessary disruption for borrowers, and provide another incentive for servicers to provide high-quality service to borrowers. The Department is directed to brief the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate and the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions and House Committee on Education and the Workforce within 30 days of enactment of this Act on how it plans to carry out this directive.

HIGHER EDUCATION

TRIO.—The agreement does not include funding for the TRIO demonstration project proposed in the budget justification.

The Department is directed to allocate fiscal year 2017 TRIO funding such that all current grantees receive an increase in their grant award. The Department is directed to avoid imposing additional requirements as a condition for grantees to receive these funds. Additionally, the Department is directed to increase the number of new grants awarded for those programs that will conduct a new competition this fiscal year.

There is concern that the Department has rejected and made ineligible for review several fiscal year 2017 grant applications based on minor formatting issues. The Department is strongly encouraged to provide flexibility to such applicants by permitting submission of a corrected application. The Department should include consistent formatting requirements across all TRIO competitions in the future.

INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION SCIENCES

The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) shall explore ways to collect aggregate teacher-level data on student characteristics when it administers the National Teacher and Principal Survey so that in the future NCES is able to provide better data about the characteristics of students taught by teachers with different certifications.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

The agreement includes a new general provision expanding eligibility and flexibility in the Pell grant program relating to year-round Pell grants.

The agreement includes a new general provision rescinding unobligated balances available for the Pell grant program.

TITLE IV

RELATED AGENCIES

COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED

Committee For Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled—Requested Reports.—The agreement directs the Committee For Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled to comply with the reporting requirements specified under this heading in House Report 114–699 to accompany H.R. 5926.

Requested Information in Fiscal Year 2018 Budget Justification.—The agreement directs the Committee For Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled to include in its fiscal year 2018 budget justification:

1. An organizational chart for the Virginia office,

2. A map showing the location of all Central Nonprofit Agencies, and

3. A chart or map showing the total fees charged by each Central Nonprofit Agency by State.

Western United States Field Office.—The agreement directs the Committee For Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled to use some of the additional funds provided over the fiscal year 2016 level to establish a field office serving the western areas of the United States. Information on the establishment of a field office shall be included in the fiscal year 2018 budget justification.

CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

AmeriCorps State and National Grants.—The agreement directs the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) to issue clear, extensive guidance as part of their fiscal year 2018 request for proposals for AmeriCorps grants outlining specifically how grantees can demonstrate and justify the need for operating funds as part of their professional corps grant.

Training and Technical Assistance.—Under current law, CNCS has authority to set aside up to 25 percent of program funds for evaluation, training, and technical assistance. CNCS is directed to use this authority to provide not less than $7,500,000 for training and technical assistance activities for State Commissions, to expand the capacity of current and potential AmeriCorps programs, particularly in underserved areas.

Innovation, Demonstration, and Assistance Activities.—The agreement does not include funding for the Social Innovation Fund.

INSTITUTE OF MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICES

Within the total for IMLS, the bill includes funds for the following activities in the following amounts:

Budget Activity	FY 2017 Agreement
Library Services Technology Act:	
Grants to States	$156,103,000
Native American Library Services	4,063,000
National Leadership: Libraries	13,406,000
Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian	10,000,000
Museum Services Act:	
Museums for America	21,149,000
Native American/Hawaiian Museum Services	972,000
National Leadership: Museums	8,113,000
African American History and Culture Act:	
Museum Grants for African American History & Culture	1,481,000
Research, Analysis, and Data Collection	1,713,000
Program Administration	14,000,000
Total	231,000,000

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

Administrative Law Judge Hiring.—The Social Security Administration's National Hearing Centers (NHCs) provide the Social Security Administration (SSA) with invaluable flexibility and support to address the hearings backlog. Understanding the value of this flexibility and support, the agreement directs SSA to ensure that its upcoming Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) hiring allocates additional ALJs to NHCs.

Disability Case Processing System.—The agreement strongly supports the recommendation by the Office of Inspector General that SSA should periodically evaluate its path forward to ensure it is pursuing the

most cost-effective alternative to achieve the goals of a modernized case-processing system for SSA and obtain the greatest value for the taxpayer. To that end, the agreement supports SSA's decision to obtain an independent, third-party evaluation of the advantages and disadvantages of pursuing various alternatives from this point forward, including continued deployment of DCPS2, and other options. The Social Security Administration is directed to brief the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate on the results of the evaluation within 90 days of enactment of this Act.

Prioritizing Continuing Disability Reviews To Maximize Cost Savings.—A recent Government Accountability Office report (GAO–16–250) found that SSA's Continuing Disability Review (CDR) prioritization models fail to maximize potential cost savings. Within 1 year, and every 3 years thereafter, the agreement directs SSA to review and update the models for prioritization of CDRs with the primary intent of efficiently and effectively maximizing lifetime cost savings to the government. A detailed, cost-based explanation for the model's prioritization of different CDR types and justification for any updates made should be included in the annual CDR Report.

Program Integrity.—The agreement supports increased funding for program integrity activities within SSA. The intent of this agreement is for SSA to support program integrity activities solely from funds available for that purpose. The agreement provides an additional six months of availability to use program integrity funds to facilitate reconciliation of actual costs at the end of the fiscal year.

Reducing the Disability Adjudication Backlog.—The agreement includes funds to address SSA's disability adjudication backlog, which is currently 560 days on average. The Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate are disappointed in SSA's progress in reducing the backlog when specific funding was provided in the Further Continuing and Security Assistance Appropriations Act, 2017. Due to concerns about continued weaknesses with SSA's CARES plan, SSA is directed to submit a detailed report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Finance of the Senate within 90 days of enactment of this Act that outlines its plan for reducing the disability backlog of the Office of Disability Adjudication and Review (ODAR) and increasing ODAR's effectiveness. The report shall include measurable milestones toward achieving key elements of SSA's hiring and improved automation goals. These milestones shall include workload information, including receipts, pending, and processing time, award rate, and decisions rate at each level of adjudication, workforce information for ALJs, Decision Writers, and other support staff including new hires, separations, and support staff ratios, planned obligations by quarter for each component of the initiative, as well as the expected reductions in the backlog. To ensure this effort stays on schedule, SSA is directed to submit quarterly reports to such Committees that compare actual data with milestones identified in the initial report. The quarterly reports should compare actual and planned data on obligations, hiring, effects on the backlog, and other performance measures.

Representative Payee.—The agreement notes that any vendor hired to conduct representative payee monitoring reviews have significant and demonstrable experience monitoring representative payees, and addressing problems found among individuals with different types of disabilities and among different types of service providers. SSA should expect close Congressional oversight of this situation throughout the coming year. The agreement also notes with concern a lack of oversight and internal controls in the Representative Payee program. SSA is encouraged to improve program monitoring to address program deficiencies discussed in recent Office of the Inspector General reports.

Work Incentives Planning and Assistance and Protection and Advocacy for Beneficiaries of Social Security.—The agreement includes $23,000,000 for Work Incentives Planning and Assistance and $7,000,000 for Protection and Advocacy for Beneficiaries of Social Security.

TITLE V

GENERAL PROVISIONS

The agreement includes language rescinding various unobligated balances.

The agreement includes an extension of the Special Olympics Sport and Empowerment Act of 2004.

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request	
TITLE I--DEPARTMENT OF LABOR							
EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION							
Training and Employment Services							
Grants to States:							
Adult Training, current year	D	103,556	130,376	103,556	---	-26,820	FF
Advance from prior year	NA	(712,000)	(712,000)	(712,000)	---	---	
FY 2018	D	712,000	712,000	712,000	---	---	
Subtotal		815,556	842,376	815,556	---	-26,820	
Youth Training	D	873,416	902,139	873,416	---	-28,723	FF
Dislocated Worker Assistance, current year	D	160,860	243,346	160,860	---	-82,486	FF
Advance from prior year	NA	(860,000)	(860,000)	(860,000)	---	---	
FY 2018	D	860,000	860,000	860,000	---	---	
Subtotal		1,020,860	1,103,346	1,020,860	---	-82,486	
Subtotal, Grants to States		2,709,832	2,847,861	2,709,832	---	-138,029	
Current Year		(1,137,832)	(1,275,861)	(1,137,832)	---	(-138,029)	
FY 2018		(1,572,000)	(1,572,000)	(1,572,000)	---	---	

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request	
National Programs:							
Dislocated Worker Assistance National Reserve:							
Current year	D	20,859	30,859	20,859	---	-10,000	FF
Advance from prior year	NA	(200,000)	(200,000)	(200,000)	---	---	
FY 2018	D	200,000	200,000	200,000	---	---	
Subtotal		220,859	230,859	220,859	---	-10,000	
Subtotal, Dislocated Worker Assistance		1,241,719	1,334,205	1,241,719	---	-92,486	
Native American programs	D	50,000	52,000	50,000	---	-2,000	FF
Migrant and Seasonal Farmworker programs	D	81,896	81,896	81,896	---	---	FF
Women in Apprenticeship	D	994	---	---	-994	---	FF
YouthBuild activities	D	84,534	84,534	84,534	---	---	FF
Technical assistance	D	3,232	3,232	2,500	-732	-732	
Reintegration of Ex-Offenders	D	88,078	95,078	88,078	---	-7,000	
Workforce Data Quality Initiative	D	6,000	40,000	6,000	---	-34,000	
Apprenticeship programs	D	90,000	90,000	95,000	+5,000	+5,000	
Total, National Programs		625,593	677,599	628,867	+3,274	-48,732	
Current Year		(425,593)	(477,599)	(428,867)	(+3,274)	(-48,732)	
FY 2018		(200,000)	(200,000)	(200,000)	---	---	

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request	
Total, Training and Employment Services (TES)		3,335,425	3,525,460	3,338,699	+3,274	-186,761	
Current Year		(1,563,425)	(1,753,460)	(1,566,699)	(+3,274)	(-186,761)	
FY 2018		(1,772,000)	(1,772,000)	(1,772,000)	---	---	
Job Corps							
Operations	D	1,581,825	1,608,535	1,587,325	+5,500	-21,210	FF
Construction, Rehabilitation and Acquisition	D	75,000	105,000	84,500	+9,500	-20,500	FF
Administration	D	32,330	41,055	32,330	---	-8,725	
Total, Job Corps		1,689,155	1,754,590	1,704,155	+15,000	-50,435	
Current Year		(1,689,155)	(1,754,590)	(1,704,155)	(+15,000)	(-50,435)	
Community Service Employment For Older Americans	D	434,371	434,371	400,000	-34,371	-34,371	FF
Federal Unemployment Benefits and Allowances (indefinite)	M	861,000	849,000	849,000	-12,000	---	

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request	
State Unemployment Insurance and Employment Service Operations							
Unemployment Compensation (UI):							
State Operations	TF	2,745,550	2,777,919	2,687,600	-57,950	-90,319	
National Activities	TF	14,547	15,247	14,897	+350	-350	
Subtotal, Unemployment Compensation		2,760,097	2,793,166	2,702,497	-57,600	-90,669	
Employment Service (ES):							
Grants to States:							
Federal Funds	D	21,413	21,413	21,413	---	---	FF
Trust Funds	TF	658,587	658,587	650,000	-8,587	-8,587	FF
Subtotal, Grants to States		680,000	680,000	671,413	-8,587	-8,587	FF
ES National Activities	TF	19,818	19,818	19,818	---	---	
Subtotal, Employment Service		699,818	699,818	691,231	-8,587	-8,587	
Federal Funds		(21,413)	(21,413)	(21,413)	---	---	
Trust Funds		(678,405)	(678,405)	(669,818)	(-8,587)	(-8,587)	

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request	
Foreign Labor Certifications and Related Activities:							
Federal Administration	TF	48,028	48,666	48,028	---	-638	
Grants to States	TF	14,282	14,282	14,282	---	---	
Subtotal, Foreign Labor Certification		62,310	62,948	62,310	---	-638	
One-Stop Career Centers/Labor Market Information	D	67,653	75,153	67,653	---	-7,500	FF
Total, State UI and ES		3,589,878	3,631,085	3,523,691	-66,187	-107,394	
Federal Funds		(89,066)	(96,566)	(89,066)	---	(-7,500)	
Trust Funds		(3,500,812)	(3,534,519)	(3,434,625)	(-66,187)	(-99,894)	

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
Program Administration						
Training and Employment	D	60,074	76,331	62,040	+1,966	-14,291
Trust Funds	TF	8,639	10,615	8,639	---	-1,976
Employment Security	D	3,469	3,640	3,440	-29	-200
Trust Funds	TF	39,264	39,821	39,264	---	-557
Apprenticeship Services	D	34,000	40,089	36,160	+2,160	-3,929
Executive Direction	D	7,034	8,251	7,034	---	-1,217
Trust Funds	TF	2,079	2,079	2,079	---	---
Total, Program Administration		154,559	180,826	158,656	+4,097	-22,170
Federal Funds		(104,577)	(128,311)	(108,674)	(+4,097)	(-19,637)
Trust Funds		(49,982)	(52,515)	(49,982)	---	(-2,533)
Total, Employment and Training Administration		10,064,388	10,375,332	9,974,201	-90,187	-401,131
Federal Funds		6,513,594	6,788,298	6,489,594	-24,000	-298,704
Current Year		(4,741,594)	(5,016,298)	(4,717,594)	(-24,000)	(-298,704)
FY 2018		(1,772,000)	(1,772,000)	(1,772,000)	---	---
Trust Funds		3,550,794	3,587,034	3,484,607	-66,187	-102,427

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS SECURITY ADMINISTRATION (EBSA)						
Salaries and Expenses						
Enforcement and Participant Assistance	D	147,400	---	147,400	---	+147,400
Policy and Compliance Assistance	D	26,901	---	26,901	---	+26,901
Executive Leadership, Program Oversight and Administration	D	6,699	---	6,699	---	+6,699
Employee benefits security programs	D	---	205,761	---	---	-205,761
Total, EBSA		181,000	205,761	181,000	---	-24,761
PENSION BENEFIT GUARANTY CORPORATION (PBGC)						
Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation Fund						
Consolidated Administrative budget	NA	(431,799)	(519,506)	(519,506)	(+87,707)	---
WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION, Salaries and Expenses	D	227,500	276,599	227,500	---	-49,099
OFFICE OF LABOR-MANAGEMENT STANDARDS, Salaries and Expenses	D	40,593	45,691	38,187	-2,406	-7,504

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
OFFICE OF FEDERAL CONTRACT COMPLIANCE PROGRAMS,						
Salaries and Expenses	D	105,476	114,169	104,476	-1,000	-9,693
OFFICE OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION PROGRAMS	D					
Salaries and Expenses	D	113,324	123,982	115,424	+2,100	-8,558
Trust Funds	TF	2,177	2,177	2,177	---	---
Total, Salaries and Expenses		115,501	126,159	117,601	+2,100	-8,558
Federal Funds		(113,324)	(123,982)	(115,424)	(+2,100)	(-8,558)
Trust Funds		(2,177)	(2,177)	(2,177)	---	---
Special Benefits						
Federal Employees' Compensation Benefits	M	207,000	217,000	217,000	+10,000	---
Longshore and Harbor Workers' Benefits	M	3,000	3,000	3,000	---	---
Total, Special Benefits		210,000	220,000	220,000	+10,000	---

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
Special Benefits for Disabled Coal Miners						
Benefit Payments	M	85,000	75,000	75,000	-10,000	---
Administration	M	5,302	5,319	5,319	+17	---
Subtotal, FY 2017 program level		90,302	80,319	80,319	-9,983	---
Less funds advanced in prior year	M	-21,000	-19,000	-19,000	+2,000	---
Total, Current Year		69,302	61,319	61,319	-7,983	---
New advances, 1st quarter, FY 2018	M	19,000	16,000	16,000	-3,000	---
Total, Special Benefits for Disabled Coal Miners		88,302	77,319	77,319	-10,983	---
Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Fund						
Administrative Expenses	M	58,552	59,846	59,846	+1,294	---

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
Black Lung Disability Trust Fund						
Benefit Payments and Interest on Advances	M	275,261	302,115	302,115	+26,854	---
Workers' Compensation Programs, Salaries and Expenses	M	35,244	38,246	38,246	+3,002	---
Departmental Management, Salaries and Expenses	M	30,279	30,594	31,994	+1,715	+1,400
Departmental Management, Inspector General	M	327	330	330	+3	---
Subtotal, Black Lung Disability		341,111	371,285	372,685	+31,574	+1,400
Treasury Department Administrative Costs	M	356	356	356	---	---
Total, Black Lung Disability Trust Fund		341,467	371,641	373,041	+31,574	+1,400
Total, Workers' Compensation Programs		813,822	854,965	847,807	+33,985	-7,158
Federal Funds		811,645	852,788	845,630	+33,985	-7,158
Current year		(792,645)	(836,788)	(829,630)	(+36,985)	(-7,158)
FY 2018		(19,000)	(16,000)	(16,000)	(-3,000)	---
Trust Funds		2,177	2,177	2,177	---	---

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION (OSHA)						
Salaries and Expenses						
Safety and Health Standards	D	20,000	23,173	18,000	-2,000	-5,173
Federal Enforcement	D	208,000	225,972	208,000	---	-17,972
Whistleblower enforcement	D	17,500	21,604	17,500	---	-4,104
State Programs	D	100,850	104,337	100,850	---	-3,487
Technical Support	D	24,469	25,403	24,469	---	-934
Compliance Assistance:						
Federal Assistance	D	68,433	72,784	70,981	+2,548	-1,803
State Consultation Grants	D	57,775	59,775	59,500	+1,725	-275
Training Grants	D	10,537	10,537	10,537	---	---
Subtotal, Compliance Assistance	D	136,745	143,096	141,018	+4,273	-2,078
Safety and Health Statistics	D	34,250	40,095	32,900	-1,350	-7,195
Executive Direction and Administration	D	10,973	11,343	10,050	-923	-1,293
Total, OSHA		552,787	595,023	552,787	---	-42,236

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION						
Salaries and Expenses						
Coal Enforcement	D	167,859	171,768	160,000	-7,859	-11,768
Metal/Non-Metal Enforcement	D	91,697	97,563	94,500	+2,803	-3,063
Standards Development	D	5,416	6,197	4,500	-916	-1,697
Assessments	D	6,976	8,277	6,627	-349	-1,650
Educational Policy and Development	D	36,320	40,419	39,320	+3,000	-1,099
Technical Support	D	33,791	35,041	35,041	+1,250	---
Program Evaluation and Information Resources (PEIR)	D	17,990	21,815	17,990	---	-3,825
Program Administration	D	15,838	16,292	15,838	---	-454
Total, Mine Safety and Health Administration		375,887	397,372	373,816	-2,071	-23,556
Total, Worker Protection Agencies		1,598,744	1,760,774	1,595,367	-3,377	-165,407
Federal Funds		(1,596,567)	(1,758,597)	(1,593,190)	(-3,377)	(-165,407)
Trust Funds		(2,177)	(2,177)	(2,177)	---	---

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS						
Salaries and Expenses						
Employment and Unemployment Statistics	D	208,000	219,258	208,000	---	-11,258
Labor Market Information	TF	65,000	67,016	65,000	---	-2,016
Prices and Cost of Living	D	207,000	219,672	207,000	---	-12,672
Compensation and Working Conditions	D	83,500	87,517	83,500	---	-4,017
Productivity and Technology	D	10,500	10,993	10,500	---	-493
Executive Direction and Staff Services	D	35,000	36,487	35,000	---	-1,487
Total, Bureau of Labor Statistics		609,000	640,943	609,000	---	-31,943
Federal Funds		544,000	573,927	544,000	---	-29,927
Trust Funds		65,000	67,016	65,000	---	-2,016
OFFICE OF DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT POLICY						
Salaries and Expenses	D	38,203	38,544	38,203	---	-341

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT						
Salaries and Expenses						
Executive Direction	D	31,010	37,406	30,250	-760	-7,156
Departmental Program Evaluation	D	8,040	9,500	8,040	---	-1,460
Legal Services	D	125,000	140,374	121,745	-3,255	-18,629
Trust Funds	TF	308	310	308	---	-2
International Labor Affairs	D	86,125	101,230	86,125	---	-15,105
Administration and Management	D	28,413	36,604	28,834	+421	-7,770
Adjudication	D	32,000	36,325	35,000	+3,000	-1,325
Women's Bureau	D	11,536	12,902	12,530	+994	-372
Civil Rights Activities	D	6,880	8,041	6,880	---	-1,161
Chief Financial Officer	D	5,061	5,233	5,132	+71	-101
Total, Departmental Management Salaries and expenses		334,373	387,925	334,844	+471	-53,081
Federal Funds		(334,065)	(387,615)	(334,536)	(+471)	(-53,079)
Trust Funds		(308)	(310)	(308)	---	(-2)

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
Veterans Employment and Training						
State Administration, Grants	TF	175,000	175,000	175,000	---	---
Transition Assistance Program	TF	14,100	14,600	14,600	+500	---
Federal Administration	TF	40,487	42,506	41,027	+540	-1,479
National Veterans' Employment and Training Services Institute	TF	3,414	3,414	3,414	---	---
Homeless Veterans Programs	D	38,109	50,000	45,000	+6,891	-5,000
Total, Veterans Employment and Training		271,110	285,520	279,041	+7,931	-6,479
Federal Funds		38,109	50,000	45,000	+6,891	-5,000
Trust Funds		233,001	235,520	234,041	+1,040	-1,479
IT Modernization						
Departmental support systems	D	4,898	4,898	4,898	---	---
Infrastructure technology modernization	D	24,880	58,264	13,880	-11,000	-44,384
Total, IT Modernization		29,778	63,162	18,778	-11,000	-44,384

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
Office of Inspector General						
Program Activities	D	80,640	88,881	82,061	+1,421	-6,820
Trust Funds	TF	5,660	5,660	5,660	---	---
Total, Office of Inspector General		86,300	94,541	87,721	+1,421	-6,820
Total, Departmental Management		721,561	831,148	720,384	-1,177	-110,764
Federal Funds		482,592	589,658	480,375	-2,217	-109,283
Current Year		(482,592)	(589,658)	(480,375)	(-2,217)	(-109,283)
Trust Funds		238,969	241,490	240,009	+1,040	-1,481
Total, Workforce Investment Act Programs		5,023,586	5,280,050	5,042,854	+19,268	-237,196
Current Year		(3,251,586)	(3,508,050)	(3,270,854)	(+19,268)	(-237,196)
FY 2018		(1,772,000)	(1,772,000)	(1,772,000)	---	---
Total, Title I, Department of Labor		13,730,217	14,375,547	13,667,361	-62,856	-708,186
Federal Funds		9,873,277	10,477,830	9,875,568	+2,291	-602,262
Current Year		(8,082,277)	(8,689,830)	(8,087,568)	(+5,291)	(-602,262)
FY 2018		(1,791,000)	(1,788,000)	(1,788,000)	(-3,000)	---
Trust Funds		3,856,940	3,897,717	3,791,793	-65,147	-105,924

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
TITLE II --DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES						
HEALTH RESOURCES AND SERVICES ADMINISTRATION (HRSA)						
Primary Health Care						
Community Health Centers	D	1,491,422	1,341,422	1,490,522	-900	+149,100
Free Clinics Medical Malpractice	D	100	1,000	1,000	+900	---
Total, Primary Health Care		1,491,522	1,342,422	1,491,522	---	+149,100
Health Workforce						
National Health Service Corps	D	---	20,000	---	---	-20,000
Training for Diversity:						
Centers of Excellence	D	21,711	21,711	21,711	---	---
Health Careers Opportunity Program	D	14,189	14,189	14,189	---	---
Faculty Loan Repayment	D	1,190	1,190	1,190	---	---
Scholarships for Disadvantaged Students	D	45,970	49,070	45,970	---	-3,100
Total, Training for Diversity		83,060	86,160	83,060	---	-3,100

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		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
Training in Primary Care Medicine	D	38,924	38,924	38,924	---	---
Oral Health Training	D	35,873	35,873	36,673	+800	+800
Interdisciplinary Community-Based Linkages:						
Area Health Education Centers	D	30,250	---	30,250	---	+30,250
Geriatric Programs	D	38,737	38,737	38,737	---	---
Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training 2/.	D	---	56,000	50,000	+50,000	-6,000
Mental and Behavorial Health	D	9,916	9,916	9,916	---	---
Total, Interdisciplinary Community Linkages		78,903	104,653	128,903	+50,000	+24,250
Workforce Information and Analysis	D	4,663	4,663	4,663	---	---
Public Health and Preventive Medicine programs	D	21,000	17,000	17,000	-4,000	---
Nursing Programs:						
Advanced Education Nursing	D	64,581	64,581	64,581	---	---
Nurse Education, Practice, and Retention	D	39,913	39,913	39,913	---	---
Nursing Workforce Diversity	D	15,343	15,343	15,343	---	---
Loan Repayment and Scholarship Program	D	83,135	83,135	83,135	---	---
Nursing Faculty Loan Program	D	26,500	26,500	26,500	---	---
Total, Nursing programs		229,472	229,472	229,472	---	---

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		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
Children's Hospitals Graduate Medical Education	D	295,000	---	300,000	+5,000	+300,000
National Practitioner Data Bank	D	18,814	21,037	18,814	---	-2,223
User Fees	D	-18,814	-21,037	-18,814	---	+2,223
Total, Health Workforce		786,895	536,745	838,695	+51,800	+301,950
Maternal and Child Health						
Maternal and Child Health Block Grant	D	638,200	638,200	641,700	+3,500	+3,500
Sickle Cell Anemia Demonstration Program	D	4,455	4,455	4,455	---	---
Autism and Other Developmental Disorders	D	47,099	47,099	47,099	---	---
Heritable Disorders	D	13,883	13,883	13,883	---	---
Healthy Start	D	103,500	103,500	103,500	---	---
Healthy Start Initiative (PL 114-254)	D	---	---	15,000	+15,000	+15,000
Universal Newborn Hearing Screening	D	17,818	17,818	17,818	---	---
Emergency Medical Services for Children	D	20,162	20,162	20,162	---	---
Total, Maternal and Child Health		845,117	845,117	863,617	+18,500	+18,500
Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program						
Emergency Assistance	D	655,876	655,876	655,876	---	---
Comprehensive Care Programs	D	1,315,005	1,315,005	1,315,005	---	---
AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) (NA)	NA	(900,313)	(900,313)	(900,313)	---	---
Early Intervention Program	D	205,079	280,167	201,079	-4,000	-79,088

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		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
Children, Youth, Women, and Families	D	75,088	---	75,088	---	+75,088
AIDS Dental Services	D	13,122	13,122	13,122	---	---
Education and Training Centers	D	33,611	33,611	33,611	---	---
Special Projects of National Significance	D	25,000	---	25,000	---	+25,000
Total, Ryan White HIV/AIDS program		2,322,781	2,297,781	2,318,781	-4,000	+21,000
(Evaluation Tap Funding)	NA	---	(34,000)	---	---	(-34,000)
Health Care Systems						
Organ Transplantation	D	23,549	23,549	23,549	---	---
National Cord Blood Inventory	D	11,266	11,266	12,266	+1,000	+1,000
CW Bill Young Cell Transplantation program	D	22,109	22,109	22,109	---	---
340B Drug Pricing program/Office of Pharmacy Affairs	D	10,238	26,238	10,238	---	-16,000
User Fees	D	---	-9,000	---	---	+9,000
Poison Control	D	18,846	18,846	18,846	---	---
National Hansen's Disease Program	D	15,206	15,206	15,206	---	---
Hansen's Disease Program Buildings and Facilities	D	122	122	122	---	---
Payment to Hawaii, Treatment of Hansen's	D	1,857	1,857	1,857	---	---
Total, Health Care Systems		103,193	110,193	104,193	+1,000	-6,000

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		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
Rural Health						
Rural Outreach Grants	D	63,500	63,500	65,500	+2,000	+2,000
Rural Health Research/Policy Development	D	9,351	9,351	9,351	---	---
Rural Hospital Flexibility Grants	D	41,609	26,200	43,609	+2,000	+17,409
State Offices of Rural Health	D	9,511	9,511	10,000	+489	+489
Black Lung Clinics	D	6,766	6,766	7,266	+500	+500
Radiation Exposure Screening and Education Program	D	1,834	1,834	1,834	---	---
Telehealth	D	17,000	17,000	18,500	+1,500	+1,500
Rural Opioid Overdose Reversal grant program	D	---	10,000	---	---	-10,000
Total, Rural Health		149,571	144,162	156,060	+6,489	+11,898
Family Planning	D	286,479	300,000	286,479	---	-13,521
Program Management	D	154,000	157,061	154,000	---	-3,061
Vaccine Injury Compensation Program Trust Fund						
Post-FY 1988 Claims	M	237,000	240,000	240,000	+3,000	---
HRSA Administration	TF	7,500	9,200	7,750	+250	-1,450
Total, Vaccine Injury Compensation Trust Fund		244,500	249,200	247,750	+3,250	-1,450
Total, Health Resources and Services Administration		6,384,058	5,982,681	6,461,097	+77,039	+478,416

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		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION						
Immunization and Respiratory Diseases	D	459,055	411,716	455,000	-4,055	+43,284
Pandemic Flu balances (Public Law 111-32)	NA	(15,000)	---	(15,000)	---	(+15,000)
Prevention and Public Health Fund 1/	NA	(324,350)	(336,350)	(324,350)	---	(-12,000)
Subtotal		(798,405)	(748,066)	(794,350)	(-4,055)	(+46,284)
HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, Sexually Transmitted Diseases, and Tuberculosis Prevention	D	1,122,278	1,127,278	1,117,278	-5,000	-10,000
Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases	D	527,885	577,485	532,922	+5,037	-44,563
Prevention and Public Health Fund 1/	NA	(52,000)	(52,000)	(52,000)	---	---
Subtotal		579,885	629,485	584,922	+5,037	-44,563
Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion	D	838,146	679,745	777,646	-60,500	+97,901
Prevention and Public Health Fund 1/	NA	(338,950)	(437,400)	(337,950)	(-1,000)	(-99,450)
Subtotal		1,177,096	1,117,145	1,115,596	-61,500	-1,549

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		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
Birth Defects, Developmental Disabilities,						
Disabilities and Health	D	135,610	67,644	137,560	+1,950	+69,916
Prevention and Public Health Fund 1/	NA	---	(67,966)	---	---	(-67,966)
Subtotal	NA	135,610	135,610	137,560	+1,950	+1,950
Public Health Scientific Services	D	491,597	464,355	489,397	-2,200	+25,042
Prevention and Public Health Fund 1/	NA	---	(36,276)	---	---	(-36,276)
Subtotal		(491,597)	(500,631)	(489,397)	(-2,200)	(-11,234)
Environmental Health	D	165,303	167,825	163,750	-1,553	-4,075
Childhood lead poisoning prevention (PL 114-254)	D	---	---	35,000	+35,000	+35,000
Prevention and Public Health Fund 1/	NA	(17,000)	(14,478)	(17,000)	---	(+2,522)
Subtotal		182,303	182,303	215,750	+33,447	+33,447
Injury Prevention and Control	D	236,059	268,629	286,059	+50,000	+17,430
National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health	D	339,121	213,621	335,200	-3,921	+121,579
Evaluation Tap Funding	NA	---	(72,000)	---	---	(-72,000)
Subtotal		(339,121)	(285,621)	(335,200)	(-3,921)	(+49,579)
Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program	M	55,358	55,358	55,358	---	---

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		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
Global Health	D	427,121	442,121	435,121	+8,000	-7,000
Public Health Preparedness and Response	D	1,405,000	1,402,166	1,405,000	---	+2,834
Buildings and Facilities	D	10,000	31,221	10,000	---	-21,221
CDC-Wide Activities and Program Support						
Prevention and Public Health Fund 1/	NA	(160,000)	---	(160,000)	---	(+160,000)
Infectious Diseases Rapid Response Reserve (Sec.231)	D	---	---	---	---	---
Office of the Director	D	113,570	113,570	113,570	---	---
Subtotal, CDC-Wide Activities		(273,570)	(113,570)	(273,570)	---	(+160,000)
Total, Centers for Disease Control		6,326,103	6,022,734	6,348,861	+22,758	+326,127
Discretionary		6,270,745	5,967,376	6,293,503	+22,758	+326,127
Evaluation Tap Funding (NA)	NA	---	(72,000)	---	---	(-72,000)
Pandemic Flu balances (Public Law 111-32)	NA	(15,000)	---	(15,000)	---	(+15,000)
Prevention and Public Health Fund 1/	NA	(892,300)	(944,470)	(891,300)	(-1,000)	(-53,170)
Total, Centers for Disease Control Program Level		(7,233,403)	(7,039,204)	(7,255,161)	(+21,758)	(+215,957)

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		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH						
National Cancer Institute	D	5,214,701	5,097,287	5,389,329	+174,628	+292,042
National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute	D	3,115,538	3,069,901	3,206,589	+91,051	+136,688
National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research	D	415,582	404,560	425,751	+10,169	+21,191
National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK)	D	1,818,357	1,786,086	1,870,595	+52,238	+84,509
Juvenile Diabetes (mandatory)	NA	(150,000)	(150,000)	(150,000)	---	---
Subtotal, NIDDK program level		1,968,357	1,936,086	2,020,595	+52,238	+84,509
National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke	D	1,696,139	1,659,416	1,783,654	+87,515	+124,238
National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases	D	4,629,928	4,700,548	4,906,638	+276,710	+206,090
National Institute of General Medical Sciences	D	1,732,073	1,586,655	1,826,395	+94,322	+239,740
Evaluation Tap Funding	NA	(780,000)	(847,489)	(824,443)	(+44,443)	(-23,046)
Subtotal, NGMS program level		2,512,073	2,434,144	2,650,838	+138,765	+216,694

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		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development	D	1,339,802	1,316,607	1,380,295	+40,493	+63,688
National Eye Institute	D	715,903	687,249	732,618	+16,715	+45,369
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences	D	693,702	681,613	714,261	+20,559	+32,648
National Institute on Aging	D	1,600,191	1,265,133	2,048,610	+448,419	+783,477
National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases	D	542,141	532,753	557,851	+15,710	+25,098
National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders	D	423,031	416,146	436,875	+13,844	+20,729
National Institute of Nursing Research	D	146,485	143,942	150,273	+3,788	+6,331
National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism	D	467,700	459,578	483,363	+15,663	+23,785
National Institute on Drug Abuse	D	1,077,488	1,020,459	1,090,853	+13,365	+70,394
National Institute of Mental Health	D	1,548,390	1,459,700	1,601,931	+53,541	+142,231
National Human Genome Research Institute	D	518,956	509,762	528,566	+9,610	+18,804
National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering	D	346,795	334,025	357,080	+10,285	+23,055
National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health	D	130,789	126,673	134,689	+3,900	+8,016
National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities	D	279,718	279,680	289,069	+9,351	+9,389

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		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
John E. Fogarty International Center	D	70,447	69,175	72,213	+1,766	+3,038
National Library of Medicine (NLM)	D	394,664	395,110	407,510	+12,846	+12,400
National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences	D	685,417	660,131	705,903	+20,486	+45,772
Office of the Director	D	1,558,600	1,432,859	1,665,183	+106,583	+232,324
Common Fund (non-add)	NA	(663,039)	(553,039)	(682,856)	(+19,817)	(+129,817)
Gabriella Miller Kids First Research Act (Common Fund add)	D	12,600	12,600	12,600	---	---
Transfers from Non-Recurring Expense Fund (non-add)	D	---	---	---	---	---
NIH Innovation Account (PL 114-254)	D	---	---	352,000	+352,000	+352,000
Buildings and Facilities	D	128,863	128,863	128,863	---	---
Total, National Institutes of Health (NIH)		31,304,000	30,236,511	33,259,557	+1,955,557	+3,023,046
(Evaluation Tap Funding)		(780,000)	(847,489)	(824,443)	(+44,443)	(-23,046)
Total, NIH Program Level		(32,084,000)	(31,084,000)	(34,084,000)	(+2,000,000)	(+3,000,000)

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		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION (SAMHSA)						
Mental Health						
Programs of Regional and National Significance	D	402,609	386,388	386,659	-15,950	+271
Evaluation Tap Funding	NA	---	(10,000)	---	---	(-10,000)
Prevention and Public Health Fund 1/	NA	(12,000)	(10,000)	(12,000)	---	(+2,000)
Subtotal		414,609	406,388	398,659	-15,950	-7,729
Mental Health block grant	D	511,532	511,532	541,532	+30,000	+30,000
Evaluation Tap Funding	NA	(21,039)	(21,039)	(21,039)	---	---
Subtotal		(532,571)	(532,571)	(562,571)	(+30,000)	(+30,000)
Children's Mental Health	D	119,026	119,026	119,026	---	---
Grants to States for the Homeless (PATH)	D	64,635	64,635	64,635	---	---
Protection and Advocacy	D	36,146	36,146	36,146	---	---
Subtotal, Mental Health		1,133,948	1,117,727	1,147,998	+14,050	+30,271
(Evaluation Tap Funding)		(21,039)	(31,039)	(21,039)	---	(-10,000)
Subtotal, Mental Health program level		(1,166,987)	(1,158,766)	(1,181,037)	(+14,050)	(+22,271)

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		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
Substance Abuse Treatment						
Programs of Regional and National Significance	D	335,345	298,269	352,427	+17,082	+54,158
Evaluation Tap Funding	NA	(2,000)	(30,000)	(2,000)	---	(-28,000)
Subtotal		(337,345)	(328,269)	(354,427)	(+17,082)	(+26,158)
Substance Abuse block grant	D	1,778,879	1,778,879	1,778,879	---	---
Evaluation Tap Funding	NA	(79,200)	(79,200)	(79,200)	---	---
Subtotal, block grant		(1,858,079)	(1,858,079)	(1,858,079)	---	---
Subtotal, Substance Abuse Treatment		2,114,224	2,077,148	2,131,306	+17,082	+54,158
(Evaluation Tap Funding)		(81,200)	(109,200)	(81,200)	---	(-28,000)
Subtotal, Program level		(2,195,424)	(2,186,348)	(2,212,506)	(+17,082)	(+26,158)

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		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
Substance Abuse Prevention						
Programs of Regional and National Significance	D	211,219	194,680	223,219	+12,000	+28,539
Evaluation Tap Funding	NA	---	(16,468)	---	---	(-16,468)
Total, Substance Abuse Prevention		211,219	211,148	223,219	+12,000	+12,071
Health Surveillance and Program Support 2/	D	174,878	99,228	116,830	-58,048	+17,602
Evaluation Tap Funding (NA)	NA	(31,428)	(56,828)	(31,428)	---	(-25,400)
Prevention and Public Health Fund 1/	NA	---	(17,830)	---	---	(-17,830)
Subtotal		206,306	173,886	148,258	-58,048	-25,628
Total, SAMHSA		3,634,269	3,488,783	3,619,353	-14,916	+130,570
(Evaluation Tap Funding)		(133,667)	(213,535)	(133,667)	---	(-79,868)
(Prevention and Public Health Fund 1/)		(12,000)	(27,830)	(12,000)	---	(-15,830)
Total, SAMHSA Program Level		(3,779,936)	(3,730,148)	(3,765,020)	(-14,916)	(+34,872)

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		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
AGENCY FOR HEALTHCARE RESEARCH AND QUALITY (AHRQ)						
Healthcare Research and Quality						
Research on Health Costs, Quality, and Outcomes:						
Federal Funds	D	196,800	140,519	187,156	-9,644	+46,637
Evaluation Tap funding	NA	---	(83,458)	---	---	(-83,458)
Subtotal, Health Costs, Quality, and Outcomes		(196,800)	(223,977)	(187,156)	(-9,644)	(-36,821)
(Evaluation Tap Funding)		---	(83,458)	---	---	(-83,458)
Medical Expenditures Panel Surveys:						
Federal Funds	D	66,000	68,877	66,000	---	-2,877
Program Support:						
Federal Funds	D	71,200	70,844	70,844	-356	---
Total, AHRQ Program Level		(334,000)	(363,698)	(324,000)	(-10,000)	(-39,698)
Federal funds		(334,000)	(280,240)	(324,000)	(-10,000)	(+43,760)
(Evaluation Tap Funding)		---	(83,458)	---	---	(-83,458)
Total, Public Health Service (PHS) appropriation		47,982,430	46,010,949	50,012,868	+2,030,438	+4,001,919
Total, Public Health Service Program Level		(49,815,397)	(48,233,731)	(51,889,278)	(+2,073,881)	(+3,655,547)

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(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
CENTERS FOR MEDICARE AND MEDICAID SERVICES						
Grants to States for Medicaid						
Medicaid Current Law Benefits	M	334,936,328	354,223,901	354,223,901	+19,287,573	---
State and Local Administration	M	17,771,915	18,975,984	18,975,984	+1,204,069	---
Vaccines for Children	M	4,109,307	4,386,584	4,386,584	+277,277	---
Subtotal, Medicaid Program Level		356,817,550	377,586,469	377,586,469	+20,768,919	---
Less funds advanced in prior year	M	-113,272,140	-115,582,502	-115,582,502	-2,310,362	---
Total, Grants to States for Medicaid		243,545,410	262,003,967	262,003,967	+18,458,557	---
New advance, 1st quarter, FY 2018	M	115,582,502	125,219,452	125,219,452	+9,636,950	---
Payments to Health Care Trust Funds						
Supplemental Medical Insurance	M	198,530,000	214,944,000	214,944,000	+16,414,000	---
Federal Uninsured Payment	M	158,000	147,000	147,000	-11,000	---
Program Management	M	1,044,000	877,500	877,500	-166,500	---
General Revenue for Part D Benefit	M	82,453,000	82,512,000	82,512,000	+59,000	---
General Revenue for Part D Administration	M	691,000	405,000	405,000	-286,000	---
HCFAC Reimbursement	M	291,000	299,000	299,000	+8,000	---
State Low-Income Determination for Part D	M	4,800	3,200	3,200	-1,600	---
Total, Payments to Trust Funds, Program Level		283,171,800	299,187,700	299,187,700	+16,015,900	---

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		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
Program Management						
Research, Demonstration, Evaluation	TF	20,054	---	20,054	---	+20,054
Program Operations	TF	2,519,823	2,936,499	2,519,823	---	-416,676
State Survey and Certification	TF	397,334	437,200	397,334	---	-39,866
Federal Administration	TF	732,533	735,850	732,533	---	-3,317
Total, Program management		3,669,744	4,109,549	3,669,744	---	-439,805
Health Care Fraud and Abuse Control Account						
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services	TF	486,120	486,936	486,936	+816	---
HHS Office of Inspector General	TF	67,200	121,824	82,132	+14,932	-39,692
Medicaid/CHIP	TF	67,200	---	82,132	+14,932	+82,132
Department of Justice	TF	60,480	116,240	73,800	+13,320	-42,440
Total, Health Care Fraud and Abuse Control		681,000	725,000	725,000	+44,000	---
Total, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services		646,650,456	691,245,668	690,805,863	+44,155,407	-439,805
Federal funds		642,299,712	686,411,119	686,411,119	+44,111,407	---
Current year		(526,717,210)	(561,191,667)	(561,191,667)	(+34,474,457)	---
New advance, FY 2018		(115,582,502)	(125,219,452)	(125,219,452)	(+9,636,950)	---
Trust Funds		4,350,744	4,834,549	4,394,744	+44,000	-439,805

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES (ACF)						
Payments to States for Child Support Enforcement and Family Support Programs						
Payments to Territories	M	33,000	33,000	33,000	---	---
Repatriation	M	1,000	1,000	1,000	---	---
Subtotal		34,000	34,000	34,000	---	---
Child Support Enforcement:						
State and Local Administration	M	3,541,359	3,680,840	3,680,840	+139,481	---
Federal Incentive Payments	M	519,547	585,791	585,791	+66,244	---
Access and Visitation	M	10,000	10,000	10,000	---	---
Subtotal, Child Support Enforcement		4,070,906	4,276,631	4,276,631	+205,725	---
Total, Family Support Payments Program Level		4,104,906	4,310,631	4,310,631	+205,725	---
Less funds advanced in previous years	M	-1,160,000	-1,300,000	-1,300,000	-140,000	---
Total, Family Support Payments, current year		2,944,906	3,010,631	3,010,631	+65,725	---
New advance, 1st quarter, FY 2018	M	1,300,000	1,400,000	1,400,000	+100,000	---

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
Low Income Home Energy Assistance (LIHEAP)						
Formula Grants	D	3,390,304	3,000,304	3,390,304	---	+390,000
Refugee and Entrant Assistance						
Transitional and Medical Services	D	490,000	581,357	490,000	---	-91,357
Victims of Trafficking	D	18,755	22,000	18,755	---	-3,245
Social Services	D	155,000	176,927	155,000	---	-21,927
Preventive Health	D	4,600	4,600	4,600	---	---
Targeted Assistance	D	47,601	55,601	47,601	---	-8,000
Unaccompanied Minors	D	948,000	1,226,000	948,000	---	-278,000
Unaccompanied Minors Contingency Fund	D	---	95,000	---	---	-95,000
CBO adjustment	D	---	65,000	---	---	-65,000
Subtotal		---	160,000	---	---	-160,000
Victims of Torture	D	10,735	23,375	10,735	---	-12,640
Total, Refugee and Entrant Assistance		1,674,691	2,249,860	1,674,691	---	-575,169

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
Payments to States for the Child Care and Development Block Grant	D	2,761,000	2,961,672	2,856,000	+95,000	-105,672
Social Services Block Grant (Title XX)	M	1,700,000	1,681,500	1,700,000	---	+18,500
Social Services Block Grant Research/Evaluation	M	---	18,500	---	---	-18,500
Total, Social Services Block Grant		1,700,000	1,700,000	1,700,000	---	---
Children and Families Services Programs						
Programs for Children, Youth and Families:						
Head Start, current funded	D	9,168,095	9,601,724	9,253,095	+85,000	-348,629
Preschool Development Grants 3/	D	---	350,000	250,000	+250,000	-100,000
Consolidated Runaway, Homeless Youth Program	D	101,980	108,330	101,980	---	-6,350
Prevention Grants to Reduce Abuse of Runaway Youth	D	17,141	17,491	17,141	---	-350
Child Abuse State Grants	D	25,310	25,310	25,310	---	---
Child Abuse Discretionary Activities	D	33,000	43,744	33,000	---	-10,744
Community Based Child Abuse Prevention	D	39,764	39,764	39,764	---	---
Child Welfare Services	D	268,735	268,735	268,735	---	---
Child Welfare Training, Research, or Demonstration projects	D	17,984	21,984	17,984	---	-4,000
Adoption Opportunities	D	39,100	39,100	39,100	---	---
Adoption Incentive	D	37,943	37,943	37,943	---	---

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
Social Services and Income Maintenance Research	D	6,512	10,762	6,512	---	-4,250
Native American Programs	D	50,000	53,100	52,050	+2,050	-1,050
Community Services:						
Community Services Block Grant Act programs:						
Grants to States for Community Services	D	715,000	674,000	715,000	---	+41,000
Economic Development	D	29,883	---	19,883	-10,000	+19,883
Rural Community Facilities	D	6,500	---	7,500	+1,000	+7,500
Subtotal		751,383	674,000	742,383	-9,000	+68,383
Individual Development Account Initiative	D	18,950	18,950	---	-18,950	-18,950
Subtotal, Community Services		770,333	692,950	742,383	-27,950	+49,433
Domestic Violence Hotline	D	8,250	12,300	8,250	---	-4,050
Family Violence/Battered Women's Shelters	D	150,000	151,000	151,000	+1,000	---
Chafee Education and Training Vouchers	D	43,257	43,257	43,257	---	---
Faith-Based Center	D	---	---	---	---	---
Disaster Human Services Case Management	D	1,864	1,864	1,864	---	---
Program Direction	D	205,000	205,699	205,000	---	-699
Total, Children and Families Services Programs		10,984,268	11,725,057	11,294,368	+310,100	-430,689

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
Children's Research and Technical Assistance						
Systems Innovation Center and other expenses	D	---	10,000	---	---	-10,000
(by transfer)		---	(15,000)	---	---	(-15,000)
Total, Children's research and technical assistance		---	25,000	---	---	-25,000
Promoting Safe and Stable Families	M	345,000	345,000	325,000	-20,000	-20,000
Discretionary Funds	D	59,765	79,765	59,765	---	-20,000
Total, Promoting Safe and Stable Families		404,765	424,765	384,765	-20,000	-40,000

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
Payments for Foster Care and Permanency						
Foster Care	M	4,772,100	4,992,000	4,992,000	+219,900	---
Adoption Assistance	M	2,562,900	2,780,000	2,780,000	+217,100	---
Guardianship	M	123,000	152,000	152,000	+29,000	---
Independent Living	M	140,000	140,000	140,000	---	---
Total, Payments to States		7,598,000	8,064,000	8,064,000	+466,000	---
Less Advances from Prior Year	M	-2,300,000	-2,300,000	-2,300,000	---	---
Total, payments, current year		5,298,000	5,764,000	5,764,000	+466,000	---
New Advance, 1st quarter, FY 2018	M	2,300,000	2,500,000	2,500,000	+200,000	---
Total, ACF		32,757,934	34,746,289	33,974,759	+1,216,825	-771,530
Current year		(29,157,934)	(30,846,289)	(30,074,759)	(+916,825)	(-771,530)
FY 2018		(3,600,000)	(3,900,000)	(3,900,000)	(+300,000)	---
Total, ACF Program Level		32,757,934	34,761,289	33,974,759	+1,216,825	-786,530

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
ADMINISTRATION FOR COMMUNITY LIVING						
Aging and Disability Services Programs						
Grants to States:						
Home and Community-based Supportive Services	D	347,724	357,724	350,224	+2,500	-7,500
Preventive Health	D	19,848	19,848	19,848	---	---
Protection of Vulnerable Older Americans-Title VII	D	20,658	20,658	20,658	---	---
Subtotal		388,230	398,230	390,730	+2,500	-7,500
Family Caregivers	D	150,586	150,586	150,586	---	---
Native American Caregivers Support	D	7,531	7,531	7,556	+25	+25
Subtotal, Caregivers		158,117	158,117	158,142	+25	+25
Nutrition:						
Congregate Meals	D	448,342	454,091	450,342	+2,000	-3,749
Home Delivered Meals	D	226,342	234,397	227,342	+1,000	-7,055
Nutrition Services Incentive Program	D	160,069	160,069	160,069	---	---
Subtotal		834,753	848,557	837,753	+3,000	-10,804
Subtotal, Grants to States		1,381,100	1,404,904	1,386,625	+5,525	-18,279

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
Grants for Native Americans	D	31,158	31,158	31,208	+50	+50
Aging Network Support Activities	D	9,961	9,961	9,961	---	---
Alzheimer's Disease Demonstrations	D	4,800	4,800	4,800	---	---
Prevention and Public Health Fund 1/	NA	(14,700)	(14,700)	(14,700)	---	---
Lifespan Respite Care	D	3,360	5,000	3,360	---	-1,640
Chronic Disease Self-Management Program	D	---	---	---	---	---
Prevention and Public Health Fund 1/	NA	(8,000)	(8,000)	(8,000)	---	---
Elder Falls Prevention	D	---	---	---	---	---
Prevention and Public Health Fund 1/	NA	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)	---	---
Elder Rights Support Activities	D	11,874	13,874	13,874	+2,000	---
Aging and Disability Resources	D	6,119	8,119	6,119	---	-2,000
State Health Insurance Program	TF	52,115	52,115	47,115	-5,000	-5,000
Paralysis Resource Center	D	7,700	7,700	6,700	-1,000	-1,000
Limb loss	D	2,810	2,810	2,500	-310	-310
Traumatic Brain Injury	D	9,321	9,321	9,321	---	---

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
Developmental Disabilities Programs:						
State Councils	D	73,000	73,000	73,000	---	---
Protection and Advocacy	D	38,734	38,734	38,734	---	---
Voting Access for Individuals with Disabilities	D	4,963	4,963	4,963	---	---
Developmental Disabilities Projects of National Significance	D	10,000	10,000	10,000	---	---
University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities	D	38,619	38,619	38,619	---	---
Subtotal, Developmental Disabilities Programs		165,316	165,316	165,316	---	---
Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act						
Independent Living	D	101,183	101,183	101,183	---	---
National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research	D	103,970	103,970	103,970	---	---
Assistive Technology	D	34,000	32,000	34,000	---	+2,000
Subtotal, Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act		239,153	237,153	239,153	---	+2,000

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
Program Administration	D	40,063	41,063	40,063	---	-1,000
Total, Administration for Community Living (ACL)		1,964,850	1,993,294	1,966,115	+1,265	-27,179
Federal funds		(1,912,735)	(1,941,179)	(1,919,000)	(+6,265)	(-22,179)
Trust Funds		(52,115)	(52,115)	(47,115)	(-5,000)	(-5,000)
(Prevention and Public Health Fund 1/)		(27,700)	(27,700)	(27,700)	---	---
Total, ACL program level		1,992,550	2,020,994	1,993,815	+1,265	-27,179
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY						
General Departmental Management						
General Departmental Management, Federal Funds	D	200,000	214,610	199,620	-380	-14,990
Teen Pregnancy Prevention Community Grants	D	101,000	104,790	101,000	---	-3,790
Evaluation Tap Funding	NA	(6,800)	(6,800)	(6,800)	---	---
Subtotal, Grants		(107,800)	(111,590)	(107,800)	---	(-3,790)

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
Faith-Based Center	D	1,299	1,382	1,299	---	-83
Sexual Risk Avoidance	D	10,000	---	15,000	+5,000	+15,000
Minority Health	D	56,670	56,670	56,670	---	---
Office of Women's Health	D	32,140	32,140	32,140	---	---
Minority HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment	D	53,900	53,900	53,900	---	---
Embryo Adoption Awareness Campaign	D	1,000	---	1,000	---	+1,000
Planning and Evaluation, Evaluation Tap Funding	NA	(58,028)	(59,278)	(58,028)	---	(-1,250)
Subtotal, General Departmental Management		456,009	463,492	460,629	+4,620	-2,863
DATA Act activities	D	---	10,320	---	---	-10,320
HHS Digital Service Team	D	---	5,000	---	---	-5,000
Total, General Departmental Management		456,009	478,812	460,629	+4,620	-18,183
Federal Funds		(456,009)	(478,812)	(460,629)	(+4,620)	(-18,183)
(Evaluation Tap Funding)		(64,828)	(66,078)	(64,828)	---	(-1,250)
Total, General Departmental Management Program		520,837	544,890	525,457	+4,620	-19,433
Office of Medicare Hearings and Appeals	TF	107,381	120,000	107,381	---	-12,619

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology	D	60,367	---	60,367	---	+60,367
Evaluation Tap Funding	D	---	(82,000)	---	---	(-82,000)
Total, Program Level		(60,367)	(82,000)	(60,367)	---	(-21,633)
Office of Inspector General						
Inspector General Federal Funds	D	75,000	85,000	80,000	+5,000	-5,000
HCFAC funding (NA)	NA	(333,893)	---	(334,097)	(+204)	(+334,097)
Total, Inspector General Program Level		(408,893)	(85,000)	(414,097)	(+5,204)	(+329,097)
Office for Civil Rights						
Federal Funds	D	38,798	42,705	38,798	---	-3,907

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
Retirement Pay and Medical Benefits for Commissioned Officers						
Retirement Payments	M	441,977	457,459	457,459	+15,482	---
Survivors Benefits	M	28,603	31,559	31,559	+2,956	---
Dependents' Medical Care	M	115,608	141,390	141,390	+25,782	---
Total,Medical Benefits for Commissioned Officers		586,188	630,408	630,408	+44,220	---
Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund (PHSSEF)						
Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response						
Operations	D	30,938	30,938	30,938	---	---
Preparedness and Emergency Operations	D	24,654	24,654	24,654	---	---
National Disaster Medical System	D	49,904	55,054	49,904	---	-5,150
Hospital Preparedness Cooperative Agreement Grants:	D					
Formula Grants	D	254,555	254,555	254,555	---	---
Biomedical Advanced Research and Development	D					
Authority (BARDA)	D	511,700	511,700	511,700	---	---
Policy and Planning	D	14,877	14,877	14,877	---	---
Project BioShield	D	510,000	350,000	510,000	---	+160,000
Subtotal, Preparedness and Response	D	1,396,628	1,241,778	1,396,628	---	+154,850

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
Assistant Secretary for Administration	D					
Assistant Secretary for Administration, Cybersecurity.	D	50,860	50,860	50,860	---	---
Office of Security and Strategic Information.....	D	7,470	7,470	7,470	---	---
Public Health and Science	D					
Medical Reserve Corps.....	D	6,000	6,000	6,000	---	---
Pandemic Influenza Preparedness.....	D	72,000	125,009	57,000	-15,000	-68,009
Pandemic Flu balances (Public Law 111-32).....	NA	---	---	(15,000)	(+15,000)	(+15,000)
Subtotal, Pandemic Influenza Preparedness.....	D	72,000	125,009	72,000	---	-53,009
Subtotal, Non-pandemic flu/BioShield/Parklawn/Other construction.....	D	950,958	956,108	950,958	---	-5,150
Total, PHSSEF.....		1,532,958	1,431,117	1,517,958	-15,000	+86,841
Account for the State Response to the Opioid Abuse Crisis (PL 114-254).....	D	---	---	500,000	+500,000	+500,000

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
Total, Office of the Secretary	2,856,701	2,788,042	3,395,541	+538,840	+607,499
Federal Funds	2,749,320	2,668,042	3,288,160	+538,840	+620,118
Trust Funds	107,381	120,000	107,381	---	-12,619
(Evaluation Tap Funding)	(64,828)	(148,078)	(64,828)	---	(-83,250)
Total, Office of the Secretary Program Level	2,921,529	2,936,120	3,475,369	+553,840	+539,249
Total, Title II, Health and Human Services	732,212,371	776,784,242	780,155,146	+47,942,775	+3,370,904
Federal Funds	727,694,631	771,768,378	775,598,156	+47,903,525	+3,829,778
Current year	(608,512,129)	(642,648,926)	(646,478,704)	(+37,966,575)	(+3,829,778)
FY 2018	(119,182,502)	(129,119,452)	(129,119,452)	(+9,936,950)	---
Trust Funds	4,517,740	5,015,864	4,556,990	+39,250	-458,874
Total, Pandemic Flu balances (Public Law 111-32)	(15,000)	---	(30,000)	(+15,000)	(+30,000)
Total, Prevention and Public Health Fund 1/	(932,000)	(1,000,000)	(931,000)	(-1,000)	(-69,000)

Title II Footnotes:
1/ Sec. 4002 of Public Law 111-148
2/ FY2016 funds of $50M provided under Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. FY2017 funds proposed under Health Resources and Services Administration.
3/ FY2016 funds of $250M provided under Department of Education, Innovation and Improvement. FY2017 funds proposed under Administration for Children and Families.

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request	
TITLE III - DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION							
EDUCATION FOR THE DISADVANTAGED							
Grants to Local Educational Agencies (LEAs)							
Basic Grants:							
Advance from prior year	NA	(2,890,776)	(2,390,776)	(2,390,776)	(-500,000)	---	
Forward funded	D	4,064,641	4,513,625	4,613,625	+548,984	+100,000	FF
Current funded	D	3,984	5,000	5,000	+1,016	---	
Subtotal, Basic grants current year approp		4,068,625	4,518,625	4,618,625	+550,000	+100,000	
Subtotal, Basic grants total funds available		(6,959,401)	(6,909,401)	(7,009,401)	(+50,000)	(+100,000)	
Basic Grants FY 2018 Advance	D	2,390,776	1,940,776	1,840,776	-550,000	-100,000	
Subtotal, Basic grants, program level		6,459,401	6,459,401	6,459,401	---	---	
Concentration Grants:							
Advance from prior year	NA	(1,362,301)	(1,362,301)	(1,362,301)	---	---	
FY 2018 Advance	D	1,362,301	1,362,301	1,362,301	---	---	
Subtotal		1,362,301	1,362,301	1,362,301	---	---	

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request	
Targeted Grants:							
Advance from prior year	NA	(3,294,050)	(3,544,050)	(3,544,050)	(+250,000)	---	
FY 2018 Advance	D	3,544,050	3,769,050	3,819,050	+275,000	+50,000	
Subtotal		3,544,050	3,769,050	3,819,050	+275,000	+50,000	
Education Finance Incentive Grants:							
Advance from prior year	NA	(3,294,050)	(3,544,050)	(3,544,050)	(+250,000)	---	
FY 2018 Advance	D	3,544,050	3,769,050	3,819,050	+275,000	+50,000	
Subtotal		3,544,050	3,769,050	3,819,050	+275,000	+50,000	
Subtotal, Grants to LEAs, program level		14,909,802	15,359,802	15,459,802	+550,000	+100,000	
School Improvement Grants	D	450,000	---	---	-450,000	---	FF
Innovative Approaches to Literacy	D	---	27,000	27,000	+27,000	---	
Comprehensive literacy development grants (formerly Striving Readers)	D	190,000	190,000	190,000	---	---	FF
State Agency Programs:							
Migrant	D	374,751	374,751	374,751	---	---	FF
Neglected and Delinquent/High Risk Youth	D	47,614	47,614	47,614	---	---	FF
Subtotal, State Agency programs		422,365	422,365	422,365	---	---	

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
Migrant Education:						
High School Equivalency Program	D	44,623	44,623	44,623	---	---
Total, Education for the disadvantaged		16,016,790	16,043,790	16,143,790	+127,000	+100,000
Current Year		(5,175,613)	(5,202,613)	(5,302,613)	(+127,000)	(+100,000)
FY 2018		(10,841,177)	(10,841,177)	(10,841,177)	---	---
Subtotal, Forward Funded		(5,127,006)	(5,125,990)	(5,225,990)	(+98,984)	(+100,000)
IMPACT AID						
Basic Support Payments	D	1,168,233	1,168,233	1,189,233	+21,000	+21,000
Payments for Children with Disabilities	D	48,316	48,316	48,316	---	---
Facilities Maintenance (Sec. 8008)	D	4,835	71,648	4,835	---	-66,813
Construction (Sec. 8007)	D	17,406	17,406	17,406	---	---
Payments for Federal Property (Sec. 8002)	D	66,813	---	68,813	+2,000	+68,813
Total, Impact aid		1,305,603	1,305,603	1,328,603	+23,000	+23,000

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request	
SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS							
Supporting Effective Instruction State Grants	D	668,389	568,559	374,389	-294,000	-194,170	FF
Advance from prior year	NA	(1,681,441)	(1,681,441)	(1,681,441)	---	---	
FY 2018	D	1,681,441	1,681,441	1,681,441	---	---	
Subtotal, Supporting Effective Instruction State Grants, program level		2,349,830	2,250,000	2,055,830	-294,000	-194,170	
Mathematics and Science Partnerships	D	152,717	---	---	-152,717	---	FF
Supplemental Education Grants	D	16,699	16,699	16,699	---	---	
21st Century Community Learning Centers	D	1,166,673	1,000,000	1,191,673	+25,000	+191,673	FF
State Assessments	D	378,000	403,000	369,100	-8,900	-33,900	FF
Education for Homeless Children and Youth	D	70,000	85,000	77,000	+7,000	-8,000	FF
Training and Advisory Services (Civil Rights)	D	6,575	6,575	6,575	---	---	
Education for Native Hawaiians	D	33,397	33,397	33,397	---	---	
Alaska Native Education Equity	D	32,453	32,453	32,453	---	---	
Rural Education	D	175,840	175,840	175,840	---	---	FF
Comprehensive Centers	D	51,445	55,445	50,000	-1,445	-5,445	
Student Support and Academic Enrichment grants	D	---	500,000	400,000	+400,000	-100,000	FF
Total, School Improvement Programs		4,433,629	4,558,409	4,408,567	-25,062	-149,842	
Current Year		(2,752,188)	(2,876,968)	(2,727,126)	(-25,062)	(-149,842)	
FY 2018		(1,681,441)	(1,681,441)	(1,681,441)	---	---	
Subtotal, Forward Funded		(2,611,619)	(2,732,399)	(2,588,002)	(-23,617)	(-144,397)	

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
INDIAN EDUCATION						
Grants to Local Educational Agencies	D	100,381	100,381	100,381	---	---
Federal Programs:						
Special Programs for Indian Children	D	37,993	67,993	57,993	+20,000	-10,000
National Activities	D	5,565	6,565	6,565	+1,000	---
Subtotal, Federal Programs		43,558	74,558	64,558	+21,000	-10,000
Total, Indian Education		143,939	174,939	164,939	+21,000	-10,000
INNOVATION AND IMPROVEMENT						
Education Innovation and Research	D	120,000	180,000	100,000	-20,000	-80,000
STEM Master Teacher Corps	D	---	10,000	---	---	-10,000
American History and Civics Academies	D	---	1,815	1,815	+1,815	---
American History and Civics National Activities	D	---	---	1,700	+1,700	+1,700
School Leader Recruitment and Support	D	16,368	30,000	14,500	-1,868	-15,500
Charter Schools Grants	D	333,172	350,000	342,172	+9,000	-7,828
Magnet Schools Assistance	D	96,647	115,000	97,647	+1,000	-17,353
Fund for the Improvement of Education (FIE) 1/	D	330,815	---	---	-330,815	---
Teacher and School Leader Incentive Grants	D	230,000	250,000	200,000	-30,000	-50,000
Ready-to-Learn Television	D	25,741	25,741	25,741	---	---
Advanced Placement	D	28,483	---	---	-28,483	---
Supporting Effective Educator Development (SEED)	D	---	100,000	65,000	+65,000	-35,000
Arts in Education	D	---	27,000	27,000	+27,000	---

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
Javits Gifted and Talented Students	D	---	12,000	12,000	+12,000	---
Teach to Lead (proposed legislation)	D	---	10,000	---	---	-10,000
Stronger Together (proposed legislation)	D	---	120,000	---	---	-120,000
Next Generation High Schools (proposed legislation)	D	---	80,000	---	---	-80,000
Computer Science for All Development Grants (proposed legislation)	D	---	100,000	---	---	-100,000
Total, Innovation and Improvement		1,181,226	1,411,556	887,575	-293,651	-523,981
Current Year		(1,181,226)	(1,411,556)	(887,575)	(-293,651)	(-523,981)
SAFE SCHOOLS AND CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION						
Promise Neighborhoods	D	73,254	128,000	73,254	---	-54,746
School Safety National Activities	D	75,000	90,000	68,000	-7,000	-22,000
Elementary and Secondary School Counseling	D	49,561	---	---	-49,561	---
Carol M. White Physical Education Program	D	47,000	---	---	-47,000	---
Full-Service Community Schools	D	---	10,000	10,000	+10,000	---
Total, Safe Schools and Citizenship Education		244,815	228,000	151,254	-93,561	-76,746

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request	
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ACQUISITION							
Current funded	D	47,931	52,026	47,931	---	-4,095	
Forward funded	D	689,469	748,374	689,469	---	-58,905	FF
Total, English Language Acquisition		737,400	800,400	737,400	---	-63,000	
SPECIAL EDUCATION							
State Grants:							
Grants to States Part B current year	D	2,629,465	2,629,465	2,719,465	+90,000	+90,000	FF
Part B advance from prior year	NA	(9,283,383)	(9,283,383)	(9,283,383)	---	---	
Grants to States Part B (FY 2018)	D	9,283,383	9,283,383	9,283,383	---	---	
Subtotal, program level		11,912,848	11,912,848	12,002,848	+90,000	+90,000	

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request	
Preschool Grants	D	368,238	403,238	368,238	---	-35,000	FF
Grants for Infants and Families	D	458,556	503,556	458,556	---	-45,000	FF
Subtotal, program level		12,739,642	12,819,642	12,829,642	+90,000	+10,000	
IDEA National Activities (current funded):							
State Personnel Development	D	41,630	41,630	38,630	-3,000	-3,000	
Technical Assistance and Dissemination (including Special Olympics Education)	D	54,428	64,428	56,928	+2,500	-7,500	
Personnel Preparation	D	83,700	83,700	83,700	---	---	
Parent Information Centers	D	27,411	27,411	27,411	---	---	
EducationalTechnology, Media, and Materials	D	30,047	30,047	28,047	-2,000	-2,000	
Subtotal, IDEA National Activities		237,216	247,216	234,716	-2,500	-12,500	
Total, Special education		12,976,858	13,066,858	13,064,358	+87,500	-2,500	
Current Year		(3,693,475)	(3,783,475)	(3,780,975)	(+87,500)	(-2,500)	
FY 2018		(9,283,383)	(9,283,383)	(9,283,383)	---	---	
Subtotal, Forward Funded		(3,456,259)	(3,536,259)	(3,546,259)	(+90,000)	(+10,000)	

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
REHABILITATION SERVICES						
Vocational Rehabilitation State Grants	M	3,391,770	3,398,554	3,398,554	+6,784	---
Client Assistance State grants	D	13,000	13,000	13,000	---	---
Training	D	30,188	30,188	29,388	-800	-800
Demonstration and Training programs	D	5,796	5,796	5,796	---	---
Protection and Advocacy of Individual Rights (PAIR)	D	17,650	17,650	17,650	---	---
Supported Employment State grants	D	27,548	30,548	27,548	---	-3,000
Independent Living:						
Services for Older Blind Individuals	D	33,317	35,317	33,317	---	-2,000
Helen Keller National Center for Deaf/Blind Youth and Adults	D	10,336	10,336	10,336	---	---
Total, Rehabilitation services		3,529,605	3,541,389	3,535,589	+5,984	-5,800
SPECIAL INSTITUTIONS FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES						
American Printing House for the Blind	D	25,431	25,431	25,431	---	---
National Technical Institute for the Deaf (NTID):						
Operations	D	70,016	70,016	70,016	---	---

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request	
Gallaudet University:							
Operations	D	121,275	121,275	121,275	---	---	
Total, Special Institutions for Persons with Disabilities		216,722	216,722	216,722	---	---	
CAREER, TECHNICAL, AND ADULT EDUCATION							
Career Education:							
Basic State Grants/Secondary & Technical Education							
State Grants, current funded	D	326,598	401,598	326,598	---	-75,000	FF
Advance from prior year	NA	(791,000)	(791,000)	(791,000)	---	---	
FY 2018	D	791,000	791,000	791,000	---	---	
Subtotal, Basic State Grants, program level		1,117,598	1,192,598	1,117,598	---	-75,000	
National Programs	D	7,421	9,421	7,421	---	-2,000	FF
Subtotal, Career Education		1,125,019	1,202,019	1,125,019	---	-77,000	
Adult Education:							
State Grants/Adult Basic and Literacy Education:	D						
State Grants, current funded	D	581,955	581,955	581,955	---	---	FF

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request	
National Leadership Activities	D	13,712	24,712	13,712	---	-11,000	FF
Subtotal, Adult education		595,667	606,667	595,667	---	-11,000	
Total, Career, Technical, and Adult Education		1,720,686	1,808,686	1,720,686	---	-88,000	
Current Year		(929,686)	(1,017,686)	(929,686)	---	(-88,000)	
FY 2018		(791,000)	(791,000)	(791,000)	---	---	
Subtotal, Forward Funded		(929,686)	(1,017,686)	(929,686)	---	(-88,000)	
STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE							
Pell Grants -- maximum grant (NA)	NA	(4,860)	(4,860)	(4,860)	---	---	
Pell Grants	D	22,475,352	22,475,352	22,475,352	---	---	
Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants	D	733,130	733,130	733,130	---	---	
Federal Work Study	D	989,728	989,728	989,728	---	---	
Total, Student Financial Assistance (SFA)		24,198,210	24,198,210	24,198,210	---	---	
STUDENT AID ADMINISTRATION							
Salaries and Expenses	D	696,643	732,352	696,643	---	-35,709	
Servicing Activities	D	855,211	899,638	880,211	+25,000	-19,427	
Total, Student Aid Administration		1,551,854	1,631,990	1,576,854	+25,000	-55,136	

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
HIGHER EDUCATION						
Aid for Institutional Development:						
Strengthening Institutions	D	86,534	86,534	86,534	---	---
Hispanic Serving Institutions	D	107,795	107,795	107,795	---	---
Promoting Post-Baccalaureate Opportunities for Hispanic Americans	D	9,671	9,671	9,671	---	---
Strengthening Historically Black Colleges (HBCUs)	D	244,694	244,694	244,694	---	---
Strengthening Historically Black Graduate Institutions	D	63,281	63,281	63,281	---	---
Strengthening Predominantly Black Institutions	D	9,942	9,942	9,942	---	---
Asian American Pacific Islander	D	3,348	3,348	3,348	---	---
Strengthening Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian-Serving Institutions	D	13,802	13,802	13,802	---	---
Strengthening Native American-Serving Nontribal Institutions	D	3,348	3,348	3,348	---	---
Strengthening Tribal Colleges	D	27,599	27,599	27,599	---	---
Strengthening HBCU Masters programs	D	---	---	7,500	+7,500	+7,500
Subtotal, Aid for Institutional development		570,014	570,014	577,514	+7,500	+7,500
International Education and Foreign Language:						
Domestic Programs	D	65,103	65,103	65,103	---	---
Overseas Programs	D	7,061	2,168	7,061	---	+4,893
Subtotal, International Education & Foreign Lang		72,164	67,271	72,164	---	+4,893

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
Fund for the Improvement of Postsec. Ed. (FIPSE)--First in the World	D	---	100,000	---	---	-100,000
Postsecondary Program for Students with Intellectual Disabilities	D	11,800	11,800	11,800	---	---
Minority Science and Engineering Improvement	D	9,648	9,648	9,648	---	---
Tribally Controlled Postsec Voc/Tech Institutions	D	8,286	8,286	8,286	---	---
Federal TRIO Programs	D	900,000	900,000	950,000	+50,000	+50,000
GEAR UP	D	322,754	322,754	339,754	+17,000	+17,000
Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need	D	29,293	29,293	28,047	-1,246	-1,246
Teacher Quality Partnerships	D	43,092	---	43,092	---	+43,092
Child Care Access Means Parents in School	D	15,134	15,134	15,134	---	---
HCBU and Minority-Serving Institutions Innovation for Completion Fund (proposed legislation)	D	---	30,000	---	---	-30,000
Teacher and Principal Pathways (proposed legislation)	D	---	125,000	---	---	-125,000
Total, Higher Education		1,982,185	2,189,200	2,055,439	+73,254	-133,761
HOWARD UNIVERSITY						
Academic Program	D	191,091	191,091	191,091	---	---
Endowment Program	D	3,405	3,405	3,405	---	---
Howard University Hospital	D	27,325	27,325	27,325	---	---
Total, Howard University		221,821	221,821	221,821	---	---
COLLEGE HOUSING AND ACADEMIC FACILITIES LOANS PROGRAM	D	435	457	435	---	-22

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY (HBCU) CAPITAL FINANCING PROGRAM ACCOUNT	D D					
HBCU Federal Administration	D	334	349	334	---	-15
HBCU Loan Subsidies	D	20,150	20,150	20,150	---	---
Total, HBCU Capital Financing Program		20,484	20,499	20,484	---	-15
INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION SCIENCES (IES)						
Research, Development and Dissemination	D	195,000	209,273	187,500	-7,500	-21,773
Statistics	D	112,000	125,360	109,500	-2,500	-15,860
Regional Educational Laboratories	D	54,423	54,423	54,423	---	---
Research in Special Education	D	54,000	54,000	54,000	---	---
Special Education Studies and Evaluations	D	10,818	13,000	10,818	---	-2,182
Statewide Data Systems	D	34,539	81,017	32,281	-2,258	-48,736
Assessment:						
National Assessment	D	149,000	149,000	149,000	---	---
National Assessment Governing Board	D	8,235	7,745	7,745	-490	---
Subtotal, Assessment		157,235	156,745	156,745	-490	---
Total, IES		618,015	693,818	605,267	-12,748	-88,551

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT						
Program Administration:						
Salaries and Expenses	D	431,000	450,342	431,000	---	-19,342
Building Modernization	D	1,000	24,485	1,000	---	-23,485
Total, Program administration		432,000	474,827	432,000	---	-42,827
Office for Civil Rights	D	107,000	137,708	108,500	+1,500	-29,208
Office of Inspector General	D	59,256	61,941	59,256	---	-2,685
Total, Departmental management		598,256	674,476	599,756	+1,500	-74,720
Total, Title III, Department of Education		71,698,533	72,786,823	71,637,749	-60,784	-1,149,074
Current Year		(49,101,532)	(50,189,822)	(49,040,748)	(-60,784)	(-1,149,074)
FY 2018		(22,597,001)	(22,597,001)	(22,597,001)	---	---

1/ FY2017 funds for preschool development grants proposed under Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families. FY2016 funds of $250M included within Fund for the Improvement of Education

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
TITLE IV--RELATED AGENCIES						
COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED	D	6,191	10,612	8,000	+1,809	-2,612
CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE						
Operating Expenses						
Domestic Volunteer Service Programs:						
Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA)	D	92,364	95,880	92,364	---	-3,516
National Senior Volunteer Corps:						
Foster Grandparents Program	D	107,702	107,702	107,702	---	---
Senior Companion Program	D	45,512	45,512	45,512	---	---
Retired Senior Volunteer Program	D	48,903	48,903	48,903	---	---
Subtotal, Senior Volunteers		202,117	202,117	202,117	---	---
Subtotal, Domestic Volunteer Service		294,481	297,997	294,481	---	-3,516

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(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
National and Community Service Programs:						
AmeriCorps State and National Grants	D	386,010	386,010	386,010	---	---
Innovation, Assistance, and Other Activities	D	57,400	57,601	5,000	-52,400	-52,601
Evaluation	D	4,000	6,000	4,000	---	-2,000
National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC)	D	30,000	30,000	30,000	---	---
State Commission Support Grants	D	16,038	17,000	16,538	+500	-462
Subtotal, National and Community Service		493,448	496,611	441,548	-51,900	-55,063
Total, Operating expenses		787,929	794,608	736,029	-51,900	-58,579
National Service Trust	D	220,000	206,842	206,842	-13,158	---
Salaries and Expenses	D	81,737	89,330	81,737	---	-7,593
Office of Inspector General	D	5,250	6,100	5,750	+500	-350
Total, Corp. for National and Community Service		1,094,916	1,096,880	1,030,358	-64,558	-66,522
CORPORATION FOR PUBLIC BROADCASTING:						
FY 2019 (current) with FY 2017 comparable	D	445,000	445,000	445,000	---	---
FY 2018 advance with FY 2016 comparable (NA)	NA	(445,000)	(445,000)	(445,000)	---	---
FY 2017 advance with FY 2015 comparable (NA)	NA	(445,000)	(445,000)	(445,000)	---	---
Public television interconnection system (current)	D	40,000	50,000	50,000	+10,000	---

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request	
FEDERAL MEDIATION AND CONCILIATION SERVICE	D	48,748	50,738	46,650	-2,098	-4,088	
FEDERAL MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH REVIEW COMMISSION	D	17,085	17,184	17,184	+99	---	
INSTITUTE OF MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICES	D	230,000	230,000	231,000	+1,000	+1,000	
MEDICAID AND CHIP PAYMENT AND ACCESS COMMISSION		7,765	8,700	7,765	---	-935	D
MEDICARE PAYMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION	TF	11,925	12,234	11,925	---	-309	
NATIONAL COUNCIL ON DISABILITY	D	3,250	3,468	3,250	---	-218	
NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD	D	274,224	274,695	274,224	---	-471	
NATIONAL MEDIATION BOARD	D	13,230	13,300	13,800	+570	+500	
OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH REVIEW COMMISSION	D	12,639	13,411	13,225	+586	-186	
RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD							
Dual Benefits Payments Account	D	29,000	25,000	25,000	-4,000	---	
Less Income Tax Receipts on Dual Benefits	D	-2,000	-2,000	-2,000	---	---	
Subtotal, Dual Benefits		27,000	23,000	23,000	-4,000	---	
Federal Payments to the Railroad Retirement Accounts	M	150	150	150	---	---	
Limitation on Administration	TF	111,225	122,499	113,500	+2,275	-8,999	
Limitation on the Office of Inspector General	TF	8,437	10,499	10,000	+1,563	-499	

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION						
Payments to Social Security Trust Funds	M	11,400	11,400	11,400	---	---
Supplemental Security Income Program						
Federal Benefit Payments	M	60,686,000	52,941,736	52,941,736	-7,744,264	---
Beneficiary Services	M	70,000	89,000	89,000	+19,000	---
Research and Demonstration	M	101,000	58,000	58,000	-43,000	---
Afghanistan Special Immigrant Visa	M	---	2,000	---	---	-2,000
Administration	D	4,648,733	5,234,132	5,029,427	+380,694	-204,705
Subtotal, SSI program level		65,505,733	58,324,868	58,118,163	-7,387,570	-206,705
Less funds advanced in prior year	M	-19,200,000	-14,500,000	-14,500,000	+4,700,000	---
Subtotal, regular SSI current year		46,305,733	43,824,868	43,618,163	-2,687,570	-206,705
New advance, 1st quarter, FY 2018	M	14,500,000	15,000,000	15,000,000	+500,000	---
Total, SSI program		60,805,733	58,824,868	58,618,163	-2,187,570	-206,705

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
Limitation on Administrative Expenses						
OASI/DI Trust Funds	TF	5,100,054	5,702,038	5,145,407	+45,353	-556,631
HI/SMI Trust Funds	TF	1,777,800	2,001,330	1,684,753	-93,047	-316,577
Social Security Advisory Board	TF	2,300	2,500	2,300	---	-200
SSI	TF	3,718,791	3,415,132	3,706,485	-12,306	+291,353
Subtotal, regular LAE		10,598,945	11,121,000	10,538,945	-60,000	-582,055
User Fees:						
SSI User Fee activities	D	136,000	126,000	126,000	-10,000	---
CBO adjustment		---	-3,000	-3,000	-3,000	---
SSPA User Fee Activities	D	1,000	1,000	1,000	---	---
CBO adjustment		---	-1,000	-1,000	-1,000	---
Subtotal, User fees		137,000	123,000	123,000	-14,000	---
Subtotal, Limitation on administrative expenses		10,735,945	11,244,000	10,661,945	-74,000	-582,055
Program Integrity:						
OASDI Trust Funds	TF	496,058	1,819,000	496,058	---	-1,322,942
SSI	TF	929,942	---	1,322,942	+393,000	+1,322,942
Subtotal, Program integrity funding		1,426,000	1,819,000	1,819,000	+393,000	---
Total, Limitation on Administrative Expenses		12,161,945	13,063,000	12,480,945	+319,000	-582,055

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
Office of Inspector General						
Federal Funds	D	29,787	31,000	29,787	---	-1,213
Trust Funds	TF	75,713	81,000	75,713	---	-5,287
Total, Office of Inspector General		105,500	112,000	105,500	---	-6,500
Adjustment: Trust fund transfers from general revenues	TF	-4,648,733	-5,234,132	-5,029,427	-380,694	+204,705
Total, Social Security Administration		68,435,845	66,777,136	66,186,581	-2,249,264	-590,555
Federal funds		60,983,920	58,990,268	58,782,350	-2,201,570	-207,918
Current year		(46,483,920)	(43,990,268)	(43,782,350)	(-2,701,570)	(-207,918)
New advances, 1st quarter, FY 2018		(14,500,000)	(15,000,000)	(15,000,000)	(+500,000)	---
Trust funds		7,451,925	7,786,868	7,404,231	-47,694	-382,637
Total, Title IV, Related Agencies		70,787,630	69,159,506	68,485,612	-2,302,018	-673,894
Federal Funds		63,204,118	61,227,406	60,945,956	-2,258,162	-281,450
Current Year		(48,259,118)	(45,782,406)	(45,500,956)	(-2,758,162)	(-281,450)
FY 2018 Advance		(14,500,000)	(15,000,000)	(15,000,000)	(+500,000)	---
FY 2018 Advance		(445,000)	(445,000)	(445,000)	---	---
Trust Funds		7,583,512	7,932,100	7,539,656	-43,856	-392,444

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
OTHER APPROPRIATIONS					
ZIKA RESPONSE AND PREPAREDNESS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2016 (PL 114-223)					
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES					
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention					
CDC-wide activities and program support (emergency)...	394,000	---	---	-394,000	---
National Institutes of Health					
National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (emergency).....	152,000	---	---	-152,000	---
Office of the Secretary					
Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund (emergency)	387,000	---	---	-387,000	---
Total, Public Law 114-223 1/.....	933,000	---	---	-933,000	---
Total, Other Appropriations.....	933,000	---	---	-933,000	---

1/ Public Law 114-223 also included a non-emergency rescission of $168.1M from unobligated balances (PPACA section 1323(c)(1)) (Public Law 111-152).

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
RECAP						
Mandatory, total in bill		718,185,805	760,635,162	760,614,562	+42,428,757	-20,600
Less advances for subsequent years		-133,701,502	-144,135,452	-144,135,452	-10,433,950	---
Plus advances provided in prior years		135,953,140	133,701,502	133,701,502	-2,251,638	---
Total, mandatory, current year		720,437,443	750,201,212	750,180,612	+29,743,169	-20,600
Discretionary, total in bill		171,175,946	172,470,956	173,331,306	+2,155,360	+860,350
Less advances for subsequent years		-24,814,001	-24,814,001	-24,814,001	---	---
Plus advances provided in prior years		24,814,001	24,814,001	24,814,001	---	---
Subtotal, discretionary, current year		171,175,946	172,470,956	173,331,306	+2,155,360	+860,350
Discretionary Scorekeeping adjustments:						
SSI User Fee Collection		-136,000	-126,000	-126,000	+10,000	---
CBO adjustment		---	3,000	3,000	+3,000	---
Average Weekly Insured Unemployment (AWIU) Contingent	TF	5,000	20,000	5,000	---	-15,000
Medicare Eligible Accruals (permanent,indefinite)1/		29,000	28,594	28,594	-406	---
Dislocated Workers National Reserve (rescission)		---	---	-75,000	-75,000	-75,000
H-1B (rescission)		---	---	-46,000	-46,000	-46,000

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
Rescissions (PL111-148):						
Independent Payment Advisory Board		-15,000	---	-15,000	---	-15,000
Refugee and Entrant Assistance (PL 114-254):						
(Nonrecurring expenses fund) (by transfer) (Sec.170(a))	D	---	---	(300,000)	(+300,000)	(+300,000)
Unaccompanied Minors Contingency Fund ($200M, Sec.170(b)) (CBO estimate)	D	---	---	100,000	+100,000	+100,000
Nonrecurring expenses fund (rescission) (Sec.170(d))		---	---	-100,000	-100,000	-100,000
Nonrecurring expenses fund (rescission)		---	---	-100,000	-100,000	-100,000
Childrens Health Insurance Program performance bonus (rescission)		---	-5,407,100	-5,750,000	-5,750,000	-342,900
Childrens Health Insurance Program one-time payment (rescission)		-4,678,500	-541,900	-541,900	+4,136,600	---
(Public Law 114-254, Sec.201(a))		---	---	-170,000	-170,000	-170,000
Childrens Health Insurance Program State allotment (Sec.301(b)) (rescission)		---	---	-1,132,000	-1,132,000	-1,132,000
Child Enrollment contingency fund (rescission)		-2,105,000	-570,000	-570,000	+1,535,000	---
TANF Contingency Fund (transfer out)		(-25,000)	(-25,000)	---	(+25,000)	(+25,000)
ACF Children's research and technology assistance (by transfer)		(15,000)	(15,000)	---	(-15,000)	(-15,000)
Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census (by transfer)		(10,000)	(10,000)	---	(-10,000)	(-10,000)

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
Career pathways included in Pell grant benefit	1,000	---	---	-1,000	---
Pell unobligated balances (rescission)	---	---	-1,310,000	-1,310,000	-1,310,000
Proprietary Institutions 85/15 policy	---	-2,000	---	---	+2,000
Pell: Restore year-round Pell with 150% cap	---	---	254,000	+254,000	+254,000
Pell mandatory funds (rescission)	---	---	-254,000	-254,000	-254,000
Long-Term Care Hospitals	2,000	---	---	-2,000	---
SSA SSPA User Fee Collection	-1,000	-1,000	-1,000	---	---
CBO adjustment	1,000	1,000	1,000	---	---
Traditional Medicare program	305,000	---	305,000	---	+305,000
HHS unobligated balances (rescission)	-446	---	---	+446	---
21ST Century Cures Act adjustment (PL 114-255)	---	---	-852,000	-852,000	-852,000
Less emergency appropriations	-933,000	---	---	+933,000	---
Total, discretionary	163,650,000	165,875,550	162,985,000	-665,000	-2,890,550
Grand Total, current year	884,087,443	916,076,762	913,165,612	+29,078,169	-2,911,150

Note: The FY 2017 Request column reflects the budget submitted on February 9, 2016.

DIVISION I—LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

The following is an explanation of the effects of Division I, which makes appropriations for the Legislative Branch for fiscal year 2017. Unless otherwise noted, reference to the House and Senate reports are to House Report 114–594 and Senate Report 114–258. The language included in these reports should be complied with and carry the same emphasis as the language included in the explanatory statement, unless specifically addressed to the contrary in this explanatory statement. While repeating some report language for emphasis, this explanatory statement does not intend to negate the language referred to above unless expressly provided herein.

Reprogramming Guidelines: It is expected that all agencies notify the Committees on Appropriations of the House and the Senate of any significant departures from budget plans presented to the Committees in any agency's budget justifications. In particular, agencies funded through this bill are required to notify the Committees prior to each reprogramming of funds in excess of the lesser of 10 percent or $750,000 between programs, projects or activities, or in excess of $750,000 between object classifications (except for shifts within the pay categories, object class 11, 12, and 13 or as further specified in each agency's respective section). This includes cumulative reprogrammings that together total at least $750,000 from or to a particular program, activity, or object classification as well as reprogramming FTEs or funds to create new organizational entities within the Agency or to restructure entities which already exist. The Committees desire to be notified of reprogramming actions which involve less than the above-mentioned amounts if such actions would have the effect of changing an agency's funding requirements in future years or if programs or projects specifically cited in the Committee's reports are affected.

Cybersecurity: In lieu of Senate report language pertaining to cybersecurity, the universe of information technology (IT) is an ever evolving, fast paced environment in which the Federal Government operates. As such, this bill provides funding for additional technology infrastructure and security enhancements.

There is concern, however, that a lack of standard operating procedures and known best practices related to technological investments, especially in the area of cybersecurity, may lead to wasteful spending by the government. To that point, agencies involved in the Legislative Branch Cybersecurity Working Group (LBCWG) shall work to improve the overall cyber security posture of the Legislative Branch and are directed to complete an assessment of IT resiliency as developed by the LBCWG within 90 days of enactment of this act. These assessments will be provided to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate, and to each agency's authorizing oversight committee in both the House and Senate.

Additionally, this report directs the Library of Congress to conduct a study with a federally funded research and development corporation to assess the requirements and constraints in implementing multi-factor authentication for Legislative Branch agencies. This study will be provided to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate, Senate Committee on Rules and Administration, and the Committee on House Administration. This study must be completed prior to the Library executing on its multi-factor authentication request.

TITLE I

SENATE

The agreement includes $871,176,081 for Senate operations. This item relates solely to the Senate, and is in accordance with long practice under which each body determines its own housekeeping requirements and the other concurs without intervention.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

The agreement provides for unspent amounts remaining in Senators' Official Personnel and Office Expense Account to be used for deficit or debt reduction and authority for transfer of funds.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The agreement includes $1,189,050,766 for House operations. This item relates solely to the House, and is in accordance with long practice under which each body determines its own housekeeping requirements and the other concurs without intervention.

Ford House Office Building Data Center Space: It is directed that any renovation plans for the data center space located in the Ford House Office Building commence no earlier than March 31, 2018 if those plans will impact data center operations of other Legislative Branch agencies. Accommodation should be given to affected agencies' funding and information technology needs in finalizing such plans.

House Food Service: There is concern with continued food service issues surrounding lack of food variety, consistent quality of service, and management challenges with the food services provider. It is known that additional cafeteria renovations and reconfigurations are needed in the near future; prior to moving forward with any significant renovations the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) in conjunction with the Architect of the Capitol should explore the feasibility of making available additional branded options to the House community. The findings should be reported to the House Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on House Administration. Additionally, we are supportive of the CAO's recently developed food service quality assurance program. The CAO is encouraged to work with oversight committees to make recommendations on ways to improve food service based on the findings of the program.

Cybersecurity Assistance: Cybersecurity is quickly emerging as one of the most important aspects of the House of Representatives' security platform. Evolving threats and actors demand the House of Representatives, and the organizations under its jurisdiction, stay one step ahead. To that end, the House of Representatives' response capabilities may, in significant circumstances, dictate the need for additional support and assistance from the executive branch.

It is realized that the nature of the support and assistance provided by the executive branch is contingent on the threats and vulnerabilities experienced by the House of Representatives. It is intended that the Speaker, in consultation with the Minority Leader, outline the type of infrequent executive branch assistance that may be required, including resources provided by the House of Representatives, resources provided by the executive branch, actions and constraints on those resources necessary to protect the Separation of Powers, privileges under the Speech or Debate Clause of the Constitution, and other constitutionally-derived powers and rules including those enacted pursuant to the Rulemaking Clause of the Constitution.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

The agreement provides for unspent amounts remaining in Members' Representational Allowances account to be used for deficit or debt reduction; prohibits the delivery of bills and resolutions; prohibits the delivery of printed copies of the Congressional Record; places a limitation on amount available to lease vehicles; places a limitation on print copies of the U.S. Code; prohibits delivery of reports of disbursements, daily calendars, and printed copies of the Congressional Pictorial Directory; allows USCP dignitary protection detail to travel overseas with Members of the Leadership; prohibits delivery of telephone directories, Budget of the United States Government and Federal Register; and cybersecurity assistance.

JOINT ITEMS

JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

The agreement includes $4,203,000 for salaries and expenses.

JOINT COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

The agreement includes $10,095,000 for salaries and expenses.

OFFICE OF THE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN

The agreement includes $3,838,000.

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement includes $1,429,000.

CAPITOL POLICE

SALARIES

The agreement includes $325,300,000 for salaries of the Capitol Police. An obligation plan is no longer needed as required in House Report 114–594.

The increase includes full year funding for 24 hires added in FY2016 and half year costs of 72 hires expected to address implementation of additional screening and pre-screening at various building access points. The total staffing level is expected to be approximately 1,871 sworn and 372 civilian staff. No more than $36,805,000 is recommended for overtime in fiscal year 2017, which includes funds to support the staffing of the Thomas P. O'Neill Federal Office Building. This provides for approximately 587,000 hours of additional duty.

The agreement does not include funds for USCP overtime for requirements associated with the restoration of the Cannon House Renewal Project, or any other major construction projects undertaken by the Architect of the Capitol (AOC) as those funds are provided to the AOC as part of the overall project costs for those major projects and are paid to the USCP on a reimbursable basis. It is expected the USCP to operate within the designated funding level for requirements associated with each project.

GENERAL EXPENSES

The agreement includes $68,000,000 for general expenses of the Capitol Police.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION

The agreement provides for disposal of lost and found property and acceptance of property from other Federal agencies.

OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement includes $3,959,000.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement includes $46,500,000 for salaries and expenses.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION

The agreement authorizes senior level positions.

ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL

The agreement includes $617,887,000 for the activities of the Architect of the Capitol (AOC).

Construction Division: The Committees are aware of AOC's practice of employing its Construction Division employees as short-term, annual employees who do not have identical job protections and benefits available to permanent full-time employees.

Therefore, the AOC is directed to submit a report detailing the structure and operations of the Construction Division within 90 days of enactment. The report should include details on how the Construction Division's capabilities are integrated into AOC's project planning processes, how job security protections and other benefits are comparable to those extended to other AOC staff, how employment status affects workforce retention, AOC's dependence on outside contractors, and whether or not the Construction Division is still meeting the goals and purpose of its original creation.

Senate Restaurants: Concerns continue, as detailed in Senate Report 114–258, regarding findings that the food service provider for the Senate underpaid many of its employees by misclassifying their work duties, and that problems with contract compliance could continue. It is emphasized that the AOC shall follow all directives included in such report, particularly the directive for the AOC to consider all recourses in ensuring compliance and accountability with the contract. AOC is further directed to continue to consider all such recourses throughout the entire term of the contract if additional contract compliance problems arise. It is noted that the Government Accountability Office is conducting an audit of AOC's oversight of the Senate restaurant contract and that the AOC Inspector General has taken steps to incorporate AOC's restaurant contract management into its routine oversight.

It is noted that the Architect has committed, including in written correspondence to and meetings with Members of the United State Senate, to fully institute comprehensive reforms of the AOC's oversight of Senate restaurant contracts. Reforms include, but are not limited to: increasing the number of dedicated AOC staff to the oversight of restaurant contracts and ensuring such staff maintain a close and continuing connection to the Senate community; coordinating detailed, ongoing audits of employee wage rates and wage classifications; determining if areas of improvement to the contractor's pay administration practices exist so that information is readily available and transparent to contract employees; facilitating training on applicable labor laws for both AOC staff and relevant contract staff; ensuring the contractor maintains a full-time, dedicated human resources manager on site; and ensuring specific improvements in contractor communications with its employees, including for communications to be available in multiple languages, as needed, and ensuring contractor employees have convenient access to report possible violations. It is expected that the reforms AOC has committed to will be fully instituted and formalized as standard operating procedures as soon as practicable. The AOC is directed to continue to immediately report all developments related to contractor oversight of Senate restaurants to both to the Senate Committee on Appropriations and the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration.

CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATIONS

The agreement includes $92,957,000 for Capital Construction and Operations, of which $1,368,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2021.

With respect to operations and projects, the following is agreed to:

Operating Budget	$91,589,000
Project Budget:	
1. New Legislative Call System Installation	1,368,000
Total, Capital Construction and Operations	$92,957,000

CAPITOL BUILDING

The agreement includes $32,584,000, for maintenance, care, and operation of the Capitol, of which $8,584,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2021.

With respect to operations and projects, the following is agreed to:

Operating Budget	$24,000,000
Project Budget:	
1. Exterior Stone & Metal Preservation, West Facade, Phase III	5,582,000
2. Conservation of Fine and Architectural Art	502,000
3. Minor Construction	2,500,000
	8,584,000
Total, Capitol Building	$32,584,000

CAPITOL GROUNDS

The agreement includes $12,826,000 for the care and improvements of the grounds surrounding the Capitol, House and Senate office buildings, and the Capitol Power Plant, of which $2,946,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2021.

With respect to operations and projects, the following was agreed to:

Operating Budget	$9,880,000
Project Budget:	
1. Capitol Square Infrastructure Repair	946,000
2. Minor Construction	2,000,000
	2,946,000
Total, Capitol Grounds	$12,826,000

Use of Grounds: It is understood the need to maintain safety and order on the Capitol grounds and the Capitol Police are commended for their efforts. Given the family-style neighborhood that the Capitol shares with the surrounding community it is expected the Capitol Police continue to forebear enforcement of 2 U.S.C. 1963 (''An act to protect the public property, turf, and grass of the Capitol Grounds from injury'') and the Traffic Regulations for the United States Capitol Grounds when encountering snow sledders on the grounds.

SENATE OFFICE BUILDINGS

The agreement includes $88,406,000 for the maintenance, care and operation of the Senate office buildings, of which $27,944,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2021.

Operating Budget	$60,462,000
Project Budget:	
1. Exterior Envelope Repair and Restoration, Phases IV and V, South and Southwest Facades, RSOB	14,439,000
2. Senate Underground Garage Renovations and Landscaping Restoration, Phase II	8,505,000
3. Minor Construction	5,000,000
	27,944,000
Total, Senate Office Buildings	$88,406,000

Bike Lanes. The Architect of the Capitol is commended for its efforts to develop a safe and accessible street system to better connect all road users to the U.S. Capitol, Union Station, and the National Mall by making cost-effective improvements to Louisiana Avenue, Constitution Avenue, and 3rd Street Northwest. The plan, as approved by the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration, would provide protected bike lanes on these roads to safely connect residents and tourists to Pennsylvania Avenue, the National Mall, the U.S. Capitol, Union Station, and the Metropolitan Branch Trail. As the AOC works during fiscal year 2017 to develop detailed specifications on these new bike lanes, the AOC should continue to coordinate with the District of Columbia Department of Transportation, consistent with the necessary approvals of the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration, to pursue completion of this project in a timely manner. The AOC is also reminded to ensure close coordination with the Senate Sergeant At Arms and among AOC jurisdictions to minimize impact on other campus projects and priorities.

This item relates solely to the Senate and is in accordance with long practice under which each body determines its own housekeeping requirements, and the other concurs without intervention.

HOUSE OFFICE BUILDINGS

The agreement includes $185,731,000 for the basic and recurring needs of the House within the House Office Buildings account, of which $61,404,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2021 and $62,000,000 shall remain available until expended.

Operating Budget	$62,327,000
Project Budget:	
1. Garage Rehabilitation, Phase II, RHOB	30,789,000
2. Emergency Power Upgrades, RHOB & HUG's	19,955,000
3. CAO Project Support	3,660,000
4. Restoration & Renovation, CHOB	62,000,000
5. Minor Construction	7,000,000
	123,404,000
Total, House Office Buildings (base program)	$185,731,000

House Historic Buildings Revitalization Trust Fund: In addition to funding for core facility needs, the agreement includes $17,000,000 for the Historic Buildings Revitalization Trust Fund, to remain available until expended.

This item relates solely to the House and is in accordance with long practice under which each body determines its own housekeeping requirements, and the other concurs without intervention.

CAPITOL POWER PLANT

In addition to the $9,000,000 made available from receipts credited as reimbursements to this appropriation, the agreement includes $86,646,000 for maintenance, care and operation of the Capitol Power Plant, of which $9,505,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2021.

With respect to operations and projects, the following is agreed to:

Operating Budget	$86,141,000
Project Budget:	
1. Roof Replacement, PPBP and PPGP	3,805,000
2. Cogeneration Management Program	1,700,000
3. Minor Construction	4,000,000
	9,505,000
Subtotal, Capitol Power Plant	$95,646,000
Offsetting Collections	(9,000,000)
Total, Capitol Power Plant	$86,646,000

LIBRARY BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

The agreement includes $47,080,000 for Library of Congress buildings and grounds, of which $22,137,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2021.

With respect to operations and projects, the following is agreed to:

Operating Budget	$24,943,000
Project Budget:	
1. Garage Structural Repairs and Entry Improvements, JAB	8,722,000
2. Emergency Generator Replacement, TJB	4,901,000
3. Elevator Modernization, JMMB MC1–MC4, JAB 13–14	4,292,000
4. East and West Main Pavilion Roof Replacement, TJB	2,222,000
5. Minor Construction	2,000,000
	22,137,000
Total, Library Buildings and Grounds	$47,080,000

CAPITOL POLICE BUILDINGS, GROUNDS, AND SECURITY

The agreement includes $20,033,000 for Capitol Police Buildings, Grounds, and Security, of which $2,500,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2021.

With respect to operations and projects, the following is agreed to:

Operating Budget	$17,533,000
Project Budget:	
1. Minor Construction	2,500,000
Total, Capitol Police Buildings, Grounds, and Security	$20,033,000

BOTANIC GARDEN

The agreement includes $14,067,000 for salaries and expenses for the Botanic Garden, of which $4,054,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2021.

With respect to operations and projects, the following is agreed to:

Operating Budget	$10,013,000
Project Budget:	
1. Production Facility Renewal	1,954,000
2. Minor Construction	2,100,000
	4,054,000
Total, Botanic Garden	$14,067,000

CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER

The agreement includes $20,557,000 for the Capitol Visitor Center.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

The agreement prohibits payments of bonuses to contractors behind schedule or over budget; prohibits expenditure of funds for scrims for projects performed by the Architect of the Capitol; establishes a Flag Office Revolving Fund; provides expired funds for unemployment compensation payments; directs the Architect of the Capitol to establish and follow formal procedures for suspension and debarment of contractors; and provides the Architect of the Capitol authority to operate shuttle service between the House Office Buildings jurisdiction and the U.S. Capitol.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Subject Headings: In lieu of report language related to the Library of Congress' subject headings, the Library of Congress is directed to make publicly available its process for changing or adding subject headings. It is expected that the Library use a process to change or add subject headings that is clearly defined, transparent, and allows input from stakeholders including those in the congressional community. The process should consider appropriate sources of common terminology used to refer to a concept, including current statutory language and other legal reference sources; and other sources, such as reference materials; websites; and, titles in the Library of Congress' collection.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement includes $450,667,000 in direct appropriations and authority to spend receipts of $6,350,000.

This amount includes $6,563,000 for information technology security enhancements, $1,348,000 for digital collections management, $4,039,000 for shelving replacement in the Law Library's collection storage areas, $1,888,000 for the Veterans History Project and $8,444,000 for the Teaching with Primary Sources program.

Primary Computing Facility: In lieu of House report pertaining to the Library of Congress' Primary Computing Facility (PCF), the Library's current PCF built in the 1970's, can no longer provide a sufficient level of data center reliability and resiliency. The Library has conducted a review of the necessary requirements and has assessed numerous options to remediate the deficiencies of its current PCF. $20,000,000 is being provided to move forward with this important initiative. Once fully developed the Library's Chief Information Officer shall provide a time-line and plan on the Library's transition out of its current PCF to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate.

Digital Collections Management: The agreement supports language included in Senate Report 114–258 and reiterates the need for the Library to develop an efficient, organization-wide system for acquiring, managing, and sharing digital materials. It is critical for the Library to have a comprehensive digital collection management plan in place that centralizes and builds on current expertise, staffing, and funding. The Committees look forward to considering future funding requests for additional FTE's to add to current resources supporting digital collections as details for such plans are finalized.

eReader Program: The importance of having accessible reading material to U.S. citizens and residents who are unable to read printed material due to blindness or physical limitations is recognized. In 2016 Congress authorized the National Library Services for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS) to provide readers for electronic braille (Public Law 114–219). This new authority is consistent with a 2016 Government Accountability Office report requested by the House Committee on Appropriations, which found that NLS could provide braille materials in a modern and potentially more cost-effective way by distributing braille eReaders to NLS patrons. In addition to the new authority NLS continues its mission of providing materials in audio and braille formats and players for talking books.

It is encouraging that NLS is moving forward to implement the braille eReader program. There is support for the Library's current approach to, within existing funds and in cooperation with an educational organization for the blind, pilot the introduction of braille eReaders, and, with information learned from the pilot, work with the network of participating NLS libraries to scale the braille eReader program up so that it can deliver the increased accessibility that Congress intended.

COPYRIGHT OFFICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement includes $23,098,000 in direct appropriations to the Copyright Office. An additional $39,548,000 is made available from receipts for salaries and expenses and $6,179,000 is available from prior year unobligated balances.

Modernization: In lieu of direction provided in House Report 114–595 and Senate Report 114–258, the agreement provides the following with regard to the Copyright Office.

The House and Senate Committees on Appropriations fully understand and support the U.S. Copyright Office as it moves toward modernization in order to provide quality services and adapt to the continuously evolving copyright marketplace. In support of these efforts, the Copyright Office's authority to spend receipts has been increased and it is expected that the additional funds made available will be used towards the modernization effort.

As a necessary part of providing quality services, the need for a robust information technology modernization effort within the Copyright Office to support the growth of creativity and commercial artistic activity in our nation and to effectively serve users and copyright owners in the 21st century is recognized. Various legislative proposals exist with regard to the Copyright Office and this agreement takes no position on larger systemic changes being considered. Given the importance of the copyright system to the creative community, the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate are committed to improving the IT systems as broader discussions are being had by relevant Congressional authorizing committees.

Last year the Copyright Office was required to provide a plan on necessary IT upgrades to the Copyright Office and to seek public comments on efforts to modernize. A provisional report was received on February 29, 2016. However, the report did not include the level of detail or collaboration with the Library's Chief Information Officer (CIO) as expected. Therefore, the Copyright Office is directed, in collaboration with the Library's CIO, to modify the plan to include potential opportunities for shared efficiencies and cost-savings as well as ways the Library's CIO Office can support the Copyright Office in its overall modernization efforts. This report should also include any new funding strategies based on the comments received from the public regarding changes in fee structures. This modified plan is to be provided to the Committees on Appropriations of both the House and the Senate within 90 days.

Without prejudice to the proposals on where the Copyright Office appropriately sits organizationally, it is recognized that there must be integration with the Library of Congress given it is currently a part of the Library. It is expected that the Copyright Office consult with the Library of Congress' CIO on its modified IT plan and use of shared services, where practicable, should be reflected in the plan. However, with regard to copyright specific IT systems and larger Copyright issues, it is expected that the Library continue to defer to the expertise of the Register of Copyrights.

Copyright Expertise: The Copyright Office has offered its expertise on copyright matters to the Executive Branch, including participation in international discussions, and expects the Office is expected to continue that important role.

CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement includes $107,945,234 for salaries and expenses.

Congressional Research Service Modernization: It is recognized that the Congressional Research Service (CRS) adhered to direction included in Senate Report 114–258 to examine ways in which the internal structure of the organization may be improved to meet the challenges of the ever-changing Congressional environment. The Director of CRS has

already provided a verbal progress report on this internal examination to the Committees and will keep the Committees apprised of any structural changes moving forward. This obviates the need for a written report.

BOOKS FOR THE BLIND AND PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement includes $50,248,000 for salaries and expenses.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

The agreement includes provisions regarding reimbursable and revolving funds carried in prior years and establishes a National Collection Stewardship Fund.

GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING OFFICE

CONGRESSIONAL PUBLISHING

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The agreement includes $79,736,000 for authorized publishing, printing and binding for the Congress.

PUBLIC INFORMATION PROGRAMS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF DOCUMENTS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The agreement includes $29,500,000.

GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING OFFICE BUSINESS OPERATIONS REVOLVING FUND

The agreement includes $7,832,000.

GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement includes $544,505,919 in direct appropriations for salaries and expenses of the Government Accountability Office (GAO). In addition, $23,350,000 is available from offsetting collections.

In lieu of the directives to the GAO contained in the House and Senate reports, this explanatory statement addresses matters on which the House and Senate concur and action by the GAO is requested.

Technology Assessment: GAO's work is recognized in the area of technology assessment, since being tasked with this responsibility in 2002. GAO has produced highly technical and scientific reports in response to Congressional requests and statutory requirements. These reports have included technology assessments (TA), and other reports to Congress that incorporate analysis of scientific, technological and engineering issues in their evaluations of federal programs. GAO has also produced best practice guides for use across government on the topics of lifecycle cost estimating, project scheduling, and technology readiness assessment. GAO's work in these areas is led by GAO's Center for Science, Technology, and Engineering (CSTE).

GAO's CSTE provides wide-ranging technical expertise across all of GAO's areas of work, including support to various studies of federal programs with science and technology elements, such as cybersecurity, nuclear and environmental issues, and major technical systems acquisitions, among others. Also noted is the work of CSTE's e-Security laboratory and Cost Engineering Sciences groups which conduct computer and network security evaluations and advanced operations research analyses (including cost, schedule, and technical performance), respectively.

GAO has provided direct support to the Congress via congressional testimony, review of draft legislation, and the adoption of various report recommendations by Executive Branch agencies. GAO is commended for providing key direct technical support to various congressional committees on technology-focused topics such as the U.S. Capitol Police radio systems acquisition.

It is noted that GAO is using rigorous methods in its technical reports, including engaging key external technical experts via group meetings conducted in partnership with the National Academies, cost-benefit analysis, risk analysis, technology maturity assessment, and scenario-based trend identification.

Given the persistent and growing demand for this technical work, the Comptroller General is commended for his strategic initiative to build the scientific and technical capacity within GAO and encouraging further growth as the work portfolio requires. GAO is encouraged to continue a communication effort with Congress to ensure lawmakers are aware of these services.

OPEN WORLD LEADERSHIP CENTER TRUST FUND

The agreement includes $5,600,000.

JOHN C. STENNIS CENTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICE TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

The agreement includes $430,000.

TITLE II—GENERAL PROVISIONS

The agreement continues provisions related to maintenance and care of private vehicles; fiscal year limitations; rates of compensation and designation; consulting services; costs of the LBFMC; limitation on transfers; guided tours of the Capitol; and computer network activity.

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
TITLE I - LEGISLATIVE BRANCH					
SENATE					
Expense allowances:					
Vice President	19	19	19	---	---
President Pro Tempore of the Senate	38	38	38	---	---
Majority Leader of the Senate	40	40	40	---	---
Minority Leader of the Senate	40	40	40	---	---
Majority Whip of the Senate	10	10	10	---	---
Minority Whip of the Senate	10	10	10	---	---
Chairman of the Majority Conference Committee	5	5	5	---	---
Chairman of the Minority Conference Committee	5	5	5	---	---
Chairman of the Majority Policy Committee	5	5	5	---	---
Chairman of the Minority Policy Committee	5	5	5	---	---
Subtotal, expense allowances	177	177	177	---	---
Representation Allowances for the Majority and Minority Leaders	28	28	28	---	---
Total, Expense allowances and representation	205	205	205	---	---

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
Salaries, Officers and Employees					
Office of the Vice President	2,417	2,474	2,417	---	-57
Office of the President Pro Tempore	723	741	723	---	-18
Offices of the Majority and Minority Leaders	5,256	5,378	5,256	---	-122
Offices of the Majority and Minority Whips	3,359	3,439	3,359	---	-80
Committee on Appropriations	15,142	15,142	15,142	---	---
Conference committees	3,316	3,396	3,316	---	-80
Offices of the Secretaries of the Conference of the Majority and the Conference of the Minority	817	839	817	---	-22
Policy committees	3,386	3,466	3,386	---	-80
Office of the Chaplain	437	448	437	---	-11
Office of the Secretary	24,772	25,339	24,772	---	-567
Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper	69,000	72,500	70,900	+1,900	-1,600
Offices of the Secretaries for the Majority and Minority	1,762	1,804	1,810	+48	+6
Agency contributions and related expenses	48,797	51,294	49,952	+1,155	-1,342
Total, Salaries, officers and employees	179,184	186,260	182,287	+3,103	-3,973
Office of the Legislative Counsel of the Senate					
Salaries and expenses	5,409	5,842	5,809	+400	-33
Office of Senate Legal Counsel					
Salaries and expenses	1,120	1,144	1,120	---	-24

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
Expense Allowances of the Secretary of the Senate, Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate, and Secretaries for the Majority and Minority of the Senate: Expense allowances	28	28	28	---	---
Contingent Expenses of the Senate					
Inquiries and investigations	133,265	135,799	133,265	---	-2,534
Expenses of United States Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control	508	520	508	---	-12
Secretary of the Senate	8,750	10,250	10,250	+1,500	---
Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate	130,000	128,535	126,535	-3,465	-2,000
Miscellaneous items	21,390	20,870	20,870	-520	---
Senators' Official Personnel and Office Expense Account	390,000	445,933	390,000	---	-55,933
Official Mail Costs					
Expenses	300	300	300	---	---
Total, Contingent expenses of the Senate	684,213	742,207	681,728	-2,485	-60,479
Total, Senate	870,159	935,686	871,177	+1,018	-64,509

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES					
Payment to Widows and Heirs of Deceased Members of Congress (FY16 PL 114-53, Sec.143)(FY17 PL 114-223, Sec.142)1/	174	---	174	---	+174
Salaries and Expenses					
House Leadership Offices					
Office of the Speaker	6,645	6,645	6,645	---	---
Office of the Majority Floor Leader	2,180	2,180	2,180	---	---
Office of the Minority Floor Leader	7,114	7,114	7,114	---	---
Office of the Majority Whip	1,887	1,887	1,887	---	---
Office of the Minority Whip	1,460	1,460	1,460	---	---
Republican Conference	1,505	1,505	1,505	---	---
Democratic Caucus	1,487	1,487	1,487	---	---
Subtotal, House Leadership Offices	22,278	22,278	22,278	---	---
Members' Representational Allowances Including Members' Clerk Hire, Official Expenses of Members, and Official Mail					
Expenses	554,318	554,318	562,632	+8,314	+8,314

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
Committee Employees					
Standing Committees, Special and Select	123,903	127,053	127,053	+3,150	---
Committee on Appropriations (including studies and investigations)	23,271	23,271	23,271	---	---
Subtotal, Committee employees	147,174	150,324	150,324	+3,150	---
Salaries, Officers and Employees					
Office of the Clerk	24,981	26,411	26,268	+1,287	-143
Office of the Sergeant at Arms	14,827	15,571	15,505	+678	-66
Office of the Chief Administrative Officer	117,165	117,165	117,165	---	---
Office of the Inspector General	4,742	4,987	4,963	+221	-24
Office of General Counsel	1,413	1,451	1,444	+31	-7
Office of the Parliamentarian	1,975	2,010	1,999	+24	-11
Office of the Law Revision Counsel of the House	3,120	3,182	3,167	+47	-15
Office of the Legislative Counsel of the House	8,353	8,979	8,979	+626	---
Office of Interparliamentary Affairs	814	814	814	---	---
Other authorized employees	1,142	1,186	1,183	+41	-3
Subtotal, Salaries, officers and employees	178,532	181,756	181,487	+2,955	-269

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
Allowances and Expenses					
Supplies, materials, administrative costs and Federal tort claims	3,625	3,625	3,625	---	---
Official mail for committees, leadership offices, and administrative offices of the House	190	190	190	---	---
Government contributions	251,629	251,630	245,334	-6,295	-6,296
Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery	16,217	16,217	16,217	---	---
Transition activities	2,084	2,084	2,084	---	---
Wounded Warrior program	2,500	2,500	2,500	---	---
Office of Congressional Ethics	1,467	1,667	1,658	+191	-9
Miscellaneous items	720	720	720	---	---
Subtotal, Allowances and expenses	278,432	278,633	272,328	-6,104	-6,305
Total, House of Representatives (discretionary)	1,180,734	1,187,309	1,189,049	+8,315	+1,740
Total, House of Representatives (mandatory)	174	---	174	---	+174
JOINT ITEMS					
Joint Economic Committee	4,203	4,203	4,203	---	---
Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies of 2017	1,250	---	---	-1,250	---
Joint Committee on Taxation	10,095	11,540	10,095	---	-1,445

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
Office of the Attending Physician					
Medical supplies, equipment, expenses, and allowances	3,784	3,838	3,838	+54	---
Office of Congressional Accessibility Services					
Salaries and expenses	1,400	1,429	1,429	+29	---
Total, Joint items	20,732	21,010	19,565	-1,167	-1,445
CAPITOL POLICE					
Salaries	309,000	333,128	325,300	+16,300	-7,828
General expenses	66,000	76,460	68,000	+2,000	-8,460
Total, Capitol Police	375,000	409,588	393,300	+18,300	-16,288
OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE					
Salaries and expenses	3,959	4,315	3,959	---	-356
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE					
Salaries and expenses	46,500	47,637	46,500	---	-1,137

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL (AOC)					
Capital Construction and Operations	91,589	103,650	92,957	+1,368	-10,693
Capitol building	46,737	44,010	32,584	-14,153	-11,426
Capitol grounds	11,880	13,083	12,826	+946	-257
Senate office buildings	84,221	88,406	88,406	+4,185	---
House of Representatives buildings:					
House office buildings	174,962	189,528	185,731	+10,769	-3,797
House Historic Buildings Revitalization Trust Fund	10,000	10,000	17,000	+7,000	+7,000
Capitol Power Plant	103,722	114,765	95,646	-8,076	-19,119
Offsetting collections	-9,000	-9,000	-9,000	---	---
Subtotal, Capitol Power Plant	94,722	105,765	86,646	-8,076	-19,119
Library buildings and grounds	40,689	65,959	47,080	+6,391	-18,879
Capitol police buildings, grounds and security	25,434	37,513	20,033	-5,401	-17,480
Botanic Garden	12,113	15,081	14,067	+1,954	-1,014
Capitol Visitor Center	20,557	21,306	20,557	---	-749
Total, Architect of the Capitol	612,904	694,301	617,887	+4,983	-76,414

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
LIBRARY OF CONGRESS					
Salaries and expenses	425,971	479,235	457,017	+31,046	-22,218
Authority to spend receipts	-6,350	-6,350	-6,350	---	---
Subtotal, Salaries and expenses	419,621	472,885	450,667	+31,046	-22,218
Copyright Office, Salaries and expenses	58,875	74,026	68,825	+9,950	-5,201
Authority to spend receipts	-35,777	-39,548	-39,548	-3,771	---
Prior year unobligated balances	---	-6,147	-6,179	-6,179	-32
Subtotal, Copyright Office	23,098	28,331	23,098	---	-5,233
Congressional Research Service, Salaries and expenses	106,945	114,408	107,945	+1,000	-6,463
Books for the blind and physically handicapped, Salaries and expenses	50,248	51,591	50,248	---	-1,343
Total, Library of Congress	599,912	667,215	631,958	+32,046	-35,257

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING OFFICE					
Congressional publishing	79,736	79,736	79,736	---	---
Public Information Programs of the Superintendent of Documents, Salaries and expenses	30,500	29,500	29,500	-1,000	---
Government Publishing Office Business Operations Revolving Fund	6,832	7,832	7,832	+1,000	---
Total, Government Publishing Office	117,068	117,068	117,068	---	---
GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE					
Salaries and expenses	556,450	591,175	567,856	+11,406	-23,319
Offsetting collections	-25,450	-23,350	-23,350	+2,100	---
Total, Government Accountability Office	531,000	567,825	544,506	+13,506	-23,319
OPEN WORLD LEADERSHIP CENTER TRUST FUND					
Payment to the Open World Leadership Center (OWLC) Trust Fund	5,600	5,800	5,600	---	-200

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
JOHN C. STENNIS CENTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICE TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT					
Stennis Center for Public Service	430	430	430	---	---
GENERAL PROVISIONS					
AOC Working Capital Fund (CBO estimate)	---	1,000	---	---	-1,000
Scorekeeping adjustment (CBO estimate) 2/	-1,000	---	-1,000	---	-1,000
Grand total	4,363,172	4,659,184	4,440,173	+77,001	-219,011
Discretionary	(4,362,998)	(4,659,184)	(4,439,999)	(+77,001)	(-219,185)
Mandatory 1/	(174)	---	(174)	---	(+174)

1/ FY2017 funds provided in Continuing Appropriations Act, 2017 (Public Law 114-223); FY2016 funds provided in Continuing Appropriations Act, 2016 (Public Law 114-53)
2/ FY2017 is Sec. 175 of Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2017 (Public Law 114-254); FY2016 is Sec. 9 of Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2016 (Public Law 114-113)

Note: The FY 2017 Request column reflects the budget submitted on February 9, 2016, as amended.

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in Thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs. FY 2016	Final Bill vs. Request
RECAPITULATION					
Senate	870,159	935,686	871,177	+1,018	-64,509
House of Representatives (discretionary)	1,180,734	1,187,309	1,189,049	+8,315	+1,740
House of Representatives (mandatory) 1/	174	---	174	---	+174
Joint Items	20,732	21,010	19,565	-1,167	-1,445
Capitol Police	375,000	409,588	393,300	+18,300	-16,288
Office of Compliance	3,959	4,315	3,959	---	-356
Congressional Budget Office	46,500	47,637	46,500	---	-1,137
Architect of the Capitol	612,904	694,301	617,887	+4,983	-76,414
Library of Congress	599,912	667,215	631,958	+32,046	-35,257
Government Publishing Office	117,068	117,068	117,068	---	---
Government Accountability Office	531,000	567,825	544,506	+13,506	-23,319
Open World Leadership Center	5,600	5,800	5,600	---	-200
Stennis Center for Public Service	430	430	430	---	---
General Provisions 2/	-1,000	1,000	-1,000	---	-2,000
Grand total	4,363,172	4,659,184	4,440,173	+77,001	-219,011
Discretionary	(4,362,998)	(4,659,184)	(4,439,999)	(+77,001)	(-219,185)
Mandatory 1/	(174)	---	(174)	---	(+174)

1/ FY2017 funds provided in Continuing Appropriations Act, 2017 (Public Law 114-223); FY2016 funds provided in Continuing Appropriations Act, 2016 (Public Law 114-53)
2/ FY2017 is Sec. 175 of Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2017 (Public Law 114-254); FY2016 is Sec. 9 of Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2016 (Public Law 114-113)

Note: The FY 2017 Request column reflects the budget submitted on February 9, 2016, as amended.

DIVISION J—DEPARTMENT OF STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

In implementing this agreement, Federal departments, agencies, commissions, and other entities are directed to comply with the directives, reporting requirements, and instructions contained in H. Rept. 114–693 (House report) accompanying H.R. 5912 (House bill) and S. Rept. 114–290 (Senate report) accompanying S. 3117 (Senate bill) as though stated in this explanatory statement, unless specifically directed to the contrary.

This explanatory statement, while repeating some House and Senate report language for emphasis or clarification, does not negate language in such reports unless expressly provided herein. Language expressing an opinion or making an observation in the House or Senate reports represents the view of the respective committee unless specifically endorsed in this explanatory statement. In cases in which the House and Senate reports provide contradictory directives or instructions that are not addressed in this explanatory statement, such directives or instructions are negated.

The Secretary of State and the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), as appropriate, shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations a description of the cost-matching arrangements required by sections 7045(a)(2), 7080(c), and 8004(a) of this Act on a country and program basis prior to the obligation of funds made available by this Act for such purposes.

In lieu of the tables contained in the House and Senate reports, the tables contained in this explanatory statement shall guide departments, agencies, commissions, and other entities when allocating funds.

The Act modifies section 7019 from the prior fiscal year, and requires that amounts designated in the respective tables referenced in this explanatory statement for funds appropriated in titles III through V shall be made available in such designated amounts and shall be the basis of the report required by section 653(a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (FAA) (the 653(a) report), where applicable. Section 7019 also includes limited authority to deviate from such specified amounts and adds a new subsection that includes exceptions to the application of the requirements of such section for amounts designated in tables included in this explanatory statement for International Military Education and Training and Global Health Programs, and funds for which the initial period of availability has expired.

Proposed deviations from tables in title I in this explanatory statement are subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations, unless an exception or deviation authority is specifically provided herein.

For the purposes of this Act, the term ''regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations'' means such Committees are notified not less than 15 days in advance of the initial obligation of funds.

In meeting the requirements of section 7076(e) of this Act, the Department of State and USAID shall include in congressional budget justifications (CBJs) the justifications for multi-year availability for funds requested under Diplomatic and Consular Programs and Operating Expenses. The Department of State, USAID, and other agencies are also directed to include in CBJs the information included in the Introduction of the Senate report under Congressional Budget Request and Justifications, as applicable.

The Department of State, USAID, and other agencies funded by this Act are directed to notify the Committees on Appropriations of:

(1) reprogrammings of funds, as required by sections 7015 and 7019 of this Act, at the most detailed level of the CBJ, this Act, or this explanatory statement;

(2) significant departures in funding from the CBJ or the 653(a) report to be submitted 30 days after enactment of this Act; and

(3) plans for restructuring the department or agency involving funding or staffing changes.

CBJ documents, and operating and spend plans, shall not suffice for purposes of satisfying special notification requirements contained in this Act.

As in prior fiscal years, additional funding designated as Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism (OCO/GWOT) pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (BBEDCA) is contained in title VIII of this Act. Such funds are intended to address the extraordinary costs of operations and assistance in countries in conflict and areas of instability and violence, particularly in the Middle East, South Asia, and Africa; security, stabilization, and peacekeeping programs; humanitarian activities; and counterterrorism and counterinsurgency efforts.

For purposes of this Act, the term ''extremist organization'' means the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS); organizations affiliated with ISIS; a foreign organization that is determined to be engaged in terrorist activity, as defined in section 212(a)(3)(B) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182); and other entities designated as foreign terrorist organizations pursuant to section 219 of such Act. The term ''extremist'' means an individual affiliated with an extremist organization. The term ''extremism'' means the advocacy or use of violence by such organizations or individuals to achieve political or religious goals.

The Secretary of State shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations the reports required by sections 104(a), 118(a), 312(a), 313, 404(c), 405(c), 418, and 602(c), of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114–323) as well as the strategy required by section 301(a) of such Act.

TITLE I—DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND RELATED AGENCY

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ADMINISTRATION OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

The Act provides $8,238,682,000 for Administration of Foreign Affairs in this title, and an additional $3,704,806,000 in title VIII under this heading is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to BBEDCA. The Act includes a total of $6,071,348,000 for embassy security in this title and title VIII, an increase of $454,501,000 above the fiscal year 2016 enacted level, as contained in the table below:

EMBASSY SECURITY

[Budget authority in thousands of dollars]

Program/Activity	Budget Authority
Worldwide Security Protection	$3,714,689
Embassy Security, Construction, and Maintenance	2,356,659
Total	6,071,348

DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR PROGRAMS

The Act provides $6,147,254,000 for Diplomatic and Consular Programs in this title, and an additional $2,410,386,000 in title VIII under this heading is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to BBEDCA.

Within the total provided under this heading in this title, up to $1,899,479,000 is for Worldwide Security Protection (WSP) and may remain available until expended; and $4,247,775,000 is for operations, of which $637,166,000 may remain available until September 30, 2018. Not later than September 1, 2017, the Secretary of State is directed to report to the Committees on Appropriations on projected amounts available for operations beyond fiscal year 2017 by category and bureau. Title VIII of this Act includes funds for embassy operations in Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Iraq and other areas of unrest.

Funds appropriated by this Act for activities, bureaus, and offices under this heading in this title are allocated according to the following table:

DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR PROGRAMS

[Budget authority in thousands of dollars]

Category	Budget Authority
Human Resources	$2,529,387
Worldwide Security Protection	*[463,417]*
Overseas Programs	1,401,847
Diplomatic Policy and Support	757,713
Security Programs	1,458,307
Worldwide Security Protection	*[1,436,062]*
Total	6,147,254

Bureau/Office (Includes salary and bureau managed funds)	
Bureau of Administration:	
Freedom of Information Act	*[$33,960]*
Ambassadors Fund for Cultural Preservation	6,250
Cultural Antiquities Task Force	1,000
Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor	40,259
Human Rights Vetting	*[9,000]*
Office of International Religious Freedom	*[6,500]*
of which, religious freedom curriculum development	*[500]*
Special Envoy to Promote Religious Freedom of Religious Minorities in the Near East and South Central Asia	*[2,000]*
Atrocities Prevention Training	*[500]*
Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs:	
Office of the Special Envoy for Holocaust Issues	*[568]*
Bureau of Economic and Business Affairs:	
Office of Terrorism Financing and Economic Sanctions Policy	*[5,625]*
Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons	12,500
Office of the Legal Advisor:	
Document Review Unit	*[2,889]*
Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs:	
Office of Oceans and Polar Affairs	*[7,962]*
Office of the Secretary:	
Office of the Special Coordinator for Tibetan Issues	*[1,000]*
Office of the Coordinator for Cyber Issues	*[5,497]*
Office of Global Women's Issues	*[5,326]*

The Act does not include funding for any new, non-security positions, unless specifically noted herein. The Secretary of State may fill existing positions that become vacant due to attrition, as needed. If the Secretary intends to create and fill new positions, 15 days prior to posting such positions or filling such positions with internal candidates the Secretary shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations a reprogramming request which shall include for each new position: a justification; a description of the job duties; the estimated fiscal years 2017 and 2018 costs; and the funding sources to be used for such costs, including funds to be reallocated from savings due to the elimination of other positions, contract services, and other reductions or cost saving measures.

Funds allocated for offices and programs under the bureaus listed in the table under

this heading that exceed the 2017 CBJ levels for such offices and programs are in addition to funds otherwise made available for such bureaus.

The Secretary of State shall ensure that all security-cleared employees comply with training requirements for the classifying, safeguarding, and declassifying of national security information in accordance with Executive Order 13526: Classified National Security Information, as appropriate.

The Secretary of State shall implement, in a timely manner, the recommendations of the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) November 2016 ''Management Assistance Report: Incorrect Post Allowance Rate for Embassy Berlin, Germany'' (AUD–FM–17–06).

The Secretary of State is directed to identify the embassies or consulates that did not regularly utilize the Department of State's model visa denial letter in fiscal year 2016, and include such information in the report required by the House report under the heading Border Security Program, Visa processing and training.

Not later than 45 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations a progress report on the Foreign Affairs Security Training Center project. Such report shall be updated and submitted to such Committees semi-annually until completion of the project. The report shall include the requirements described under this heading in the House and Senate reports.

The Secretary of State is directed to implement directives under this heading in the House report and the Introduction to the Senate report concerning atrocity prevention, including continued support for the Atrocities Prevention Board and the Office of the Special Envoy for Holocaust Issues.

The agreement includes $12,500,000 for the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons for support of activities and directives described in the House and Senate reports.

The agreement includes sufficient funds to support the authorized positions for the Bureau of Intelligence and Research in fiscal year 2017.

The Secretary of State is directed to fill the position of Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism authorized by Public Law 108–332 in a timely manner.

The Secretary of State is directed to continue the workforce diversity initiatives described under this heading in the House and Senate reports.

The agreement includes sufficient funds to support public diplomacy programs at not less than the fiscal year 2016 level. In addition, the Secretary of State is directed to include projected funding levels for public diplomacy in the operating plan required by section 7076(a) of this Act.

Section 7034(h) of this Act continues a limitation on the use of funds for the preservation of religious sites as in prior fiscal years.

Section 7034(k)(1) of this Act extends for one year the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative surcharge authority, which is the same extension of authority included in prior fiscal years.

Section 7034(k)(4) of this Act continues the Foreign Service overseas pay comparability authority, but, as in prior fiscal years, prohibits implementation of the third phase of the authority.

The Secretary of State is directed to implement the recommendations in the Senate report regarding prevention of discrimination and abuse under this heading and the Operating Expenses heading.

CAPITAL INVESTMENT FUND

The Act provides $12,600,000 for Capital Investment Fund.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

The Act provides $87,069,000 for Office of Inspector General in this title, of which $13,060,000 may remain available until September 30, 2018, and an additional $54,900,000 in title VIII under this heading is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to BBEDCA. The Act waives the requirement of section 209(a)(1) of the Foreign Service Act of 1980, as included in the Senate bill and in prior fiscal years.

EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMS

The Act provides $634,143,000 for Educational and Cultural Exchange Programs, of which not less than $240,000,000 is for the Fulbright Program and $111,360,000 is for the Citizen Exchange Program, of which not less than $4,125,000 is for the Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange. Funds under this heading are allocated according to the following table:

EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMS

[Budget authority in thousands of dollars]

Program/Activity	Budget Authority
Academic Programs:	
Fulbright Program	240,000
Global Academic Exchanges	63,176
Special Academic Exchanges	16,950
Benjamin Gilman International Scholarship Program	*[12,500]*
Subtotal	320,126
Professional and Cultural Exchanges:	
International Visitor Program	97,765
Citizen Exchange Program	111,360
Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange	*[4,125]*
Special Professional and Cultural Exchanges	5,575
Subtotal	214,700
Young Leaders Initiatives	28,500
Program and Performance	7,383
Exchanges Support	63,434
Total	634,143

The Secretary of State shall include in the operating plan required by section 7076(a)(1) of this Act the information listed under this heading in the House and Senate reports.

The Committees on Appropriations recognize the unique role of educational and cultural exchanges for advancing American leadership and ideals abroad. Department of State funded exchanges are an important instrument of United States foreign policy and diplomacy efforts, and promote United States security interests. To that end, the agreement includes additional funding for certain educational and cultural exchange programs.

Funds made available for the Citizen Exchange Program that are above the fiscal year 2016 program plan are intended for the purposes described under this heading in the House and Senate reports.

The agreement includes funding for Academic Programs and Professional and Cultural Exchanges to support exchanges with countries of the former Soviet Union, Eastern Europe, and the Nordic region at not less than the 2017 CBJ levels.

The agreement includes sufficient funds to expand support for academic exchanges with Mexico and the countries of Central and South America.

The agreement includes not less than $700,000 for the expansion of Korean-United States exchanges under the Fulbright Program and Global Academic Exchanges. Not later than 90 days after the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State is directed to consult with the Committees on Appropriations on the use of such funds.

The agreement includes funds to continue the Special Academic Exchanges and Special Professional and Cultural Exchanges described in the House and Senate reports, including the Benjamin Gilman International Scholarship Program and the Tibetan exchanges and fellowships.

The agreement includes $2,500,000 under this heading and $2,500,000 under Economic Support Fund for grants authorized by section 211 of the Vietnam Education Foundation Act of 2000, as amended. An additional $4,000,000 is expected to be derived from debt forgiveness, which will provide a total of $9,000,000 for such activities in fiscal year 2017.

The Secretary of State shall follow the directives under the Summer Work Travel and High School Exchange Programs heading in the Senate report.

REPRESENTATION EXPENSES

The Act provides $8,030,000 for Representation Expenses, subject to section 7020 of this Act.

PROTECTION OF FOREIGN MISSIONS AND OFFICIALS

The Act provides $30,344,000 for Protection of Foreign Missions and Officials.

Section 7034(i) of this Act continues the authority for the Secretary of State to transfer expired, unobligated balances from funds made available under Diplomatic and Consular Programs to this heading.

EMBASSY SECURITY, CONSTRUCTION, AND MAINTENANCE

The Act provides $1,117,859,000 for Embassy Security, Construction, and Maintenance in this title, of which $358,698,000 is for Worldwide Security Upgrades (WSU) and $759,161,000 is for other construction, operations, and maintenance. An additional $1,238,800,000 is provided in title VIII under this heading that is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to BBEDCA, of which $1,228,000,000 is available for WSU.

The Secretary of State shall follow the directives concerning the Art in Embassies Program under this heading in the Senate report. The report required should also include the amount expended for procurement of art in fiscal year 2016.

Not later than 45 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall report to the Committees on Appropriations on plans to construct a New Embassy Compound in Vietnam, including options for the purchase of appropriate land for such construction.

EMERGENCIES IN THE DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR SERVICE

The Act provides $7,900,000 for Emergencies in the Diplomatic and Consular Service.

REPATRIATION LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

The Act provides $1,300,000 for Repatriation Loans Program Account.

PAYMENT TO THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE IN TAIWAN

The Act provides $31,963,000 for Payment to the American Institute in Taiwan.

INTERNATIONAL CENTER, WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

The Act provides $1,320,000 for International Center, Washington, District of Columbia.

PAYMENT TO THE FOREIGN SERVICE RETIREMENT AND DISABILITY FUND

The Act provides $158,900,000 for Payment to the Foreign Service Retirement and Disability Fund.

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

CONTRIBUTIONS TO INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

The Act provides $1,262,966,000 for Contributions to International Organizations in this title, and an additional $96,240,000 in title VIII under this heading is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to BBEDCA.

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACEKEEPING ACTIVITIES

The Act provides $552,904,000 for Contributions for International Peacekeeping Activities, and an additional $1,354,660,000 in title VIII under this heading is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to BBEDCA. The agreement provides funding for the United States share of the United Nations (UN) Support Office in Somalia under Peacekeeping Operations in title VIII, instead of under this heading.

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSIONS

INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY AND WATER COMMISSION, UNITED STATES AND MEXICO

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The Act provides $48,134,000 for Salaries and Expenses.

CONSTRUCTION

The Act provides $29,400,000 for Construction.

AMERICAN SECTIONS, INTERNATIONAL COMMISSIONS

The Act provides $12,258,000 for American Sections, International Commissions to support the International Boundary Commission, International Joint Commission, and Border Environment Cooperation Commission, at the levels contained in the 2017 CBJ.

INTERNATIONAL FISHERIES COMMISSIONS

The Act provides $37,502,000 for International Fisheries Commissions. Funds under this heading are allocated according to the following table:

INTERNATIONAL FISHERIES COMMISSIONS

[Budget authority in thousands of dollars]

Commission/Activity	Budget Authority
Great Lakes Fishery Commission	24,795
Lake Champlain Basin	*[3,450]*
Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission	1,750
Pacific Salmon Commission	3,685
International Pacific Halibut Commission	4,160
Other Marine Conservation Organizations	3,112
Total	37,502

The agreement provides funding for the purposes specified under this heading in the Senate report.

RELATED AGENCY

BROADCASTING BOARD OF GOVERNORS

INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING OPERATIONS

The Act provides $772,108,000 for International Broadcasting Operations in this title, and an additional $4,800,000 in title VIII under this heading is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to BBEDCA.

Of the funds made available under this heading, up to $32,501,000 may remain available until expended for satellite transmissions and Internet freedom programs, of which not less than $13,800,000 is for Internet freedom and circumvention programs. In addition, $1,200,000 is included within funds provided for Radio Free Asia for the personnel costs associated with Internet freedom activities, bringing the total provided for such programs to not less than $15,000,000. The Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG) is directed to include amounts planned for Internet freedom in fiscal year 2017 as part of the operating plan required by section 7076(a)(1) of this Act and to describe the planned activities in the Internet freedom spend plan required by section 7078(c) of this Act.

Prior to the submission of the fiscal year 2017 operating plan, the BBG is directed to consult with the Committees on Appropriations on the program increases and reductions recommended under this heading in the House and Senate reports.

The agreement includes not less than $6,965,000 for expansion of BBG Korean programming, including $3,310,000 for Radio Free Asia, $3,405,000 for Voice of America, and $250,000 for the Office of Technology, Services, and Innovation.

Title VIII of this Act provides $4,800,000 for Voice of America broadcasts to Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iraq, and Syria. BBG is directed to include a proposal for the use of such funds in the operating plan required by section 7076(a)(1) of this Act. The operating plan shall also include amounts planned for countering Russian influence, countering violent extremism, and for Korean programming.

Funds under this heading in this Act are allocated according to the following table:

INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING OPERATIONS

[Budget authority in thousands of dollars]

Entities/Grantees	Budget Authority
Federal Entities:	
International Broadcasting Bureau (IBB):	
IBB Operations	59,671
Internet freedom	*[13,800]*
Office of Technology, Services, and Innovation	181,399
Voice of America	234,685
Afghanistan OCO/GWOT	*[4,800]*
Office of Cuba Broadcasting	28,056
Subtotal	503,811
Independent Grantee Organizations:	
Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty	117,388
Radio Free Asia	43,109
Middle East Broadcasting Networks	112,600
Subtotal	273,097
Total	776,908
of which, BBG Title I	*[772,108]*
of which, BBG Title VIII OCO/GWOT	*[4,800]*

BROADCASTING CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

The Act provides $9,700,000 for Broadcasting Capital Improvements.

RELATED PROGRAMS

THE ASIA FOUNDATION

The Act provides $17,000,000 for The Asia Foundation.

UNITED STATES INSTITUTE OF PEACE

The Act provides $37,884,000 for United States Institute of Peace.

CENTER FOR MIDDLE EASTERN-WESTERN DIALOGUE TRUST FUND

The Act provides $122,000 from interest and earnings from the Center for Middle Eastern-Western Dialogue Trust Fund.

EISENHOWER EXCHANGE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

The Act provides $350,000 from interest and earnings from the Eisenhower Exchange Fellowship Program Trust Fund.

ISRAELI ARAB SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The Act provides $47,000 from interest and earnings from the Israeli Arab Scholarship Endowment Fund.

EAST–WEST CENTER

The Act provides $16,700,000 for East-West Center.

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR DEMOCRACY

The Act provides $170,000,000 for National Endowment for Democracy.

OTHER COMMISSIONS

COMMISSION FOR THE PRESERVATION OF AMERICA'S HERITAGE ABROAD

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The Act provides $888,000 for Commission for the Preservation of America's Heritage Abroad.

UNITED STATES COMMISSION ON INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The Act provides $3,500,000 for United States Commission on International Religious Freedom.

COMMISSION ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The Act provides $2,579,000 for Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

CONGRESSIONAL–EXECUTIVE COMMISSION ON THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The Act provides $2,000,000 for Congressional-Executive Commission on the People's Republic of China.

UNITED STATES–CHINA ECONOMIC AND SECURITY REVIEW COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The Act provides $3,500,000 for United States-China Economic and Security Review Commission.

TITLE II—UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT

OPERATING EXPENSES

The Act provides $1,204,609,000 for Operating Expenses in this title, of which $180,691,000 may remain available until September 30, 2018, and an additional $152,080,000 in title VIII under this heading is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to BBEDCA.

The USAID Administrator shall ensure that all security-cleared employees comply with training requirements for the classifying, safeguarding, and declassifying of national security information in accordance with Executive Order 13526: Classified National Security Information, as appropriate.

The agreement includes $250,000 under this heading to train USAID personnel in genocide and mass atrocity prevention.

The USAID Administrator is directed to consult with the appropriate congressional committees prior to any decision to begin discussions with a foreign government regarding the closure of a USAID Mission.

The USAID Administrator shall submit the report required under this heading in the Senate report regarding Local Sustainable Development Officers and Small Grants Program not later than 45 days after the enactment of this Act.

CAPITAL INVESTMENT FUND

The Act provides $174,985,000 for Capital Investment Fund.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

The Act provides $67,600,000 for Office of Inspector General, of which $10,140,000 may remain available until September 30, 2018.

TITLE III—BILATERAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE

FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT

GLOBAL HEALTH PROGRAMS

The Act provides $8,724,950,000 for Global Health Programs. Funds under this heading are allocated according to the following table and subject to section 7019 of this Act:

GLOBAL HEALTH PROGRAMS

[Budget authority in thousands of dollars]

Program/Activity	Budget Authority
Maternal and Child Health	814,500
Polio	*[51,500]*
The GAVI Alliance	*[275,000]*
Nutrition (USAID)	125,000
Micronutrients	*[33,000]*
of which, Vitamin A	*[22,500]*
Iodine Deficiency Disorder	*[2,500]*
Vulnerable Children (USAID)	23,000
Blind Children	*[3,500]*
HIV/AIDS (USAID)	330,000
Microbicides	*[45,000]*
HIV/AIDS (Department of State)	5,670,000
The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria	*[1,350,000]*
UNAIDS	*[45,000]*
Family Planning/Reproductive Health (USAID)	523,950
Other Infectious Diseases (USAID)	1,238,500
Pandemic Influenza and Other Emerging Threats	*[142,500]*
of which, Emergency Reserve Fund	*[70,000]*
Malaria	*[755,000]*
Tuberculosis	*[241,000]*
of which, Global TB Drug Facility	*[15,000]*
Neglected Tropical Diseases	*[100,000]*
Total	8,724,950

Children facing adversity.—In lieu of the directive regarding psychiatric care for children in the House report under this heading, the USAID Administrator shall address the emotional, cognitive, and behavioral struggles of children facing adversity and separation from their families in its programming for children, in both the Action Plan for Children in Adversity priority countries and in countries supported through the Displaced Children and Orphans Fund.

Maternal and Child Health.—Not later than 90 days after the enactment of this Act, the USAID Administrator shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations detailing USAID efforts to expand interventions to end preventable maternal newborn and child deaths through the use of innovative financing tools, including pay-for-success and sovereign level guarantees, and evaluating the opportunities and challenges of expanding the use of such tools. The report should also include the costs and risks of such interventions to date, and anticipated funding commitments for such purposes in subsequent fiscal years.

DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

The Act provides $2,995,465,000 for Development Assistance. Funds for certain programs under this heading are allocated according to the following table and subject to section 7019 of this Act:

DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

[Budget authority in thousands of dollars]

Global Programs	Budget Authority
Combating child marriage	11,000
Global Crop Diversity Trust	15,000
Leahy War Victims Fund	13,500
Reconciliation programs	16,000
Trade capacity building	10,000
USAID Advisor for Indigenous Peoples Issues	3,500
Victims of torture	11,750
Wheelchairs	5,000

Higher education.—Funds made available for new partnerships between higher education institutions in the United States and developing countries shall be for institutional capacity building and awarded on an open and competitive basis, including through a new competition during fiscal year 2017.

USAID Advisor for Indigenous Peoples Issues.—The USAID Administrator is directed to continue to fill the position of Advisor for Indigenous Peoples Issues established by Public Law 112–74. The agreement includes funds for grants and other activities administered by the Advisor. The USAID Administrator is directed to develop, in consultation with other relevant Federal agencies and indigenous peoples organizations, a USAID Policy on Indigenous Peoples to guide the Agency in effectively addressing the rights and needs of indigenous peoples in USAID programs, projects, and activities.

INTERNATIONAL DISASTER ASSISTANCE

The Act provides $498,483,000 for International Disaster Assistance in this title, and an additional $3,313,203,000 in title VIII under this heading is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to BBEDCA.

TRANSITION INITIATIVES

The Act provides $35,600,000 for Transition Initiatives in this title, and an additional $37,000,000 in title VIII under this heading is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to BBEDCA.

COMPLEX CRISES FUND

The Act provides $10,000,000 for Complex Crises Fund in this title, and an additional $20,000,000 in title VIII under this heading is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to BBEDCA.

Consistent with previous practice, the USAID Administrator shall have responsibility for the use of funds appropriated under this heading in this title, in consultation with the Secretary of State, and the Secretary of State shall have the responsibility for the use of funds appropriated under this heading in title VIII.

DEVELOPMENT CREDIT AUTHORITY

The Act includes a $50,000,000 limitation on funds that may be transferred from other programs in this title to Development Credit Authority. In addition, $10,000,000 is provided for administrative expenses, which may be transferred to, and merged with, Operating Expenses. A limitation of $1,750,000,000 is included on total loan principal.

ECONOMIC SUPPORT FUND

The Act provides $1,041,761,000 for Economic Support Fund in this title, and an additional $2,609,242,000 in title VIII under this heading is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to BBEDCA. Funds for countries in Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia in the 2017 CBJ under this heading are included under Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia. Funds for certain programs under this heading are allocated according to the following table and subject to section 7019 of this Act:

ECONOMIC SUPPORT FUND

[Budget authority in thousands of dollars]

Global Programs	Budget Authority
Ambassador-at-Large for Global Women's Issues	10,000
Disability programs	7,500
Family Planning/Reproductive Health (USAID)	51,050
Fragile states and extremism (section 7080)	15,000
United States Institute of Peace, by transfer	*[1,500]*
House Democracy Partnership	1,900

ECONOMIC SUPPORT FUND—Continued

[Budget authority in thousands of dollars]

Global Programs	Budget Authority
Organization of American States	9,000
Polio	7,500
Trade capacity building	10,000

The agreement provides funding to support the first through third organizational pillars of the Organization of American States. Within the total provided under this heading, $4,000,000 is for programs to strengthen democracy, $500,000 is for development assistance programs, and $4,500,000 is for programs to promote and protect human rights, of which not less than $500,000 is for the Office of the Special Rapporteur for Freedom of Expression. Such funds are subject to prior consultation with the Committees on Appropriations.

The Act provides that no funds are appropriated or otherwise made available for a contribution, grant, or other payment to the Green Climate Fund.

DEMOCRACY FUND

The Act provides $210,500,000 for Democracy Fund, of which $145,375,000 is for the Department of State Human Rights and Democracy Fund and $65,125,000 is for the USAID Center of Excellence for Democracy, Human Rights, and Governance.

The Assistant Secretary for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations on the uses of funds provided by this Act for the Human Rights and Democracy Fund that are above the fiscal year 2016 level.

A portion of funds appropriated by this Act under this heading may be used by the Bureau for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, Department of State, and the Bureau for Democracy, Conflict, and Humanitarian Assistance, USAID, for costs associated with administering such funds.

ASSISTANCE FOR EUROPE, EURASIA AND CENTRAL ASIA

The Act provides $291,638,000 for Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia in this title, and an additional $453,696,000 in title VIII under this heading is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to BBEDCA.

Funds for countries in Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia in the 2017 CBJ under Economic Support Fund are included in this account, and funds for such countries in the 2017 CBJ under International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement are transferred to, and merged with, funds made available under this heading for the same purposes as funds provided by this Act under that heading.

The agreement supports efforts to increase security, reduce tensions and monitor the situation in Ukraine, including through the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe Special Monitoring Mission in Ukraine, and includes additional funding to meet unanticipated security or monitoring requirements, if necessary.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

MIGRATION AND REFUGEE ASSISTANCE

The Act provides $912,802,000 for Migration and Refugee Assistance in this title, and an additional $2,146,198,000 in title VIII under this heading is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to BBEDCA.

In lieu of the reporting requirements on the United States Refugee Admissions Program (USRAP) in the Senate report, the Secretary of State is directed to consult with the Committees on Appropriations on

planned allocations for activities under this heading during fiscal year 2017, including for the USRAP.

UNITED STATES EMERGENCY REFUGEE AND MIGRATION ASSISTANCE FUND

The Act provides $10,000,000 for United States Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance Fund in this title, and an additional $40,000,000 in title VIII under this heading is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to BBEDCA.

INDEPENDENT AGENCIES

PEACE CORPS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The Act provides $410,000,000 for Peace Corps.

MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE CORPORATION

The Act provides $905,000,000 for Millennium Challenge Corporation, including up to $105,000,000 for administrative expenses.

The Chief Executive Officer shall ensure that all security-cleared employees comply with training requirements for the classifying, safeguarding and declassifying of national security information in accordance with Executive Order 13526: Classified National Security Information, as appropriate.

INTER–AMERICAN FOUNDATION

The Act provides $22,500,000 for Inter-American Foundation.

UNITED STATES AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

The Act provides $30,000,000 for United States African Development Foundation.

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The Act provides $30,000,000 for International Affairs Technical Assistance.

TITLE IV—INTERNATIONAL SECURITY ASSISTANCE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL AND LAW ENFORCEMENT

The Act provides $889,664,000 for International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement in this title, and an additional $412,260,000 in title VIII under this heading is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to BBEDCA. The Act requires that not less than $72,565,000 be transferred to, and merged with, Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia for the same purposes as funds provided under this heading.

Funds for certain programs under this heading are allocated according to the following table and subject to section 7019 of this Act:

INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL AND LAW ENFORCEMENT

[Budget authority in thousands of dollars]

Program/Activity	Budget Authority
Combating modern slavery (section 7060(f)(2))	25,000
Combating wildlife trafficking	50,664
Demand reduction	12,500
International Law Enforcement Academy	27,000

Funds included to combat wildlife trafficking should be used to strengthen law enforcement capacity, further partnerships through regional and international cooperation, and provide site-based protection of wildlife, including through the use of aircraft, as appropriate. Not later than 45 days after enactment of this Act and prior to the submission of the spend plan required in section 7076(b)(1)(C), the Secretary of State shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations on the use of aircraft for anti-poaching activities through a demonstration project in one or more countries.

NONPROLIFERATION, ANTI–TERRORISM, DEMINING AND RELATED PROGRAMS

The Act provides $500,696,000 for Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining and Related Programs in this title, and an additional $341,754,000 in title VIII under this heading is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to BBEDCA. Funds under this heading are allocated according to the following table and subject to section 7019 of this Act:

NONPROLIFERATION, ANTI-TERRORISM, DEMINING AND RELATED PROGRAMS

[Budget authority in thousands of dollars]

Program/Activity	Budget Authority
Nonproliferation programs	295,450
Nonproliferation and Disarmament Fund	*[30,000]*
Export Control and Related Border Security	*[62,500]*
Global Threat Reduction	*[70,000]*
International Atomic Energy Agency	*[94,800]*
Anti-terrorism programs	358,000
Anti-terrorism Assistance	*[180,000]*
of which, airport and aviation security	*[10,000]*
Terrorist Interdiction Program	*[33,000]*
Counterterrorism financing	*[12,500]*
Counterterrorism Partnerships Fund	*[127,500]*
Conventional weapons destruction	189,000
Humanitarian Demining	*[151,500]*
Total	842,450
of which, OCO	*[341,754]*

The agreement includes funding to support international airport and aviation security for the purposes described under this heading in the House report. Not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit a spend plan to the Committees on Appropriations on the uses of such funds by country and program. The Secretary of State shall also review unobligated Anti-terrorism Assistance balances from the prior fiscal year and consider incorporating such funds into the plan. The Secretary of State shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations prior to submitting the plan.

The Secretary of State shall follow the directives in the House report regarding country levels for Argentina and Mexico, and in the Senate report regarding Algeria.

The Act provides that funds appropriated under this heading shall be made available for explosive ordnance disposal in areas liberated from extremist organizations in Iraq, Libya, and Syria, which should utilize local organizations and individuals to the maximum extent practicable and be awarded on a competitive basis.

PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS

The Act provides $135,041,000 for Peacekeeping Operations in this title, and an additional $473,973,000 in title VIII under this heading is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to BBEDCA. Funds under this heading are allocated according to the following table and subject to section 7019 of this Act:

PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS

[Budget authority in thousands of dollars]

Program/Activity	Budget Authority
Africa	428,873
Central African Republic	*[8,000]*
Democratic Republic of the Congo	*[10,000]*
Liberia	*[1,000]*
Somalia	*[256,132]*
South Sudan	*[27,491]*
Africa Regional	*[126,250]*
of which, African Peacekeeping Rapid Response Partnership	*[100,000]*
of which, Partnership for Regional East Africa Counterterrorism	*[10,000]*
of which, Africa Conflict Stabilization and Border Security	*[8,300]*
of which, Africa Military Education Program	*[3,000]*
of which, Africa Maritime Security Initiative	*[2,000]*
of which, African Union Rapid Deployment Capability	*[2,950]*
Near East	59,500
Syria	*[25,000]*
Multinational Force and Observers	*[34,500]*
Political-Military Affairs	120,641
Security Governance Initiative	*[14,041]*
Trans-Sahara Counterterrorism Partnership	*[20,100]*
Global Peacekeeping Operations Initiative	*[61,000]*
Maritime Security Technical Experts Program	*[500]*
Relief and Recovery Fund	*[25,000]*
Total	609,014
of which, OCO	*[473,973]*

Congressional notifications submitted for funds made available under Peacekeeping Operations shall continue to include for each program: a description of the type of equipment, training, or other assistance to be provided; and the total amount obligated for each such program in fiscal years 2016 and 2017 at the time of submission of such notification, on a country-by-country basis to the extent practicable.

FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY EDUCATION AND TRAINING

The Act provides $110,300,000 for International Military Education and Training.

The Secretary of State shall follow the directives under this heading in the House report regarding country levels, and in the Senate report regarding assistance for Algeria and Timor-Leste.

In lieu of the reporting requirements included in the House and Senate reports under this heading, the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, is directed to submit a report to the appropriate congressional committees on changes made in the current fiscal year to enhance International Military Education and Training and Expanded International Military Education and Training effectiveness and recommendations for the following fiscal year. Such report shall describe the goals of such programs, and steps taken to implement the requirements of section 548(a) of the FAA regarding the information to be maintained in the database developed pursuant to such section. Such report shall also include efforts by the Departments of State and Defense to include women in International Military Education and Training programs, including further steps that can be taken to increase female participation globally over the next three fiscal years. Not later than 30 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State is directed to consult with the Committees on Appropriations on the contents of such report, which shall be submitted concurrently with the report required by section 7034(b)(7) of this Act.

FOREIGN MILITARY FINANCING PROGRAM

The Act provides $4,785,805,000 for Foreign Military Financing Program in this title, and an additional $1,325,808,000 in title VIII under this heading is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to BBEDCA.

TITLE V

MULTILATERAL ASSISTANCE

FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND PROGRAMS

The Act provides $339,000,000 for International Organizations and Programs. Funds under this heading are allocated according to the following table and subject to section 7019 of this Act:

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND PROGRAMS

[Budget authority in thousands of dollars]

Programs	Budget Authority
International Chemicals and Toxins Programs	3,175
International Civil Aviation Organization	800
International Conservation Programs	7,000
International Development Law Organization	400
International Maritime Organization	325
Montreal Protocol Multilateral Fund	32,000
Organization of American States Development Assistance Programs	500
Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships in Asia	50
UN Capital Development Fund	500
UN Children's Fund	137,500
Combating female genital mutilation programs	*[5,000]*
UN Democracy Fund	3,000
UN Development Program	80,000
UN Environment Program	7,000
UN High Commissioner for Human Rights	10,500
UN Human Settlements Program	700
UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs	2,500
UN Population Fund	32,500
UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Sexual Violence in Conflict	1,750
UN Trust Fund to End Violence Against Women	1,000
UN Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights	1,150
UN Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture	6,550
UN Women	8,500
World Meteorological Organization	1,000
World Trade Organization Technical Assistance	600
Total	339,000

Of the funds allocated for the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, a total of not less than $1,500,000 is for programs in Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador, and not less than $1,000,000 is for programs in Colombia.

INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY

The Act provides $146,563,000 for Global Environment Facility.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

The Act provides $1,197,128,000 for Contribution to the International Development Association.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Act provides $5,963,421 for Contribution to the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

The Act provides $21,939,727 for Contribution to the Inter-American Development Bank.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE ASIAN DEVELOPMENT FUND

The Act provides $99,233,000 for Contribution to the Asian Development Fund.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

The Act provides $32,418,000 for Contribution to the African Development Bank.

LIMITATION ON CALLABLE CAPITAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

The Act provides $507,860,808 for Limitation on Callable Capital Subscriptions.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT FUND

The Act provides $214,332,000 for Contribution to the African Development Fund.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

The Act provides $30,000,000 for Contribution to the International Fund for Agricultural Development.

GLOBAL AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY PROGRAM

The Act provides $23,000,000 for Global Agriculture and Food Security Program.

TITLE VI—EXPORT AND INVESTMENT ASSISTANCE

EXPORT-IMPORT BANK OF THE UNITED STATES

INSPECTOR GENERAL

The Act provides $5,700,000 for Inspector General for the Export-Import Bank of the United States.

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

The Act provides $110,000,000 for Administrative Expenses for the Export-Import Bank of the United States.

The agreement supports the use of fees for authorized programs and activities.

OVERSEAS PRIVATE INVESTMENT CORPORATION

NONCREDIT ACCOUNT

The Act provides $70,000,000 for Noncredit Account of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation.

PROGRAM ACCOUNT

The Act provides $20,000,000 for Program Account of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC).

OPIC is directed to allocate not less than $500,000 to support a memorandum of understanding (MOU) between OPIC and USAID to reimburse the USAID OIG for costs related to robust inspection, audit, and evaluation activities. Such an MOU is to be signed within 45 days after enactment of this Act and in a mutually agreeable manner.

The directive in the House report under this heading shall apply to the fiscal year 2018 CBJ.

TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

The Act provides $75,000,000 for Trade and Development Agency.

The Act includes funds under this heading for necessary expenses for build out, outfitting, physical move, and rent payments for office space provided under a long-term replacement lease executed by the General Services Administration (GSA) for the personnel of the Agency. Not later than 30 days after the enactment of this Act, the Agency is directed to report to the Committees on Appropriations on the status of the agreement with GSA and the full scope of funding necessary to effectively transition the Agency to new office space.

TITLE VII—GENERAL PROVISIONS

The following general provisions are continued in this Act substantively unchanged from the fiscal year 2016 Act (division K of Public Law 114-113):

Section 7001. Allowances and Differentials
Section 7003. Consulting Services
Section 7007. Prohibition Against Direct Funding for Certain Countries
Section 7008. Coups d'Etat
Section 7011. Availability of Funds
Section 7012. Limitation on Assistance to Countries in Default
Section 7014. Reservations of Funds
Section 7016. Notification on Excess Defense Equipment
Section 7018. Prohibition on Funding for Abortions and Involuntary Sterilization
Section 7020. Representation and Entertainment Expenses
Section 7021. Prohibition on Assistance to Governments Supporting International Terrorism
Section 7022. Authorization Requirements
Section 7024. Authorities for the Peace Corps, Inter-American Foundation and United States African Development Foundation
Section 7025. Commerce, Trade and Surplus Commodities
Section 7026. Separate Accounts
Section 7027. Eligibility for Assistance
Section 7030. Debt-for-Development
Section 7035. Arab League Boycott of Israel
Section 7036. Palestinian Statehood
Section 7037. Restrictions Concerning the Palestinian Authority
Section 7038. Prohibition on Assistance to the Palestinian Broadcasting Corporation
Section 7039. Assistance for the West Bank and Gaza
Section 7040. Limitation on Assistance for the Palestinian Authority
Section 7047. War Crimes Tribunals
Section 7049. Community-Based Police Assistance
Section 7050. Disability Programs
Section 7051. International Conferences
Section 7052. Aircraft Transfer, Coordination, and Use
Section 7053. Parking Fines and Real Property Taxes Owed by Foreign Governments
Section 7054. Landmines and Cluster Munitions
Section 7055. Prohibition on Publicity or Propaganda
Section 7057. United States Agency for International Development Management
Section 7061. Overseas Private Investment Corporation
Section 7062. Arms Trade Treaty
Section 7064. Reporting Requirements Concerning Individuals Detained at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba
Section 7065. Multi-Year Pledges
Section 7066. Prohibition on the Use of Torture
Section 7067. Extradition
Section 7068. Commercial Leasing of Defense Articles
Section 7071. International Monetary Fund
Section 7072. Special Defense Acquisition Fund
Section 7074. Enterprise Funds
Section 7075. Use of Funds in Contravention of this Act
Section 7079. Impact on Jobs in the United States
Section 7082. United Nations Population Fund

The following general provisions are new or substantively modified from the fiscal year 2016 Act (division K of Public Law 114–113):

Section 7002. Unobligated Balances Report (Modified)
Section 7004. Diplomatic Facilities (Modified)

The Act includes modified language from prior fiscal years regarding diplomatic facilities to conform with provisions included in the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114–323). In addition, subsections (d), (e), and (h) continue, in modified form, the consultation and notification requirements regarding the acquisition of property or award of construction contracts for overseas diplomatic facilities; the reporting directives concerning the new embassy compound projects in London, Mexico City, and Beirut; and the allocation of funds to address security vulnerabilities at interim and temporary United States diplomatic facilities.

Subsection (g) includes a new directive of not less than $10,000,000 for physical security upgrades to soft targets used by United

States diplomatic personnel and their dependents posted overseas. In addition to consulting with the Director of Overseas Building Operations as required by this subsection, the Assistant Secretary for Diplomatic Security shall consult with Chiefs of Missions prior to allocating funds for such purposes.

Section 7005.Personnel Actions (Modified)

Section 7006.Department of State Management (New)

For the purposes of subsection (c), the term ''as appropriate'' shall mean all Department and Federal financial management policies, procedures and regulations applicable to such bureau or office.

Section 7009.Transfer of Funds Authority (Modified)

Section 7010. Prohibition on Certain Operational Expenses (Modified)

Section 7013. Prohibition on Taxation of United States Assistance (Modified)

Section 7015. Notification Requirements (Modified)

Concurrent with the submission of the initial congressional notification submitted for funds made available under title IV of this Act for assistance for Ethiopia, Libya, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Somalia, and South Sudan, the Secretary of State shall inform the Committees on Appropriations of the procedures in place pursuant to section 620M(d) of the FAA.

In lieu of the notification requirements in the House report for certain trust funds, notifications submitted pursuant to subsection (g) shall include the following information:

(1) the office or bureau at USAID or the Departments of State and the Treasury that will oversee programs and expenditures of the trust fund;

(2) the Web site link to publicly available expenditures of the trust fund;

(3) a copy of the administrative agreement between the international financial institution and the United States; and

(4) whether direct government assistance will be provided by the trust fund and specific risk mitigation and anti-corruption steps are being taken by the trust fund.

The Departments of State and the Treasury and USAID shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations on the process of, and requirements for, incorporation of provisions under title III of this Act into administrative agreements with international financial institutions.

Section 7017. Limitation on Availability of Funds for International Organizations and Programs (Modified)

Section 7019. Allocations (Modified)

Section 7023. Definition of Program, Project, and Activity (Modified)

Section 7028. Local Competition (Modified)

Section 7029. International Financial Institutions (Modified)

Section 7031. Financial Management and Budget Transparency (Modified)

Section 7032. Democracy Programs (Modified)

The Act provides a total of not less than $2,308,517,000 for democracy programs. Such funds are allocated according to the following table and subject to section 7019 of this Act:

DEMOCRACY PROGRAMS

[Budget authority in thousands of dollars]

Region	Budget Authority
Africa	314,271
Lake Chad Basin countries (section 7042(e))	*[33,000]*
East Asia and the Pacific	147,130
Europe and Eurasia	218,141
Near East	280,111
Iraq	*[55,000]*
Near East Regional Democracy	*[32,000]*
South and Central Asia	517,426
Bangladesh	*[8,600]*
Western Hemisphere	551,245
Venezuela	*[7,000]*
Global programs	280,193
Total	2,308,517

Regional and country totals in the Democracy Programs table are derived from bilateral funds and global programs are in addition to such funds.

Section 7033. International Religious Freedom (Modified)

The Act includes not less than $500,000 for the development and implementation of an international religious freedom curriculum for Foreign Service Officers. The Secretary of State shall consult with the Ambassador-at-Large for International Religious Freedom, the Director of the George P. Schultz National Foreign Affairs Training Center, the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom, and other Federal officials, as appropriate, on the content of the training and curriculum, which shall include appropriate collection methods regarding religious persecution that do not endanger at-risk populations. Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State is directed to submit to the Committees on Appropriations a report describing the status of the development of such curriculum and training.

Subsection (d) includes language regarding atrocities prevention. Funds made available for atrocities prevention in this Act should be made available to support programs to prevent atrocities committed by the armed forces of Burma against ethnic minorities, particularly in Rakhine, Shan, Kachin, and Karen States, and atrocities committed by the security forces of Ethiopia against the Oromo and other ethnic groups.

In addition, such funds and funds appropriated in the Security Assistance Appropriations Act, 2017 (division B of Public Law 114–254), shall, where feasible, support the efforts of entities, including nongovernmental organizations, to assist in addressing crimes of genocide, crimes against humanity, or war crimes in Iraq and Syria, including assistance in the conduct of criminal investigations, the development of local investigative and judicial skills, and the collection and preservation of evidence and the chain of custody of evidence.

Funds for atrocities prevention are allocated according to the following table and subject to section 7019 of this Act:

ATROCITIES PREVENTION

[Budget authority in thousands of dollars]

Account	Budget Authority
Economic Support Fund	5,000
International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement	5,000

Section 7034. Special Provisions (Modified)

Subsection (b)(8)(A) directs that funds provided under Foreign Military Financing Program be made available to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of foreign military sales programs. The Secretary of State is also directed to identify in the submission of subsequent CBJ documents any resources required by the Department of State to support measures to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of such programs.

The Secretary of State is directed to continue cooperating with the ongoing review being conducted by the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to identify reforms that can be made by the Departments of State and Defense to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the foreign military sales process. The Secretary of State, in coordination with the Secretary of Defense, shall include in the report required by subsection (b)(8)(B) the steps taken or planned to be taken to implement the GAO recommendations, including each Department's response to each recommendation, how such recommendations will be implemented and over what time period, the resources required to do so, and the likely impact that such steps will have on sales processes and timelines. The report shall also include a description of any other ongoing reviews and initiatives and steps taken in response to recommendations.

In accordance with subsection (b)(8)(C), the Secretary of State, in coordination with the Secretary of Defense, shall include a list of cases under development for major defense equipment (as defined in section 47 of the Arms Export Control Act) that are above the thresholds identified in section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act for which the letter of request is over 180 days old, consultations have not begun with the committees of jurisdiction, and a Letter of Offer has not been submitted. Such list shall include: (1) the date of the letter of request; (2) the amount of the proposed sale; and (3) a description of the defense article or service. The report shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may be accompanied by a classified annex, if necessary. The Secretary of State, in coordination with the Secretary of Defense, shall also be prepared to discuss the status of each case, including whether the case has been received by the Department of State.

Subsection (d)(2)(B) provides $3,500,000 for reimbursement of costs incurred by civil society related to research and documentation in support of the activities of international tribunals established to try cases of war crimes, genocide, and crimes against humanity. This amount is in addition to any bilateral assistance provided to a country. The Secretary of State shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations prior to the obligation of such funds.

The Secretary of State shall ensure that any future tribunal established for such purposes considers the role of, and costs to, civil society in support of tribunal activities. Such costs should be factored into the overall expenses of the tribunal, and agreements established to ensure timely reimbursement of assistance provided.

When initiating any new partner vetting program pursuant to subsection (e)(2), the Secretary of State and USAID Administrator shall ensure implementing partners are provided with information on the requirements of such program, including a description of vetting processes; how information collected will be stored, protected, and used; and the processes by which concerns raised during

vetting may be addressed. The report required in paragraph (1) shall include recommendations for standardizing and streamlining vetting processes; an analysis of providing exemptions for certain activities, including democracy and humanitarian assistance; a description of consultations with governmental and nongovernmental stakeholders affected by the pilot program; and responses to concerns raised during such consultations. For purposes of this subsection, ''to mitigate the risk of diversion of foreign assistance'' means to mitigate such risk primarily in a country in conflict and to terrorists and other extremists.

In addition to the directives in subsection (j), and with respect to the implementation of section 203(a)(2) of Public Law 110–457, the Secretary of State shall consider the following as sufficient to determine that a diplomatic mission ''tolerated such actions'': the failure to provide a replacement passport within a reasonable period of time to a T-visa recipient; the existence of multiple concurrent civil suits against members of the diplomatic mission; or a failure to satisfy a civil judgment against an employee of the diplomatic mission.

Section 7041. Middle East and North Africa

Egypt. Funds for Egypt are allocated according to the following table and subject to section 7019 of this Act:

EGYPT

[Budget authority in thousands of dollars]

Account	Budget Authority
Economic Support Fund	112,500
Egyptian American Enterprise Fund	*[29,400]*
International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement	2,000
Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining and Related Programs	3,000
International Military Education and Training	1,800
Foreign Military Financing Program	1,300,000
Total	1,419,300

The Act provides not less than $10,000,000 for Egyptian students with high financial need to attend not-for-profit institutions of higher education. Such institutions must meet standards equivalent to those required for United States institutional accreditation by a regional accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education. Students should be eligible for scholarships based on need, outstanding academic record, and leadership potential to contribute to the long-term political, economic, and social development of Egypt. The curriculum of such institutions should encourage critical thinking and be taught in the English language.

If the Secretary of State determines and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that the Government of Egypt is prohibiting or otherwise interfering with the conduct or operations of programs supported by funds made available for assistance for Egypt under Economic Support Fund in this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs, the Secretary may reprogram such funds for activities outside of Egypt, following consultation with such Committees.

For the purpose of the certification required under subsection (a)(3)(A), civil society organizations shall include human rights defenders, and violations of human rights shall include the murder of Giulio Regeni, a University of Cambridge doctoral student.

Section 7034(o)(1) of this Act provides loan guarantee authority for Egypt, which may be made available following consultation by the Secretary of State with the Committees on Appropriations. As part of such consultation, the Secretary shall provide an assessment of the business environment for United States companies, including the identification of institutional, regulatory, and political obstacles to investment.

Not later than 60 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations, in classified form if necessary, describing and evaluating the cooperation of the Government of Egypt on bilateral and multilateral nonproliferation efforts.

Iraq. For the purposes of the reporting requirement contained in the Introduction of the Senate report under the Iraq heading, the Secretary of State shall submit the report as described, except the reference to the Iraqi Constitution shall be article 125.

Israel. The Act makes available $75,000,000 under Foreign Military Financing Program for Israel from the Security Assistance Appropriations Act, 2017 (division B of Public Law 114–254), which is in addition to funds made available under such heading in title IV of this Act. The total amount provided under Foreign Military Financing Program for assistance for Israel in fiscal year 2017 is $3,175,000,000.

Jordan.—The Act provides not less than $1,279,950,000 for assistance for Jordan. Such funds are allocated according to the following table and subject to section 7019 of this Act:

JORDAN

[Budget authority in thousands of dollars]

Account	Budget Authority
Economic Support Fund	812,350
Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining and Related Programs	13,600
International Military Education and Training	4,000
Foreign Military Financing Program	450,000
Total	1,279,950

Libya.—No funds were requested for lethal assistance for Libya, and none are provided in this Act. In submitting the certification required by subsection (g)(3), the Secretary of State is directed to include a description of how regular oversight will be provided by the Department of State and USAID.

Morocco.—Funds for Morocco are allocated according to the following table and subject to section 7019 of this Act:

MOROCCO

[Budget authority in thousands of dollars]

Account	Budget Authority
Economic Support Fund	20,000
International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement	5,000
Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining and Related Programs	1,500
International Military Education and Training	2,000
Foreign Military Financing Program	10,000
Total	38,500

Refugees in North Africa.—In lieu of the report directive concerning Refugees in Algeria under Migration and Refugee Assistance in the House report, subsection (i) includes a reporting requirement concerning the delivery of humanitarian assistance to refugees in North Africa.

Syria.—For purposes of subsection (j)(1)(K), the protection and preservation of the cultural identity of the people of Syria as a counterbalance to extremism shall include programs to promote the use of traditional art, music, and literature.

Subsection (j)(3) continues a program initiated in fiscal year 2016 regarding support for Syrian organizations. The Assistant Secretary for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, Department of State, shall have responsibility for such program, including the management of funds.

Operational support for civil society organizations, particularly those that emerge in conflict situations like Syria, serves to strengthen the foundations of democracy and the rule of law. The Secretary of State and USAID Administrator, as appropriate, shall provide core support to such organizations in Syria.

Tunisia.—The Act provides not less than $165,400,000 for assistance for Tunisia. Such funds are allocated according to the following table and subject to section 7019 of this Act:

TUNISIA

[Budget authority in thousands of dollars]

Account	Budget Authority
Economic Support Fund	79,000
Democracy Programs	*[28,300]*
International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement	13,000
Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining and Related Programs	6,100
International Military Education and Training	2,300
Foreign Military Financing Program	65,000
Total	165,400

The Act includes $5,000,000 above the budget request under Economic Support Fund for democracy programs for Tunisia to support the activities described in the first proviso of section 7041(i) of the Senate bill. This amount is in addition to other funds made available for such purposes. The Department of State and USAID, as appropriate, shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations prior to the obligation of such funds.

West Bank and Gaza.—The report required in subsection (l)(3) shall also include a description of steps taken by the Department of State to discourage such payments.

Other assistance for the Middle East and North Africa.—Funds for certain programs for the Middle East and North Africa are allocated according to the following table and subject to section 7019 of this Act:

OTHER ASSISTANCE FOR THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

[Budget authority in thousands of dollars]

Account/Program	Budget Authority
Economic Support Fund:	
Lebanon	110,000
Scholarships	*[12,000]*
Marla Ruzicka Iraqi War Victims Fund	7,500
Middle East Partnership Initiative scholarship program	12,000
Middle East Regional Cooperation	5,000
International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement:	
West Bank security assistance	60,000
Foreign Military Financing Program:	
Iraq	250,000

Lebanon Scholarships.—The USAID Administrator is directed to ensure that Lebanese students attending public and private secondary schools are eligible to apply for university scholarships.

Section 7042. Africa

Partnership for Regional East Africa Counterterrorism.—Funds for the Partnership for Regional East Africa Counterterrorism are allocated according to the following table and subject to section 7019 of this Act:

PARTNERSHIP FOR REGIONAL EAST AFRICA COUNTERTERRORISM

[Budget authority in thousands of dollars]

Account	Budget Authority
Economic Support Fund	2,000
International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement	1,000
Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining and Related Programs	11,150
Peacekeeping Operations	10,000
Total	24,150

Trans-Sahara Counterterrorism Partnership.—Funds for the Trans-Sahara Counterterrorism Partnership are allocated according to the following table and subject to section 7019 of this Act:

TRANS-SAHARA COUNTERTERRORISM PARTNERSHIP

[Budget authority in thousands of dollars]

Account	Budget Authority
Development Assistance	15,275
Economic Support Fund	10,000
International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement	6,000
Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining and Related Programs	18,446
Peacekeeping Operations	20,100
Total	69,821

Ethiopia.—The Secretary of State shall update the report on Ethiopia required under Economic Support Fund in the Senate report, which should also include: a detailed description of the role and conduct of the Ethiopian National Defense Force in internal security, including under the state of emergency declared in October 2016; the impact of such role and conduct on United States-funded security assistance and cooperation programs; and any changes made, or intended to be made, to the content of other United States programs to respond to instability in that country. The updated report shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

South Sudan.—The United States has invested more than $4,400,000,000 in the stability and development of South Sudan since its independence in 2011. Given the longstanding ties between the United States and the people of South Sudan, the Act includes a new requirement that the Secretary of State submit a diplomatic and assistance strategy for South Sudan which prioritizes the cessation of hostilities and the delivery of humanitarian aid and essential services. The strategy shall also include detailed information on how assistance will support civil society and accountability for war crimes, the prevention and response to gender-based violence, and international organizations for the purpose of implementing a peace agreement. The strategy should outline specific objectives for aid and associated benchmarks, as well as a description of how oversight will be conducted.

No funds were requested for assistance for South Sudan under International Military Education and Training and Foreign Military Financing Program, and none are provided by this Act.

Other assistance for Africa.—Funds for certain programs for Africa are allocated according to the following table and subject to section 7019 of this Act:

OTHER ASSISTANCE FOR AFRICA

[Budget authority in thousands of dollars]

Account/Program	Budget Authority
Development Assistance:	
Malawi higher education	10,000
Economic Support Fund:	
Counter Lord's Resistance Army (section 7042(f))	10,000
Democratic Republic of the Congo	75,188
Djibouti	9,000
Liberia	65,429
West Africa anti-slavery programs	2,000

Funds for West Africa anti-slavery programs are derived from within bilateral country and regional programs.

Section 7043. East Asia and the Pacific

Burma.—Funds for Burma are allocated according to the following table and subject to section 7019 of this Act:

BURMA

[Budget authority in thousands of dollars]

Account	Budget Authority
Global Health Programs	29,000
Economic Support Fund	82,700
International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement	3,000
Total	114,700

The Act provides responsibility for democracy and human rights programs in Burma to the United States Chief of Mission in Burma, in consultation with the Assistant Secretary for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, Department of State. Such responsibility shall include final approval for the specific uses of funds regardless of the bureau or agency managing such funds.

As in prior fiscal years, core support shall be provided to local civil society organizations in Burma.

The restrictions on assistance for entities in subsection (b)(1)(B)(vii) shall include the Union of Myanmar Economic Holdings Limited and the Myanmar Economic Corporation.

The Secretary of State shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations not later than September 30, 2017 assessing the feasibility of using the old chancery building in Rangoon as a center to commemorate the struggle for democracy in Burma. In preparing the report, the Secretary shall consult with appropriate government officials in Burma, relevant civil society organizations, and such Committees.

Not later than 45 days after the enactment of this Act and prior to the initial obligation of funds made available for assistance for Burma, the Secretary of State shall submit a report detailing steps taken by the Government of Burma to address human rights abuses committed by the armed forces of Burma against ethnic minorities, including the use of rape as a weapon of war.

Mongolia.—The Secretary of State shall follow the directive in the Senate report under Foreign Military Financing Program regarding assistance for Mongolia.

People's Republic of China.—The Secretary of State and USAID Administrator are directed to provide no assistance to the central Government of the People's Republic of China under Global Health Programs, Development Assistance, and Economic Support Fund, except for assistance to detect, prevent, and treat infectious diseases.

Philippines.—Extrajudicial killings in the Philippines, particularly those committed in the conduct of the anti-drug campaign, call into question the commitment of the central Government of the Philippines to human rights, due process and the rule of law. The Secretary of State shall inform the Committees on Appropriations in a timely manner of the United States policy toward the Philippines, including the response to such killings.

The report required in subsection (f) shall include an assessment of the following information: (1) the status of diplomatic relations between the United States and the Philippines, and significant changes in the policy of the Government of the Philippines on matters of national interest to the Government of the United States; (2) the degree to which the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) benefits from United States assistance, armaments, equipment, systems, and training; (3) the impact of United States assistance on AFP modernization, maritime domain awareness, and operational capabilities of the Philippines Coast Guard, including to maintain an effective presence in Philippine territorial waters; (4) the impact of United States assistance on economic growth in the Philippines, including through United States-Philippines Partnership for Growth programs; (5) the importance of United States markets for Philippine exports, such as computer components, automobile parts, electrical machinery, and textiles; (6) the importance of United States foreign direct investment in the Philippines, and the influence of the United States as an investor and market for the Philippine business process outsourcing industry; (7) the economic benefit of annual remittances to the Philippines from the United States; (8) the adherence of the Government of the Philippines to the rule of law, including due process, particularly in efforts to counter illicit narcotics; (9) efforts by the Government of the Philippines to credibly investigate and prosecute individuals or organizations responsible for inciting, directing, or carrying out extra-judicial killings in the Philippines; and (10) the threat of Islamist terrorist groups in Mindanao and elsewhere in the southern region of the Philippines, and the impact of the United States military in supporting counterterrorism efforts.

The Secretary of State shall also comply with the reporting requirement in the Senate report under Foreign Military Financing Program with respect to certain actions by the Government of the Philippines.

Thailand.—Funds for Thailand under Economic Support Fund are allocated according to the following table and subject to section 7019 of this Act:

THAILAND

[Budget authority in thousands of dollars]

Account	Budget Authority
Economic Support Fund:	
Democracy and conflict resolution programs	4,000

The Secretary of State shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations prior to the obligation of assistance for Thailand.

Assistance is not included under International Military Education and Training and Foreign Military Financing Program due to section 7008 of this Act.

Tibet.—Funds for Tibet under Economic Support Fund are allocated according to the following table and subject to section 7019 of this Act:

TIBET

[Budget authority in thousands of dollars]

Account/Program	Budget Authority
Economic Support Fund:	
Tibetan communities in the Tibetan Autonomous Region and other Tibetan communities in the People's Republic of China	8,000
Tibetan communities in India and Nepal	6,000

The Secretary of State and USAID Administrator, as appropriate, shall follow the directives regarding assistance for Tibet under such heading in the Introduction in the Senate report.

Vietnam.—Funds for certain programs for Vietnam are allocated according to the following table and subject to section 7019 of this Act:

VIETNAM

[Budget authority in thousands of dollars]

Account/Program	Budget Authority
Development Assistance	55,250
International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement	4,450
Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining and Related Programs Humanitarian Demining	12,500
Foreign Military Financing Program	12,000

East Asia and the Pacific Region.—The Secretary of State shall follow the funding directive for the East Asia and Pacific region under such heading in the Introduction in the Senate report, which shall be reflected in the 653(a) report.

Other assistance for East Asia and the Pacific Region.—Funds for certain programs in East Asia and the Pacific are allocated according to the following table and subject to section 7019 of this Act:

OTHER ASSISTANCE FOR EAST ASIA AND THE PACIFIC REGION

[Budget authority in thousands of dollars]

Account/Program	Budget Authority
Global Health Programs:	
Laos nutrition programs	$3,500
Development Assistance:	
Laos	20,000
Timor-Leste	16,000
Economic Support Fund:	
People's Republic of China (democracy, rule of law, and environment)	15,000
International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement:	
Indonesia	10,625
Laos	1,000
Southeast Asia Maritime Security Initiative	7,750
Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining and Related Programs:	
Laos humanitarian demining	30,000
Foreign Military Financing Program:	
Indonesia	14,000

Section 7044. South and Central Asia

Afghanistan.—The Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction, in consultation with the Offices of the Inspector General of the Department of State and USAID, shall conduct an assessment of implementation of the anti-corruption strategy referenced in subsection (a)(2)(B)(v), including by revenue generating ministries in Afghanistan, and submit such assessment to the Committees on Appropriations not later than May 31, 2018.

For purposes of the certification required in paragraph (2)(B)(vi), monitoring and oversight frameworks shall include the use of effective third party monitoring.

The Secretary of State shall review infrastructure projects proposed for Afghanistan supported with funds appropriated in prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs and may, following consultation with the Committees on Appropriations and in support of the strategy required by paragraph (1)(A), deobligate and reobligate such funding for other programs in Afghanistan.

The Secretary of State, in consultation with the USAID Administrator, shall ensure sufficient funding for the safety and security of soft targets in Afghanistan, including the American University of Afghanistan.

Prior to the obligation of funds for the Afghan Civilian Assistance Program and the Pakistan Civilian Assistance Program, the USAID Administrator shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations.

Other assistance for South and Central Asia.—Funds for certain programs for South and Central Asia are allocated according to the following table and subject to section 7019 of this Act:

OTHER ASSISTANCE FOR SOUTH AND CENTRAL ASIA

[Budget authority in thousands of dollars]

Account	Budget Authority
Development Assistance:	
Bangladesh labor programs	$3,000
Economic Support Fund:	
Civilian victims of war, Afghanistan	10,000
Civilian victims of war, Pakistan	10,000
Nepal	72,500
Sri Lanka	31,017
Foreign Military Financing Program:	
Sri Lanka	500

Section 7045. Latin America and the Caribbean

Central America.—Subsection (a) provides that $655,000,000 should be made available for assistance for countries in Central America to implement the United States Strategy for Engagement in Central America. Such funds are allocated according to the following table and subject to section 7019 of this Act:

UNITED STATES STRATEGY FOR ENGAGEMENT IN CENTRAL AMERICA

[Budget authority in thousands of dollars]

Country/Program	Budget Authority
Global Health Programs:	
Guatemala	$13,000
Subtotal	13,000
Development Assistance:	
El Salvador	70,000
Guatemala	110,000
Honduras	90,000
Nicaragua	9,535
Subtotal	279,535
Economic Support Fund:	
Central America Regional Security Initiative	104,225
Subtotal	104,225
International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement:	
Central America Regional Security Initiative	225,000
Costa Rica	*[25,000]*
DNA forensic technology	*[6,000]*
Subtotal	225,000
Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining and Related Programs:	
Panama	500
Subtotal	500
International Military Education and Training:	
Belize	250
Costa Rica	725
El Salvador	800
Guatemala	800
Honduras	800
Panama	725

UNITED STATES STRATEGY FOR ENGAGEMENT IN CENTRAL AMERICA—Continued

[Budget authority in thousands of dollars]

Country/Program	Budget Authority
Subtotal	4,100
Foreign Military Financing Program:	
Belize	1,000
Costa Rica	5,000
El Salvador	1,900
Guatemala	1,740
Honduras	4,500
Panama	2,000
State Western Hemisphere Regional	12,500
Subtotal	28,640
Total	655,000

The Act does not include funds for cash transfer assistance or major infrastructure projects for countries in Central America. Such projects should be financed from sources other than the United States Government.

The Secretary of State shall include in the updated Strategy required by subsection (a)(1) the following information: a clear mission statement; achievable goals and objectives; appropriate benchmarks and timelines; an assessment of progress made under the current Strategy; and an explanation for any changes made relative to the current Strategy. Such information should be described at both the regional and the country level.

Following the submission of the updated Strategy, and prior to the obligation of funds made available pursuant to subsection (a)(2), the Secretary of State, in coordination with the USAID Administrator, shall follow the directives in the House report under this section regarding the plan for monitoring and evaluation. Not later than October 30, 2017, the plan and results shall be submitted to the appropriate congressional committees and posted to the Department of State and USAID Web sites.

In accordance with subsection (a)(3), the multi-year spend plan shall describe in detail the proposed uses of assistance from this Act for each country and the amounts allocated from prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs to support the Strategy. The plan shall also describe: how such assistance differs from, complements, and leverages funds allocated by each foreign government, other donors (including international financial institutions), and other United States Government agencies; the amounts of funding from such sources; funds planned to be transferred or otherwise provided to other United States government agencies, international financial institutions, and commissions, and the purpose; and the funding levels planned for each of the central governments of El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras.

The Secretary of State shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations prior to: submitting any certification made pursuant to subsection (a)(4); any suspension of assistance made pursuant to subsection (a)(5); and any transfer of funds made pursuant to subsection (a)(6).

In making the certification pursuant to subsection (a)(4)(B)(vii), the Secretary of State shall determine, among other things, whether such government is providing commissions with full access to information and documents in its possession, including budgetary information. The certification requirement in this clause shall not apply to the

Government of El Salvador unless a similar commission is established in that country.

The agreement supports efforts to strengthen the rule of law by combating corruption and impunity in Central America. Within the total funding provided for the United States Strategy for Engagement in Central America, funds for certain organizations and offices are allocated according to the following table and subject to section 7019 of this Act:

ORGANIZATIONS AND OFFICES

[Budget authority in thousands of dollars]

Program	Budget Authority
International Commission Against Impunity in Guatemala	
Central America Regional Security Initiative	$6,000
Mission to Support the Fight Against Corruption and Impunity in Honduras	5,000
Development Assistance	*[2,000]*
Central America Regional Security Initiative	*[3,000]*
Office of the Attorney General/Public Ministry, El Salvador	10,500
Development Assistance	*[500]*
Central America Regional Security Initiative	*[10,000]*
Office of the Attorney General/Public Ministry, Guatemala	11,000
Development Assistance	*[500]*
Central America Regional Security Initiative	*[10,500]*
Office of the Attorney General/Public Ministry, Honduras	6,500
Development Assistance	*[500]*
Central America Regional Security Initiative	*[6,000]*

The Secretary of State, in consultation with the heads of other relevant United States Government agencies, is directed to make available to the International Commission Against Impunity in Guatemala and the Attorney General of Guatemala, if requested, information available to the Secretary that could assist in investigations and prosecutions by such entities, and to keep the Committees on Appropriations apprised of such efforts.

The Secretary of State shall follow the directive in the House report under this section regarding the report on the uses of funds for the Central America Regional Security Initiative on a country-by-country basis. For fiscal years 2015 and 2016, the Secretary shall provide a description for each program, project, and activity; make such information publically available; and integrate such information into the ForeignAssistance.gov Web site, as appropriate.

Additionally, the Secretary of State shall follow the directives in the House report under this section regarding: the country notifications requirements for Guatemala, El Salvador, and Honduras; international commissions against corruption and impunity; sexual assault units in Guatemala; and the transfer of funds from Development Assistance to the Inter-American Foundation. The Secretary of State shall also follow the directive in the Senate report under the Introduction regarding the Chixoy Reparations Plan. The directive in the House report under this section regarding a Comptroller General assessment should not be implemented.

Caribbean Basin Security Initiative.—Funds for the Caribbean Basin Security Initiative are allocated according to the following table and subject to section 7019 of this Act:

CARIBBEAN BASIN SECURITY INITIATIVE

[Budget authority in thousands of dollars]

Account	Budget Authority
Economic Support Fund	$25,000
International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement	25,200
Foreign Military Financing Program	7,500
Total	57,700

The Secretary of State shall follow the directive in the House report regarding the report on the uses of funds for the Caribbean Basin Security Initiative on a country-by-country basis and integrate such information into the ForeignAssistance.gov Web site, as appropriate.

Colombia.—Subsection (b) provides not less than $391,253,000 for assistance for Colombia. Such funds are allocated according to the following table and subject to section 7019 of this Act:

COLOMBIA

[Budget authority in thousands of dollars]

Account/Program	Budget Authority
Economic Support Fund	$187,328
Transfer to Migration and Refugee Assistance	*[7,000]*
Afro-Colombian and indigenous communities	*[20,000]*
Human rights	*[9,000]*
Biodiversity	*[4,000]*
International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement	143,000
Office of the Attorney General, Human Rights Unit	*[10,000]*
Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining and Related Programs	21,000
International Military Education and Training	1,400
Foreign Military Financing Program	38,525
Total	391,253

In accordance with subsection (b)(3), the multi-year spend plan shall describe in detail the proposed uses of funds by account and activity, including those activities specified in subparagraphs (A) through (E) of paragraph (1). The plan shall also include the amounts made available from prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs for assistance for Colombia.

The spend plan shall also include the following information for any funds made available to support the implementation of a peace agreement between the Government of Colombia and illegal armed groups: (1) an estimate of planned funding by fiscal year and account; (2) an estimate of the commitments and expenditures required by the Government of Colombia to implement such agreement; and (3) an explanation of how assistance made available by this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs to support implementation of such agreement will be coordinated with resources allocated by the Government of Colombia and other donors, including international financial institutions.

No funds appropriated or otherwise made available for assistance for Colombia by this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs may be made available for the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) or the National Liberation Army in Colombia, as such entities are designated as foreign terrorist organizations pursuant to section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189).

In accordance with subsection (b)(5), 20 percent of the funds appropriated by this Act under International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement for assistance for Colombia may be obligated only if the Secretary of State certifies and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that the Government of Colombia has established and is implementing a counternarcotics strategy to reduce illicit drug cultivation and production in Colombia. The report shall include a summary of such strategy, including eradication, interdiction, and law enforcement objectives and activities (and the funding associated with such activities), and an explanation of how United States assistance will support implementation of the strategy. The report shall also include an assessment of the likelihood that such strategy will significantly reduce illicit drug cultivation, production, and trafficking. Funds should be provided to support implementation of the strategy only on a cost-matching basis. The Secretary of State should regularly review the progress of the Government of Colombia in meeting the objectives of the strategy and inform the Committees on Appropriations of such progress.

In accordance with subsection (b)(6), 20 percent of the funds appropriated by this Act under Foreign Military Financing Program for assistance for Colombia may be obligated only if the Secretary of State certifies and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that: (1) the Peace Tribunal and other judicial bodies within the special jurisdiction for peace are independent and have authority to document ''truth declarations'' from perpetrators of gross violations of human rights and to sentence such perpetrators to meaningful sanctions, including victims' reparations, guarantee of non-repetition, and deprivation of liberty; (2) military personnel responsible for ordering, committing, or covering up cases of false positives, including those in command authority, are being investigated, prosecuted, and appropriately sanctioned, and military officers credibly alleged to have committed such crimes are removed from positions of command authority until the completion of judicial proceedings; and (3) the Government of Colombia is continuing to dismantle illegal armed groups, taking effective steps to protect the rights of human rights defenders, journalists, trade unionists, and other social activists, and protecting the rights and territory of indigenous and Afro-Colombian communities.

The Secretary of State should not submit the report directed in the House report under this section regarding justice and rule of law activities.

Not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, the USAID Administrator shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations a plan for consolidating existing development programs in Colombia, as described in the House report.

Not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees: (1) a report on outstanding commercial and trade disputes between the United States and Colombia, including a description of steps taken to resolve such disputes, and (2) a report detailing steps taken by the Government of Colombia to meet extradition requests by the Government of the United States for FARC members and members of other illegal armed groups convicted of crimes.

The Secretary of State shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations on the possibility of expanding exchange programs in Colombia in subsequent fiscal years.

Funds for the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights in Colombia are included under International Organization and Programs.

Mexico.—Within the funds made available by this Act for assistance for Mexico, funds under International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement and Foreign Military Financing Program are allocated according to the following table and subject to section 7019 of this Act:

MEXICO

[Budget authority in thousands of dollars]

Account	Budget Authority
International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement	90,000
Foreign Military Financing Program	5,000

The Secretary of State is directed to prioritize International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement assistance to combat organized crime, reduce corruption and impunity within the security forces, increase border security, promote due process and the rule of law, and reduce the flow of illicit narcotics, particularly heroin and fentanyl, into the United States.

The Secretary of State shall follow the directive in the Senate report under Foreign Military Financing Program regarding assistance for Mexico. The Secretary of State should not submit the report directed in the House report under International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement regarding Mexico.

Other assistance for Latin America and the Caribbean.—Funds for certain programs in Latin America and the Caribbean are allocated according to the following table and subject to section 7019 of this Act:

OTHER ASSISTANCE FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

[Budget authority in thousands of dollars]

Account/Program	Budget Authority
Economic Support Fund	
Caribbean Energy Security Initiative	2,000
Cuba	20,000
Haiti reforestation	8,500
International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement	
Western Hemisphere regional security cooperation	10,000
Foreign Military Financing Program	
Peru	1,800

In lieu of the directives in the House and Senate bills and reports, the agreement includes funds for democracy programs in Cuba.

Funds provided for reforestation programs in Haiti are within the total designated by subsection (c)(1).

Funds provided for Western Hemisphere regional security cooperation are in addition to amounts otherwise provided for bilateral and regional programs under International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement.

Section 7046. Europe and Eurasia

Georgia.—Funds for Georgia are allocated according to the following table and subject to section 7019 of this Act:

GEORGIA

[Budget authority in thousands of dollars]

Account	Budget Authority
Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia	63,025
International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement	4,000
Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining, and Related Programs	1,100
International Military Education and Training	2,200
Foreign Military Financing Program	30,000
Total	100,325

Ukraine.—The Act provides not less than $410,465,000 for assistance for Ukraine. Such funds are allocated according to the following table and subject to section 7019 of this Act:

UKRAINE

[Budget authority in thousands of dollars]

Account	Budget Authority
Global Health Programs	31,615
Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia	250,000
International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement	30,000
Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining, and Related Programs	10,950
International Military Education and Training	2,900
Foreign Military Financing Program	85,000
Total	410,465

Other assistance for Europe and Eurasia.—Funds for certain programs in Europe and Eurasia are allocated according to the following table and subject to section 7019 of this Act:

OTHER ASSISTANCE FOR EUROPE AND EURASIA

[Budget authority in thousands of dollars]

Country	Budget Authority
Foreign Military Financing Program	
Estonia	2,000
Latvia	2,000
Lithuania	2,000
Moldova	12,750
Poland	6,250
Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia	
Central Asia Regional	31,782
Poland	3,000

The Secretary of State is directed to implement the recommendation in the Senate report under Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia regarding the Anglo-Irish Agreement Support Act of 1986 (Public Law 99–415).

Section 7048. United Nations

Subsection (f) prohibits the use of funds for the design, renovation, or construction of the UN Headquarters in New York and no such funds were requested for fiscal year 2017 for this purpose. In accordance with this subsection, any operating plan submitted shall include a list of ongoing and new capital projects funded by the plan. The following information shall also be included for each capital project with an estimated total assessed cost to all member states in excess of $100,000,000 over the life of the project: (1) the justification for the project; (2) a detailed summary of the proposed budget, including costs for design, construction, project management, building fit out, and technology and security upgrades; (3) the assessed costs to be funded under such operating plan and an estimate of the total assessed cost to the United States for the project; (4) a description of the steps taken by the UN and the Department of State to keep costs within budget and the contingency plan to address potential cost overruns; and (5) a description of the risk management strategy and mechanisms to ensure transparency and accountability.

Subsection (j) requires a report on arrears. As a signatory to the Charter of the UN and other treaties and conventions, the United States has an obligation to pay assessed contributions to the UN regular budget, peacekeeping operations, and certain specialized agencies and organizations. Scales of assessments for these organizations are negotiated on an ongoing basis. Article 19 of the UN Charter states that a member of the UN that is in arrears ''shall have no vote in the General Assembly if the amount of its arrears equals or exceeds the amount of contributions due from it for the preceding two full years.'' Therefore, this subsection requires a report to ensure that the consequences of the accumulation of arrears are fully described to Congress. In assessing the impact to the national interest due to accumulation of arrears owed to the UN and other international organizations, the Secretary of State is directed to consider the relative loss of influence at such organizations to other countries.

Section 7056. Continuous Supervision and General Direction of Economic and Military Assistance (new)

Section 7058. Global Health Activities (modified)

Subsection (c)(1) includes $70,000,000 from within funds appropriated under Global Health Programs for an Emergency Reserve Fund to enable the United States and the international public health community to respond rapidly to emerging health threats. Funds in the Reserve Fund are available until expended, but may only be made available if, prior to obligation, the Secretary of State determines and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that it is in the national interest to respond to an emerging health threat that poses severe threats to human health. The Secretary may waive the regular notification procedures required under paragraph (3) pursuant to the authority of section 7015(e) of this Act.

Section 7059. Gender Equality (modified)

For the purposes of subsection (e)(1), funds are intended to be provided through grants and cooperative agreements, and the following programs and activities shall be included: for subparagraph (A), family oriented activities and culturally appropriate programs to promote tolerance and pluralism and the development and dissemination of early warning and response systems; for subparagraph (B), comprehensive programs that provide immediate and sustained livelihood support, psychosocial services (including for family members), and the establishment of safe houses and other centers dedicated to the empowerment and protection of women and girls; for subparagraph (C), forensic assistance and exhumation of mass graves, as appropriate; and for subparagraph (D), the use of social media and training programs. With respect to the strategy in paragraph (2), the Secretary should review and incorporate, as appropriate, the objectives of the United States National Action Plan on Women, Peace, and Security, December 2011; the United States Strategy to Prevent and Respond to Gender-Based Violence Globally, 2012; USAID's Gender Equality and Female Empowerment Policy, March 2012; and the United States Global Strategy to Empower Adolescent Girls, March 2016.

Section 7060. Sector Allocations (modified)

Environment Programs.—Subsection (c) includes authority for environment programs, but does not include authority or funding in the Act for a contribution, grant, or other payment to the Green Climate Fund. Funds for certain bilateral environment programs are allocated according to the following table and subject to section 7019 of this Act:

ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMS

[Budget authority in thousands of dollars]

Program/Activity	Budget Authority
Andean Amazon	$20,000

ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMS—Continued

[Budget authority in thousands of dollars]

Program/Activity	Budget Authority
Brazilian Amazon	10,500
Central Africa Regional Program for the Environment	39,400
USAID	*[21,900]*
United States Fish and Wildlife Service	*[17,500]*
Guatemala/Belize	3,000
USAID	*[2,000]*
Department of the Interior	*[1,000]*
Lacey Act	2,000
Oceans and International Environmental Scientific Affairs	65,694
United States Fish and Wildlife Service	9,150
Great apes	*[3,500]*
Migratory bird conservation	*[500]*
Endangered sea turtles	*[150]*
United States Forest Service	5,000
USAID/Indonesia Orangutan program	2,000
Toxic chemicals	5,000
Waste recycling	5,000

Not later than 45 days after enactment of this Act and prior to the obligation of funds made available pursuant to section subsection (c), the Secretary of State, USAID Administrator, Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Director of the United States Forest Service (USFS), and the Secretary of Interior are directed to consult with the Committees on Appropriations on the uses of such funds.

Funds included for USFWS, USFS, and Department of the Interior (DOI) shall be provided through direct transfers pursuant to section 632(a) of the FAA not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act. Prior to such transfer, the USFWS, USFS, and DOI shall submit spend plans to the Committees on Appropriations and to USAID detailing the planned uses of funds and expected programmatic results.

Funds for USAID programs to support tropical forest conservation and the preservation of archeological sites in Guatemala shall be awarded on an open and competitive basis. The agreement includes funds for DOI to support biodiversity protection programs in Guatemala and Belize, to include law enforcement and governance.

The agreement includes not less than fiscal year 2016 levels for USAID Great Apes programs.

The USAID Administrator is directed to maintain the use of flexible mechanisms and agreements that facilitate the engagement of highly skilled volunteers in fulfilling mission driven conservation development goals.

Combating Wildlife Trafficking.—The Act includes not less than $90,664,000 to combat wildlife poaching and trafficking, of which not less than $10,000,000 shall be made available for programs to combat rhinoceros poaching and shall be used primarily for site-based, anti-poaching activities to address immediate requirements. Funds are provided to support regional wildlife enforcement networks, including not less than the fiscal year 2016 level for the Wildlife Enforcement Network Southern Africa; address consumer demand; strengthen law enforcement, including to address significant needs for training and equipment; and enhance regional cooperation and anti-trafficking networks. These programs shall include monitoring and evaluation mechanisms to ensure funds are used for the intended purposes, and to measure the outcomes of such assistance, including the number and type of prosecutions, trends in wildlife population sizes, and the effectiveness of demand reduction campaigns. The Secretary of State is directed to update the report required in the joint explanatory statement accompanying Public Law 113–76, including how funds are being used to implement the National Strategy for Combating Wildlife Trafficking.

Trafficking in Persons.—The Act provides not less than $77,300,000 for programs and activities to combat trafficking in persons internationally, including $12,500,000 provided under Diplomatic and Consular Programs for the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, Department of State.

Pursuant to subsection (f)(1), the agreement provides $5,000,000 to support a multi-faceted approach to combat human trafficking in Guatemala. The Secretary of State shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations on the use of such funds no later than 45 days after enactment of this Act. Pursuant to the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, as amended by Public Law 113–4, $5,000,000 of the funds made available under International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement shall be made available for child protection compacts.

Section 7063. Inspectors General (new)

Section 7069. Country Transition Plan (modified)

Section 7070. Countering Russian Influence and Aggression (new)

Countering Russian Influence Fund.—The Act provides not less than $100,000,000 for the Countering Russian Influence Fund (CRIF). Such funds are allocated according to the following table and subject to 7019 of this Act:

COUNTERING RUSSIAN INFLUENCE FUND

[Budget authority in thousands of dollars]

Account	Budget Authority
Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia	$30,000
International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement	20,000
Foreign Military Financing Program	50,000
Total	100,000

The Secretary of State shall designate funding for the CRIF in the 653(a) report. Such funds are in addition to amounts made available for bilateral assistance for countries in Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia.

Funds should be made available to civil society and other organizations that seek to mitigate the expansion of such influence and aggression, including through public awareness campaigns and exchange activities. The Secretary of State and the USAID Administrator, as appropriate, shall ensure that CRIF programs are coordinated among Federal agencies and program implementers, and that information and lessons-learned are shared.

The Secretary of State shall make publicly available the report required by subsection (c)(4), except that such report may include a classified annex.

Section 7073. Stability and Development in Regions Impacted by Extremism and Conflict (new)

Subsection (a) requires the submission of a strategy to counter and defeat violent extremism and foreign fighters abroad, consistent with international norms of due process and the protection of human rights.

Section 7076. Budget Documents (modified)

Subsection (a)(2) requires each covered department, agency, or organization, concurrent with the submission of an operating plan pursuant to paragraph subsection (a)(1), to submit a report detailing any planned reorganization of such department, agency, or organization. With respect to the requirement of subparagraph (B) of such subsection, the report shall include the number of employees by operating unit and hiring mechanism.

The Act includes a directive in subsection (b)(1)(B) to submit the spend plans for the regional security initiatives listed under this heading in the House report. In lieu of including the Regional Security Initiative and Africa Capacity for Immediate Response to Crisis in such report, the Secretary of State shall submit a spend plan for the Regional Strategic Initiative and the African Union Rapid Deployment Capability.

Section 7077. Reports and Records Management (modified)

Section 7078. Global Internet Freedom (modified)

The Act provides not less than $50,500,000 for programs to promote Internet freedom globally. Funds for such activities appropriated in title III of this Act are allocated according to the following table and subject to section 7019 of this Act:

GLOBAL INTERNET FREEDOM

[Budget authority in thousands of dollars]

Account	Budget Authority
Democracy Fund (Department of State)	13,000
Democracy Fund (USAID)	3,500
Economic Support Fund	14,275
Near East Regional Democracy	*[9,000]*
Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia	4,725

In addition to the funds made available in title III, the Act also includes $15,000,000 for Internet freedom under Broadcasting Board of Governors, including $13,800,000 for International Broadcasting Operations for programs and $1,200,000 for the associated personnel costs of Radio Free Asia.

Section 7080. Fragile States and Extremism (new)

The United States Institute of Peace (USIP) shall make publicly available the Plan required in subsection (b), consistent with USIP policies and procedures. Such Plan should also be shared with prospective international donors.

Section 7081. Consular and Border Security Programs (new)

The Act establishes in the Treasury a Consular and Border Security Programs account into which authorized border security program fees shall be deposited for the authorized purposes of such program. Subsection (c) does not include the expanded authority contained in the Appendix, Budget of the United States Government, Fiscal Year 2017.

Section 7083. Afghan Allies (new)

The Act provides for an additional 2,500 visas for the Afghan Special Immigrant Visa program. The Secretary of State shall ensure that such visas are only issued to individuals who meet the strict qualifications of the program for assisting the United States Government in Afghanistan, and that vetting processes remain rigorous and thorough.

The Act does not include the following general provision from the fiscal year 2016 Act (division K of Public Law 114–113), which has been addressed in Public Law 114–323:

Sec. 7006. Local Guard Contracts

TITLE VIII—OVERSEAS CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS/GLOBAL WAR ON TERRORISM

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ADMINISTRATION OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR PROGRAMS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The Act provides an additional $2,410,386,000 for Diplomatic and Consular

Programs, of which $1,815,210,000 is for WSP, for the extraordinary costs of operations and security in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iraq, areas of unrest, and high threat and high risk posts, which is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to BBEDCA.

Within the total, up to $5,000,000 may be transferred to other agencies to support operations in, and assistance for, Afghanistan. The Secretary of State is directed to include in the operating plan required by section 7076(a)(1) of this Act a description of any funds transferred to other agencies in support of Afghanistan operations, including projected transfer amounts and the number of staff supported by each agency, and operating levels for Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Iraq.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

The Act provides an additional $54,900,000 for Office of Inspector General, which is for the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction, and is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to BBEDCA.

EMBASSY SECURITY, CONSTRUCTION, AND MAINTENANCE

The Act provides an additional $1,238,800,000 for Embassy Security, Construction, and Maintenance, of which $1,228,000,000 is for WSU, which is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to BBEDCA.

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

CONTRIBUTIONS TO INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

The Act provides an additional $96,240,000 for Contributions to International Organizations for the extraordinary costs of UN missions in Afghanistan, Iraq, Libya, and Somalia, which is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to BBEDCA.

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACEKEEPING ACTIVITIES

The Act provides an additional $1,354,660,000 for Contributions for International Peacekeeping Activities for peacekeeping operations in Africa and the Near East, which is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to BBEDCA.

RELATED AGENCY

BROADCASTING BOARD OF GOVERNORS

INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING OPERATIONS

The Act provides an additional $4,800,000 for International Broadcasting Operations for the extraordinary costs of United States international broadcasting, including to Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iraq, and Syria, which is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to BBEDCA.

UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT

OPERATING EXPENSES

The Act provides an additional $152,080,000 for Operating Expenses for the extraordinary costs of operations in Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Iraq, which is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to BBEDCA.

BILATERAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE

FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT

INTERNATIONAL DISASTER ASSISTANCE

The Act provides an additional $3,313,203,000 for International Disaster Assistance for the extraordinary costs of the United States response to international disasters and crises, including those resulting from conflict, of which $990,000,000 is for famine prevention, relief, and mitigation, which is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to BBEDCA.

TRANSITION INITIATIVES

The Act provides an additional $37,000,000 for Transition Initiatives for the extraordinary costs of assistance for conflict countries and countries emerging from conflict, which is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to BBEDCA.

COMPLEX CRISES FUND

The Act provides an additional $20,000,000 for Complex Crises Fund for the extraordinary costs of addressing security and stabilization requirements in conflict countries, which is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to BBEDCA.

ECONOMIC SUPPORT FUND

The Act provides an additional $2,609,242,000 for Economic Support Fund for the extraordinary costs of assistance for countries in conflict and areas of instability and violence, including Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Iraq, which is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to BBEDCA.

ASSISTANCE FOR EUROPE, EURASIA AND CENTRAL ASIA

The Act provides an additional $453,696,000 for Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia, which is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to BBEDCA.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

MIGRATION AND REFUGEE ASSISTANCE

The Act provides an additional $2,146,198,000 for Migration and Refugee Assistance for the extraordinary costs to respond to refugee crises overseas, which is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to BBEDCA.

UNITED STATES EMERGENCY REFUGEE AND MIGRATION ASSISTANCE

The Act provides an additional $40,000,000 for United States Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance, which is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to BBEDCA.

INTERNATIONAL SECURITY ASSISTANCE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL AND LAW ENFORCEMENT

The Act provides an additional $412,260,000 for International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement for the extraordinary costs for assistance for countries in conflict and areas of instability and violence, including Afghanistan and Pakistan, which is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to BBEDCA.

NONPROLIFERATION, ANTI-TERRORISM, DEMINING AND RELATED PROGRAMS

The Act provides an additional $341,754,000 for Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism,

Demining and Related Programs for the extraordinary costs for anti-terrorism and other programs in countries in conflict and areas of instability and violence, which is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to BBEDCA.

PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS

The Act provides an additional $473,973,000 for Peacekeeping Operations for the extraordinary cost for peacekeeping requirements, including the United States share of the UN Support Office in Somalia, which is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to BBEDCA.

FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT

FOREIGN MILITARY FINANCING PROGRAM

The Act provides an additional $1,325,808,000 for Foreign Military Financing Program for the extraordinary costs for assistance for countries in conflict and areas of instability and violence, including to counter Russian influence and aggression, which is designated for OCO/GWOT pursuant to BBEDCA.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section 8001. Additional Appropriations

This section clarifies that amounts appropriated by this title are in addition to amounts appropriated or otherwise made available in this Act for fiscal year 2017.

Section 8002. Extension of Authorities and Conditions

This section requires that the authorities and conditions applicable to funding elsewhere in this Act are applicable to funds in this title.

Section 8003. Transfer of Funds

Subsection (a)(1) provides authority for the Secretary of State to transfer funds appropriated by this title in this Act under Transition Initiatives, Complex Crises Fund, Economic Support Fund, and Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia between such headings. Subsection (a)(2) provides authority for the Secretary of State to transfer funds appropriated by this title in this Act under International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement, Nonproliferation, Antiterrorism, Demining and Related Programs, Peacekeeping Operations, and Foreign Military Financing Program between such headings.

Subsection (b) provides authority for the Secretary of State to transfer funds appropriated by this title in this Act under Foreign Military Financing Program in an amount that shall not exceed $15,000,000 to the Global Security Contingency Fund.

Subsection (c) requires that any transfers pursuant to subsection (a) may only be exercised to address contingencies.

Subsection (d) requires that the transfer authority provided by subsections (a) and (b) is subject to prior consultation with, and the regular notification procedures of, the Committees on Appropriations.

Section 8004. Countering the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria and Combating Terrorism in the Near East and Africa

Relief and Recovery Fund.—Subsection (a) makes funds available under Economic Support Fund and International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement for programs and activities that address basic needs, including: food, water, and sanitation; rule of law and governance, including countering extremism, transitional justice, and reconciliation programs; relief efforts related to refugees, internally displaced persons, and other vulnerable people; electricity; health services; economic and agricultural development; education, including vocational training and higher education; and transportation.

Funds for the Relief and Recovery Fund are allocated according to the following table and subject to section 7019 of this Act:

RELIEF AND RECOVERY FUND

[Budget authority in thousands of dollars]

Account	Budget Authority
Economic Support Fund	59,000
Refugee scholarship pilot program—Lebanon	*[2,000]*
International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement	15,000
Peacekeeping Operations	25,000
Foreign Military Financing Program	70,000
Total	169,000

The agreement provides $2,000,000 under Economic Support Fund for a university scholarship pilot program for refugees in Lebanon. Consistent with the Lebanon scholarship program, scholarships shall be for students with high financial need at not-for

profit educational institutions in Lebanon that meet standards comparable to those required for United States accreditation, to be awarded on a competitive basis. Such pilot should establish and test a model of providing degrees and/or certificates for refugees who have completed secondary education. The USAID Administrator shall ensure that refugees in Lebanon of any nationality, including those attending public or private secondary schools, are eligible to apply for such scholarships.

For the purposes of implementing subsection (a), the term ''other terrorist organizations'' shall mean those organizations designated as foreign terrorist organizations under section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189).

Counterterrorism Partnerships Fund.—The Act provides $127,500,000 under Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining and Related Programs for the Counterterrorism Partnerships Fund, including for programs to enhance the capacity of the Kurdistan Regional Government security services and for security programs in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq to further the security interest of the United States. The Secretary of State shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations prior to the notification and obligation of such funds.

Section 8005. Famine Prevention, Relief, and Mitigation

The agreement provides funding in response to the threat of widespread famine due to a combination of persistent conflict, severe drought, and political and economic instability. The significant scale of humanitarian need and the geographic reach of this threat requires timely additional assistance to save lives. This section provides that a portion of such funds shall be transferred to the Food for Peace Title II Grants account, and includes additional transfer authorities and reporting requirements.

DIVISION J, DEPARTMENT OF STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2016	Final Bill vs Request
TITLE I - DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND RELATED AGENCY					
Department of State					
Administration of Foreign Affairs					
Diplomatic and consular programs	4,193,702	4,640,453	4,247,775	+54,073	-392,678
Worldwide security protection	1,428,468	1,899,479	1,899,479	+471,011	---
International Chancery Center	743	---	---	-743	---
Total, Diplomatic and consular programs	5,622,913	6,539,932	6,147,254	+524,341	-392,678
Capital investment fund	66,400	12,600	12,600	-53,800	---
Office of Inspector General	72,700	87,069	87,069	+14,369	---
Educational and cultural exchange programs	590,900	628,973	634,143	+43,243	+5,170
East-West Center	---	10,800	---	---	-10,800
Total, Educational and cultural exchange programs	590,900	639,773	634,143	+43,243	-5,630
Representation expenses	8,030	8,263	8,030	---	-233
Protection of foreign missions and officials	30,036	30,344	30,344	+308	---
Embassy security, construction, and maintenance	785,097	759,161	759,161	-25,936	---
Worldwide security upgrades	688,799	358,698	358,698	-330,101	---
Total, Embassy security	1,473,896	1,117,859	1,117,859	-356,037	---
Emergencies in the diplomatic and consular service	7,900	7,900	7,900	---	---

DIVISION J, DEPARTMENT OF STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2016	Final Bill vs Request
Repatriation Loans Program Account:					
Direct loans subsidy	1,300	1,300	1,300	---	---
Payment to the American Institute in Taiwan	30,000	31,963	31,963	+1,963	---
International Center, Washington, District of Columbia	---	1,320	1,320	+1,320	---
Payment to the Foreign Service Retirement and Disability Fund	158,900	158,900	158,900	---	---
Total, Administration of Foreign Affairs	8,062,975	8,637,223	8,238,682	+175,707	-398,541
International Organizations					
Contributions to international organizations, current year assessment	1,344,458	1,290,891	1,262,966	-81,492	-27,925
Contributions for international peacekeeping activities, current year assessment	666,574	806,930	552,904	-113,670	-254,026
Total, International Organizations	2,011,032	2,097,821	1,815,870	-195,162	-281,951
International Commissions					
International Boundary and Water Commission, United States and Mexico:					
Salaries and expenses	45,307	48,134	48,134	+2,827	---
Construction	28,400	28,400	29,400	+1,000	+1,000
Total, Boundary and Water Commission	73,707	76,534	77,534	+3,827	+1,000

DIVISION J, DEPARTMENT OF STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2016	Final Bill vs Request
American sections, international commissions	12,330	12,258	12,258	-72	---
International fisheries commissions	36,681	32,502	37,502	+821	+5,000
Total, International commissions	122,718	121,294	127,294	+4,576	+6,000
Related Agency					
Broadcasting Board of Governors					
International broadcasting operations	734,087	768,143	772,108	+38,021	+3,965
Broadcasting capital improvements	4,800	9,700	9,700	+4,900	---
Total, Broadcasting Board of Governors	738,887	777,843	781,808	+42,921	+3,965
Related Programs					
The Asia Foundation	17,000	12,000	17,000	---	+5,000
United States Institute of Peace, Operating expenses	35,300	37,884	37,884	+2,584	---
Center for Middle Eastern-Western dialogue	96	122	122	+26	---
Eisenhower Exchange Fellowship program	400	350	350	-50	---
Israeli Arab scholarship program	13	47	47	+34	---
East-West Center	16,700	---	16,700	---	+16,700
National Endowment for Democracy	170,000	103,500	170,000	---	+66,500
Total, Related programs	239,509	153,903	242,103	+2,594	+88,200

DIVISION J, DEPARTMENT OF STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2016	Final Bill vs Request
Other Commissions					
Commission for the Preservation of America's Heritage Abroad					
Salaries and expenses	676	888	888	+212	---
Commission on International Religious Freedom					
Salaries and expenses	3,500	3,500	3,500	---	---
Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe					
Salaries and expenses	2,579	2,579	2,579	---	---
Congressional-Executive Commission on the People's Republic of China					
Salaries and expenses	2,000	2,000	2,000	---	---
United States - China Economic and Security Review Commission					
Salaries and expenses	3,500	3,500	3,500	---	---
Total, title I, Department of State and Related Agency	11,187,376	11,800,551	11,218,224	+30,848	-582,327

DIVISION J, DEPARTMENT OF STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2016	Final Bill vs Request
TITLE II - ADMINISTRATION OF FOREIGN ASSISTANCE					
Funds Appropriated to the President					
US Agency for International Development (USAID)					
Operating expenses, USAID	1,143,614	1,306,340	1,204,609	+60,995	-101,731
Capital Investment Fund	168,300	66,145	174,985	+6,685	+108,840
Office of Inspector General, USAID	66,000	67,600	67,600	+1,600	---
Total, title II, Administration of Foreign Assistance	1,377,914	1,440,085	1,447,194	+69,280	+7,109
TITLE III - BILATERAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE					
Funds Appropriated to the President					
Global Health Programs:					
U.S. Agency for International Development	2,833,450	2,906,500	3,054,950	+221,500	+148,450
Department of State	5,670,000	5,670,000	5,670,000	---	---
(Global fund contribution) /1	(1,350,000)	(1,350,000)	(1,350,000)	---	---
Total, Global Health Programs	8,503,450	8,576,500	8,724,950	+221,500	+148,450

1/ The Bill includes authority for a Global Fund contribution and the accompanying report recommends up to $1,350,000 for such a contribution

DIVISION J, DEPARTMENT OF STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2016	Final Bill vs Request
Development assistance	2,780,971	2,959,573	2,995,465	+214,494	+35,892
Transfer out	(-40,000)	(-60,000)	(-50,000)	(-10,000)	(+10,000)
Total, Development Assistance	2,780,971	2,959,573	2,995,465	+214,494	+35,892
International disaster assistance	874,763	125,000	498,483	-376,280	+373,483
Transition initiatives	30,000	15,000	35,600	+5,600	+20,600
Complex Crises fund	10,000	10,000	10,000	---	---
Development Credit Authority:					
(By transfer)	(40,000)	(60,000)	(50,000)	(+10,000)	(-10,000)
Administrative expenses	8,120	10,000	10,000	+1,880	---
Economic Support Fund	1,896,315	2,408,454	1,041,761	-854,554	-1,366,693
Democracy Fund:					
Human Rights and Democracy Fund, Department of State	88,500	---	145,375	+56,875	+145,375
Bureau of Democracy, Conflict, and Humanitarian Assistance, USAID	62,000	---	65,125	+3,125	+65,125
Total, Democracy Fund	150,500	---	210,500	+60,000	+210,500
Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia	491,119	---	291,638	-199,481	+291,638
Department of State					
Migration and refugee assistance	931,886	922,597	912,802	-19,084	-9,795

DIVISION J, DEPARTMENT OF STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2016	Final Bill vs Request
United States Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance Fund	50,000	10,000	10,000	-40,000	---
Total, Department of State	981,886	932,597	922,802	-59,084	-9,795
Independent Agencies					
Peace Corps	410,000	410,000	410,000	---	---
Millenium Challenge Corporation	901,000	1,000,000	905,000	+4,000	-95,000
Inter-American Foundation	22,500	22,200	22,500	---	+300
United States African Development Foundation	30,000	28,200	30,000	---	+1,800
Total, Independent Agencies	1,363,500	1,460,400	1,367,500	+4,000	-92,900
Department of the Treasury					
International Affairs Technical Assistance	23,500	33,500	30,000	+6,500	-3,500
Total, title III, Bilateral economic assistance	17,114,124	16,531,024	16,138,699	-975,425	-392,325
Appropriations	(17,114,124)	(16,531,024)	(16,138,699)	(-975,425)	(-392,325)
(By transfer)	(40,000)	(60,000)	(50,000)	(+10,000)	(-10,000)

DIVISION J, DEPARTMENT OF STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2016	Final Bill vs Request
TITLE IV - INTERNATIONAL SECURITY ASSISTANCE					
Department of State					
International narcotics control and law enforcement...	894,821	813,773	889,664	-5,157	+75,891
Nonproliferation, anti-terrorism, demining and related programs.....	506,381	454,196	500,696	-5,685	+46,500
Peacekeeping operations.....	131,361	126,291	135,041	+3,680	+8,750
Funds Appropriated to the President					
International Military Education and Training.....	108,115	110,300	110,300	+2,185	---
Foreign Military Financing Program:					
Grants:					
Israel.....	3,100,000	3,100,000	3,100,000	---	---
Egypt.....	1,300,000	1,300,000	1,300,000	---	---
Other.....	337,522	301,813	385,805	+48,283	+83,992
Limitation on Administrative Expenses.....	(75,000)	(70,000)	(80,000)	(+5,000)	(+10,000)
Total, Foreign Military Financing Program.	4,737,522	4,701,813	4,785,805	+48,283	+83,992
Total, title IV, Security assistance.....	6,378,200	6,206,373	6,421,506	+43,306	+215,133

DIVISION J, DEPARTMENT OF STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2016	Final Bill vs Request
TITLE V - MULTILATERAL ASSISTANCE					
Multilateral Assistance					
Funds Appropriated to the President					
International Organizations and Programs	339,000	332,900	339,000	---	+6,100
International Financial Institutions					
World Bank Group					
Global Environment Facility	168,263	146,563	146,563	-21,700	---
International Development Association	1,197,128	1,384,072	1,197,128	---	-186,944
The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD):					
IBRD paid in capital	186,957	5,963	5,963	-180,994	---
(Limitation on callable capital)	(2,928,991)	---	---	(-2,928,991)	---
Subtotal, IBRD	186,957	5,963	5,963	-180,994	---
Clean Technology Fund	170,680	---	---	-170,680	---
Strategic Climate Fund	49,900	---	---	-49,900	---
Green Climate Fund	---	250,000	---	---	-250,000
Global agriculture and food security program	43,000	23,000	23,000	-20,000	---
Global Infrastructure Facility	---	20,000	---	---	-20,000

DIVISION J, DEPARTMENT OF STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2016	Final Bill vs Request
Central America and Caribbean risk insurance program..	---	12,500	---	---	-12,500
Total, World Bank Group.....	1,815,928	1,842,098	1,372,654	-443,274	-469,444
Inter-American Development Bank Group					
Inter-American Development Bank paid in capital.....	102,020	21,940	21,940	-80,080	---
(Limitation on callable capital).....	(4,098,795)	---	---	(-4,098,795)	---
Total, Inter-American Development Bank.....	102,020	21,940	21,940	-80,080	---
Asian Development Bank Group (IDB)					
Asian development bank paid in capital.....	5,608	---	---	-5,608	---
Asian Development Fund.....	104,977	99,233	99,233	-5,744	---
Total, Asian Development Bank.....	110,585	99,233	99,233	-11,352	---
African Development Bank Group					
African Development Bank Paid in capital.....	34,118	32,418	32,418	-1,700	---
(Limitation on callable capital).....	(507,861)	(507,861)	(507,861)	---	---
African Development Fund.....	175,668	214,332	214,332	+38,664	---
Total, African Development Bank.....	209,786	246,750	246,750	+36,964	---
International Fund for Agricultural Development.....	31,930	30,000	30,000	-1,930	---

DIVISION J, DEPARTMENT OF STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2016	Final Bill vs Request
North American Development Bank	10,000	45,000	---	-10,000	-45,000
(Limitation on callable capital)	(255,000)	(255,000)	---	(-255,000)	(-255,000)
Total, International Financial Institutions	2,280,249	2,285,021	1,770,577	-509,672	-514,444
Total, title V, Multilateral assistance	2,619,249	2,617,921	2,109,577	-509,672	-508,344
(Limitation on callable capital)	(7,790,647)	(762,861)	(507,861)	(-7,282,786)	(-255,000)
TITLE VI - EXPORT AND INVESTMENT ASSISTANCE					
Export-Import Bank of the United States					
Administrative expenses	106,250	110,000	110,000	+3,750	---
Inspector General	6,000	5,700	5,700	-300	---
Offsetting collections	-640,000	-530,000	-530,000	+110,000	---
Total, Export-Import Bank of the United States	-527,750	-414,300	-414,300	+113,450	---
Overseas Private Investment Corporation					
Noncredit account:					
Administrative expenses	62,787	88,000	70,000	+7,213	-18,000

DIVISION J, DEPARTMENT OF STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2016	Final Bill vs Request
Insurance fees and other offsetting collections...	-353,000	-341,000	-341,000	+12,000	---
Subtotal	-290,213	-253,000	-271,000	+19,213	-18,000
Program account	20,000	20,000	20,000	---	---
Total, Overseas Private Investment Corporation....	-270,213	-233,000	-251,000	+19,213	-18,000
Funds Appropriated to the President					
Trade and Development Agency	60,000	80,700	75,000	+15,000	-5,700
Total, title VI, Export and investment assistance	-737,963	-566,600	-590,300	+147,663	-23,700
TITLE VII - GENERAL PROVISIONS					
Special immigrant visa proposal (Sec. 7083(a))	---	6,000	6,000	+6,000	---
ESF rescission of funds (Sec. 7083(b))	---	---	-6,000	-6,000	-6,000
Total, title VII, General Provisions	---	6,000	---	---	-6,000

DIVISION J, DEPARTMENT OF STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2016	Final Bill vs Request
TITLE VIII - OVERSEAS CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS / GLOBAL WAR ON TERRORISM (OCO/GWOT)					
Diplomatic and consular programs (OCO/GWOT)	2,561,808	2,132,249	2,410,386	-151,422	+278,137
(Worldwide security protection) (OCO/GWOT)	(1,966,632)	(1,815,210)	(1,815,210)	(-151,422)	---
(Transfer to other agencies)	(-10,000)	(-5,000)	(-5,000)	(+5,000)	---
Subtotal	2,561,808	2,132,249	2,410,386	-151,422	+278,137
Office of Inspector General (OCO/GWOT)	66,600	54,900	54,900	-11,700	---
Embassy security, construction, and maintenance (OCO/GWOT)	747,851	1,238,800	1,238,800	+490,949	---
Contributions to int'l organizations (OCO/GWOT)	101,728	96,240	96,240	-5,488	---
Contributions for International Peacekeeping Activities, current year assessment (OCO/GWOT)	1,794,088	1,588,000	1,354,660	-439,428	-233,340
Mechanism for Peace Operations Response (OCO/GWOT)	---	150,000	---	---	-150,000
Broadcasting board of governors (OCO/GWOT)	10,700	---	4,800	-5,900	+4,800
Operating expenses of USAID (OCO/GWOT)	139,262	98,460	152,080	+12,818	+53,620
Capital Investment Fund, USAID (OCO/GWOT)	---	133,840	---	---	-133,840
USAID Office of Inspector General					
International Disaster Assistance (OCO/GWOT)	1,919,421	1,832,000	3,313,203	+1,393,782	+1,481,203
(Famine prevention, relief, and mitigation) (OCO/GWOT)	---	---	(990,000)	(+990,000)	(+990,000)
Transition Initiatives (OCO/GWOT)	37,000	62,600	37,000	---	-25,600
Complex Crises fund (OCO/GWOT)	20,000	20,000	20,000	---	---
Economic Support Fund (OCO/GWOT)	2,422,673	3,672,153	2,609,242	+186,569	-1,062,911
Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia (OCO/GWOT)	438,569	---	453,696	+15,127	+453,696

DIVISION J, DEPARTMENT OF STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2016	Final Bill vs Request
Migration and Refugee assistance (MRA) (OCO/GWOT)	2,127,114	1,876,003	2,146,198	+19,084	+270,195
United States Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance Fund (OCO/GWOT)	---	40,000	40,000	+40,000	---
International narcotics control and law enforcement (OCO/GWOT)	371,650	324,240	412,260	+40,610	+88,020
Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining and Related programs (NADR) (OCO/GWOT)	379,091	214,254	341,754	-37,337	+127,500
Peacekeeping Operations (PKO) (OCO/GWOT)	469,269	349,100	473,973	+4,704	+124,873
Foreign Military Financing program (OCO/GWOT)	1,288,176	1,012,150	1,325,808	+37,632	+313,658
Total, Title VIII, OCO/GWOT	14,895,000	14,894,989	16,485,000	+1,590,000	+1,590,011
TITLE IX - OTHER MATTERS					
Multilateral Assistance					
International Monetary Program					
International Monetary fund quota increase (emergency)	1,180,000	---	---	-1,180,000	---
(Rescission of emergency appropriations)	-1,180,000	---	---	+1,180,000	---
Total, Title IX, Other Matters	---	---	---	---	---
Emergency appropriations	(1,180,000)	---	---	(-1,180,000)	---
Rescission of emergency funding	(-1,180,000)	---	---	(+1,180,000)	---

DIVISION J, DEPARTMENT OF STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2016	Final Bill vs Request
OTHER APPROPRIATIONS					
Department of State					
Administration of Foreign Affairs					
Diplomatic and Consular Programs (emergency)	14,594	---	---	-14,594	---
Security Assistance Act (P.L. 114-254) (OCO/GWOT)	---	746,210	1,052,400	+1,052,400	+306,190
(Worldwide security protection) (OCO/GWOT)	---	(557,600)	(927,189)	(+927,189)	(+369,589)
Office of Inspector General:					
Security Assistance Act (P.L. 114-254) (OCO/GWOT)	---	2,500	2,500	+2,500	---
Embassy security, construction, and maintenance:					
Security Assistance Act (P.L. 114-254) (OCO/GWOT)	---	1,024,000	654,411	+654,411	-369,589
Emergencies in the Diplomatic and Consular Service (emergency)	4,000	---	---	-4,000	---
Repatriation Loans Program Account, Direct loans subsidy (emergency)	1,000	---	---	-1,000	---
United States Agency for International Development					
Funds Appropriated to the President					
Operating expenses of USAID:					
Operating Expenses, USAID (emergency)	10,000	---	---	-10,000	---

DIVISION J, DEPARTMENT OF STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2016	Final Bill vs Request
Security Assistance Act (P.L. 114-254) (OCO/GWOT)...	---	15,000	5,000	+5,000	-10,000
Capital Investment Fund, USAID:					
Security Assistance Act (P.L. 114-254) (OCO/GWOT)...	---	---	25,000	+25,000	+25,000
USAID Office of Inspector General:					
Security Assistance Act (P.L. 114-254) (OCO/GWOT)...	---	2,500	2,500	+2,500	---
Bilateral Economic Assistance					
Funds Appropriated to the President					
Global Health Programs (emergency).....	145,500	---	---	-145,500	---
International Disaster Assistance:					
Security Assistance Act (P.L. 114-254) (OCO/GWOT)...	---	953,200	616,100	+616,100	-337,100
Transition Initiatives:					
Security Assistance Act (P.L. 114-254) (OCO/GWOT)...	---	73,490	50,234	+50,234	-23,256
Economic Support Fund:					
Security Assistance Act (P.L. 114-254) (OCO/GWOT)...	---	2,460,400	1,030,555	+1,030,555	-1,429,845
Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia:					
Security Assistance Act (P.L. 114-254) (OCO/GWOT)...	---	---	157,000	+157,000	+157,000
Migration and Refugee assistance (MRA):					
Security Assistance Act (P.L. 114-254) (OCO/GWOT)...	---	260,400	300,000	+300,000	+39,600

DIVISION J, DEPARTMENT OF STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2016	Final Bill vs Request
International narcotics control and law enforcement:					
Security Assistance Act (P.L. 114-254) (OCO/GWOT)...	---	19,300	26,300	+26,300	+7,000
Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining and Related programs (NADR):					
Security Assistance Act (P.L. 114-254) (OCO/GWOT)...	---	128,000	128,000	+128,000	---
Peacekeeping Operations (PKO):					
Security Assistance Act (P.L. 114-254) (OCO/GWOT)...	---	90,000	50,000	+50,000	-40,000
Foreign Military Financing program:					
Security Assistance Act (P.L. 114-254) (OCO/GWOT)...	---	---	200,000	+200,000	+200,000
Division D					
USAID, Operating expenses (Public Law 113-235) (rescission) (emergency).....	-7,522	---	---	+7,522	---
Bilateral Economic Assistance, Funds appropriated to the President (Public Law 113-235) (rescission) (emergency).....	-109,478	---	---	+109,478	---
Total, Other Appropriations.....	58,094	5,775,000	4,300,000	+4,241,906	-1,475,000

DIVISION J, DEPARTMENT OF STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs FY 2016	Final Bill vs Request
Grand Total, Fiscal Year 2017	52,891,994	58,705,343	57,529,900	+4,637,906	-1,175,443
Total, This bill	(52,833,900)	(52,930,343)	(53,229,900)	(+396,000)	(+299,557)
Appropriations	(37,938,900)	(38,035,354)	(36,750,900)	(-1,188,000)	(-1,284,454)
Emergency appropriations	(1,355,094)	---	---	(-1,355,094)	---
Overseas contingency operations, This bill	(14,836,906)	(14,894,989)	(16,485,000)	(+1,648,094)	(+1,590,011)
Overseas contingency operations, Security Assistance Act (P.L. 114-254)	(58,094)	(5,775,000)	(4,300,000)	(+4,241,906)	(-1,475,000)
Rescissions	---	---	(-6,000)	(-6,000)	(-6,000)
Rescission of emergency funding	(-1,297,000)	---	---	(+1,297,000)	---
(By transfer)	(40,000)	(60,000)	(50,000)	(+10,000)	(-10,000)
(Transfer out)	(-40,000)	(-60,000)	(-50,000)	(-10,000)	(+10,000)
(Limitation on administrative expenses)	(75,000)	(70,000)	(80,000)	(+5,000)	(+10,000)
(Limitation on callable capital)	(7,790,647)	(762,861)	(507,861)	(-7,282,786)	(-255,000)

DIVISION K—TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

Unless otherwise noted, the language and allocations set forth in the House report (House Report 114–606) and the Senate report (Senate Report 114–243) carry the same weight as language included in this joint explanatory statement and should be complied with unless specifically addressed to the contrary in this division or joint explanatory statement. House report language and Senate report language, neither of which is changed by this joint explanatory statement, is a result of the 2017 appropriations agreement. The joint explanatory statement, while repeating some report language for emphasis, does not intend to negate the language referred to above unless expressly provided herein. In cases where the House or the Senate has directed the submission of a report, such report is to be submitted to both the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations. The Department of Transportation and the Department of Housing and Urban Development are directed to notify the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations seven days prior to the announcement of a new program or authority. Any reprogramming requests must be submitted to the Committees on Appropriations no later than June 30, 2017.

TITLE I—DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement provides $114,000,000 for the salaries and expenses of the Office of the Secretary, to remain available until September 30, 2019. The agreement includes funding by office as specified below, and offices are to manage staffing levels within the amounts provided. Funds are available for transfer between all offices under certain conditions.

Immediate Office of the Secretary	$2,758,000
Immediate Office of the Deputy Secretary	1,040,000
Office of the General Counsel	20,772,000
Office of the Under Secretary for Transportation Policy	10,033,000
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Budget and Programs	14,019,000
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Government Affairs	2,546,000
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration	29,356,000
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs	2,142,000
Office of the Executive Secretariat	1,760,000
Office of Intelligence, Security, and Emergency Response	11,089,000
Office of the Chief Information Officer	18,485,000

The agreement provides $2,000,000 for DATA Act activities but within the Office of the Chief Information Officer and not within the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Budget and Programs.

RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY

The agreement provides $13,000,000 for the Office of the Under Secretary for Transportation Policy, to remain available until September 30, 2019, of which, no less than $5,600,000 is for civil signal monitoring. The agreement also funds salaries and administrative expenses, research, development and technology coordination, alternative energy research and development, and positioning, navigation and timing technologies but does not prescribe specific amounts for each of these activities. Instead, the Secretary is directed to prioritize funding for these activities on an as-needed basis.

NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENTS

The agreement provides $500,000,000 for capital investments in surface transportation infrastructure, commonly known as the ''TIGER'' program, to remain available until September 30, 2020. The agreement does not include funding for planning or design activities.

NATIONAL SURFACE TRANSPORTATION AND INNOVATIVE FINANCE BUREAU

As authorized under section 9001 of the FAST Act, the agreement provides $3,000,000 to remain available until expended for the establishment and administration of the national surface transportation and innovative finance bureau.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT CAPITAL

The agreement provides $4,000,000 for the financial management capital program, to remain available until September 30, 2018.

CYBER SECURITY INITIATIVES

The agreement provides $15,000,000 for departmental cyber security initiatives, to remain available until September 30, 2018.

OFFICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS

The agreement provides $9,751,000 for the office of civil rights.

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING, RESEARCH, AND DEVELOPMENT

The agreement provides $12,000,000 for planning, research, and development activities, of which $3,000,000 is for the Interagency Infrastructure Permitting Improvement Center (IIPIC), to remain available until expended. Bill language is included to allow for the transfer of funds to this account from other Federal agencies utilizing the services of the IIPIC, and IIPIC services may be available to other Federal agencies for non-transportation projects only to the extent DOT is reimbursed.

WORKING CAPITAL FUND

The agreement limits expenditures for working capital fund activities to $190,389,000.

MINORITY BUSINESS RESOURCE CENTER PROGRAM

The agreement provides a total appropriation of $941,000 for the minority business resource center program: $339,000 for the cost of guaranteed loans and $602,000 for the administrative expenses of the program. The bill limits loans to $18,367,000.

SMALL AND DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS UTILIZATION AND OUTREACH

The agreement provides $4,646,000 for small and disadvantaged business utilization and outreach to remain available until September 30, 2018.

PAYMENTS TO AIR CARRIERS

(AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND)

The agreement provides $150,000,000 for payments to air carriers. In addition to these funds, the program will receive approximately $100,000,000 in overflight fees.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION

Section 101 prohibits funds available to the Department of Transportation from being obligated for the Office of the Secretary of Transportation to approve assessments or reimbursable agreements pertaining to funds appropriated to the modal administrations, except for activities underway on the date of enactment of this Act, unless such assessments or agreements have completed the normal reprogramming process for Congressional notification.

Section 102 allows the Department of Transportation Working Capital Fund to provide payments in advance to vendors for the Federal transit pass fringe benefit program, and to provide full or partial payments to, and to accept reimbursements from, Federal agencies for transit benefit distribution services.

Section 103 requires the Secretary of Transportation to post on the internet a schedule of all Council on Credit and Finance meetings, agendas, and meeting minutes.

FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

OPERATIONS

(AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND)

The agreement includes $10,025,852,000 for the operations of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), to remain available until September 30, 2018. Of the total amount provided, $9,173,000,000 is to be derived from the airport and airway trust fund. Funds are distributed in the bill by budget activity.

The following table compares the agreement to the levels proposed in the budget request by activity:

	Budget Request	Agreement
Air Traffic Organization	7,539,785,000	7,559,785,000
Aviation Safety	1,286,982,000	1,298,482,000
Commercial Space Transportation	19,826,000	19,826,000
Finance and Management	771,342,000	771,342,000
NextGen and Operations Planning	60,155,000	60,155,000
Security and Hazardous Materials Safety	107,161,000	107,161,000
Staff Offices	209,101,000	209,101,000
Total	9,994,352,000	10,025,852,000

Funding availability and transfer authority.—The agreement provides two-year funding availability for the entire operations account. This funding flexibility is provided to enhance assurance of continuity of air traffic operations during the annual transition from one fiscal year to the next. In addition, the agreement includes funding transfer authority of five percent among the activities in this account. This transfer authority is provided to meet emerging requirements as FAA works to accelerate the modernization of the Nation's air traffic control system.

Operations funding.—The agreement includes $20,000,000 above the budget request for the air traffic organization. This funding level fully supports the air traffic operational workforce, including the hiring and training of new controllers to fill critical positions. The increase above the budget request is provided to accelerate the safe integration of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) into the national airspace (NAS).

Aviation safety.—The agreement provides $11,500,000 above the budget request for aviation safety activities. Of this amount, $10,000,000 is provided to accelerate the safe integration of UAVs into the NAS; and $1,500,000 is provided for six additional full time equivalent (FTE) positions to support the certification of new technologies and advance FAA's organizational delegation authorization (ODA) efforts and strengthen safety oversight.

The agreement provides FAA with the resources it needs to work with industry to achieve the goal of full utilization of ODA to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of product certification. FAA is directed to ensure that an ODA can conduct all specified activities authorized and approved by FAA in their procedures manual. When requested by an ODA, FAA is directed to conduct a review of ODA limitations and remove limitations that FAA determines, through risk analysis, are associated with low and medium risk activities. These efforts should include all FAA field office activities for the

type certification and delivery of new aircraft including the Aircraft Certification Office, Aircraft Evaluation Group, and Manufacturing Inspection District Offices. FAA's plan to expand the ODA performance scorecard to all ODAs nationally should be aligned with objectives to facilitate full utilization of ODAs by all FAA offices.

FAA is commended for continuing to strengthen international aviation safety cooperation and improve the flow of aviation products globally through strategic engagement with the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA), Transport Canada Civil Aviation (TCCA), and National Civil Aviation Agency of Brazil (ANAC). These activities should result in streamlined validation and acceptance of type certificates and approvals among these authorities. FAA is directed to ensure that the efficiency of foreign validations is consistent with the terms of the Bilateral Agreement and to assist U.S. companies that experience significant delays.

The full budget request is provided for Commercial Space Transportation, Finance and Management, NextGen and Operations Planning, Security and Hazardous Materials Safety, and Staff Offices.

The agreement provides $159,000,000 for the contract tower program.

The agreement includes language preventing the elimination of the Contract Weather Observers (CWO) program, therefore a report is not required.

The agreement directs FAA to develop a plan updating the controller staffing model for en route centers no later than one year after enactment.

The agreement directs FAA to review current policies concerning reporting and data collection standards for severe allergic reactions aboard aircraft. The FAA shall submit the results of the review to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations no later than 180 days after enactment of this Act.

The agreement directs FAA to regularly report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations on the NextGen Advisory Committee's objectives for the implementation of airspace modernization programs.

The agreement directs the GAO to submit a report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations on the importance of collegiate aviation flight training operations. The report shall assess: the total capacity of collegiate aviation flight training programs in the United States to meet the needs of the nation to train commercial pilots, the footprint of collegiate aviation flight training operations at the airports in the United States, whether infrastructure beyond that necessary for operations of commercial air carriers is needed at airports with collegiate aviation flight training operations, and the cost of additional infrastructure if such infrastructure is warranted. Additionally, the report should identify available funding sources and recommendations for improving technical and financial assistance to airports to construct such infrastructure.

FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT

(AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND)

The agreement includes $2,855,000,000 for FAA facilities and equipment. Of the total amount available, $486,000,000 is available until September 30, 2017 and $2,369,000,000 is available until September 30, 2019.

The following table provides a breakdown of the agreement by program:

Program	Request	Agreement
Activity 1–Engineering, Development, Test and Evaluation:		
Advanced Technology Development and Prototyping	$24,800,000	$24,800,000
William J. Hughes Technical Center Laboratory Improvement	1,000,000	1,000,000
William J. Hughes Technical Center Laboratory Sustainment	19,000,000	19,000,000
William J. Hughes Technical Center Infrastructure Sustainment	12,200,000	12,200,000
Separation Management Portfolio	25,800,000	32,800,000
Improved Surface Portfolio	2,000,000	2,000,000
On Demand NAS Portfolio	8,500,000	11,500,000
Improved Multiple Runway Operations Portfolio	6,500,000	6,500,000
NAS Infrastructure Portfolio	17,660,000	17,660,000
NextGen Support Portfolio	12,000,000	12,000,000
Performance Based Navigation & Metroplex Portfolio	17,500,000	17,500,000
Total Activity 1	146,960,000	156,960,000
Activity 2–Air Traffic Control Facilities and Equipment:		
a. En Route Programs:		
En Route Automation Modernization (ERAM)—System Enhancements and Tech Refresh	78,000,000	78,000,000
En Route Communications Gateway (ECG)	2,650,000	2,650,000
Next Generation Weather Radar (NEXRAD)—Provide	6,300,000	6,300,000
Air Route Traffic Control Center (ARTCC) & Combined Control Facility (CCF) Building Improvements	74,870,000	74,870,000
Air Traffic Management (ATM)	20,000,000	20,000,000
Air/Ground Communications Infrastructure	8,750,000	8,750,000
Air Traffic Control En Route Radar Facilities Improvements	5,800,000	5,800,000
Voice Switching and Control System (VSCS)	11,300,000	11,300,000
Oceanic Automation System	24,000,000	24,000,000
Next Generation Very High Frequency Air/Ground Communications (NEXCOM)	50,500,000	50,500,000
System-Wide Information Management	28,800,000	43,800,000
ADS-B NAS Wide Implementation	31,100,000	154,800,000
Windshear Detection Service	4,500,000	4,500,000
Collaborative Air Traffic Management Technologies	13,820,000	13,820,000
Time Based Flow Management Portfolio	50,600,000	50,600,000
ATC Beacon Interrogator (ATCBI)—Sustainment	1,000,000	1,000,000
NextGen Weather Processors	27,800,000	27,800,000
Airborne Collision Avoidance System X (ACASX)	8,900,000	8,900,000
Data Communications in Support of NG Air Transportation System	232,000,000	232,000,000
Non-Continental United States (Non-CONUS) Automation	3,000,000	3,000,000
Subtotal En Route Programs	683,690,000	822,390,000
b. Terminal Programs:		
Airport Surface Detection Equipment—Model X (ASDE–X)	8,400,000	8,400,000
Terminal Doppler Weather Radar (TDWR)—Provide	5,000,000	5,000,000
Standard Terminal Automation Replacement System (STARS) (TAMR Phase 1)	64,200,000	64,200,000
Terminal Automation Modernization/Replacement Program (TAMR Phase 3)	108,900,000	108,900,000
Terminal Automation Program	7,700,000	7,700,000
Terminal Air Traffic Control Facilities—Replace	58,800,000	58,800,000
ATCT/Terminal Radar Approach Control (TRACON) Facilities—Improve	47,720,000	47,720,000
Terminal Voice Switch Replacement (TVSR)	6,000,000	6,000,000
NAS Facilities OSHA and Environmental Standards Compliance	42,700,000	42,700,000
Airport Surveillance Radar (ASR–9)	4,500,000	4,500,000
Terminal Digital Radar (ASR–11) Technology Refresh and Mobile Airport Surveillance Radar (MASR)	6,100,000	6,100,000
Runway Status Lights	4,800,000	4,800,000
National Airspace System Voice System (NVS)	48,400,000	48,400,000

Program	Request	Agreement
Integrated Display System (IDS)	7,700,000	7,700,000
Remote Monitoring and Logging System (RMLS)	9,900,000	9,900,000
Mode S Service Life Extension Program (SLEP)	37,900,000	37,900,000
Surveillance Interface Modernization	26,800,000	21,800,000
Improved Surface/TFDM Portfolio	42,200,000	42,200,000
National Air Space (NAS) Voice Recorder Program (NVRP)	2,000,000	2,000,000
Integrated Terminal Weather System (ITWS)	1,000,000	1,000,000
Next Generation: Surveillance and Weather Radar Capability & Back-up Surveillance Capability	6,000,000	6,000,000
Flight and Interfacility Data Interface (FIDI) Modernization	15,000,000	13,000,000
Subtotal Terminal Programs	561,720,000	554,720,000
c. Flight Service Programs:		
Aviation Surface Observation System (ASOS)	10,000,000	10,000,000
Future Flight Services Program	3,000,000	3,000,000
Alaska Flight Service Facility Modernization (AFSFM)	2,650,000	2,650,000
Weather Camera Program	2,200,000	2,200,000
Subtotal Flight Service Programs	17,850,000	17,850,000
d. Landing and Navigational Aids Program:		
VHF Omnidirectional Radio Range (VOR) with Distance Measuring Equipment (DME)	7,000,000	9,000,000
Instrument Landing System (ILS)—Establish	7,000,000	7,000,000
Wide Area Augmentation System (WAAS) for GPS	85,000,000	111,600,000
Runway Visual Range (RVR) and Enhanced Low Visibility Operations (ELVO)	6,500,000	6,500,000
Approach Lighting System Improvement Program (ALSIP)	3,000,000	3,000,000
Distance Measuring Equipment (DME)	3,000,000	3,000,000
Visual NAVAIDS—Establish/Expand	2,000,000	2,000,000
Instrument Flight Procedures Automation (IFPA)	9,400,000	9,400,000
Navigation and Landing Aids—Service Life Extension Program (SLEP)	3,000,000	3,000,000
VASI Replacement—Replace with Precision Approach Path Indicator	5,000,000	5,000,000
Runway Safety Areas—Navigational Mitigation	14,000,000	14,000,000
Integrated Control and Monitoring System (ICMS)—NAVAIDS Monitoring Equipment	2,000,000	2,000,000
Subtotal Landing and Navigational Aids Programs	146,900,000	175,500,000
e. Other ATC Facilities Programs:		
Fuel Storage Tank Replacement and Management	22,700,000	22,700,000
Unstaffed Infrastructure Sustainment	40,490,000	40,490,000
Aircraft Related Equipment Program	13,000,000	13,000,000
Airport Cable Loop Systems—Sustained Support	8,000,000	8,000,000
Alaskan Satellite Telecommunications Infrastructure (ASTI)	6,000,000	6,000,000
Facilities Decommissioning	6,200,000	6,200,000
Electrical Power Systems—Sustain/Support	105,000,000	105,000,000
Energy Management and Compliance (EMC)	2,000,000	2,000,000
Child Care Center Sustainment	1,000,000	1,000,000
FAA Telecommunications Infrastructure	10,360,000	10,360,000
System Capacity, Planning, and Improvements	6,500,000	6,500,000
Subtotal Other ATC Facilities Programs	221,250,000	221,250,000
Total Activity 2	1,631,410,000	1,791,710,000
Activity 3–Non-Air Traffic Control Facilities and Equipment:		
a. Support Equipment:		
Hazardous Materials Management	31,000,000	31,000,000
Aviation Safety Analysis System (ASAS)	11,300,000	11,300,000
National Air Space (NAS) Recovery Communications (RCOM)	12,000,000	12,000,000
Facility Security Risk Management	21,000,000	21,000,000
Information Security	24,970,000	24,970,000
System Approach for Safety Oversight (SASO)	17,200,000	17,200,000
Aviation Safety Knowledge Management Environment (ASKME)	4,200,000	4,200,000
Aerospace Medical Equipment Needs (AMEN)	3,000,000	3,000,000
System Safety Management Portfolio	17,000,000	17,000,000
National Test Equipment Program	5,000,000	5,000,000
Mobile Assets Management Program	5,760,000	5,760,000
Aerospace Medicine Safety Information Systems (AMSIS)	12,000,000	12,000,000
Tower Simulation System (TSS) Technology Refresh	3,000,000	3,000,000
Subtotal Support Equipment	167,430,000	167,430,000
b. Training, Equipment and Facilities:		
Aeronautical Center Infrastructure Modernization	14,000,000	14,000,000
Distance Learning	1,500,000	1,500,000
Subtotal Training, Equipment and Facilities	15,500,000	15,500,000
Total Activity 3	182,930,000	182,930,000
Activity 4–Facilities and Equipment Mission Support:		
a. System Support and Services:		
System Engineering and Development Support	35,000,000	35,000,000
Program Support Leases	46,600,000	46,600,000

Program	Request	Agreement
Logistics and Acquisition Support Services	11,000,000	11,000,000
Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center Leases	19,300,000	19,300,000
Transition Engineering Support	24,100,000	24,100,000
Technical Support Services Contract (TSSC)	23,000,000	23,000,000
Resource Tracking Program (RTP)	6,000,000	6,000,000
Center for Advanced Aviation System Development (CAASD)	60,000,000	60,000,000
Aeronautical Information Management Program	10,400,000	10,400,000
Cross Agency NextGen Management	2,000,000	2,000,000
Total Activity 4	237,400,000	237,400,000
Activity 5–Personnel and Related Expenses:		
Personnel and Related Expenses	489,000,000	486,000,000
Activity 6–Sustain ADS–B services and Wide Area Augmentation Services (WAAS) GEOs:		
ADS–B services and WAAS GEOs	150,300,000	(provided in operational lines)
Sub–Total All Activities	2,838,000,000	2,855,000,000

The agreement provides $32,800,000 for separation management portfolio, including $7,000,000 above the budget request to advance space-based automatic dependent surveillance-broadcast (ADS–B) technology.

The agreement provides $11,500,000 for on demand NAS portfolio, including $3,000,000 above the budget request to continue to develop and implement an integrated Cyber Testbed at the FAA Technical Center.

The agreement provides $43,800,000 for System-Wide Information Management (SWIM), an increase of $15,000,000 above the budget request. The additional funding for SWIM will accelerate FAA's ability to share traffic and weather data with airlines and other users of our national airspace. The Committee makes this investment with the understanding that both the FAA and its NextGen partners put a high priority on sharing data over SWIM's secure and reliable architecture.

The agreement provides $9,000,000 for VHF Omnidirectional Radio Range (VOR) with Distance Measuring Equipment (DME), an increase of $2,000,000 above the budget request to address the rationalization and recapitalization of aging en route navigational aids. These additional funds are provided to expedite the issuance of a request for proposals to implement a service-based procurement for Very High Frequency (VHF), Omni-Directional Range (VOR) and Tactical Air Navigation (TACAN) systems during fiscal year 2017, and to accelerate the selection of a final contract.

FAA budget documents report high numbers of reimbursable positions, but it is unclear whether those employees perform reimbursable work for the majority of their time on duty. The FAA is directed to reclassify positions, as appropriate, in order to ensure that the classification of positions as reimbursable or direct accurately reflects employees' work.

Telecommunications carriers have signaled their intention of discontinuing Time-Division Multiplexing (TDM) based connections. FAA should prepare to adopt Internet Protocol (IP) connections across all national airspace system infrastructure, and it should utilize both near and long term strategies to manage this transition without impacts to air traffic services. Funding provided for two FAA programs—Surveillance Interface Modernization and Flight Interfacility Data Interface—will support the transition from TDM to IP telecommunications. FAA is encouraged to consider existing technology solutions that may be implemented while it continues to plan for modernization strategies.

RESEARCH, ENGINEERING, AND DEVELOPMENT

(AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND)

The agreement provides $176,500,000 for the FAA's research, engineering, and development activities, to remain available until September 30, 2019.

The agreement provides the following levels for specific programs:

Program	Request	Agreement
Fire Research & Safety	$7,925,000	$7,425,000
Propulsion & Fuel Systems	2,574,000	2,074,000
Advanced Materials /Structural Safety	4,113,000	6,500,000
Aircraft Icing/Digital System Safety/Cyber Security	5,102,000	5,102,000
Continued Air Worthiness	10,269,000	9,269,000
Aircraft Catastrophic Failure Prevention Research	1,528,000	1,528,000
Flightdeck/Maintenance/System Integration Human Factors	8,513,000	7,305,000
Safety System Management/Terminal Area Safety	7,000,000	6,500,000
Air Traffic Control/Technical Operations Human Factors	6,165,000	6,165,000
Aeromedical Research	9,538,000	8,538,000
Weather Research	17,976,000	15,476,000
Unmanned Aircraft Systems Research	8,422,000	20,035,000
NextGen—Alternative Fuels for General Aviation	5,792,000	7,000,000
Commercial Space Transportation Safety	2,953,000	2,453,000
NextGen—Wake Turbulence	8,609,000	8,609,000
NextGen—Air Ground Integration Human Factors	8,575,000	8,575,000
NextGen—Weather Technology in the Cockpit	4,059,000	4,059,000
NextGen—Information Security	1,000,000	1,000,000
Environment & Energy	15,013,000	16,013,000
NextGen Environmental Research—Aircraft Technologies, Fuels and Metrics	26,174,000	27,174,000
System Planning and Resource Management	2,788,000	2,288,000
WJHTC Lab Facilities	3,412,000	3,412,000
Total	167,500,000	176,500,000

Advanced material/structural safety.—The agreement provides $6,500,000 for Advanced Material/Structural Safety, of which $2,000,000 is for the FAA to work with public and private partners who provide leading-edge research, development and testing of composite materials and structures.

Unmanned aircraft systems research.—The agreement provides $20,035,000 for Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Research, an increase of $2,670,000 above the fiscal year 2016 enacted level, to address the host of research challenges associated with the integration of UAS into the NAS system. Of this amount, $3,650,000 is provided to the NextGen integrated laboratories, in partnership with NASA laboratories, to provide for proofs of concept supporting the integration of UAS into the national airspace. This effort will ensure interoperability with national airspace systems through the Unmanned Traffic Management system, which will create an air traffic control network for UAS that will have the capability to communicate with existing NAS infrastructure. In addition to the amount provided for UAS Research,

$10,000,000 is directed to support the expanded role of the Center of Excellence in the areas of UAS research, including cybersecurity, agricultural applications, beyond visual line of sight technology, counter-UAS detection technology, and continuation of air and ground collision studies. Furthermore, the Center of Excellence shall establish a UAS safety research facility to study appropriate safety standards for UAS and to develop and validate certification standards for such systems. Even with this additional funding, private sector contributions to the Center will likely continue to outmatch Federal investment.

The agreement provides a total of $43,187,000 for research related to environmental sustainability, of which $16,013,000 is for environment and energy, and $27,174,000 is for NextGen—Environmental research aircraft technologies, fuels, and metrics. The total level of funding supports the CLEEN program, as well as the Center of Excellence for alternative jet fuels and environment. The FAA is directed to use the increase in funding for the Center of Excellence, resulting in a total of $2,000,000 for the Center. The Committee further directs the FAA to coordinate with NASA and the Departments of Energy and Agriculture to continue research and development activities into the development and deployment of jet fuels as outlined in section 911(a) of Public Law 112–95, including feedstock logistics and all aspects of supply chains from feedstock through final combustion.

GRANTS-IN-AID FOR AIRPORTS

(LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION)

(LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)

(AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND)

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The agreement includes an obligation limitation of $3,350,000,000 and a liquidating cash appropriation of $3,750,000,000 to remain available until expended. Within the obligation limitation, the agreement provides not more than $107,691,000 for administrative expenses, no less than $15,000,000 for the airport cooperative research program, and no less than $31,375,000 for airport technology research.

Small community air service development program.—The agreement includes $10,000,000 under the obligation limitation to continue the small community air service development program (SCASDP) and directs the FAA to transfer these funds to the Office of the Secretary salaries and expenses appropriation.

Cost share.—The agreement includes a provision that allows small airports to continue contributing five percent of the total cost for unfinished phased projects that were underway prior to the passage of the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012.

Unmanned aircraft systems.—House Report 114–606 directs the FAA to establish a pilot program to deploy and evaluate counter-UAS detection technologies at three airports. The agreement supports this initiative and notes that the FAA is currently undertaking this effort at four airports while utilizing cooperative research agreements within the research account to leverage Federal funds at the UAS Center of Excellence.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

Section 110 allows no more than 600 technical staff-years at the Center for Advanced Aviation Systems Development.

Section 111 prohibits funds for adopting guidelines or regulations requiring airport sponsors to provide FAA ''without cost'' building construction or space.

Section 112 allows reimbursement for fees collected and credited under 49 U.S.C. 45303.

Section 113 allows reimbursement of funds for providing technical assistance to foreign aviation authorities to be credited to the operations account.

Section 114 prohibits funds for Sunday premium pay unless work was actually performed on a Sunday.

Section 115 prohibits funds in the Act from being used to buy store gift cards with Government issued credit cards.

Section 116 prohibits funds from being obligated or expended for retention bonuses for FAA employees without prior written approval of the DOT Assistant Secretary for Administration.

Section 117 requires the Secretary to block the display of an owner or operator's aircraft registration number in the Aircraft Situational Display to Industry program upon the request of an owner or operator.

Section 118 prohibits funds for salaries and expenses of more than nine political and Presidential appointees in the FAA.

Section 119 prohibits funds to increase fees under 49 U.S.C. 44721 until the FAA provides a report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations that justifies all fees related to aeronautical navigation products and explains how such fees are consistent with Executive Order 13642.

Section 119A requires the FAA to notify the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations at least 90 days before closing a regional operations center or reducing the services provided.

Section 119B prohibits funds from being used to change weight restrictions or prior permission rules at Teterboro Airport in New Jersey.

Section 119C prohibits funds from being used to withhold from consideration and approval certain applications for participation in the Contract Tower Program, or for re-evaluation of cost-share program participation, pending as of January 1, 2016.

Section 119D allows airports that met the 10,000 enplanement qualification for AIP funds in calendar year 2012 to continue to receive AIP funds in fiscal year 2017.

Section 119E modifies the Federal share for a primary non-hub airport located in a public lands State within 15 miles from the border of another public lands State to use the greater of the two State's Federal share.

Section 119F modifies requirements regarding the use of funds for runway safety repairs.

FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The agreement limits obligations for the administrative expenses of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to $432,547,000. In addition, the agreement provides $3,248,000 above this limitation for the administrative expenses of the Appalachian Regional Commission.

FEDERAL-AID HIGHWAYS

(LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)

(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

The agreement limits obligations for the federal-aid highways program to $43,266,100,000 in fiscal year 2017.

Bridge and structure product and technology innovations.—The Department is directed to provide a specific location for bridge structure stakeholders to find technically robust and unbiased information to evaluate innovations.

(LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION)

(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

The agreement provides a liquidating cash appropriation of $44,005,100,000, which is available until expended, to pay the outstanding obligations of the various highway programs at the levels provided in this Act and prior appropriations acts.

(RESCISSION)

(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

The agreement includes a permanent rescission of unobligated balances in the amount of $857,000,000 effective June 30, 2017.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

Section 120 distributes the federal-aid highways program obligation limitation.

Section 121 allows funds received by the Bureau of Transportation Statistics from the sale of data products to be credited to the federal-aid highways account.

Section 122 transfers $30,000,000 apportioned to the State of Virginia and the District of Columbia and sets aside no less than ten percent of the Federal Lands Transportation Program for the National Parks Service to fund certain bridge projects.

Section 123 provides requirements for any waiver of Buy America requirements.

Section 124 prohibits funds from being used to provide credit assistance under sections 603 and 604 of title 23, United States Code, unless the Secretary of Transportation notifies the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations, the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works, the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs, and the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure at least three days prior to credit application approval.

Section 125 requires 60-day notification to the Committees on Appropriations for any FASTLANE grants as authorized under 23 U.S.C. 117.

FEDERAL MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY OPERATIONS AND PROGRAMS

(LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION)

(LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)

(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

The agreement includes a liquidation of contract authorization and a limitation on obligations of $277,200,000 for the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA). Of this limitation, $9,180,000 is for research and technology programs and will remain available for obligation until September 30, 2019.

Commercial permitting and licensing.—The agreement directs the Department to carry out the pilot program required under section 5404 of the FAST Act and to deliver the report required under section 5404(e) of that same Act to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations. The agreement does not include any additional requirement to conduct evaluations of the merits of a pilot program for permitting states to license drivers 18 to 21 years old or to provide a separate report on related recommendations.

Heavy vehicle speed limiters.—In response to a 2006 petition from a coalition of trucking industry and safety advocates, NHTSA and FMCSA issued a joint proposed rule on August 26, 2016 requiring devices that limit maximum speeds on heavy-duty vehicles. The agreement directs the agencies to fully and adequately address all comments received from the public. The final rule should

address the impact of creating speed differentials on highways and consider the costs and benefits of applying the rule to existing heavy vehicles that are equipped with speed limiting devices.

MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY GRANTS

(LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION)

(LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)

(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

The agreement provides a liquidating cash appropriation and a limitation on obligations of $367,000,000 for motor carrier safety grants. The agreement allocates the total grant funding as follows:

Program	Funding
Motor carrier safety assistance program	$292,600,000
Commercial driver's license program implementation program	31,200,000
High priority activities program	42,200,000
Commercial motor vehicle operators grant program	1,000,000

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—FEDERAL MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

Section 130 subjects funds appropriated in this Act to the terms and conditions of section 350 of Public Law 107–87 and section 6901 of Public Law 110–28.

Section 131 requires FMCSA to send notice of 49 CFR section 385.308 violations by certified mail, registered mail, or some other manner of delivery which records receipt of the notice by the persons responsible for the violations.

Section 132 prohibits funds from being used for a wireless roadside inspection program until 180 days after the Secretary makes specific certifications to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations.

NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

OPERATIONS AND RESEARCH

The agreement provides $180,075,000 from the general fund for operations and research. Of this amount, $20,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2018.

The agreement provides not less than $23,510,000 for Rulemaking programs, $36,994,000 for Enforcement programs, and $41,600,000 for Research and Analysis programs. Within Enforcement programs, the agreement provides a $17,000,000 increase for the Office of Defects Investigation and $1,500,000 to fund grants to States that use vehicle registrations to notify vehicle owners and lessees of open recalls as authorized under Section 24105 of the FAST Act. Within Research and Analysis programs, the agreement provides a $6,500,000 increase for Vehicle Electronics and Emerging Technologies. The Department is directed to invest all program increases in a manner consistent with the presentation of budgetary resources included in the President's Budget Fiscal Year 2017 Budget Estimates for the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).

The agreement fully funds FTE increases provided in fiscal year 2016 and does not prohibit funding for new positions.

OPERATIONS AND RESEARCH

(LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION)

(LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)

(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

The agreement provides a liquidating cash appropriation and an obligation limitation of $145,900,000, which reflects the authorized level of contract authority. Of the total, $140,700,000 is provided for the programs authorized under 23 U.S.C. 403, and $5,200,000 is for the National Driver Register. Of the total amount provided under this heading, $20,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2018 and shall be in addition to any limitation imposed on obligations in future fiscal years.

The agreement includes up to $6,500,000 for a high visibility enforcement paid-media campaign in the area of highway-rail grade crossing safety. Consistent with the FAST Act, the agreement includes $5,494,000 for in-vehicle alcohol detection device research.

The agreement fully funds FTE increases provided in fiscal year 2016 and does not prohibit funding for new positions.

HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY GRANTS

(LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION)

(LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)

(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

The agreement provides a liquidating cash appropriation and an obligation limitation of $585,372,000 for highway traffic safety grants. The agreement allocates funding as follows:

Highway safety programs (section 402)	$252,300,000
National priority safety programs (section 405)	277,500,000
High visibility enforcement program (section 404)	29,500,000
Administrative expenses	26,072,000
Total:	$585,372,000

Consistent with the FAST Act, the agreement includes $5,494,000 for in-vehicle alcohol detection device research within the highway safety programs funded under the Operations and Research heading. The agreement does not include additional funding for this research as a set-aside within Highway Traffic Safety grants.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

Section 140 provides funding for travel and related expenses for state management reviews and highway safety core competency development training.

Section 141 exempts obligation authority made available in previous public laws from the obligation limitations set for the current year.

Section 142 prohibits funds in the Act for the National Roadside Survey.

Section 143 prohibits funds from being used to mandate global positioning systems in private vehicles without consideration of privacy concerns.

FEDERAL RAILROAD ADMINISTRATION

SAFETY AND OPERATIONS

The agreement provides $218,298,000 for safety and operations of the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA). Of the funds provided, $15,900,000 is available until expended. The agreement annualizes 32 new safety personnel provided in fiscal year 2016, provides no additional staff in fiscal year 2017, and fully funds activities related to the safe transportation of energy products. In addition, the agreement funds the following priorities:

Safe Transportation of Energy Products	$2,000,000
National Bridge Inventory Web-based portal	500,000
Automated Track Inspection Program	15,090,000
Southeast Rail Commission	1,000,000
Positive Train Control	6,600,000

RAILROAD RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

The agreement provides $40,100,000, to remain available until expended, for railroad research and development. The agreement supports $2,000,000 to improve safety practices and training for Class II and Class III freight railroads; $2,000,000 for the safe transportation of energy products; and $1,000,000 for research with universities on intelligent railroad systems. In addition, the Administrator is directed to undertake research and development activities in all disciplines—track research, rolling stock, signals, train control and communication, human factors and railroad systems—in order to maximize rail safety gains and direct funding increases to research related to causes of recent accidents.

RAILROAD REHABILITATION AND IMPROVEMENT FINANCING PROGRAM

The agreement authorizes the Secretary to issue notes or other obligations pursuant to sections 501 through 504 of P.L. 94–210. The agreement prohibits new direct loans or loan guarantee commitments using Federal funds for the credit risk premium during fiscal year 2017, except for Federal funds awarded in accordance with section 3028(c) of P.L. 114–94.

FEDERAL-STATE PARTNERSHIP FOR STATE OF GOOD REPAIR GRANTS

The agreement provides $25,000,000, to remain available until expended, for grants authorized by section 24911 of title 49, United States Code, and allows the Secretary to withhold up to one percent for project management and oversight of these grants. The agreement directs FRA to consider the needs of the entire national rail network that meet the eligibility requirements of section 24911 of title 49, United States Code.

CONSOLIDATED RAIL INFRASTRUCTURE AND SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS GRANTS

The agreement provides $68,000,000, to remain available until expended, for consolidated rail infrastructure and safety improvement grants authorized by 24407(c)(1) through 24407(c)(10) of title 49 United States Code, of which at least 25 percent shall be available for projects in rural areas. Of the total amount provided, $10,000,000 shall be for projects eligible under section 24407(c)(2) of title 49, United States Code, that contribute to the initiation or restoration of intercity passenger rail service. The agreement allows the Secretary to withhold up to one percent for project management and oversight of these grants.

RESTORATION AND ENHANCEMENT GRANTS

The agreement provides a total of $5,000,000, to remain available until expended, for restoration and enhancement grants authorized by section 24408 of title 49, U.S.C. The agreement allows the Secretary to withhold up to one percent for project management and oversight of these grants.

THE NATIONAL RAILROAD PASSENGER CORPORATION (AMTRAK)

The agreement directs Amtrak and FRA to submit a detailed congressional budget justification consistent with the structure authorized in P.L. 114–94, to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations for fiscal year 2018. The agreement also directs FRA to coordinate with Amtrak to complete the feasibility study on establishing service at airports that are adjacent to the mainline of the Northeast Corridor no later than 60 days after enactment of this Act, and directs Amtrak to provide a report no later than 120 days after enactment of this Act comparing actual food and beverage savings for fiscal year 2016 with projections.

NORTHEAST CORRIDOR GRANTS TO THE NATIONAL RAILROAD PASSENGER CORPORATION

The agreement provides $328,000,000 to allow the Secretary to make grants for activities associated with the Northeast Corridor (NEC), defined as the main line between Boston, Massachusetts and the District of Columbia, and the facilities and services used to operate and maintain the line. In addition, the agreement directs all operating profits related to the NEC to be assigned and used on the NEC, as required by section 24317(c)(1)(C) of title 49, United States Code. Amtrak projects a fiscal year 2017 net operating profit of $397,400,000 on the NEC, yielding a total funding level of $725,400,000 for the NEC.

The agreement allows Amtrak to undertake new capital projects and encourages Amtrak to prioritize strategic rail infrastructure improvements at critical points in the rail network that would improve current services or create new capacity.

The agreement allows Amtrak to transfer funding between the NEC and the National Network consistent with requirements under section 24317(f) and (g) of title 49, United States Code and requires Amtrak to report the amount of any transfer, the purpose, and effect on services consistent with section 24317(g)(2) of title 49, United States Code.

The agreement allows the Secretary to retain up to one-half of one percent of the total provided to Amtrak for project management and oversight costs and requires not less than $50,000,000 to bring Amtrak-served facilities and stations into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. It also allows up to $5,000,000 of the Northeast Corridor Grants to fund the Northeast Corridor Commission expenses.

NATIONAL NETWORK GRANTS TO THE NATIONAL RAILROAD PASSENGER CORPORATION

The agreement provides $1,167,000,000 to allow the Secretary to make grants for activities associated with the National Network. National Network Grants provide operating and capital funding for expenses of Amtrak's entire network, including long-distance routes that operate on the NEC. The agreement also provides that the Secretary may retain up to an additional $2,000,000 to fund expenses associated with the state supported route committee.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—FEDERAL RAILROAD ADMINISTRATION

Section 150 limits overtime to $35,000 per employee. The agreement allows Amtrak's president to waive this restriction for specific employees for safety or operational efficiency reasons. Amtrak's president is required to delineate the reasons for granting such waiver, provide quarterly reports within 30 days of the quarter's end on cap waivers granted, and amounts paid above the cap for each month. The agreement also requires Amtrak's president to provide an annual report by March 1, 2017 that summarizes Amtrak's total overtime expenses incurred by the corporation in 2016 and the three prior years, and the number of employees receiving overtime cap waivers and total overtime payments resulting from waivers by month of the 2016 calendar year and the three prior calendar years.

FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

The agreement provides $113,165,000 for the administrative expenses of the Federal Transit Administration (FTA).

TRANSIT FORMULA GRANTS

(LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION)

(LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)

(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

The agreement limits obligations from the Mass Transit Account for transit formula grants to $9,733,706,043 as authorized by the FAST Act. Funds are to be distributed as authorized. Further, the agreement provides $10,800,000,000 for the liquidation of contract authority.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING

The agreement provides $5,000,000 for research activities under 49 U.S.C. 5314.

CAPITAL INVESTMENT GRANTS

The agreement provides $2,412,631,000 for fixed-guideway projects. Further, the agreement directs FTA to use $117,839,000 in recaptured funds for fixed-guideway projects. Of the funds provided, $1,459,790,000 is available for new starts projects with signed full funding grant agreements (FFGAs), $285,000,000 is available for new starts projects anticipated to enter into a signed FFGA in 2017, $100,000,000 is available for the signed core capacity project, $232,850,000 is available for projects anticipated to enter into a core capacity FFGA in 2017, $407,830,000 is available for small starts projects, $25,000,000 is available for oversight activities, and $20,000,000 is for an expedited project delivery pilot, as authorized by section 3005(b) of the FAST Act. The Secretary shall administer funding as directed in the following tables for each project funded within the existing FFGAs, new FFGAs, Core Capacity FFGAs, new Core Capacity FFGAs, and Small Starts categories.

Signed FFGAs		
California	San Jose Silicon Valley Berryessa Extension	$100,000,000
California	San Francisco Third Street Light Rail Central Subway	150,000,000
California	LA Regional Connector Transit Corridor	100,000,000
California	LA Westside Purple Line Extension	100,000,000
California	LA Westside Subway Extension Section 2	100,000,000
California	San Diego Mid-Coast Light Rail Extension	50,000,000
Colorado	Denver RTD Eagle	150,000,000
Florida	Central Florida Commuter Rail Transit Phase 2 South	16,060,000
Hawaii	Honolulu High Capacity Transit Corridor	243,730,000
Massachusetts	Boston Green Line Extension	150,000,000
North Carolina	Charlotte Blue Line Extension	100,000,000
Oregon	Portland—Milwaukie LRT	100,000,000
Texas	Fort Worth TEX Rail	100,000,000
	Signed FFGAs subtotal	$1,459,790,000
New FFGAs		
California	Santa Ana and Garden Grove Streetcar	$50,000,000
Maryland	National Capital Purple Line	125,000,000
Minnesota	Minneapolis Southwest LRT	10,000,000
Washington	Seattle Lynnwood Link Extension	100,000,000
	New FFGAs subtotal	$285,000,000
Signed Core Capacity FFGA		
Illinois	Chicago Red and Purple Modernization Phase 1	$100,000,000
	Signed Core Capacity FFGA subtotal	$100,000,000
New Core Capacity FFGAs		
California	San Carlos Peninsula Corridor Electrification Project	$100,000,000
New York	Canarsie Power Improvements	83,680,000
Texas	Dallas DART Red and Blue Line Platform Extension	49,170,000
	New Core Capacity FFGAs subtotal	$232,850,000
Small Starts		
Arizona	Tempe Streetcar	$50,000,000
California	Sacramento Downtown Riverfront Streetcar	50,000,000
Florida	Fort Lauderdale Wave Streetcar	11,010,000
Florida	Jacksonville First Coast Flyer East Corridor BRT	16,930,000

Indiana	Indianapolis Red Line All-Electric BRT	50,000,000
Michigan	Grand Rapids, Laker Line BRT	56,810,000
Missouri	Kansas City, Prospect MAX Bus Rapid Transit	29,890,000
New Mexico	Albuquerque Rapid Transit Project	50,000,000
Washington	Everett Swift II BRT	43,190,000
Washington	Seattle Center City Connector	50,000,000
	Small Starts subtotal	$407,830,000

FTA is no longer directed to allocate no more than $100,000,000 per project for core capacity, small starts, and expedited delivery projects. Furthermore, GAO is no longer directed to report on the construction costs of transit capital projects in the United States.

GRANTS TO THE WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY

The agreement provides $150,000,000 to carry out section 601 of division B of Public Law 110–432 to remain available until expended. Prior to approving grants, the Secretary shall certify WMATA is making progress to improve its safety management system in response to FTA's 2015 safety management inspection. GAO is no longer directed to report on WMATA's plans for future maintenance, repairs, and construction, or to evaluate safety improvement measures, efficiency, and cost-effectiveness.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

(INCLUDING RESCISSION)

Section 160 exempts previously made transit obligations from limitations on obligations.

Section 161 allows funds provided in this Act for fixed guideway capital investment projects that remain unobligated by September 30, 2021 be available for projects eligible to use the funds for the purposes for which they were originally provided.

Section 162 allows for the transfer of appropriations made prior to October 1, 2016 from older accounts to be merged into new accounts with similar current activities.

Section 163 prohibits funds in this Act from being used to advance a specific transit line in Harris County, Texas without benefit of a local election.

Section 164 rescinds any unobligated balances from funding provided in fiscal year 2012 or earlier from the job access and reverse commute program, and makes them available for projects under 49 U.S.C. 5309(q).

Section 165 amends title 49 to create a rule allowing small transit operators to use urban area formula grants for operating assistance.

SAINT LAWRENCE SEAWAY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

(HARBOR MAINTENANCE TRUST FUND)

The agreement provides $36,028,000 for the operations, maintenance, and capital asset renewal program of the Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation (SLSDC). SLSDC is directed to submit an annual report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations on its asset renewal program activities by April 30, 2017.

MARITIME ADMINISTRATION

MARITIME SECURITY PROGRAM

The agreement provides the authorized level of $300,000,000 for the maritime security program. Funds are available until expended.

OPERATIONS AND TRAINING

The agreement provides a total of $175,560,000 for the Maritime Administration's (MARAD) operations and training account.

For the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy (USMMA), the bill provides a total of $83,218,000. Of the funds provided, $69,000,000 is for Academy operations, $14,218,000 is for the capital improvement program, $3,000,000 of which is for maintenance, repairs and equipment. The agreement directs MARAD to utilize the resources provided to fully meet the staffing, support and training needs at the Academy to address the prevention of sexual assault and sexual harassment.

The agreement provides a total of $35,200,000 for the state maritime academies, of which $3,000,000 is for direct payments, $2,400,000 is for student incentive payments, $22,000,000 is for schoolship maintenance and repair, $6,000,000 is for the design of a new common schoolship, and $1,800,000 is for fuel assistance.

Finally, the agreement provides a total of $57,142,000 for MARAD headquarters, regional offices, and maritime program expenses. Of the funds provided, $3,000,000 is for the maritime environmental and technical assistance program as authorized by 46 U.S.C. 50307, and $5,000,000 is for the short sea transportation program authorized by 46 U.S.C. 55601(b)(1) and (3). The agreement directs MARAD to manage its headquarters and regional office resources within the amounts provided and to detail any changes from the budget request in the operating plan.

The agreement requires MARAD to submit the biennial survey and report on sexual assault and sexual harassment at the Academy as required pursuant to section 3507 of P.L. 110–418 to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations no later than January 12, 2018. Further, the agreement directs the Inspector General to continue to review the implementation of the Secretary's sexual assault and sexual harassment action plan.

ASSISTANCE TO SMALL SHIPYARDS

The agreement provides $10,000,000 for the small shipyard grant program. Funds remain available until expended.

SHIP DISPOSAL

The agreement provides $34,000,000, to remain available until expended, for the disposal of obsolete vessels of the National Defense Reserve Fleet. The agreement directs that $24,000,000 is for the decommissioning of the *N.S. Savannah*, and the remaining $10,000,000 be used to first dispose of ships held in the Suisun Bay Reserve Fleet to comply with the April 2010 California court consent decree.

MARITIME GUARANTEED LOAN (TITLE XI) PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The agreement provides a total of $3,000,000 for the Title XI program. This amount shall be transferred to MARAD's operations and training account for administrative expenses.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—MARITIME ADMINISTRATION

Section 170 authorizes MARAD to furnish utilities and services and make necessary repairs in connection with any lease, contract, or occupancy involving Government property under control of MARAD, and allow payments received to be credited to the Treasury and remain available until expended.

Section 171 prohibits a fee-for-service contract for vessel disposal, scrapping or recycling unless a qualified domestic ship recycler will pay for the vessel.

PIPELINE AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

OPERATIONAL EXPENSES

The agreement provides $22,500,000 for the necessary operational expenses of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA). Within this amount, the agreement includes $1,500,000 for Pipeline Safety Information Grants to Communities as authorized under section 60130 of title 49, United States Code.

Comprehensive oil spill response plans.—PHMSA is directed to issue a final rulemaking to expand the applicability of comprehensive oil spill response plans no later than August 1, 2017.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SAFETY

The agreement provides $57,000,000 for the agency's hazardous materials safety functions. Of this amount, $7,570,000 shall be available until September 30, 2019, and $800,000 in fees collected under 49 U.S.C. 5108(g) shall be deposited in the general fund as offsetting receipts. Funds made available until September 30, 2019 are for long-term research and development contracts.

PIPELINE SAFETY

(PIPELINE SAFETY FUND)

(OIL SPILL LIABILITY TRUST FUND)

The agreement provides $156,288,000 for pipeline safety. Of that amount, $20,288,000 is derived from the oil spill liability trust fund, to remain available until September 30, 2019, $128,000,000 is derived from the pipeline safety fund, of which $63,335,000 is available until September 30, 2019, and $8,000,000 is derived from the Underground Natural Gas Storage Facility Safety Account of the Pipeline Safety Fund for the purpose of carrying out section 12 of the PIPES Act of 2016, of which $6,000,000 is available until September 30, 2019.

The agreement includes $12,000,000 for research and development, of which up to $2,000,000 is for the pipeline safety research competitive academic agreement program. The agreement also includes $52,559,000 for state pipeline safety grants, $1,500,000 for state damage prevention grants, and $1,058,000 for the one-call state grant program. The agreement includes full funding for additional FTE provided in fiscal year 2016 but does not include funding increases for additional personnel requested for fiscal year 2017.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS GRANTS

(EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS FUND)

The agreement provides an obligation limitation of $28,318,000 for emergency preparedness grants. The agreement provides PHMSA the authority to use prior year carryover and recaptures to develop a hazardous materials response training curriculum for emergency responders, and to carry out activities authorized by 46 U.S.C. 5116(a)(1)(C) and 5116(i).

Further, the amount of funding provided under this account that is available for administrative costs is increased from 2 percent to 4 percent.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement provides $90,152,000 for the salaries and expenses for the Office of Inspector General.

GENERAL PROVISIONS—DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Section 180 provides authorization for DOT to maintain and operate aircraft, hire passenger motor vehicles and aircraft, purchase liability insurance, buy uniforms, or allowances therefor.

Section 181 limits appropriations for services authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109 to the rate permitted for an Executive Level IV.

Section 182 prohibits more than 110 political and Presidential appointees in DOT, and restricts the detailing of these personnel outside of DOT.

Section 183 prohibits recipients of funds in this Act from disseminating personal information obtained by state DMVs in connection to motor vehicle records with an exception.

Section 184 stipulates that revenue collected by FHWA and FRA from States, counties, municipalities, other public authorities, and private sources for training be transferred into specific accounts within the agency with an exception.

Section 185 prohibits DOT from using funds for grants of $500,000 or more from any mode at DOT, unless DOT gives a 3-day advance notice to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations. Also requires notice of any ''quick release'' of funds from FHWA's emergency relief program, and prohibits notifications from involving funds not available for obligation. Requires DOT to provide a comprehensive list of all loans, loan guarantees, lines of credit, and discretionary grants that will be announced with a 3-day advance notice to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations.

Section 186 allows funds received from rebates, refunds, and similar sources to be credited to appropriations of DOT.

Section 187 allows amounts from improper payments to a third party contractor that are lawfully recovered by DOT to be made available to cover expenses incurred in recovery of such payments.

Section 188 requires that reprogramming actions have to be approved or denied by the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations, and reprogramming notifications shall be transmitted solely to the Appropriations Committees.

Section 189 allows funds appropriated to modal administrations to be obligated for the Office of the Secretary for costs related to assessments only when such funds provide a direct benefit to that modal administration.

Section 190 authorizes the Secretary to carry out a program that establishes uniform standards for developing and supporting agency transit pass and transit benefits, including distribution of transit benefits.

Section 191 prohibits the use of funds to implement any geographic, economic, or other hiring preference not otherwise authorized by law, unless certain requirements are met related to availability of local labor, displacement of existing employees, and delays in transportation plans.

Section 192 amends section 5303(r)(2)(C) of title 49, United States Code regarding a bi-state metropolitan planning organization.

TITLE II—DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

EXECUTIVE OFFICES

The agreement includes $14,000,000 for the salaries and expenses for Executive Offices, which shall be comprised of seven offices including Offices of the Secretary, Deputy Secretary, Adjudicatory Services, Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations, Public Affairs, Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization, and the Center for Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships. The agreement includes a provision limiting official reception and representation expenses to no more than $25,000. No funding is provided for the Departmental Enforcement Center (DEC) under this heading.

Departmental Enforcement Center.—The agreement does not remove the DEC from the Office of General Counsel and require the DEC to report directly to the Deputy Secretary. Instead, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) is directed to assess the effectiveness of the DEC to meet the goal of resolving issues of non-compliance with requirements for owners of public housing and multifamily housing properties, including physical and financial non-compliance. GAO is further directed to report its findings to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations within 180 days of enactment of this Act.

The Department is directed to report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations within 60 days of enactment of this Act on the results of reviews of Memoranda of Understanding between the DEC and program offices, and shall also include in that same report responses to the Office of Inspector General's evaluation of the DEC and any related recommendations.

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT OFFICES

The agreement provides $517,647,000 for Administrative Support Offices. Funds are provided as follows:

Office of the Chief Financial Officer	$53,000,000
Office of the General Counsel	95,250,000
Office of Administration	206,500,000
Office of the Chief Human Capital Officer	40,250,000
Office of Field Policy and Management	51,000,000
Office of the Chief Procurement Officer	18,067,000
Office of Departmental Equal Employment Opportunity	3,830,000
Office of Strategic Planning and Management	4,500,000
Office of the Chief Information Officer	45,250,000
Total	$517,647,000

The agreement provides that, of the amounts provided for the Office of Administration, no less than $4,500,000 is for the cost of consolidation and reconfiguration of space in the Weaver Building, in accordance with the space consolidation plan.

PROGRAM OFFICE SALARIES AND EXPENSES

PUBLIC AND INDIAN HOUSING

The agreement provides $216,000,000 for the salaries and expenses for the Office of Public and Indian Housing.

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

The agreement provides $110,000,000 for the salaries and expenses for the Office of Community Planning and Development.

HOUSING

The agreement provides $392,000,000 for the salaries and expenses for the Office of Housing. Of this amount, $5,000,000 is provided for Federal Housing Administration quality assurance, compliance, and portfolio analytics improvements, as requested in the President's Budget.

POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH

The agreement provides $24,000,000 for the salaries and expenses for the Office of Policy Development and Research.

FAIR HOUSING AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

The agreement provides $72,000,000 for the salaries and expenses for the Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity.

OFFICE OF LEAD HAZARD CONTROL AND HEALTHY HOMES

The agreement provides $9,353,000 for the salaries and expenses for the Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes.

WORKING CAPITAL FUND

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The agreement includes an account entitled ''Working Capital Fund'' and provides the Secretary with the authority to transfer amounts provided in this title for salaries and expenses, except those for the Office of Inspector General, to this account for the purpose of funding centralized activities.

PUBLIC AND INDIAN HOUSING

TENANT–BASED RENTAL ASSISTANCE

The agreement provides $20,292,000,000 for all tenant-based Section 8 activities under the Tenant-Based Rental Assistance Account, to remain available until expended. Of this amount, $16,292,000,000 is available on October 1, 2016, and $4,000,000,000 is available on October 1, 2017. Language is included designating funds provided as follows:

Activity	Agreement
Voucher Renewals	$18,355,000,000
Tenant Protection Vouchers	110,000,000
Administrative Fees	1,650,000,000
Section 811 Vouchers	120,000,000
Tribal HUD–VASH renewals	7,000,000
HUD–VASH Incremental Vouchers	40,000,000
Family Unification Program Vouchers	10,000,000

The agreement includes a provision requiring the notification of obligations to Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) no later than 60 days after enactment of this Act or by March 1, 2017.

The agreement includes language that allows the Secretary to consider PHAs' net restricted assets (NRA) balances when determining allocations.

The agreement provides $120,000,000 for Section 811 mainstream vouchers, an increase of $10,000,000 above the budget request. These resources will support Section 811 mainstream voucher renewals and related administrative fees, and remaining funding will provide additional vouchers and related administrative fees for non-elderly disabled individuals.

The agreement includes $40,000,000 for new incremental vouchers under the HUD–Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing Program (HUD–VASH).

The agreement includes $10,000,000 for new incremental Family Unification Program (FUP) vouchers.

The agreement amends the Senate Report 114–243 directive for HUD to establish and implement a process that improves data collection and analysis of actions PHAs are taking to comply with lead-based paint regulations in housing choice voucher units. The agreement requires HUD to provide this report by June 30, 2017, and report semi-annually to the Committees on Appropriations on its progress.

HOUSING CERTIFICATE FUND

(INCLUDING RESCISSIONS)

The agreement includes language allowing unobligated balances in the Housing Certificate Fund to be used for renewal of or

amendments to section 8 project-based contracts and for performance-based contract administrators.

PUBLIC HOUSING CAPITAL FUND

The agreement provides $1,941,500,000 for the Public Housing Capital Fund. The agreement provides up to $10,000,000 for Public Housing Financial and Physical Assessment activities, up to $1,000,000 for administrative and judicial receiverships, not to exceed $21,500,000 for emergency capital needs, of which not less than $5,000,000 is for safety and security measures, $35,000,000 for supportive services, service coordinators and congregate services, and up to $15,000,000 for the Jobs-Plus Pilot initiative.

The agreement amends the Senate Report 114–243 directive for HUD to establish and implement a process that improves data collection and analysis of actions PHAs are taking to comply with lead-based paint regulations in public housing units. The agreement requires HUD to provide this report by June 30, 2017, and report semi-annually to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations on its progress.

The Department is directed to submit to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations within 90 days of enactment of this Act a report on Real Estate Assessment Center (REAC) inspections of all HUD assisted and or insured properties. This report shall include: the percentage of all inspected properties that received a REAC-inspected score of less than 65 since calendar year 2013; the number of properties in which the most recent REAC-inspected score represented a decline relative to the previous REAC score; a list of the 10 metropolitan statistical areas with the lowest average REAC-inspected scores for all inspected properties; and a list of the 10 States with the lowest average REAC-inspected scores for all inspected properties.

The Government Accountability Office is directed to report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations within 180 days of enactment of this Act on REAC. This evaluation shall assess the effectiveness of: REAC inspections of HUD assisted and or insured properties; HUD's selection and oversight of contractors that perform physical inspections; the property selection process; and enforcement mechanisms.

PUBLIC HOUSING OPERATING FUND

The agreement provides $4,400,000,000 for the Public Housing Operating Fund.

CHOICE NEIGHBORHOODS INITIATIVE

The agreement provides $137,500,000 for the Choice Neighborhoods Initiative. The agreement includes language requiring that no less than $50,000,000 be made available to Public Housing Authorities, and provides up to $5,000,000 to assist communities in developing strategies for implementing the program with community notice and input.

The Secretary is directed to give priority consideration to grantees that have been previously awarded planning grants when making implementation grant awards.

FAMILY SELF–SUFFICIENCY

The agreement provides $75,000,000 for the Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) program to support service coordinators who serve residents in both the public housing and voucher programs.

NATIVE AMERICAN HOUSING BLOCK GRANTS

The agreement provides $654,000,000 for Native American Housing Block Grants, to remain available until September 30, 2021. The agreement provides $3,500,000 for training and technical assistance, with no less than $2,000,000 for a national organization as authorized by section 703 of NAHASDA. The agreement provides $3,500,000 for inspections, contracting expertise, training, and technical assistance related to funding provided for the needs of Native Americans; and $2,000,000 to subsidize a loan level of $17,857,142, as authorized by title VI of NAHASDA.

The agreement includes language to withhold a tribes' formula allocation funding from any grantee that has an unexpended balance greater than the sum of its prior three years' formula allocation, unless the grantee's formula allocation is less than $5,000,000.

The agreement does not include direction included in the Senate Report 114–243 preventing technical assistance funds provided in this account from being awarded as part of the Department's Community Compass initiative.

INDIAN HOUSING LOAN GUARANTEE FUND PROGRAM ACCOUNT

The agreement provides $7,227,000, to remain available until expended, to subsidize a total loan level of up to $1,762,682,927. Within these amounts, $1,727,000 is provided for the cost of guaranteed loans for the construction of rental housing for law enforcement, healthcare, educational, technical and other skilled workers, to subsidize loan principal up to $421,219,512.

NATIVE HAWAIIAN HOUSING BLOCK GRANT

The agreement provides $2,000,000 for the Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant program, to remain available until September 30, 2021.

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONS WITH AIDS

The agreement provides $356,000,000 for the housing opportunities for persons with AIDS program, to remain available until September 30, 2018, except for amounts allocated pursuant to 854(c)(5) which are available until September 30, 2019. The agreement includes a provision that requires HUD to renew all expiring supportive housing contract commitments made in fiscal year 2010 and prior years that meet all program requirements before awarding funds for any new contract commitments.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUND

The agreement provides $3,060,000,000 for the community development fund, to remain available until September 30, 2019. Of the total, the agreement provides $3,000,000,000 in formula funding and $60,000,000 for Indian tribes, of which up to $4,000,000 is available for imminent health and safety emergencies.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT LOAN GUARANTEES PROGRAM ACCOUNT

The agreement does not provide a credit subsidy for this program, but instead provides the authority to collect fees from borrowers adequate to result in a subsidy cost of zero. The agreement also provides an aggregate limitation on commitments of no more than $300,000,000 for loan guarantees under section 108.

HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM

The agreement provides $950,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2020, for the home investment partnerships program.

SELF-HELP AND ASSISTED HOMEOWNERSHIP OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM

The agreement provides a total of $54,000,000 for this account, of which $50,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2019, in the following amounts and for the following purposes: $10,000,000 for the self-help and assisted homeownership opportunity program; $35,000,000 for the second, third and fourth capacity building activities authorized under section 4(a) of the HUD Demonstration Act of 1993, of which not less than $5,000,000 shall be for rural capacity building activities; and $5,000,000 for capacity building activities by national organizations with expertise in rural housing development. The remaining $4,000,000 is available until expended for a program to rehabilitate and modify homes of disabled or low-income veterans as authorized under section 1079 of Public Law 113–291.

HOMELESS ASSISTANCE GRANTS

The agreement provides $2,383,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019, for homeless assistance grants. Of the amount provided, not less than $310,000,000 is for the emergency solutions grants program, of which, $40,000,000 shall be for grants for rapid re-housing or other critical activities to assist communities that lost significant capacity to serve the homeless after January 1, 2016; not less than $2,018,000,000 shall be for the continuum of care and rural housing stability assistance programs; up to $12,000,000 shall be for the national homeless data analysis project; and up to $43,000,000 shall be for projects in up to 11 communities to demonstrate how a comprehensive approach to serving homeless youth can reduce youth homelessness. Of the amounts provided for the national homeless data analysis project, no less than $5,000,000 shall be used for competitive grants to continuum of care grantees to improve their homeless management information systems, including improvements to physical infrastructure, functionality, data collection, data quality, and data analysis.

HOUSING PROGRAMS

PROJECT-BASED RENTAL ASSISTANCE

The agreement provides $10,416,000,000 for project-based rental assistance activities, of which not to exceed $235,000,000 is for performance-based contract administrators. The agreement also provides an additional advance appropriation of $400,000,000 to be made available on October 1, 2017. The agreement allows the Secretary to use project funds held in residual receipt accounts, unobligated balances, including recaptures, and carryover for program activities.

HOUSING FOR THE ELDERLY

The agreement provides $502,400,000 for the section 202 program to be available until September 30, 2020, of which $10,000,000 is for new capital advances and project-based rental assistance contracts, or for new senior preservation rental assistance contracts, and up to $75,000,000 shall be for service coordinators and existing congregate service grants. The appropriation plus carryover balances and residual receipts fully funds all renewal, amendments, and property inspections of project-based rental assistance contracts; senior preservation rental assistance contracts; service coordinators; and existing congregate service grants.

HOUSING FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

The agreement provides $146,200,000 for the section 811 program to be available until September 30, 2020. The appropriation plus carryover balances and residual receipts fully funds all project-based rental assistance contract amendments and renewals. The agreement does not allow the Secretary to use these resources for any other purpose than renewals, amendments, and property inspections.

HOUSING COUNSELING ASSISTANCE

The agreement provides $55,000,000 for housing counseling assistance, including up to $4,500,000 for administrative contract services, to remain available until September 30, 2018. The agreement requires the Secretary to award grants within 180 days of enactment of this Act, and allows the Secretary to enter into multiyear grant agreements, subject to the availability of annual appropriations.

RENTAL HOUSING ASSISTANCE

The agreement provides $20,000,000 for the rental housing assistance program and allows HUD to use funds, including unobligated balances and recaptured amounts, for one year contract extensions.

PAYMENT TO MANUFACTURED HOUSING FEES TRUST FUND

The agreement provides $10,500,000 for the manufactured housing standards programs, of which $10,500,000 is to be derived from fees collected and deposited in the Manufactured Housing Fees Trust Fund.

FEDERAL HOUSING ADMINISTRATION

MUTUAL MORTGAGE INSURANCE PROGRAM ACCOUNT

The agreement establishes a limitation of $400,000,000,000 on commitments to guarantee single-family loans during fiscal year 2017, and provides that such commitment authority shall be available until September 30, 2018. The agreement also provides $130,000,000 for administrative contract expenses, and provides an additional $1,400 for administrative contract expenses up to $30,000,000, for each $1,000,000 in additional guaranteed loan commitments, if guaranteed loan commitment levels exceed $200,000,000,000 by April 1, 2017.

GENERAL AND SPECIAL RISK PROGRAM ACCOUNT

The agreement establishes a $30,000,000,000 limitation on multifamily and specialized loan guarantees during fiscal year 2017, and provides that such commitment authority shall be available until September 30, 2018.

GOVERNMENT NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION

GUARANTEES OF MORTGAGE-BACKED SECURITIES LOAN GUARANTEE PROGRAM ACCOUNT

The agreement establishes a limitation of up to $500,000,000,000 for new commitments during fiscal year 2017, which shall be available until September 30, 2018. The agreement also provides $23,000,000 for salaries and expenses for the Government National Mortgage Association during fiscal year 2017. The agreement increases salaries and expenses by $100 for each $1,000,000 in additional guaranteed loan commitments, up to a maximum of $3,000,000, if guaranteed loan commitments exceed $155,000,000,000 by April 1, 2017.

POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH

RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY

The agreement provides $89,000,000 for research and technology activities, and technical assistance, available until September 30, 2018.

The agreement provides $16,000,000 for both on-going and new research, demonstrations, and evaluations. HUD is directed to provide $6,000,000 for a Moving to Work demonstration evaluation, $1,350,000 for phase three of a pre-purchase counseling demonstration, $6,000,000 for continued evaluation of rent reform, $300,000 for the family options analysis, and $1,000,000 for a CDBG small community income study.

The agreement provides not less than $23,000,000 for technical assistance.

Further, $41,500,000 is provided for various housing market surveys and $8,500,000 is for other research support, studies and partnerships, of which $5,700,000 is for research support and dissemination, $600,000 is for data acquisition, $1,000,000 is for housing finance studies, $1,000,000 is for research partnerships, and $200,000 is for housing technology.

FAIR HOUSING AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

FAIR HOUSING ACTIVITIES

The agreement provides $65,300,000 for fair housing activities, of which $39,200,000 is for the Fair Housing Initiatives Program (FHIP), $24,300,000 is for the Fair Housing Assistance Program, $1,500,000 is for the National Fair Housing Training Academy, and $300,000 is for translated materials. Of the funds available for FHIP, not less than $7,450,000 is available for education and outreach programs. The agreement directs HUD to ensure that the fiscal year 2018 congressional justification includes the same level of detail as the fiscal year 2016 congressional justification and include substantive detail on the need for any new programs or activities in its operating plan.

OFFICE OF LEAD HAZARD CONTROL AND HEALTHY HOMES

LEAD HAZARD REDUCTION

The agreement provides $145,000,000 for the lead hazard control and healthy homes programs. Of the total, $30,000,000 is provided for the healthy homes initiative, and $55,000,000 shall be made available on a competitive basis for areas with the highest lead-based paint abatement needs.

The agreement no longer directs HUD to implement a lead inspection standard in assisted housing that is more stringent than the current visual inspection standard. The agreement directs the Government Accountability Office to report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations within one year of the date of enactment of this Act on:

1. The effectiveness of Federal programs for addressing lead-based paint hazards in dwellings;

2. Current partnerships between public housing agencies (including State housing finance agencies) and public health agencies to address lead-based paint hazards, and determine whether those partnerships could be replicated and enhanced through improved data collection, analysis, and dissemination among stakeholders;

3. Gaps in compliance and enforcement of HUD's lead-based paint regulations;

4. Opportunities for improving coordination and leveraging of public and private funds in order to reduce the Federal costs associated with identifying and remediating lead-based paint hazards;

5. The effectiveness and efficiency of existing HUD protocols for identifying and addressing lead-based paint hazards, and determine whether those protocols are aligned with accepted environmental health practices to ensure the best and appropriate health outcomes and to reduce further exposure; and

6. HUD's process for assessing risks of lead-based paint hazards during initial and periodic inspections in dwellings occupied by households assisted under the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher program and the impact, if any, on landlord participation and the availability of affordable housing.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY FUND

The agreement provides $257,000,000 for the Information Technology Fund, of which $250,000,000 is available until September 30, 2018, and $7,000,000 is available until September 30, 2019. The agreement does not include additional funding for the development, modernization, and enhancement of the next generation management system. Instead, $3,000,000 is provided to improve the housing choice voucher cash management capability. In addition, $4,000,000 is provided for the Federal Housing Administration modernization.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

The agreement provides $128,082,000 for the necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General. The agreement clarifies that HUD OIG review, audit, and report on its findings and recommendations to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations of all events related to the Order and Remedy, FMCS No. 03–07743, issued on January 10, 2012, otherwise known as Fair and Equitable Pay, required by House Report 114–606, shall not begin until after the conclusion of all related litigation, including litigation before the Federal Labor Relations Authority and any Federal court.

GENERAL PROVISIONS—DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

(INCLUDING RESCISSION)

Section 201 splits overpayments evenly between Treasury and State Housing Finance Agencies.

Section 202 prohibits funds from being used to investigate or prosecute lawful activities under the Fair Housing Act.

Section 203 makes a technical correction to HOPWA authorizing provisions designed to provide year-over-year funding stability across grantees.

Section 204 requires any grant or cooperative agreement to be made on a competitive basis, unless otherwise provided, in accordance with Section 102 of the Department of Housing and Urban Development Reform Act of 1989.

Section 205 relates to the availability of funds for services and facilities for GSEs and others subject to the Government Corporation Control Act and the Housing Act of 1950.

Section 206 prohibits the use of funds in excess of the budget estimates, unless provided otherwise.

Section 207 relates to the expenditure of funds for corporations and agencies subject to the Government Corporation Control Act.

Section 208 requires the Secretary to provide quarterly reports on uncommitted, unobligated, recaptured, and excess funds in each departmental program and activity.

Section 209 requires the Administration's budget and HUD's budget justifications for fiscal year 2018 be submitted in the identical account and sub-account structure provided in this Act.

Section 210 exempts GNMA from certain requirements of the Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990.

Section 211 authorizes HUD to transfer debt and use agreements from an obsolete project to a viable project, provided that no additional costs are incurred and other conditions are met.

Section 212 sets forth requirements for Section 8 voucher assistance eligibility, and includes consideration for persons with disabilities.

Section 213 distributes Native American Housing Block Grants to the same Native Alaskan recipients as in fiscal year 2005.

Section 214 authorizes the Secretary to insure mortgages under Section 255 of the National Housing Act.

Section 215 instructs HUD on managing and disposing of any multifamily property that is owned or held by HUD.

Section 216 allows the Section 108 loan guarantee program to guarantee notes or other obligations issued by any State on behalf of non-entitlement communities in the State.

Section 217 allows PHAs that own and operate 400 or fewer units of public housing to be exempt from asset management requirements.

Section 218 restricts the Secretary from imposing any requirements or guidelines relating to asset management that restrict or limit the use of capital funds for central office costs, up to the limit established in QHWRA.

Section 219 requires that no employee of the Department shall be designated as an allotment holder unless the CFO determines that such employee has received certain training.

Section 220 requires the Secretary to publish all notice of funding availability that is competitively awarded on the internet for fiscal year 2017.

Section 221 requires attorney fees for programmatic litigation to be paid from the individual program office and Office of General Counsel salaries and expenses appropriations, and requires the Department to submit a spend plan to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations.

Section 222 allows the Secretary to transfer up to 10 percent of funds or $4,000,000, whichever is less, appropriated under the headings ''Administrative Support Offices'' or ''Program Office Salaries and Expenses'' to any other office funded under such headings.

Section 223 requires HUD to take certain actions against owners receiving rental subsidies that do not maintain safe properties.

Section 224 places a salary and bonus limit on public housing agency officials and employees.

Section 225 prohibits the use of funds for the doctoral dissertation research grant program at HUD.

Section 226 extends the HOPE VI program to September 30, 2017.

Section 227 requires the Secretary to notify the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations at least 3 full business days before grant awards are announced.

Section 228 prohibits funds to be used to require or enforce the Physical Needs Assessment (PNA).

Section 229 prohibits the use of funds to implement the Homeowners Armed with Knowledge (HAWK) program.

Section 230 prohibits funds for HUD financing of mortgages for properties that have been subject to eminent domain.

Section 231 prohibits the use of funds to terminate the status of a unit of general local government as a metropolitan city with respect to grants under section 106 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974.

Section 232 allows funding for research, evaluation, and statistical purposes that is unexpended at the time of completion of the contract, grant, or cooperative agreement to be reobligated for additional research.

Section 233 prohibits funds to be used for financial awards for employees subject to administrative discipline in fiscal years 2016 or 2017.

Section 234 authorizes the Secretary on a limited basis to use funds available under the ''Homeless Assistance Grants'' heading to participate in the multiagency Performance Partnership Pilots program.

Section 235 allows program income as an eligible match for 2015, 2016, and 2017 Continuum of Care funds.

Section 236 permits HUD to provide one year transition grants under the continuum of care program with no more than 50 percent of the grant provided for costs of eligible activities of the program component originally funded.

Section 237 modifies the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act to remove the ''zero-bedroom dwellings'' exclusion and amends the Residential Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act to include ''zero-bedroom dwellings''.

Section 238 repeals section 211 of the Department of Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Act, 2008.

Section 239 modifies the Rental Assistance Demonstration included in Public Law 112–55.

Section 240 permits HUD to implement section 78001 of title LXXVIII of Public Law 114–94 through notice while undertaking rulemaking processes.

Section 241 permits HUD to renew a grant originally awarded as part of Public Law 110–252.

Section 242 prohibits section 218(g) of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act to apply with respect to the HOME Investment Partnership Program Funds that otherwise expired or would expire in 2016, 2017, 2018, or 2019.

Section 243 prohibits the use of funds to direct a grantee to undertake specific changes to existing zoning laws as part of carrying out the final rule entitled, ''Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing'' or the notice entitled, ''Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Assessment Tool''.

TITLE III—RELATED AGENCIES

ACCESS BOARD

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement provides $8,190,000 for the salaries and expenses of the Access Board.

FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement provides $27,490,000 for the salaries and expenses of the Federal Maritime Commission, of which not more than $2,000 may be available for official reception and representation expenses. Of the funds provided, not less than $552,024 is available for the Office of Inspector General.

NATIONAL RAILROAD PASSENGER CORPORATION

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement provides $23,274,000 for the Office of the Inspector General for Amtrak.

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement provides $106,000,000 for the salaries and expenses of the National Transportation Safety Board.

NEIGHBORHOOD REINVESTMENT CORPORATION

PAYMENT TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD REINVESTMENT CORPORATION

The agreement provides $140,000,000 for the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation, of which $5,000,000 shall be for a multi-family rental housing program.

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The agreement provides $37,000,000 for the salaries and expenses of the Surface Transportation Board, of which $2,046,000 is for information technology system improvements. The agreement permits the collection of up to $1,250,000 in user fees to be credited to the appropriation. The agreement provides that the general fund appropriation be reduced on a dollar-for-dollar basis by the actual amount collected in user fees to result in a final appropriation from the general fund estimated at no more than $35,750,000.

UNITED STATES INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS

OPERATING EXPENSES

The agreement provides $3,600,000 for operating expenses of the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) and extends the statutory sunset date for the agency to October 1, 2018.

The USICH is directed to submit a report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations within one year of enactment of this Act that assesses how Federal housing programs and Federal health programs could better collaborate to reduce costs and improve health and housing outcomes. USICH is directed to give particular attention to outcomes for the following populations: chronically homeless individuals; homeless individuals with behavioral health conditions; and homeless children, including infants, in families that either receive housing assistance under programs administered by the Federal government or could benefit from grant programs administered by the Federal government.

TITLE IV

GENERAL PROVISIONS—THIS ACT

(INCLUDING RESCISSIONS)

Section 401 prohibits pay and other expenses for non-Federal parties intervening in regulatory or adjudicatory proceedings.

Section 402 prohibits obligations beyond the current fiscal year and prohibits transfers of funds unless expressly so provided herein.

Section 403 limits consulting service expenditures in procurement contracts to those contained in the public record.

Section 404 prohibits employee training not directly related to the performance of official duties.

Section 405 specifies requirements for reprogramming funds.

Section 406 provides that fifty percent of unobligated balances for salaries and expenses may remain available for certain purposes, subject to the approval of the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations.

Section 407 prohibits the use of funds for any project that seeks to use the power of eminent domain, unless eminent domain is employed only for a public use.

Section 408 prohibits funds from being transferred to any department, agency, or instrumentality of the U.S. Government, except where transfer authority is provided in this Act.

Section 409 prohibits funds in this Act from being used to permanently replace an employee intent on returning to his or her past occupation after completion of military service.

Section 410 prohibits funds in this Act from being used unless the expenditure is in compliance with the Buy American Act.

Section 411 prohibits funds from being appropriated or made available to any person or entity that has been convicted of violating the Buy American Act.

Section 412 prohibits funds for first-class airline accommodations in contravention of sections 301–10.122 and 301–10.123 of title 41 CFR.

Section 413 prohibits funds from being used for the approval of a new foreign air carrier permit or exemption application if that approval would contravene United States law or Article 17 bis of the U.S.-E.U.-Iceland-Norway Air Transport Agreement.

Section 414 restricts the number of employees that agencies funded in this Act may send to international conferences.

Section 415 prohibits funds from being used to lease or purchase new light duty vehicles for any executive fleet or an agency's fleet inventory, except in accordance with Presidential Memorandum-Federal Fleet Performance, dated May 24, 2011.

Section 416 caps the amount of fees the Surface Transportation Board can charge and collect for rate or practice complaints filed at the amount authorized for court civil suit filing fees.

Section 417 rescinds all unobligated balances from various salaries and expenses accounts.

Section 418 prohibits funds from denying an Inspector General timely access to any records, documents, or other materials available to the department or agency over which that Inspector General has responsibilities, or to prevent or impede that Inspector General's access.

Section 419 permanently suspends certain subsections of the hours of service regulation related to restarts.

Section 420 appropriates $528,000,000 in additional funds for the Emergency Relief Program, which is available until expended for qualifying emergency repair expenses.

Section 421 includes funding for Community Development Block Grant disaster recovery and directs HUD to allocate the funds in accordance with the methodologies published in Federal Register Notices 81 FR 39687 for disasters occurring in 2015 and 82 FR 5591 for disasters occurring in 2016 or later.

Section 422 authorizes states to repurpose certain previously authorized funding amounts to new projects that are eligible within a similar geographic area.

Section 423 designates certain routes in Arkansas and Kentucky as eligible to become Interstate routes.

DIVISION K -- TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
TITLE I - DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION					
Office of the Secretary					
Salaries and expenses	108,750	114,396	114,000	+5,250	-396
Immediate Office of the Secretary	(2,734)	---	(2,758)	(+24)	(+2,758)
Immediate Office of the Deputy Secretary	(1,025)	---	(1,040)	(+15)	(+1,040)
Office of the General Counsel	(20,609)	---	(20,772)	(+163)	(+20,772)
Office of the Under Secretary of Transportation for Policy	(9,941)	---	(10,033)	(+92)	(+10,033)
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Budget and Programs	(13,697)	---	(14,019)	(+322)	(+14,019)
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Governmental Affairs	(2,546)	---	(2,546)	---	(+2,546)
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration	(25,925)	---	(29,356)	(+3,431)	(+29,356)
Office of Public Affairs	(2,029)	---	(2,142)	(+113)	(+2,142)
Office of the Executive Secretariat	(1,737)	---	(1,760)	(+23)	(+1,760)
Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization	(1,434)	---	---	(-1,434)	---
Office of Intelligence, Security, and Emergency Response	(10,793)	---	(11,089)	(+296)	(+11,089)
Office of the Chief Information Officer	(16,280)	---	(18,485)	(+2,205)	(+18,485)
Research and Technology	13,000	18,007	13,000	---	-5,007
National Infrastructure Investments	500,000	1,250,000	500,000	---	-750,000

DIVISION K -- TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
National Surface Transportation and Innovative Finance Bureau	---	3,000	3,000	+3,000	---
Financial Management Capital	5,000	4,000	4,000	-1,000	---
Cyber Security Initiatives	8,000	15,000	15,000	+7,000	---
DATA Act Compliance	---	4,000	---	---	-4,000
U.S. Digital Services	---	1,000	---	---	-1,000
Office of Civil Rights	9,678	9,751	9,751	+73	---
Transportation Planning, Research, and Development	8,500	17,043	12,000	+3,500	-5,043
Working Capital Fund	(190,039)	---	(190,389)	(+350)	(+190,389)
Minority Business Resource Center Program	933	941	941	+8	---
(Limitation on guaranteed loans)	(18,367)	---	(18,367)	---	(+18,367)
Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilizaton and Outreach /Minority Business Outreach	3,084	4,646	4,646	+1,562	---
Payments to Air Carriers (Airport & Airway Trust Fund)	175,000	150,000	150,000	-25,000	---
Administrative Provisions					
Working Capital Fund (Sec. 104) (reappropriation)	---	12,000	---	---	-12,000
Total, Office of the Secretary	831,945	1,603,784	826,338	-5,607	-777,446

DIVISION K -- TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Federal Aviation Administration					
Operations	9,909,724	9,994,352	10,025,852	+116,128	+31,500
Air traffic organization	(7,505,293)	---	(7,559,785)	(+54,492)	(+7,559,785)
Aviation safety	(1,258,411)	---	(1,298,482)	(+40,071)	(+1,298,482)
Commercial space transportation	(17,800)	---	(19,826)	(+2,026)	(+19,826)
Finance and management	(760,500)	---	(771,342)	(+10,842)	(+771,342)
NextGen	(60,089)	---	(60,155)	(+66)	(+60,155)
Security and Hazardous Materials Safety	(100,880)	---	(107,161)	(+6,281)	(+107,161)
Staff offices	(206,751)	---	(209,101)	(+2,350)	(+209,101)
Facilities and Equipment (Airport & Airway Trust Fund)	2,855,000	2,838,000	2,855,000	---	+17,000
Research, Engineering, and Development (Airport & Airway Trust Fund	166,000	167,500	176,500	+10,500	+9,000
Grants-in-Aid for Airports (Airport and Airway Trust Fund)(Liquidation of contract authorization)	(3,600,000)	(3,500,000)	(3,750,000)	(+150,000)	(+250,000)
(Limitation on obligations)	(3,350,000)	(2,900,000)	(3,350,000)	---	(+450,000)
Administration	(107,100)	(107,691)	(107,691)	(+591)	---
Airport cooperative research program	(15,000)	(15,000)	(15,000)	---	---
Airport technology research	(31,000)	(31,375)	(31,375)	(+375)	---
Small community air service development program	(5,000)	(5,000)	(10,000)	(+5,000)	(+5,000)
Total, Federal Aviation Administration	12,930,724	12,999,852	13,057,352	+126,628	+57,500
Limitations on obligations	(3,350,000)	(2,900,000)	(3,350,000)	---	(+450,000)
Total budgetary resources	(16,280,724)	(15,899,852)	(16,407,352)	(+126,628)	(+507,500)

DIVISION K -- TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Federal Highway Administration					
Limitation on Administrative Expenses	(429,000)	(435,795)	(435,795)	(+6,795)	---
Federal-Aid Highways (Highway Trust Fund):					
(Liquidation of contract authorization)	(43,100,000)	(44,005,100)	(44,005,100)	(+905,100)	---
(Limitation on obligations)	(42,361,000)	(43,266,100)	(43,266,100)	(+905,100)	---
(Exempt contract authority)	(739,000)	(739,000)	(739,000)	---	---
21st Century Regions Grant Program (legislative proposal)(Liquidation of contract authorization)	---	(5,500,000)	---	---	(-5,500,000)
(Limitation on obligations)	---	(5,500,000)	---	---	(-5,500,000)
Future Freight Systems Grant Program (legislative proposal)(Liquidation of contract authorization)	---	(2,000,000)	---	---	(-2,000,000)
(Limitation on obligations)	---	(2,000,000)	---	---	(-2,000,000)
Rescission of contract authority (Highway Trust Fund)	---	-2,436,000	-857,000	-857,000	+1,579,000
Total, Federal Highway Administration	---	-2,436,000	-857,000	-857,000	+1,579,000
Limitations on obligations	(42,361,000)	(50,766,100)	(43,266,100)	(+905,100)	(-7,500,000)
Exempt contract authority	(739,000)	(739,000)	(739,000)	---	---
Total budgetary resources	(43,100,000)	(49,069,100)	(43,148,100)	(+48,100)	(-5,921,000)

DIVISION K -- TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration					
Motor Carrier Safety Operations and Programs (Highway Trust Fund)(Liquidation of contract authorization)	(267,400)	(277,200)	(277,200)	(+9,800)	---
(Limitation on obligations)	(267,400)	(277,200)	(277,200)	(+9,800)	---
Safety Investments (legislative proposal) (Liquidation of contract authorization)	---	(150,000)	---	---	(-150,000)
(Limitation on obligations)	---	(150,000)	---	---	(-150,000)
Motor Carrier Safety Grants (Highway Trust Fund) (Liquidation of contract authorization)	(313,000)	(367,000)	(367,000)	(+54,000)	---
(Limitation on obligations)	(313,000)	(367,000)	(367,000)	(+54,000)	---
Total, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration	---	---	---	---	---
Limitations on obligations	(580,400)	(794,200)	(644,200)	(+63,800)	(-150,000)
Total budgetary resources	(580,400)	(794,200)	(644,200)	(+63,800)	(-150,000)
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration					
Operations and Research (general fund)	152,800	---	180,075	+27,275	+180,075
Vehicle Safety	---	250,000	---	---	-250,000

DIVISION K -- TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Operations and Research (Highway Trust Fund)					
(Liquidation of contract authorization)	(142,900)	(145,900)	(145,900)	(+3,000)	---
(Limitation on obligations)	(142,900)	(145,900)	(145,900)	(+3,000)	---
Subtotal, Operations and Research	295,700	395,900	325,975	+30,275	-69,925
Autonomous Vehicle Development (legislative proposal)(Liquidation of contract authorization)	---	(200,000)	---	---	(-200,000)
(Limitation on obligations)	---	(200,000)	---	---	(-200,000)
Highway Traffic Safety Grants (Highway Trust Fund)					
(Liquidation of contract authorization)	(573,332)	(585,372)	(585,372)	(+12,040)	---
(Limitation on obligations)	(573,332)	(585,372)	(585,372)	(+12,040)	---
Highway safety programs (23 USC 402)	(243,500)	(252,300)	(252,300)	(+8,800)	---
National priority safety programs (23 USC 405)	(274,700)	(277,500)	(277,500)	(+2,800)	---
High visibility enforcement	(29,300)	(29,500)	(29,500)	(+200)	---
Administrative expenses	(25,832)	(26,072)	(26,072)	(+240)	---
Total, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration	152,800	250,000	180,075	+27,275	-69,925
Limitations on obligations	(716,232)	(931,272)	(731,272)	(+15,040)	(-200,000)
Total budgetary resources	(869,032)	(1,181,272)	(911,347)	(+42,315)	(-269,925)

DIVISION K -- TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Federal Railroad Administration					
Safety and Operations	199,000	213,298	218,298	+19,298	+5,000
Railroad Research and Development	39,100	53,500	40,100	+1,000	-13,400
Railroad Safety Grants	50,000	---	---	-50,000	---
Rail Service Improvement Program (legislative proposal)	---	3,700,000	---	---	-3,700,000
Federal State Partnership for State of Good Repair	---	---	25,000	+25,000	+25,000
Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements	---	---	68,000	+68,000	+68,000
Restoration and Enhancement Grants	---	---	5,000	+5,000	+5,000
Subtotal	288,100	3,966,798	356,398	+68,298	-3,610,400
National Railroad Passenger Corporation:					
Operating Grants to the National Railroad Passenger Corporation	288,500	---	---	-288,500	---
Capital and Debt Service Grants to the National Railroad Passenger Corporation	1,101,500	---	---	-1,101,500	---
Current Passenger Rail Service	---	2,300,000	---	---	-2,300,000
Northeast Corridor Grants	---	---	328,000	+328,000	+328,000
National Network	---	---	1,167,000	+1,167,000	+1,167,000
Subtotal	1,390,000	2,300,000	1,495,000	+105,000	-805,000

DIVISION K -- TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Administrative Provisions					
Rail unobligated balances (rescission) (Sec. 152)	-1,960	---	---	+1,960	---
RRIF application expenses (Sec. 152)	1,960	---	---	-1,960	---
Rail unobligated balances (rescission) (Sec. 153)	-19,163	---	---	+19,163	---
Northeast Corridor Capital grants (Sec. 153)	19,163	---	---	-19,163	---
Total, Federal Railroad Administration	1,678,100	6,266,798	1,851,398	+173,298	-4,415,400
Federal Transit Administration					
Administrative Expenses	108,000	115,017	113,165	+5,165	-1,852
Transit Formula Grants (Hwy Trust Fund, Mass Transit Account (Liquidation of contract authorization)	(10,400,000)	(10,800,000)	(10,800,000)	(+400,000)	---
(Limitation on obligations)	(9,347,605)	(9,733,706)	(9,733,706)	(+386,101)	---
Supplementary Transit Formula Grants (legislative proposal) (Liquidation of contract authorization)	---	(5,860,000)	---	---	(-5,860,000)
(Limitation on obligations)	---	(5,860,000)	---	---	(-5,860,000)
Technical Assistance and Training	---	---	5,000	+5,000	+5,000
Rapid-Growth Transit Program (legislative proposal) (Liquidation of contract authorization)	---	(525,000)	---	---	(-525,000)
(limitation on obligations)	---	(525,000)	---	---	(-525,000)

DIVISION K -- TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Capital Investment Grants	2,177,000	3,500,000	2,412,631	+235,631	-1,087,369
Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Capital and Preventive Maintenance	150,000	150,000	150,000	---	---
Administrative Provisions					
Rescission (Sec. 166)	-25,398	---	---	+25,398	---
Total, Federal Transit Administration	2,409,602	3,765,017	2,680,796	+271,194	-1,084,221
Limitations on obligations	(9,347,605)	(16,118,706)	(9,733,706)	(+386,101)	(-6,385,000)
Total budgetary resources	(11,757,207)	(19,883,723)	(12,414,502)	(+657,295)	(-7,469,221)
Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation					
Operations and Maintenance (Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund)	28,400	36,028	36,028	+7,628	---
Maritime Administration					
Maritime Security Program	210,000	211,000	300,000	+90,000	+89,000
Operations and Training	171,155	194,146	175,560	+4,405	-18,586
Assistance to Small Shipyards	5,000	---	10,000	+5,000	+10,000
Ship Disposal	5,000	20,000	34,000	+29,000	+14,000

DIVISION K -- TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Maritime Guaranteed Loan (Title XI) Program Account:					
Administrative expenses	3,135	3,000	3,000	-135	---
Guaranteed loans subsidy	5,000	---	---	-5,000	---
Rescission	---	-5,000	---	---	+5,000
Total, Maritime Administration	399,290	423,146	522,560	+123,270	+99,414
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration					
Operational Expenses:					
General Fund	21,000	23,688	22,500	+1,500	-1,188
Hazardous Materials Safety:					
General Fund	55,619	68,249	57,000	+1,381	-11,249
Pipeline Safety:					
Pipeline Safety Fund	124,500	153,443	128,000	+3,500	-25,443
Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund	22,123	19,500	20,288	-1,835	+788
Underground Natural Gas Storage Facility Safety Fund	---	---	8,000	+8,000	+8,000
Pipeline Safety Design Review Fund	---	2,000	---	---	-2,000
Pipeline Safety information grants (by transfer)	---	(1,500)	---	---	(-1,500)
Subtotal	146,623	174,943	156,288	+9,665	-18,655
Subtotal, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration	223,242	266,880	235,788	+12,546	-31,092

DIVISION K -- TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Pipeline safety user fees	-124,500	-153,000	-128,000	-3,500	+25,000
Underground Natural Gas Storage Facility Safety Fund user fee	---	---	-8,000	-8,000	-8,000
Pipeline Safety Design Review fee	---	-2,000	---	---	+2,000
Emergency Preparedness Grants:					
Limitation on emergency preparedness fund	(28,318)	(28,318)	(28,318)	---	---
(Emergency preparedness fund)	(188)	(188)	---	(-188)	(-188)
Total, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration	98,742	111,880	99,788	+1,046	-12,092
Office of Inspector General					
Salaries and Expenses	87,472	90,152	90,152	+2,680	---
Total, title I, Department of Transportation	18,617,075	23,110,657	18,487,487	-129,588	-4,623,170
Appropriations	(18,663,596)	(25,551,657)	(19,344,487)	(+680,891)	(-6,207,170)
Rescissions	(-46,521)	(-5,000)	---	(+46,521)	(+5,000)
Rescissions of contract authority	---	(-2,436,000)	(-857,000)	(-857,000)	(+1,579,000)
(By transfer)	---	(1,500)	---	---	(-1,500)
Limitations on obligations	(56,355,237)	(71,510,278)	(57,725,278)	(+1,370,041)	(-13,785,000)
Total budgetary resources	(74,972,312)	(94,620,935)	(76,212,765)	(+1,240,453)	(-18,408,170)

DIVISION K -- TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
TITLE II - DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT					
Management and Administration					
Executive Offices	13,800	14,479	14,000	+200	-479
Administration Support Offices	559,100	520,062	517,647	-41,453	-2,415
Program Office Salaries and Expenses:					
Public and Indian Housing	205,500	220,932	216,000	+10,500	-4,932
Community Planning and Development	104,800	110,259	110,000	+5,200	-259
Housing	375,000	393,148	392,000	+17,000	-1,148
Policy Development and Research	23,100	24,500	24,000	+900	-500
Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity	72,000	74,235	72,000	---	-2,235
Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes	7,000	7,826	9,353	+2,353	+1,527
Subtotal	787,400	830,900	823,353	+35,953	-7,547
Total, Management and Administration	1,360,300	1,365,441	1,355,000	-5,300	-10,441
Public and Indian Housing					
Tenant-based Rental Assistance:					
Renewals	17,681,451	18,447,000	18,355,000	+673,549	-92,000
Tenant protection vouchers	130,000	110,000	110,000	-20,000	---
Administrative fees	1,650,000	2,077,000	1,650,000	---	-427,000
Incremental rental vouchers	---	88,000	---	---	-88,000
Sec. 811 mainstream voucher renewals	107,074	110,000	120,000	+12,926	+10,000

DIVISION K -- TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Tribal veterans affairs supportive housing renewals	---	---	7,000	+7,000	+7,000
Veterans affairs supportive housing	60,000	7,000	40,000	-20,000	+33,000
Incremental family unification vouchers	---	---	10,000	+10,000	+10,000
Special purpose vouchers	---	15,000	---	---	-15,000
Policy Development and Research (transfer out)	---	(-28,325)	---	---	(+28,325)
Subtotal (available this fiscal year)	19,628,525	20,854,000	20,292,000	+663,475	-562,000
Advance appropriations	4,000,000	4,000,000	4,000,000	---	---
Less appropriations from prior year advances	-4,000,000	-4,000,000	-4,000,000	---	---
Total, Tenant-based Rental Assistance appropriated in this bill	19,628,525	20,854,000	20,292,000	+663,475	-562,000
Public Housing Capital Fund	1,900,000	1,865,000	1,941,500	+41,500	+76,500
Policy Development and Research (transfer out)	---	(-9,325)	---	---	(+9,325)
Public Housing Operating Fund	4,500,000	4,569,000	4,400,000	-100,000	-169,000
Policy Development and Research (transfer out)	---	(-22,844)	---	---	(+22,844)
Choice Neighborhoods	125,000	200,000	137,500	+12,500	-62,500
Policy Development and Research (transfer out)	---	(-1,000)	---	---	(+1,000)
Family Self-Sufficiency	75,000	75,000	75,000	---	---
Policy Development and Research (transfer out)	---	(-375)	---	---	(+375)
Native American Housing Block Grants	650,000	700,000	654,000	+4,000	-46,000
Policy Development and Research (transfer out)	---	(-3,500)	---	---	(+3,500)

DIVISION K -- TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Indian Housing Loan Guarantee Fund Program Account	7,500	5,500	7,227	-273	+1,727
(Limitation on guaranteed loans)	(1,190,476)	(1,341,463)	(1,762,683)	(+572,207)	(+421,220)
Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant	---	500	2,000	+2,000	+1,500
Total, Public and Indian Housing	26,886,025	28,269,000	27,509,227	+623,202	-759,773
Community Planning and Development					
Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS	335,000	335,000	356,000	+21,000	+21,000
Policy Development and Research (transfer out)	---	(-1,675)	---	---	(+1,675)
Community Development Fund:					
CDBG formula	3,000,000	2,800,000	3,000,000	---	+200,000
Indian CDBG	60,000	80,000	60,000	---	-20,000
Subtotal	3,060,000	2,880,000	3,060,000	---	+180,000
Policy Development and Research (transfer out)	---	(-14,400)	---	---	(+14,400)
Community Development Loan Guarantees (Section 108):					
(Limitation on guaranteed loans)	(300,000)	(300,000)	(300,000)	---	---
HOME Investment Partnerships Program	950,000	940,000	950,000	---	+10,000
Policy Development and Research (transfer out)	---	(-4,750)	---	---	(+4,750)

DIVISION K -- TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Self-help and Assisted Homeownership Opportunity Program	55,700	10,000	54,000	-1,700	+44,000
Homeless Assistance Grants	2,250,000	2,664,000	2,383,000	+133,000	-281,000
Total, Community Planning and Development	6,650,700	6,829,000	6,803,000	+152,300	-26,000
Housing Programs					
Rental Assistance Demonstration	---	50,000	---	---	-50,000
Policy Development and Research (transfer out)	---	(-250)	---	---	(+250)
Project-based Rental Assistance:					
Renewals	10,405,000	10,581,000	10,581,000	+176,000	---
Contract administrators	215,000	235,000	235,000	+20,000	---
Policy Development and Research (transfer out)	---	(-28,325)	---	---	(+28,325)
Subtotal (available this fiscal year)	10,620,000	10,816,000	10,816,000	+196,000	---
Advance appropriations	400,000	400,000	400,000	---	---
Less appropriations from prior year advances	-400,000	-400,000	-400,000	---	---
Total, Project-based Rental Assistance appropriated in this bill	10,620,000	10,816,000	10,816,000	+196,000	---
Housing for the Elderly	432,700	505,000	502,400	+69,700	-2,600
Policy Development and Research (transfer out)	---	(-2,525)	---	---	(+2,525)
Housing for Persons with Disabilities	150,600	154,000	146,200	-4,400	-7,800
Policy Development and Research (transfer out)	---	(-770)	---	---	(+770)

DIVISION K -- TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Housing Counseling Assistance	47,000	47,000	55,000	+8,000	+8,000
Policy Development and Research (transfer out)	---	(-235)	---	---	(+235)
Rental Housing Assistance	30,000	20,000	20,000	-10,000	---
Manufactured Housing Fees Trust Fund	10,500	11,500	10,500	---	-1,000
Offsetting collections	-10,500	-11,500	-10,500	---	+1,000
Total, Housing Programs	11,280,300	11,592,000	11,539,600	+259,300	-52,400
Federal Housing Administration					
Mutual Mortgage Insurance Program Account:					
(Limitation on guaranteed loans)	(400,000,000)	(400,000,000)	(400,000,000)	---	---
(Limitation on direct loans)	(5,000)	---	(5,000)	---	(+5,000)
Offsetting receipts	-7,003,000	-7,437,000	-7,437,000	-434,000	---
Proposed offsetting receipts (HECM)	-97,000	-97,000	-97,000	---	---
Additional offsetting receipts (Sec. 238)	---	-30,000	---	---	+30,000
Administrative contract expenses	130,000	160,000	130,000	---	-30,000
Policy Development and Research (transfer out)	---	(-800)	---	---	(+800)
General and Special Risk Program Account:					
(Limitation on guaranteed loans)	(30,000,000)	(30,000,000)	(30,000,000)	---	---
(Limitation on direct loans)	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)	---	---
Offsetting receipts	-657,000	-464,000	-464,000	+193,000	---
Total, Federal Housing Administration	-7,627,000	-7,868,000	-7,868,000	-241,000	---

DIVISION K -- TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Government National Mortgage Association					
Guarantees of Mortgage-backed Securities Loan Guarantee Program Account:					
(Limitation on guaranteed loans)	(500,000,000)	(500,000,000)	(500,000,000)	---	---
Administrative expenses	23,000	23,000	23,000	---	---
Offsetting receipts	-118,000	-101,000	-101,000	+17,000	---
Offsetting receipts	-747,000	-1,102,000	-1,102,000	-355,000	---
Proposed offsetting receipts (HECM)	-21,000	-21,000	-21,000	---	---
Additional contract expenses	1,000	1,000	1,000	---	---
Total, Gov't National Mortgage Association	-862,000	-1,200,000	-1,200,000	-338,000	---
Policy Development and Research					
Research and Technology	85,000	65,000	89,000	+4,000	+24,000
(By transfer)	---	(120,000)	---	---	(-120,000)
Total (including transfer)	85,000	185,000	89,000	+4,000	-96,000
Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity					
Fair Housing Activities	65,300	70,000	65,300	---	-4,700
Policy Development and Research (transfer out)	---	(-350)	---	---	(+350)

DIVISION K -- TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes					
Lead Hazard Reduction	110,000	110,000	145,000	+35,000	+35,000
Policy Development and Research (transfer out)	---	(-550)	---	---	(+550)
Information Technology Fund	250,000	286,000	257,000	+7,000	-29,000
Office of Inspector General	126,000	129,000	128,082	+2,082	-918
General Provisions					
Unobligated balances (rescission)	-14,000	---	---	+14,000	---
HUD disaster administration (by transfer) (emergency) (Sec. 234)	---	(5,000)	---	---	(-5,000)
Total, title II, Department of Housing and Urban Development	38,310,625	39,647,441	38,823,209	+512,584	-824,232
Appropriations	(42,578,125)	(44,510,941)	(43,655,709)	(+1,077,584)	(-855,232)
Rescissions	(-14,000)	---	---	(+14,000)	---
Advance appropriations	(4,400,000)	(4,400,000)	(4,400,000)	---	---
Offsetting receipts	(-8,643,000)	(-9,252,000)	(-9,222,000)	(-579,000)	(+30,000)
Offsetting collections	(-10,500)	(-11,500)	(-10,500)	---	(+1,000)
(by transfer)	---	120,000	---	---	-120,000
(by transfer, emergency)	---	5,000	---	---	-5,000
(transfer out)	---	-119,999	---	---	+119,999
(Limitation on direct loans)	(10,000)	(5,000)	(10,000)	---	(+5,000)
(Limitation on guaranteed loans)	(931,490,476)	(931,641,463)	(932,062,683)	(+572,207)	(+421,220)

DIVISION K -- TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
TITLE III - OTHER INDEPENDENT AGENCIES					
Access Board	8,023	8,190	8,190	+167	---
Federal Housing Finance Agency, Office of Inspector General (legislative proposal)(transfer out)	---	(-50,000)	---	---	(+50,000)
Office of Inspector General (legislative proposal)(by transfer)	---	(50,000)	---	---	(-50,000)
Federal Maritime Commission	25,660	27,490	27,490	+1,830	---
National Railroad Passenger Corporation Office of Inspector General	24,499	23,274	23,274	-1,225	---
National Transportation Safety Board	105,170	106,000	106,000	+830	---
Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation	175,000	140,000	140,000	-35,000	---
Surface Transportation Board	32,375	42,401	37,000	+4,625	-5,401
Offsetting collections	-1,250	-1,250	-1,250	---	---
Subtotal	31,125	41,151	35,750	+4,625	-5,401
United States Interagency Council on Homelessness	3,530	3,600	3,600	+70	---
Total, title III, Other Independent Agencies	373,007	349,705	344,304	-28,703	-5,401

DIVISION K -- TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Request	Final Bill	Final Bill vs Enacted	Final Bill vs Request
TITLE IV - GENERAL PROVISIONS - THIS ACT					
Unobligated balances (Sec. 417) (rescission)	---	---	-4,000	-4,000	-4,000
Community Development Fund (disaster relief category)	300,000	---	---	-300,000	---
Emergency Relief Program (Sec 419) (emergency)	---	---	528,000	+528,000	+528,000
CDBG Disaster Relief (Sec 420) (emergency)	---	---	400,000	+400,000	+400,000
Grand total	57,600,707	63,107,803	58,579,000	+978,293	-4,528,803
Appropriations	(61,615,978)	(70,413,553)	(63,345,750)	(+1,729,772)	(-7,067,803)
Rescissions	(-60,521)	(-5,000)	(-4,000)	(+56,521)	(+1,000)
Rescissions of contract authority	---	(-2,436,000)	(-857,000)	(-857,000)	(+1,579,000)
Advance appropriations	(4,400,000)	(4,400,000)	(4,400,000)	---	---
Disaster relief category	(300,000)	---	---	(-300,000)	---
Offsetting receipts	(-8,643,000)	(-9,252,000)	(-9,222,000)	(-579,000)	(+30,000)
Offsetting collections	(-11,750)	(-12,750)	(-11,750)	---	(+1,000)
(by transfer)	---	171,500	---	---	-171,500
(by transfer, emergency)	---	5,000	---	---	-5,000
(transfer out)	---	-169,999	---	---	+169,999
(Limitation on obligations)	(56,355,237)	(71,510,278)	(57,725,278)	(+1,370,041)	(-13,785,000)
Total budgetary resources	(113,955,944)	(134,618,081)	(116,304,278)	(+2,348,334)	(-18,313,803)

Note: The FY2017 Request column reflects the budget submitted on February 9, 2016, as amended

DIVISION L—MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS—ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

TITLE I

OVERSEAS CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

An additional $247,733,000 has been provided for the requested level for military construction and planning and design. The table displays the provided funding by military construction account.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION

(RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

A rescission of $12,300,000 is included, as requested.

TITLE II

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

Additional funding of $50,000,000 is provided to Medical Services, to be available until September 30, 2018, for continued implementation of the Jason Simcakoski Memorial and Promise Act (Title IX of Public Law 114–198) and to bolster opioid and substance abuse prevention and treatment.

TITLE III

GENERAL PROVISION

A provision regarding terms and conditions for the provided funding is included.

The following table reflects the appropriations provided in this division:

DIVISION L - MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS - ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	Recommended
Title I	
Overseas Contingency Operations, Department of Defense	
Military Construction, Army	39,500
Military Construction, Navy and Marine Corps	66,708
Military Construction, Air Force	105,300
Military Construction, Army National Guard	12,000
Military Construction, Air National Guard	13,000
Military Construction, Army Reserve	10,000
Military Construction, Navy Reserve	4,525
Military Construction, Air Force Reserve	9,000
Subtotal	260,033
Military Construction, Air Force 15/17 (P.L. 113-235) (Rescission)	-12,300
Total	247,733

DIVISION L - MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS - ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017
(Amounts in thousands)

	Recommended
Title II	
Department of Veterans Affairs	
Veterans Health Administration:	
Medical Services	50,000
Total	50,000
Total	297,733

HONORING INVESTMENTS IN RECRUITING AND EMPLOYING AMERICAN MILITARY VETERANS ACT OF 2017

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 305, I call up the bill (H.R. 244) to encourage effective, voluntary investments to recruit, employ, and retain men and women who have served in the United States military with annual Federal awards to employers recognizing such efforts, and for other purposes, with the Senate amendments thereto, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

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

Senate amendments:

(1)On page 9, strike lines 11 through 18.

(2)On page 9, line 19, strike ''(b) UNLAWFUL DISPLAY PROHIBITED.—''.

(3)On page 12, lines 18 through 19, strike '', as defined in such section''.

MOTION TO CONCUR

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I have a motion at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will designate the motion.

The text of the motion is as follows:

Mr. Frelinghuysen moves that the House concur in Senate amendments numbered 2 and 3, and concur in Senate amendment numbered 1 with an amendment.

The text of the House amendment to the Senate amendments to the text is as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be stricken by Senate amendment numbered 1, insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2017''.

SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.

Sec. 1. Short title.
Sec. 2. Table of contents.
Sec. 3. References.
Sec. 4. Explanatory statement.
Sec. 5. Statement of appropriations.
Sec. 6. Availability of funds.
Sec. 7. Technical allowance for estimating differences.
Sec. 8. Correction.

DIVISION A—AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

Title I—Agricultural Programs
Title II—Conservation Programs
Title III—Rural Development Programs
Title IV—Domestic Food Programs
Title V—Foreign Assistance and Related Programs
Title VI—Related Agency and Food and Drug Administration
Title VII—General Provisions

DIVISION B—COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

Title I—Department of Commerce
Title II—Department of Justice
Title III—Science
Title IV—Related Agencies
Title V—General Provisions

DIVISION C—DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

Title I—Military Personnel
Title II—Operation and Maintenance
Title III—Procurement
Title IV—Research, Development, Test and Evaluation
Title V—Revolving and Management Funds
Title VI—Other Department of Defense Programs
Title VII—Related Agencies
Title VIII—General Provisions
Title IX—Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism
Title X—Department of Defense—Additional Appropriations

DIVISION D—ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

Title I—Corps of Engineers—Civil
Title II—Department of the Interior
Title III—Department of Energy
Title IV—Independent Agencies
Title V—General Provisions

DIVISION E—FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

Title I—Department of the Treasury
Title II—Executive Office of the President and Funds Appropriated to the President
Title III—The Judiciary
Title IV—District of Columbia
Title V—Independent Agencies
Title VI—General Provisions—This Act
Title VII—General Provisions—Government-wide
Title VIII—General Provisions—District of Columbia
Title IX—SOAR Reauthorization

DIVISION F—DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

Title I—Departmental Management, Operations, Intelligence, and Oversight
Title II—Security, Enforcement, and Investigations
Title III—Protection, Preparedness, Response, and Recovery
Title IV—Research, Development, Training, and Services
Title V—General Provisions
Title VI—Department of Homeland Security—Additional Appropriations

DIVISION G—DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

Title I—Department of the Interior
Title II—Environmental Protection Agency
Title III—Related Agencies
Title IV—General Provisions

DIVISION H—DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

Title I—Department of Labor
Title II—Department of Health and Human Services
Title III—Department of Education
Title IV—Related Agencies
Title V—General Provisions

DIVISION I—LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

Title I—Legislative Branch
Title II—General Provisions

DIVISION J—DEPARTMENT OF STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

Title I—Department of State and Related Agency
Title II—United States Agency for International Development
Title III—Bilateral Economic Assistance
Title IV—International Security Assistance
Title V—Multilateral Assistance
Title VI—Export and Investment Assistance
Title VII—General Provisions
Title VIII—Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism

DIVISION K—TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

Title I—Department of Transportation
Title II—Department of Housing and Urban Development
Title III—Related Agencies
Title IV—General Provisions—This Act

DIVISION L—MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS—ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

Title I—Overseas Contingency Operations
Title II—Department of Veterans Affairs
Title III—General Provision—This Division

DIVISION M—OTHER MATTERS

Title I—Health Benefits for Miners Act of 2017
Title II—Puerto Rico Section 1108(g) Amendment of 2017
Title III—General Provision

DIVISION N—HONORING INVESTMENTS IN RECRUITING AND EMPLOYING AMERICAN MILITARY VETERANS ACT OF 2017

SEC. 3. REFERENCES.

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

SEC. 4. EXPLANATORY STATEMENT.

The explanatory statement regarding this Act, printed in the House section of the Congressional Record on or about May 2, 2017, and submitted by the Chairman of the Committee on Appropriations of the House, shall have the same effect with respect to the allocation of funds and implementation of divisions A through L of this Act as if it were a joint explanatory statement of a committee of conference.

SEC. 5. STATEMENT OF APPROPRIATIONS.

The following sums in this Act are appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2017.

SEC. 6. AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.

(a) Each amount designated in this Act by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 shall be available (or rescinded, if applicable) only if the President subsequently so designates all such amounts and transmits such designations to the Congress.

(b) Each amount designated in this Act by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 shall be available (or rescinded, if applicable) only if the President subsequently so designates all such amounts and transmits such designations to the Congress.

SEC. 7. TECHNICAL ALLOWANCE FOR ESTIMATING DIFFERENCES.

If, for fiscal year 2017, new budget authority provided in appropriations Acts exceeds the discretionary spending limit for any category set forth in section 251(c) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 due to estimating differences with the Congressional Budget Office, an adjustment to the discretionary spending limit in such category for fiscal year 2017 shall be made by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget in the amount of the excess but the total of all such adjustments shall not exceed 0.2 percent of the sum of the adjusted discretionary spending limits for all categories for that fiscal year.

SEC. 8. CORRECTION.

The Further Continuing and Security Assistance Appropriations Act, 2017 (Public Law 114–254) is amended by changing the long title so as to read: ''Making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2017, and for other purposes.''.

DIVISION A—AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

TITLE I

AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS

PRODUCTION, PROCESSING, AND MARKETING

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Secretary, $44,555,000, of which not to exceed $5,051,000 shall be available for the immediate Office of the Secretary; not to exceed $502,000 shall be available for the Office of Tribal Relations; not to exceed $1,496,000 shall be available for the Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Coordination; not to exceed $1,209,000 shall be available for the Office of Advocacy and Outreach; not to exceed $24,928,000 shall be available for the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration, of which $24,124,000 shall be available for Departmental Administration to provide for necessary expenses for management support services to offices of the Department and for general administration, security, repairs and alterations, and other miscellaneous supplies and expenses not otherwise provided for and necessary for the practical and efficient work of the Department; not to exceed $3,869,000 shall be available for the Office of Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations to carry out the programs funded by this Act, including programs involving intergovernmental affairs and liaison within the executive branch; and not to exceed $7,500,000 shall be available for the Office of Communications: *Provided*, That the Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to transfer funds appropriated for any office of the Office of the Secretary to any other office of the Office of the Secretary: *Provided further*, That no appropriation for any office shall be increased or decreased by more than 5 percent: *Provided further*, That not to exceed $11,000 of the amount made available under this paragraph for the immediate Office of the Secretary shall be available for official reception and representation expenses, not otherwise provided for, as determined by the Secretary: *Provided further*, That the amount made available under this heading for Departmental Administration shall be reimbursed from applicable appropriations in this Act for travel expenses incident to the holding of hearings as required by 5 U.S.C. 551–558: *Provided further*, That funds made available under this heading for the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations may be transferred to agencies of the Department of Agriculture funded by this Act to maintain personnel at the agency level: *Provided further*, That no funds made available under this heading for the Office of Assistant Secretary for Congressional Relations may be obligated after 30 days from the date of enactment of this Act, unless the Secretary has notified the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress on the allocation of these funds by USDA agency.

EXECUTIVE OPERATIONS

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ECONOMIST

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Chief Economist, $18,917,000, of which $4,000,000 shall be for grants or cooperative agreements for policy research under 7 U.S.C. 3155; and of which $2,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, shall be available for policy research and related activities in support of the forthcoming Farm Bill.

OFFICE OF HEARINGS AND APPEALS

For necessary expenses of the Office of Hearings and Appeals, $13,399,000.

OFFICE OF BUDGET AND PROGRAM ANALYSIS

For necessary expenses of the Office of Budget and Program Analysis, $9,525,000.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Chief Information Officer, $49,538,000, of which not less than $33,000,000 is for cybersecurity requirements of the Department.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Chief Financial Officer, $8,028,000.

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR CIVIL RIGHTS

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, $901,000.

OFFICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS

For necessary expenses of the Office of Civil Rights, $24,206,000.

AGRICULTURE BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For payment of space rental and related costs pursuant to Public Law 92–313, including authorities pursuant to the 1984 delegation of authority from the Administrator of General Services to the Department of Agriculture under 40 U.S.C. 121, for programs and activities of the Department which are included in this Act, and for alterations and other actions needed for the Department and its agencies to consolidate unneeded space into configurations suitable for release to the Administrator of General Services, and for the operation, maintenance, improvement, and repair of Agriculture buildings and facilities, and for related costs, $84,189,000, to remain available until expended.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS MANAGEMENT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Department of Agriculture, to comply with the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (42 U.S.C. 9601 et seq.) and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (42 U.S.C. 6901 et seq.), $3,633,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That appropriations and funds available herein to the Department for Hazardous Materials Management may be transferred to any agency of the Department for its use in meeting all requirements pursuant to the above Acts on Federal and non-Federal lands.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General, including employment pursuant to the Inspector General Act of 1978, $98,208,000, including such sums as may be necessary for contracting and other arrangements with public agencies and private persons pursuant to section 6(a)(9) of the Inspector General Act of 1978, and including not to exceed $125,000 for certain confidential operational expenses, including the payment of informants, to be expended under the direction of the Inspector General pursuant to Public Law 95–452 and section 1337 of Public Law 97–98.

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL

For necessary expenses of the Office of the General Counsel, $44,697,000.

OFFICE OF ETHICS

For necessary expenses of the Office of Ethics, $4,136,000.

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND ECONOMICS

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics, $893,000.

ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE

For necessary expenses of the Economic Research Service, $86,757,000.

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

For necessary expenses of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, $171,239,000, of which up to $42,177,000 shall be available until expended for the Census of Agriculture: *Provided*, That amounts made available for the Census of Agriculture may be used to conduct Current Industrial Report surveys subject to 7 U.S.C. 2204g(d) and (f).

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Agricultural Research Service and for acquisition of lands by donation, exchange, or purchase at a nominal cost not to exceed $100, and for land exchanges where the lands exchanged shall be of equal value or shall be equalized by a payment of money to the grantor which shall not exceed 25 percent of the total value of the land or interests transferred out of Federal ownership, $1,170,235,000: *Provided*, That appropriations hereunder shall be available for the operation and maintenance of aircraft and the purchase of not to exceed one for replacement only: *Provided further*, That appropriations hereunder shall be available pursuant to 7 U.S.C. 2250 for the construction, alteration, and repair of buildings and improvements, but unless otherwise provided, the cost of constructing any one building shall not exceed $500,000, except for headhouses or greenhouses which shall each be limited to $1,800,000, except for 10 buildings to be constructed or improved at a cost not to exceed $1,100,000 each, and except for two buildings to be constructed at a cost not to exceed $3,000,000 each, and the cost of altering any one building during the fiscal year shall not exceed 10 percent of the current replacement value of the building or $500,000, whichever is greater: *Provided further*, That appropriations hereunder shall be available for entering into lease agreements at any Agricultural Research Service location for the construction of a research facility by a non-Federal entity for use by the Agricultural Research Service and a condition of the lease shall be that any facility shall be owned, operated, and maintained by the non-Federal entity and shall be removed

upon the expiration or termination of the lease agreement: *Provided further*, That the limitations on alterations contained in this Act shall not apply to modernization or replacement of existing facilities at Beltsville, Maryland: *Provided further*, That appropriations hereunder shall be available for granting easements at the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center: *Provided further*, That the foregoing limitations shall not apply to replacement of buildings needed to carry out the Act of April 24, 1948 (21 U.S.C. 113a): *Provided further*, That appropriations hereunder shall be available for granting easements at any Agricultural Research Service location for the construction of a research facility by a non-Federal entity for use by, and acceptable to, the Agricultural Research Service and a condition of the easements shall be that upon completion the facility shall be accepted by the Secretary, subject to the availability of funds herein, if the Secretary finds that acceptance of the facility is in the interest of the United States: *Provided further*, That funds may be received from any State, other political subdivision, organization, or individual for the purpose of establishing or operating any research facility or research project of the Agricultural Research Service, as authorized by law.

BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

For the acquisition of land, construction, repair, improvement, extension, alteration, and purchase of fixed equipment or facilities as necessary to carry out the agricultural research programs of the Department of Agriculture, where not otherwise provided, $99,600,000 to remain available until expended.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

RESEARCH AND EDUCATION ACTIVITIES

For payments to agricultural experiment stations, for cooperative forestry and other research, for facilities, and for other expenses, $849,518,000, which shall be for the purposes, and in the amounts, specified in the table titled ''National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Research and Education Activities'' in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act): *Provided*, That funds for research grants for 1994 institutions, education grants for 1890 institutions, capacity building for non-land-grant colleges of agriculture, the agriculture and food research initiative, veterinary medicine loan repayment, multicultural scholars, graduate fellowship and institution challenge grants, and grants management systems shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That each institution eligible to receive funds under the Evans-Allen program receives no less than $1,000,000: *Provided further*, That funds for education grants for Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian-serving institutions be made available to individual eligible institutions or consortia of eligible institutions with funds awarded equally to each of the States of Alaska and Hawaii: *Provided further*, That funds for education grants for 1890 institutions shall be made available to institutions eligible to receive funds under 7 U.S.C. 3221 and 3222: *Provided further*, That not more than 5 percent of the amounts made available by this or any other Act to carry out the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative under 7 U.S.C. 450i(b) may be retained by the Secretary of Agriculture to pay administrative costs incurred by the Secretary in carrying out that authority.

NATIVE AMERICAN INSTITUTIONS ENDOWMENT FUND

For the Native American Institutions Endowment Fund authorized by Public Law 103–382 (7 U.S.C. 301 note), $11,880,000, to remain available until expended.

EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

For payments to States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, the Virgin Islands, Micronesia, the Northern Marianas, and American Samoa, $477,391,000, which shall be for the purposes, and in the amounts, specified in the table titled ''National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Extension Activities'' in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act): *Provided*, That funds for facility improvements at 1890 institutions shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That institutions eligible to receive funds under 7 U.S.C. 3221 for cooperative extension receive no less than $1,000,000: *Provided further*, That funds for cooperative extension under sections 3(b) and (c) of the Smith-Lever Act (7 U.S.C. 343(b) and (c)) and section 208(c) of Public Law 93–471 shall be available for retirement and employees' compensation costs for extension agents.

INTEGRATED ACTIVITIES

For the integrated research, education, and extension grants programs, including necessary administrative expenses, $36,000,000, which shall be for the purposes, and in the amounts, specified in the table titled ''National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Integrated Activities'' in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act): *Provided*, That funds for the Food and Agriculture Defense Initiative shall remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, indirect costs shall not be charged against any Extension Implementation Program Area grant awarded under the Crop Protection/Pest Management Program (7 U.S.C. 7626).

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR MARKETING AND REGULATORY PROGRAMS

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs, $901,000.

ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, including up to $30,000 for representation allowances and for expenses pursuant to the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 4085), $946,212,000, of which $477,000, to remain available until expended, shall be available for the control of outbreaks of insects, plant diseases, animal diseases and for control of pest animals and birds (''contingency fund'') to the extent necessary to meet emergency conditions; of which $11,520,000, to remain available until expended, shall be used for the cotton pests program for cost share purposes or for debt retirement for active eradication zones; of which $37,857,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for Animal Health Technical Services; of which $697,000 shall be for activities under the authority of the Horse Protection Act of 1970, as amended (15 U.S.C. 1831); of which $55,340,000, to remain available until expended, shall be used to support avian health; of which $4,251,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for information technology infrastructure; of which $166,500,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for specialty crop pests; of which, $8,826,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for field crop and rangeland ecosystem pests; of which $16,523,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for zoonotic disease management; of which $40,966,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for emergency preparedness and response; of which $54,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for tree and wood pests; of which $5,723,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for the National Veterinary Stockpile; of which up to $1,500,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for the scrapie program for indemnities; of which $2,500,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for the wildlife damage management program for aviation safety: *Provided*, That of amounts available under this heading for wildlife services methods development, $1,000,000 shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That of amounts available under this heading for the screwworm program, $4,990,000 shall remain available until expended; of which $3,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for National Bio and Agro-Defense human capital development: *Provided further*, That no funds shall be used to formulate or administer a brucellosis eradication program for the current fiscal year that does not require minimum matching by the States of at least 40 percent: *Provided further*, That this appropriation shall be available for the operation and maintenance of aircraft and the purchase of not to exceed five, of which two shall be for replacement only: *Provided further*, That in addition, in emergencies which threaten any segment of the agricultural production industry of this country, the Secretary may transfer from other appropriations or funds available to the agencies or corporations of the Department such sums as may be deemed necessary, to be available only in such emergencies for the arrest and eradication of contagious or infectious disease or pests of animals, poultry, or plants, and for expenses in accordance with sections 10411 and 10417 of the Animal Health Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 8310 and 8316) and sections 431 and 442 of the Plant Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 7751 and 7772), and any unexpended balances of funds transferred for such emergency purposes in the preceding fiscal year shall be merged with such transferred amounts: *Provided further*, That appropriations hereunder shall be available pursuant to law (7 U.S.C. 2250) for the repair and alteration of leased buildings and improvements, but unless otherwise provided the cost of altering any one building during the fiscal year shall not exceed 10 percent of the current replacement value of the building.

In fiscal year 2017, the agency is authorized to collect fees to cover the total costs of providing technical assistance, goods, or services requested by States, other political subdivisions, domestic and international organizations, foreign governments, or individuals, provided that such fees are structured such that any entity's liability for such fees is reasonably based on the technical assistance, goods, or services provided to the entity by the agency, and such fees shall be reimbursed to this account, to remain available until expended, without further appropriation, for providing such assistance, goods, or services.

BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

For plans, construction, repair, preventive maintenance, environmental support, improvement, extension, alteration, and purchase of fixed equipment or facilities, as authorized by 7 U.S.C. 2250, and acquisition of land as authorized by 7 U.S.C. 428a, $3,175,000, to remain available until expended.

AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

MARKETING SERVICES

For necessary expenses of the Agricultural Marketing Service, $84,933,000, of which $1,000,000 shall be available for the purposes of section 12306 of Public Law 113–79: *Provided*, That of the funds provided herein, $1,000,000 shall be used for the transportation services division: *Provided further*, That of the amounts made available under this heading, no more than $1,000,000 shall be used for the purpose of Public Law 114–216: *Provided further*, That this appropriation shall be available pursuant to law (7 U.S.C. 2250) for the alteration and repair of buildings and improvements, but the cost of altering any one building during the fiscal year shall not exceed 10 percent of the current replacement value of the building.

Fees may be collected for the cost of standardization activities, as established by regulation pursuant to law (31 U.S.C. 9701).

LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

Not to exceed $61,227,000 (from fees collected) shall be obligated during the current fiscal year for administrative expenses: *Provided*, That if crop size is understated and/or other uncontrollable events occur, the agency may exceed this limitation by up to 10 percent with notification to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

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

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

Funds available under section 32 of the Act of August 24, 1935 (7 U.S.C. 612c), shall be used only for commodity program expenses as authorized therein, and other related operating expenses, except for: (1) transfers to the Department of Commerce as authorized by the Fish and Wildlife Act of August 8, 1956; (2) transfers otherwise provided in this Act; and (3) not more than $20,705,000 for formulation and administration of marketing agreements and orders pursuant to the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937 and the Agricultural Act of 1961.

PAYMENTS TO STATES AND POSSESSIONS

For payments to departments of agriculture, bureaus and departments of markets, and similar agencies for marketing activities under section 204(b) of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1623(b)), $1,235,000.

GRAIN INSPECTION, PACKERS AND STOCKYARDS ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration, $43,482,000: *Provided*, That this appropriation shall be available pursuant to law (7 U.S.C. 2250) for the alteration and repair of buildings and improvements, but the cost of altering any one building during the fiscal year shall not exceed 10 percent of the current replacement value of the building.

LIMITATION ON INSPECTION AND WEIGHING SERVICES EXPENSES

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

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR FOOD SAFETY

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Food Safety, $819,000.

FOOD SAFETY AND INSPECTION SERVICE

For necessary expenses to carry out services authorized by the Federal Meat Inspection Act, the Poultry Products Inspection Act, and the Egg Products Inspection Act, including not to exceed $50,000 for representation allowances and for expenses pursuant to section 8 of the Act approved August 3, 1956 (7 U.S.C. 1766), $1,032,062,000; and in addition, $1,000,000 may be credited to this account from fees collected for the cost of laboratory accreditation as authorized by section 1327 of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 138f): *Provided*, That funds provided for the Public Health Data Communication Infrastructure system shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That no fewer than 148 full-time equivalent positions shall be employed during fiscal year 2017 for purposes dedicated solely to inspections and enforcement related to the Humane Methods of Slaughter Act: *Provided further*, That the Food Safety and Inspection Service shall continue implementation of section 11016 of Public Law 110–246 as further clarified by the amendments made in section 12106 of Public Law 113–79: *Provided further*, That this appropriation shall be available pursuant to law (7 U.S.C. 2250) for the alteration and repair of buildings and improvements, but the cost of altering any one building during the fiscal year shall not exceed 10 percent of the current replacement value of the building.

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR FARM AND FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICES

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services, $901,000.

FARM SERVICE AGENCY

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Farm Service Agency, $1,206,110,000: *Provided*, That not more than 50 percent of the $100,851,000 made available under this heading for information technology related to farm program delivery, including the Modernize and Innovate the Delivery of Agricultural Systems and other farm program delivery systems, may be obligated until the Secretary submits to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress, and receives written or electronic notification of receipt from such Committees of, a plan for expenditure that (1) identifies for each project/investment over $25,000 (a) the functional and performance capabilities to be delivered and the mission benefits to be realized, (b) the estimated lifecycle cost, including estimates for development as well as maintenance and operations, and (c) key milestones to be met; (2) demonstrates that each project/investment is (a) consistent with the Farm Service Agency Information Technology Roadmap, (b) being managed in accordance with applicable lifecycle management policies and guidance, and (c) subject to the applicable Department's capital planning and investment control requirements; and (3) has been reviewed by the Government Accountability Office and approved by the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress: *Provided further*, That the agency shall submit a report by the end of the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2017 to the Committees on Appropriations and the Government Accountability Office, that identifies for each project/investment that is operational (a) current performance against key indicators of customer satisfaction, (b) current performance of service level agreements or other technical metrics, (c) current performance against a pre-established cost baseline, (d) a detailed breakdown of current and planned spending on operational enhancements or upgrades, and (e) an assessment of whether the investment continues to meet business needs as intended as well as alternatives to the investment: *Provided further*, That the Secretary is authorized to use the services, facilities, and authorities (but not the funds) of the Commodity Credit Corporation to make program payments for all programs administered by the Agency: *Provided further*, That other funds made available to the Agency for authorized activities may be advanced to and merged with this account: *Provided further*, That funds made available to county committees shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That none of the funds available to the Farm Service Agency shall be used to close Farm Service Agency county offices: *Provided further*, That none of the funds available to the Farm Service Agency shall be used to permanently relocate county based employees that would result in an office with two or fewer employees without prior notification and approval of the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

STATE MEDIATION GRANTS

For grants pursuant to section 502(b) of the Agricultural Credit Act of 1987, as amended (7 U.S.C. 5101–5106), $3,904,000.

GRASSROOTS SOURCE WATER PROTECTION PROGRAM

For necessary expenses to carry out wellhead or groundwater protection activities under section 1240O of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839bb–2), $6,500,000, to remain available until expended.

DAIRY INDEMNITY PROGRAM

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses involved in making indemnity payments to dairy farmers and manufacturers of dairy products under a dairy indemnity program, such sums as may be necessary, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such program is carried out by the Secretary in the same manner as the dairy indemnity program described in the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2001 (Public Law 106–387, 114 Stat. 1549A–12).

AGRICULTURAL CREDIT INSURANCE FUND PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For gross obligations for the principal amount of direct and guaranteed farm ownership (7 U.S.C. 1922 et seq.) and operating (7 U.S.C. 1941 et seq.) loans, emergency loans (7 U.S.C. 1961 et seq.), Indian tribe land acquisition loans (25 U.S.C. 488), boll weevil loans (7 U.S.C. 1989), guaranteed conservation loans (7 U.S.C. 1924 et seq.), and Indian highly fractionated land loans (25 U.S.C. 488) to be available from funds in the Agricultural Credit Insurance Fund, as follows: $2,750,000,000 for guaranteed farm ownership loans and $1,500,000,000 for farm ownership direct loans; $1,960,000,000 for unsubsidized guaranteed operating loans and $1,530,000,000

for direct operating loans; emergency loans, $22,576,000; Indian tribe land acquisition loans, $20,000,000; guaranteed conservation loans, $150,000,000; Indian highly fractionated land loans, $10,000,000; and for boll weevil eradication program loans, $60,000,000: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall deem the pink bollworm to be a boll weevil for the purpose of boll weevil eradication program loans.

For the cost of direct and guaranteed loans and grants, including the cost of modifying loans as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, as follows: farm operating loans, $65,178,000 for direct operating loans, $20,972,000 for unsubsidized guaranteed operating loans, emergency loans, $1,262,000, to remain available until expended; and $2,550,000 for Indian highly fractionated land loans.

In addition, for administrative expenses necessary to carry out the direct and guaranteed loan programs, $317,068,000, of which $306,998,000 shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for ''Farm Service Agency, Salaries and Expenses''.

Funds appropriated by this Act to the Agricultural Credit Insurance Program Account for farm ownership, operating and conservation direct loans and guaranteed loans may be transferred among these programs: *Provided*, That the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress are notified at least 15 days in advance of any transfer.

RISK MANAGEMENT AGENCY

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Risk Management Agency, $74,829,000: *Provided*, That not to exceed $1,000 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses, as authorized by 7 U.S.C. 1506(i).

CORPORATIONS

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

FEDERAL CROP INSURANCE CORPORATION FUND

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

COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION FUND

REIMBURSEMENT FOR NET REALIZED LOSSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For the current fiscal year, such sums as may be necessary to reimburse the Commodity Credit Corporation for net realized losses sustained, but not previously reimbursed, pursuant to section 2 of the Act of August 17, 1961 (15 U.S.C. 713a–11): *Provided*, That of the funds available to the Commodity Credit Corporation under section 11 of the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act (15 U.S.C. 714i) for the conduct of its business with the Foreign Agricultural Service, up to $5,000,000 may be transferred to and used by the Foreign Agricultural Service for information resource management activities of the Foreign Agricultural Service that are not related to Commodity Credit Corporation business.

HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT

(LIMITATION ON EXPENSES)

For the current fiscal year, the Commodity Credit Corporation shall not expend more than $5,000,000 for site investigation and cleanup expenses, and operations and maintenance expenses to comply with the requirement of section 107(g) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (42 U.S.C. 9607(g)), and section 6001 of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (42 U.S.C. 6961).

TITLE II

CONSERVATION PROGRAMS

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment, $901,000.

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

CONSERVATION OPERATIONS

For necessary expenses for carrying out the provisions of the Act of April 27, 1935 (16 U.S.C. 590a–f), including preparation of conservation plans and establishment of measures to conserve soil and water (including farm irrigation and land drainage and such special measures for soil and water management as may be necessary to prevent floods and the siltation of reservoirs and to control agricultural related pollutants); operation of conservation plant materials centers; classification and mapping of soil; dissemination of information; acquisition of lands, water, and interests therein for use in the plant materials program by donation, exchange, or purchase at a nominal cost not to exceed $100 pursuant to the Act of August 3, 1956 (7 U.S.C. 428a); purchase and erection or alteration or improvement of permanent and temporary buildings; and operation and maintenance of aircraft, $864,474,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That appropriations hereunder shall be available pursuant to 7 U.S.C. 2250 for construction and improvement of buildings and public improvements at plant materials centers, except that the cost of alterations and improvements to other buildings and other public improvements shall not exceed $250,000: *Provided further*, That when buildings or other structures are erected on non-Federal land, that the right to use such land is obtained as provided in 7 U.S.C. 2250a: *Provided further*, That of the amounts made available under this heading, $5,600,000, shall remain available until expended for the authorities under 16 U.S.C. 1001–1005 and 1007–1009 for authorized ongoing watershed projects with a primary purpose of providing water to rural communities.

WATERSHED AND FLOOD PREVENTION OPERATIONS

For necessary expenses to carry out preventive measures, including but not limited to surveys and investigations, engineering operations, works of improvement, and changes in use of land, in accordance with the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act (16 U.S.C. 1001–1005 and 1007–1009) and in accordance with the provisions of laws relating to the activities of the Department, $150,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of the amounts made available under this heading, $50,000,000 shall be allocated to projects and activities that can commence promptly following enactment; that address regional priorities for flood prevention, agricultural water management, inefficient irrigation systems, fish and wildlife habitat, or watershed protection; or that address authorized ongoing projects under the authorities of section 13 of the Flood Control Act of December 22, 1944 (Public Law 78–534) with a primary purpose of watershed protection by preventing floodwater damage and stabilizing stream channels, tributaries, and banks to reduce erosion and sediment transport.

WATERSHED REHABILITATION PROGRAM

Under the authorities of section 14 of the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act, $12,000,000 is provided.

TITLE III

RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Rural Development, $896,000.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses for carrying out the administration and implementation of programs in the Rural Development mission area, including activities with institutions concerning the development and operation of agricultural cooperatives; and for cooperative agreements; $225,835,000: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds appropriated under this heading may be used for advertising and promotional activities that support the Rural Development mission area: *Provided further*, That any balances available from prior years for the Rural Utilities Service, Rural Housing Service, and the Rural Business—Cooperative Service salaries and expenses accounts shall be transferred to and merged with this appropriation.

RURAL HOUSING SERVICE

RURAL HOUSING INSURANCE FUND PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For gross obligations for the principal amount of direct and guaranteed loans as authorized by title V of the Housing Act of 1949, to be available from funds in the rural housing insurance fund, as follows: $1,000,000,000 shall be for direct loans and $24,000,000,000 shall be for unsubsidized guaranteed loans; $26,278,000 for section 504 housing repair loans; $35,000,000 for section 515 rental housing; $230,000,000 for section 538 guaranteed multi-family housing loans; $10,000,000 for credit sales of single family housing acquired property; $5,000,000 for section 523 self-help housing land development loans; and $5,000,000 for section 524 site development loans.

For the cost of direct and guaranteed loans, including the cost of modifying loans, as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, as follows: section 502 loans, $67,700,000 shall be for direct loans; section 504 housing repair loans, $3,663,000; section 523 self-help housing land development loans, $417,000; section 524 site development loans, $111,000; and repair, rehabilitation, and new construction of section 515 rental housing, $10,360,000: *Provided*, That to support the loan program level for section 538 guaranteed loans made available under this heading the Secretary may charge or adjust any fees to cover the projected cost of such loan guarantees pursuant to the provisions of the Credit Reform Act of 1990 (2 U.S.C. 661 et seq.), and the interest on such loans may not be subsidized: *Provided further*, That applicants in communities that have a current rural area waiver under section 541 of the Housing Act of 1949 (42 U.S.C. 1490q) shall be treated as living in a rural area for purposes of section 502 guaranteed loans provided under this heading: *Provided further*, That of the amounts available under this

paragraph for section 502 direct loans, no less than $5,000,000 shall be available for direct loans for individuals whose homes will be built pursuant to a program funded with a mutual and self-help housing grant authorized by section 523 of the Housing Act of 1949 until June 1, 2017: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall implement provisions to provide incentives to nonprofit organizations and public housing authorities to facilitate the acquisition of Rural Housing Service (RHS) multifamily housing properties by such nonprofit organizations and public housing authorities that commit to keep such properties in the RHS multifamily housing program for a period of time as determined by the Secretary, with such incentives to include, but not be limited to, the following: allow such nonprofit entities and public housing authorities to earn a Return on Investment (ROI) on their own resources to include proceeds from low income housing tax credit syndication, own contributions, grants, and developer loans at favorable rates and terms, invested in a deal; and allow reimbursement of organizational costs associated with owner's oversight of asset referred to as ''Asset Management Fee'' (AMF) of up to $7,500 per property.

In addition, for the cost of direct loans, grants, and contracts, as authorized by 42 U.S.C. 1484 and 1486, $15,387,000, to remain available until expended, for direct farm labor housing loans and domestic farm labor housing grants and contracts: *Provided*, That any balances available for the Farm Labor Program Account shall be transferred to and merged with this account.

In addition, for administrative expenses necessary to carry out the direct and guaranteed loan programs, $412,254,000 shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for ''Rural Development, Salaries and Expenses''.

RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

For rental assistance agreements entered into or renewed pursuant to the authority under section 521(a)(2) or agreements entered into in lieu of debt forgiveness or payments for eligible households as authorized by section 502(c)(5)(D) of the Housing Act of 1949, $1,405,033,000, of which $40,000,000 shall be available until September 30, 2018; and in addition such sums as may be necessary, as authorized by section 521(c) of the Act, to liquidate debt incurred prior to fiscal year 1992 to carry out the rental assistance program under section 521(a)(2) of the Act: *Provided*, That rental assistance agreements entered into or renewed during the current fiscal year shall be funded for a one-year period: *Provided further*, That any unexpended balances remaining at the end of such one-year agreements may be transferred and used for purposes of any debt reduction; maintenance, repair, or rehabilitation of any existing projects; preservation; and rental assistance activities authorized under title V of the Act: *Provided further*, That rental assistance provided under agreements entered into prior to fiscal year 2017 for a farm labor multi-family housing project financed under section 514 or 516 of the Act may not be recaptured for use in another project until such assistance has remained unused for a period of 12 consecutive months, if such project has a waiting list of tenants seeking such assistance or the project has rental assistance eligible tenants who are not receiving such assistance: *Provided further*, That such recaptured rental assistance shall, to the extent practicable, be applied to another farm labor multi-family housing project financed under section 514 or 516 of the Act: *Provided further*, That except as provided in the third proviso under this heading and notwithstanding any other provision of the Act, the Secretary may recapture rental assistance provided under agreements entered into prior to fiscal year 2017 for a project that the Secretary determines no longer needs rental assistance and use such recaptured funds for current needs.

MULTI-FAMILY HOUSING REVITALIZATION PROGRAM ACCOUNT

For the rural housing voucher program as authorized under section 542 of the Housing Act of 1949, but notwithstanding subsection (b) of such section, and for additional costs to conduct a demonstration program for the preservation and revitalization of multi-family rental housing properties described in this paragraph, $41,400,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of the funds made available under this heading, $19,400,000, shall be available for rural housing vouchers to any low-income household (including those not receiving rental assistance) residing in a property financed with a section 515 loan which has been prepaid after September 30, 2005: *Provided further*, That the amount of such voucher shall be the difference between comparable market rent for the section 515 unit and the tenant paid rent for such unit: *Provided further*, That funds made available for such vouchers shall be subject to the availability of annual appropriations: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall, to the maximum extent practicable, administer such vouchers with current regulations and administrative guidance applicable to section 8 housing vouchers administered by the Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development: *Provided further*, That if the Secretary determines that the amount made available for vouchers in this or any other Act is not needed for vouchers, the Secretary may use such funds for the demonstration program for the preservation and revitalization of multi-family rental housing properties described in this paragraph: *Provided further*, That of the funds made available under this heading, $22,000,000 shall be available for a demonstration program for the preservation and revitalization of the sections 514, 515, and 516 multi-family rental housing properties to restructure existing USDA multi-family housing loans, as the Secretary deems appropriate, expressly for the purposes of ensuring the project has sufficient resources to preserve the project for the purpose of providing safe and affordable housing for low-income residents and farm laborers including reducing or eliminating interest; deferring loan payments, subordinating, reducing or reamortizing loan debt; and other financial assistance including advances, payments and incentives (including the ability of owners to obtain reasonable returns on investment) required by the Secretary: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall as part of the preservation and revitalization agreement obtain a restrictive use agreement consistent with the terms of the restructuring: *Provided further*, That if the Secretary determines that additional funds for vouchers described in this paragraph are needed, funds for the preservation and revitalization demonstration program may be used for such vouchers: *Provided further*, That if Congress enacts legislation to permanently authorize a multi-family rental housing loan restructuring program similar to the demonstration program described herein, the Secretary may use funds made available for the demonstration program under this heading to carry out such legislation with the prior approval of the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress: *Provided further*, That in addition to any other available funds, the Secretary may expend not more than $1,000,000 total, from the program funds made available under this heading, for administrative expenses for activities funded under this heading.

MUTUAL AND SELF-HELP HOUSING GRANTS

For grants and contracts pursuant to section 523(b)(1)(A) of the Housing Act of 1949 (42 U.S.C. 1490c), $30,000,000, to remain available until expended.

RURAL HOUSING ASSISTANCE GRANTS

For grants for very low-income housing repair and rural housing preservation made by the Rural Housing Service, as authorized by 42 U.S.C. 1474, and 1490m, $33,701,000, to remain available until expended.

RURAL COMMUNITY FACILITIES PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For gross obligations for the principal amount of direct and guaranteed loans as authorized by section 306 and described in section 381E(d)(1) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, $2,600,000,000 for direct loans and $148,305,000 for guaranteed loans.

For the cost of guaranteed loans, including the cost of modifying loans, as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, $3,322,000, to remain available until expended.

For the cost of grants for rural community facilities programs as authorized by section 306 and described in section 381E(d)(1) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, $43,778,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That $4,000,000 of the amount appropriated under this heading shall be available for a Rural Community Development Initiative: *Provided further*, That such funds shall be used solely to develop the capacity and ability of private, nonprofit community-based housing and community development organizations, low-income rural communities, and Federally Recognized Native American Tribes to undertake projects to improve housing, community facilities, community and economic development projects in rural areas: *Provided further*, That such funds shall be made available to qualified private, nonprofit and public intermediary organizations proposing to carry out a program of financial and technical assistance: *Provided further*, That such intermediary organizations shall provide matching funds from other sources, including Federal funds for related activities, in an amount not less than funds provided: *Provided further*, That $5,778,000 of the amount appropriated under this heading shall be to provide grants for facilities in rural communities with extreme unemployment and severe economic depression (Public Law 106–387), with up to 5 percent for administration and capacity building in the State rural development offices: *Provided further*, That $4,000,000 of the amount appropriated under this heading shall be available for community facilities grants to tribal colleges, as authorized by section 306(a)(19) of such Act: *Provided further*, That sections 381E–H and 381N of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act are not applicable to the funds made available under this heading.

RURAL BUSINESS—COOPERATIVE SERVICE

RURAL BUSINESS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For the cost of loan guarantees and grants, for the rural business development programs

authorized by section 310B and described in subsections (a), (c), (f) and (g) of section 310B of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, $65,319,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of the amount appropriated under this heading, not to exceed $500,000 shall be made available for one grant to a qualified national organization to provide technical assistance for rural transportation in order to promote economic development and $6,000,000 shall be for grants to the Delta Regional Authority (7 U.S.C. 2009aa et seq.) and the Appalachian Regional Commission (40 U.S.C. 14101 et seq.) for any Rural Community Advancement Program purpose as described in section 381E(d) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, of which not more than 5 percent may be used for administrative expenses: *Provided further*, That $4,000,000 of the amount appropriated under this heading shall be for business grants to benefit Federally Recognized Native American Tribes, including $250,000 for a grant to a qualified national organization to provide technical assistance for rural transportation in order to promote economic development: *Provided further*, That sections 381E–H and 381N of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act are not applicable to funds made available under this heading.

INTERMEDIARY RELENDING PROGRAM FUND ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the principal amount of direct loans, as authorized by the Intermediary Relending Program Fund Account (7 U.S.C. 1936b), $18,889,000.

For the cost of direct loans, $5,476,000, as authorized by the Intermediary Relending Program Fund Account (7 U.S.C. 1936b), of which $557,000 shall be available through June 30, 2017, for Federally Recognized Native American Tribes; and of which $1,072,000 shall be available through June 30, 2017, for Mississippi Delta Region counties (as determined in accordance with Public Law 100–460): *Provided*, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

In addition, for administrative expenses to carry out the direct loan programs, $4,468,000 shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for ''Rural Development, Salaries and Expenses''.

RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

For the principal amount of direct loans, as authorized under section 313 of the Rural Electrification Act, for the purpose of promoting rural economic development and job creation projects, $42,213,000.

Of the funds derived from interest on the cushion of credit payments, as authorized by section 313 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936, $132,000,000 shall not be obligated and $132,000,000 are rescinded.

The cost of grants authorized under section 313 of the Rural Electrification Act, for the purpose of promoting rural economic development and job creation projects shall not exceed $10,000,000.

RURAL COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

For rural cooperative development grants authorized under section 310B(e) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1932), $26,550,000, of which $2,750,000 shall be for cooperative agreements for the appropriate technology transfer for rural areas program: *Provided*, That not to exceed $3,000,000 shall be for grants for cooperative development centers, individual cooperatives, or groups of cooperatives that serve socially disadvantaged groups and a majority of the boards of directors or governing boards of which are comprised of individuals who are members of socially disadvantaged groups; and of which $15,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for value-added agricultural product market development grants, as authorized by section 231 of the Agricultural Risk Protection Act of 2000 (7 U.S.C. 1632a).

RURAL ENERGY FOR AMERICA PROGRAM

For the cost of a program of loan guarantees, under the same terms and conditions as authorized by section 9007 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 8107), $352,000: *Provided*, That the cost of loan guarantees, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE

RURAL WATER AND WASTE DISPOSAL PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For the cost of direct loans, loan guarantees, and grants for the rural water, waste water, waste disposal, and solid waste management programs authorized by sections 306, 306A, 306C, 306D, 306E, and 310B and described in sections 306C(a)(2), 306D, 306E, and 381E(d)(2) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, $571,190,000, to remain available until expended, of which not to exceed $1,000,000 shall be available for the rural utilities program described in section 306(a)(2)(B) of such Act, and of which not to exceed $993,000 shall be available for the rural utilities program described in section 306E of such Act: *Provided*, That not to exceed $10,000,000 of the amount appropriated under this heading shall be for grants authorized by section 306A(i)(2) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act in addition to funding authorized by section 306A(i)(1) of such Act: *Provided further*, That $64,000,000 of the amount appropriated under this heading shall be for loans and grants including water and waste disposal systems grants authorized by section 306C(a)(2)(B) and section 306D of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, and Federally Recognized Native American Tribes authorized by 306C(a)(1) of such Act: *Provided further*, That funding provided for section 306D of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act may be provided to a consortium formed pursuant to section 325 of Public Law 105–83: *Provided further*, That not more than 2 percent of the funding provided for section 306D of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act may be used by the State of Alaska for training and technical assistance programs and not more than 2 percent of the funding provided for section 306D of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act may be used by a consortium formed pursuant to section 325 of Public Law 105–83 for training and technical assistance programs: *Provided further*, That not to exceed $20,000,000 of the amount appropriated under this heading shall be for technical assistance grants for rural water and waste systems pursuant to section 306(a)(14) of such Act, unless the Secretary makes a determination of extreme need, of which $6,500,000 shall be made available for a grant to a qualified nonprofit multi-State regional technical assistance organization, with experience in working with small communities on water and waste water problems, the principal purpose of such grant shall be to assist rural communities with populations of 3,300 or less, in improving the planning, financing, development, operation, and management of water and waste water systems, and of which not less than $800,000 shall be for a qualified national Native American organization to provide technical assistance for rural water systems for tribal communities: *Provided further*, That not to exceed $16,897,000 of the amount appropriated under this heading shall be for contracting with qualified national organizations for a circuit rider program to provide technical assistance for rural water systems: *Provided further*, That not to exceed $4,000,000 shall be for solid waste management grants: *Provided further*, That $10,000,000 of the amount appropriated under this heading shall be transferred to, and merged with, the Rural Utilities Service, High Energy Cost Grants Account to provide grants authorized under section 19 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 918a): *Provided further*, That any prior year balances for high-energy cost grants authorized by section 19 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 918a) shall be transferred to and merged with the Rural Utilities Service, High Energy Cost Grants Account: *Provided further*, That sections 381E–H and 381N of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act are not applicable to the funds made available under this heading.

RURAL ELECTRIFICATION AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The principal amount of direct and guaranteed loans as authorized by sections 305 and 306 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 935 and 936) shall be made as follows: loans made pursuant to section 306 of that Act, rural electric, $5,500,000,000; guaranteed underwriting loans pursuant to section 313A, $750,000,000; 5 percent rural telecommunications loans, cost of money rural telecommunications loans, and for loans made pursuant to section 306 of that Act, rural telecommunications loans, $690,000,000: *Provided*, That up to $2,000,000,000 shall be used for the construction, acquisition, or improvement of fossil-fueled electric generating plants (whether new or existing) that utilize carbon sequestration systems.

For the cost of direct loans as authorized by section 305 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 935), including the cost of modifying loans, as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, cost of money rural telecommunications loans, $3,071,000.

In addition, for administrative expenses necessary to carry out the direct and guaranteed loan programs, $33,270,000, which shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for ''Rural Development, Salaries and Expenses''.

DISTANCE LEARNING, TELEMEDICINE, AND BROADBAND PROGRAM

For the principal amount of broadband telecommunication loans, $27,043,000.

For grants for telemedicine and distance learning services in rural areas, as authorized by 7 U.S.C. 950aaa et seq., $26,600,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That $3,000,000 shall be made available for grants authorized by 379G of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act: *Provided further*, That funding provided under this heading for grants under 379G of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act may only be provided to entities that meet all of the eligibility criteria for a consortium as established by this section.

For the cost of broadband loans, as authorized by section 601 of the Rural Electrification Act, $4,500,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the cost of direct loans shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

In addition, $34,500,000, to remain available until expended, for a grant program to finance broadband transmission in rural areas eligible for Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program benefits authorized by 7 U.S.C. 950aaa.

TITLE IV

DOMESTIC FOOD PROGRAMS

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR FOOD, NUTRITION, AND CONSUMER SERVICES

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Under Secretary for Food, Nutrition, and Consumer Services, $814,000.

FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICE

CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAMS

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses to carry out the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.), except section 21, and the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.), except sections 17 and 21; $22,793,982,000 to remain available through September 30, 2018, of which such sums as are made available under section 14222(b)(1) of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–246), as amended by this Act, shall be merged with and available for the same time period and purposes as provided herein: *Provided*, That of the total amount available, $17,004,000 shall be available to carry out section 19 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.): *Provided further*, That of the total amount available, $25,000,000 shall be available to provide competitive grants to State agencies for subgrants to local educational agencies and schools to purchase the equipment needed to serve healthier meals, improve food safety, and to help support the establishment, maintenance, or expansion of the school breakfast program: *Provided further*, That of the total amount available, $23,000,000 shall remain available until expended to carry out section 749(g) of the Agriculture Appropriations Act of 2010 (Public Law 111–80): *Provided further*, That section 26(d) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1769g(d)) is amended in the first sentence by striking ''2010 through 2016'' and inserting ''2010 through 2017'': *Provided further*, That section 9(h)(3) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1758(h)(3)) is amended in the first sentence by striking ''for each of fiscal years 2011 through 2015'' and inserting ''for fiscal year 2017'': *Provided further*, That section 9(h)(4) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1758(h)(4)) is amended in the first sentence by striking ''for each of fiscal years 2011 through 2015'' and inserting ''for fiscal year 2017''.

SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC)

For necessary expenses to carry out the special supplemental nutrition program as authorized by section 17 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786), $6,350,000,000, to remain available through September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That notwithstanding section 17(h)(10) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786(h)(10)), not less than $60,000,000 shall be used for breastfeeding peer counselors and other related activities, and $13,600,000 shall be used for infrastructure: *Provided further*, That none of the funds provided in this account shall be available for the purchase of infant formula except in accordance with the cost containment and competitive bidding requirements specified in section 17 of such Act: *Provided further*, That none of the funds provided shall be available for activities that are not fully reimbursed by other Federal Government departments or agencies unless authorized by section 17 of such Act: *Provided further*, That upon termination of a federally mandated vendor moratorium and subject to terms and conditions established by the Secretary, the Secretary may waive the requirement at 7 CFR 246.12(g)(6) at the request of a State agency.

SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

For necessary expenses to carry out the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.), $78,480,694,000, of which $3,000,000,000, to remain available through December 31, 2018, shall be placed in reserve for use only in such amounts and at such times as may become necessary to carry out program operations: *Provided*, That funds provided herein shall be expended in accordance with section 16 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008: *Provided further*, That of the funds made available under this heading, $998,000 may be used to provide nutrition education services to State agencies and Federally Recognized Tribes participating in the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations: *Provided further*, That this appropriation shall be subject to any work registration or workfare requirements as may be required by law: *Provided further*, That funds made available for Employment and Training under this heading shall remain available through September 30, 2018: *Provided further*, That funds made available under this heading for section 28(d)(1), section 4(b), and section 27(a) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 shall remain available through September 30, 2018: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available under this heading may be obligated or expended in contravention of section 213A of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1183A): *Provided further*, That funds made available under this heading may be used to enter into contracts and employ staff to conduct studies, evaluations, or to conduct activities related to program integrity provided that such activities are authorized by the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008.

COMMODITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

For necessary expenses to carry out disaster assistance and the Commodity Supplemental Food Program as authorized by section 4(a) of the Agriculture and Consumer Protection Act of 1973 (7 U.S.C. 612c note); the Emergency Food Assistance Act of 1983; special assistance for the nuclear affected islands, as authorized by section 103(f)(2) of the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003 (Public Law 108–188); and the Farmers' Market Nutrition Program, as authorized by section 17(m) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966, $315,139,000, to remain available through September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That none of these funds shall be available to reimburse the Commodity Credit Corporation for commodities donated to the program: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, effective with funds made available in fiscal year 2017 to support the Seniors Farmers' Market Nutrition Program, as authorized by section 4402 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002, such funds shall remain available through September 30, 2018: *Provided further*, That of the funds made available under section 27(a) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2036(a)), the Secretary may use up to 10 percent for costs associated with the distribution of commodities.

NUTRITION PROGRAMS ADMINISTRATION

For necessary administrative expenses of the Food and Nutrition Service for carrying out any domestic nutrition assistance program, $170,716,000: *Provided*, That of the funds provided herein, $17,700,000 shall be available until expended for relocation expenses and for the alteration and repair of buildings and improvements pursuant to 7 U.S.C. 2250: *Provided further*, That of the funds provided herein, $2,000,000 shall be used for the purposes of section 4404 of Public Law 107–171, as amended by section 4401 of Public Law 110–246: *Provided further*, That of the funds provided herein, $1,000,000 shall be used to contract for an independent study to identify the best means of consolidating and coordinating reporting requirements under Child Nutrition Programs to eliminate redundancy, increase efficiency, and reduce the reporting burden on school food authorities and State agencies.

TITLE V

FOREIGN ASSISTANCE AND RELATED PROGRAMS

FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Foreign Agricultural Service, including not to exceed $250,000 for representation allowances and for expenses pursuant to section 8 of the Act approved August 3, 1956 (7 U.S.C. 1766), $196,571,000: *Provided*, That the Service may utilize advances of funds, or reimburse this appropriation for expenditures made on behalf of Federal agencies, public and private organizations and institutions under agreements executed pursuant to the agricultural food production assistance programs (7 U.S.C. 1737) and the foreign assistance programs of the United States Agency for International Development: *Provided further*, That funds made available for middle-income country training programs, funds made available for the Borlaug International Agricultural Science and Technology Fellowship program, and up to $2,000,000 of the Foreign Agricultural Service appropriation solely for the purpose of offsetting fluctuations in international currency exchange rates, subject to documentation by the Foreign Agricultural Service, shall remain available until expended.

FOOD FOR PEACE TITLE I DIRECT CREDIT AND FOOD FOR PROGRESS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For administrative expenses to carry out the credit program of title I, Food for Peace Act (Public Law 83–480) and the Food for Progress Act of 1985, $149,000, shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for ''Farm Service Agency, Salaries and Expenses''.

FOOD FOR PEACE TITLE II GRANTS

For expenses during the current fiscal year, not otherwise recoverable, and unrecovered prior years' costs, including interest thereon, under the Food for Peace Act (Public Law 83–480), for commodities supplied in connection with dispositions abroad under title II of said Act, $1,466,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development shall in each instance notify in writing the Committees

on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress, the Committee on Agriculture of the House, and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate and make publicly available online the amount and use of authority in section 202(a) of the Food for Peace Act (7 U.S.C. 1722(a)) to notwithstand the minimum level of nonemergency assistance required by section 412(e)(2) of the Food for Peace Act (7 U.S.C. 1736f(e)(2)) not later than 15 days after the date of such action.

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

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of section 3107 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 1736o–1), $201,626,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the Commodity Credit Corporation is authorized to provide the services, facilities, and authorities for the purpose of implementing such section, subject to reimbursement from amounts provided herein: *Provided further*, That of the amount made available under this heading, $5,000,000, shall remain available until expended for necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of section 3207 of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (7 U.S.C. 1726c).

COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION EXPORT (LOANS) CREDIT GUARANTEE PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For administrative expenses to carry out the Commodity Credit Corporation's Export Guarantee Program, GSM 102 and GSM 103, $8,537,000; to cover common overhead expenses as permitted by section 11 of the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act and in conformity with the Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990, of which $6,074,000 shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for ''Foreign Agricultural Service, Salaries and Expenses'', and of which $2,463,000 shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for ''Farm Service Agency, Salaries and Expenses''.

TITLE VI

RELATED AGENCY AND FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Food and Drug Administration, including hire and purchase of passenger motor vehicles; for payment of space rental and related costs pursuant to Public Law 92–313 for programs and activities of the Food and Drug Administration which are included in this Act; for rental of special purpose space in the District of Columbia or elsewhere; for miscellaneous and emergency expenses of enforcement activities, authorized and approved by the Secretary and to be accounted for solely on the Secretary's certificate, not to exceed $25,000; and notwithstanding section 521 of Public Law 107–188; $4,655,089,000: *Provided*, That of the amount provided under this heading, $754,524,000 shall be derived from prescription drug user fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 379h, and shall be credited to this account and remain available until expended; $126,083,000 shall be derived from medical device user fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 379j, and shall be credited to this account and remain available until expended; $323,011,000 shall be derived from human generic drug user fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 379j–42, and shall be credited to this account and remain available until expended; $22,079,000 shall be derived from biosimilar biological product user fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 379j–52, and shall be credited to this account and remain available until expended; $23,673,000 shall be derived from animal drug user fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 379j–12, and shall be credited to this account and remain available until expended; $11,341,000 shall be derived from animal generic drug user fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 379j–21, and shall be credited to this account and remain available until expended; $635,000,000 shall be derived from tobacco product user fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 387s, and shall be credited to this account and remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That in addition to and notwithstanding any other provision under this heading, amounts collected for prescription drug user fees, medical device user fees, human generic drug user fees, biosimilar biological product user fees, animal drug user fees, and animal generic drug user fees that exceed the respective fiscal year 2017 limitations are appropriated and shall be credited to this account and remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That fees derived from prescription drug, medical device, human generic drug, biosimilar biological product, animal drug, and animal generic drug assessments for fiscal year 2017, including any such fees collected prior to fiscal year 2017 but credited for fiscal year 2017, shall be subject to the fiscal year 2017 limitations: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may accept payment during fiscal year 2017 of user fees specified under this heading and authorized for fiscal year 2018, prior to the due date for such fees, and that amounts of such fees assessed for fiscal year 2018 for which the Secretary accepts payment in fiscal year 2017 shall not be included in amounts under this heading: *Provided further*, That none of these funds shall be used to develop, establish, or operate any program of user fees authorized by 31 U.S.C. 9701: *Provided further*, That of the total amount appropriated: (1) $1,025,503,000 shall be for the Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition and related field activities in the Office of Regulatory Affairs; (2) $1,329,328,000 shall be for the Center for Drug Evaluation and Research and related field activities in the Office of Regulatory Affairs; (3) $339,618,000 shall be for the Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research and for related field activities in the Office of Regulatory Affairs; (4) $194,252,000 shall be for the Center for Veterinary Medicine and for related field activities in the Office of Regulatory Affairs; (5) $427,928,000 shall be for the Center for Devices and Radiological Health and for related field activities in the Office of Regulatory Affairs; (6) $63,331,000 shall be for the National Center for Toxicological Research; (7) $596,338,000 shall be for the Center for Tobacco Products and for related field activities in the Office of Regulatory Affairs; (8) not to exceed $163,507,000 shall be for Rent and Related activities, of which $46,856,000 is for White Oak Consolidation, other than the amounts paid to the General Services Administration for rent; (9) not to exceed $231,293,000 shall be for payments to the General Services Administration for rent; and (10) $283,991,000 shall be for other activities, including the Office of the Commissioner of Food and Drugs, the Office of Foods and Veterinary Medicine, the Office of Medical and Tobacco Products, the Office of Global and Regulatory Policy, the Office of Operations, the Office of the Chief Scientist, and central services for these offices: *Provided further*, That not to exceed $25,000 of this amount shall be for official reception and representation expenses, not otherwise provided for, as determined by the Commissioner: *Provided further*, That any transfer of funds pursuant to section 770(n) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 379dd(n)) shall only be from amounts made available under this heading for other activities: *Provided further*, That of the amounts that are made available under this heading for ''other activities'', and that are not derived from user fees, $1,500,000 shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for ''Department of Health and Human Services—Office of Inspector General'' for oversight of the programs and operations of the Food and Drug Administration and shall be in addition to funds otherwise made available for oversight of the Food and Drug Administration: *Provided further*, That of the total amount made available under this heading, $3,000,000 shall be used by the Commissioner of Food and Drugs, in coordination with the Secretary of Agriculture, for consumer outreach and education regarding agricultural biotechnology and biotechnology-derived food products and animal feed, including through publication and distribution of science-based educational information on the environmental, nutritional, food safety, economic, and humanitarian impacts of such biotechnology, food products, and feed: *Provided further*, That funds may be transferred from one specified activity to another with the prior approval of the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

In addition, mammography user fees authorized by 42 U.S.C. 263b, export certification user fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 381, priority review user fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 360n and 360ff, food and feed recall fees, food reinspection fees, and voluntary qualified importer program fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 379j–31, outsourcing facility fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 379j–62, prescription drug wholesale distributor licensing and inspection fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 353(e)(3), third-party logistics provider licensing and inspection fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 360eee–3(c)(1), third-party auditor fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 384d(c)(8), and medical countermeasure priority review voucher user fees authorized by 21 U.S.C. 360bbb–4a, shall be credited to this account, to remain available until expended.

BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

For plans, construction, repair, improvement, extension, alteration, demolition, and purchase of fixed equipment or facilities of or used by the Food and Drug Administration, where not otherwise provided, $11,788,000, to remain available until expended.

INDEPENDENT AGENCY

FARM CREDIT ADMINISTRATION

LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

Not to exceed $68,600,000 (from assessments collected from farm credit institutions, including the Federal Agricultural Mortgage Corporation) shall be obligated during the current fiscal year for administrative expenses as authorized under 12 U.S.C. 2249: *Provided*, That this limitation shall not apply to expenses associated with receiverships: *Provided further*, That the agency may exceed this limitation by up to 10 percent with notification to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

TITLE VII

GENERAL PROVISIONS

(INCLUDING RESCISSIONS AND TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

SEC. 701. Within the unit limit of cost fixed by law, appropriations and authorizations

made for the Department of Agriculture for the current fiscal year under this Act shall be available for the purchase, in addition to those specifically provided for, of not to exceed 52 passenger motor vehicles of which 52 shall be for replacement only, and for the hire of such vehicles: *Provided*, That notwithstanding this section, the only purchase of new passenger vehicles shall be for those determined by the Secretary to be necessary for transportation safety, to reduce operational costs, and for the protection of life, property, and public safety.

SEC. 702. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture may transfer unobligated balances of discretionary funds appropriated by this Act or any other available unobligated discretionary balances that are remaining available of the Department of Agriculture to the Working Capital Fund for the acquisition of plant and capital equipment necessary for the delivery of financial, administrative, and information technology services of primary benefit to the agencies of the Department of Agriculture, such transferred funds to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That none of the funds made available by this Act or any other Act shall be transferred to the Working Capital Fund without the prior approval of the agency administrator: *Provided further*, That none of the funds transferred to the Working Capital Fund pursuant to this section shall be available for obligation without written notification to and the prior approval of the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress: *Provided further*, That none of the funds appropriated by this Act or made available to the Department's Working Capital Fund shall be available for obligation or expenditure to make any changes to the Department's National Finance Center without written notification to and prior approval of the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress as required by section 717 of this Act: *Provided further*, That of annual income amounts in the Working Capital Fund of the Department of Agriculture allocated for the National Finance Center, the Secretary may reserve not more than 4 percent for the replacement or acquisition of capital equipment, including equipment for the improvement and implementation of a financial management plan, information technology, and other systems of the National Finance Center or to pay any unforeseen, extraordinary cost of the National Finance Center: *Provided further*, That none of the amounts reserved shall be available for obligation unless the Secretary submits written notification of the obligation to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress: *Provided further*, That in addition to the funds appropriated or made available in this Act for the National Finance Center the Secretary shall make available $8,608,000 from unobligated balances of the Working Capital Fund and unobligated balances and reserves of the National Finance Center for travel, information technology, financial management systems, and related expenses incurred as a result of a February 2017 tornado: *Provided further*, That the limitations on the obligation of funds pending notification to Congressional Committees shall not apply to any obligation that, as determined by the Secretary, is necessary to respond to a declared state of emergency that significantly impacts the operations of the National Finance Center; or to evacuate employees of the National Finance Center to a safe haven to continue operations of the National Finance Center.

SEC. 703. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year unless expressly so provided herein.

SEC. 704. No funds appropriated by this Act may be used to pay negotiated indirect cost rates on cooperative agreements or similar arrangements between the United States Department of Agriculture and nonprofit institutions in excess of 10 percent of the total direct cost of the agreement when the purpose of such cooperative arrangements is to carry out programs of mutual interest between the two parties. This does not preclude appropriate payment of indirect costs on grants and contracts with such institutions when such indirect costs are computed on a similar basis for all agencies for which appropriations are provided in this Act.

SEC. 705. Appropriations to the Department of Agriculture for the cost of direct and guaranteed loans made available in the current fiscal year shall remain available until expended to disburse obligations made in the current fiscal year for the following accounts: the Rural Development Loan Fund program account, the Rural Electrification and Telecommunication Loans program account, and the Rural Housing Insurance Fund program account.

SEC. 706. None of the funds made available to the Department of Agriculture by this Act may be used to acquire new information technology systems or significant upgrades, as determined by the Office of the Chief Information Officer, without the approval of the Chief Information Officer and the concurrence of the Executive Information Technology Investment Review Board: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be transferred to the Office of the Chief Information Officer without written notification to and the prior approval of the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding section 11319 of title 40, United States Code, none of the funds available to the Department of Agriculture for information technology shall be obligated for projects, contracts, or other agreements over $25,000 prior to receipt of written approval by the Chief Information Officer: *Provided further*, That the Chief Information Officer may authorize an agency to obligate funds without written approval from the Chief Information Officer for projects, contracts, or other agreements up to $250,000 based upon the performance of an agency measured against the performance plan requirements described in the explanatory statement accompanying Public Law 113–235.

SEC. 707. Funds made available under section 524(b) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1524(b)) in the current fiscal year shall remain available until expended to disburse obligations made in the current fiscal year.

SEC. 708. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any former RUS borrower that has repaid or prepaid an insured, direct or guaranteed loan under the Rural Electrification Act of 1936, or any not-for-profit utility that is eligible to receive an insured or direct loan under such Act, shall be eligible for assistance under section 313(b)(2)(B) of such Act in the same manner as a borrower under such Act.

SEC. 709. Except as otherwise specifically provided by law, not more than $20,000,000 in unobligated balances from appropriations made available for salaries and expenses in this Act for the Farm Service Agency shall remain available through September 30, 2018, for information technology expenses: *Provided*, That except as otherwise specifically provided by law, unobligated balances from appropriations made available for salaries and expenses in this Act for the Rural Development mission area shall remain available through September 30, 2018, for information technology expenses.

SEC. 710. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used for first-class travel by the employees of agencies funded by this Act in contravention of sections 301–10.122 through 301–10.124 of title 41, Code of Federal Regulations.

SEC. 711. In the case of each program established or amended by the Agricultural Act of 2014 (Public Law 113–79), other than by title I or subtitle A of title III of such Act, or programs for which indefinite amounts were provided in that Act, that is authorized or required to be carried out using funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation—

(1) such funds shall be available for salaries and related administrative expenses, including technical assistance, associated with the implementation of the program, without regard to the limitation on the total amount of allotments and fund transfers contained in section 11 of the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act (15 U.S.C. 714i); and

(2) the use of such funds for such purpose shall not be considered to be a fund transfer or allotment for purposes of applying the limitation on the total amount of allotments and fund transfers contained in such section.

SEC. 712. Of the funds made available by this Act, not more than $2,000,000 shall be used to cover necessary expenses of activities related to all advisory committees, panels, commissions, and task forces of the Department of Agriculture, except for panels used to comply with negotiated rule makings and panels used to evaluate competitively awarded grants.

SEC. 713. None of the funds in this Act shall be available to pay indirect costs charged against any agricultural research, education, or extension grant awards issued by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture that exceed 30 percent of total Federal funds provided under each award: *Provided*, That notwithstanding section 1462 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3310), funds provided by this Act for grants awarded competitively by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture shall be available to pay full allowable indirect costs for each grant awarded under section 9 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638).

SEC. 714. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act shall be used to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel to carry out the following:

(1) The Watershed Rehabilitation program authorized by section 14(h)(1) of the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act (16 U.S.C. 1012(h)(1)) in excess of $9,000,000;

(2) The Environmental Quality Incentives Program as authorized by sections 1240-1240H of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839aa–3839aa–8) in excess of $1,357,000,000: *Provided*, That this limitation shall apply only to funds provided by section 1241(a)(5)(D) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3841(a)(5)(D));

(3) The Biomass Crop Assistance Program authorized by section 9011 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 8111) in excess of $3,000,000 in new obligational authority;

(4) The Biorefinery, Renewable Chemical and Biobased Product Manufacturing Assistance program as authorized by section 9003

of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 8103) in excess of $151,000,000 of the funding made available by subsection (g)(1)(A) of that section for all fiscal years; and

(5) A program authorized by section 524(b) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1524(b)) in excess of $7,000,000 for fiscal year 2017: *Provided*, That notwithstanding section 524(b)(4)(C)(i) and 524(b)(4)(C)(iii) this limitation shall not apply to funds provided by section 524(b)(4)(C)(ii).

SEC. 715. Notwithstanding subsection (b) of section 14222 of Public Law 110–246 (7 U.S.C. 612c–6; in this section referred to as ''section 14222''), none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act shall be used to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel to carry out a program under section 32 of the Act of August 24, 1935 (7 U.S.C. 612c; in this section referred to as ''section 32'') in excess of $886,000,000 (exclusive of carryover appropriations from prior fiscal years), as follows: Child Nutrition Programs Entitlement Commodities—$465,000,000; State Option Contracts—$5,000,000; Removal of Defective Commodities—$2,500,000; Administration of Section 32 Commodity Purchases—$35,440,000: *Provided*, That of the total funds made available in the matter preceding this proviso that remain unobligated on October 1, 2017, such unobligated balances shall carryover into the next fiscal year and shall remain available until expended for any of the three stated purposes of section 32, except that any such carryover funds used in accordance with clause (3) of section 32 may not exceed $75,000,000 and may not be obligated until the Secretary of Agriculture provides written notification of the expenditures to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress at least two weeks in advance: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available in this Act or any other Act shall be used for salaries and expenses to carry out in this fiscal year sub-section (i)(1)(E) of section 19 of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1769a), except in an amount that excludes the transfer of $125,000,000 of the funds to be transferred under subsection (c) of section 14222, until October 1, 2017: *Provided further*, That $125,000,000 made available on October 1, 2017, to carry out such section 19 shall be excluded from the limitation described in subsection (b)(2)(A)(x) of section 14222: *Provided further*, That, with the exception of any available carryover funds authorized in the first proviso of this section to be used for the purposes of clause (3) of section 32, none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act shall be used to pay the salaries or expenses of any employee of the Department of Agriculture or officer of the Commodity Credit Corporation to carry out clause (3) of section 32, or for any surplus removal activities or price support activities under section 5 of the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act (15 U.S.C. 714c): *Provided further*, That the available unobligated balances under (b)(2)(A)(ix) of section 14222 in excess of the limitation set forth in this section, excluding the carryover amounts authorized in the first proviso of this section for section 32 and the amounts to be transferred pursuant to the second proviso of this section, are hereby permanently rescinded.

SEC. 716. None of the funds appropriated by this or any other Act shall be used to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel who prepare or submit appropriations language as part of the President's budget submission to the Congress for programs under the jurisdiction of the Appropriations Subcommittees on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies that assumes revenues or reflects a reduction from the previous year due to user fees proposals that have not been enacted into law prior to the submission of the budget unless such budget submission identifies which additional spending reductions should occur in the event the user fees proposals are not enacted prior to the date of the convening of a committee of conference for the fiscal year 2018 appropriations Act.

SEC. 717. (a) None of the funds provided by this Act, or provided by previous appropriations Acts to the agencies funded by this Act that remain available for obligation or expenditure in the current fiscal year, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury derived by the collection of fees available to the agencies funded by this Act, shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a reprogramming, transfer of funds, or reimbursements as authorized by the Economy Act, or in the case of the Department of Agriculture, through use of the authority provided by section 702(b) of the Department of Agriculture Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2257) or section 8 of Public Law 89–106 (7 U.S.C. 2263), that—

(1) creates new programs;

(2) eliminates a program, project, or activity;

(3) increases funds or personnel by any means for any project or activity for which funds have been denied or restricted;

(4) relocates an office or employees;

(5) reorganizes offices, programs, or activities; or

(6) contracts out or privatizes any functions or activities presently performed by Federal employees;

unless the Secretary of Agriculture or the Secretary of Health and Human Services (as the case may be) notifies in writing and receives approval from the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress at least 30 days in advance of the reprogramming of such funds or the use of such authority.

(b) None of the funds provided by this Act, or provided by previous Appropriations Acts to the agencies funded by this Act that remain available for obligation or expenditure in the current fiscal year, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury derived by the collection of fees available to the agencies funded by this Act, shall be available for obligation or expenditure for activities, programs, or projects through a reprogramming or use of the authorities referred to in subsection (a) involving funds in excess of $500,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less, that—

(1) augments existing programs, projects, or activities;

(2) reduces by 10 percent funding for any existing program, project, or activity, or numbers of personnel by 10 percent as approved by Congress; or

(3) results from any general savings from a reduction in personnel which would result in a change in existing programs, activities, or projects as approved by Congress; unless the Secretary of Agriculture or the Secretary of Health and Human Services (as the case may be) notifies in writing and receives approval from the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress at least 30 days in advance of the reprogramming or transfer of such funds or the use of such authority.

(c) The Secretary of Agriculture or the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall notify in writing and receive approval from the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress before implementing any program or activity not carried out during the previous fiscal year unless the program or activity is funded by this Act or specifically funded by any other Act.

(d) None of the funds provided by this Act, or provided by previous Appropriations Acts to the agencies funded by this Act that remain available for obligation or expenditure in the current fiscal year, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury derived by the collection of fees available to the agencies funded by this Act, shall be available for—

(1) modifying major capital investments funding levels, including information technology systems, that involves increasing or decreasing funds in the current fiscal year for the individual investment in excess of $500,000 or 10 percent of the total cost, whichever is less;

(2) realigning or reorganizing new, current, or vacant positions or agency activities or functions to establish a center, office, branch, or similar entity with five or more personnel; or

(3) carrying out activities or functions that were not described in the budget request; unless the agencies funded by this Act notify, in writing, the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress at least 30 days in advance of using the funds for these purposes.

(e) As described in this section, no funds may be used for any activities unless the Secretary of Agriculture or the Secretary of Health and Human Services receives from the Committee on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress written or electronic mail confirmation of receipt of the notification as required in this section.

SEC. 718. Notwithstanding section 310B(g)(5) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1932(g)(5)), the Secretary may assess a one-time fee for any guaranteed business and industry loan in an amount that does not exceed 3 percent of the guaranteed principal portion of the loan.

SEC. 719. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available to the Department of Agriculture, the Food and Drug Administration, or the Farm Credit Administration shall be used to transmit or otherwise make available reports, questions, or responses to questions that are a result of information requested for the appropriations hearing process to any non-Department of Agriculture, non-Department of Health and Human Services, or non-Farm Credit Administration employee.

SEC. 720. Unless otherwise authorized by existing law, none of the funds provided in this Act, may be used by an executive branch agency to produce any prepackaged news story intended for broadcast or distribution in the United States unless the story includes a clear notification within the text or audio of the prepackaged news story that the prepackaged news story was prepared or funded by that executive branch agency.

SEC. 721. No employee of the Department of Agriculture may be detailed or assigned from an agency or office funded by this Act or any other Act to any other agency or office of the Department for more than 60 days in a fiscal year unless the individual's employing agency or office is fully reimbursed by the receiving agency or office for the salary and expenses of the employee for the period of assignment.

SEC. 722. In addition to amounts otherwise made available by this Act and notwithstanding the last sentence of 16 U.S.C. 1310,

there is appropriated $4,000,000, to remain available until expended, to implement nonrenewable agreements on eligible lands, including flooded agricultural lands, as determined by the Secretary, under the Water Bank Act (16 U.S.C. 1301–1311).

SEC. 723. Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration, and the Chairman of the Farm Credit Administration shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress a detailed spending plan by program, project, and activity for all the funds made available under this Act including appropriated user fees, as defined in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act).

SEC. 724. Funds made available under title II of the Food for Peace Act (7 U.S.C. 1721 et seq.) may only be used to provide assistance to recipient nations if adequate monitoring and controls, as determined by the Secretary, are in place to ensure that emergency food aid is received by the intended beneficiaries in areas affected by food shortages and not diverted for unauthorized or inappropriate purposes.

SEC. 725. The Secretary shall establish an intermediary loan packaging program based on the pilot program in effect for fiscal year 2013 for packaging and reviewing section 502 single family direct loans. The Secretary shall enter into agreements with current intermediary organizations and with additional qualified intermediary organizations. The Secretary shall work with these organizations to increase effectiveness of the section 502 single family direct loan program in rural communities and shall set aside and make available from the national reserve section 502 loans an amount necessary to support the work of such intermediaries and provide a priority for review of such loans.

SEC. 726. For loans and loan guarantees that do not require budget authority and the program level has been established in this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture may increase the program level for such loans and loan guarantees by not more than 25 percent: *Provided*, That prior to the Secretary implementing such an increase, the Secretary notifies, in writing, the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress at least 15 days in advance.

SEC. 727. None of the credit card refunds or rebates transferred to the Working Capital Fund pursuant to section 729 of the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2002 (7 U.S.C. 2235a; Public Law 107–76) shall be available for obligation without written notification to, and the prior approval of, the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress: *Provided*, That the refunds or rebates so transferred shall be available for obligation only for the acquisition of plant and capital equipment necessary for the delivery of financial, administrative, and information technology services of primary benefit to the agencies of the Department of Agriculture.

SEC. 728. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to procure processed poultry products imported into the United States from the People's Republic of China for use in the school lunch program under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.), the Child and Adult Care Food Program under section 17 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1766), the Summer Food Service Program for Children under section 13 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1761), or the school breakfast program under the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.).

SEC. 729. In response to an eligible community where the drinking water supplies are inadequate due to a natural disaster, as determined by the Secretary, including drought or severe weather, the Secretary may provide potable water through the Emergency Community Water Assistance Grant Program for an additional period of time not to exceed 120 days beyond the established period provided under the Program in order to protect public health.

SEC. 730. Funds provided by this or any prior Appropriations Act for the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative under 7 U.S.C. 450i(b) shall be made available without regard to section 7128 of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (7 U.S.C. 3371 note), under the matching requirements in laws in effect on the date before the date of enactment of such section: *Provided*, That the requirements of 7 U.S.C. 450i(b)(9) shall continue to apply.

SEC. 731. There is hereby appropriated $1,996,000 to carry out section 1621 of Public Law 110–246.

SEC. 732. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used by the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Food and Nutrition Service, to commence any new research and evaluation projects until the Secretary submits to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress a research and evaluation plan for fiscal year 2017, prepared in coordination with the Research, Education, and Economics mission area of the Department of Agriculture, and a period of 30 days beginning on the date of the submission of the plan expires to permit Congressional review of the plan.

SEC. 733. In carrying out subsection (h) of section 502 of the Housing Act of 1949 (42 U.S.C. 1472), the Secretary of Agriculture shall have the same authority with respect to loans guaranteed under such section and eligible lenders for such loans as the Secretary has under subsections (h) and (j) of section 538 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1490p–2) with respect to loans guaranteed under such section 538 and eligible lenders for such loans.

SEC. 734. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to propose, promulgate, or implement any rule, or take any other action with respect to, allowing or requiring information intended for a prescribing health care professional, in the case of a drug or biological product subject to section 503(b)(1) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 353(b)(1)), to be distributed to such professional electronically (in lieu of in paper form) unless and until a Federal law is enacted to allow or require such distribution.

SEC. 735. Any amounts transferred pursuant to section 149 of the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2017 (division C of Public Law 114–223), as amended by the Further Continuing and Security Assistance Appropriations Act, 2017 (Public Law 114–254), that the Secretary of Agriculture determines are not necessary for the cost of direct telecommunications loans authorized by section 305 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 935) shall be transferred back to the accounts to which they were originally appropriated and shall be available for the same purposes as originally appropriated.

SEC. 736. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to notify a sponsor or otherwise acknowledge receipt of a submission for an exemption for investigational use of a drug or biological product under section 505(i) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 355(i)) or section 351(a)(3) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 262(a)(3)) in research in which a human embryo is intentionally created or modified to include a heritable genetic modification. Any such submission shall be deemed to have not been received by the Secretary, and the exemption may not go into effect.

SEC. 737. None of the funds made available by this or any other Act may be used to carry out the final rule promulgated by the Food and Drug Administration and put into effect November 16, 2015, in regards to the hazard analysis and risk-based preventive control requirements of the current good manufacturing practice, hazard analysis, and risk-based preventive controls for food for animals rule with respect to the regulation of the production, distribution, sale, or receipt of dried spent grain byproducts of the alcoholic beverage production process.

SEC. 738. (a) The Secretary of Agriculture shall—

(1) conduct audits in a manner that evaluates the following factors in the country or region being audited, as applicable—

(A) veterinary control and oversight;

(B) disease history and vaccination practices;

(C) livestock demographics and traceability;

(D) epidemiological separation from potential sources of infection;

(E) surveillance practices;

(F) diagnostic laboratory capabilities; and

(G) emergency preparedness and response; and

(2) promptly make publicly available the final reports of any audits or reviews conducted pursuant to subsection (1).

(b) This section shall be applied in a manner consistent with United States obligations under its international trade agreements.

SEC. 739. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to carry out any activities or incur any expense related to the issuance of licenses under section 3 of the Animal Welfare Act (7 U.S.C. 2133), or the renewal of such licenses, to class B dealers who sell dogs and cats for use in research, experiments, teaching, or testing.

SEC. 740. No partially hydrogenated oils as defined in the order published by the Food and Drug Administration in the Federal Register on June 17, 2015 (80 Fed. Reg. 34650 et seq.) shall be deemed unsafe within the meaning of section 409(a) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 348(a)) and no food that is introduced or delivered for introduction into interstate commerce that bears or contains a partially hydrogenated oil shall be deemed adulterated under sections 402(a)(1) or 402(a)(2)(C)(i) of this Act by virtue of bearing or containing a partially hydrogenated oil until the compliance date as specified in such order (June 18, 2018).

SEC. 741. The Secretary may charge a fee for lenders to access Department loan guarantee systems in connection with such lenders' participation in loan guarantee programs of the Rural Housing Service: *Provided*, That the funds collected from such fees shall be made available to the Secretary without further appropriation and such funds shall be deposited into the Rural Development Salaries and Expense Account and shall remain available until expended for obligation and expenditure by the Secretary for administrative expenses of the Rural Housing Service Loan Guarantee Program in addition to other available funds: *Provided*

further, That such fees collected shall not exceed $50 per loan.

SEC. 742. (a) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to maintain or establish a computer network unless such network blocks the viewing, downloading, and exchanging of pornography.

(b) Nothing in subsection (a) shall limit the use of funds necessary for any Federal, State, tribal, or local law enforcement agency or any other entity carrying out criminal investigations, prosecution, or adjudication activities.

SEC. 743. In addition to amounts otherwise made available by this Act under the heading ''Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service—Buildings and Facilities'', there is appropriated $47,000,000, to remain available until expended, for fruit fly rearing facilities.

SEC. 744. Beginning on the date of enactment of this Act, in fiscal year 2017 and each fiscal year hereafter, notwithstanding any other provision of law, a household certified to participate in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program is required to report in a manner prescribed by the Secretary if the household no longer resides in the State in which it is certified.

SEC. 745. Of the unobligated balances from amounts made available for the special supplemental nutrition program as authorized by section 17 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786), $850,000,000 are rescinded.

SEC. 746. (a)(1) No Federal funds made available for this fiscal year for the rural water, waste water, waste disposal, and solid waste management programs authorized by sections 306, 306A, 306C, 306D, 306E, and 310B of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1926 et seq.) shall be used for a project for the construction, alteration, maintenance, or repair of a public water or wastewater system unless all of the iron and steel products used in the project are produced in the United States.

(2) In this section, the term ''iron and steel products'' means the following products made primarily of iron or steel: lined or unlined pipes and fittings, manhole covers and other municipal castings, hydrants, tanks, flanges, pipe clamps and restraints, valves, structural steel, reinforced precast concrete, and construction materials.

(b) Subsection (a) shall not apply in any case or category of cases in which the Secretary of Agriculture (in this section referred to as the ''Secretary'') or the designee of the Secretary finds that—

(1) applying subsection (a) would be inconsistent with the public interest;

(2) iron and steel products are not produced in the United States in sufficient and reasonably available quantities or of a satisfactory quality; or

(3) inclusion of iron and steel products produced in the United States will increase the cost of the overall project by more than 25 percent.

(c) If the Secretary or the designee receives a request for a waiver under this section, the Secretary or the designee shall make available to the public on an informal basis a copy of the request and information available to the Secretary or the designee concerning the request, and shall allow for informal public input on the request for at least 15 days prior to making a finding based on the request. The Secretary or the designee shall make the request and accompanying information available by electronic means, including on the official public Internet Web site of the Department.

(d) This section shall be applied in a manner consistent with United States obligations under international agreements.

(e) The Secretary may retain up to 0.25 percent of the funds appropriated in this Act for ''Rural Utilities Service—Rural Water and Waste Disposal Program Account'' for carrying out the provisions described in subsection (a)(1) for management and oversight of the requirements of this section.

(f) Subsection (a) shall not apply with respect to a project for which the engineering plans and specifications include use of iron and steel products otherwise prohibited by such subsection if the plans and specifications have received required approvals from State agencies prior to the date of enactment of this Act.

(g) For purposes of this section, the terms ''United States'' and ''State'' shall include each of the several States, the District of Columbia, and each federally recognized Indian tribe.

SEC. 747. (a) For the period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act through school year 2017–2018, with respect to the school lunch program established under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.) or the school breakfast program established under the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.) and final regulations published by the Department of Agriculture in the Federal Register on January 26, 2012 (77 Fed. Reg. 4088 et seq.), the Secretary of Agriculture shall allow States to grant an exemption from the whole grain requirements that took effect on or after July 1, 2014, and the States shall establish a process for evaluating and responding, in a reasonable amount of time, to requests for an exemption: *Provided*, That school food authorities demonstrate hardship, including financial hardship, in procuring specific whole grain products which are acceptable to the students and compliant with the whole grain-rich requirements: *Provided further*, That school food authorities shall comply with the applicable grain component or standard with respect to the school lunch or school breakfast program that was in effect prior to July 1, 2014.

(b) For the period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act through school year 2017–2018, none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act shall be used to pay the salaries and expenses of personnel to implement any regulations under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.), the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.), the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 (Public Law 111–296), or any other law that would require a reduction in the quantity of sodium contained in federally reimbursed meals, foods, and snacks sold in schools below Target 1 (as described in section 220.8(f)(3) of title 7, Code of Federal Regulations (or successor regulations)).

(c) For the period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act through school year 2017-2018, notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary shall allow States to grant special exemptions for the service of flavored, low-fat fluid milk in the school lunch program established under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.) and the school breakfast program established under the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.), and as a competitive food available on campus during the school day, to schools which demonstrate a reduction in student milk consumption or an increase in school milk waste.

SEC. 748. In addition to amounts otherwise made available under this Act to carry out section 27(a)(1) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2036(a)(1)) for fiscal year 2017, there is appropriated $19,000,000 to carry out such section.

SEC. 749. (a) Subject to subsection (b), the Secretary of Agriculture may conduct a pilot program in accordance with this section that authorizes not more than $600,000,000 in funds from rural electrification loans made by the Federal Financing Bank that are guaranteed under section 306 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 to be used for refinancing debt pursuant to section 306C of such Act (including any associated prepayment penalties and prepayment or refinance premium), notwithstanding subsections (b) and (c)(4) of section 306C of such Act.

(b) The Secretary of Agriculture may not provide an authorization under subsection (a) to a borrower unless the Secretary determines that the refinancing involved will benefit the ratepayers of the borrower.

(c) The Federal Financing Bank shall make a new loan to each borrower refinancing a loan pursuant to this section and section 306 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936, for the purpose of providing funds for the refinancing, which loan shall be obligated from amounts made available for rural electrification loans, and the Secretary of Agriculture shall guarantee the new loan pursuant to section 306 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936.

(d) For the cost of refinancing a loan pursuant to this section for any borrower identified by the Federal Financing Bank as having opted since origination of the loan to pay an interest rate premium for the eligibility to prepay at par, including a borrower paying an interest rate premium in the near-term for the right to prepay at par starting in 2020, $13,800,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That these funds shall also be available for refinancing a loan pursuant to any extension or expansion of this pilot program that is enacted subsequent to this Act for those same borrowers.

(e) The authority for the pilot program provided by this section shall remain in effect through September 30, 2019.

SEC. 750. Of the total amounts made available by this Act for direct loans and grants in the following headings: ''Rural Housing Service—Rural Housing Insurance Fund Program Account''; ''Rural Housing Service—Mutual and Self-Help Housing Grants''; ''Rural Housing Service—Rural Housing Assistance Grants''; ''Rural Housing Service—Rural Community Facilities Program Account''; ''Rural Business-Cooperative Service—Rural Business Program Account''; ''Rural Business-Cooperative Service—Rural Economic Development Loans Program Account''; ''Rural Business- Cooperative Service—Rural Cooperative Development Grants''; ''Rural Utilities Service—Rural Water and Waste Disposal Program Account''; ''Rural Utilities Service—Rural Electrification and Telecommunications Loans Program Account''; and ''Rural Utilities Service—Distance Learning, Telemedicine, and Broadband Program'', to the maximum extent feasible, at least 10 percent of the new unobligated balances remaining upon enactment shall be allocated for assistance in persistent poverty counties under this section: *Provided*, That for purposes of this section, the term ''persistent poverty counties'' means any county that has had 20 percent or more of its population living in poverty over the past 30 years, as measured by the 1980, 1990, and 2000 decennial censuses,

and 2007–2011 American Community Survey 5-year average: *Provided further*, That with respect to specific activities for which program levels have been made available by this Act that are not supported by budget authority, the requirements of this section shall be applied to such program level.

SEC. 751. For the purposes of determining eligibility or level of program assistance for Rural Development mission area programs the Secretary shall not include incarcerated prison populations.

SEC. 752. For an additional amount for ''Food and Drug Administration—Salaries and Expenses'' to prevent, prepare for, and respond to emerging health threats, including the Ebola and Zika viruses, domestically and internationally and to develop necessary medical countermeasures and vaccines, including the review, regulation, and post market surveillance of vaccines and therapies, and for related administrative activities, $10,000,000, to remain available until expended.

SEC. 753. There is hereby appropriated for the ''Emergency Conservation Program'', $28,651,000, to remain available until expended for emergencies not declared as a major disaster or emergency under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.).

SEC. 754. None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be used in any way, directly or indirectly, to influence congressional action on any legislation or appropriation matters pending before Congress, other than to communicate to Members of Congress as described in 18 U.S.C. 1913.

SEC. 755. In addition to funds appropriated in this Act, there is hereby appropriated $134,000,000, to remain available until expended, under the heading ''Food for Peace Title II Grants'': *Provided*, That the funds made available under this section shall be used for the purposes set forth in the Food for Peace Act for both emergency and nonemergency purposes.

SEC. 756. The Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Commissioner of Food and Drugs, shall issue final regulations revising the Federal drug regulations (as defined in section 1112(c) of such Act (21 U.S.C. 360dd note)) with respect to medical gases not later than July 15, 2017.

SEC. 757. For an additional amount for ''Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service—Salaries and Expenses'', $5,500,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, for one-time control and management and associated activities directly related to the multiple-agency response to citrus greening.

SEC. 758. The following unobligated balances identified by the following Treasury Appropriation Fund Symbols are hereby rescinded: 12X1951, $632,928.89; 12X1953, $2,420,129.91; 12X1902, $352,323.31; 12X1900, $16,452.44; and 12X1232, $529,310.95: *Provided*, That no amounts may be rescinded from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency or disaster relief requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SEC. 759. The unobligated balances resulting from offsetting collections identified by Treasury Appropriation Fund Symbols 12X1951, 12X2002, 12X2006, 12X1902, 12X1900, 12X1232, and 12X1980, respectively, are hereby rescinded: *Provided*, that no amounts may be rescinded from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency or disaster relief requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SEC. 760. There is hereby appropriated $5,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, for a pilot program for the National Institute of Food and Agriculture to provide grants to nonprofit organizations for programs and services to establish and enhance farming and ranching opportunities for military veterans.

SEC. 761. During fiscal year 2017, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) shall not allow the introduction or delivery for introduction into interstate commerce of any food that contains genetically engineered salmon until FDA publishes final labeling guidelines for informing consumers of such content.

SEC. 762. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to pay the salary or expenses of personnel—

(1) to inspect horses under section 3 of the Federal Meat Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 603);

(2) to inspect horses under section 903 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 1901 note; Public Law 104–127); or

(3) to implement or enforce section 352.19 of title 9, Code of Federal Regulations (or a successor regulation).

SEC. 763. The Secretary shall set aside for Rural Economic Area Partnership (REAP) Zones, until August 15, 2017, an amount of funds made available in title III under the headings of Rural Housing Insurance Fund Program Account, Mutual and Self-Help Housing Grants, Rural Housing Assistance Grants, Rural Community Facilities Program Account, Rural Business Program Account, Rural Development Loan Fund Program Account, and Rural Water and Waste Disposal Program Account, equal to the amount obligated in REAP Zones with respect to funds provided under such headings in the most recent fiscal year any such funds were obligated under such headings for REAP Zones.

SEC. 764. There is hereby appropriated $600,000 for the purposes of section 727 of division A of Public Law 112–55.

SEC. 765. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to implement, administer, or enforce the ''variety'' requirements of the final rule entitled ''Enhancing Retailer Standards in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)'' published by the Department of Agriculture in the Federal Register on December 15, 2016 (81 Fed. Reg. 90675) until the Secretary of Agriculture amends the definition of the term ''variety'' as de fined in section 278.1(b)(1)(ii)(C) of title 7, Code of Federal Regulations, and ''variety'' as applied in the definition of the term ''staple food'' as defined in section 271.2 of title 7, Code of Federal Regulations, to increase the number of items that qualify as acceptable varieties in each staple food category so that the total number of such items in each staple food category exceeds the number of such items in each staple food category included in the final rule as published on December 15, 2016: *Provided*, That until the Secretary promulgates such regulatory amendments, the Secretary shall apply the requirements regarding acceptable varieties and breadth of stock to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program retailers that were in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (Public Law 113–79).

SEC. 766. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used by the Food and Drug Administration to develop, issue, promote, or advance any regulations applicable to food manufacturers for population-wide sodium reduction actions or to develop, issue, promote or advance final guidance applicable to food manufacturers for long term population-wide sodium reduction actions until the date on which a dietary reference intake report with respect to sodium is completed.

SEC. 767. There is hereby appropriated $1,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, for the cost of loans and grants that is consistent with section 4206 of the Agricultural Act of 2014, for necessary expenses of the Secretary to support projects that provide access to healthy food in underserved areas, to create and preserve quality jobs, and to revitalize low-income communities.

SEC. 768. In addition to funds appropriated in this Act, there is hereby appropriated $500,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, under the heading ''Rural Development, Salaries and Expenses'', for development of an implementation plan for increasing access to education in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics in rural communities through the Distance Learning and Telemedicine program.

SEC. 769. There is hereby appropriated $8,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, to carry out section 6407 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 8107a).

SEC. 770. (a) Of the unobligated balances from amounts made available in fiscal year 2016 for the Comprehensive Loan Accounting System under the heading ''Rural Development, Salaries and Expenses'', $8,900,000 are hereby rescinded.

(b) For an additional amount for ''Rural Development, Salaries and Expenses'', $8,900,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, is provided for Information Technology modernization activities.

SEC. 771. The Secretary shall modify the pilot program initiated March 1, 2017, designed to preserve affordable rental housing through non-profit transfer or acquisition of Section 515 properties with expiring mortgages. The program will study effective means to transfer Section 515 properties exiting the program due to mortgage maturity to qualified nonprofit organizations to preserve the properties in the Rural Housing Service multi-family program. The Secretary shall—

(1) Conduct limited research under the authority found at section 506(b) of the Housing Act of 1949, as amended (41 U.S.C. §1476(b));

(2) Track the results and identify ways or incentives to create additional opportunities for nonprofits to participate in the preservation of properties;

(3) Work collaboratively with third-parties to address concerns identified on the Department issued guidance issued September 16, 2016 titled, ''March 1, 2017, Pilot Program to Promote Non-Profit Participation in Transactions to Retain the Section 515 Portfolio'' to maximize research benefits and potential application; and

(4) Conduct research for two years after the date of the enactment of this Act and report the findings to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress:

Provided, That there is hereby appropriated $1,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, to provide grants to qualified non-profit organizations and public housing authorities to provide technical assistance, including financial and legal services, to RHS multi-family housing borrowers to facilitate the acquisition of RHS multi-family housing properties in areas where the Secretary determines a risk of loss of affordable housing.

SEC. 772. (a) The Secretary of Agriculture (referred to in this section as the ''Secretary'') shall carry out a pilot program during fiscal year 2017 with respect to the 2016 crop year for county-level agriculture risk coverage payments under section 1117(b)(1) of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (7 U.S.C. 9017(b)(1)), that provides all or some of the State Farm Service Agency offices in each State the opportunity to provide agricultural producers in the State a supplemental payment described in subsection (c) based on the alternate calculation method described in subsection (b) for 1 or more counties in a State if the office for that State determines that the alternate calculation method is necessary to ensure that, to the maximum extent practicable, there are not significant yield calculation disparities between comparable counties in the State.

(b) The alternate calculation method referred to in subsection (a) is a method of calculating the actual yield for the 2016 crop year for county-level agriculture risk coverage payments under section 1117(b)(1) of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (7 U.S.C. 9017(b)(1)), under which—

(1) county data of the National Agricultural Statistics Service (referred to in this section as ''NASS data'') is used for the calculations;

(2) if there is insufficient NASS data for a county (as determined under standards of the Secretary in effect as of the date of enactment of this Act) or the available NASS data produces a substantially disparate result, the calculation of the county yield is determined using comparable contiguous county NASS data as determined by the Farm Service Agency office in the applicable State; and

(3) if there is insufficient NASS data for a comparable contiguous county (as determined under standards of the Secretary in effect as of the date of enactment of this Act), the calculation of the county yield is determined using reliable yield data from other sources, such as Risk Management Agency data, National Agricultural Statistics Service district data, National Agricultural Statistics Service State yield data, or other data as determined by the Farm Service Agency office in the applicable State.

(c)(1) A supplemental payment made under the pilot program established under this section may be made to an agricultural producer who is subject to the alternate calculation method described in subsection (b) if that agricultural producer would otherwise receive a county-level agriculture risk coverage payment for the 2016 crop year in an amount that is less than the payment that the agricultural producer would receive under the alternate calculation method.

(2) The amount of a supplemental payment to an agricultural producer under this section may not exceed the difference between—

(A) the payment that the agricultural producer would have received without the alternate calculation method described in subsection (b); and

(B) the payment that the agricultural producer would receive using the alternate calculation method.

(d)(1) There is appropriated to the Secretary, out of funds of the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, $5,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, to carry out the pilot program described in this section.

(2) Of the funds appropriated, the Secretary shall use not more than $5,000,000 to carry out the pilot program described in this section.

(e)(1) To the maximum extent practicable, the Secretary shall select States to participate in the pilot program under this section so the cost of the pilot program equals the amount provided under subsection (d).

(2) To the extent that the cost of the pilot program exceeds the amount made available, the Secretary shall reduce all payments under the pilot program on a pro rata basis.

(f) Nothing in this section affects the calculation of actual yield for purposes of county-level agriculture risk coverage payments under section 1117(b)(1) of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (7 U.S.C. 9017(b)(1)) other than payments made in accordance with the pilot program under this section.

(g) A calculation of actual yield made using the alternate calculation method described in subsection (b) shall not be used as a basis for any agriculture risk coverage payment determinations under section 1117 of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (7 U.S.C. 9017) other than for purposes of the pilot program under this section.

SEC. 773. None of the funds made available by this Act or any other Act may be used—

(1) in contravention of section 7606 of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (7 U.S.C. 5940); or

(2) to prohibit the transportation, processing, sale, or use of industrial hemp that is grown or cultivated in accordance with section 7606 of the Agricultural Act of 2014, within or outside the State in which the industrial hemp is grown or cultivated.

SEC. 774. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, for purposes of applying the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 301 et seq.), the acceptable market name of Lithodes aequispinus is ''golden king crab.''

This division may be cited as the ''Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017''.

DIVISION B—COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

TITLE I

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

INTERNATIONAL TRADE ADMINISTRATION

OPERATIONS AND ADMINISTRATION

For necessary expenses for international trade activities of the Department of Commerce provided for by law, and for engaging in trade promotional activities abroad, including expenses of grants and cooperative agreements for the purpose of promoting exports of United States firms, without regard to sections 3702 and 3703 of title 44, United States Code; full medical coverage for dependent members of immediate families of employees stationed overseas and employees temporarily posted overseas; travel and transportation of employees of the International Trade Administration between two points abroad, without regard to section 40118 of title 49, United States Code; employment of citizens of the United States and aliens by contract for services; rental of space abroad for periods not exceeding 10 years, and expenses of alteration, repair, or improvement; purchase or construction of temporary demountable exhibition structures for use abroad; payment of tort claims, in the manner authorized in the first paragraph of section 2672 of title 28, United States Code, when such claims arise in foreign countries; not to exceed $294,300 for official representation expenses abroad; purchase of passenger motor vehicles for official use abroad, not to exceed $45,000 per vehicle; obtaining insurance on official motor vehicles; and rental of tie lines, $495,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, of which $12,000,000 is to be derived from fees to be retained and used by the International Trade Administration, notwithstanding section 3302 of title 31, United States Code: *Provided*, That, of amounts provided under this heading, not less than $16,400,000 shall be for China antidumping and countervailing duty enforcement and compliance activities: *Provided further*, That the provisions of the first sentence of section 105(f) and all of section 108(c) of the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2455(f) and 2458(c)) shall apply in carrying out these activities; and that for the purpose of this Act, contributions under the provisions of the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961 shall include payment for assessments for services provided as part of these activities.

BUREAU OF INDUSTRY AND SECURITY

OPERATIONS AND ADMINISTRATION

For necessary expenses for export administration and national security activities of the Department of Commerce, including costs associated with the performance of export administration field activities both domestically and abroad; full medical coverage for dependent members of immediate families of employees stationed overseas; employment of citizens of the United States and aliens by contract for services abroad; payment of tort claims, in the manner authorized in the first paragraph of section 2672 of title 28, United States Code, when such claims arise in foreign countries; not to exceed $13,500 for official representation expenses abroad; awards of compensation to informers under the Export Administration Act of 1979, and as authorized by section 1(b) of the Act of June 15, 1917 (40 Stat. 223; 22 U.S.C. 401(b)); and purchase of passenger motor vehicles for official use and motor vehicles for law enforcement use with special requirement vehicles eligible for purchase without regard to any price limitation otherwise established by law, $112,500,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the provisions of the first sentence of section 105(f) and all of section 108(c) of the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2455(f) and 2458(c)) shall apply in carrying out these activities: *Provided further*, That payments and contributions collected and accepted for materials or services provided as part of such activities may be retained for use in covering the cost of such activities, and for providing information to the public with respect to the export administration and national security activities of the Department of Commerce and other export control programs of the United States and other governments.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

For grants for economic development assistance as provided by the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965, for trade adjustment assistance, and for grants authorized by section 27 of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3722), $237,000,000, to remain available until expended, of which $17,000,000 shall be for grants under such section 27.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of administering the economic development assistance programs as provided for by law, $39,000,000: *Provided*, That these funds may be used to monitor projects approved pursuant to title I of the Public Works Employment Act of 1976, title II of the Trade Act of 1974, section 27 of

the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3722), and the Community Emergency Drought Relief Act of 1977.

MINORITY BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

MINORITY BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

For necessary expenses of the Department of Commerce in fostering, promoting, and developing minority business enterprise, including expenses of grants, contracts, and other agreements with public or private organizations, $34,000,000.

ECONOMIC AND STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses, as authorized by law, of economic and statistical analysis programs of the Department of Commerce, $107,300,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018.

BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

CURRENT SURVEYS AND PROGRAMS

For necessary expenses for collecting, compiling, analyzing, preparing and publishing statistics, provided for by law, $270,000,000: *Provided*, That, from amounts provided herein, funds may be used for promotion, outreach, and marketing activities: *Provided further*, That the Bureau of the Census shall collect and analyze data for the Annual Social and Economic Supplement to the Current Population Survey using the same health insurance questions included in previous years, in addition to the revised questions implemented in the Current Population Survey beginning in February 2014.

PERIODIC CENSUSES AND PROGRAMS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses for collecting, compiling, analyzing, preparing and publishing statistics for periodic censuses and programs provided for by law, $1,200,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That, from amounts provided herein, funds may be used for promotion, outreach, and marketing activities: *Provided further*, That within the amounts appropriated, $2,580,000 shall be transferred to the ''Office of Inspector General'' account for activities associated with carrying out investigations and audits related to the Bureau of the Census: *Provided further*, That not more than 50 percent of the amounts made available under this heading for information technology related to 2020 census delivery, including the Census Enterprise Data Collection and Processing (CEDCaP) program, may be obligated until the Secretary submits to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a plan for expenditure that: (1) identifies for each CEDCaP project/investment over $25,000: (A) the functional and performance capabilities to be delivered and the mission benefits to be realized; (B) the estimated lifecycle cost, including estimates for development as well as maintenance and operations; and (C) key milestones to be met; (2) details for each project/investment: (A) reasons for any cost and schedule variances; and (B) top risks and mitigation strategies; and (3) has been submitted to the Government Accountability Office.

NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses, as provided for by law, of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), $32,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That, notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 1535(d), the Secretary of Commerce shall charge Federal agencies for costs incurred in spectrum management, analysis, operations, and related services, and such fees shall be retained and used as offsetting collections for costs of such spectrum services, to remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Commerce is authorized to retain and use as offsetting collections all funds transferred, or previously transferred, from other Government agencies for all costs incurred in telecommunications research, engineering, and related activities by the Institute for Telecommunication Sciences of NTIA, in furtherance of its assigned functions under this paragraph, and such funds received from other Government agencies shall remain available until expended.

PUBLIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES, PLANNING AND CONSTRUCTION

For the administration of prior-year grants, recoveries and unobligated balances of funds previously appropriated are available for the administration of all open grants until their expiration.

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) provided for by law, including defense of suits instituted against the Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the USPTO, $3,230,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the sum herein appropriated from the general fund shall be reduced as offsetting collections of fees and surcharges assessed and collected by the USPTO under any law are received during fiscal year 2017, so as to result in a fiscal year 2017 appropriation from the general fund estimated at $0: *Provided further*, That during fiscal year 2017, should the total amount of such offsetting collections be less than $3,230,000,000 this amount shall be reduced accordingly: *Provided further*, That any amount received in excess of $3,230,000,000 in fiscal year 2017 and deposited in the Patent and Trademark Fee Reserve Fund shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That the Director of USPTO shall submit a spending plan to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate for any amounts made available by the preceding proviso and such spending plan shall be treated as a reprogramming under section 505 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation or expenditure except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section: *Provided further*, That any amounts reprogrammed in accordance with the preceding proviso shall be transferred to the United States Patent and Trademark Office ''Salaries and Expenses'' account: *Provided further*, That from amounts provided herein, not to exceed $900 shall be made available in fiscal year 2017 for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That in fiscal year 2017 from the amounts made available for ''Salaries and Expenses'' for the USPTO, the amounts necessary to pay (1) the difference between the percentage of basic pay contributed by the USPTO and employees under section 8334(a) of title 5, United States Code, and the normal cost percentage (as defined by section 8331(17) of that title) as provided by the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) for USPTO's specific use, of basic pay, of employees subject to subchapter III of chapter 83 of that title, and (2) the present value of the otherwise unfunded accruing costs, as determined by OPM for USPTO's specific use of post-retirement life insurance and post-retirement health benefits coverage for all USPTO employees who are enrolled in Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) and Federal Employees Group Life Insurance (FEGLI), shall be transferred to the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund, the FEGLI Fund, and the FEHB Fund, as appropriate, and shall be available for the authorized purposes of those accounts: *Provided further*, That any differences between the present value factors published in OPM's yearly 300 series benefit letters and the factors that OPM provides for USPTO's specific use shall be recognized as an imputed cost on USPTO's financial statements, where applicable: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, all fees and surcharges assessed and collected by USPTO are available for USPTO only pursuant to section 42(c) of title 35, United States Code, as amended by section 22 of the Leahy-Smith America Invents Act (Public Law 112–29): *Provided further*, That within the amounts appropriated, $2,000,000 shall be transferred to the ''Office of Inspector General'' account for activities associated with carrying out investigations and audits related to the USPTO.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY

SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL RESEARCH AND SERVICES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), $690,000,000, to remain available until expended, of which not to exceed $9,000,000 may be transferred to the ''Working Capital Fund'': *Provided*, That not to exceed $5,000 shall be for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That NIST may provide local transportation for summer undergraduate research fellowship program participants.

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

For necessary expenses for industrial technology services, $155,000,000, to remain available until expended, of which $130,000,000 shall be for the Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership, and of which $25,000,000 shall be for the National Network for Manufacturing Innovation: *Provided*, That of the amount provided under this heading, $2,000,000 shall be derived from recoveries of prior year obligations.

CONSTRUCTION OF RESEARCH FACILITIES

For construction of new research facilities, including architectural and engineering design, and for renovation and maintenance of existing facilities, not otherwise provided for the National Institute of Standards and Technology, as authorized by sections 13 through 15 of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 278c–278e), $109,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the Secretary of Commerce shall include in the budget justification materials that the Secretary submits to Congress in support of the Department of Commerce budget (as submitted with the budget of the President under section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code) an estimate for each National Institute of Standards and Technology construction project having a total multi-year program cost of more than $5,000,000, and simultaneously the budget justification materials shall include an estimate of the budgetary requirements for each such project for each of the 5 subsequent fiscal years.

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

OPERATIONS, RESEARCH, AND FACILITIES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of activities authorized by law for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, including maintenance, operation, and hire of aircraft and vessels; grants, contracts, or other payments to nonprofit organizations for the purposes of conducting activities pursuant to cooperative agreements; and relocation of facilities, $3,367,875,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, except that funds provided for cooperative enforcement shall remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That fees and donations received by the National Ocean Service for the management of national marine sanctuaries may be retained and used for the salaries and expenses associated with those activities, notwithstanding section 3302 of title 31, United States Code: *Provided further*, That in addition, $130,164,000 shall be derived by transfer from the fund entitled ''Promote and Develop Fishery Products and Research Pertaining to American Fisheries'', which shall only be used for fishery activities related to the Saltonstall-Kennedy Grant Program, Cooperative Research, Annual Stock Assessments, Survey and Monitoring Projects, Interjurisdictional Fisheries Grants, and Fish Information Networks: *Provided further*, That of the $3,515,539,000 provided for in direct obligations under this heading, $3,367,875,000 is appropriated from the general fund, $130,164,000 is provided by transfer and $17,500,000 is derived from recoveries of prior year obligations: *Provided further*, That the total amount available for National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration corporate services administrative support costs shall not exceed $228,440,000: *Provided further*, That any deviation from the amounts designated for specific activities in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), or any use of deobligated balances of funds provided under this heading in previous years, shall be subject to the procedures set forth in section 505 of this Act: *Provided further*, That in addition, for necessary retired pay expenses under the Retired Serviceman's Family Protection and Survivor Benefits Plan, and for payments for the medical care of retired personnel and their dependents under the Dependents' Medical Care Act (10 U.S.C. ch. 55), such sums as may be necessary.

PROCUREMENT, ACQUISITION AND CONSTRUCTION

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For procurement, acquisition and construction of capital assets, including alteration and modification costs, of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, $2,242,610,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019, except that funds provided for acquisition and construction of vessels and construction of facilities shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of the $2,255,610,000 provided for in direct obligations under this heading, $2,242,610,000 is appropriated from the general fund and $13,000,000 is provided from recoveries of prior year obligations: *Provided further*, That any deviation from the amounts designated for specific activities in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), or any use of deobligated balances of funds provided under this heading in previous years, shall be subject to the procedures set forth in section 505 of this Act: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Commerce shall include in budget justification materials that the Secretary submits to Congress in support of the Department of Commerce budget (as submitted with the budget of the President under section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code) an estimate for each National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration procurement, acquisition or construction project having a total of more than $5,000,000 and simultaneously the budget justification shall include an estimate of the budgetary requirements for each such project for each of the 5 subsequent fiscal years: *Provided further*, That, within the amounts appropriated, $1,302,000 shall be transferred to the ''Office of Inspector General'' account for activities associated with carrying out investigations and audits related to satellite procurement, acquisition and construction.

PACIFIC COASTAL SALMON RECOVERY

For necessary expenses associated with the restoration of Pacific salmon populations, $65,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That, of the funds provided herein, the Secretary of Commerce may issue grants to the States of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Nevada, California, and Alaska, and to the Federally recognized tribes of the Columbia River and Pacific Coast (including Alaska), for projects necessary for conservation of salmon and steelhead populations that are listed as threatened or endangered, or that are identified by a State as at-risk to be so listed, for maintaining populations necessary for exercise of tribal treaty fishing rights or native subsistence fishing, or for conservation of Pacific coastal salmon and steelhead habitat, based on guidelines to be developed by the Secretary of Commerce: *Provided further*, That all funds shall be allocated based on scientific and other merit principles and shall not be available for marketing activities: *Provided further*, That funds disbursed to States shall be subject to a matching requirement of funds or documented in-kind contributions of at least 33 percent of the Federal funds.

FISHERMEN'S CONTINGENCY FUND

For carrying out the provisions of title IV of Public Law 95–372, not to exceed $350,000, to be derived from receipts collected pursuant to that Act, to remain available until expended.

FISHERIES FINANCE PROGRAM ACCOUNT

Subject to section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, during fiscal year 2017, obligations of direct loans may not exceed $24,000,000 for Individual Fishing Quota loans and not to exceed $100,000,000 for traditional direct loans as authorized by the Merchant Marine Act of 1936.

DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for the management of the Department of Commerce provided for by law, including not to exceed $4,500 for official reception and representation, $58,000,000: *Provided*, That within amounts provided, the Secretary of Commerce may use up to $2,500,000 to engage in activities to provide businesses and communities with information about and referrals to relevant Federal, State, and local government programs.

RENOVATION AND MODERNIZATION

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses for the renovation and modernization of the Herbert C. Hoover Building, including security-related costs, $4,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the Secretary of Commerce may transfer up to $8,224,000 to this account from funds available to the Department of Commerce: *Provided further*, That the transfer authority provided in the first proviso is in addition to any other transfer authority contained in this Act: *Provided further*, That any transfer pursuant to the authority provided under this heading shall be treated as a reprogramming under section 505 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation or expenditure except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.), $32,744,000.

GENERAL PROVISIONS—DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 101. During the current fiscal year, applicable appropriations and funds made available to the Department of Commerce by this Act shall be available for the activities specified in the Act of October 26, 1949 (15 U.S.C. 1514), to the extent and in the manner prescribed by the Act, and, notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3324, may be used for advanced payments not otherwise authorized only upon the certification of officials designated by the Secretary of Commerce that such payments are in the public interest.

SEC. 102. During the current fiscal year, appropriations made available to the Department of Commerce by this Act for salaries and expenses shall be available for hire of passenger motor vehicles as authorized by 31 U.S.C. 1343 and 1344; services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109; and uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by law (5 U.S.C. 5901–5902).

SEC. 103. Not to exceed 5 percent of any appropriation made available for the current fiscal year for the Department of Commerce in this Act may be transferred between such appropriations, but no such appropriation shall be increased by more than 10 percent by any such transfers: *Provided*, That any transfer pursuant to this section shall be treated as a reprogramming of funds under section 505 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation or expenditure except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Commerce shall notify the Committees on Appropriations at least 15 days in advance of the acquisition or disposal of any capital asset (including land, structures, and equipment) not specifically provided for in this Act or any other law appropriating funds for the Department of Commerce.

SEC. 104. The requirements set forth by section 105 of the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2012 (Public Law 112–55), as amended by section 105 of title I of division B of Public Law 113–6, are hereby adopted by reference and made applicable with respect to fiscal year 2017: *Provided*, That the life cycle cost for the Joint Polar Satellite System is $11,322,125,000 and the life cycle cost for the Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite R-Series Program is $10,828,059,000.

SEC. 105. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary may furnish services (including but not limited to utilities, telecommunications, and security services) necessary to support the operation, maintenance, and improvement of space that persons, firms, or organizations are authorized,

pursuant to the Public Buildings Cooperative Use Act of 1976 or other authority, to use or occupy in the Herbert C. Hoover Building, Washington, DC, or other buildings, the maintenance, operation, and protection of which has been delegated to the Secretary from the Administrator of General Services pursuant to the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 on a reimbursable or non-reimbursable basis. Amounts received as reimbursement for services provided under this section or the authority under which the use or occupancy of the space is authorized, up to $200,000, shall be credited to the appropriation or fund which initially bears the costs of such services.

SEC. 106. Nothing in this title shall be construed to prevent a grant recipient from deterring child pornography, copyright infringement, or any other unlawful activity over its networks.

SEC. 107. The Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration is authorized to use, with their consent, with reimbursement and subject to the limits of available appropriations, the land, services, equipment, personnel, and facilities of any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States, or of any State, local government, Indian tribal government, Territory, or possession, or of any political subdivision thereof, or of any foreign government or international organization, for purposes related to carrying out the responsibilities of any statute administered by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

SEC. 108. The National Technical Information Service shall not charge any customer for a copy of any report or document generated by the Legislative Branch unless the Service has provided information to the customer on how an electronic copy of such report or document may be accessed and downloaded for free online. Should a customer still require the Service to provide a printed or digital copy of the report or document, the charge shall be limited to recovering the Service's cost of processing, reproducing, and delivering such report or document.

SEC. 109. The Secretary of Commerce may waive the requirement for bonds under 40 U.S.C. 3131 with respect to contracts for the construction, alteration, or repair of vessels, regardless of the terms of the contracts as to payment or title, when the contract is made under the Coast and Geodetic Survey Act of 1947 (33 U.S.C. 883a et seq.).

SEC. 110. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available in this or any other Act, with respect to any fiscal year, may be used in contravention of section 110 of the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2016 (Public Law 114–113).

SEC. 111. To carry out the responsibilities of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the Administrator of NOAA is authorized to: (1) enter into grants and cooperative agreements with; (2) use on a non-reimbursable basis land, services, equipment, personnel, and facilities provided by; and (3) receive and expend funds made available on a consensual basis from: a Federal agency, State or subdivision thereof, local government, tribal government, territory, or possession or any subdivisions thereof: *Provided*, That funds received for permitting and related regulatory activities pursuant to this section shall be deposited under the heading ''National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration—Operations, Research, and Facilities'' and shall remain available until September 30, 2019, for such purposes: *Provided further*, That all funds within this section and their corresponding uses are subject to section 505 of this Act.

SEC. 112. Amounts provided by this Act or by any prior appropriations Act that remain available for obligation, for necessary expenses of the programs of the Economics and Statistics Administration of the Department of Commerce, including amounts provided for programs of the Bureau of Economic Analysis and the U.S. Census Bureau, shall be available for expenses of cooperative agreements with appropriate entities, including any Federal, State, or local governmental unit, or institution of higher education, to aid and promote statistical, research, and methodology activities which further the purposes for which such amounts have been made available.

SEC. 113. For fiscal year 2017 and each fiscal year thereafter, no person shall conduct any research, exploration, salvage, or other activity that would physically alter or disturb the wreck or wreck site of the RMS *Titanic* unless authorized by the Secretary of Commerce per the provisions of the Agreement Concerning the Shipwrecked Vessel RMS *Titanic*. The Secretary of Commerce shall take appropriate actions to carry out this section consistent with the Agreement.

This title may be cited as the ''Department of Commerce Appropriations Act, 2017''.

TITLE II

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary for the administration of the Department of Justice, $114,124,000, of which not to exceed $4,000,000 for security and construction of Department of Justice facilities shall remain available until expended.

JUSTICE INFORMATION SHARING TECHNOLOGY

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses for information sharing technology, including planning, development, deployment and departmental direction, $31,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the Attorney General may transfer up to $35,400,000 to this account, from funds available to the Department of Justice for information technology, to remain available until expended, for enterprise-wide information technology initiatives: *Provided further*, That the transfer authority in the preceding proviso is in addition to any other transfer authority contained in this Act: *Provided further*, That any transfer pursuant to the first proviso shall be treated as a reprogramming under section 505 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation or expenditure except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR IMMIGRATION REVIEW

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For expenses necessary for the administration of immigration-related activities of the Executive Office for Immigration Review, $440,000,000, of which $4,000,000 shall be derived by transfer from the Executive Office for Immigration Review fees deposited in the ''Immigration Examinations Fee'' account: *Provided*, That not to exceed $15,000,000 of the total amount made available under this heading shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That any unobligated balances available from funds appropriated for the Executive Office for Immigration Review under the heading ''General Administration, Administrative Review and Appeals'' shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation under this heading.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General, $95,583,000, including not to exceed $10,000 to meet unforeseen emergencies of a confidential character.

UNITED STATES PAROLE COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the United States Parole Commission as authorized, $13,308,000: *Provided*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, upon the expiration of a term of office of a Commissioner, the Commissioner may continue to act until a successor has been appointed.

LEGAL ACTIVITIES

SALARIES AND EXPENSES, GENERAL LEGAL ACTIVITIES

For expenses necessary for the legal activities of the Department of Justice, not otherwise provided for, including not to exceed $20,000 for expenses of collecting evidence, to be expended under the direction of, and to be accounted for solely under the certificate of, the Attorney General; the administration of pardon and clemency petitions; and rent of private or Government-owned space in the District of Columbia, $897,500,000, of which not to exceed $20,000,000 for litigation support contracts shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of the amount provided for INTERPOL Washington dues payments, not to exceed $685,000 shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That of the total amount appropriated, not to exceed $9,000 shall be available to INTERPOL Washington for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding section 205 of this Act, upon a determination by the Attorney General that emergent circumstances require additional funding for litigation activities of the Civil Division, the Attorney General may transfer such amounts to ''Salaries and Expenses, General Legal Activities'' from available appropriations for the current fiscal year for the Department of Justice, as may be necessary to respond to such circumstances: *Provided further*, That any transfer pursuant to the preceding proviso shall be treated as a reprogramming under section 505 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation or expenditure except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section: *Provided further*, That of the amount appropriated, such sums as may be necessary shall be available to the Civil Rights Division for salaries and expenses associated with the election monitoring program under section 8 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. 10305) and to reimburse the Office of Personnel Management for such salaries and expenses: *Provided further*, That of the amounts provided under this heading for the election monitoring program, $3,390,000 shall remain available until expended.

In addition, for reimbursement of expenses of the Department of Justice associated with processing cases under the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, not to exceed $10,000,000, to be appropriated from the Vaccine Injury Compensation Trust Fund.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES, ANTITRUST DIVISION

For expenses necessary for the enforcement of antitrust and kindred laws, $164,977,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, fees collected for premerger notification filings under the Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvements

Act of 1976 (15 U.S.C. 18a), regardless of the year of collection (and estimated to be $125,000,000 in fiscal year 2017), shall be retained and used for necessary expenses in this appropriation, and shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That the sum herein appropriated from the general fund shall be reduced as such offsetting collections are received during fiscal year 2017, so as to result in a final fiscal year 2017 appropriation from the general fund estimated at $39,977,000.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES, UNITED STATES ATTORNEYS

For necessary expenses of the Offices of the United States Attorneys, including intergovernmental and cooperative agreements, $2,035,000,000: *Provided*, That of the total amount appropriated, not to exceed $7,200 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That not to exceed $25,000,000 shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That each United States Attorney shall establish or participate in a task force on human trafficking.

UNITED STATES TRUSTEE SYSTEM FUND

For necessary expenses of the United States Trustee Program, as authorized, $225,908,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, deposits to the United States Trustee System Fund and amounts herein appropriated shall be available in such amounts as may be necessary to pay refunds due depositors: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, fees collected pursuant to section 589a(b) of title 28, United States Code, shall be retained and used for necessary expenses in this appropriation and shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That to the extent that fees collected in fiscal year 2017, net of amounts necessary to pay refunds due depositors, exceed $225,908,000, those excess amounts shall be available in future fiscal years only to the extent provided in advance in appropriations Acts: *Provided further*, That the sum herein appropriated from the general fund shall be reduced (1) as such fees are received during fiscal year 2017, net of amounts necessary to pay refunds due depositors, (estimated at $163,000,000) and (2) to the extent that any remaining general fund appropriations can be derived from amounts deposited in the Fund in previous fiscal years that are not otherwise appropriated, so as to result in a final fiscal year 2017 appropriation from the general fund estimated at $62,908,000.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES, FOREIGN CLAIMS SETTLEMENT COMMISSION

For expenses necessary to carry out the activities of the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission, including services as authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, $2,374,000.

FEES AND EXPENSES OF WITNESSES

For fees and expenses of witnesses, for expenses of contracts for the procurement and supervision of expert witnesses, for private counsel expenses, including advances, and for expenses of foreign counsel, $270,000,000, to remain available until expended, of which not to exceed $16,000,000 is for construction of buildings for protected witness safesites; not to exceed $3,000,000 is for the purchase and maintenance of armored and other vehicles for witness security caravans; and not to exceed $13,000,000 is for the purchase, installation, maintenance, and upgrade of secure telecommunications equipment and a secure automated information network to store and retrieve the identities and locations of protected witnesses: *Provided*, That amounts made available under this heading may not be transferred pursuant to section 205 of this Act.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES, COMMUNITY RELATIONS SERVICE

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Community Relations Service, $15,500,000: *Provided*, That notwithstanding section 205 of this Act, upon a determination by the Attorney General that emergent circumstances require additional funding for conflict resolution and violence prevention activities of the Community Relations Service, the Attorney General may transfer such amounts to the Community Relations Service, from available appropriations for the current fiscal year for the Department of Justice, as may be necessary to respond to such circumstances: *Provided further*, That any transfer pursuant to the preceding proviso shall be treated as a reprogramming under section 505 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation or expenditure except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section.

ASSETS FORFEITURE FUND

For expenses authorized by subparagraphs (B), (F), and (G) of section 524(c)(1) of title 28, United States Code, $20,514,000, to be derived from the Department of Justice Assets Forfeiture Fund.

UNITED STATES MARSHALS SERVICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the United States Marshals Service, $1,249,040,000, of which not to exceed $6,000 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses, and not to exceed $15,000,000 shall remain available until expended.

CONSTRUCTION

For construction in space controlled, occupied or utilized by the United States Marshals Service for prisoner holding and related support, $10,000,000, to remain available until expended.

FEDERAL PRISONER DETENTION

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses related to United States prisoners in the custody of the United States Marshals Service as authorized by section 4013 of title 18, United States Code, $1,454,414,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That not to exceed $20,000,000 shall be considered ''funds appropriated for State and local law enforcement assistance'' pursuant to section 4013(b) of title 18, United States Code: *Provided further*, That the United States Marshals Service shall be responsible for managing the Justice Prisoner and Alien Transportation System: *Provided further*, That any unobligated balances available from funds appropriated under the heading ''General Administration, Detention Trustee'' shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation under this heading.

NATIONAL SECURITY DIVISION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For expenses necessary to carry out the activities of the National Security Division, $96,000,000, of which not to exceed $5,000,000 for information technology systems shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, That notwithstanding section 205 of this Act, upon a determination by the Attorney General that emergent circumstances require additional funding for the activities of the National Security Division, the Attorney General may transfer such amounts to this heading from available appropriations for the current fiscal year for the Department of Justice, as may be necessary to respond to such circumstances: *Provided further*, That any transfer pursuant to the preceding proviso shall be treated as a reprogramming under section 505 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation or expenditure except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section.

INTERAGENCY LAW ENFORCEMENT

INTERAGENCY CRIME AND DRUG ENFORCEMENT

For necessary expenses for the identification, investigation, and prosecution of individuals associated with the most significant drug trafficking organizations, transnational organized crime, and money laundering organizations not otherwise provided for, to include inter-governmental agreements with State and local law enforcement agencies engaged in the investigation and prosecution of individuals involved in transnational organized crime and drug trafficking, $517,000,000, of which $50,000,000 shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, That any amounts obligated from appropriations under this heading may be used under authorities available to the organizations reimbursed from this appropriation.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Federal Bureau of Investigation for detection, investigation, and prosecution of crimes against the United States, $8,767,201,000, of which not to exceed $285,882,000 shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, That not to exceed $184,500 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That in addition to other funds provided for Construction projects, the Federal Bureau of Investigation may use up to $68,982,000 under this heading for all costs related to construction, conversion, modification and extension of federally owned and leased space; preliminary planning and design of projects; and operation and maintenance of secure work environment facilities and secure networking capabilities.

CONSTRUCTION

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses, to include the cost of equipment, furniture, and information technology requirements, related to construction or acquisition of buildings, facilities and sites by purchase, or as otherwise authorized by law; conversion, modification and extension of federally owned buildings; preliminary planning and design of projects; and operation and maintenance of secure work environment facilities and secure networking capabilities; $420,178,000, to remain available until expended, of which $181,000,000 shall be derived by transfer from the Department of Justice's Working Capital Fund: *Provided*, That $323,000,000 shall be for the new Federal Bureau of Investigation consolidated headquarters facility in the National Capital Region.

DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Drug Enforcement Administration, including not to exceed $70,000 to meet unforeseen emergencies of a confidential character pursuant to section 530C of title 28, United States Code; and expenses for conducting drug education and training programs, including

travel and related expenses for participants in such programs and the distribution of items of token value that promote the goals of such programs, $2,102,976,000, of which not to exceed $75,000,000 shall remain available until expended and not to exceed $90,000 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses.

BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, FIREARMS AND EXPLOSIVES

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, for training of State and local law enforcement agencies with or without reimbursement, including training in connection with the training and acquisition of canines for explosives and fire accelerants detection; and for provision of laboratory assistance to State and local law enforcement agencies, with or without reimbursement, $1,258,600,000, of which not to exceed $36,000 shall be for official reception and representation expenses, not to exceed $1,000,000 shall be available for the payment of attorneys' fees as provided by section 924(d)(2) of title 18, United States Code, and not to exceed $20,000,000 shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, That none of the funds appropriated herein shall be available to investigate or act upon applications for relief from Federal firearms disabilities under section 925(c) of title 18, United States Code: *Provided further*, That such funds shall be available to investigate and act upon applications filed by corporations for relief from Federal firearms disabilities under section 925(c) of title 18, United States Code: *Provided further*, That no funds made available by this or any other Act may be used to transfer the functions, missions, or activities of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives to other agencies or Departments.

FEDERAL PRISON SYSTEM

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Federal Prison System for the administration, operation, and maintenance of Federal penal and correctional institutions, and for the provision of technical assistance and advice on corrections related issues to foreign governments, $7,008,800,000: *Provided*, That the Attorney General may transfer to the Department of Health and Human Services such amounts as may be necessary for direct expenditures by that Department for medical relief for inmates of Federal penal and correctional institutions: *Provided further*, That the Director of the Federal Prison System, where necessary, may enter into contracts with a fiscal agent or fiscal intermediary claims processor to determine the amounts payable to persons who, on behalf of the Federal Prison System, furnish health services to individuals committed to the custody of the Federal Prison System: *Provided further*, That not to exceed $5,400 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That not to exceed $50,000,000 shall remain available for necessary operations until September 30, 2018: *Provided further*, That, of the amounts provided for contract confinement, not to exceed $20,000,000 shall remain available until expended to make payments in advance for grants, contracts and reimbursable agreements, and other expenses: *Provided further*, That the Director of the Federal Prison System may accept donated property and services relating to the operation of the prison card program from a not-for-profit entity which has operated such program in the past, notwithstanding the fact that such not-for-profit entity furnishes services under contracts to the Federal Prison System relating to the operation of pre-release services, halfway houses, or other custodial facilities.

BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

For planning, acquisition of sites and construction of new facilities; purchase and acquisition of facilities and remodeling, and equipping of such facilities for penal and correctional use, including all necessary expenses incident thereto, by contract or force account; and constructing, remodeling, and equipping necessary buildings and facilities at existing penal and correctional institutions, including all necessary expenses incident thereto, by contract or force account, $130,000,000, to remain available until expended, of which $50,000,000 shall be available only for costs related to construction of new facilities: *Provided*, That labor of United States prisoners may be used for work performed under this appropriation.

FEDERAL PRISON INDUSTRIES, INCORPORATED

The Federal Prison Industries, Incorporated, is hereby authorized to make such expenditures within the limits of funds and borrowing authority available, and in accord with the law, and to make such contracts and commitments without regard to fiscal year limitations as provided by section 9104 of title 31, United States Code, as may be necessary in carrying out the program set forth in the budget for the current fiscal year for such corporation.

LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES, FEDERAL PRISON INDUSTRIES, INCORPORATED

Not to exceed $2,700,000 of the funds of the Federal Prison Industries, Incorporated, shall be available for its administrative expenses, and for services as authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, to be computed on an accrual basis to be determined in accordance with the corporation's current prescribed accounting system, and such amounts shall be exclusive of depreciation, payment of claims, and expenditures which such accounting system requires to be capitalized or charged to cost of commodities acquired or produced, including selling and shipping expenses, and expenses in connection with acquisition, construction, operation, maintenance, improvement, protection, or disposition of facilities and other property belonging to the corporation or in which it has an interest.

STATE AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES

OFFICE ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN PREVENTION AND PROSECUTION PROGRAMS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For grants, contracts, cooperative agreements, and other assistance for the prevention and prosecution of violence against women, as authorized by the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3711 et seq.) (''the 1968 Act''); the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 (Public Law 103–322) (''the 1994 Act''); the Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990 (Public Law 101–647) (''the 1990 Act''); the Prosecutorial Remedies and Other Tools to end the Exploitation of Children Today Act of 2003 (Public Law 108–21); the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5601 et seq.) (''the 1974 Act''); the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000 (Public Law 106–386) (''the 2000 Act''); the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005 (Public Law 109–162) (''the 2005 Act''); the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 (Public Law 113–4) (''the 2013 Act''); and the Rape Survivor Child Custody Act of 2015 (Public Law 114–22) (''the 2015 Act''); and for related victims services, $481,500,000, to remain available until expended, of which $326,000,000 shall be derived by transfer from amounts available for obligation in this Act from the Fund established by section 1402 of chapter XIV of title II of Public Law 98–473 (42 U.S.C. 10601), notwithstanding section 1402(d) of such Act of 1984, and merged with the amounts otherwise made available under this heading: *Provided*, That except as otherwise provided by law, not to exceed 5 percent of funds made available under this heading may be used for expenses related to evaluation, training, and technical assistance: *Provided further*, That of the amount provided—

(1) $215,000,000 is for grants to combat violence against women, as authorized by part T of the 1968 Act;

(2) $30,000,000 is for transitional housing assistance grants for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or sexual assault as authorized by section 40299 of the 1994 Act;

(3) $3,000,000 is for the National Institute of Justice for research and evaluation of violence against women and related issues addressed by grant programs of the Office on Violence Against Women, which shall be transferred to ''Research, Evaluation and Statistics'' for administration by the Office of Justice Programs;

(4) $11,000,000 is for a grant program to provide services to advocate for and respond to youth victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking; assistance to children and youth exposed to such violence; programs to engage men and youth in preventing such violence; and assistance to middle and high school students through education and other services related to such violence: *Provided*, That unobligated balances available for the programs authorized by sections 41201, 41204, 41303, and 41305 of the 1994 Act, prior to its amendment by the 2013 Act, shall be available for this program: *Provided further*, That 10 percent of the total amount available for this grant program shall be available for grants under the program authorized by section 2015 of the 1968 Act: *Provided further*, That the definitions and grant conditions in section 40002 of the 1994 Act shall apply to this program;

(5) $53,000,000 is for grants to encourage arrest policies as authorized by part U of the 1968 Act, of which $4,000,000 is for a homicide reduction initiative;

(6) $35,000,000 is for sexual assault victims assistance, as authorized by section 41601 of the 1994 Act;

(7) $35,000,000 is for rural domestic violence and child abuse enforcement assistance grants, as authorized by section 40295 of the 1994 Act;

(8) $20,000,000 is for grants to reduce violent crimes against women on campus, as authorized by section 304 of the 2005 Act;

(9) $45,000,000 is for legal assistance for victims, as authorized by section 1201 of the 2000 Act;

(10) $5,000,000 is for enhanced training and services to end violence against and abuse of women in later life, as authorized by section 40802 of the 1994 Act;

(11) $16,000,000 is for grants to support families in the justice system, as authorized by section 1301 of the 2000 Act: *Provided*, That unobligated balances available for the programs authorized by section 1301 of the 2000

Act and section 41002 of the 1994 Act, prior to their amendment by the 2013 Act, shall be available for this program;

(12) $6,000,000 is for education and training to end violence against and abuse of women with disabilities, as authorized by section 1402 of the 2000 Act;

(13) $500,000 is for the National Resource Center on Workplace Responses to assist victims of domestic violence, as authorized by section 41501 of the 1994 Act;

(14) $1,000,000 is for analysis and research on violence against Indian women, including as authorized by section 904 of the 2005 Act: *Provided*, That such funds may be transferred to ''Research, Evaluation and Statistics'' for administration by the Office of Justice Programs;

(15) $500,000 is for a national clearinghouse that provides training and technical assistance on issues relating to sexual assault of American Indian and Alaska Native women;

(16) $4,000,000 is for grants to assist tribal governments in exercising special domestic violence criminal jurisdiction, as authorized by section 904 of the 2013 Act: *Provided*, That the grant conditions in section 40002(b) of the 1994 Act shall apply to this program; and

(17) $1,500,000 for the purposes authorized under the 2015 Act.

OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS

RESEARCH, EVALUATION AND STATISTICS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For grants, contracts, cooperative agreements, and other assistance authorized by title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (''the 1968 Act''); the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 (''the 1974 Act''); the Missing Children's Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5771 et seq.); the Prosecutorial Remedies and Other Tools to end the Exploitation of Children Today Act of 2003 (Public Law 108–21); the Justice for All Act of 2004 (Public Law 108–405); the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005 (Public Law 109–162) (''the 2005 Act''); the Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990 (Public Law 101–647); the Second Chance Act of 2007 (Public Law 110–199); the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 (Public Law 98–473); the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 (Public Law 109–248) (''the Adam Walsh Act''); the PROTECT Our Children Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–401); subtitle D of title II of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (Public Law 107–296) (''the 2002 Act''); the NICS Improvement Amendments Act of 2007 (Public Law 110–180); the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 (Public Law 113–4) (''the 2013 Act''); and other programs, $89,000,000, to remain available until expended, of which—

(1) $45,500,000 is for criminal justice statistics programs, and other activities, as authorized by part C of title I of the 1968 Act, of which $5,000,000 is for a nationwide incident-based crime statistics program;

(2) $39,500,000 is for research, development, and evaluation programs, and other activities as authorized by part B of title I of the 1968 Act and subtitle D of title II of the 2002 Act, of which $4,000,000 is for research targeted toward developing a better understanding of the domestic radicalization phenomenon, and advancing evidence-based strategies for effective intervention and prevention; and

(3) $4,000,000 is for activities to strengthen and enhance the practice of forensic sciences, of which $3,000,000 is for transfer to the National Institute of Standards and Technology to support Scientific Area Committees.

STATE AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For grants, contracts, cooperative agreements, and other assistance authorized by the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 (Public Law 103–322) (''the 1994 Act''); the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (''the 1968 Act''); the Justice for All Act of 2004 (Public Law 108–405); the Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990 (Public Law 101–647) (''the 1990 Act''); the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2005 (Public Law 109–164); the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005 (Public Law 109–162) (''the 2005 Act''); the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 (Public Law 109–248) (''the Adam Walsh Act''); the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000 (Public Law 106–386); the NICS Improvement Amendments Act of 2007 (Public Law 110–180); subtitle D of title II of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (Public Law 107–296) (''the 2002 Act''); the Second Chance Act of 2007 (Public Law 110–199); the Prioritizing Resources and Organization for Intellectual Property Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–403); the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 (Public Law 98–473); the Mentally Ill Offender Treatment and Crime Reduction Reauthorization and Improvement Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–416); the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 (Public Law 113–4) (''the 2013 Act''); the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act of 2016 (Public Law 114–198) (''CARA''); and other programs, $1,258,500,000, to remain available until expended as follows—

(1) $396,000,000 for the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant program as authorized by subpart 1 of part E of title I of the 1968 Act (except that section 1001(c), and the special rules for Puerto Rico under section 505(g) of title I of the 1968 Act shall not apply for purposes of this Act), of which, notwithstanding such subpart 1, $7,500,000 is for the Officer Robert Wilson III Memorial Initiative on Preventing Violence Against Law Enforcement Officer Resilience and Survivability (VALOR), $5,000,000 is for an initiative to support evidence-based policing, $2,500,000 is for an initiative to enhance prosecutorial decision-making, $2,400,000 is for the operationalization, maintenance and expansion of the National Missing and Unidentified Persons System, $2,500,000 is for a national training initiative to improve police-based responses to people with mental illness or developmental disabilities, $6,500,000 is for competitive and evidence-based programs to reduce gun crime and gang violence, $2,000,000 is for a student loan repayment assistance program pursuant to section 952 of Public Law 110–315, $2,500,000 is for the Capital Litigation Improvement Grant Program, as authorized by section 426 of Public Law 108–405, and for grants for wrongful conviction review, $10,500,000 is for prison rape prevention and prosecution grants to States and units of local government, and other programs, as authorized by the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 (Public Law 108–79), and $20,000,000 is for the sole purpose of providing reimbursement of extraordinary law enforcement and related costs directly associated with protection of the President-elect incurred from November 9, 2016 until the inauguration of the President-elect as President: *Provided*, That reimbursement under the foregoing shall be provided only for costs that a State or local agency can document as being over and above normal law enforcement operations and directly attributable to the provision of protection described herein: *Provided further*, That section 154 of the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2017 (division C of Public Law 114–223), as amended by the Further Continuing and Security Assistance Appropriations Act, 2017 (Public Law 114–254), is amended by inserting after ''$7,000,000'' the following: '', to remain available until September 30, 2017,'';

(2) $210,000,000 for the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program, as authorized by section 241(i)(5) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1231(i)(5)): *Provided*, That no jurisdiction shall request compensation for any cost greater than the actual cost for Federal immigration and other detainees housed in State and local detention facilities;

(3) $45,000,000 for victim services programs for victims of trafficking, as authorized by section 107(b)(2) of Public Law 106–386, for programs authorized under Public Law 109–164, or programs authorized under Public Law 113–4;

(4) $13,000,000 for economic, high technology, white collar and Internet crime prevention grants, including as authorized by section 401 of Public Law 110–403;

(5) $20,000,000 for sex offender management assistance, as authorized by the Adam Walsh Act, and related activities;

(6) $22,500,000 for the matching grant program for law enforcement armor vests, as authorized by section 2501 of title I of the 1968 Act: *Provided*, That $1,500,000 is transferred directly to the National Institute of Standards and Technology's Office of Law Enforcement Standards for research, testing and evaluation programs;

(7) $1,000,000 for the National Sex Offender Public Website;

(8) $73,000,000 for grants to States to upgrade criminal and mental health records for the National Instant Criminal Background Check System, of which no less than $25,000,000 shall be for grants made under the authorities of the NICS Improvement Amendments Act of 2007 (Public Law 110–180);

(9) $13,000,000 for Paul Coverdell Forensic Sciences Improvement Grants under part BB of title I of the 1968 Act;

(10) $125,000,000 for DNA-related and forensic programs and activities, of which—

(A) $117,000,000 is for a DNA analysis and capacity enhancement program and for other local, State, and Federal forensic activities, including the purposes authorized under section 2 of the DNA Analysis Backlog Elimination Act of 2000 (Public Law 106–546) (the Debbie Smith DNA Backlog Grant Program): *Provided*, That up to 4 percent of funds made available under this paragraph may be used for the purposes described in the DNA Training and Education for Law Enforcement, Correctional Personnel, and Court Officers program (Public Law 108–405, section 303);

(B) $4,000,000 is for the purposes described in the Kirk Bloodsworth Post-Conviction DNA Testing Grant Program (Public Law 108–405, section 412); and

(C) $4,000,000 is for Sexual Assault Forensic Exam Program grants, including as authorized by section 304 of Public Law 108–405;

(11) $45,000,000 for a grant program for community-based sexual assault response reform;

(12) $9,000,000 for the court-appointed special advocate program, as authorized by section 217 of the 1990 Act;

(13) $68,000,000 for offender reentry programs and research, as authorized by the Second Chance Act of 2007 (Public Law 110–199), without regard to the time limitations

specified at section 6(1) of such Act, of which not to exceed $6,000,000 is for a program to improve State, local, and tribal probation or parole supervision efforts and strategies, $5,000,000 is for Children of Incarcerated Parents Demonstrations to enhance and maintain parental and family relationships for incarcerated parents as a reentry or recidivism reduction strategy, and $4,000,000 is for additional replication sites employing the Project HOPE Opportunity Probation with Enforcement model implementing swift and certain sanctions in probation, and for a research project on the effectiveness of the model: *Provided*, That up to $7,500,000 of funds made available in this paragraph may be used for performance-based awards for Pay for Success projects, of which up to $5,000,000 shall be for Pay for Success programs implementing the Permanent Supportive Housing Model;

(14) $50,000,000 for the Comprehensive School Safety Initiative;

(15) $65,000,000 for initiatives to improve police-community relations, of which $22,500,000 is for a competitive matching grant program for purchases of body-worn cameras for State, local and tribal law enforcement, $25,000,000 is for a justice reinvestment initiative, for activities related to criminal justice reform and recidivism reduction, and $17,500,000 is for an Edward Byrne Memorial criminal justice innovation program; and

(16) $103,000,000 for comprehensive opioid abuse reduction activities, including as authorized by CARA, and for the following programs, which shall address opioid abuse reduction consistent with underlying program authorities—

(A) $43,000,000 for Drug Courts, as authorized by section 1001(a)(25)(A) of title I of the 1968 Act;

(B) $12,000,000 for mental health courts and adult and juvenile collaboration program grants, as authorized by parts V and HH of title I of the 1968 Act, and the Mentally Ill Offender Treatment and Crime Reduction Reauthorization and Improvement Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–416);

(C) $14,000,000 for grants for Residential Substance Abuse Treatment for State Prisoners, as authorized by part S of title I of the 1968 Act;

(D) $7,000,000 for a veterans treatment courts program; and

(E) $14,000,000 for a program to monitor prescription drugs and scheduled listed chemical products:

Provided, That, if a unit of local government uses any of the funds made available under this heading to increase the number of law enforcement officers, the unit of local government will achieve a net gain in the number of law enforcement officers who perform non-administrative public sector safety service.

JUVENILE JUSTICE PROGRAMS

For grants, contracts, cooperative agreements, and other assistance authorized by the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 (''the 1974 Act''); the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (''the 1968 Act''); the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005 (Public Law 109–162) (''the 2005 Act''); the Missing Children's Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5771 et seq.); the Prosecutorial Remedies and Other Tools to end the Exploitation of Children Today Act of 2003 (Public Law 108–21); the Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990 (Public Law 101–647) (''the 1990 Act''); the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 (Public Law 109–248) (''the Adam Walsh Act''); the PROTECT Our Children Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–401); the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 (Public Law 113–4) (''the 2013 Act''); and other juvenile justice programs, $247,000,000, to remain available until expended as follows—

(1) $55,000,000 for programs authorized by section 221 of the 1974 Act, and for training and technical assistance to assist small, nonprofit organizations with the Federal grants process: *Provided*, That of the amounts provided under this paragraph, $500,000 shall be for a competitive demonstration grant program to support emergency planning among State, local and tribal juvenile justice residential facilities;

(2) $80,000,000 for youth mentoring grants;

(3) $14,500,000 for delinquency prevention, as authorized by section 505 of the 1974 Act, of which, pursuant to sections 261 and 262 thereof—

(A) $4,000,000 shall be for gang and youth violence education, prevention and intervention, and related activities;

(B) $500,000 shall be for an Internet site providing information and resources on children of incarcerated parents;

(C) $2,000,000 shall be for competitive grants focusing on girls in the juvenile justice system; and

(D) $8,000,000 shall be for community-based violence prevention initiatives, including for public health approaches to reducing shootings and violence;

(4) $21,000,000 for programs authorized by the Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990;

(5) $72,500,000 for missing and exploited children programs, including as authorized by sections 404(b) and 405(a) of the 1974 Act (except that section 102(b)(4)(B) of the PROTECT Our Children Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–401) shall not apply for purposes of this Act);

(6) $2,000,000 for child abuse training programs for judicial personnel and practitioners, as authorized by section 222 of the 1990 Act; and

(7) $2,000,000 for a program to improve juvenile indigent defense:

Provided, That not more than 10 percent of each amount may be used for research, evaluation, and statistics activities designed to benefit the programs or activities authorized: *Provided further*, That not more than 2 percent of the amounts designated under paragraphs (1) through (4) and (6) may be used for training and technical assistance: *Provided further*, That the two preceding provisos shall not apply to grants and projects administered pursuant to sections 261 and 262 of the 1974 Act and to missing and exploited children programs.

PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER BENEFITS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For payments and expenses authorized under section 1001(a)(4) of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968, such sums as are necessary (including amounts for administrative costs), to remain available until expended; and $16,300,000 for payments authorized by section 1201(b) of such Act and for educational assistance authorized by section 1218 of such Act, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That notwithstanding section 205 of this Act, upon a determination by the Attorney General that emergent circumstances require additional funding for such disability and education payments, the Attorney General may transfer such amounts to ''Public Safety Officer Benefits'' from available appropriations for the Department of Justice as may be necessary to respond to such circumstances: *Provided further*, That any transfer pursuant to the preceding proviso shall be treated as a reprogramming under section 505 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation or expenditure except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section.

COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING SERVICES

COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING SERVICES PROGRAMS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For activities authorized by the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 (Public Law 103–322); the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (''the 1968 Act''); and the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005 (Public Law 109–162) (''the 2005 Act''), $221,500,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That any balances made available through prior year deobligations shall only be available in accordance with section 505 of this Act: *Provided further*, That of the amount provided under this heading—

(1) $10,000,000 is for anti-methamphetamine-related activities, which shall be transferred to the Drug Enforcement Administration upon enactment of this Act;

(2) $194,500,000 is for grants under section 1701 of title I of the 1968 Act (42 U.S.C. 3796dd) for the hiring and rehiring of additional career law enforcement officers under part Q of such title notwithstanding subsection (i) of such section: *Provided*, That, notwithstanding section 1704(c) of such title (42 U.S.C. 3796dd–3(c)), funding for hiring or rehiring a career law enforcement officer may not exceed $125,000 unless the Director of the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services grants a waiver from this limitation: *Provided further*, That of the amounts appropriated under this paragraph, $5,000,000 is for community policing development activities in furtherance of the purposes in section 1701: *Provided further*, That within the amounts appropriated under this paragraph, $10,000,000 is for the collaborative reform model of technical assistance in furtherance of the purposes in section 1701: *Provided further*, That of the amounts appropriated under this paragraph $35,000,000 is for regional information sharing activities, as authorized by part M of title I of the 1968 Act, which shall be transferred to and merged with ''Research, Evaluation, and Statistics'' for administration by the Office of Justice Programs: *Provided further*, That of the amounts appropriated under this paragraph, $7,500,000 is for activities authorized by the POLICE Act of 2016 (Public Law 114–199);

(3) $7,000,000 is for competitive grants to State law enforcement agencies in States with high seizures of precursor chemicals, finished methamphetamine, laboratories, and laboratory dump seizures: *Provided*, That funds appropriated under this paragraph shall be utilized for investigative purposes to locate or investigate illicit activities, including precursor diversion, laboratories, or methamphetamine traffickers; and

(4) $10,000,000 is for competitive grants to statewide law enforcement agencies in States with high rates of primary treatment admissions for heroin and other opioids: *Provided*, That these funds shall be utilized for investigative purposes to locate or investigate illicit activities, including activities related to the distribution of heroin or unlawful distribution of prescription opioids, or unlawful heroin and prescription opioid traffickers through statewide collaboration.

GENERAL PROVISIONS—DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 201. In addition to amounts otherwise made available in this title for official reception and representation expenses, a total of not to exceed $50,000 from funds appropriated to the Department of Justice in this title shall be available to the Attorney General for official reception and representation expenses.

SEC. 202. None of the funds appropriated by this title shall be available to pay for an abortion, except where the life of the mother would be endangered if the fetus were carried to term, or in the case of rape or incest: *Provided*, That should this prohibition be declared unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, this section shall be null and void.

SEC. 203. None of the funds appropriated under this title shall be used to require any person to perform, or facilitate in any way the performance of, any abortion.

SEC. 204. Nothing in the preceding section shall remove the obligation of the Director of the Bureau of Prisons to provide escort services necessary for a female inmate to receive such service outside the Federal facility: *Provided*, That nothing in this section in any way diminishes the effect of section 203 intended to address the philosophical beliefs of individual employees of the Bureau of Prisons.

SEC. 205. Not to exceed 5 percent of any appropriation made available for the current fiscal year for the Department of Justice in this Act may be transferred between such appropriations, but no such appropriation, except as otherwise specifically provided, shall be increased by more than 10 percent by any such transfers: *Provided*, That any transfer pursuant to this section shall be treated as a reprogramming of funds under section 505 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section.

SEC. 206. None of the funds made available under this title may be used by the Federal Bureau of Prisons or the United States Marshals Service for the purpose of transporting an individual who is a prisoner pursuant to conviction for crime under State or Federal law and is classified as a maximum or high security prisoner, other than to a prison or other facility certified by the Federal Bureau of Prisons as appropriately secure for housing such a prisoner.

SEC. 207. (a) None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be used by Federal prisons to purchase cable television services, or to rent or purchase audiovisual or electronic media or equipment used primarily for recreational purposes.

(b) Subsection (a) does not preclude the rental, maintenance, or purchase of audiovisual or electronic media or equipment for inmate training, religious, or educational programs.

SEC. 208. None of the funds made available under this title shall be obligated or expended for any new or enhanced information technology program having total estimated development costs in excess of $100,000,000, unless the Deputy Attorney General and the investment review board certify to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate that the information technology program has appropriate program management controls and contractor oversight mechanisms in place, and that the program is compatible with the enterprise architecture of the Department of Justice.

SEC. 209. The notification thresholds and procedures set forth in section 505 of this Act shall apply to deviations from the amounts designated for specific activities in this Act and in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), and to any use of deobligated balances of funds provided under this title in previous years.

SEC. 210. None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be used to plan for, begin, continue, finish, process, or approve a public-private competition under the Office of Management and Budget Circular A–76 or any successor administrative regulation, directive, or policy for work performed by employees of the Bureau of Prisons or of Federal Prison Industries, Incorporated.

SEC. 211. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no funds shall be available for the salary, benefits, or expenses of any United States Attorney assigned dual or additional responsibilities by the Attorney General or his designee that exempt that United States Attorney from the residency requirements of section 545 of title 28, United States Code.

SEC. 212. At the discretion of the Attorney General, and in addition to any amounts that otherwise may be available (or authorized to be made available) by law, with respect to funds appropriated by this title under the headings ''Research, Evaluation and Statistics'', ''State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance'', and ''Juvenile Justice Programs''—

(1) up to 3 percent of funds made available to the Office of Justice Programs for grant or reimbursement programs may be used by such Office to provide training and technical assistance; and

(2) up to 2 percent of funds made available for grant or reimbursement programs under such headings, except for amounts appropriated specifically for research, evaluation, or statistical programs administered by the National Institute of Justice and the Bureau of Justice Statistics, shall be transferred to and merged with funds provided to the National Institute of Justice and the Bureau of Justice Statistics, to be used by them for research, evaluation, or statistical purposes, without regard to the authorizations for such grant or reimbursement programs.

SEC. 213. At the discretion of the Attorney General, and in addition to any amounts that otherwise may be available (or authorized to be made available) by law, up to 7 percent of funds made available for grant or reimbursement programs—

(1) under the heading ''State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance'' (except for funds made available under paragraphs (1), (2), and (16) under such heading); and

(2) under the headings ''Juvenile Justice Programs'' (except for funds made available under paragraph (5) under such heading) and ''Community Oriented Policing Services Programs'', to be transferred to and merged with funds made available under the heading ''State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance'',

shall be available for tribal criminal justice assistance without regard to the authorizations for such grant or reimbursement programs.

SEC. 214. Upon request by a grantee for whom the Attorney General has determined there is a fiscal hardship, the Attorney General may, with respect to funds appropriated in this or any other Act making appropriations for fiscal years 2014 through 2017 for the following programs, waive the following requirements:

(1) For the adult and juvenile offender State and local reentry demonstration projects under part FF of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3797w(g)(1)), the requirements under section 2976(g)(1) of such part.

(2) For State, Tribal, and local reentry courts under part FF of title I of such Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3797w–2(e)(1) and (2)), the requirements under section 2978(e)(1) and (2) of such part.

(3) For the prosecution drug treatment alternatives to prison program under part CC of title I of such Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3797q–3), the requirements under section 2904 of such part.

(4) For grants to protect inmates and safeguard communities as authorized by section 6 of the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 (42 U.S.C. 15605(c)(3)), the requirements of section 6(c)(3) of such Act.

SEC. 215. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, section 20109(a) of subtitle A of title II of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 13709(a)) shall not apply to amounts made available by this or any other Act.

SEC. 216. None of the funds made available under this Act, other than for the national instant criminal background check system established under section 103 of the Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act (18 U.S.C. 922 note), may be used by a Federal law enforcement officer to facilitate the transfer of an operable firearm to an individual if the Federal law enforcement officer knows or suspects that the individual is an agent of a drug cartel, unless law enforcement personnel of the United States continuously monitor or control the firearm at all times.

SEC. 217. (a) None of the income retained in the Department of Justice Working Capital Fund pursuant to title I of Public Law 102–140 (105 Stat. 784; 28 U.S.C. 527 note) shall be available for obligation during fiscal year 2017, except up to $40,000,000 may be obligated for implementation of a unified Department of Justice financial management system.

(b) Not to exceed $30,000,000 of the unobligated balances transferred to the capital account of the Department of Justice Working Capital Fund pursuant to title I of Public Law 102–140 (105 Stat. 784; 28 U.S.C. 527 note) shall be available for obligation in fiscal year 2017, and any use, obligation, transfer or allocation of such funds shall be treated as a reprogramming of funds under section 505 of this Act.

(c) Not to exceed $10,000,000 of the excess unobligated balances available under section 524(c)(8)(E) of title 28, United States Code, shall be available for obligation during fiscal year 2017, and any use, obligation, transfer or allocation of such funds shall be treated as a reprogramming of funds under section 505 of this Act.

SEC. 218. Discretionary funds that are made available in this Act for the Office of Justice Programs may be used to participate in Performance Partnership Pilots authorized under section 526 of division H of Public Law 113–76, section 524 of division G of Public Law 113–235, section 525 of division H of Public Law 114–113, and such authorities as are enacted for Performance Partnership Pilots in an appropriations Act for fiscal year 2017.

SEC. 219. In addition to any other transfer authority available to the Department of Justice, for fiscal years 2017 through 2022, unobligated balances available in the Department of Justice Working Capital Fund pursuant to title I of Public Law 102–140 (105 Stat. 784; 28 U.S.C. 527 note) may be transferred to the ''Federal Bureau of Investigation, Construction'' account, to remain

available until expended for the new Federal Bureau of Investigation headquarters in the National Capital Region: *Provided*, That the cumulative total amount of funds transferred from the Working Capital Fund from fiscal year 2017 through 2022 pursuant to this section shall not exceed $315,000,000: *Provided further*, That transfers pursuant to this section shall not count against any ceiling on the use of unobligated balances transferred to the capital account of the Working Capital Fund in this or any other Act in any such fiscal year: *Provided further*, That any transfer pursuant to this section shall be treated as a reprogramming under section 505 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation or expenditure except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section.

This title may be cited as the ''Department of Justice Appropriations Act, 2017''.

TITLE III

SCIENCE

OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY

For necessary expenses of the Office of Science and Technology Policy, in carrying out the purposes of the National Science and Technology Policy, Organization, and Priorities Act of 1976 (42 U.S.C. 6601 et seq.), hire of passenger motor vehicles, and services as authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, not to exceed $2,250 for official reception and representation expenses, and rental of conference rooms in the District of Columbia, $5,555,000.

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

SCIENCE

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, in the conduct and support of science research and development activities, including research, development, operations, support, and services; maintenance and repair, facility planning and design; space flight, spacecraft control, and communications activities; program management; personnel and related costs, including uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by sections 5901 and 5902 of title 5, United States Code; travel expenses; purchase and hire of passenger motor vehicles; and purchase, lease, charter, maintenance, and operation of mission and administrative aircraft, $5,764,900,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That the formulation and development costs (with development cost as defined under section 30104 of title 51, United States Code) for the James Webb Space Telescope shall not exceed $8,000,000,000: *Provided further*, That should the individual identified under subsection (c)(2)(E) of section 30104 of title 51, United States Code, as responsible for the James Webb Space Telescope determine that the development cost of the program is likely to exceed that limitation, the individual shall immediately notify the Administrator and the increase shall be treated as if it meets the 30 percent threshold described in subsection (f) of section 30104: *Provided further*, That, of the amounts provided, $275,000,000 is for an orbiter and a lander to meet the science goals for the Jupiter Europa mission as outlined in the most recent planetary science decadal survey: *Provided further*, That the National Aeronautics and Space Administration shall use the Space Launch System as the launch vehicle or vehicles for the Jupiter Europa mission, plan for an orbiter launch no later than 2022 and a lander launch no later than 2024, and include in the fiscal year 2018 budget the 5-year funding profile necessary to achieve these goals.

AERONAUTICS

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, in the conduct and support of aeronautics research and development activities, including research, development, operations, support, and services; maintenance and repair, facility planning and design; space flight, spacecraft control, and communications activities; program management; personnel and related costs, including uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by sections 5901 and 5902 of title 5, United States Code; travel expenses; purchase and hire of passenger motor vehicles; and purchase, lease, charter, maintenance, and operation of mission and administrative aircraft, $660,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018.

SPACE TECHNOLOGY

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, in the conduct and support of space technology research and development activities, including research, development, operations, support, and services; maintenance and repair, facility planning and design; space flight, spacecraft control, and communications activities; program management; personnel and related costs, including uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by sections 5901 and 5902 of title 5, United States Code; travel expenses; purchase and hire of passenger motor vehicles; and purchase, lease, charter, maintenance, and operation of mission and administrative aircraft, $686,500,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That $130,000,000 shall be for the RESTORE satellite servicing program for continuation of formulation and development activities for RESTORE and such funds shall not support activities solely needed for the asteroid redirect mission.

EXPLORATION

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, in the conduct and support of exploration research and development activities, including research, development, operations, support, and services; maintenance and repair, facility planning and design; space flight, spacecraft control, and communications activities; program management; personnel and related costs, including uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by sections 5901 and 5902 of title 5, United States Code; travel expenses; purchase and hire of passenger motor vehicles; and purchase, lease, charter, maintenance, and operation of mission and administrative aircraft, $4,324,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That not less than $1,350,000,000 shall be for the Orion Multi-Purpose Crew Vehicle: *Provided further*, That not less than $2,150,000,000 shall be for the Space Launch System (SLS) launch vehicle, which shall have a lift capability not less than 130 metric tons and which shall have core elements and an Exploration Upper Stage developed simultaneously: *Provided further*, That of the amounts provided for SLS, not less than $300,000,000 shall be for Exploration Upper Stage development: *Provided further*, That $429,000,000 shall be for exploration ground systems: *Provided further*, That the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) shall provide to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, concurrent with the annual budget submission, a 5-year budget profile for an integrated budget that includes the Space Launch System, the Orion Multi-Purpose Crew Vehicle, and associated ground systems, that will meet the Exploration Mission 2 (EM–2) management agreement launch date of no later than 2021 at a success level equal to the Agency Baseline Commitment for EM–2 of the Orion Multi-Purpose Crew Vehicle: *Provided further*, That $395,000,000 shall be for exploration research and development.

SPACE OPERATIONS

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, in the conduct and support of space operations research and development activities, including research, development, operations, support and services; space flight, spacecraft control and communications activities, including operations, production, and services; maintenance and repair, facility planning and design; program management; personnel and related costs, including uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by sections 5901 and 5902 of title 5, United States Code; travel expenses; purchase and hire of passenger motor vehicles; and purchase, lease, charter, maintenance and operation of mission and administrative aircraft, $4,950,700,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018.

EDUCATION

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, in the conduct and support of aerospace and aeronautical education research and development activities, including research, development, operations, support, and services; program management; personnel and related costs, including uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by sections 5901 and 5902 of title 5, United States Code; travel expenses; purchase and hire of passenger motor vehicles; and purchase, lease, charter, maintenance, and operation of mission and administrative aircraft, $100,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, of which $18,000,000 shall be for the Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research and $40,000,000 shall be for the National Space Grant College and Fellowship Program.

SAFETY, SECURITY AND MISSION SERVICES

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, in the conduct and support of science, aeronautics, space technology, exploration, space operations and education research and development activities, including research, development, operations, support, and services; maintenance and repair, facility planning and design; space flight, spacecraft control, and communications activities; program management; personnel and related costs, including uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by sections 5901 and 5902 of title 5, United States Code; travel expenses; purchase and hire of passenger motor vehicles; not to exceed $63,000 for official reception and representation expenses; and purchase, lease, charter, maintenance, and operation of mission and administrative aircraft, $2,768,600,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018.

CONSTRUCTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE AND RESTORATION

For necessary expenses for construction of facilities including repair, rehabilitation, revitalization, and modification of facilities, construction of new facilities and additions to existing facilities, facility planning and design, and restoration, and acquisition or condemnation of real property, as authorized by law, and environmental compliance and restoration, $360,700,000, to remain available until September 30, 2022: *Provided*, That proceeds from leases deposited into this account shall be available for a period of 5 years to the extent and in amounts as provided in annual appropriations Acts: *Provided further*,

That such proceeds referred to in the preceding proviso shall be available for obligation for fiscal year 2017 in an amount not to exceed $9,470,300: *Provided further*, That each annual budget request shall include an annual estimate of gross receipts and collections and proposed use of all funds collected pursuant to section 20145 of title 51, United States Code.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the Inspector General Act of 1978, $37,900,000, of which $500,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2018.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

Funds for any announced prize otherwise authorized shall remain available, without fiscal year limitation, until a prize is claimed or the offer is withdrawn.

Not to exceed 5 percent of any appropriation made available for the current fiscal year for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration in this Act may be transferred between such appropriations, but no such appropriation, except as otherwise specifically provided, shall be increased by more than 10 percent by any such transfers, except that ''Construction and Environmental Compliance and Restoration'' may be increased up to 15 percent by such transfers. Balances so transferred shall be merged with and available for the same purposes and the same time period as the appropriations to which transferred. Any transfer pursuant to this provision shall be treated as a reprogramming of funds under section 505 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section.

The spending plan required by this Act shall be provided by NASA at the theme, program, project and activity level. The spending plan, as well as any subsequent change of an amount established in that spending plan that meets the notification requirements of section 505 of this Act, shall be treated as a reprogramming under section 505 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation or expenditure except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section.

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

RESEARCH AND RELATED ACTIVITIES

For necessary expenses in carrying out the National Science Foundation Act of 1950 (42 U.S.C. 1861 et seq.), and Public Law 86–209 (42 U.S.C. 1880 et seq.); services as authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code; maintenance and operation of aircraft and purchase of flight services for research support; acquisition of aircraft; and authorized travel; $6,033,645,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, of which not to exceed $544,000,000 shall remain available until expended for polar research and operations support, and for reimbursement to other Federal agencies for operational and science support and logistical and other related activities for the United States Antarctic program: *Provided*, That receipts for scientific support services and materials furnished by the National Research Centers and other National Science Foundation supported research facilities may be credited to this appropriation.

MAJOR RESEARCH EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION

For necessary expenses for the acquisition, construction, commissioning, and upgrading of major research equipment, facilities, and other such capital assets pursuant to the National Science Foundation Act of 1950 (42 U.S.C. 1861 et seq.), including authorized travel, $209,000,000, to remain available until expended.

EDUCATION AND HUMAN RESOURCES

For necessary expenses in carrying out science, mathematics and engineering education and human resources programs and activities pursuant to the National Science Foundation Act of 1950 (42 U.S.C. 1861 et seq.), including services as authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, authorized travel, and rental of conference rooms in the District of Columbia, $880,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018.

AGENCY OPERATIONS AND AWARD MANAGEMENT

For agency operations and award management necessary in carrying out the National Science Foundation Act of 1950 (42 U.S.C. 1861 et seq.); services authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code; hire of passenger motor vehicles; uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by sections 5901 and 5902 of title 5, United States Code; rental of conference rooms in the District of Columbia; and reimbursement of the Department of Homeland Security for security guard services; $330,000,000: *Provided*, That not to exceed $8,280 is for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That contracts may be entered into under this heading in fiscal year 2017 for maintenance and operation of facilities and for other services to be provided during the next fiscal year: *Provided further*, That of the amount provided for costs associated with the acquisition, occupancy, and related costs of new headquarters space, not more than $40,700,000 shall remain available until expended.

OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL SCIENCE BOARD

For necessary expenses (including payment of salaries, authorized travel, hire of passenger motor vehicles, the rental of conference rooms in the District of Columbia, and the employment of experts and consultants under section 3109 of title 5, United States Code) involved in carrying out section 4 of the National Science Foundation Act of 1950 (42 U.S.C. 1863) and Public Law 86–209 (42 U.S.C. 1880 et seq.), $4,370,000: *Provided*, That not to exceed $2,500 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General as authorized by the Inspector General Act of 1978, $15,200,000, of which $400,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2018.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Not to exceed 5 percent of any appropriation made available for the current fiscal year for the National Science Foundation in this Act may be transferred between such appropriations, but no such appropriation shall be increased by more than 15 percent by any such transfers. Any transfer pursuant to this paragraph shall be treated as a reprogramming of funds under section 505 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section.

This title may be cited as the ''Science Appropriations Act, 2017''.

TITLE IV

RELATED AGENCIES

COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Commission on Civil Rights, including hire of passenger motor vehicles, $9,200,000: *Provided*, That none of the funds appropriated in this paragraph may be used to employ any individuals under Schedule C of subpart C of part 213 of title 5 of the Code of Federal Regulations exclusive of one special assistant for each Commissioner: *Provided further*, That none of the funds appropriated in this paragraph shall be used to reimburse Commissioners for more than 75 billable days, with the exception of the chairperson, who is permitted 125 billable days: *Provided further*, That none of the funds appropriated in this paragraph shall be used for any activity or expense that is not explicitly authorized by section 3 of the Civil Rights Commission Act of 1983 (42 U.S.C. 1975a).

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission as authorized by title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, the Equal Pay Act of 1963, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, section 501 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Civil Rights Act of 1991, the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act (GINA) of 2008 (Public Law 110–233), the ADA Amendments Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–325), and the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act of 2009 (Public Law 111–2), including services as authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code; hire of passenger motor vehicles as authorized by section 1343(b) of title 31, United States Code; nonmonetary awards to private citizens; and up to $29,500,000 for payments to State and local enforcement agencies for authorized services to the Commission, $364,500,000: *Provided*, That the Commission is authorized to make available for official reception and representation expenses not to exceed $2,250 from available funds: *Provided further*, That the Commission may take no action to implement any workforce repositioning, restructuring, or reorganization until such time as the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate have been notified of such proposals, in accordance with the reprogramming requirements of section 505 of this Act: *Provided further*, That the Chair is authorized to accept and use any gift or donation to carry out the work of the Commission.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the International Trade Commission, including hire of passenger motor vehicles and services as authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, and not to exceed $2,250 for official reception and representation expenses, $91,500,000, to remain available until expended.

LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

PAYMENT TO THE LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

For payment to the Legal Services Corporation to carry out the purposes of the Legal Services Corporation Act of 1974, $385,000,000, of which $352,000,000 is for basic field programs and required independent audits; $5,000,000 is for the Office of Inspector General, of which such amounts as may be necessary may be used to conduct additional audits of recipients; $19,000,000 is for management and grants oversight; $4,000,000 is for client self-help and information technology; $4,000,000 is for a Pro Bono Innovation Fund; and $1,000,000 is for loan repayment assistance: *Provided*, That the Legal Services Corporation may continue to provide locality

pay to officers and employees at a rate no greater than that provided by the Federal Government to Washington, DC-based employees as authorized by section 5304 of title 5, United States Code, notwithstanding section 1005(d) of the Legal Services Corporation Act (42 U.S.C. 2996(d)): *Provided further*, That the authorities provided in section 205 of this Act shall be applicable to the Legal Services Corporation: *Provided further*, That, for the purposes of section 505 of this Act, the Legal Services Corporation shall be considered an agency of the United States Government.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION—LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

None of the funds appropriated in this Act to the Legal Services Corporation shall be expended for any purpose prohibited or limited by, or contrary to any of the provisions of, sections 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, and 506 of Public Law 105–119, and all funds appropriated in this Act to the Legal Services Corporation shall be subject to the same terms and conditions set forth in such sections, except that all references in sections 502 and 503 to 1997 and 1998 shall be deemed to refer instead to 2016 and 2017, respectively.

MARINE MAMMAL COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Marine Mammal Commission as authorized by title II of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1361 et seq.), $3,431,000.

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Office of the United States Trade Representative, including the hire of passenger motor vehicles and the employment of experts and consultants as authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, $62,000,000, of which $1,000,000 shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of the total amount made available under this heading, up to $15,000,000 may be derived from the Trade Enforcement Trust Fund established in subsection (a) of section 611 of the Trade Facilitation and Trade Enforcement Act of 2015 (19 U.S.C. 4405) for activities of the United States Trade Representative authorized by subsection (d) of such section, including transfers: *Provided further*, That any transfer pursuant to paragraph (1) of such subsection (d) shall be treated as a reprogramming under section 505 of this Act: *Provided further*, That of the total amount made available under this heading, not to exceed $124,000 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses.

STATE JUSTICE INSTITUTE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the State Justice Institute, as authorized by the State Justice Institute Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10701 et seq.) $5,121,000, of which $500,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That not to exceed $2,250 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That, for the purposes of section 505 of this Act, the State Justice Institute shall be considered an agency of the United States Government.

TITLE V

GENERAL PROVISIONS

(INCLUDING RESCISSIONS)

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 501. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall be used for publicity or propaganda purposes not authorized by the Congress.

SEC. 502. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year unless expressly so provided herein.

SEC. 503. The expenditure of any appropriation under this Act for any consulting service through procurement contract, pursuant to section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, shall be limited to those contracts where such expenditures are a matter of public record and available for public inspection, except where otherwise provided under existing law, or under existing Executive order issued pursuant to existing law.

SEC. 504. If any provision of this Act or the application of such provision to any person or circumstances shall be held invalid, the remainder of the Act and the application of each provision to persons or circumstances other than those as to which it is held invalid shall not be affected thereby.

SEC. 505. None of the funds provided under this Act, or provided under previous appropriations Acts to the agencies funded by this Act that remain available for obligation or expenditure in fiscal year 2017, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury of the United States derived by the collection of fees available to the agencies funded by this Act, shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a reprogramming of funds that: (1) creates or initiates a new program, project or activity; (2) eliminates a program, project or activity; (3) increases funds or personnel by any means for any project or activity for which funds have been denied or restricted; (4) relocates an office or employees; (5) reorganizes or renames offices, programs or activities; (6) contracts out or privatizes any functions or activities presently performed by Federal employees; (7) augments existing programs, projects or activities in excess of $500,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less, or reduces by 10 percent funding for any program, project or activity, or numbers of personnel by 10 percent; or (8) results from any general savings, including savings from a reduction in personnel, which would result in a change in existing programs, projects or activities as approved by Congress; unless the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations are notified 15 days in advance of such reprogramming of funds.

SEC. 506. (a) If it has been finally determined by a court or Federal agency that any person intentionally affixed a label bearing a ''Made in America'' inscription, or any inscription with the same meaning, to any product sold in or shipped to the United States that is not made in the United States, the person shall be ineligible to receive any contract or subcontract made with funds made available in this Act, pursuant to the debarment, suspension, and ineligibility procedures described in sections 9.400 through 9.409 of title 48, Code of Federal Regulations.

(b)(1) To the extent practicable, with respect to authorized purchases of promotional items, funds made available by this Act shall be used to purchase items that are manufactured, produced, or assembled in the United States, its territories or possessions.

(2) The term ''promotional items'' has the meaning given the term in OMB Circular A–87, Attachment B, Item (1)(f)(3).

SEC. 507. (a) The Departments of Commerce and Justice, the National Science Foundation, and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration shall provide to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a quarterly report on the status of balances of appropriations at the account level. For unobligated, uncommitted balances and unobligated, committed balances the quarterly reports shall separately identify the amounts attributable to each source year of appropriation from which the balances were derived. For balances that are obligated, but unexpended, the quarterly reports shall separately identify amounts by the year of obligation.

(b) The report described in subsection (a) shall be submitted within 30 days of the end of each quarter.

(c) If a department or agency is unable to fulfill any aspect of a reporting requirement described in subsection (a) due to a limitation of a current accounting system, the department or agency shall fulfill such aspect to the maximum extent practicable under such accounting system and shall identify and describe in each quarterly report the extent to which such aspect is not fulfilled.

SEC. 508. Any costs incurred by a department or agency funded under this Act resulting from, or to prevent, personnel actions taken in response to funding reductions included in this Act shall be absorbed within the total budgetary resources available to such department or agency: *Provided*, That the authority to transfer funds between appropriations accounts as may be necessary to carry out this section is provided in addition to authorities included elsewhere in this Act: *Provided further*, That use of funds to carry out this section shall be treated as a reprogramming of funds under section 505 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation or expenditure except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section: *Provided further*, That for the Department of Commerce, this section shall also apply to actions taken for the care and protection of loan collateral or grant property.

SEC. 509. None of the funds provided by this Act shall be available to promote the sale or export of tobacco or tobacco products, or to seek the reduction or removal by any foreign country of restrictions on the marketing of tobacco or tobacco products, except for restrictions which are not applied equally to all tobacco or tobacco products of the same type.

SEC. 510. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, amounts deposited or available in the Fund established by section 1402 of chapter XIV of title II of Public Law 98–473 (42 U.S.C. 10601) in any fiscal year in excess of $2,573,000,000 shall not be available for obligation until the following fiscal year: *Provided*, That notwithstanding section 1402(d) of such Act, of the amounts available from the Fund for obligation, $10,000,000 shall remain available until expended to the Department of Justice Office of Inspector General for oversight and auditing purposes.

SEC. 511. None of the funds made available to the Department of Justice in this Act may be used to discriminate against or denigrate the religious or moral beliefs of students who participate in programs for which financial assistance is provided from those funds, or of the parents or legal guardians of such students.

SEC. 512. None of the funds made available in this Act may be transferred to any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government, except pursuant to a transfer made by, or transfer authority provided in, this Act or any other appropriations Act.

SEC. 513. Any funds provided in this Act used to implement E-Government Initiatives shall be subject to the procedures set forth in section 505 of this Act.

SEC. 514. (a) The Inspectors General of the Department of Commerce, the Department of Justice, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the National Science Foundation, and the Legal Services Corporation shall conduct audits, pursuant to the Inspector General Act (5 U.S.C. App.), of grants or contracts for which funds are appropriated by this Act, and shall submit reports to Congress on the progress of such audits, which may include preliminary findings and a description of areas of particular interest, within 180 days after initiating such an audit and every 180 days thereafter until any such audit is completed.

(b) Within 60 days after the date on which an audit described in subsection (a) by an Inspector General is completed, the Secretary, Attorney General, Administrator, Director, or President, as appropriate, shall make the results of the audit available to the public on the Internet website maintained by the Department, Administration, Foundation, or Corporation, respectively. The results shall be made available in redacted form to exclude—

(1) any matter described in section 552(b) of title 5, United States Code; and

(2) sensitive personal information for any individual, the public access to which could be used to commit identity theft or for other inappropriate or unlawful purposes.

(c) Any person awarded a grant or contract funded by amounts appropriated by this Act shall submit a statement to the Secretary of Commerce, the Attorney General, the Administrator, Director, or President, as appropriate, certifying that no funds derived from the grant or contract will be made available through a subcontract or in any other manner to another person who has a financial interest in the person awarded the grant or contract.

(d) The provisions of the preceding subsections of this section shall take effect 30 days after the date on which the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, in consultation with the Director of the Office of Government Ethics, determines that a uniform set of rules and requirements, substantially similar to the requirements in such subsections, consistently apply under the executive branch ethics program to all Federal departments, agencies, and entities.

SEC. 515. (a) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available under this Act may be used by the Departments of Commerce and Justice, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, or the National Science Foundation to acquire a high-impact or moderate-impact information system, as defined for security categorization in the National Institute of Standards and Technology's (NIST) Federal Information Processing Standard Publication 199, ''Standards for Security Categorization of Federal Information and Information Systems'' unless the agency has—

(1) reviewed the supply chain risk for the information systems against criteria developed by NIST and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to inform acquisition decisions for high-impact and moderate-impact information systems within the Federal Government;

(2) reviewed the supply chain risk from the presumptive awardee against available and relevant threat information provided by the FBI and other appropriate agencies; and

(3) in consultation with the FBI or other appropriate Federal entity, conducted an assessment of any risk of cyber-espionage or sabotage associated with the acquisition of such system, including any risk associated with such system being produced, manufactured, or assembled by one or more entities identified by the United States Government as posing a cyber threat, including but not limited to, those that may be owned, directed, or subsidized by the People's Republic of China.

(b) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available under this Act may be used to acquire a high-impact or moderate-impact information system reviewed and assessed under subsection (a) unless the head of the assessing entity described in subsection (a) has—

(1) developed, in consultation with NIST, the FBI, and supply chain risk management experts, a mitigation strategy for any identified risks;

(2) determined, in consultation with NIST and the FBI, that the acquisition of such system is in the national interest of the United States; and

(3) reported that determination to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate and the agency Inspector General.

SEC. 516. None of the funds made available in this Act shall be used in any way whatsoever to support or justify the use of torture by any official or contract employee of the United States Government.

SEC. 517. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law or treaty, none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available under this Act or any other Act may be expended or obligated by a department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States to pay administrative expenses or to compensate an officer or employee of the United States in connection with requiring an export license for the export to Canada of components, parts, accessories or attachments for firearms listed in Category I, section 121.1 of title 22, Code of Federal Regulations (International Trafficking in Arms Regulations (ITAR), part 121, as it existed on April 1, 2005) with a total value not exceeding $500 wholesale in any transaction, provided that the conditions of subsection (b) of this section are met by the exporting party for such articles.

(b) The foregoing exemption from obtaining an export license—

(1) does not exempt an exporter from filing any Shipper's Export Declaration or notification letter required by law, or from being otherwise eligible under the laws of the United States to possess, ship, transport, or export the articles enumerated in subsection (a); and

(2) does not permit the export without a license of—

(A) fully automatic firearms and components and parts for such firearms, other than for end use by the Federal Government, or a Provincial or Municipal Government of Canada;

(B) barrels, cylinders, receivers (frames) or complete breech mechanisms for any firearm listed in Category I, other than for end use by the Federal Government, or a Provincial or Municipal Government of Canada; or

(C) articles for export from Canada to another foreign destination.

(c) In accordance with this section, the District Directors of Customs and postmasters shall permit the permanent or temporary export without a license of any unclassified articles specified in subsection (a) to Canada for end use in Canada or return to the United States, or temporary import of Canadian-origin items from Canada for end use in the United States or return to Canada for a Canadian citizen.

(d) The President may require export licenses under this section on a temporary basis if the President determines, upon publication first in the Federal Register, that the Government of Canada has implemented or maintained inadequate import controls for the articles specified in subsection (a), such that a significant diversion of such articles has and continues to take place for use in international terrorism or in the escalation of a conflict in another nation. The President shall terminate the requirements of a license when reasons for the temporary requirements have ceased.

SEC. 518. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States receiving appropriated funds under this Act or any other Act shall obligate or expend in any way such funds to pay administrative expenses or the compensation of any officer or employee of the United States to deny any application submitted pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2778(b)(1)(B) and qualified pursuant to 27 CFR section 478.112 or .113, for a permit to import United States origin ''curios or relics'' firearms, parts, or ammunition.

SEC. 519. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to include in any new bilateral or multilateral trade agreement the text of—

(1) paragraph 2 of article 16.7 of the United States–Singapore Free Trade Agreement;

(2) paragraph 4 of article 17.9 of the United States–Australia Free Trade Agreement; or

(3) paragraph 4 of article 15.9 of the United States–Morocco Free Trade Agreement.

SEC. 520. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to authorize or issue a national security letter in contravention of any of the following laws authorizing the Federal Bureau of Investigation to issue national security letters: The Right to Financial Privacy Act of 1978; The Electronic Communications Privacy Act of 1986; The Fair Credit Reporting Act; The National Security Act of 1947; USA PATRIOT Act; USA FREEDOM Act of 2015; and the laws amended by these Acts.

SEC. 521. If at any time during any quarter, the program manager of a project within the jurisdiction of the Departments of Commerce or Justice, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, or the National Science Foundation totaling more than $75,000,000 has reasonable cause to believe that the total program cost has increased by 10 percent or more, the program manager shall immediately inform the respective Secretary, Administrator, or Director. The Secretary, Administrator, or Director shall notify the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations within 30 days in writing of such increase, and shall include in such notice: the date on which such determination was made; a statement of the reasons for such increases; the action taken and proposed to be taken to control future cost growth of the project; changes made in the performance or schedule milestones and the degree to which such changes have contributed to the increase in total program costs or procurement costs; new estimates of the total project or procurement costs; and a statement validating that the project's management structure is adequate to control total project or procurement costs.

SEC. 522. Funds appropriated by this Act, or made available by the transfer of funds in this Act, for intelligence or intelligence related activities are deemed to be specifically authorized by the Congress for purposes of section 504 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3094) during fiscal year 2017

until the enactment of the Intelligence Authorization Act for fiscal year 2017.

SEC. 523. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to enter into a contract in an amount greater than $5,000,000 or to award a grant in excess of such amount unless the prospective contractor or grantee certifies in writing to the agency awarding the contract or grant that, to the best of its knowledge and belief, the contractor or grantee has filed all Federal tax returns required during the three years preceding the certification, has not been convicted of a criminal offense under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, and has not, more than 90 days prior to certification, been notified of any unpaid Federal tax assessment for which the liability remains unsatisfied, unless the assessment is the subject of an installment agreement or offer in compromise that has been approved by the Internal Revenue Service and is not in default, or the assessment is the subject of a non-frivolous administrative or judicial proceeding.

(RESCISSIONS)

SEC. 524. (a) Of the unobligated balances from prior year appropriations available to the Department of Commerce, the following funds are hereby rescinded, not later than September 30, 2017, from the following accounts in the specified amounts—

(1) ''Economic Development Administration, Economic Development Assistance Programs'', $10,000,000;

(2) ''National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Operations, Research, and Facilities'', $18,000,000; and

(3) ''National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Procurement, Acquisition and Construction'', $5,000,000.

(b) Of the unobligated balances available to the Department of Justice, the following funds are hereby rescinded, not later than September 30, 2017, from the following accounts in the specified amounts—

(1) ''Working Capital Fund'', $300,000,000;

(2) ''United States Marshals Service, Federal Prisoner Detention'', $24,000,000;

(3) ''Federal Bureau of Investigation, Salaries and Expenses'', $140,000,000 from fees collected to defray expenses for the automation of fingerprint identification and criminal justice information services and associated costs;

(4) ''State and Local Law Enforcement Activities, Office on Violence Against Women, Violence Against Women Prevention and Prosecution Programs'', $10,000,000;

(5) ''State and Local Law Enforcement Activities, Office of Justice Programs'', $50,000,000;

(6) ''State and Local Law Enforcement Activities, Community Oriented Policing Services'', $15,000,000;

(7) ''Legal Activities, Assets Forfeiture Fund'', $503,196,000, of which $201,196,000 is permanently rescinded;

(8) ''Drug Enforcement Administration, Salaries and Expenses'', $12,092,000;

(9) ''Federal Bureau of Investigation, Salaries and Expenses'', $51,600,000; and

(10) ''Federal Prison System, Buildings and Facilities'', $3,400,000.

(c) The Departments of Commerce and Justice shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a report no later than September 1, 2017, specifying the amount of each rescission made pursuant to subsections (a) and (b).

SEC. 525. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to purchase first class or premium airline travel in contravention of sections 301–10.122 through 301–10.124 of title 41 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

SEC. 526. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to send or otherwise pay for the attendance of more than 50 employees from a Federal department or agency, who are stationed in the United States, at any single conference occurring outside the United States unless such conference is a law enforcement training or operational conference for law enforcement personnel and the majority of Federal employees in attendance are law enforcement personnel stationed outside the United States.

SEC. 527. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available in this or any other Act may be used to transfer, release, or assist in the transfer or release to or within the United States, its territories, or possessions Khalid Sheikh Mohammed or any other detainee who—

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

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

SEC. 528. (a) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available in this or any other Act may be used to construct, acquire, or modify any facility in the United States, its territories, or possessions to house any individual described in subsection (c) for the purposes of detention or imprisonment in the custody or under the effective control of the Department of Defense.

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

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

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

(2) is—

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

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

SEC. 529. The Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall instruct any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States receiving funds appropriated under this Act to track undisbursed balances in expired grant accounts and include in its annual performance plan and performance and accountability reports the following:

(1) Details on future action the department, agency, or instrumentality will take to resolve undisbursed balances in expired grant accounts.

(2) The method that the department, agency, or instrumentality uses to track undisbursed balances in expired grant accounts.

(3) Identification of undisbursed balances in expired grant accounts that may be returned to the Treasury of the United States.

(4) In the preceding 3 fiscal years, details on the total number of expired grant accounts with undisbursed balances (on the first day of each fiscal year) for the department, agency, or instrumentality and the total finances that have not been obligated to a specific project remaining in the accounts.

SEC. 530. (a) None of the funds made available by this Act may be used for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) or the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) to develop, design, plan, promulgate, implement, or execute a bilateral policy, program, order, or contract of any kind to participate, collaborate, or coordinate bilaterally in any way with China or any Chinese-owned company unless such activities are specifically authorized by a law enacted after the date of enactment of this Act.

(b) None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to effectuate the hosting of official Chinese visitors at facilities belonging to or utilized by NASA.

(c) The limitations described in subsections (a) and (b) shall not apply to activities which NASA or OSTP, after consultation with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, have certified—

(1) pose no risk of resulting in the transfer of technology, data, or other information with national security or economic security implications to China or a Chinese-owned company; and

(2) will not involve knowing interactions with officials who have been determined by the United States to have direct involvement with violations of human rights.

(d) Any certification made under subsection (c) shall be submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, no later than 30 days prior to the activity in question and shall include a description of the purpose of the activity, its agenda, its major participants, and its location and timing.

SEC. 531. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to pay the salaries or expenses of personnel to deny, or fail to act on, an application for the importation of any model of shotgun if—

(1) all other requirements of law with respect to the proposed importation are met; and

(2) no application for the importation of such model of shotgun, in the same configuration, had been denied by the Attorney General prior to January 1, 2011, on the basis that the shotgun was not particularly suitable for or readily adaptable to sporting purposes.

SEC. 532. (a) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to maintain or establish a computer network unless such network blocks the viewing, downloading, and exchanging of pornography.

(b) Nothing in subsection (a) shall limit the use of funds necessary for any Federal, State, tribal, or local law enforcement agency or any other entity carrying out criminal investigations, prosecution, adjudication, or other law enforcement- or victim assistance-related activity.

SEC. 533. The Departments of Commerce and Justice, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the National Science Foundation, the Commission on Civil Rights, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the International Trade Commission, the Legal Services Corporation, the Marine Mammal Commission, the Offices of Science and Technology Policy and the United States Trade Representative, and the State Justice Institute shall submit spending plans, signed by the respective department or agency head, to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate within 45 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 534. None of the funds made available by this Act may be obligated or expended to implement the Arms Trade Treaty until the Senate approves a resolution of ratification for the Treaty.

SEC. 535. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to pay award or incentive fees for contractor performance that has been judged to be below satisfactory performance or for performance that does not meet the basic requirements of a contract.

SEC. 536. The Department of Commerce, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and the National Science Foundation shall provide a quarterly report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate on any official travel to China by any employee of such Department or agency, including the purpose of such travel.

SEC. 537. None of the funds made available in this Act to the Department of Justice may be used, with respect to any of the States of Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming, or with respect to the District of Columbia, Guam, or Puerto Rico, to prevent any of them from implementing their own laws that authorize the use, distribution, possession, or cultivation of medical marijuana.

SEC. 538. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used in contravention of section 7606 (''Legitimacy of Industrial Hemp Research'') of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (Public Law 113–79) by the Department of Justice or the Drug Enforcement Administration.

SEC. 539. Of the amounts made available by this Act, not less than 10 percent of each total amount provided, respectively, for Public Works grants authorized by the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965 and grants authorized by section 27 of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3722) shall be allocated for assistance in persistent poverty counties: *Provided*, That for purposes of this section, the term ''persistent poverty counties'' means any county that has had 20 percent or more of its population living in poverty over the past 30 years, as measured by the 1990 and 2000 decennial censuses and the most recent Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates.

SEC. 540. For an additional amount for ''National Aeronautics and Space Administration—Construction and Environmental Compliance and Restoration'', $109,000,000, to remain available until expended, for repairs at National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) owned facilities that directly support NASA's mission which were damaged as a result of recent natural disasters: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

EXCEPTION TO LIMITATION ON APPOINTMENT OF CERTAIN PERSONS AS UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

SEC. 541. (a) IN GENERAL.—The limitation under section 141(b) (4) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2171(b)(4)) shall not apply to the first person appointed, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, as the United States Trade Representative after the date of the enactment of this Act, if that person served as a Deputy United States Trade Representative before the date of the enactment of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.).

(b) LIMITED EXCEPTION.—This section applies only to the first person appointed as United States Trade Representative after the date of enactment of this Act, and to no other person.

SEC. 542. For an additional amount for ''Department of Justice, State and Local Law Enforcement Activities, Office of Justice Programs, State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance'', $15,000,000 for emergency law enforcement assistance for events occurring during fiscal years 2016 and 2017, as authorized by section 609M of the Justice Assistance Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10501; Public Law 98–473).

This division may be cited as the ''Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017''.

DIVISION C—DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

TITLE I

MILITARY PERSONNEL

MILITARY PERSONNEL, ARMY

For pay, allowances, individual clothing, subsistence, interest on deposits, gratuities, permanent change of station travel (including all expenses thereof for organizational movements), and expenses of temporary duty travel between permanent duty stations, for members of the Army on active duty (except members of reserve components provided for elsewhere), cadets, and aviation cadets; for members of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps; and for payments pursuant to section 156 of Public Law 97–377, as amended (42 U.S.C. 402 note), and to the Department of Defense Military Retirement Fund, $40,042,962,000.

MILITARY PERSONNEL, NAVY

For pay, allowances, individual clothing, subsistence, interest on deposits, gratuities, permanent change of station travel (including all expenses thereof for organizational movements), and expenses of temporary duty travel between permanent duty stations, for members of the Navy on active duty (except members of the Reserve provided for elsewhere), midshipmen, and aviation cadets; for members of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps; and for payments pursuant to section 156 of Public Law 97–377, as amended (42 U.S.C. 402 note), and to the Department of Defense Military Retirement Fund, $27,889,405,000.

MILITARY PERSONNEL, MARINE CORPS

For pay, allowances, individual clothing, subsistence, interest on deposits, gratuities, permanent change of station travel (including all expenses thereof for organizational movements), and expenses of temporary duty travel between permanent duty stations, for members of the Marine Corps on active duty (except members of the Reserve provided for elsewhere); and for payments pursuant to section 156 of Public Law 97–377, as amended (42 U.S.C. 402 note), and to the Department of Defense Military Retirement Fund, $12,735,182,000.

MILITARY PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE

For pay, allowances, individual clothing, subsistence, interest on deposits, gratuities, permanent change of station travel (including all expenses thereof for organizational movements), and expenses of temporary duty travel between permanent duty stations, for members of the Air Force on active duty (except members of reserve components provided for elsewhere), cadets, and aviation cadets; for members of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps; and for payments pursuant to section 156 of Public Law 97–377, as amended (42 U.S.C. 402 note), and to the Department of Defense Military Retirement Fund, $27,958,795,000.

RESERVE PERSONNEL, ARMY

For pay, allowances, clothing, subsistence, gratuities, travel, and related expenses for personnel of the Army Reserve on active duty under sections 10211, 10302, and 3038 of title 10, United States Code, or while serving on active duty under section 12301(d) of title 10, United States Code, in connection with performing duty specified in section 12310(a) of title 10, United States Code, or while undergoing reserve training, or while performing drills or equivalent duty or other duty, and expenses authorized by section 16131 of title 10, United States Code; and for payments to the Department of Defense Military Retirement Fund, $4,524,863,000.

RESERVE PERSONNEL, NAVY

For pay, allowances, clothing, subsistence, gratuities, travel, and related expenses for personnel of the Navy Reserve on active duty under section 10211 of title 10, United States Code, or while serving on active duty under section 12301(d) of title 10, United States Code, in connection with performing duty specified in section 12310(a) of title 10, United States Code, or while undergoing reserve training, or while performing drills or equivalent duty, and expenses authorized by section 16131 of title 10, United States Code; and for payments to the Department of Defense Military Retirement Fund, $1,921,045,000.

RESERVE PERSONNEL, MARINE CORPS

For pay, allowances, clothing, subsistence, gratuities, travel, and related expenses for personnel of the Marine Corps Reserve on active duty under section 10211 of title 10, United States Code, or while serving on active duty under section 12301(d) of title 10, United States Code, in connection with performing duty specified in section 12310(a) of title 10, United States Code, or while undergoing reserve training, or while performing drills or equivalent duty, and for members of the Marine Corps platoon leaders class, and expenses authorized by section 16131 of title 10, United States Code; and for payments to the Department of Defense Military Retirement Fund, $744,795,000.

RESERVE PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE

For pay, allowances, clothing, subsistence, gratuities, travel, and related expenses for personnel of the Air Force Reserve on active duty under sections 10211, 10305, and 8038 of title 10, United States Code, or while serving on active duty under section 12301(d) of title 10, United States Code, in connection with performing duty specified in section 12310(a) of title 10, United States Code, or while undergoing reserve training, or while performing drills or equivalent duty or other duty, and expenses authorized by section 16131 of title 10, United States Code; and for payments to the Department of Defense Military Retirement Fund, $1,725,526,000.

NATIONAL GUARD PERSONNEL, ARMY

For pay, allowances, clothing, subsistence, gratuities, travel, and related expenses for personnel of the Army National Guard while on duty under sections 10211, 10302, or 12402 of title 10 or section 708 of title 32, United States Code, or while serving on duty under section 12301(d) of title 10 or section 502(f) of title 32, United States Code, in connection with performing duty specified in section

12310(a) of title 10, United States Code, or while undergoing training, or while performing drills or equivalent duty or other duty, and expenses authorized by section 16131 of title 10, United States Code; and for payments to the Department of Defense Military Retirement Fund, $7,899,423,000.

NATIONAL GUARD PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE

For pay, allowances, clothing, subsistence, gratuities, travel, and related expenses for personnel of the Air National Guard on duty under sections 10211, 10305, or 12402 of title 10 or section 708 of title 32, United States Code, or while serving on duty under section 12301(d) of title 10 or section 502(f) of title 32, United States Code, in connection with performing duty specified in section 12310(a) of title 10, United States Code, or while undergoing training, or while performing drills or equivalent duty or other duty, and expenses authorized by section 16131 of title 10, United States Code; and for payments to the Department of Defense Military Retirement Fund, $3,283,982,000.

TITLE II

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY

For expenses, not otherwise provided for, necessary for the operation and maintenance of the Army, as authorized by law, $32,738,173,000: *Provided*, That not to exceed $12,478,000 can be used for emergencies and extraordinary expenses, to be expended on the approval or authority of the Secretary of the Army, and payments may be made on his certificate of necessity for confidential military purposes.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, NAVY

For expenses, not otherwise provided for, necessary for the operation and maintenance of the Navy and the Marine Corps, as authorized by law, $38,552,017,000: *Provided*, That not to exceed $15,055,000 can be used for emergencies and extraordinary expenses, to be expended on the approval or authority of the Secretary of the Navy, and payments may be made on his certificate of necessity for confidential military purposes.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, MARINE CORPS

For expenses, not otherwise provided for, necessary for the operation and maintenance of the Marine Corps, as authorized by law, $5,676,152,000.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE

For expenses, not otherwise provided for, necessary for the operation and maintenance of the Air Force, as authorized by law, $36,247,724,000: *Provided*, That not to exceed $7,699,000 can be used for emergencies and extraordinary expenses, to be expended on the approval or authority of the Secretary of the Air Force, and payments may be made on his certificate of necessity for confidential military purposes.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, DEFENSE-WIDE

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For expenses, not otherwise provided for, necessary for the operation and maintenance of activities and agencies of the Department of Defense (other than the military departments), as authorized by law, $32,373,949,000: *Provided*, That not more than $15,000,000 may be used for the Combatant Commander Initiative Fund authorized under section 166a of title 10, United States Code: *Provided further*, That not to exceed $36,000,000 can be used for emergencies and extraordinary expenses, to be expended on the approval or authority of the Secretary of Defense, and payments may be made on his certificate of necessity for confidential military purposes: *Provided further*, That of the funds provided under this heading, not less than $34,964,000 shall be made available for the Procurement Technical Assistance Cooperative Agreement Program, of which not less than $3,600,000 shall be available for centers defined in 10 U.S.C. 2411(1)(D): *Provided further*, That none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to plan or implement the consolidation of a budget or appropriations liaison office of the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the office of the Secretary of a military department, or the service headquarters of one of the Armed Forces into a legislative affairs or legislative liaison office: *Provided further*, That $5,023,000, to remain available until expended, is available only for expenses relating to certain classified activities, and may be transferred as necessary by the Secretary of Defense to operation and maintenance appropriations or research, development, test and evaluation appropriations, to be merged with and to be available for the same time period as the appropriations to which transferred: *Provided further*, That any ceiling on the investment item unit cost of items that may be purchased with operation and maintenance funds shall not apply to the funds described in the preceding proviso: *Provided further*, That of the funds provided under this heading, $480,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, shall be available to provide support and assistance to foreign security forces or other groups or individuals to conduct, support or facilitate counterterrorism, crisis response, or other Department of Defense security cooperation programs: *Provided further*, That the transfer authority provided under this heading is in addition to any other transfer authority provided elsewhere in this Act.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY RESERVE

For expenses, not otherwise provided for, necessary for the operation and maintenance, including training, organization, and administration, of the Army Reserve; repair of facilities and equipment; hire of passenger motor vehicles; travel and transportation; care of the dead; recruiting; procurement of services, supplies, and equipment; and communications, $2,743,688,000.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, NAVY RESERVE

For expenses, not otherwise provided for, necessary for the operation and maintenance, including training, organization, and administration, of the Navy Reserve; repair of facilities and equipment; hire of passenger motor vehicles; travel and transportation; care of the dead; recruiting; procurement of services, supplies, and equipment; and communications, $929,656,000.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, MARINE CORPS RESERVE

For expenses, not otherwise provided for, necessary for the operation and maintenance, including training, organization, and administration, of the Marine Corps Reserve; repair of facilities and equipment; hire of passenger motor vehicles; travel and transportation; care of the dead; recruiting; procurement of services, supplies, and equipment; and communications, $271,133,000.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE RESERVE

For expenses, not otherwise provided for, necessary for the operation and maintenance, including training, organization, and administration, of the Air Force Reserve; repair of facilities and equipment; hire of passenger motor vehicles; travel and transportation; care of the dead; recruiting; procurement of services, supplies, and equipment; and communications, $3,069,229,000.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

For expenses of training, organizing, and administering the Army National Guard, including medical and hospital treatment and related expenses in non-Federal hospitals; maintenance, operation, and repairs to structures and facilities; hire of passenger motor vehicles; personnel services in the National Guard Bureau; travel expenses (other than mileage), as authorized by law for Army personnel on active duty, for Army National Guard division, regimental, and battalion commanders while inspecting units in compliance with National Guard Bureau regulations when specifically authorized by the Chief, National Guard Bureau; supplying and equipping the Army National Guard as authorized by law; and expenses of repair, modification, maintenance, and issue of supplies and equipment (including aircraft), $6,861,478,000.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR NATIONAL GUARD

For expenses of training, organizing, and administering the Air National Guard, including medical and hospital treatment and related expenses in non-Federal hospitals; maintenance, operation, and repairs to structures and facilities; transportation of things, hire of passenger motor vehicles; supplying and equipping the Air National Guard, as authorized by law; expenses for repair, modification, maintenance, and issue of supplies and equipment, including those furnished from stocks under the control of agencies of the Department of Defense; travel expenses (other than mileage) on the same basis as authorized by law for Air National Guard personnel on active Federal duty, for Air National Guard commanders while inspecting units in compliance with National Guard Bureau regulations when specifically authorized by the Chief, National Guard Bureau, $6,615,095,000.

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE ARMED FORCES

For salaries and expenses necessary for the United States Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces, $14,194,000, of which not to exceed $5,000 may be used for official representation purposes.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, ARMY

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the Department of the Army, $170,167,000, to remain available until transferred: *Provided*, That the Secretary of the Army shall, upon determining that such funds are required for environmental restoration, reduction and recycling of hazardous waste, removal of unsafe buildings and debris of the Department of the Army, or for similar purposes, transfer the funds made available by this appropriation to other appropriations made available to the Department of the Army, to be merged with and to be available for the same purposes and for the same time period as the appropriations to which transferred: *Provided further*, That upon a determination that all or part of the funds transferred from this appropriation are not necessary for the purposes provided herein, such amounts may be transferred back to this appropriation: *Provided further*, That the transfer authority provided under this heading is in addition to any other transfer authority provided elsewhere in this Act.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, NAVY

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the Department of the Navy, $289,262,000, to remain available until transferred: *Provided*, That the Secretary of the Navy shall, upon determining that such funds are required for environmental restoration, reduction and recycling of hazardous waste, removal of unsafe buildings and debris of the Department of the Navy, or for similar purposes, transfer the funds made available by this appropriation to other appropriations made available to the Department of the Navy, to be merged with and to be available for the same purposes and for the same time period as the appropriations to which transferred: *Provided further*, That upon a determination that all or part of the funds transferred from this appropriation are not necessary for the purposes provided herein, such amounts may be transferred back to this appropriation: *Provided further*, That the transfer authority provided under this heading is in addition to any other transfer authority provided elsewhere in this Act.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, AIR FORCE

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the Department of the Air Force, $371,521,000, to remain available until transferred: *Provided*, That the Secretary of the Air Force shall, upon determining that such funds are required for environmental restoration, reduction and recycling of hazardous waste, removal of unsafe buildings and debris of the Department of the Air Force, or for similar purposes, transfer the funds made available by this appropriation to other appropriations made available to the Department of the Air Force, to be merged with and to be available for the same purposes and for the same time period as the appropriations to which transferred: *Provided further*, That upon a determination that all or part of the funds transferred from this appropriation are not necessary for the purposes provided herein, such amounts may be transferred back to this appropriation: *Provided further*, That the transfer authority provided under this heading is in addition to any other transfer authority provided elsewhere in this Act.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, DEFENSE-WIDE

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the Department of Defense, $9,009,000, to remain available until transferred: *Provided*, That the Secretary of Defense shall, upon determining that such funds are required for environmental restoration, reduction and recycling of hazardous waste, removal of unsafe buildings and debris of the Department of Defense, or for similar purposes, transfer the funds made available by this appropriation to other appropriations made available to the Department of Defense, to be merged with and to be available for the same purposes and for the same time period as the appropriations to which transferred: *Provided further*, That upon a determination that all or part of the funds transferred from this appropriation are not necessary for the purposes provided herein, such amounts may be transferred back to this appropriation: *Provided further*, That the transfer authority provided under this heading is in addition to any other transfer authority provided elsewhere in this Act.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the Department of the Army, $222,084,000, to remain available until transferred: *Provided*, That the Secretary of the Army shall, upon determining that such funds are required for environmental restoration, reduction and recycling of hazardous waste, removal of unsafe buildings and debris at sites formerly used by the Department of Defense, transfer the funds made available by this appropriation to other appropriations made available to the Department of the Army, to be merged with and to be available for the same purposes and for the same time period as the appropriations to which transferred: *Provided further*, That upon a determination that all or part of the funds transferred from this appropriation are not necessary for the purposes provided herein, such amounts may be transferred back to this appropriation: *Provided further*, That the transfer authority provided under this heading is in addition to any other transfer authority provided elsewhere in this Act.

OVERSEAS HUMANITARIAN, DISASTER, AND CIVIC AID

For expenses relating to the Overseas Humanitarian, Disaster, and Civic Aid programs of the Department of Defense (consisting of the programs provided under sections 401, 402, 404, 407, 2557, and 2561 of title 10, United States Code), $123,125,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018.

COOPERATIVE THREAT REDUCTION ACCOUNT

For assistance, including assistance provided by contract or by grants, under programs and activities of the Department of Defense Cooperative Threat Reduction Program authorized under the Department of Defense Cooperative Threat Reduction Act, $325,604,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019.

TITLE III

PROCUREMENT

AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, ARMY

For construction, procurement, production, modification, and modernization of aircraft, equipment, including ordnance, ground handling equipment, spare parts, and accessories therefor; specialized equipment and training devices; expansion of public and private plants, including the land necessary therefor, for the foregoing purposes, and such lands and interests therein, may be acquired, and construction prosecuted thereon prior to approval of title; and procurement and installation of equipment, appliances, and machine tools in public and private plants; reserve plant and Government and contractor-owned equipment layaway; and other expenses necessary for the foregoing purposes, $4,587,598,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2019.

MISSILE PROCUREMENT, ARMY

For construction, procurement, production, modification, and modernization of missiles, equipment, including ordnance, ground handling equipment, spare parts, and accessories therefor; specialized equipment and training devices; expansion of public and private plants, including the land necessary therefor, for the foregoing purposes, and such lands and interests therein, may be acquired, and construction prosecuted thereon prior to approval of title; and procurement and installation of equipment, appliances, and machine tools in public and private plants; reserve plant and Government and contractor-owned equipment layaway; and other expenses necessary for the foregoing purposes, $1,533,804,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2019.

PROCUREMENT OF WEAPONS AND TRACKED COMBAT VEHICLES, ARMY

For construction, procurement, production, and modification of weapons and tracked combat vehicles, equipment, including ordnance, spare parts, and accessories therefor; specialized equipment and training devices; expansion of public and private plants, including the land necessary therefor, for the foregoing purposes, and such lands and interests therein, may be acquired, and construction prosecuted thereon prior to approval of title; and procurement and installation of equipment, appliances, and machine tools in public and private plants; reserve plant and Government and contractor-owned equipment layaway; and other expenses necessary for the foregoing purposes, $2,229,455,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2019.

PROCUREMENT OF AMMUNITION, ARMY

For construction, procurement, production, and modification of ammunition, and accessories therefor; specialized equipment and training devices; expansion of public and private plants, including ammunition facilities, authorized by section 2854 of title 10, United States Code, and the land necessary therefor, for the foregoing purposes, and such lands and interests therein, may be acquired, and construction prosecuted thereon prior to approval of title; and procurement and installation of equipment, appliances, and machine tools in public and private plants; reserve plant and Government and contractor-owned equipment layaway; and other expenses necessary for the foregoing purposes, $1,483,566,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2019.

OTHER PROCUREMENT, ARMY

For construction, procurement, production, and modification of vehicles, including tactical, support, and non-tracked combat vehicles; the purchase of passenger motor vehicles for replacement only; communications and electronic equipment; other support equipment; spare parts, ordnance, and accessories therefor; specialized equipment and training devices; expansion of public and private plants, including the land necessary therefor, for the foregoing purposes, and such lands and interests therein, may be acquired, and construction prosecuted thereon prior to approval of title; and procurement and installation of equipment, appliances, and machine tools in public and private plants; reserve plant and Government and contractor-owned equipment layaway; and other expenses necessary for the foregoing purposes, $6,147,328,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2019.

AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, NAVY

For construction, procurement, production, modification, and modernization of aircraft, equipment, including ordnance, spare parts, and accessories therefor; specialized equipment; expansion of public and private plants, including the land necessary therefor, and such lands and interests therein, may be acquired, and construction prosecuted thereon prior to approval of title; and procurement and installation of equipment, appliances, and machine tools in public and private plants; reserve plant and Government and contractor-owned equipment layaway, $16,135,335,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2019.

WEAPONS PROCUREMENT, NAVY

For construction, procurement, production, modification, and modernization of missiles, torpedoes, other weapons, and related support equipment including spare parts, and accessories therefor; expansion of public and private plants, including the land necessary therefor, and such lands and interests therein, may be acquired, and construction prosecuted thereon prior to approval of

title; and procurement and installation of equipment, appliances, and machine tools in public and private plants; reserve plant and Government and contractor-owned equipment layaway, $3,265,285,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2019.

PROCUREMENT OF AMMUNITION, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS

For construction, procurement, production, and modification of ammunition, and accessories therefor; specialized equipment and training devices; expansion of public and private plants, including ammunition facilities, authorized by section 2854 of title 10, United States Code, and the land necessary therefor, for the foregoing purposes, and such lands and interests therein, may be acquired, and construction prosecuted thereon prior to approval of title; and procurement and installation of equipment, appliances, and machine tools in public and private plants; reserve plant and Government and contractor-owned equipment layaway; and other expenses necessary for the foregoing purposes, $633,678,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2019.

SHIPBUILDING AND CONVERSION, NAVY

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

Ohio Replacement Submarine (AP), $773,138,000;

Carrier Replacement Program, $1,255,783,000;

Carrier Replacement Program (AP), $1,370,784,000;

Virginia Class Submarine, $3,187,985,000;

Virginia Class Submarine (AP), $1,852,234,000;

CVN Refueling Overhauls, $1,699,120,000;

CVN Refueling Overhauls (AP), $233,149,000;

DDG–1000 Program, $271,756,000;

DDG–51 Destroyer, $3,614,792,000;

Littoral Combat Ship, $1,563,692,000;

LPD–17, $1,786,000,000;

LHA Replacement, $1,617,719,000;

TAO Fleet Oiler (AP), $73,079,000;

Moored Training Ship, $624,527,000;

Ship to Shore Connector, $128,067,000;

Service Craft, $65,192,000;

LCAC Service Life Extension Program, $82,074,000;

YP Craft Maintenance/ROH/SLEP, $21,363,000;

For outfitting, post delivery, conversions, and first destination transportation, $626,158,000;

Completion of Prior Year Shipbuilding Programs, $160,274,000; and

Polar Icebreakers (AP), $150,000,000.

In all: $21,156,886,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2021: *Provided*, That additional obligations may be incurred after September 30, 2021, for engineering services, tests, evaluations, and other such budgeted work that must be performed in the final stage of ship construction: *Provided further*, That none of the funds provided under this heading for the construction or conversion of any naval vessel to be constructed in shipyards in the United States shall be expended in foreign facilities for the construction of major components of such vessel: *Provided further*, That none of the funds provided under this heading shall be used for the construction of any naval vessel in foreign shipyards: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act for production of the common missile compartment of nuclear-powered vessels may be available for multiyear procurement of critical components to support continuous production of such compartments only in accordance with the provisions of subsection (i) of section 2218a of title 10, United States Code (as added by section 1023 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114–328)).

OTHER PROCUREMENT, NAVY

For procurement, production, and modernization of support equipment and materials not otherwise provided for, Navy ordnance (except ordnance for new aircraft, new ships, and ships authorized for conversion); the purchase of passenger motor vehicles for replacement only; expansion of public and private plants, including the land necessary therefor, and such lands and interests therein, may be acquired, and construction prosecuted thereon prior to approval of title; and procurement and installation of equipment, appliances, and machine tools in public and private plants; reserve plant and Government and contractor-owned equipment layaway, $6,308,919,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2019.

PROCUREMENT, MARINE CORPS

For expenses necessary for the procurement, manufacture, and modification of missiles, armament, military equipment, spare parts, and accessories therefor; plant equipment, appliances, and machine tools, and installation thereof in public and private plants; reserve plant and Government and contractor-owned equipment layaway; vehicles for the Marine Corps, including the purchase of passenger motor vehicles for replacement only; and expansion of public and private plants, including land necessary therefor, and such lands and interests therein, may be acquired, and construction prosecuted thereon prior to approval of title, $1,307,456,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2019.

AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE

For construction, procurement, and modification of aircraft and equipment, including armor and armament, specialized ground handling equipment, and training devices, spare parts, and accessories therefor; specialized equipment; expansion of public and private plants, Government-owned equipment and installation thereof in such plants, erection of structures, and acquisition of land, for the foregoing purposes, and such lands and interests therein, may be acquired, and construction prosecuted thereon prior to approval of title; reserve plant and Government and contractor-owned equipment layaway; and other expenses necessary for the foregoing purposes including rents and transportation of things, $14,253,623,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2019.

MISSILE PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE

For construction, procurement, and modification of missiles, rockets, and related equipment, including spare parts and accessories therefor; ground handling equipment, and training devices; expansion of public and private plants, Government-owned equipment and installation thereof in such plants, erection of structures, and acquisition of land, for the foregoing purposes, and such lands and interests therein, may be acquired, and construction prosecuted thereon prior to approval of title; reserve plant and Government and contractor-owned equipment layaway; and other expenses necessary for the foregoing purposes including rents and transportation of things, $2,348,121,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2019.

SPACE PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE

For construction, procurement, and modification of spacecraft, rockets, and related equipment, including spare parts and accessories therefor; ground handling equipment, and training devices; expansion of public and private plants, Government-owned equipment and installation thereof in such plants, erection of structures, and acquisition of land, for the foregoing purposes, and such lands and interests therein, may be acquired, and construction prosecuted thereon prior to approval of title; reserve plant and Government and contractor-owned equipment layaway; and other expenses necessary for the foregoing purposes including rents and transportation of things, $2,733,243,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2019.

PROCUREMENT OF AMMUNITION, AIR FORCE

For construction, procurement, production, and modification of ammunition, and accessories therefor; specialized equipment and training devices; expansion of public and private plants, including ammunition facilities, authorized by section 2854 of title 10, United States Code, and the land necessary therefor, for the foregoing purposes, and such lands and interests therein, may be acquired, and construction prosecuted thereon prior to approval of title; and procurement and installation of equipment, appliances, and machine tools in public and private plants; reserve plant and Government and contractor-owned equipment layaway; and other expenses necessary for the foregoing purposes, $1,589,219,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2019.

OTHER PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE

For procurement and modification of equipment (including ground guidance and electronic control equipment, and ground electronic and communication equipment), and supplies, materials, and spare parts therefor, not otherwise provided for; the purchase of passenger motor vehicles for replacement only; lease of passenger motor vehicles; and expansion of public and private plants, Government-owned equipment and installation thereof in such plants, erection of structures, and acquisition of land, for the foregoing purposes, and such lands and interests therein, may be acquired, and construction prosecuted thereon, prior to approval of title; reserve plant and Government and contractor-owned equipment layaway, $17,768,224,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2019.

PROCUREMENT, DEFENSE-WIDE

For expenses of activities and agencies of the Department of Defense (other than the military departments) necessary for procurement, production, and modification of equipment, supplies, materials, and spare parts therefor, not otherwise provided for; the purchase of passenger motor vehicles for replacement only; expansion of public and private plants, equipment, and installation thereof in such plants, erection of structures, and acquisition of land for the foregoing purposes, and such lands and interests

therein, may be acquired, and construction prosecuted thereon prior to approval of title; reserve plant and Government and contractor-owned equipment layaway, $4,881,022,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2019.

DEFENSE PRODUCTION ACT PURCHASES

For activities by the Department of Defense pursuant to sections 108, 301, 302, and 303 of the Defense Production Act of 1950 (50 U.S.C. 4518, 4531, 4532, and 4533), $64,065,000, to remain available until expended.

TITLE IV

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION, ARMY

For expenses necessary for basic and applied scientific research, development, test and evaluation, including maintenance, rehabilitation, lease, and operation of facilities and equipment, $8,332,965,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2018.

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION, NAVY

For expenses necessary for basic and applied scientific research, development, test and evaluation, including maintenance, rehabilitation, lease, and operation of facilities and equipment, $17,214,530,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That funds appropriated in this paragraph which are available for the V–22 may be used to meet unique operational requirements of the Special Operations Forces.

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION, AIR FORCE

For expenses necessary for basic and applied scientific research, development, test and evaluation, including maintenance, rehabilitation, lease, and operation of facilities and equipment, $27,788,548,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2018.

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION, DEFENSE-WIDE

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For expenses of activities and agencies of the Department of Defense (other than the military departments), necessary for basic and applied scientific research, development, test and evaluation; advanced research projects as may be designated and determined by the Secretary of Defense, pursuant to law; maintenance, rehabilitation, lease, and operation of facilities and equipment, $18,778,550,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That, of the funds made available in this paragraph, $250,000,000 for the Defense Rapid Innovation Program shall only be available for expenses, not otherwise provided for, to include program management and oversight, to conduct research, development, test and evaluation to include proof of concept demonstration; engineering, testing, and validation; and transition to full-scale production: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense may transfer funds provided herein for the Defense Rapid Innovation Program to appropriations for research, development, test and evaluation to accomplish the purpose provided herein: *Provided further*, That this transfer authority is in addition to any other transfer authority available to the Department of Defense: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense shall, not fewer than 30 days prior to making transfers from this appropriation, notify the congressional defense committees in writing of the details of any such transfer.

OPERATIONAL TEST AND EVALUATION, DEFENSE

For expenses, not otherwise provided for, necessary for the independent activities of the Director, Operational Test and Evaluation, in the direction and supervision of operational test and evaluation, including initial operational test and evaluation which is conducted prior to, and in support of, production decisions; joint operational testing and evaluation; and administrative expenses in connection therewith, $186,994,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2018.

TITLE V

REVOLVING AND MANAGEMENT FUNDS

DEFENSE WORKING CAPITAL FUNDS

For the Defense Working Capital Funds, $1,511,613,000.

TITLE VI

OTHER DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PROGRAMS

DEFENSE HEALTH PROGRAM

For expenses, not otherwise provided for, for medical and health care programs of the Department of Defense as authorized by law, $33,781,270,000; of which $31,277,002,000 shall be for operation and maintenance, of which not to exceed one percent shall remain available for obligation until September 30, 2018, and of which up to $15,315,832,000 may be available for contracts entered into under the TRICARE program; of which $402,161,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2019, shall be for procurement; and of which $2,102,107,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2018, shall be for research, development, test and evaluation: *Provided*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, of the amount made available under this heading for research, development, test and evaluation, not less than $8,000,000 shall be available for HIV prevention educational activities undertaken in connection with United States military training, exercises, and humanitarian assistance activities conducted primarily in African nations: *Provided further*, That of the funds provided under this heading for research, development, test and evaluation, not less than $1,014,600,000 shall be made available to the United States Army Medical Research and Materiel Command to carry out the congressionally directed medical research programs.

CHEMICAL AGENTS AND MUNITIONS DESTRUCTION, DEFENSE

For expenses, not otherwise provided for, necessary for the destruction of the United States stockpile of lethal chemical agents and munitions in accordance with the provisions of section 1412 of the Department of Defense Authorization Act, 1986 (50 U.S.C. 1521), and for the destruction of other chemical warfare materials that are not in the chemical weapon stockpile, $523,726,000, of which $119,985,000 shall be for operation and maintenance, of which no less than $49,533,000 shall be for the Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program, consisting of $20,368,000 for activities on military installations and $29,165,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, to assist State and local governments, and of which not more than $13,700,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, shall be for the destruction of eight United States-origin chemical munitions in the Republic of Panama, to the extent authorized by law; $15,132,000 shall be for procurement, to remain available until September 30, 2019, of which $15,132,000 shall be for the Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program to assist State and local governments; and $388,609,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, shall be for research, development, test and evaluation, of which $380,892,000 shall only be for the Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives program.

DRUG INTERDICTION AND COUNTER-DRUG ACTIVITIES, DEFENSE

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For drug interdiction and counter-drug activities of the Department of Defense, for transfer to appropriations available to the Department of Defense for military personnel of the reserve components serving under the provisions of title 10 and title 32, United States Code; for operation and maintenance; for procurement; and for research, development, test and evaluation, $998,800,000, of which $626,087,000 shall be for counter-narcotics support; $118,713,000 shall be for the drug demand reduction program; $234,000,000 shall be for the National Guard counter-drug program; and $20,000,000 shall be for the National Guard counter-drug schools program: *Provided*, That the funds appropriated under this heading shall be available for obligation for the same time period and for the same purpose as the appropriation to which transferred: *Provided further*, That upon a determination that all or part of the funds transferred from this appropriation are not necessary for the purposes provided herein, such amounts may be transferred back to this appropriation: *Provided further*, That the transfer authority provided under this heading is in addition to any other transfer authority contained elsewhere in this Act.

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

For expenses and activities of the Office of the Inspector General in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, $312,035,000, of which $308,882,000 shall be for operation and maintenance, of which not to exceed $700,000 is available for emergencies and extraordinary expenses to be expended on the approval or authority of the Inspector General, and payments may be made on the Inspector General's certificate of necessity for confidential military purposes; and of which $3,153,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, shall be for research, development, test and evaluation.

TITLE VII

RELATED AGENCIES

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY RETIREMENT AND DISABILITY SYSTEM FUND

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

INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT ACCOUNT

For necessary expenses of the Intelligence Community Management Account, $515,596,000.

TITLE VIII

GENERAL PROVISIONS

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

SEC. 8002. During the current fiscal year, provisions of law prohibiting the payment of

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

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

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

(TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 8005. Upon determination by the Secretary of Defense that such action is necessary in the national interest, he may, with the approval of the Office of Management and Budget, transfer not to exceed $4,500,000,000 of working capital funds of the Department of Defense or funds made available in this Act to the Department of Defense for military functions (except military construction) between such appropriations or funds or any subdivision thereof, to be merged with and to be available for the same purposes, and for the same time period, as the appropriation or fund to which transferred: *Provided*, That such authority to transfer may not be used unless for higher priority items, based on unforeseen military requirements, than those for which originally appropriated and in no case where the item for which funds are requested has been denied by the Congress: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense shall notify the Congress promptly of all transfers made pursuant to this authority or any other authority in this Act: *Provided further*, That no part of the funds in this Act shall be available to prepare or present a request to the Committees on Appropriations for reprogramming of funds, unless for higher priority items, based on unforeseen military requirements, than those for which originally appropriated and in no case where the item for which reprogramming is requested has been denied by the Congress: *Provided further*, That a request for multiple reprogrammings of funds using authority provided in this section shall be made prior to June 30, 2017: *Provided further*, That transfers among military personnel appropriations shall not be taken into account for purposes of the limitation on the amount of funds that may be transferred under this section.

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

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

SEC. 8007. (a) Not later than 60 days after enactment of this Act, the Department of Defense shall submit a report to the congressional defense committees to establish the baseline for application of reprogramming and transfer authorities for fiscal year 2017: *Provided*, That the report shall include—

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

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

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

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

(1) ''Environmental Restoration, Army'';

(2) ''Environmental Restoration, Navy'';

(3) ''Environmental Restoration, Air Force'';

(4) ''Environmental Restoration, Defense-wide'';

(5) ''Environmental Restoration, Formerly Used Defense Sites''; and

(6) ''Drug Interdiction and Counter-drug Activities, Defense''.

(TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

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

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

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

(1) the Secretary of Defense has submitted to Congress a budget request for full funding of units to be procured through the contract and, in the case of a contract for procurement of aircraft, that includes, for any aircraft unit to be procured through the contract for which procurement funds are requested in that budget request for production beyond advance procurement activities in the fiscal year covered by the budget, full funding of procurement of such unit in that fiscal year;

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

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

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

Funds appropriated in title III of this Act may be used for a multiyear procurement contract as follows: AH–64E Apache Helicopter and UH–60M Blackhawk Helicopter.

SEC. 8011. Within the funds appropriated for the operation and maintenance of the Armed Forces, funds are hereby appropriated pursuant to section 401 of title 10, United States Code, for humanitarian and civic assistance costs under chapter 20 of title 10, United States Code. Such funds may also be obligated for humanitarian and civic assistance costs incidental to authorized operations and pursuant to authority granted in

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

SEC. 8012. (a) During fiscal year 2017, the civilian personnel of the Department of Defense may not be managed on the basis of any end-strength, and the management of such personnel during that fiscal year shall not be subject to any constraint or limitation (known as an end-strength) on the number of such personnel who may be employed on the last day of such fiscal year.

(b) The fiscal year 2018 budget request for the Department of Defense as well as all justification material and other documentation supporting the fiscal year 2018 Department of Defense budget request shall be prepared and submitted to the Congress as if subsections (a) and (b) of this provision were effective with regard to fiscal year 2018.

(c) As required by section 1107 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2014 (Public Law 113–66; 10 U.S.C. 2358 note) civilian personnel at the Department of Army Science and Technology Reinvention Laboratories may not be managed on the basis of the Table of Distribution and Allowances, and the management of the workforce strength shall be done in a manner consistent with the budget available with respect to such Laboratories.

(d) Nothing in this section shall be construed to apply to military (civilian) technicians.

SEC. 8013. None of the funds appropriated by this Act shall be used for the support of any nonappropriated funds activity of the Department of Defense that procures malt beverages and wine with nonappropriated funds for resale (including such alcoholic beverages sold by the drink) on a military installation located in the United States unless such malt beverages and wine are procured within that State, or in the case of the District of Columbia, within the District of Columbia, in which the military installation is located: *Provided*, That, in a case in which the military installation is located in more than one State, purchases may be made in any State in which the installation is located: *Provided further*, That such local procurement requirements for malt beverages and wine shall apply to all alcoholic beverages only for military installations in States which are not contiguous with another State: *Provided further*, That alcoholic beverages other than wine and malt beverages, in contiguous States and the District of Columbia shall be procured from the most competitive source, price and other factors considered.

SEC. 8014. None of the funds made available by this Act shall be used in any way, directly or indirectly, to influence congressional action on any legislation or appropriation matters pending before the Congress.

SEC. 8015. None of the funds appropriated by this Act shall be available for the basic pay and allowances of any member of the Army participating as a full-time student and receiving benefits paid by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs from the Department of Defense Education Benefits Fund when time spent as a full-time student is credited toward completion of a service commitment: *Provided*, That this section shall not apply to those members who have reenlisted with this option prior to October 1, 1987: *Provided further*, That this section applies only to active components of the Army.

(TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 8016. Funds appropriated in title III of this Act for the Department of Defense Pilot Mentor-Protégé Program may be transferred to any other appropriation contained in this Act solely for the purpose of implementing a Mentor-Protégé Program developmental assistance agreement pursuant to section 831 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1991 (Public Law 101–510; 10 U.S.C. 2302 note), as amended, under the authority of this provision or any other transfer authority contained in this Act.

SEC. 8017. None of the funds in this Act may be available for the purchase by the Department of Defense (and its departments and agencies) of welded shipboard anchor and mooring chain 4 inches in diameter and under unless the anchor and mooring chain are manufactured in the United States from components which are substantially manufactured in the United States: *Provided*, That for the purpose of this section, the term ''manufactured'' shall include cutting, heat treating, quality control, testing of chain and welding (including the forging and shot blasting process): *Provided further*, That for the purpose of this section substantially all of the components of anchor and mooring chain shall be considered to be produced or manufactured in the United States if the aggregate cost of the components produced or manufactured in the United States exceeds the aggregate cost of the components produced or manufactured outside the United States: *Provided further*, That when adequate domestic supplies are not available to meet Department of Defense requirements on a timely basis, the Secretary of the service responsible for the procurement may waive this restriction on a case-by-case basis by certifying in writing to the Committees on Appropriations that such an acquisition must be made in order to acquire capability for national security purposes.

SEC. 8018. Of the amounts appropriated for ''Working Capital Fund, Army'', $140,000,000 shall be available to maintain competitive rates at the arsenals.

SEC. 8019. None of the funds available to the Department of Defense may be used to demilitarize or dispose of M–1 Carbines, M–1 Garand rifles, M–14 rifles, .22 caliber rifles, .30 caliber rifles, or M–1911 pistols, or to demilitarize or destroy small arms ammunition or ammunition components that are not otherwise prohibited from commercial sale under Federal law, unless the small arms ammunition or ammunition components are certified by the Secretary of the Army or designee as unserviceable or unsafe for further use.

SEC. 8020. No more than $500,000 of the funds appropriated or made available in this Act shall be used during a single fiscal year for any single relocation of an organization, unit, activity or function of the Department of Defense into or within the National Capital Region: *Provided*, That the Secretary of Defense may waive this restriction on a case-by-case basis by certifying in writing to the congressional defense committees that such a relocation is required in the best interest of the Government.

SEC. 8021. Of the funds made available in this Act, $15,000,000 shall be available for incentive payments authorized by section 504 of the Indian Financing Act of 1974 (25 U.S.C. 1544): *Provided*, That a prime contractor or a subcontractor at any tier that makes a subcontract award to any subcontractor or supplier as defined in section 1544 of title 25, United States Code, or a small business owned and controlled by an individual or individuals defined under section 4221(9) of title 25, United States Code, shall be considered a contractor for the purposes of being allowed additional compensation under section 504 of the Indian Financing Act of 1974 (25 U.S.C. 1544) whenever the prime contract or subcontract amount is over $500,000 and involves the expenditure of funds appropriated by an Act making appropriations for the Department of Defense with respect to any fiscal year: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding section 1906 of title 41, United States Code, this section shall be applicable to any Department of Defense acquisition of supplies or services, including any contract and any subcontract at any tier for acquisition of commercial items produced or manufactured, in whole or in part, by any subcontractor or supplier defined in section 1544 of title 25, United States Code, or a small business owned and controlled by an individual or individuals defined under section 4221(9) of title 25, United States Code.

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

SEC. 8023. During the current fiscal year, the Department of Defense is authorized to incur obligations of not to exceed $350,000,000 for purposes specified in section 2350j(c) of title 10, United States Code, in anticipation of receipt of contributions, only from the Government of Kuwait, under that section: *Provided*, That, upon receipt, such contributions from the Government of Kuwait shall be credited to the appropriations or fund which incurred such obligations.

SEC. 8024. (a) Of the funds made available in this Act, not less than $40,021,000 shall be available for the Civil Air Patrol Corporation, of which—

(1) $28,000,000 shall be available from ''Operation and Maintenance, Air Force'' to support Civil Air Patrol Corporation operation and maintenance, readiness, counter-drug activities, and drug demand reduction activities involving youth programs;

(2) $10,337,000 shall be available from ''Aircraft Procurement, Air Force''; and

(3) $1,684,000 shall be available from ''Other Procurement, Air Force'' for vehicle procurement.

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

SEC. 8025. (a) None of the funds appropriated in this Act are available to establish a new Department of Defense (department) federally funded research and development center (FFRDC), either as a new entity, or as a separate entity administrated by an organization managing another FFRDC, or as a nonprofit membership corporation consisting of a consortium of other FFRDCs and other nonprofit entities.

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

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

(d) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, of the funds available to the department during fiscal year 2017, not more than 5,750 staff years of technical effort (staff years) may be funded for defense FFRDCs: *Provided*, That, of the specific amount referred to previously in this subsection, not more than 1,125 staff years may be funded for the defense studies and analysis FFRDCs: *Provided further*, That this subsection shall not apply to staff years funded in the National Intelligence Program (NIP) and the Military Intelligence Program (MIP).

(e) The Secretary of Defense shall, with the submission of the department's fiscal year 2018 budget request, submit a report presenting the specific amounts of staff years of technical effort to be allocated for each defense FFRDC during that fiscal year and the associated budget estimates.

(f) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the total amount appropriated in this Act for FFRDCs is hereby reduced by $60,000,000.

SEC. 8026. None of the funds appropriated or made available in this Act shall be used to procure carbon, alloy, or armor steel plate for use in any Government-owned facility or property under the control of the Department of Defense which were not melted and rolled in the United States or Canada: *Provided*, That these procurement restrictions shall apply to any and all Federal Supply Class 9515, American Society of Testing and Materials (ASTM) or American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI) specifications of carbon, alloy or armor steel plate: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of the military department responsible for the procurement may waive this restriction on a case-by-case basis by certifying in writing to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate that adequate domestic supplies are not available to meet Department of Defense requirements on a timely basis and that such an acquisition must be made in order to acquire capability for national security purposes: *Provided further*, That these restrictions shall not apply to contracts which are in being as of the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 8027. For the purposes of this Act, the term ''congressional defense committees'' means the Armed Services Committee of the House of Representatives, the Armed Services Committee of the Senate, the Subcommittee on Defense of the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate, and the Subcommittee on Defense of the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 8028. During the current fiscal year, the Department of Defense may acquire the modification, depot maintenance and repair of aircraft, vehicles and vessels as well as the production of components and other Defense-related articles, through competition between Department of Defense depot maintenance activities and private firms: *Provided*, That the Senior Acquisition Executive of the military department or Defense Agency concerned, with power of delegation, shall certify that successful bids include comparable estimates of all direct and indirect costs for both public and private bids: *Provided further*, That Office of Management and Budget Circular A–76 shall not apply to competitions conducted under this section.

SEC. 8029. (a)(1) If the Secretary of Defense, after consultation with the United States Trade Representative, determines that a foreign country which is party to an agreement described in paragraph (2) has violated the terms of the agreement by discriminating against certain types of products produced in the United States that are covered by the agreement, the Secretary of Defense shall rescind the Secretary's blanket waiver of the Buy American Act with respect to such types of products produced in that foreign country.

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

(b) The Secretary of Defense shall submit to the Congress a report on the amount of Department of Defense purchases from foreign entities in fiscal year 2017. Such report shall separately indicate the dollar value of items for which the Buy American Act was waived pursuant to any agreement described in subsection (a)(2), the Trade Agreement Act of 1979 (19 U.S.C. 2501 et seq.), or any international agreement to which the United States is a party.

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

SEC. 8030. During the current fiscal year, amounts contained in the Department of Defense Overseas Military Facility Investment Recovery Account established by section 2921(c)(1) of the National Defense Authorization Act of 1991 (Public Law 101–510; 10 U.S.C. 2687 note) shall be available until expended for the payments specified by section 2921(c)(2) of that Act.

SEC. 8031. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of the Air Force may convey at no cost to the Air Force, without consideration, to Indian tribes located in the States of Nevada, Idaho, North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, Oregon, Minnesota, and Washington relocatable military housing units located at Grand Forks Air Force Base, Malmstrom Air Force Base, Mountain Home Air Force Base, Ellsworth Air Force Base, and Minot Air Force Base that are excess to the needs of the Air Force.

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

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

(d) In this section, the term ''Indian tribe'' means any recognized Indian tribe included on the current list published by the Secretary of the Interior under section 104 of the Federally Recognized Indian Tribe Act of 1994 (Public Law 103–454; 108 Stat. 4792; 25 U.S.C. 479a–1).

SEC. 8032. During the current fiscal year, appropriations which are available to the Department of Defense for operation and maintenance may be used to purchase items having an investment item unit cost of not more than $250,000.

SEC. 8033. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to—

(1) disestablish, or prepare to disestablish, a Senior Reserve Officers' Training Corps program in accordance with Department of Defense Instruction Number 1215.08, dated June 26, 2006; or

(2) close, downgrade from host to extension center, or place on probation a Senior Reserve Officers' Training Corps program in accordance with the information paper of the Department of the Army titled ''Army Senior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (SROTC) Program Review and Criteria'', dated January 27, 2014.

SEC. 8034. The Secretary of Defense shall issue regulations to prohibit the sale of any tobacco or tobacco-related products in military resale outlets in the United States, its territories and possessions at a price below the most competitive price in the local community: *Provided*, That such regulations shall direct that the prices of tobacco or tobacco-related products in overseas military retail outlets shall be within the range of prices established for military retail system stores located in the United States.

SEC. 8035. (a) During the current fiscal year, none of the appropriations or funds available to the Department of Defense Working Capital Funds shall be used for the purchase of an investment item for the purpose of acquiring a new inventory item for sale or anticipated sale during the current fiscal year or a subsequent fiscal year to customers of the Department of Defense Working Capital Funds if such an item would not have been chargeable to the Department of Defense Business Operations Fund during fiscal year 1994 and if the purchase of such an investment item would be chargeable during the current fiscal year to appropriations made to the Department of Defense for procurement.

(b) The fiscal year 2018 budget request for the Department of Defense as well as all justification material and other documentation supporting the fiscal year 2018 Department of Defense budget shall be prepared and submitted to the Congress on the basis that any equipment which was classified as an end item and funded in a procurement appropriation contained in this Act shall be budgeted for in a proposed fiscal year 2018 procurement appropriation and not in the supply management business area or any other area or category of the Department of Defense Working Capital Funds.

SEC. 8036. None of the funds appropriated by this Act for programs of the Central Intelligence Agency shall remain available for

obligation beyond the current fiscal year, except for funds appropriated for the Reserve for Contingencies, which shall remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That funds appropriated, transferred, or otherwise credited to the Central Intelligence Agency Central Services Working Capital Fund during this or any prior or subsequent fiscal year shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That any funds appropriated or transferred to the Central Intelligence Agency for advanced research and development acquisition, for agent operations, and for covert action programs authorized by the President under section 503 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3093) shall remain available until September 30, 2018.

SEC. 8037. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds made available in this Act and hereafter for the Defense Intelligence Agency may be used for the design, development, and deployment of General Defense Intelligence Program intelligence communications and intelligence information systems for the Services, the Unified and Specified Commands, and the component commands.

SEC. 8038. Of the funds appropriated to the Department of Defense under the heading ''Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide'', not less than $12,000,000 shall be made available only for the mitigation of environmental impacts, including training and technical assistance to tribes, related administrative support, the gathering of information, documenting of environmental damage, and developing a system for prioritization of mitigation and cost to complete estimates for mitigation, on Indian lands resulting from Department of Defense activities.

SEC. 8039. (a) None of the funds appropriated in this Act may be expended by an entity of the Department of Defense unless the entity, in expending the funds, complies with the Buy American Act. For purposes of this subsection, the term ''Buy American Act'' means chapter 83 of title 41, United States Code.

(b) If the Secretary of Defense determines that a person has been convicted of intentionally affixing a label bearing a ''Made in America'' inscription to any product sold in or shipped to the United States that is not made in America, the Secretary shall determine, in accordance with section 2410f of title 10, United States Code, whether the person should be debarred from contracting with the Department of Defense.

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

SEC. 8040. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act may be used to consolidate or relocate any element of a United States Air Force Rapid Engineer Deployable Heavy Operational Repair Squadron Engineer (RED HORSE) outside of the United States until the Secretary of the Air Force—

(1) completes an analysis and comparison of the cost and infrastructure investment required to consolidate or relocate a RED HORSE squadron outside of the United States versus within the United States;

(2) provides to the congressional defense committees a report detailing the findings of the cost analysis; and

(3) certifies in writing to the congressional defense committees that the preferred site for the consolidation or relocation yields the greatest savings for the Air Force:

Provided, That the term ''United States'' in this section does not include any territory or possession of the United States.

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

(1) to establish a field operating agency; or

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

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

(c) This section does not apply to—

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

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

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

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

SEC. 8042. (a) None of the funds appropriated by this Act shall be available to convert to contractor performance an activity or function of the Department of Defense that, on or after the date of the enactment of this Act, is performed by Department of Defense civilian employees unless—

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

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

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

(B) $10,000,000; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(RESCISSIONS)

SEC. 8043. Of the funds appropriated in Department of Defense Appropriations Acts, the following funds are hereby rescinded from the following accounts and programs in the specified amounts: Provided, That no amounts may be rescinded from amounts that were designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism or as an emergency requirement pursuant to the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended:

''Aircraft Procurement, Army'', 2015/2017, $15,000,000;

''Other Procurement, Army'', 2015/2017, $23,045,000;

''Aircraft Procurement, Navy'', 2015/2017, $88,000,000;

''Weapons Procurement, Navy'', 2015/2017, $11,933,000;

''Procurement of Ammunition, Navy and Marine Corps'', 2015/2017, $43,600,000;

''Aircraft Procurement, Air Force'', 2015/2017, $57,000,000;

''Other Procurement, Air Force'', 2015/2017, $25,500,000;

''Aircraft Procurement, Army'', 2016/2018, $34,594,000;

''Procurement of Ammunition, Army'', 2016/2018, $5,000,000;

''Other Procurement, Army'', 2016/2018, $84,100,000;

''Aircraft Procurement, Navy'', 2016/2018, $6,755,000;

''Weapons Procurement, Navy'', 2016/2018, $5,307,000;

''Procurement of Ammunition, Navy and Marine Corps'', 2016/2018, $6,968,000;

''Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy'', 2016/2020: DDG-51 Destroyer, $50,000,000;

''Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy'', 2016/2020: LPD-17, $14,906,000;

''Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy'', 2016/2020: LX (R), (AP), $236,000,000;

''Other Procurement, Navy'', 2016/2018, $56,374,000;

''Aircraft Procurement, Air Force'', 2016/2018, $383,200,000;

''Missile Procurement, Air Force'', 2016/2018, $34,700,000;

''Space Procurement, Air Force'', 2016/2018, $100,000,000;

''Other Procurement, Air Force'', 2016/2018, $56,369,000;

''Procurement, Defense-Wide'', 2016/2018, $2,600,000;

''Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Army'', 2016/2017, $33,402,000;

''Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Navy'', 2016/2017, $31,219,000;

''Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Air Force'', 2016/2017, $532,550,000; and

''Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Defense-Wide'', 2016/2017, $64,500,000.

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

SEC. 8045. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available in this Act may be obligated or expended for assistance to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea unless specifically appropriated for that purpose.

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

SEC. 8047. (a) None of the funds available to the Department of Defense for any fiscal year for drug interdiction or counter-drug activities may be transferred to any other department or agency of the United States except as specifically provided in an appropriations law.

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

SEC. 8048. None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be used for the procurement of ball and roller bearings other than those produced by a domestic source and of domestic origin: *Provided*, That the Secretary of the military department responsible for such procurement may waive this restriction on a case-by-case basis by certifying in writing to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, that adequate domestic supplies are not available to meet Department of Defense requirements on a timely basis and that such an acquisition must be made in order to acquire capability for national security purposes: *Provided further*, That this restriction shall not apply to the purchase of ''commercial items'', as defined by section 103 of title 41, United States Code, except that the restriction shall apply to ball or roller bearings purchased as end items.

SEC. 8049. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to retire, divest, realign, or transfer RQ–4B Global Hawk aircraft, or to disestablish or convert units associated with such aircraft.

SEC. 8050. None of the funds made available by this Act for Evolved Expendable Launch Vehicle service competitive procurements may be used unless the competitive procurements are open for award to all certified providers of Evolved Expendable Launch Vehicle-class systems: *Provided*, That the award shall be made to the provider that offers the best value to the government.

SEC. 8051. In addition to the amounts appropriated or otherwise made available elsewhere in this Act, $44,000,000 is hereby appropriated to the Department of Defense: *Provided*, That upon the determination of the Secretary of Defense that it shall serve the national interest, the Secretary shall make grants in the amounts specified as follows: $20,000,000 to the United Service Organizations and $24,000,000 to the Red Cross.

SEC. 8052. None of the funds in this Act may be used to purchase any supercomputer which is not manufactured in the United States, unless the Secretary of Defense certifies to the congressional defense committees that such an acquisition must be made in order to acquire capability for national security purposes that is not available from United States manufacturers.

SEC. 8053. Notwithstanding any other provision in this Act, the Small Business Innovation Research program and the Small Business Technology Transfer program setasides shall be taken proportionally from all programs, projects, or activities to the extent they contribute to the extramural budget.

SEC. 8054. None of the funds available to the Department of Defense under this Act shall be obligated or expended to pay a contractor under a contract with the Department of Defense for costs of any amount paid by the contractor to an employee when—

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

(2) such bonus is part of restructuring costs associated with a business combination.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 8055. During the current fiscal year, no more than $30,000,000 of appropriations made in this Act under the heading ''Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide'' may be transferred to appropriations available for the pay of military personnel, to be merged with, and to be available for the same time period as the appropriations to which transferred, to be used in support of such personnel in connection with support and services for eligible organizations and activities outside the Department of Defense pursuant to section 2012 of title 10, United States Code.

SEC. 8056. During the current fiscal year, in the case of an appropriation account of the Department of Defense for which the period of availability for obligation has expired or which has closed under the provisions of section 1552 of title 31, United States Code, and which has a negative unliquidated or unexpended balance, an obligation or an adjustment of an obligation may be charged to any current appropriation account for the same purpose as the expired or closed account if—

(1) the obligation would have been properly chargeable (except as to amount) to the expired or closed account before the end of the period of availability or closing of that account;

(2) the obligation is not otherwise properly chargeable to any current appropriation account of the Department of Defense; and

(3) in the case of an expired account, the obligation is not chargeable to a current appropriation of the Department of Defense under the provisions of section 1405(b)(8) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1991, Public Law 101–510, as amended (31 U.S.C. 1551 note): *Provided*, That in the case of an expired account, if subsequent review or investigation discloses that there was not in fact a negative unliquidated or unexpended balance in the account, any charge to a current account under the authority of this section shall be reversed and recorded against the expired account: *Provided further*, That the total amount charged to a current appropriation under this section may not exceed an amount equal to 1 percent of the total appropriation for that account.

SEC. 8057. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Chief of the National Guard Bureau may permit the use of equipment of the National Guard Distance Learning Project by any person or entity on a space-available, reimbursable basis. The Chief of the National Guard Bureau shall establish the amount of reimbursement for such use on a case-by-case basis.

(b) Amounts collected under subsection (a) shall be credited to funds available for the National Guard Distance Learning Project and be available to defray the costs associated with the use of equipment of the project under that subsection. Such funds shall be available for such purposes without fiscal year limitation.

SEC. 8058. None of the funds available to the Department of Defense may be obligated to modify command and control relationships to give Fleet Forces Command operational and administrative control of United States Navy forces assigned to the Pacific fleet: *Provided*, That the command and control relationships which existed on October 1, 2004, shall remain in force until a written modification has been proposed to the House and Senate Appropriations Committees: *Provided further*, That the proposed modification may be implemented 30 days after the notification unless an objection is received from either the House or Senate Appropriations Committees: *Provided further*, That any proposed modification shall not preclude the ability of the commander of United States Pacific Command to meet operational requirements.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 8059. Of the funds appropriated in this Act under the heading ''Operation and Maintenance, Defense-wide'', $25,000,000 shall be for continued implementation and expansion of the Sexual Assault Special Victims' Counsel Program: *Provided*, That the funds are made available for transfer to the Department of the Army, the Department of the Navy, and the Department of the Air Force: *Provided further*, That funds transferred shall be merged with and available for the same purposes and for the same time period as the appropriations to which the funds are transferred: *Provided further*, That this transfer authority is in addition to any other transfer authority provided in this Act.

SEC. 8060. None of the funds appropriated in title IV of this Act may be used to procure end-items for delivery to military forces for operational training, operational use or inventory requirements: *Provided*, That this restriction does not apply to end-items used in development, prototyping, and test activities preceding and leading to acceptance for operational use: *Provided further*, That this restriction does not apply to programs funded within the National Intelligence Program: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense may waive this restriction on a case-by-case basis by certifying in writing to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate that it is in the national security interest to do so.

SEC. 8061. (a) The Secretary of Defense may, on a case-by-case basis, waive with respect to a foreign country each limitation on the procurement of defense items from foreign sources provided in law if the Secretary determines that the application of the limitation with respect to that country would invalidate cooperative programs entered into between the Department of Defense and the foreign country, or would invalidate reciprocal trade agreements for the procurement of defense items entered into under section 2531 of title 10, United States Code, and the country does not discriminate against the same or similar defense items produced in the United States for that country.

(b) Subsection (a) applies with respect to—

(1) contracts and subcontracts entered into on or after the date of the enactment of this Act; and

(2) options for the procurement of items that are exercised after such date under contracts that are entered into before such date if the option prices are adjusted for any reason other than the application of a waiver granted under subsection (a).

(c) Subsection (a) does not apply to a limitation regarding construction of public vessels, ball and roller bearings, food, and clothing or textile materials as defined by section XI (chapters 50–65) of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States and products classified under headings 4010, 4202, 4203, 6401 through 6406, 6505, 7019, 7218 through 7229, 7304.41 through 7304.49, 7306.40, 7502 through 7508, 8105, 8108, 8109, 8211, 8215, and 9404.

SEC. 8062. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or other Department of Defense Appropriations Acts may be obligated or expended for the purpose of performing repairs or maintenance to military family housing units of the Department of Defense, including areas in such military family housing units that may be used for the purpose of conducting official Department of Defense business.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 8063. Of the amounts appropriated for ''Operation and Maintenance, Navy'', up to $1,000,000 shall be available for transfer to the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Development Trust Fund established under section 116 of the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Training and Development Act (2 U.S.C. 1105).

SEC. 8064. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds appropriated in this Act under the heading ''Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Defense-Wide'' for any new start advanced concept technology demonstration project or joint capability demonstration project may only be obligated 45 days after a report, including a description of the project, the planned acquisition and transition strategy and its estimated annual and total cost, has been provided in writing to the congressional defense committees: *Provided*, That the Secretary of Defense may waive this restriction on a case-by-case basis by certifying to the congressional defense committees that it is in the national interest to do so.

SEC. 8065. The Secretary of Defense shall continue to provide a classified quarterly report to the House and Senate Appropriations Committees, Subcommittees on Defense on certain matters as directed in the classified annex accompanying this Act.

SEC. 8066. Notwithstanding section 12310(b) of title 10, United States Code, a Reserve who is a member of the National Guard serving on full-time National Guard duty under section 502(f) of title 32, United States Code, may perform duties in support of the ground-based elements of the National Ballistic Missile Defense System.

SEC. 8067. None of the funds provided in this Act may be used to transfer to any nongovernmental entity ammunition held by the Department of Defense that has a center-fire cartridge and a United States military nomenclature designation of ''armor penetrator'', ''armor piercing (AP)'', ''armor piercing incendiary (API)'', or ''armor-piercing incendiary tracer (API–T)'', except to an entity performing demilitarization services for the Department of Defense under a contract that requires the entity to demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Department of Defense that armor piercing projectiles are either: (1) rendered incapable of reuse by the demilitarization process; or (2) used to manufacture ammunition pursuant to a contract with the Department of Defense or the manufacture of ammunition for export pursuant to a License for Permanent Export of Unclassified Military Articles issued by the Department of State.

SEC. 8068. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Chief of the National Guard Bureau, or his designee, may waive payment of all or part of the consideration that otherwise would be required under section 2667 of title 10, United States Code, in the case of a lease of personal property for a period not in excess of 1 year to any organization specified in section 508(d) of title 32, United States Code, or any other youth, social, or fraternal nonprofit organization as may be approved by the Chief of the National Guard Bureau, or his designee, on a case-by-case basis.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 8069. Of the amounts appropriated in this Act under the heading ''Operation and Maintenance, Army'', $75,950,170 shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of Defense is authorized to transfer such funds to other activities of the Federal Government: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense is authorized to enter into and carry out contracts for the acquisition of real property, construction, personal services, and operations related to projects carrying out the purposes of this section: *Provided further*, That contracts entered into under the authority of this section may provide for such indemnification as the Secretary determines to be necessary: *Provided further*, That projects authorized by this section shall comply with applicable Federal, State, and local law to the maximum extent consistent with the national security, as determined by the Secretary of Defense.

SEC. 8070. (a) None of the funds appropriated in this or any other Act may be used to take any action to modify—

(1) the appropriations account structure for the National Intelligence Program budget, including through the creation of a new appropriation or new appropriation account;

(2) how the National Intelligence Program budget request is presented in the unclassified P–1, R–1, and O–1 documents supporting the Department of Defense budget request;

(3) the process by which the National Intelligence Program appropriations are apportioned to the executing agencies; or

(4) the process by which the National Intelligence Program appropriations are allotted, obligated and disbursed.

(b) Nothing in section (a) shall be construed to prohibit the merger of programs or changes to the National Intelligence Program budget at or below the Expenditure Center level, provided such change is otherwise in accordance with paragraphs (a)(1)–(3).

(c) The Director of National Intelligence and the Secretary of Defense may jointly, only for the purposes of achieving auditable financial statements and improving fiscal reporting, study and develop detailed proposals for alternative financial management processes. Such study shall include a comprehensive counterintelligence risk assessment to ensure that none of the alternative processes will adversely affect counterintelligence.

(d) Upon development of the detailed proposals defined under subsection (c), the Director of National Intelligence and the Secretary of Defense shall—

(1) provide the proposed alternatives to all affected agencies;

(2) receive certification from all affected agencies attesting that the proposed alternatives will help achieve auditability, improve fiscal reporting, and will not adversely affect counterintelligence; and

(3) not later than 30 days after receiving all necessary certifications under paragraph (2), present the proposed alternatives and certifications to the congressional defense and intelligence committees.

SEC. 8071. In addition to amounts provided elsewhere in this Act, $5,000,000 is hereby appropriated to the Department of Defense, to remain available for obligation until expended: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, that upon the determination of the Secretary of Defense that it shall serve the national interest, these funds shall be available only for a grant to the Fisher House Foundation, Inc., only for the construction and furnishing of additional Fisher Houses to meet the needs of military family members when confronted with the illness or hospitalization of an eligible military beneficiary.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 8072. Of the amounts appropriated in this Act under the headings ''Procurement, Defense-Wide'' and ''Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Defense-Wide'', $600,735,000 shall be for the Israeli Cooperative Programs: *Provided*, That of this amount, $62,000,000 shall be for the Secretary of Defense to provide to the Government of Israel for the procurement of the Iron Dome defense system to counter short-range rocket threats, subject to the U.S.-Israel Iron Dome Procurement Agreement, as amended; $266,511,000 shall be for the Short Range Ballistic Missile Defense (SRBMD) program, including cruise missile defense research and development under the SRBMD program, of which $150,000,000 shall be for co-production activities of SRBMD missiles in the United States and in Israel to meet Israel's defense requirements consistent with each nation's laws, regulations, and procedures, of which not more than $90,000,000, subject to previously established transfer procedures, may be obligated or expended until establishment

of a U.S.-Israeli co-production agreement for SRBMD; $204,893,000 shall be for an upper-tier component to the Israeli Missile Defense Architecture, of which $120,000,000 shall be for co-production activities of Arrow 3 Upper Tier missiles in the United States and in Israel to meet Israel's defense requirements consistent with each nation's laws, regulations, and procedures, of which not more than $70,000,000 subject to previously established transfer procedures, may be obligated or expended until establishment of a U.S.-Israeli co-production agreement for Arrow 3 Upper Tier; and $67,331,000 shall be for the Arrow System Improvement Program including development of a long range, ground and airborne, detection suite: *Provided further*, That the transfer authority provided under this provision is in addition to any other transfer authority contained in this Act.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 8073. Of the amounts appropriated in this Act under the heading ''Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy'', $160,274,000 shall be available until September 30, 2017, to fund prior year shipbuilding cost increases: *Provided*, That upon enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Navy shall transfer funds to the following appropriations in the amounts specified: *Provided further*, That the amounts transferred shall be merged with and be available for the same purposes as the appropriations to which transferred to:

(1) Under the heading ''Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy'', 2012/2017: LPD–17 Amphibious Transport Dock Program $45,060,000;

(2) Under the heading ''Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy'', 2011/2017: DDG–51 Destroyer $15,959,000;

(3) Under the heading ''Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy'', 2012/2017: Littoral Combat Ship $3,600,000;

(4) Under the heading ''Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy'', 2013/2017: Littoral Combat Ship $82,400,000;

(5) Under the heading ''Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy'', 2012/2017: Expeditionary Fast Transport $6,710,000; and

(6) Under the heading ''Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy'', 2013/2017: Expeditionary Fast Transport $6,545,000.

SEC. 8074. Funds appropriated by this Act, or made available by the transfer of funds in this Act, for intelligence activities are deemed to be specifically authorized by the Congress for purposes of section 504 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3094) during fiscal year 2017 until the enactment of the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017.

SEC. 8075. None of the funds provided in this Act shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a reprogramming of funds that creates or initiates a new program, project, or activity unless such program, project, or activity must be undertaken immediately in the interest of national security and only after written prior notification to the congressional defense committees.

SEC. 8076. The budget of the President for fiscal year 2018 submitted to the Congress pursuant to section 1105 of title 31, United States Code, shall include separate budget justification documents for costs of United States Armed Forces' participation in contingency operations for the Military Personnel accounts, the Operation and Maintenance accounts, the Procurement accounts, and the Research, Development, Test and Evaluation accounts: *Provided*, That these documents shall include a description of the funding requested for each contingency operation, for each military service, to include all Active and Reserve components, and for each appropriations account: *Provided further*, That these documents shall include estimated costs for each element of expense or object class, a reconciliation of increases and decreases for each contingency operation, and programmatic data including, but not limited to, troop strength for each Active and Reserve component, and estimates of the major weapons systems deployed in support of each contingency: *Provided further*, That these documents shall include budget exhibits OP–5 and OP–32 (as defined in the Department of Defense Financial Management Regulation) for all contingency operations for the budget year and the two preceding fiscal years.

SEC. 8077. None of the funds in this Act may be used for research, development, test, evaluation, procurement or deployment of nuclear armed interceptors of a missile defense system.

SEC. 8078. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, to reflect savings due to favorable foreign exchange rates, the total amount appropriated in this Act is hereby reduced by $157,000,000.

SEC. 8079. None of the funds appropriated or made available in this Act shall be used to reduce or disestablish the operation of the 53rd Weather Reconnaissance Squadron of the Air Force Reserve, if such action would reduce the WC–130 Weather Reconnaissance mission below the levels funded in this Act: *Provided*, That the Air Force shall allow the 53rd Weather Reconnaissance Squadron to perform other missions in support of national defense requirements during the non-hurricane season.

SEC. 8080. None of the funds provided in this Act shall be available for integration of foreign intelligence information unless the information has been lawfully collected and processed during the conduct of authorized foreign intelligence activities: *Provided*, That information pertaining to United States persons shall only be handled in accordance with protections provided in the Fourth Amendment of the United States Constitution as implemented through Executive Order No. 12333.

SEC. 8081. (a) None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be used to transfer research and development, acquisition, or other program authority relating to current tactical unmanned aerial vehicles (TUAVs) from the Army.

(b) The Army shall retain responsibility for and operational control of the MQ–1C Gray Eagle Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) in order to support the Secretary of Defense in matters relating to the employment of unmanned aerial vehicles.

SEC. 8082. Up to $10,120,000 of the funds appropriated under the heading ''Operation and Maintenance, Navy'' may be made available for the Asia Pacific Regional Initiative Program for the purpose of enabling the Pacific Command to execute Theater Security Cooperation activities such as humanitarian assistance, and payment of incremental and personnel costs of training and exercising with foreign security forces: *Provided*, That funds made available for this purpose may be used, notwithstanding any other funding authorities for humanitarian assistance, security assistance or combined exercise expenses: *Provided further*, That funds may not be obligated to provide assistance to any foreign country that is otherwise prohibited from receiving such type of assistance under any other provision of law.

SEC. 8083. None of the funds appropriated by this Act for programs of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence shall remain available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year, except for funds appropriated for research and technology, which shall remain available until September 30, 2018.

SEC. 8084. For purposes of section 1553(b) of title 31, United States Code, any subdivision of appropriations made in this Act under the heading ''Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy'' shall be considered to be for the same purpose as any subdivision under the heading ''Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy'' appropriations in any prior fiscal year, and the 1 percent limitation shall apply to the total amount of the appropriation.

SEC. 8085. (a) Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence shall submit a report to the congressional intelligence committees to establish the baseline for application of reprogramming and transfer authorities for fiscal year 2017: *Provided*, That the report shall include—

(1) a table for each appropriation with a separate column to display the President's budget request, adjustments made by Congress, adjustments due to enacted rescissions, if appropriate, and the fiscal year enacted level;

(2) a delineation in the table for each appropriation by Expenditure Center and project; and

(3) an identification of items of special congressional interest.

(b) None of the funds provided for the National Intelligence Program in this Act shall be available for reprogramming or transfer until the report identified in subsection (a) is submitted to the congressional intelligence committees, unless the Director of National Intelligence certifies in writing to the congressional intelligence committees that such reprogramming or transfer is necessary as an emergency requirement.

SEC. 8086. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to eliminate, restructure, or realign Army Contracting Command—New Jersey or make disproportionate personnel reductions at any Army Contracting Command—New Jersey sites without 30-day prior notification to the congressional defense committees.

(RESCISSION)

SEC. 8087. Of the unobligated balances available to the Department of Defense, the following funds are permanently rescinded from the following accounts and programs in the specified amounts to reflect excess cash balances in Department of Defense Acquisition Workforce Development Fund: *Provided*, That no amounts may be rescinded from amounts that were designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism or as an emergency requirement pursuant to the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended:

From ''Department of Defense Acquisition Workforce Development Fund, Defense'', $531,000,000.

SEC. 8088. None of the funds made available by this Act for excess defense articles, assistance under section 1206 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2006 (Public Law 109–163; 119 Stat. 3456), or peacekeeping operations for the countries designated annually to be in violation of the standards of the Child Soldiers Prevention Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–457; 22 U.S.C. 2370c–1) may be used to support any military training or operation that includes child soldiers, as defined by the Child Soldiers Prevention Act of 2008, unless such assistance is

otherwise permitted under section 404 of the Child Soldiers Prevention Act of 2008.

SEC. 8089. Of the amounts appropriated for ''Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide'', $67,500,000, to remain available until expended, shall be available, notwithstanding any other provision of law, to the Secretary of Defense acting through the Office of Economic Adjustment of the Department of Defense to make grants, conclude cooperative agreements, and supplement other Federal funds to address the need for assistance to support critical existing and enduring military installations and missions on Guam, as well as any potential Department of Defense growth, for purposes of addressing the need for civilian water and wastewater improvements.

SEC. 8090. (a) None of the funds provided for the National Intelligence Program in this or any prior appropriations Act shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a reprogramming or transfer of funds in accordance with section 102A(d) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3024(d)) that—

(1) creates a new start effort;

(2) terminates a program with appropriated funding of $10,000,000 or more;

(3) transfers funding into or out of the National Intelligence Program; or

(4) transfers funding between appropriations, unless the congressional intelligence committees are notified 30 days in advance of such reprogramming of funds; this notification period may be reduced for urgent national security requirements.

(b) None of the funds provided for the National Intelligence Program in this or any prior appropriations Act shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a reprogramming or transfer of funds in accordance with section 102A(d) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3024(d)) that results in a cumulative increase or decrease of the levels specified in the classified annex accompanying the Act unless the congressional intelligence committees are notified 30 days in advance of such reprogramming of funds; this notification period may be reduced for urgent national security requirements.

SEC. 8091. The Director of National Intelligence shall submit to Congress each year, at or about the time that the President's budget is submitted to Congress that year under section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code, a future-years intelligence program (including associated annexes) reflecting the estimated expenditures and proposed appropriations included in that budget. Any such future-years intelligence program shall cover the fiscal year with respect to which the budget is submitted and at least the four succeeding fiscal years.

SEC. 8092. For the purposes of this Act, the term ''congressional intelligence committees'' means the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives, the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate, the Subcommittee on Defense of the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives, and the Subcommittee on Defense of the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 8093. During the current fiscal year, not to exceed $11,000,000 from each of the appropriations made in title II of this Act for ''Operation and Maintenance, Army'', ''Operation and Maintenance, Navy'', and ''Operation and Maintenance, Air Force'' may be transferred by the military department concerned to its central fund established for Fisher Houses and Suites pursuant to section 2493(d) of title 10, United States Code.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 8094. Funds appropriated by this Act for operation and maintenance may be available for the purpose of making remittances and transfer to the Defense Acquisition Workforce Development Fund in accordance with section 1705 of title 10, United States Code.

SEC. 8095. (a) Any agency receiving funds made available in this Act, shall, subject to subsections (b) and (c), post on the public Web site of that agency any report required to be submitted by the Congress in this or any other Act, upon the determination by the head of the agency that it shall serve the national interest.

(b) Subsection (a) shall not apply to a report if—

(1) the public posting of the report compromises national security; or

(2) the report contains proprietary information.

(c) The head of the agency posting such report shall do so only after such report has been made available to the requesting Committee or Committees of Congress for no less than 45 days.

SEC. 8096. (a) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be expended for any Federal contract for an amount in excess of $1,000,000, unless the contractor agrees not to—

(1) enter into any agreement with any of its employees or independent contractors that requires, as a condition of employment, that the employee or independent contractor agree to resolve through arbitration any claim under title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 or any tort related to or arising out of sexual assault or harassment, including assault and battery, intentional infliction of emotional distress, false imprisonment, or negligent hiring, supervision, or retention; or

(2) take any action to enforce any provision of an existing agreement with an employee or independent contractor that mandates that the employee or independent contractor resolve through arbitration any claim under title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 or any tort related to or arising out of sexual assault or harassment, including assault and battery, intentional infliction of emotional distress, false imprisonment, or negligent hiring, supervision, or retention.

(b) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be expended for any Federal contract unless the contractor certifies that it requires each covered subcontractor to agree not to enter into, and not to take any action to enforce any provision of, any agreement as described in paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (a), with respect to any employee or independent contractor performing work related to such subcontract. For purposes of this subsection, a ''covered subcontractor'' is an entity that has a subcontract in excess of $1,000,000 on a contract subject to subsection (a).

(c) The prohibitions in this section do not apply with respect to a contractor's or subcontractor's agreements with employees or independent contractors that may not be enforced in a court of the United States.

(d) The Secretary of Defense may waive the application of subsection (a) or (b) to a particular contractor or subcontractor for the purposes of a particular contract or subcontract if the Secretary or the Deputy Secretary personally determines that the waiver is necessary to avoid harm to national security interests of the United States, and that the term of the contract or subcontract is not longer than necessary to avoid such harm. The determination shall set forth with specificity the grounds for the waiver and for the contract or subcontract term selected, and shall state any alternatives considered in lieu of a waiver and the reasons each such alternative would not avoid harm to national security interests of the United States. The Secretary of Defense shall transmit to Congress, and simultaneously make public, any determination under this subsection not less than 15 business days before the contract or subcontract addressed in the determination may be awarded.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 8097. From within the funds appropriated for operation and maintenance for the Defense Health Program in this Act, up to $122,375,000, shall be available for transfer to the Joint Department of Defense-Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Facility Demonstration Fund in accordance with the provisions of section 1704 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010, Public Law 111–84: *Provided,* That for purposes of section 1704(b), the facility operations funded are operations of the integrated Captain James A. Lovell Federal Health Care Center, consisting of the North Chicago Veterans Affairs Medical Center, the Navy Ambulatory Care Center, and supporting facilities designated as a combined Federal medical facility as described by section 706 of Public Law 110–417: *Provided further,* That additional funds may be transferred from funds appropriated for operation and maintenance for the Defense Health Program to the Joint Department of Defense-Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Facility Demonstration Fund upon written notification by the Secretary of Defense to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

SEC. 8098. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used by the Department of Defense or a component thereof in contravention of the provisions of section 130h of title 10, United States Code.

SEC. 8099. Appropriations available to the Department of Defense may be used for the purchase of heavy and light armored vehicles for the physical security of personnel or for force protection purposes up to a limit of $450,000 per vehicle, notwithstanding price or other limitations applicable to the purchase of passenger carrying vehicles.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 8100. Upon a determination by the Director of National Intelligence that such action is necessary and in the national interest, the Director may, with the approval of the Office of Management and Budget, transfer not to exceed $1,500,000,000 of the funds made available in this Act for the National Intelligence Program: *Provided,* That such authority to transfer may not be used unless for higher priority items, based on unforeseen intelligence requirements, than those for which originally appropriated and in no case where the item for which funds are requested has been denied by the Congress: *Provided further*, That a request for multiple reprogrammings of funds using authority provided in this section shall be made prior to June 30, 2017.

SEC. 8101. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available in this or any other Act may be used to transfer, release, or assist in the transfer or release to or within the United States, its territories, or possessions Khalid Sheikh Mohammed or any other detainee who—

(1) is not a United States citizen or a member of the Armed Forces of the United States; and

(2) is or was held on or after June 24, 2009, at United States Naval Station, Guantánamo Bay, Cuba, by the Department of Defense.

SEC. 8102. (a) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available in this or any other Act may be used to construct, acquire, or modify any facility in the United States, its territories, or possessions to house any individual described in subsection (c) for the purposes of detention or imprisonment in the custody or under the effective control of the Department of Defense.

(b) The prohibition in subsection (a) shall not apply to any modification of facilities at United States Naval Station, Guantánamo Bay, Cuba.

(c) An individual described in this subsection is any individual who, as of June 24, 2009, is located at United States Naval Station, Guantánamo Bay, Cuba, and who—

(1) is not a citizen of the United States or a member of the Armed Forces of the United States; and

(2) is—

(A) in the custody or under the effective control of the Department of Defense; or

(B) otherwise under detention at United States Naval Station, Guantánamo Bay, Cuba.

SEC. 8103. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available in this Act may be used to transfer any individual detained at United States Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, to the custody or control of the individual's country of origin, any other foreign country, or any other foreign entity except in accordance with section 1034 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016 (Public Law 114–92) and section 1034 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114–328).

SEC. 8104. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used in contravention of the War Powers Resolution (50 U.S.C. 1541 et seq.).

SEC. 8105. (a) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act may be used by the Secretary of Defense, or any other official or officer of the Department of Defense, to enter into a contract, memorandum of understanding, or cooperative agreement with, or make a grant to, or provide a loan or loan guarantee to Rosoboronexport or any subsidiary of Rosoboronexport.

(b) The Secretary of Defense may waive the limitation in subsection (a) if the Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of State and the Director of National Intelligence, determines that it is in the vital national security interest of the United States to do so, and certifies in writing to the congressional defense committees that, to the best of the Secretary's knowledge:

(1) Rosoboronexport has ceased the transfer of lethal military equipment to, and the maintenance of existing lethal military equipment for, the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic;

(2) The armed forces of the Russian Federation have withdrawn from Crimea, other than armed forces present on military bases subject to agreements in force between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of Ukraine; and

(3) Agents of the Russian Federation have ceased taking active measures to destabilize the control of the Government of Ukraine over eastern Ukraine.

(c) The Inspector General of the Department of Defense shall conduct a review of any action involving Rosoboronexport with respect to a waiver issued by the Secretary of Defense pursuant to subsection (b), and not later than 90 days after the date on which such a waiver is issued by the Secretary of Defense, the Inspector General shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report containing the results of the review conducted with respect to such waiver.

SEC. 8106. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used for the purchase or manufacture of a flag of the United States unless such flags are treated as covered items under section 2533a(b) of title 10, United States Code.

SEC. 8107. (a) Of the funds appropriated in this Act for the Department of Defense, amounts may be made available, under such regulations as the Secretary of Defense may prescribe, to local military commanders appointed by the Secretary, or by an officer or employee designated by the Secretary, to provide at their discretion ex gratia payments in amounts consistent with subsection (d) of this section for damage, personal injury, or death that is incident to combat operations of the Armed Forces in a foreign country.

(b) An ex gratia payment under this section may be provided only if—

(1) the prospective foreign civilian recipient is determined by the local military commander to be friendly to the United States;

(2) a claim for damages would not be compensable under chapter 163 of title 10, United States Code (commonly known as the ''Foreign Claims Act''); and

(3) the property damage, personal injury, or death was not caused by action by an enemy.

(c) NATURE OF PAYMENTS.—Any payments provided under a program under subsection (a) shall not be considered an admission or acknowledgement of any legal obligation to compensate for any damage, personal injury, or death.

(d) AMOUNT OF PAYMENTS.—If the Secretary of Defense determines a program under subsection (a) to be appropriate in a particular setting, the amounts of payments, if any, to be provided to civilians determined to have suffered harm incident to combat operations of the Armed Forces under the program should be determined pursuant to regulations prescribed by the Secretary and based on an assessment, which should include such factors as cultural appropriateness and prevailing economic conditions.

(e) LEGAL ADVICE.—Local military commanders shall receive legal advice before making ex gratia payments under this subsection. The legal advisor, under regulations of the Department of Defense, shall advise on whether an ex gratia payment is proper under this section and applicable Department of Defense regulations.

(f) WRITTEN RECORD.—A written record of any ex gratia payment offered or denied shall be kept by the local commander and on a timely basis submitted to the appropriate office in the Department of Defense as determined by the Secretary of Defense.

(g) REPORT.—The Secretary of Defense shall report to the congressional defense committees on an annual basis the efficacy of the ex gratia payment program including the number of types of cases considered, amounts offered, the response from ex gratia payment recipients, and any recommended modifications to the program.

SEC. 8108. None of the funds available in this Act to the Department of Defense, other than appropriations made for necessary or routine refurbishments, upgrades or maintenance activities, shall be used to reduce or to prepare to reduce the number of deployed and non-deployed strategic delivery vehicles and launchers below the levels set forth in the report submitted to Congress in accordance with section 1042 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012.

SEC. 8109. The Secretary of Defense shall post grant awards on a public Web site in a searchable format.

SEC. 8110. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to fund the performance of a flight demonstration team at a location outside of the United States: *Provided*, That this prohibition applies only if a performance of a flight demonstration team at a location within the United States was canceled during the current fiscal year due to insufficient funding.

SEC. 8111. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used by the National Security Agency to—

(1) conduct an acquisition pursuant to section 702 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 for the purpose of targeting a United States person; or

(2) acquire, monitor, or store the contents (as such term is defined in section 2510(8) of title 18, United States Code) of any electronic communication of a United States person from a provider of electronic communication services to the public pursuant to section 501 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978.

SEC. 8112. None of the funds made available by this Act may be obligated or expended to implement the Arms Trade Treaty until the Senate approves a resolution of ratification for the Treaty.

SEC. 8113. None of the funds made available in this or any other Act may be used to pay the salary of any officer or employee of any agency funded by this Act who approves or implements the transfer of administrative responsibilities or budgetary resources of any program, project, or activity financed by this Act to the jurisdiction of another Federal agency not financed by this Act without the express authorization of Congress: *Provided*, That this limitation shall not apply to transfers of funds expressly provided for in Defense Appropriations Acts, or provisions of Acts providing supplemental appropriations for the Department of Defense.

SEC. 8114. None of the funds made available in this Act may be obligated for activities authorized under section 1208 of the Ronald W. Reagan National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2005 (Public Law 112–81; 125 Stat. 1621) to initiate support for, or expand support to, foreign forces, irregular forces, groups, or individuals unless the congressional defense committees are notified in accordance with the direction contained in the classified annex accompanying this Act, not less than 15 days before initiating such support: *Provided*, That none of the funds made available in this Act may be used under section 1208 for any activity that is not in support of an ongoing military operation being conducted by United States Special Operations Forces to combat terrorism: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense may waive the prohibitions in this section if the Secretary determines that such waiver is required by extraordinary circumstances and, by not later than 72 hours after making such waiver, notifies the congressional defense committees of such waiver.

SEC. 8115. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used with respect to Iraq in contravention of the War Powers Resolution (50 U.S.C. 1541 et seq.), including for the introduction of United States armed forces into hostilities in Iraq, into situations in

Iraq where imminent involvement in hostilities is clearly indicated by the circumstances, or into Iraqi territory, airspace, or waters while equipped for combat, in contravention of the congressional consultation and reporting requirements of sections 3 and 4 of such Resolution (50 U.S.C. 1542 and 1543).

SEC. 8116. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to divest, retire, transfer, or place in storage or on backup aircraft inventory status, or prepare to divest, retire, transfer, or place in storage or on backup aircraft inventory status, any A–10 aircraft, or to disestablish any units of the active or reserve component associated with such aircraft.

SEC. 8117. None of the funds provided in this Act for the T–AO(X) program shall be used to award a new contract that provides for the acquisition of the following components unless those components are manufactured in the United States: Auxiliary equipment (including pumps) for shipboard services; propulsion equipment (including engines, reduction gears, and propellers); shipboard cranes; and spreaders for shipboard cranes.

SEC. 8118. The amount appropriated in title II of this Act for ''Operation and Maintenance, Army'' is hereby reduced by $336,000,000 to reflect excess cash balances in Department of Defense Working Capital Funds.

SEC. 8119. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, to reflect savings due to lower than anticipated fuel costs, the total amount appropriated in title II of this Act is hereby reduced by $1,155,000,000.

SEC. 8120. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to divest or retire, or to prepare to divest or retire, KC–10 aircraft.

SEC. 8121. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to divest, retire, transfer, or place in storage or on backup aircraft inventory status, or prepare to divest, retire, transfer, or place in storage or on backup aircraft inventory status, any EC–130H aircraft.

SEC. 8122. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used for Government Travel Charge Card expenses by military or civilian personnel of the Department of Defense for gaming, or for entertainment that includes topless or nude entertainers or participants, as prohibited by Department of Defense FMR, Volume 9, Chapter 3 and Department of Defense Instruction 1015.10 (enclosure 3, 14a and 14b).

SEC. 8123. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to propose, plan for, or execute a new or additional Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) round.

SEC. 8124. Of the amounts appropriated in this Act for ''Operation and Maintenance, Navy'', $274,524,000, to remain available until expended, may be used for any purposes related to the National Defense Reserve Fleet established under section 11 of the Merchant Ship Sales Act of 1946 (50 U.S.C. 4405): *Provided*, That such amounts are available for reimbursements to the Ready Reserve Force, Maritime Administration account of the United States Department of Transportation for programs, projects, activities, and expenses related to the National Defense Reserve Fleet.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 8125. Of the amounts appropriated in this Act, the Secretary of Defense may use up to $20,000,000 under the heading ''Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide'', and up to $75,000,000 under the heading ''Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Defense-Wide'' to develop, replace, and sustain Federal Government security and suitability background investigation information technology systems of the Office of Personnel Management or other Federal agency responsible for conducting such investigations: *Provided*, That the Secretary may reprogram or transfer additional amounts into these headings or into ''Procurement, Defense-Wide'' using established reprogramming procedures applicable to congressional special interest items: *Provided further*, That such funds shall supplement, not supplant any other amounts made available to other Federal agencies for such purposes.

SEC. 8126. None of the funds made available by this Act for the Joint Surveillance Target Attack Radar System recapitalization program may be obligated or expended for pre-milestone B activities after March 31, 2018.

SEC. 8127. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to carry out the closure or realignment of the United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 8128. Additional readiness funds made available in title II of this Act for ''Operation and Maintenance, Army'', ''Operation and Maintenance, Navy'', ''Operation and Maintenance, Marine Corps'', and ''Operation and Maintenance, Air Force'' may be transferred to and merged with any appropriation of the Department of Defense for activities related to the Zika virus in order to provide health support for the full range of military operations and sustain the health of the members of the Armed Forces, civilian employees of the Department of Defense, and their families, to include: research and development, disease surveillance, vaccine development, rapid detection, vector controls and surveillance, training, and outbreak response: *Provided*, That the authority provided in this section is subject to the same terms and conditions as the authority provided in section 8005 of this Act.

SEC. 8129. (a) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to maintain or establish a computer network unless such network is designed to block access to pornography websites.

(b) Nothing in subsection (a) shall limit the use of funds necessary for any Federal, State, tribal, or local law enforcement agency or any other entity carrying out criminal investigations, prosecution, or adjudication activities, or for any activity necessary for the national defense, including intelligence activities.

(RESCISSION)

SEC. 8130. (a) The Ship Modernization, Operations and Sustainment Fund established by section 8103 of the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2013 (division C of Public Law 113–6; 127 Stat. 321) is hereby terminated, effective as of the date of the enactment of this Act.

(b) Any unobligated balances in the Ship Modernization, Operations and Sustainment Fund as of the date of the enactment of this Act are hereby rescinded.

SEC. 8131. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to provide arms, training, or other assistance to the Azov Battalion.

SEC. 8132. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any transfer of funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act to the Global Engagement Center pursuant to section 1287 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114–328) shall be made in accordance with section 8005 or 9002 of this Act, as applicable.

SEC. 8133. No amounts credited or otherwise made available in this or any other Act to the Department of Defense Acquisition Workforce Development Fund may be transferred to:

(1) the Rapid Prototyping Fund established under section 804(d) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016 (10 U.S.C. 2302 note); or

(2) credited to a military-department specific fund established under section 804(d)(2) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016 (as amended by section 897 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017).

SEC. 8134. No funds provided in this Act shall be used to deny an Inspector General funded under this Act timely access to any records, documents, or other materials available to the department or agency over which that Inspector General has responsibilities under the Inspector General Act of 1978, or to prevent or impede that Inspector General's access to such records, documents, or other materials, under any provision of law, except a provision of law that expressly refers to the Inspector General and expressly limits the Inspector General's right of access. A department or agency covered by this section shall provide its Inspector General with access to all such records, documents, and other materials in a timely manner. Each Inspector General shall ensure compliance with statutory limitations on disclosure relevant to the information provided by the establishment over which that Inspector General has responsibilities under the Inspector General Act of 1978. Each Inspector General covered by this section shall report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate within 5 calendar days any failures to comply with this requirement.

TITLE IX

OVERSEAS CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS/ GLOBAL WAR ON TERRORISM

MILITARY PERSONNEL

MILITARY PERSONNEL, ARMY

For an additional amount for ''Military Personnel, Army'', $1,948,648,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

MILITARY PERSONNEL, NAVY

For an additional amount for ''Military Personnel, Navy'', $327,427,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

MILITARY PERSONNEL, MARINE CORPS

For an additional amount for ''Military Personnel, Marine Corps'', $179,733,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

MILITARY PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE

For an additional amount for ''Military Personnel, Air Force'', $705,706,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

RESERVE PERSONNEL, ARMY

For an additional amount for ''Reserve Personnel, Army'', $42,506,000: *Provided*, That

such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

RESERVE PERSONNEL, NAVY

For an additional amount for ''Reserve Personnel, Navy'', $11,929,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

RESERVE PERSONNEL, MARINE CORPS

For an additional amount for ''Reserve Personnel, Marine Corps'', $3,764,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

RESERVE PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE

For an additional amount for ''Reserve Personnel, Air Force'', $20,535,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

NATIONAL GUARD PERSONNEL, ARMY

For an additional amount for ''National Guard Personnel, Army'', $196,472,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

NATIONAL GUARD PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE

For an additional amount for ''National Guard Personnel, Air Force'', $5,288,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY

For an additional amount for ''Operation and Maintenance, Army'', $15,693,068,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, NAVY

For an additional amount for ''Operation and Maintenance, Navy'', $7,887,349,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, MARINE CORPS

For an additional amount for ''Operation and Maintenance, Marine Corps'', $1,607,259,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE

For an additional amount for ''Operation and Maintenance, Air Force'', $10,556,598,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, DEFENSE-WIDE

For an additional amount for ''Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide'', $6,476,649,000: *Provided*, That of the funds provided under this heading, not to exceed $920,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, shall be for payments to reimburse key cooperating nations for logistical, military, and other support, including access, provided to United States military and stability operations in Afghanistan and to counter the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant: *Provided further*, That such reimbursement payments may be made in such amounts as the Secretary of Defense, with the concurrence of the Secretary of State, and in consultation with the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, may determine, based on documentation determined by the Secretary of Defense to adequately account for the support provided, and such determination is final and conclusive upon the accounting officers of the United States, and 15 days following notification to the appropriate congressional committees: *Provided further*, That these funds may be used for the purpose of providing specialized training and procuring supplies and specialized equipment and providing such supplies and loaning such equipment on a non-reimbursable basis to coalition forces supporting United States military and stability operations in Afghanistan and to counter the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, and 15 days following notification to the appropriate congressional committees: *Provided further*, That these funds may be used to support the Government of Jordan, in such amounts as the Secretary of Defense may determine, to enhance the ability of the armed forces of Jordan to increase or sustain security along its borders, upon 15 days prior written notification to the congressional defense committees outlining the amounts intended to be provided and the nature of the expenses incurred: *Provided further*, That of the funds provided under this heading, not to exceed $750,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, shall be available to provide support and assistance to foreign security forces or other groups or individuals to conduct, support or facilitate counterterrorism, crisis response, or other Department of Defense security cooperation programs: *Provided further*, That of the funds provided under this heading, up to $30,000,000 shall be for Operation Observant Compass: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense shall provide quarterly reports to the congressional defense committees on the use of funds provided in this paragraph: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY RESERVE

For an additional amount for ''Operation and Maintenance, Army Reserve'', $38,679,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, NAVY RESERVE

For an additional amount for ''Operation and Maintenance, Navy Reserve'', $26,265,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, MARINE CORPS RESERVE

For an additional amount for ''Operation and Maintenance, Marine Corps Reserve'', $3,304,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE RESERVE

For an additional amount for ''Operation and Maintenance, Air Force Reserve'', $57,586,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

For an additional amount for ''Operation and Maintenance, Army National Guard'', $127,035,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR NATIONAL GUARD

For an additional amount for ''Operation and Maintenance, Air National Guard'', $20,000,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

AFGHANISTAN SECURITY FORCES FUND

For the ''Afghanistan Security Forces Fund'', $4,262,715,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That such funds shall be available to the Secretary of Defense, notwithstanding any other provision of law, for the purpose of allowing the Commander, Combined Security Transition Command—Afghanistan, or the Secretary's designee, to provide assistance, with the concurrence of the Secretary of State, to the security forces of Afghanistan, including the provision of equipment, supplies, services, training, facility and infrastructure repair, renovation, construction, and funding: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense may obligate and expend funds made available to the Department of Defense in this title for additional costs associated with existing projects previously funded with amounts provided under the heading ''Afghanistan Infrastructure Fund'' in prior Acts: *Provided further*, That such costs shall be limited to contract changes resulting from inflation, market fluctuation, rate adjustments, and other necessary contract actions to complete existing projects, and associated supervision and administration costs and costs for design during construction: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may not use more than $50,000,000 under the authority provided in this section: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall notify in advance such contract changes and adjustments in annual reports to the congressional defense committees: *Provided further*, That the authority to provide assistance under this

heading is in addition to any other authority to provide assistance to foreign nations: *Provided further*, That contributions of funds for the purposes provided herein from any person, foreign government, or international organization may be credited to this Fund, to remain available until expended, and used for such purposes: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense shall notify the congressional defense committees in writing upon the receipt and upon the obligation of any contribution, delineating the sources and amounts of the funds received and the specific use of such contributions: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense shall, not fewer than 15 days prior to obligating from this appropriation account, notify the congressional defense committees in writing of the details of any such obligation: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense shall notify the congressional defense committees of any proposed new projects or transfer of funds between budget sub-activity groups in excess of $20,000,000: *Provided further*, That the United States may accept equipment procured using funds provided under this heading in this or prior Acts that was transferred to the security forces of Afghanistan and returned by such forces to the United States: *Provided further*, That equipment procured using funds provided under this heading in this or prior Acts, and not yet transferred to the security forces of Afghanistan or transferred to the security forces of Afghanistan and returned by such forces to the United States, may be treated as stocks of the Department of Defense upon written notification to the congressional defense committees: *Provided further*, That of the funds provided under this heading, not less than $10,000,000 shall be for recruitment and retention of women in the Afghanistan National Security Forces, and the recruitment and training of female security personnel: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

COUNTER-ISIL TRAIN AND EQUIP FUND

For the ''Counter-Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant Train and Equip Fund'', $980,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That such funds shall be available to the Secretary of Defense in coordination with the Secretary of State, to provide assistance, including training; equipment; logistics support, supplies, and services; stipends; infrastructure repair and renovation; and sustainment, to foreign security forces, irregular forces, groups, or individuals participating, or preparing to participate in activities to counter the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, and their affiliated or associated groups: *Provided further*, That these funds may be used, in such amounts as the Secretary of Defense may determine, to enhance the border security of nations adjacent to conflict areas, including Jordan and Lebanon, resulting from actions of the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant: *Provided further*, That amounts made available under this heading shall be available to provide assistance only for activities in a country designated by the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretary of State, as having a security mission to counter the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, and following written notification to the congressional defense committees of such designation: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense shall ensure that prior to providing assistance to elements of any forces or individuals, such elements or individuals are appropriately vetted, including at a minimum, assessing such elements for associations with terrorist groups or groups associated with the Government of Iran; and receiving commitments from such elements to promote respect for human rights and the rule of law: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense shall, not fewer than 15 days prior to obligating from this appropriation account, notify the congressional defense committees in writing of the details of any such obligation: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense may accept and retain contributions, including assistance in-kind, from foreign governments, including the Government of Iraq and other entities, to carry out assistance authorized under this heading: *Provided further*, That contributions of funds for the purposes provided herein from any foreign government or other entity may be credited to this Fund, to remain available until expended, and used for such purposes: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense may waive a provision of law relating to the acquisition of items and support services or sections 40 and 40A of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2780 and 2785) if the Secretary determines that such provision of law would prohibit, restrict, delay or otherwise limit the provision of such assistance and a notice of and justification for such waiver is submitted to the congressional defense committees, the Committees on Appropriations and Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committees on Appropriations and Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives: *Provided further*, That the United States may accept equipment procured using funds provided under this heading, or under the heading, ''Iraq Train and Equip Fund'' in prior Acts, that was transferred to security forces, irregular forces, or groups participating, or preparing to participate in activities to counter the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant and returned by such forces or groups to the United States, may be treated as stocks of the Department of Defense upon written notification to the congressional defense committees: *Provided further*, That equipment procured using funds provided under this heading, or under the heading, ''Iraq Train and Equip Fund'' in prior Acts, and not yet transferred to security forces, irregular forces, or groups participating, or preparing to participate in activities to counter the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant may be treated as stocks of the Department of Defense when determined by the Secretary to no longer be required for transfer to such forces or groups and upon written notification to the congressional defense committees: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense shall provide quarterly reports to the congressional defense committees on the use of funds provided under this heading, including, but not limited to, the number of individuals trained, the nature and scope of support and sustainment provided to each group or individual, the area of operations for each group, and the contributions of other countries, groups, or individuals: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

PROCUREMENT

AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, ARMY

For an additional amount for ''Aircraft Procurement, Army'', $313,171,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

MISSILE PROCUREMENT, ARMY

For an additional amount for ''Missile Procurement, Army'', $405,317,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

PROCUREMENT OF WEAPONS AND TRACKED COMBAT VEHICLES, ARMY

For an additional amount for ''Procurement of Weapons and Tracked Combat Vehicles, Army'', $395,944,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

PROCUREMENT OF AMMUNITION, ARMY

For an additional amount for ''Procurement of Ammunition, Army'', $290,670,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OTHER PROCUREMENT, ARMY

For an additional amount for ''Other Procurement, Army'', $1,343,010,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, NAVY

For an additional amount for ''Aircraft Procurement, Navy'', $367,930,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

WEAPONS PROCUREMENT, NAVY

For an additional amount for ''Weapons Procurement, Navy'', $8,600,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

PROCUREMENT OF AMMUNITION, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS

For an additional amount for ''Procurement of Ammunition, Navy and Marine Corps'', $65,380,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OTHER PROCUREMENT, NAVY

For an additional amount for ''Other Procurement, Navy'', $99,786,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section

251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

PROCUREMENT, MARINE CORPS

For an additional amount for ''Procurement, Marine Corps'', $118,939,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE

For an additional amount for ''Aircraft Procurement, Air Force'', $927,249,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

MISSILE PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE

For an additional amount for ''Missile Procurement, Air Force'', $235,095,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

PROCUREMENT OF AMMUNITION, AIR FORCE

For an additional amount for ''Procurement of Ammunition, Air Force'', $273,345,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OTHER PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE

For an additional amount for ''Other Procurement, Air Force'', $3,529,456,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

PROCUREMENT, DEFENSE-WIDE

For an additional amount for ''Procurement, Defense-Wide'', $244,184,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

NATIONAL GUARD AND RESERVE EQUIPMENT ACCOUNT

For procurement of rotary-wing aircraft; combat, tactical and support vehicles; other weapons; and other procurement items for the reserve components of the Armed Forces, $750,000,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That the Chiefs of National Guard and Reserve components shall, not later than 30 days after enactment of this Act, individually submit to the congressional defense committees the modernization priority assessment for their respective National Guard or Reserve component: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available by this paragraph may be used to procure manned fixed wing aircraft, or procure or modify missiles, munitions, or ammunition: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION, ARMY

For an additional amount for ''Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Army'', $100,522,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION, NAVY

For an additional amount for ''Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Navy'', $78,323,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION, AIR FORCE

For an additional amount for ''Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Air Force'', $67,905,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION, DEFENSE-WIDE

For an additional amount for ''Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Defense-Wide'', $159,919,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

REVOLVING AND MANAGEMENT FUNDS

DEFENSE WORKING CAPITAL FUNDS

For an additional amount for ''Defense Working Capital Funds'', $140,633,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OTHER DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PROGRAMS

DEFENSE HEALTH PROGRAM

For an additional amount for ''Defense Health Program'', $331,764,000, which shall be for operation and maintenance: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

DRUG INTERDICTION AND COUNTER-DRUG ACTIVITIES, DEFENSE

For an additional amount for ''Drug Interdiction and Counter-Drug Activities, Defense'', $215,333,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

JOINT IMPROVISED-THREAT DEFEAT FUND

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the ''Joint Improvised-Threat Defeat Fund'', $339,472,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That such funds shall be available to the Secretary of Defense, notwithstanding any other provision of law, for the purpose of allowing the Director of the Joint Improvised-Threat Defeat Organization to investigate, develop and provide equipment, supplies, services, training, facilities, personnel and funds to assist United States forces in the defeat of improvised explosive devices: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense may transfer funds provided herein to appropriations for military personnel; operation and maintenance; procurement; research, development, test and evaluation; and defense working capital funds to accomplish the purpose provided herein: *Provided further*, That this transfer authority is in addition to any other transfer authority available to the Department of Defense: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense shall, not fewer than 5 days prior to making transfers from this appropriation, notify the congressional defense committees in writing of the details of any such transfer: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

For an additional amount for the ''Office of the Inspector General'', $22,062,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

GENERAL PROVISIONS—THIS TITLE

SEC. 9001. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds made available in this title are in addition to amounts appropriated or otherwise made available for the Department of Defense for fiscal year 2017.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 9002. Upon the determination of the Secretary of Defense that such action is necessary in the national interest, the Secretary may, with the approval of the Office of Management and Budget, transfer up to $2,500,000,000 between the appropriations or funds made available to the Department of Defense in this title: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall notify the Congress promptly of each transfer made pursuant to the authority in this section: *Provided further*, That the authority provided in this section is in addition to any other transfer authority available to the Department of Defense and is subject to the same terms and conditions as the authority provided in section 8005 of this Act.

SEC. 9003. Supervision and administration costs and costs for design during construction associated with a construction project funded with appropriations available for operation and maintenance or the ''Afghanistan Security Forces Fund'' provided in this Act and executed in direct support of overseas contingency operations in Afghanistan, may be obligated at the time a construction contract is awarded: *Provided*, That, for the purpose of this section, supervision and administration costs and costs for design during construction include all in-house Government costs.

SEC. 9004. From funds made available in this title, the Secretary of Defense may purchase for use by military and civilian employees of the Department of Defense in the

United States Central Command area of responsibility: (1) passenger motor vehicles up to a limit of $75,000 per vehicle; and (2) heavy and light armored vehicles for the physical security of personnel or for force protection purposes up to a limit of $450,000 per vehicle, notwithstanding price or other limitations applicable to the purchase of passenger carrying vehicles.

SEC. 9005. Not to exceed $5,000,000 of the amounts appropriated by this title under the heading ''Operation and Maintenance, Army'' may be used, notwithstanding any other provision of law, to fund the Commanders' Emergency Response Program (CERP), for the purpose of enabling military commanders in Afghanistan to respond to urgent, small-scale, humanitarian relief and reconstruction requirements within their areas of responsibility: *Provided*, That each project (including any ancillary or related elements in connection with such project) executed under this authority shall not exceed $2,000,000: *Provided further*, That not later than 45 days after the end of each 6 months of the fiscal year, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report regarding the source of funds and the allocation and use of funds during that 6-month period that were made available pursuant to the authority provided in this section or under any other provision of law for the purposes described herein: *Provided further*, That, not later than 30 days after the end of each fiscal year quarter, the Army shall submit to the congressional defense committees quarterly commitment, obligation, and expenditure data for the CERP in Afghanistan: *Provided further*, That, not less than 15 days before making funds available pursuant to the authority provided in this section or under any other provision of law for the purposes described herein for a project with a total anticipated cost for completion of $500,000 or more, the Secretary shall submit to the congressional defense committees a written notice containing each of the following:

(1) The location, nature and purpose of the proposed project, including how the project is intended to advance the military campaign plan for the country in which it is to be carried out.

(2) The budget, implementation timeline with milestones, and completion date for the proposed project, including any other CERP funding that has been or is anticipated to be contributed to the completion of the project.

(3) A plan for the sustainment of the proposed project, including the agreement with either the host nation, a non-Department of Defense agency of the United States Government or a third-party contributor to finance the sustainment of the activities and maintenance of any equipment or facilities to be provided through the proposed project.

SEC. 9006. Funds available to the Department of Defense for operation and maintenance may be used, notwithstanding any other provision of law, to provide supplies, services, transportation, including airlift and sealift, and other logistical support to allied forces participating in a combined operation with the armed forces of the United States and coalition forces supporting military and stability operations in Afghanistan and to counter the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant: *Provided*, That the Secretary of Defense shall provide quarterly reports to the congressional defense committees regarding support provided under this section.

SEC. 9007. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act shall be obligated or expended by the United States Government for a purpose as follows:

(1) To establish any military installation or base for the purpose of providing for the permanent stationing of United States Armed Forces in Iraq.

(2) To exercise United States control over any oil resource of Iraq.

(3) To establish any military installation or base for the purpose of providing for the permanent stationing of United States Armed Forces in Afghanistan.

SEC. 9008. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used in contravention of the following laws enacted or regulations promulgated to implement the United Nations Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (done at New York on December 10, 1984):

(1) Section 2340A of title 18, United States Code.

(2) Section 2242 of the Foreign Affairs Reform and Restructuring Act of 1998 (division G of Public Law 105–277; 112 Stat. 2681–822; 8 U.S.C. 1231 note) and regulations prescribed thereto, including regulations under part 208 of title 8, Code of Federal Regulations, and part 95 of title 22, Code of Federal Regulations.

(3) Sections 1002 and 1003 of the Department of Defense, Emergency Supplemental Appropriations to Address Hurricanes in the Gulf of Mexico, and Pandemic Influenza Act, 2006 (Public Law 109–148).

SEC. 9009. None of the funds provided for the ''Afghanistan Security Forces Fund'' (ASFF) may be obligated prior to the approval of a financial and activity plan by the Afghanistan Resources Oversight Council (AROC) of the Department of Defense: *Provided*, That the AROC must approve the requirement and acquisition plan for any service requirements in excess of $50,000,000 annually and any non-standard equipment requirements in excess of $100,000,000 using ASFF: *Provided further*, That the Department of Defense must certify to the congressional defense committees that the AROC has convened and approved a process for ensuring compliance with the requirements in the preceding proviso and accompanying report language for the ASFF.

SEC. 9010. Funds made available in this title to the Department of Defense for operation and maintenance may be used to purchase items having an investment unit cost of not more than $250,000: *Provided*, That, upon determination by the Secretary of Defense that such action is necessary to meet the operational requirements of a Commander of a Combatant Command engaged in contingency operations overseas, such funds may be used to purchase items having an investment item unit cost of not more than $500,000.

SEC. 9011. From funds made available to the Department of Defense in this title under the heading ''Operation and Maintenance, Air Force'', up to $60,000,000 may be used by the Secretary of Defense, notwithstanding any other provision of law, to support United States Government transition activities in Iraq by funding the operations and activities of the Office of Security Cooperation in Iraq and security assistance teams, including life support, transportation and personal security, and facilities renovation and construction, and site closeout activities prior to returning sites to the Government of Iraq: *Provided*, That to the extent authorized under the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017, the operations and activities that may be carried out by the Office of Security Cooperation in Iraq may, with the concurrence of the Secretary of State, include non-operational training activities in support of Iraqi Minister of Defense and Counter Terrorism Service personnel in an institutional environment to address capability gaps, integrate processes relating to intelligence, air sovereignty, combined arms, logistics and maintenance, and to manage and integrate defense-related institutions: *Provided further*, That not later than 30 days following the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of State shall submit to the congressional defense committees a plan for transitioning any such training activities that they determine are needed after the end of fiscal year 2017, to existing or new contracts for the sale of defense articles or defense services consistent with the provisions of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2751 et seq.): *Provided further*, That, not less than 15 days before making funds available pursuant to the authority provided in this section, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the congressional defense committees a written notice containing a detailed justification and timeline for the operations and activities of the Office of Security Cooperation in Iraq at each site where such operations and activities will be conducted during fiscal year 2017: *Provided further*, That amounts made available by this section are designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SEC. 9012. Up to $500,000,000 of funds appropriated by this Act for the Defense Security Cooperation Agency in ''Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide'' may be used to provide assistance to the Government of Jordan to support the armed forces of Jordan and to enhance security along its borders.

SEC. 9013. None of the funds made available by this Act under the heading ''Counter-ISIL Train and Equip Fund'' may be used to procure or transfer man-portable air defense systems.

SEC. 9014. For the ''Ukraine Security Assistance Initiative'', $150,000,000 is hereby appropriated, to remain available until September 30, 2017: *Provided*, That such funds shall be available to the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretary of State, to provide assistance, including training; equipment; lethal weapons of a defensive nature; logistics support, supplies and services; sustainment; and intelligence support to the military and national security forces of Ukraine, and for replacement of any weapons or defensive articles provided to the Government of Ukraine from the inventory of the United States: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense shall, not less than 15 days prior to obligating funds provided under this heading, notify the congressional defense committees in writing of the details of any such obligation: *Provided further*, That the United States may accept equipment procured using funds provided under this heading in this or prior Acts that was transferred to the security forces of Ukraine and returned by such forces to the United States: *Provided further*, That equipment procured using funds provided under this heading in this or prior Acts, and not yet transferred to the military or National Security Forces of Ukraine or returned by such forces to the United States, may be treated as stocks of the Department of Defense upon written notification to the congressional defense committees: *Provided further*, That amounts made available by this section are designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism

pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SEC. 9015. Funds appropriated in this title shall be available for replacement of funds for items provided to the Government of Ukraine from the inventory of the United States to the extent specifically provided for in section 9014 of this Act.

SEC. 9016. None of the funds made available by this Act under section 9014 for ''Assistance and Sustainment to the Military and National Security Forces of Ukraine'' may be used to procure or transfer man-portable air defense systems.

SEC. 9017. (a) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act under the heading ''Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide'' for payments under section 1233 of Public Law 110–181 for reimbursement to the Government of Pakistan may be made available unless the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretary of State, certifies to the congressional defense committees that the Government of Pakistan is—

(1) cooperating with the United States in counterterrorism efforts against the Haqqani Network, the Quetta Shura Taliban, Lashkar e-Tayyiba, Jaish-e-Mohammed, Al Qaeda, and other domestic and foreign terrorist organizations, including taking steps to end support for such groups and prevent them from basing and operating in Pakistan and carrying out cross border attacks into neighboring countries;

(2) not supporting terrorist activities against United States or coalition forces in Afghanistan, and Pakistan's military and intelligence agencies are not intervening extra-judicially into political and judicial processes in Pakistan;

(3) dismantling improvised explosive device (IED) networks and interdicting precursor chemicals used in the manufacture of IEDs;

(4) preventing the proliferation of nuclear-related material and expertise;

(5) implementing policies to protect judicial independence and due process of law;

(6) issuing visas in a timely manner for United States visitors engaged in counterterrorism efforts and assistance programs in Pakistan; and

(7) providing humanitarian organizations access to detainees, internally displaced persons, and other Pakistani civilians affected by the conflict.

(b) The Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretary of State, may waive the restriction in subsection (a) on a case-by-case basis by certifying in writing to the congressional defense committees that it is in the national security interest to do so: *Provided*, That if the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretary of State, exercises such waiver authority, the Secretaries shall report to the congressional defense committees on both the justification for the waiver and on the requirements of this section that the Government of Pakistan was not able to meet: *Provided further*, That such report may be submitted in classified form if necessary.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 9018. In addition to amounts otherwise made available in this Act, $500,000,000 is hereby appropriated to the Department of Defense and made available for transfer only to the operation and maintenance, military personnel, and procurement accounts, to improve the intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance capabilities of the Department of Defense: *Provided*, That the transfer authority provided in this section is in addition to any other transfer authority provided elsewhere in this Act: *Provided further*, That not later than 30 days prior to exercising the transfer authority provided in this section, the Secretary of Defense shall submit a report to the congressional defense committees on the proposed uses of these funds: *Provided further*, That the funds provided in this section may not be transferred to any program, project, or activity specifically limited or denied by this Act: *Provided further*, That amounts made available by this section are designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: *Provided further*, That the authority to provide funding under this section shall terminate on September 30, 2017.

SEC. 9019. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used with respect to Syria in contravention of the War Powers Resolution (50 U.S.C. 1541 et seq.), including for the introduction of United States armed or military forces into hostilities in Syria, into situations in Syria where imminent involvement in hostilities is clearly indicated by the circumstances, or into Syrian territory, airspace, or waters while equipped for combat, in contravention of the congressional consultation and reporting requirements of sections 3 and 4 of that law (50 U.S.C. 1542 and 1543).

SEC. 9020. None of the funds in this Act may be made available for the transfer of additional C–130 cargo aircraft to the Afghanistan National Security Forces or the Afghanistan Air Force until the Department of Defense provides a report to the congressional defense committees of the Afghanistan Air Force's medium airlift requirements. The report should identify Afghanistan's ability to utilize and maintain existing medium lift aircraft in the inventory and the best alternative platform, if necessary, to provide additional support to the Afghanistan Air Force's current medium airlift capacity.

(RESCISSIONS)

SEC. 9021. Of the funds appropriated in Department of Defense Appropriations Acts, the following funds are hereby rescinded from the following accounts and programs in the specified amounts: *Provided*, That such amounts are designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985:

''Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide, DSCA Coalition Support Fund'', 2016/2017, $300,000,000;

''Counterterrorism Partnerships Fund'', 2016/2017, $200,000,000;

''Afghanistan Security Forces Fund'', 2016/2017, $150,000,000; and

''Other Procurement, Air Force'', 2016/2018, $169,000,000.

(RESCISSION)

SEC. 9022. Of the funds appropriated in Department of Defense Appropriations Acts, the following funds are hereby rescinded from the following accounts and programs in the specified amounts: *Provided*, That amounts rescinded pursuant to this section that were previously designated by the Congress for contingency operations directly related to the global war on terrorism pursuant to section 3(c)(2) of H. Res. 5 (112th Congress) and as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 403(a) of S. Con. Res. 13 (111th Congress) are designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985:

''Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide: Coalition Support Funds'', XXXX, $11,524,000.

SEC. 9023. (a) The Mine Resistant Ambush Protected Vehicle Fund provided for by section 123 of Public Law 110–92 (121 Stat. 992) is hereby terminated, effective as of the date of the enactment of this Act.

(b) Any unobligated balances in the Mine Resistant Ambush Protected Vehicle Fund as of the date of the enactment of this Act shall, notwithstanding any provision of subchapter IV of chapter 15 of title 31, United States Code, or the procedures under such subchapter, be deposited in the Treasury as miscellaneous receipts.

TITLE X

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE—ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

MILITARY PERSONNEL

MILITARY PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE

For an additional amount for ''Military Personnel, Air Force'', $131,375,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY

For an additional amount for ''Operation and Maintenance, Army'', $986,754,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, NAVY

For an additional amount for ''Operation and Maintenance, Navy'', $1,772,631,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, MARINE CORPS

For an additional amount for ''Operation and Maintenance, Marine Corps'', $255,250,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE

For an additional amount for ''Operation and Maintenance, Air Force'', $1,566,272,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, DEFENSE-WIDE

For an additional amount for ''Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide'', $650,951,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, NAVY RESERVE

For an additional amount for ''Operation and Maintenance, Navy Reserve'', $3,208,000:

Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE RESERVE

For an additional amount for ''Operation and Maintenance, Air Force Reserve'', $115,099,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

For an additional amount for ''Operation and Maintenance, Army National Guard'', $87,868,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR NATIONAL GUARD

For an additional amount for ''Operation and Maintenance, Air National Guard'', $23,000,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

COUNTER-ISIL TRAIN AND EQUIP FUND

For an additional amount for the ''Counter-Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant Train and Equip Fund'', $626,400,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That such amounts shall not be obligated or expended until 15 days after the President submits a plan in accordance with section 10005 of this Act: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

COUNTER-ISIL OVERSEAS CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS TRANSFER FUND

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

In addition to amounts provided elsewhere in this Act, there is appropriated $1,610,000,000, for the ''Counter-Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant Overseas Contingency Operations Transfer Fund'', for expenses directly relating to overseas contingency operations by United States military forces, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of the funds made available in this section, the Secretary of Defense may transfer these funds only to military personnel accounts, operation and maintenance accounts, procurement accounts, and working capital fund accounts: *Provided further*, That such amounts shall not be transferred until 15 days after the President submits a plan in accordance with section 10005 of this Act: *Provided further*, That the funds transferred shall be merged with and shall be available for the same purposes and for the same time period, as the appropriation to which transferred: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall notify the congressional defense committees 15 days prior to such transfer or any subsequent transfer: *Provided further*, That the transfer authority provided under this heading is in addition to any other transfer authority available to the Department of Defense: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

PROCUREMENT

AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, ARMY

For an additional amount for ''Aircraft Procurement, Army'', $316,784,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

MISSILE PROCUREMENT, ARMY

For an additional amount for ''Missile Procurement, Army'', $579,754,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

PROCUREMENT OF WEAPONS AND TRACKED COMBAT VEHICLES, ARMY

For an additional amount for ''Procurement of Weapons and Tracked Combat Vehicles, Army'', $61,218,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

PROCUREMENT OF AMMUNITION, ARMY

For an additional amount for ''Procurement of Ammunition, Army'', $447,685,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OTHER PROCUREMENT, ARMY

For an additional amount for ''Other Procurement, Army'', $412,109,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, NAVY

For an additional amount for ''Aircraft Procurement, Navy'', $314,257,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

WEAPONS PROCUREMENT, NAVY

For an additional amount for ''Weapons Procurement, Navy'', $129,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

PROCUREMENT OF AMMUNITION, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS

For an additional amount for ''Procurement of Ammunition, Navy and Marine Corps'', $103,100,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OTHER PROCUREMENT, NAVY

For an additional amount for ''Other Procurement, Navy'', $151,297,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

PROCUREMENT, MARINE CORPS

For an additional amount for ''Procurement, Marine Corps'', $212,280,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE

For an additional amount for ''Aircraft Procurement, Air Force'', $856,820,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SPACE PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE

For an additional amount for ''Space Procurement, Air Force'', $19,900,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

PROCUREMENT OF AMMUNITION, AIR FORCE

For an additional amount for ''Procurement of Ammunition, Air Force'', $70,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OTHER PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE

For an additional amount for ''Other Procurement, Air Force'', $1,335,381,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

PROCUREMENT, DEFENSE-WIDE

For an additional amount for ''Procurement, Defense-Wide'', $510,635,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION, ARMY

For an additional amount for ''Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Army'', $163,134,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of

the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION, NAVY

For an additional amount for ''Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Navy'', $248,214,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION, AIR FORCE

For an additional amount for ''Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Air Force'', $297,300,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION, DEFENSE-WIDE

For an additional amount for ''Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Defense-Wide'', $279,185,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OPERATIONAL TEST AND EVALUATION, DEFENSE

For an additional amount for ''Operational Test and Evaluation, Defense'', $2,725,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

REVOLVING AND MANAGEMENT FUNDS

DEFENSE WORKING CAPITAL FUNDS

For an additional amount for ''Defense Working Capital Funds'', $285,681,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OTHER DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PROGRAMS

CHEMICAL AGENTS AND MUNITIONS DESTRUCTION, DEFENSE

For an additional amount for ''Chemical Agents and Munitions Destruction, Defense'', $127,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, shall be for research, development, test and evaluation: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

GENERAL PROVISIONS—THIS TITLE

SEC. 10001. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds made available in this title are in addition to amounts appropriated or otherwise made available for the Department of Defense for fiscal year 2017: *Provided*, That except as otherwise explicitly provided for in this title, such amounts shall be subject to the terms and conditions set forth in titles VIII and IX of this division.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 10002. Upon the determination of the Secretary of Defense that such action is necessary in the national interest, the Secretary may, with the approval of the Office of Management and Budget, transfer up to $250,000,000 between the appropriations or funds made available to the Department of Defense in this title: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall notify the Congress promptly of each transfer made pursuant to the authority in this section: *Provided further*, That the authority provided in this section is in addition to any other transfer authority available to the Department of Defense and is subject to the same terms and conditions as the authority provided in section 8005 of the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2017.

SEC. 10003. Funds appropriated by this title, or made available by the transfer of funds in this title, for intelligence or intelligence related activities are deemed to be specifically authorized by the Congress for purposes of section 504 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 414).

SEC. 10004. In addition to funds made available in section 8124 of this division, $7,000,000 of the amounts appropriated in this Act for ''Operation and Maintenance, Navy'', may be used for any purposes related to the National Defense Reserve Fleet established under section 11 of the Merchant Ship Sales Act of 1946 (50 U.S.C. 4405): *Provided*, That such amounts are available for reimbursements to the Ready Reserve Force, Maritime Administration account of the United States Department of Transportation for programs, projects, activities, and expenses related to the National Defense Reserve Fleet.

SEC. 10005. (a) Of the amounts appropriated in this title, $2,476,200,000 shall not be obligated or expended until 15 days after the President provides the appropriate committees a report on the United States strategy for the defeat of the Islamic State of Iraq and al Sham.

(b) Such report, which may include a classified annex, shall include, at a minimum, the following—

(1) a description of the objectives of the United States to defeat the Islamic State of Iraq and al Sham, including the desired end states in Iraq and Syria to achieve such objectives;

(2) a description of the roles and responsibilities of the Department of Defense in the strategy, the regions covered by the strategy, and the specific allies and coalition partners required to carry out the strategy, including the expected lines of effort of such coalition;

(3) a description of the roles and responsibilities of the Department of State in the strategy, the diplomatic and regional engagement necessary to achieve the objectives of the strategy, to include plans for stabilizing territory formerly held by the Islamic State of Iraq and al Sham;

(4) an estimate of the resources required to undertake the strategy, and a description of the plan for the use of funds provided in this Act to implement the strategy;

(5) a description of the benchmarks to be used to measure progress in achieving the objectives of the strategy; and

(6) an assessment of how the actions of the Government of Syria and other state and non-state actors in the region impact the ability to achieve the objectives of the strategy.

(c) Not more than 90 days after the initial report, and every 90 days thereafter, the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of State shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees an update on the progress toward the benchmarks established in the initial report, and if applicable, a description of any changes to the objectives of the strategy.

(d) For purposes of this section, the term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(1) the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives; and

(2) the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Select Committee on Intelligence, and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate.

SEC. 10006. (a) Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the President shall transmit a report to the appropriate congressional committees describing a strategy for Syria.

(b) Such report, which may include a classified annex, shall include, at a minimum, the following—

(1) a description of the United States political and military objectives regarding the Government of Syria;

(2) a description of United States and multilateral efforts to address the needs of civilians affected by the conflict in Syria, to include efforts to protect the civilian population from the use of chemical weapons and the deliberate targeting of civilians by the Government of Syria;

(3) a description of the efforts of the United States to engage regional and international partners in support of such objectives; and

(4) a description of the efforts undertaken by the relevant agencies to achieve such objectives.

(c) For purposes of this section, the term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(1) the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives; and

(2) the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate.

This division may be cited as the ''Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2017''.

DIVISION D—ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

TITLE I

CORPS OF ENGINEERS—CIVIL

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

CORPS OF ENGINEERS—CIVIL

The following appropriations shall be expended under the direction of the Secretary of the Army and the supervision of the Chief of Engineers for authorized civil functions of the Department of the Army pertaining to river and harbor, flood and storm damage reduction, shore protection, aquatic ecosystem restoration, and related efforts.

INVESTIGATIONS

For expenses necessary where authorized by law for the collection and study of basic information pertaining to river and harbor, flood and storm damage reduction, shore protection, aquatic ecosystem restoration, and related needs; for surveys and detailed studies, and plans and specifications of proposed river and harbor, flood and storm damage reduction, shore protection, and aquatic ecosystem restoration projects, and related efforts prior to construction; for restudy of authorized projects; and for miscellaneous

investigations, and, when authorized by law, surveys and detailed studies, and plans and specifications of projects prior to construction, $121,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the Secretary may initiate up to, but not more than, six new study starts during fiscal year 2017: *Provided further*, That the new study starts will consist of five studies where the majority of the benefits are derived from navigation transportation savings or from flood and storm damage reduction and one study where the majority of benefits are derived from environmental restoration: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall not deviate from the new starts proposed in the work plan, once the plan has been submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

CONSTRUCTION

For expenses necessary for the construction of river and harbor, flood and storm damage reduction, shore protection, aquatic ecosystem restoration, and related projects authorized by law; for conducting detailed studies, and plans and specifications, of such projects (including those involving participation by States, local governments, or private groups) authorized or made eligible for selection by law (but such detailed studies, and plans and specifications, shall not constitute a commitment of the Government to construction); $1,876,000,000, to remain available until expended; of which such sums as are necessary to cover the Federal share of construction costs for facilities under the Dredged Material Disposal Facilities program shall be derived from the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund as authorized by Public Law 104–303; and of which such sums as are necessary to cover one-half of the costs of construction, replacement, rehabilitation, and expansion of inland waterways projects shall be derived from the Inland Waterways Trust Fund, except as otherwise specifically provided for in law: *Provided*, That the Secretary may initiate up to, but not more than, six new construction starts during fiscal year 2017: *Provided further*, That the new construction starts will consist of five projects where the majority of the benefits are derived from navigation transportation savings or from flood and storm damage reduction and one project where the majority of the benefits are derived from environmental restoration: *Provided further*, That for new construction projects, project cost sharing agreements shall be executed as soon as practicable but no later than September 30, 2017: *Provided further*, That no allocation for a new start shall be considered final and no work allowance shall be made until the Secretary provides to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress an outyear funding scenario demonstrating the affordability of the selected new starts and the impacts on other projects: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may not deviate from the new starts proposed in the work plan, once the plan has been submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress.

MISSISSIPPI RIVER AND TRIBUTARIES

For expenses necessary for flood damage reduction projects and related efforts in the Mississippi River alluvial valley below Cape Girardeau, Missouri, as authorized by law, $362,000,000, to remain available until expended, of which such sums as are necessary to cover the Federal share of eligible operation and maintenance costs for inland harbors shall be derived from the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

For expenses necessary for the operation, maintenance, and care of existing river and harbor, flood and storm damage reduction, aquatic ecosystem restoration, and related projects authorized by law; providing security for infrastructure owned or operated by the Corps, including administrative buildings and laboratories; maintaining harbor channels provided by a State, municipality, or other public agency that serve essential navigation needs of general commerce, where authorized by law; surveying and charting northern and northwestern lakes and connecting waters; clearing and straightening channels; and removing obstructions to navigation, $3,149,000,000, to remain available until expended, of which such sums as are necessary to cover the Federal share of eligible operation and maintenance costs for coastal harbors and channels, and for inland harbors shall be derived from the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund; of which such sums as become available from the special account for the Corps of Engineers established by the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 shall be derived from that account for resource protection, research, interpretation, and maintenance activities related to resource protection in the areas at which outdoor recreation is available; and of which such sums as become available from fees collected under section 217 of Public Law 104–303 shall be used to cover the cost of operation and maintenance of the dredged material disposal facilities for which such fees have been collected: *Provided*, That 1 percent of the total amount of funds provided for each of the programs, projects, or activities funded under this heading shall not be allocated to a field operating activity prior to the beginning of the fourth quarter of the fiscal year and shall be available for use by the Chief of Engineers to fund such emergency activities as the Chief of Engineers determines to be necessary and appropriate, and that the Chief of Engineers shall allocate during the fourth quarter any remaining funds which have not been used for emergency activities proportionally in accordance with the amounts provided for the programs, projects, or activities.

REGULATORY PROGRAM

For expenses necessary for administration of laws pertaining to regulation of navigable waters and wetlands, $200,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018.

FORMERLY UTILIZED SITES REMEDIAL ACTION PROGRAM

For expenses necessary to clean up contamination from sites in the United States resulting from work performed as part of the Nation's early atomic energy program, $112,000,000, to remain available until expended.

FLOOD CONTROL AND COASTAL EMERGENCIES

For expenses necessary to prepare for flood, hurricane, and other natural disasters and support emergency operations, repairs, and other activities in response to such disasters as authorized by law, $32,000,000, to remain available until expended.

EXPENSES

For expenses necessary for the supervision and general administration of the civil works program in the headquarters of the Corps of Engineers and the offices of the Division Engineers; and for costs of management and operation of the Humphreys Engineer Center Support Activity, the Institute for Water Resources, the United States Army Engineer Research and Development Center, and the United States Army Corps of Engineers Finance Center allocable to the civil works program, $181,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, of which not to exceed $5,000 may be used for official reception and representation purposes and only during the current fiscal year: *Provided*, That no part of any other appropriation provided in this title shall be available to fund the civil works activities of the Office of the Chief of Engineers or the civil works executive direction and management activities of the division offices: *Provided further*, That any Flood Control and Coastal Emergencies appropriation may be used to fund the supervision and general administration of emergency operations, repairs, and other activities in response to any flood, hurricane, or other natural disaster.

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY FOR CIVIL WORKS

For the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works as authorized by 10 U.S.C. 3016(b)(3), $4,764,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That not more than 75 percent of such amount may be obligated or expended until the Assistant Secretary submits to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress a work plan that allocates at least 95 percent of the additional funding provided under each heading in this title (as designated under such heading in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act)) to specific programs, projects, or activities.

GENERAL PROVISIONS—CORPS OF ENGINEERS—CIVIL

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 101. (a) None of the funds provided in title I of this Act, or provided by previous appropriations Acts to the agencies or entities funded in title I of this Act that remain available for obligation or expenditure in fiscal year 2017, shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a reprogramming of funds that:

(1) creates or initiates a new program, project, or activity;

(2) eliminates a program, project, or activity;

(3) increases funds or personnel for any program, project, or activity for which funds have been denied or restricted by this Act, unless prior approval is received from the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations;

(4) proposes to use funds directed for a specific activity for a different purpose, unless prior approval is received from the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations;

(5) augments or reduces existing programs, projects, or activities in excess of the amounts contained in paragraphs (6) through (10), unless prior approval is received from the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations;

(6) INVESTIGATIONS.—For a base level over $100,000, reprogramming of 25 percent of the base amount up to a limit of $150,000 per project, study or activity is allowed: *Provided*, That for a base level less than $100,000, the reprogramming limit is $25,000: *Provided further*, That up to $25,000 may be reprogrammed into any continuing study or activity that did not receive an appropriation for existing obligations and concomitant administrative expenses;

(7) CONSTRUCTION.—For a base level over $2,000,000, reprogramming of 15 percent of the base amount up to a limit of $3,000,000 per project, study or activity is allowed: *Provided*, That for a base level less than

$2,000,000, the reprogramming limit is $300,000: *Provided further*, That up to $3,000,000 may be reprogrammed for settled contractor claims, changed conditions, or real estate deficiency judgments: *Provided further*, That up to $300,000 may be reprogrammed into any continuing study or activity that did not receive an appropriation for existing obligations and concomitant administrative expenses;

(8) OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE.—Unlimited reprogramming authority is granted for the Corps to be able to respond to emergencies: *Provided*, That the Chief of Engineers shall notify the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations of these emergency actions as soon thereafter as practicable: *Provided further*, That for a base level over $1,000,000, reprogramming of 15 percent of the base amount up to a limit of $5,000,000 per project, study, or activity is allowed: *Provided further*, That for a base level less than $1,000,000, the reprogramming limit is $150,000: *Provided further*, That $150,000 may be reprogrammed into any continuing study or activity that did not receive an appropriation;

(9) MISSISSIPPI RIVER AND TRIBUTARIES.—The reprogramming guidelines in paragraphs (6), (7), and (8) shall apply to the Investigations, Construction, and Operation and Maintenance portions of the Mississippi River and Tributaries Account, respectively; and

(10) FORMERLY UTILIZED SITES REMEDIAL ACTION PROGRAM.—Reprogramming of up to 15 percent of the base of the receiving project is permitted.

(b) DE MINIMUS REPROGRAMMINGS.—In no case should a reprogramming for less than $50,000 be submitted to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations.

(c) CONTINUING AUTHORITIES PROGRAM.—Subsection (a)(1) shall not apply to any project or activity funded under the continuing authorities program.

(d) Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit a report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations to establish the baseline for application of reprogramming and transfer authorities for the current fiscal year which shall include:

(1) A table for each appropriation with a separate column to display the President's budget request, adjustments made by Congress, adjustments due to enacted rescissions, if applicable, and the fiscal year enacted level; and

(2) A delineation in the table for each appropriation both by object class and program, project and activity as detailed in the budget appendix for the respective appropriations; and

(3) An identification of items of special congressional interest.

SEC. 102. The Secretary shall allocate funds made available in this Act solely in accordance with the provisions of this Act and the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), including the determination and designation of new starts.

SEC. 103. None of the funds made available in this title may be used to award or modify any contract that commits funds beyond the amounts appropriated for that program, project, or activity that remain unobligated, except that such amounts may include any funds that have been made available through reprogramming pursuant to section 101.

SEC. 104. The Secretary of the Army may transfer to the Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Fish and Wildlife Service may accept and expend, up to $5,400,000 of funds provided in this title under the heading ''Operation and Maintenance'' to mitigate for fisheries lost due to Corps of Engineers projects.

SEC. 105. None of the funds in this Act shall be used for an open lake placement alternative for dredged material, after evaluating the least costly, environmentally acceptable manner for the disposal or management of dredged material originating from Lake Erie or tributaries thereto, unless it is approved under a State water quality certification pursuant to section 401 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1341); *Provided further*, That until an open lake placement alternative for dredged material is approved under a State water quality certification, the Corps of Engineers shall continue upland placement of such dredged material consistent with the requirements of section 101 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1986 (33 U.S.C. 2211).

SEC. 106. None of the funds made available in this title may be used for any acquisition that is not consistent with 48 CFR 225.7007.

SEC. 107. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to carry out any water supply reallocation study under the Wolf Creek Dam, Lake Cumberland, Kentucky, project authorized under the Act of July 24, 1946 (60 Stat. 636, ch. 595).

SEC. 108. None of the funds made available in this or any other Act making appropriations for Energy and Water Development for any fiscal year may be used by the Corps of Engineers during the fiscal year ending September 30, 2017, to develop, adopt, implement, administer, or enforce any change to the regulations in effect on October 1, 2012, pertaining to the definitions of the terms ''fill material'' or ''discharge of fill material'' for the purposes of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.).

SEC. 109. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to require a permit for the discharge of dredged or fill material under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.) for the activities identified in subparagraphs (A) and (C) of section 404(f)(1) of the Act (33 U.S.C. 1344(f)(1)(A), (C)).

TITLE II

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

CENTRAL UTAH PROJECT

CENTRAL UTAH PROJECT COMPLETION ACCOUNT

For carrying out activities authorized by the Central Utah Project Completion Act, $10,500,000, to remain available until expended, of which $1,300,000 shall be deposited into the Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Account for use by the Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Commission: *Provided*, That of the amount provided under this heading, $1,350,000 shall be available until September 30, 2018, for expenses necessary in carrying out related responsibilities of the Secretary of the Interior: *Provided further*, That for fiscal year 2017, of the amount made available to the Commission under this Act or any other Act, the Commission may use an amount not to exceed $1,500,000 for administrative expenses.

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

The following appropriations shall be expended to execute authorized functions of the Bureau of Reclamation:

WATER AND RELATED RESOURCES

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For management, development, and restoration of water and related natural resources and for related activities, including the operation, maintenance, and rehabilitation of reclamation and other facilities, participation in fulfilling related Federal responsibilities to Native Americans, and related grants to, and cooperative and other agreements with, State and local governments, federally recognized Indian tribes, and others, $1,155,894,000, to remain available until expended, of which $22,000 shall be available for transfer to the Upper Colorado River Basin Fund and $5,551,000 shall be available for transfer to the Lower Colorado River Basin Development Fund; of which such amounts as may be necessary may be advanced to the Colorado River Dam Fund: *Provided*, That such transfers may be increased or decreased within the overall appropriation under this heading: *Provided further*, That of the total appropriated, the amount for program activities that can be financed by the Reclamation Fund or the Bureau of Reclamation special fee account established by 16 U.S.C. 6806 shall be derived from that Fund or account: *Provided further*, That funds contributed under 43 U.S.C. 395 are available until expended for the purposes for which the funds were contributed: *Provided further*, That funds advanced under 43 U.S.C. 397a shall be credited to this account and are available until expended for the same purposes as the sums appropriated under this heading: *Provided further*, That of the amounts provided herein, funds may be used for high-priority projects which shall be carried out by the Youth Conservation Corps, as authorized by 16 U.S.C. 1706.

CENTRAL VALLEY PROJECT RESTORATION FUND

For carrying out the programs, projects, plans, habitat restoration, improvement, and acquisition provisions of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act, $55,606,000, to be derived from such sums as may be collected in the Central Valley Project Restoration Fund pursuant to sections 3407(d), 3404(c)(3), and 3405(f) of Public Law 102–575, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the Bureau of Reclamation is directed to assess and collect the full amount of the additional mitigation and restoration payments authorized by section 3407(d) of Public Law 102–575: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available under this heading may be used for the acquisition or leasing of water for in-stream purposes if the water is already committed to in-stream purposes by a court adopted decree or order.

CALIFORNIA BAY-DELTA RESTORATION

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For carrying out activities authorized by the Water Supply, Reliability, and Environmental Improvement Act, consistent with plans to be approved by the Secretary of the Interior, $36,000,000, to remain available until expended, of which such amounts as may be necessary to carry out such activities may be transferred to appropriate accounts of other participating Federal agencies to carry out authorized purposes: *Provided*, That funds appropriated herein may be used for the Federal share of the costs of CALFED Program management: *Provided further*, That CALFED implementation shall be carried out in a balanced manner with clear performance measures demonstrating concurrent progress in achieving the goals and objectives of the Program.

POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION

For expenses necessary for policy, administration, and related functions in the Office of the Commissioner, the Denver office, and offices in the five regions of the Bureau of Reclamation, to remain available until September 30, 2018, $59,000,000, to be derived from the Reclamation Fund and be nonreimbursable as provided in 43 U.S.C. 377: *Provided*,

That no part of any other appropriation in this Act shall be available for activities or functions budgeted as policy and administration expenses.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION

Appropriations for the Bureau of Reclamation shall be available for purchase of not to exceed five passenger motor vehicles, which are for replacement only.

GENERAL PROVISIONS—DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

SEC. 201. (a) None of the funds provided in title II of this Act for Water and Related Resources, or provided by previous or subsequent appropriations Acts to the agencies or entities funded in title II of this Act for Water and Related Resources that remain available for obligation or expenditure in fiscal year 2017, shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a reprogramming of funds that—

(1) initiates or creates a new program, project, or activity;

(2) eliminates a program, project, or activity;

(3) increases funds for any program, project, or activity for which funds have been denied or restricted by this Act, unless prior approval is received from the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate;

(4) restarts or resumes any program, project or activity for which funds are not provided in this Act, unless prior approval is received from the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate;

(5) transfers funds in excess of the following limits, unless prior approval is received from the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate:

(A) 15 percent for any program, project or activity for which $2,000,000 or more is available at the beginning of the fiscal year; or

(B) $400,000 for any program, project or activity for which less than $2,000,000 is available at the beginning of the fiscal year;

(6) transfers more than $500,000 from either the Facilities Operation, Maintenance, and Rehabilitation category or the Resources Management and Development category to any program, project, or activity in the other category, unless prior approval is received from the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate; or

(7) transfers, where necessary to discharge legal obligations of the Bureau of Reclamation, more than $5,000,000 to provide adequate funds for settled contractor claims, increased contractor earnings due to accelerated rates of operations, and real estate deficiency judgments, unless prior approval is received from the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

(b) Subsection (a)(5) shall not apply to any transfer of funds within the Facilities Operation, Maintenance, and Rehabilitation category.

(c) For purposes of this section, the term transfer means any movement of funds into or out of a program, project, or activity.

(d) The Bureau of Reclamation shall submit reports on a quarterly basis to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate detailing all the funds reprogrammed between programs, projects, activities, or categories of funding. The first quarterly report shall be submitted not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 202. (a) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to determine the final point of discharge for the interceptor drain for the San Luis Unit until development by the Secretary of the Interior and the State of California of a plan, which shall conform to the water quality standards of the State of California as approved by the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, to minimize any detrimental effect of the San Luis drainage waters.

(b) The costs of the Kesterson Reservoir Cleanup Program and the costs of the San Joaquin Valley Drainage Program shall be classified by the Secretary of the Interior as reimbursable or nonreimbursable and collected until fully repaid pursuant to the ''Cleanup Program—Alternative Repayment Plan'' and the ''SJVDP—Alternative Repayment Plan'' described in the report entitled ''Repayment Report, Kesterson Reservoir Cleanup Program and San Joaquin Valley Drainage Program, February 1995'', prepared by the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation. Any future obligations of funds by the United States relating to, or providing for, drainage service or drainage studies for the San Luis Unit shall be fully reimbursable by San Luis Unit beneficiaries of such service or studies pursuant to Federal reclamation law.

SEC. 203. Section 205(2) of division D of Public Law 114–113 is amended by striking ''2016'' and inserting ''2017''.

TITLE III

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

ENERGY PROGRAMS

ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

For Department of Energy expenses including the purchase, construction, and acquisition of plant and capital equipment, and other expenses necessary for energy efficiency and renewable energy activities in carrying out the purposes of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.), including the acquisition or condemnation of any real property or any facility or for plant or facility acquisition, construction, or expansion, $2,090,200,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of such amount, $153,500,000 shall be available until September 30, 2018, for program direction.

ELECTRICITY DELIVERY AND ENERGY RELIABILITY

For Department of Energy expenses including the purchase, construction, and acquisition of plant and capital equipment, and other expenses necessary for electricity delivery and energy reliability activities in carrying out the purposes of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.), including the acquisition or condemnation of any real property or any facility or for plant or facility acquisition, construction, or expansion, $230,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of such amount, $28,500,000 shall be available until September 30, 2018, for program direction.

NUCLEAR ENERGY

For Department of Energy expenses including the purchase, construction, and acquisition of plant and capital equipment, and other expenses necessary for nuclear energy activities in carrying out the purposes of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.), including the acquisition or condemnation of any real property or any facility or for plant or facility acquisition, construction, or expansion and the purchase of no more than three emergency service vehicles for replacement only, $1,016,616,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of such amount, $80,000,000 shall be available until September 30, 2018, for program direction.

FOSSIL ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

For Department of Energy expenses necessary in carrying out fossil energy research and development activities, under the authority of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.), including the acquisition of interest, including defeasible and equitable interests in any real property or any facility or for plant or facility acquisition or expansion, and for conducting inquiries, technological investigations and research concerning the extraction, processing, use, and disposal of mineral substances without objectionable social and environmental costs (30 U.S.C. 3, 1602, and 1603), $618,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of such amount $60,000,000 shall be available until September 30, 2018, for program direction: *Provided further*, That in addition, $50,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for the transformational coal technologies pilot program described in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act).

NAVAL PETROLEUM AND OIL SHALE RESERVES

For Department of Energy expenses necessary to carry out naval petroleum and oil shale reserve activities, $14,950,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, unobligated funds remaining from prior years shall be available for all naval petroleum and oil shale reserve activities.

STRATEGIC PETROLEUM RESERVE

For Department of Energy expenses necessary for Strategic Petroleum Reserve facility development and operations and program management activities pursuant to the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6201 et seq.), $223,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the proceeds from the drawdown and sale under section 159 of the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2017 (division C of Public Law 114–223), as amended by the Further Continuing and Security Assistance Appropriations Act, 2017 (Public Law 114–254), which have been or will be deposited into the ''Energy Security and Infrastructure Modernization Fund'' during fiscal year 2017 shall be made available and shall remain available until expended for necessary expenses in carrying out the Life Extension II project for the Strategic Petroleum Reserve.

NORTHEAST HOME HEATING OIL RESERVE

For Department of Energy expenses necessary for Northeast Home Heating Oil Reserve storage, operation, and management activities pursuant to the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6201 et seq.), $6,500,000, to remain available until expended.

ENERGY INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION

For Department of Energy expenses necessary in carrying out the activities of the Energy Information Administration, $122,000,000, to remain available until expended.

NON-DEFENSE ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANUP

For Department of Energy expenses, including the purchase, construction, and acquisition of plant and capital equipment and other expenses necessary for non-defense environmental cleanup activities in carrying

out the purposes of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.), including the acquisition or condemnation of any real property or any facility or for plant or facility acquisition, construction, or expansion, $247,000,000, to remain available until expended.

URANIUM ENRICHMENT DECONTAMINATION AND DECOMMISSIONING FUND

For Department of Energy expenses necessary in carrying out uranium enrichment facility decontamination and decommissioning, remedial actions, and other activities of title II of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, and title X, subtitle A, of the Energy Policy Act of 1992, $768,000,000, to be derived from the Uranium Enrichment Decontamination and Decommissioning Fund, to remain available until expended, of which $30,000,000 shall be available in accordance with title X, subtitle A, of the Energy Policy Act of 1992.

SCIENCE

For Department of Energy expenses including the purchase, construction, and acquisition of plant and capital equipment, and other expenses necessary for science activities in carrying out the purposes of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.), including the acquisition or condemnation of any real property or facility or for plant or facility acquisition, construction, or expansion, and purchase of not more than 17 passenger motor vehicles for replacement only, including one ambulance and one bus, $5,392,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of such amount, $182,000,000 shall be available until September 30, 2018, for program direction: *Provided further*, That of such amount, $50,000,000 shall be available for the ongoing in-kind contributions provided by facilities located in the United States to the ITER project and related support activities carried out by such facilities for the ITER project and, subject to the notification requirement in section 301(e) of this Act, up to an additional $50,000,000 of such amount may be made available for in-kind contributions and related support activities of ITER.

ADVANCED RESEARCH PROJECTS AGENCY—ENERGY

For Department of Energy expenses necessary in carrying out the activities authorized by section 5012 of the America COMPETES Act (Public Law 110–69), $306,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of such amount, $29,250,000 shall be available until September 30, 2018, for program direction.

TITLE 17 INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY LOAN GUARANTEE PROGRAM

Such sums as are derived from amounts received from borrowers pursuant to section 1702(b) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 under this heading in prior Acts, shall be collected in accordance with section 502(7) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: *Provided*, That for necessary administrative expenses to carry out this Loan Guarantee program, $37,000,000 is appropriated from fees collected in prior years pursuant to section 1702(h) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 which are not otherwise appropriated, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided further*, That if the amount in the previous proviso is not available from such fees, an amount for such purposes is also appropriated from the general fund so as to result in a total amount appropriated for such purpose of no more than $37,000,000: *Provided further*, That fees collected pursuant to such section 1702(h) for fiscal year 2017 shall be credited as offsetting collections under this heading and shall not be available until appropriated: *Provided further*, That the Department of Energy shall not subordinate any loan obligation to other financing in violation of section 1702 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 or subordinate any Guaranteed Obligation to any loan or other debt obligations in violation of section 609.10 of title 10, Code of Federal Regulations.

ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY VEHICLES MANUFACTURING LOAN PROGRAM

For Department of Energy administrative expenses necessary in carrying out the Advanced Technology Vehicles Manufacturing Loan Program, $5,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018.

TRIBAL ENERGY LOAN GUARANTEE PROGRAM

(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

For the cost of loan guarantees provided under section 2602(c) of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (25 U.S.C. 3502(c)), $8,500,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the cost of those loan guarantees (including the costs of modifying loans, as applicable) shall be determined in accordance with section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 661a): *Provided further*, That, for necessary administrative expenses to carry out that program, $500,000 is appropriated, to remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That, of the subsidy amounts provided by section 1425 of the Department of Defense and Full-Year Continuing Appropriations Act, 2011 (Public Law 112–10; 125 Stat. 126), for the cost of loan guarantees for renewable energy or efficient end-use energy technologies under section 1703 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16513), $9,000,000 is hereby rescinded.

DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION

For salaries and expenses of the Department of Energy necessary for departmental administration in carrying out the purposes of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.), $246,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, including the hire of passenger motor vehicles and official reception and representation expenses not to exceed $30,000, plus such additional amounts as necessary to cover increases in the estimated amount of cost of work for others notwithstanding the provisions of the Anti-Deficiency Act (31 U.S.C. 1511 et seq.): *Provided*, That such increases in cost of work are offset by revenue increases of the same or greater amount: *Provided further*, That moneys received by the Department for miscellaneous revenues estimated to total $103,000,000 in fiscal year 2017 may be retained and used for operating expenses within this account, as authorized by section 201 of Public Law 95–238, notwithstanding the provisions of 31 U.S.C. 3302: *Provided further*, That the sum herein appropriated shall be reduced as collections are received during the fiscal year so as to result in a final fiscal year 2017 appropriation from the general fund estimated at not more than $143,000,000: *Provided further*, That the amount made available in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act) for the Office of Indian Energy Policy and Program shall remain available until September 30, 2022.

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

For expenses necessary for the Office of the Inspector General in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978, $44,424,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018.

ATOMIC ENERGY DEFENSE ACTIVITIES

NATIONAL NUCLEAR SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

WEAPONS ACTIVITIES

(INCLUDING RESCISSIONS OF FUNDS)

For Department of Energy expenses, including the purchase, construction, and acquisition of plant and capital equipment and other incidental expenses necessary for atomic energy defense weapons activities in carrying out the purposes of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.), including the acquisition or condemnation of any real property or any facility or for plant or facility acquisition, construction, or expansion, $9,318,093,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of such amount, $97,118,000 shall be available until September 30, 2018, for program direction: *Provided further*, That of the unobligated balances from prior year appropriations available under this heading, $8,400,000 is hereby rescinded: *Provided further*, That of the unobligated balances from prior year appropriations available under this heading that were apportioned in Category C (defined in section 120 of Office of Management and Budget Circular No. A–11), $64,126,000 is hereby rescinded: *Provided further*, That no amounts may be rescinded from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

DEFENSE NUCLEAR NONPROLIFERATION

(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

For Department of Energy expenses, including the purchase, construction, and acquisition of plant and capital equipment and other incidental expenses necessary for defense nuclear nonproliferation activities, in carrying out the purposes of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.), including the acquisition or condemnation of any real property or any facility or for plant or facility acquisition, construction, or expansion, $1,902,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of the unobligated balances from prior year appropriations available under this heading that were apportioned in Category C (defined in section 120 of Office of Management and Budget Circular No. A–11), $19,128,000 is hereby rescinded: *Provided further*, That no amounts may be rescinded from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

NAVAL REACTORS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER AND RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

For Department of Energy expenses necessary for naval reactors activities to carry out the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.), including the acquisition (by purchase, condemnation, construction, or otherwise) of real property, plant, and capital equipment, facilities, and facility expansion, $1,420,120,000, to remain available until expended, of which, $75,100,000 shall be transferred to ''Department of Energy—Energy Programs—Nuclear Energy'', for the Advanced Test Reactor: *Provided*, That of the amount provided under this heading, $44,100,000 shall be available until September 30, 2018, for program direction: *Provided further*, That of the unobligated balances from prior year appropriations available under this heading that were apportioned in Category C (defined in section 120

of Office of Management and Budget Circular No. A–11), $307,000 is hereby rescinded: *Provided further*, That no amounts may be rescinded from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

FEDERAL SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary for Federal Salaries and Expenses in the National Nuclear Security Administration, $390,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, including official reception and representation expenses not to exceed $12,000.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND OTHER DEFENSE ACTIVITIES

DEFENSE ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANUP

For Department of Energy expenses, including the purchase, construction, and acquisition of plant and capital equipment and other expenses necessary for atomic energy defense environmental cleanup activities in carrying out the purposes of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.), including the acquisition or condemnation of any real property or any facility or for plant or facility acquisition, construction, or expansion, and the purchase of not to exceed one fire apparatus pumper truck, one aerial lift truck, one refuse truck, and one semi-truck for replacement only, $5,405,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of such amount, $290,050,000 shall be available until September 30, 2018, for program direction: *Provided further*, That of the amount provided under this heading, $26,800,000 shall be available for the purpose of a payment by the Secretary of Energy to the State of New Mexico for road improvements in accordance with section 15(b) of the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Land Withdrawal Act (Public Law 102–579): *Provided further*, That the amount made available by the previous proviso shall be separate from any appropriations of funds for the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant.

DEFENSE URANIUM ENRICHMENT DECONTAMINATION AND DECOMMISSIONING

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For an additional amount for atomic energy defense environmental cleanup activities for Department of Energy contributions for uranium enrichment decontamination and decommissioning activities, $563,000,000, to be deposited into the Defense Environmental Cleanup account which shall be transferred to the ''Uranium Enrichment Decontamination and Decommissioning Fund''.

OTHER DEFENSE ACTIVITIES

For Department of Energy expenses, including the purchase, construction, and acquisition of plant and capital equipment and other expenses, necessary for atomic energy defense, other defense activities, and classified activities, in carrying out the purposes of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.), including the acquisition or condemnation of any real property or any facility or for plant or facility acquisition, construction, or expansion, $784,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of such amount, $254,230,000 shall be available until September 30, 2018, for program direction.

POWER MARKETING ADMINISTRATIONS

BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION FUND

Expenditures from the Bonneville Power Administration Fund, established pursuant to Public Law 93–454, are approved for official reception and representation expenses in an amount not to exceed $5,000: *Provided*, That during fiscal year 2017, no new direct loan obligations may be made.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, SOUTHEASTERN POWER ADMINISTRATION

For expenses necessary for operation and maintenance of power transmission facilities and for marketing electric power and energy, including transmission wheeling and ancillary services, pursuant to section 5 of the Flood Control Act of 1944 (16 U.S.C. 825s), as applied to the southeastern power area, $1,000,000, including official reception and representation expenses in an amount not to exceed $1,500, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302 and section 5 of the Flood Control Act of 1944, up to $1,000,000 collected by the Southeastern Power Administration from the sale of power and related services shall be credited to this account as discretionary offsetting collections, to remain available until expended for the sole purpose of funding the annual expenses of the Southeastern Power Administration: *Provided further*, That the sum herein appropriated for annual expenses shall be reduced as collections are received during the fiscal year so as to result in a final fiscal year 2017 appropriation estimated at not more than $0: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302, up to $60,760,000 collected by the Southeastern Power Administration pursuant to the Flood Control Act of 1944 to recover purchase power and wheeling expenses shall be credited to this account as offsetting collections, to remain available until expended for the sole purpose of making purchase power and wheeling expenditures: *Provided further*, That for purposes of this appropriation, annual expenses means expenditures that are generally recovered in the same year that they are incurred (excluding purchase power and wheeling expenses).

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, SOUTHWESTERN POWER ADMINISTRATION

For expenses necessary for operation and maintenance of power transmission facilities and for marketing electric power and energy, for construction and acquisition of transmission lines, substations and appurtenant facilities, and for administrative expenses, including official reception and representation expenses in an amount not to exceed $1,500 in carrying out section 5 of the Flood Control Act of 1944 (16 U.S.C. 825s), as applied to the Southwestern Power Administration, $45,643,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302 and section 5 of the Flood Control Act of 1944 (16 U.S.C. 825s), up to $34,586,000 collected by the Southwestern Power Administration from the sale of power and related services shall be credited to this account as discretionary offsetting collections, to remain available until expended, for the sole purpose of funding the annual expenses of the Southwestern Power Administration: *Provided further*, That the sum herein appropriated for annual expenses shall be reduced as collections are received during the fiscal year so as to result in a final fiscal year 2017 appropriation estimated at not more than $11,057,000: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302, up to $73,000,000 collected by the Southwestern Power Administration pursuant to the Flood Control Act of 1944 to recover purchase power and wheeling expenses shall be credited to this account as offsetting collections, to remain available until expended for the sole purpose of making purchase power and wheeling expenditures: *Provided further*, That for purposes of this appropriation, annual expenses means expenditures that are generally recovered in the same year that they are incurred (excluding purchase power and wheeling expenses).

CONSTRUCTION, REHABILITATION, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, WESTERN AREA POWER ADMINISTRATION

For carrying out the functions authorized by title III, section 302(a)(1)(E) of the Act of August 4, 1977 (42 U.S.C. 7152), and other related activities including conservation and renewable resources programs as authorized, $273,144,000, including official reception and representation expenses in an amount not to exceed $1,500, to remain available until expended, of which $265,742,000 shall be derived from the Department of the Interior Reclamation Fund: *Provided*, That notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302, section 5 of the Flood Control Act of 1944 (16 U.S.C. 825s), and section 1 of the Interior Department Appropriation Act, 1939 (43 U.S.C. 392a), up to $177,563,000 collected by the Western Area Power Administration from the sale of power and related services shall be credited to this account as discretionary offsetting collections, to remain available until expended, for the sole purpose of funding the annual expenses of the Western Area Power Administration: *Provided further*, That the sum herein appropriated for annual expenses shall be reduced as collections are received during the fiscal year so as to result in a final fiscal year 2017 appropriation estimated at not more than $95,581,000, of which $88,179,000 is derived from the Reclamation Fund: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302, up to $367,009,000 collected by the Western Area Power Administration pursuant to the Flood Control Act of 1944 and the Reclamation Project Act of 1939 to recover purchase power and wheeling expenses shall be credited to this account as offsetting collections, to remain available until expended for the sole purpose of making purchase power and wheeling expenditures: *Provided further*, That for purposes of this appropriation, annual expenses means expenditures that are generally recovered in the same year that they are incurred (excluding purchase power and wheeling expenses).

FALCON AND AMISTAD OPERATING AND MAINTENANCE FUND

For operation, maintenance, and emergency costs for the hydroelectric facilities at the Falcon and Amistad Dams, $4,070,000, to remain available until expended, and to be derived from the Falcon and Amistad Operating and Maintenance Fund of the Western Area Power Administration, as provided in section 2 of the Act of June 18, 1954 (68 Stat. 255): *Provided*, That notwithstanding the provisions of that Act and of 31 U.S.C. 3302, up to $3,838,000 collected by the Western Area Power Administration from the sale of power and related services from the Falcon and Amistad Dams shall be credited to this account as discretionary offsetting collections, to remain available until expended for the sole purpose of funding the annual expenses of the hydroelectric facilities of these Dams and associated Western Area Power Administration activities: *Provided further*, That the sum herein appropriated for annual expenses shall be reduced as collections are received during the fiscal year so as to result in a final fiscal year 2017 appropriation estimated at not more than $232,000: *Provided further*, That for purposes of this appropriation, annual expenses means expenditures that are generally recovered in the same year that they are incurred: *Provided further*, That for

fiscal year 2017, the Administrator of the Western Area Power Administration may accept up to $323,000 in funds contributed by United States power customers of the Falcon and Amistad Dams for deposit into the Falcon and Amistad Operating and Maintenance Fund, and such funds shall be available for the purpose for which contributed in like manner as if said sums had been specifically appropriated for such purpose: *Provided further*, That any such funds shall be available without further appropriation and without fiscal year limitation for use by the Commissioner of the United States Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission for the sole purpose of operating, maintaining, repairing, rehabilitating, replacing, or upgrading the hydroelectric facilities at these Dams in accordance with agreements reached between the Administrator, Commissioner, and the power customers.

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary for the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to carry out the provisions of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.), including services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, official reception and representation expenses not to exceed $3,000, and the hire of passenger motor vehicles, $346,800,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, not to exceed $346,800,000 of revenues from fees and annual charges, and other services and collections in fiscal year 2017 shall be retained and used for expenses necessary in this account, and shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That the sum herein appropriated from the general fund shall be reduced as revenues are received during fiscal year 2017 so as to result in a final fiscal year 2017 appropriation from the general fund estimated at not more than $0.

GENERAL PROVISIONS—DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

(INCLUDING TRANSFER AND RESCISSIONS OF FUNDS)

SEC. 301. (a) No appropriation, funds, or authority made available by this title for the Department of Energy shall be used to initiate or resume any program, project, or activity or to prepare or initiate Requests For Proposals or similar arrangements (including Requests for Quotations, Requests for Information, and Funding Opportunity Announcements) for a program, project, or activity if the program, project, or activity has not been funded by Congress.

(b)(1) Unless the Secretary of Energy notifies the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress at least 3 full business days in advance, none of the funds made available in this title may be used to—

(A) make a grant allocation or discretionary grant award totaling $1,000,000 or more;

(B) make a discretionary contract award or Other Transaction Agreement totaling $1,000,000 or more, including a contract covered by the Federal Acquisition Regulation;

(C) issue a letter of intent to make an allocation, award, or Agreement in excess of the limits in subparagraph (A) or (B); or

(D) announce publicly the intention to make an allocation, award, or Agreement in excess of the limits in subparagraph (A) or (B).

(2) The Secretary of Energy shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress within 15 days of the conclusion of each quarter a report detailing each grant allocation or discretionary grant award totaling less than $1,000,000 provided during the previous quarter.

(3) The notification required by paragraph (1) and the report required by paragraph (2) shall include the recipient of the award, the amount of the award, the fiscal year for which the funds for the award were appropriated, the account and program, project, or activity from which the funds are being drawn, the title of the award, and a brief description of the activity for which the award is made.

(c) The Department of Energy may not, with respect to any program, project, or activity that uses budget authority made available in this title under the heading ''Department of Energy—Energy Programs'', enter into a multiyear contract, award a multiyear grant, or enter into a multiyear cooperative agreement unless—

(1) the contract, grant, or cooperative agreement is funded for the full period of performance as anticipated at the time of award; or

(2) the contract, grant, or cooperative agreement includes a clause conditioning the Federal Government's obligation on the availability of future year budget authority and the Secretary notifies the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress at least 3 days in advance.

(d) Except as provided in subsections (e), (f), and (g), the amounts made available by this title shall be expended as authorized by law for the programs, projects, and activities specified in the ''Final Bill'' column in the ''Department of Energy'' table included under the heading ''Title III—Department of Energy'' in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act).

(e) The amounts made available by this title may be reprogrammed for any program, project, or activity, and the Department shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress at least 30 days prior to the use of any proposed reprogramming that would cause any program, project, or activity funding level to increase or decrease by more than $5,000,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less, during the time period covered by this Act.

(f) None of the funds provided in this title shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a reprogramming of funds that—

(1) creates, initiates, or eliminates a program, project, or activity;

(2) increases funds or personnel for any program, project, or activity for which funds are denied or restricted by this Act; or

(3) reduces funds that are directed to be used for a specific program, project, or activity by this Act.

(g)(1) The Secretary of Energy may waive any requirement or restriction in this section that applies to the use of funds made available for the Department of Energy if compliance with such requirement or restriction would pose a substantial risk to human health, the environment, welfare, or national security.

(2) The Secretary of Energy shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress of any waiver under paragraph (1) as soon as practicable, but not later than 3 days after the date of the activity to which a requirement or restriction would otherwise have applied. Such notice shall include an explanation of the substantial risk under paragraph (1) that permitted such waiver.

(h) The unexpended balances of prior appropriations provided for activities in this Act may be available to the same appropriation accounts for such activities established pursuant to this title. Available balances may be merged with funds in the applicable established accounts and thereafter may be accounted for as one fund for the same time period as originally enacted.

SEC. 302. Funds appropriated by this or any other Act, or made available by the transfer of funds in this Act, for intelligence activities are deemed to be specifically authorized by the Congress for purposes of section 504 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3094) during fiscal year 2017 until the enactment of the Intelligence Authorization Act for fiscal year 2017.

SEC. 303. None of the funds made available in this title shall be used for the construction of facilities classified as high-hazard nuclear facilities under 10 CFR Part 830 unless independent oversight is conducted by the Office of Enterprise Assessments to ensure the project is in compliance with nuclear safety requirements.

SEC. 304. None of the funds made available in this title may be used to approve critical decision-2 or critical decision-3 under Department of Energy Order 413.3B, or any successive departmental guidance, for construction projects where the total project cost exceeds $100,000,000, until a separate independent cost estimate has been developed for the project for that critical decision.

SEC. 305. (a) None of the funds made available in this or any prior Act under the heading ''Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation'' may be made available to enter into new contracts with, or new agreements for Federal assistance to, the Russian Federation.

(b) The Secretary of Energy may waive the prohibition in subsection (a) if the Secretary determines that such activity is in the national security interests of the United States. This waiver authority may not be delegated.

(c) A waiver under subsection (b) shall not be effective until 15 days after the date on which the Secretary submits to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress, in classified form if necessary, a report on the justification for the waiver.

SEC. 306. (a) NEW REGIONAL RESERVES.—The Secretary of Energy may not establish any new regional petroleum product reserve unless funding for the proposed regional petroleum product reserve is explicitly requested in advance in an annual budget submission and approved by the Congress in an appropriations Act.

(b) The budget request or notification shall include—

(1) the justification for the new reserve;

(2) a cost estimate for the establishment, operation, and maintenance of the reserve, including funding sources;

(3) a detailed plan for operation of the reserve, including the conditions upon which the products may be released;

(4) the location of the reserve; and

(5) the estimate of the total inventory of the reserve.

SEC. 307. (a) Of the unobligated balances available from amounts appropriated in the accounts and from the fiscal years specified in the ''Final Bill'' column in the ''Department of Energy—Sec. 307.'' table included under the heading ''Title III—Department of Energy'' in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), $94,803,000 is hereby rescinded.

(b) No amounts may be rescinded under subsection (a) from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SEC. 308. (a) From unobligated balances available from amounts appropriated in prior fiscal years for ''Department of Energy—Energy Programs—Fossil Energy Research and Development'', $240,000,000 is hereby rescinded.

(b) No amounts may be rescinded by this section from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SEC. 309. Not to exceed $2,000,000, in aggregate, of the amounts made available by this title may be made available for project engineering and design of the Consolidated Emergency Operations Center.

TITLE IV

INDEPENDENT AGENCIES

APPALACHIAN REGIONAL COMMISSION

For expenses necessary to carry out the programs authorized by the Appalachian Regional Development Act of 1965, and for expenses necessary for the Federal Co-Chairman and the Alternate on the Appalachian Regional Commission, for payment of the Federal share of the administrative expenses of the Commission, including services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, and hire of passenger motor vehicles, $152,000,000, to remain available until expended.

DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary for the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board in carrying out activities authorized by the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended by Public Law 100–456, section 1441, $30,872,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018.

DELTA REGIONAL AUTHORITY

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary for the Delta Regional Authority and to carry out its activities, as authorized by the Delta Regional Authority Act of 2000, notwithstanding sections 382C(b)(2), 382F(d), 382M, and 382N of said Act, $25,000,000, to remain available until expended.

DENALI COMMISSION

For expenses necessary for the Denali Commission including the purchase, construction, and acquisition of plant and capital equipment as necessary and other expenses, $15,000,000, to remain available until expended, notwithstanding the limitations contained in section 306(g) of the Denali Commission Act of 1998: *Provided*, That funds shall be available for construction projects in an amount not to exceed 80 percent of total project cost for distressed communities, as defined by section 307 of the Denali Commission Act of 1998 (division C, title III, Public Law 105–277), as amended by section 701 of appendix D, title VII, Public Law 106–113 (113 Stat. 1501A–280), and an amount not to exceed 50 percent for non-distressed communities: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law regarding payment of a non-Federal share in connection with a grant-in-aid program, amounts under this heading shall be available for the payment of such a non-Federal share for programs undertaken to carry out the purposes of the Commission.

NORTHERN BORDER REGIONAL COMMISSION

For expenses necessary for the Northern Border Regional Commission in carrying out activities authorized by subtitle V of title 40, United States Code, $10,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such amounts shall be available for administrative expenses, notwithstanding section 15751(b) of title 40, United States Code.

SOUTHEAST CRESCENT REGIONAL COMMISSION

For expenses necessary for the Southeast Crescent Regional Commission in carrying out activities authorized by subtitle V of title 40, United States Code, $250,000, to remain available until expended.

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary for the Commission in carrying out the purposes of the Energy Reorganization Act of 1974 and the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, $905,000,000, including official representation expenses not to exceed $25,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of the amount appropriated herein, not more than $7,500,000 may be made available for salaries, travel, and other support costs for the Office of the Commission, to remain available until September 30, 2018, of which, notwithstanding section 201(a)(2)(c) of the Energy Reorganization Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5841(a)(2)(c)), the use and expenditure shall only be approved by a majority vote of the Commission: *Provided further*, That revenues from licensing fees, inspection services, and other services and collections estimated at $794,580,000 in fiscal year 2017 shall be retained and used for necessary salaries and expenses in this account, notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302, and shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That of the amounts appropriated under this heading, not less than $5,000,000 shall be for activities related to the development of regulatory infrastructure for advanced nuclear reactor technologies, and $5,000,000 of that amount shall not be available from fee revenues, notwithstanding 42 U.S.C. 2214: *Provided further*, That the sum herein appropriated shall be reduced by the amount of revenues received during fiscal year 2017 so as to result in a final fiscal year 2017 appropriation estimated at not more than $110,420,000: *Provided further*, That of the amounts appropriated under this heading, $10,000,000 shall be for university research and development in areas relevant to the Commission's mission, and $5,000,000 shall be for a Nuclear Science and Engineering Grant Program that will support multiyear projects that do not align with programmatic missions but are critical to maintaining the discipline of nuclear science and engineering.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For expenses necessary for the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978, $12,129,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That revenues from licensing fees, inspection services, and other services and collections estimated at $10,044,000 in fiscal year 2017 shall be retained and be available until September 30, 2018, for necessary salaries and expenses in this account, notwithstanding section 3302 of title 31, United States Code: *Provided further*, That the sum herein appropriated shall be reduced by the amount of revenues received during fiscal year 2017 so as to result in a final fiscal year 2017 appropriation estimated at not more than $2,085,000: *Provided further*, That of the amounts appropriated under this heading, $969,000 shall be for Inspector General services for the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board, which shall not be available from fee revenues.

NUCLEAR WASTE TECHNICAL REVIEW BOARD

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary for the Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board, as authorized by Public Law 100–203, section 5051, $3,600,000, to be derived from the Nuclear Waste Fund, to remain available until September 30, 2018.

GENERAL PROVISIONS—INDEPENDENT AGENCIES

SEC. 401. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission shall comply with the July 5, 2011, version of Chapter VI of its Internal Commission Procedures when responding to Congressional requests for information.

SEC. 402. (a) The amounts made available by this title for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission may be reprogrammed for any program, project, or activity, and the Commission shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress at least 30 days prior to the use of any proposed reprogramming that would cause any program funding level to increase or decrease by more than $500,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less, during the time period covered by this Act.

(b)(1) The Nuclear Regulatory Commission may waive the notification requirement in subsection (a) if compliance with such requirement would pose a substantial risk to human health, the environment, welfare, or national security.

(2) The Nuclear Regulatory Commission shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress of any waiver under paragraph (1) as soon as practicable, but not later than 3 days after the date of the activity to which a requirement or restriction would otherwise have applied. Such notice shall include an explanation of the substantial risk under paragraph (1) that permitted such waiver and shall provide a detailed report to the Committees of such waiver and changes to funding levels to programs, projects, or activities.

(c) Except as provided in subsections (a), (b), and (d), the amounts made available by this title for ''Nuclear Regulatory Commission—Salaries and Expenses'' shall be expended as directed in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act).

(d) None of the funds provided for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a reprogramming of funds that increases funds or personnel for any program, project, or activity for which funds are denied or restricted by this Act.

(e) The Commission shall provide a monthly report to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress, which includes the following for each program, project, or activity, including any prior year appropriations—

(1) total budget authority;

(2) total unobligated balances; and

(3) total unliquidated obligations.

TITLE V

GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 501. None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be used in any way, directly or indirectly, to influence congressional action on any legislation or appropriation matters pending before Congress, other than to communicate to Members of Congress as described in 18 U.S.C. 1913.

SEC. 502. (a) None of the funds made available in title III of this Act may be transferred to any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government,

except pursuant to a transfer made by or transfer authority provided in this Act or any other appropriations Act for any fiscal year, transfer authority referenced in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), or any authority whereby a department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government may provide goods or services to another department, agency, or instrumentality.

(b) None of the funds made available for any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government may be transferred to accounts funded in title III of this Act, except pursuant to a transfer made by or transfer authority provided in this Act or any other appropriations Act for any fiscal year, transfer authority referenced in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), or any authority whereby a department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government may provide goods or services to another department, agency, or instrumentality.

(c) The head of any relevant department or agency funded in this Act utilizing any transfer authority shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress a semiannual report detailing the transfer authorities, except for any authority whereby a department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government may provide goods or services to another department, agency, or instrumentality, used in the previous 6 months and in the year-to-date. This report shall include the amounts transferred and the purposes for which they were transferred, and shall not replace or modify existing notification requirements for each authority.

SEC. 503. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used in contravention of Executive Order No. 12898 of February 11, 1994 (Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations).

SEC. 504. (a) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to maintain or establish a computer network unless such network blocks the viewing, downloading, and exchanging of pornography.

(b) Nothing in subsection (a) shall limit the use of funds necessary for any Federal, State, tribal, or local law enforcement agency or any other entity carrying out criminal investigations, prosecution, or adjudication activities.

This division may be cited as the ''Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017''.

DIVISION E—FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

TITLE I

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

DEPARTMENTAL OFFICES

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Departmental Offices including operation and maintenance of the Treasury Building and Freedman's Bank Building; hire of passenger motor vehicles; maintenance, repairs, and improvements of, and purchase of commercial insurance policies for, real properties leased or owned overseas, when necessary for the performance of official business; executive direction program activities; international affairs and economic policy activities; domestic finance and tax policy activities, including technical assistance to Puerto Rico; and Treasury-wide management policies and programs activities, $224,376,000: *Provided*, That of the amount appropriated under this heading—

(1) not to exceed $350,000 is for official reception and representation expenses;

(2) not to exceed $258,000 is for unforeseen emergencies of a confidential nature to be allocated and expended under the direction of the Secretary of the Treasury and to be accounted for solely on the Secretary's certificate; and

(3) not to exceed $24,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2018, for—

(A) the Treasury-wide Financial Statement Audit and Internal Control Program;

(B) information technology modernization requirements;

(C) the audit, oversight, and administration of the Gulf Coast Restoration Trust Fund;

(D) the development and implementation of programs within the Office of Critical Infrastructure Protection and Compliance Policy, including entering into cooperative agreements; and

(E) international operations.

OFFICE OF TERRORISM AND FINANCIAL INTELLIGENCE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For the necessary expenses of the Office of Terrorism and Financial Intelligence to safeguard the financial system against illicit use and to combat rogue nations, terrorist facilitators, weapons of mass destruction proliferators, money launderers, drug kingpins, and other national security threats, $123,000,000: *Provided*, That of the amount appropriated under this heading: (1) up to $28,000,000 may be transferred to the Departmental Offices Salaries and Expenses appropriation and shall be available for administrative support to the Office of Terrorism and Financial Intelligence; and (2) $5,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018.

CYBERSECURITY ENHANCEMENT ACCOUNT

For salaries and expenses for enhanced cybersecurity for systems operated by the Department of the Treasury, $47,743,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That such funds shall supplement and not supplant any other amounts made available to the Treasury offices and bureaus for cybersecurity: *Provided further*, That the Chief Information Officer of the individual offices and bureaus shall submit a spend plan for each investment to the Treasury Chief Information Officer for approval: *Provided further*, That the submitted spend plan shall be reviewed and approved by the Treasury Chief Information Officer prior to the obligation of funds under this heading: *Provided further*, That of the total amount made available under this heading $1,000,000 shall be available for administrative expenses for the Treasury Chief Information Officer to provide oversight of the investments made under this heading: *Provided further*, That such funds shall supplement and not supplant any other amounts made available to the Treasury Chief Information Officer.

DEPARTMENT-WIDE SYSTEMS AND CAPITAL INVESTMENTS PROGRAMS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For development and acquisition of automatic data processing equipment, software, and services and for repairs and renovations to buildings owned by the Department of the Treasury, $3,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That these funds shall be transferred to accounts and in amounts as necessary to satisfy the requirements of the Department's offices, bureaus, and other organizations: *Provided further*, That this transfer authority shall be in addition to any other transfer authority provided in this Act: *Provided further*, That none of the funds appropriated under this heading shall be used to support or supplement ''Internal Revenue Service, Operations Support'' or ''Internal Revenue Service, Business Systems Modernization''.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978, $37,044,000, including hire of passenger motor vehicles; of which not to exceed $100,000 shall be available for unforeseen emergencies of a confidential nature, to be allocated and expended under the direction of the Inspector General of the Treasury; of which up to $2,800,000 to remain available until September 30, 2018, shall be for audits and investigations conducted pursuant to section 1608 of the Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities, and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast States Act of 2012 (33 U.S.C. 1321 note); and of which not to exceed $1,000 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses.

TREASURY INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR TAX ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration in carrying out the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, including purchase and hire of passenger motor vehicles (31 U.S.C. 1343(b)); and services authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, at such rates as may be determined by the Inspector General for Tax Administration; $169,634,000, of which $5,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2018; of which not to exceed $6,000,000 shall be available for official travel expenses; of which not to exceed $500,000 shall be available for unforeseen emergencies of a confidential nature, to be allocated and expended under the direction of the Inspector General for Tax Administration; and of which not to exceed $1,500 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses.

SPECIAL INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR THE TROUBLED ASSET RELIEF PROGRAM

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Special Inspector General in carrying out the provisions of the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–343), $41,160,000.

FINANCIAL CRIMES ENFORCEMENT NETWORK

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, including hire of passenger motor vehicles; travel and training expenses of non-Federal and foreign government personnel to attend meetings and training concerned with domestic and foreign financial intelligence activities, law enforcement, and financial regulation; services authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109; not to exceed $10,000 for official reception and representation expenses; and for assistance to Federal law enforcement agencies, with or without reimbursement, $115,003,000, of which not to exceed $34,335,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2019.

TREASURY FORFEITURE FUND

(RESCISSION)

Of the unobligated balances available under this heading, $1,115,000,000 are hereby rescinded not later than September 30, 2017,

of which $314,000,000 are permanently rescinded.

BUREAU OF THE FISCAL SERVICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of operations of the Bureau of the Fiscal Service, $353,057,000; of which not to exceed $4,210,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019, is for information systems modernization initiatives; and of which $5,000 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses.

In addition, $165,000, to be derived from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund to reimburse administrative and personnel expenses for financial management of the Fund, as authorized by section 1012 of Public Law 101–380.

ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO TAX AND TRADE BUREAU

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of carrying out section 1111 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, including hire of passenger motor vehicles, $111,439,000; of which not to exceed $6,000 for official reception and representation expenses; not to exceed $50,000 for cooperative research and development programs for laboratory services; and provision of laboratory assistance to State and local agencies with or without reimbursement: *Provided*, That of the amount appropriated under this heading, $5,000,000 shall be for the costs of accelerating the processing of formula and label applications: *Provided further*, That of the amount appropriated under this heading, $5,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, shall be for the costs associated with enforcement of the trade practice provisions of the Federal Alcohol Administration Act (27 U.S.C. 201 et seq.).

UNITED STATES MINT

UNITED STATES MINT PUBLIC ENTERPRISE FUND

Pursuant to section 5136 of title 31, United States Code, the United States Mint is provided funding through the United States Mint Public Enterprise Fund for costs associated with the production of circulating coins, numismatic coins, and protective services, including both operating expenses and capital investments: *Provided*, That the aggregate amount of new liabilities and obligations incurred during fiscal year 2017 under such section 5136 for circulating coinage and protective service capital investments of the United States Mint shall not exceed $30,000,000.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS FUND PROGRAM ACCOUNT

To carry out the Riegle Community Development and Regulatory Improvement Act of 1994 (subtitle A of title I of Public Law 103–325), including services authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, but at rates for individuals not to exceed the per diem rate equivalent to the rate for EX–3, $248,000,000. Of the amount appropriated under this heading—

(1) not less than $161,500,000, notwithstanding section 108(e) of Public Law 103–325 (12 U.S.C. 4707(e)) with regard to Small and/or Emerging Community Development Financial Institutions Assistance awards, is available until September 30, 2018, for financial assistance and technical assistance under subparagraphs (A) and (B) of section 108(a)(1), respectively, of Public Law 103–325 (12 U.S.C. 4707(a)(1)(A) and (B)), of which up to $2,882,500 may be used for the cost of direct loans, and of which up to $3,000,000, notwithstanding subsection (d) of section 108 of Public Law 103–325 (12 U.S.C. 4707(d)), may be available to provide financial assistance, technical assistance, training, and outreach to community development financial institutions to expand investments that benefit individuals with disabilities: *Provided,* That the cost of direct and guaranteed loans, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: *Provided further,* That these funds are available to subsidize gross obligations for the principal amount of direct loans not to exceed $25,000,000;

(2) not less than $15,500,000, notwithstanding section 108(e) of Public Law 103–325 (12 U.S.C. 4707(e)), is available until September 30, 2018, for financial assistance, technical assistance, training and outreach programs designed to benefit Native American, Native Hawaiian, and Alaska Native communities and provided primarily through qualified community development lender organizations with experience and expertise in community development banking and lending in Indian country, Native American organizations, tribes and tribal organizations, and other suitable providers;

(3) not less than $23,000,000 is available until September 30, 2018, for the Bank Enterprise Award program;

(4) not less than $22,000,000, notwithstanding subsections (d) and (e) of section 108 of Public Law 103–325 (12 U.S.C. 4707(d) and (e)), is available until September 30, 2018, for a Healthy Food Financing Initiative to provide financial assistance, technical assistance, training, and outreach to community development financial institutions for the purpose of offering affordable financing and technical assistance to expand the availability of healthy food options in distressed communities;

(5) up to $26,000,000 is available until September 30, 2017, for administrative expenses, including administration of CDFI fund programs and the New Markets Tax Credit Program, of which not less than $1,000,000 is for development of tools to better assess and inform CDFI investment performance, and up to $300,000 is for administrative expenses to carry out the direct loan program; and

(6) during fiscal year 2017, none of the funds available under this heading are available for the cost, as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, of commitments to guarantee bonds and notes under section 114A of the Riegle Community Development and Regulatory Improvement Act of 1994 (12 U.S.C. 4713a): *Provided*, That commitments to guarantee bonds and notes under such section 114A shall not exceed $500,000,000: *Provided further*, That such section 114A shall remain in effect until September 30, 2017: *Provided further*, That of the funds awarded under this heading, not less than 10 percent shall be used for awards that support investments that serve populations living in persistent poverty counties: *Provided further*, That for purposes of this section, the term ''persistent poverty counties'' means any county that has had 20 percent or more of its population living in poverty over the past 30 years, as measured by the 1990 and 2000 decennial censuses and the most recent series of 5-year data available from the American Community Survey from the Census Bureau.

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

TAXPAYER SERVICES

For necessary expenses of the Internal Revenue Service to provide taxpayer services, including pre-filing assistance and education, filing and account services, taxpayer advocacy services, and other services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, at such rates as may be determined by the Commissioner, $2,156,554,000, of which not less than $8,890,000 shall be for the Tax Counseling for the Elderly Program, of which not less than $12,000,000 shall be available for low-income taxpayer clinic grants, and of which not less than $15,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, shall be available for a Community Volunteer Income Tax Assistance matching grants program for tax return preparation assistance, of which not less than $206,000,000 shall be available for operating expenses of the Taxpayer Advocate Service: *Provided*, That of the amounts made available for the Taxpayer Advocate Service, not less than $5,000,000 shall be for identity theft casework.

ENFORCEMENT

For necessary expenses for tax enforcement activities of the Internal Revenue Service to determine and collect owed taxes, to provide legal and litigation support, to conduct criminal investigations, to enforce criminal statutes related to violations of internal revenue laws and other financial crimes, to purchase and hire passenger motor vehicles (31 U.S.C. 1343(b)), and to provide other services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, at such rates as may be determined by the Commissioner, $4,860,000,000, of which not to exceed $50,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2018, and of which not less than $60,257,000 shall be for the Interagency Crime and Drug Enforcement program.

OPERATIONS SUPPORT

For necessary expenses of the Internal Revenue Service to support taxpayer services and enforcement programs, including rent payments; facilities services; printing; postage; physical security; headquarters and other IRS-wide administration activities; research and statistics of income; telecommunications; information technology development, enhancement, operations, maintenance, and security; the hire of passenger motor vehicles (31 U.S.C. 1343(b)); the operations of the Internal Revenue Service Oversight Board; and other services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, at such rates as may be determined by the Commissioner; $3,638,446,000, of which not to exceed $50,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2018; of which not to exceed $10,000,000 shall remain available until expended for acquisition of equipment and construction, repair and renovation of facilities; of which not to exceed $1,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2019, for research; of which not to exceed $20,000 shall be for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided*, That not later than 30 days after the end of each quarter, the Internal Revenue Service shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate and the Comptroller General of the United States detailing the cost and schedule performance for its major information technology investments, including the purpose and life-cycle stages of the investments; the reasons for any cost and schedule variances; the risks of such investments and strategies the Internal Revenue Service is using to mitigate such risks; and the expected developmental milestones to be achieved and costs to be incurred in the next quarter: *Provided further*, That the Internal Revenue Service shall include, in its budget justification for fiscal year 2018, a summary of cost and schedule performance information for its major information technology systems.

BUSINESS SYSTEMS MODERNIZATION

For necessary expenses of the Internal Revenue Service's business systems modernization program, $290,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019, for the capital asset acquisition of information technology systems, including management and related contractual costs of said acquisitions, including related Internal Revenue Service labor costs, and contractual costs associated with operations authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109: *Provided*, That not later than 30 days after the end of each quarter, the Internal Revenue Service shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate and the Comptroller General of the United States detailing the cost and schedule performance for CADE 2 and Modernized e-File information technology investments, including the purposes and life-cycle stages of the investments; the reasons for any cost and schedule variances; the risks of such investments and the strategies the Internal Revenue Service is using to mitigate such risks; and the expected developmental milestones to be achieved and costs to be incurred in the next quarter.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

SEC. 101. Not to exceed 5 percent of any appropriation made available in this Act to the Internal Revenue Service may be transferred to any other Internal Revenue Service appropriation upon the advance approval of the Committees on Appropriations.

SEC. 102. The Internal Revenue Service shall maintain an employee training program, which shall include the following topics: taxpayers' rights, dealing courteously with taxpayers, cross-cultural relations, ethics, and the impartial application of tax law.

SEC. 103. The Internal Revenue Service shall institute and enforce policies and procedures that will safeguard the confidentiality of taxpayer information and protect taxpayers against identity theft.

SEC. 104. Funds made available by this or any other Act to the Internal Revenue Service shall be available for improved facilities and increased staffing to provide sufficient and effective 1–800 help line service for taxpayers. The Commissioner shall continue to make improvements to the Internal Revenue Service 1–800 help line service a priority and allocate resources necessary to enhance the response time to taxpayer communications, particularly with regard to victims of tax-related crimes.

SEC. 105. None of the funds made available to the Internal Revenue Service by this Act may be used to make a video unless the Service-Wide Video Editorial Board determines in advance that making the video is appropriate, taking into account the cost, topic, tone, and purpose of the video.

SEC. 106. The Internal Revenue Service shall issue a notice of confirmation of any address change relating to an employer making employment tax payments, and such notice shall be sent to both the employer's former and new address and an officer or employee of the Internal Revenue Service shall give special consideration to an offer-in-compromise from a taxpayer who has been the victim of fraud by a third party payroll tax preparer.

SEC. 107. None of the funds made available under this Act may be used by the Internal Revenue Service to target citizens of the United States for exercising any right guaranteed under the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

SEC. 108. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used by the Internal Revenue Service to target groups for regulatory scrutiny based on their ideological beliefs.

SEC. 109. None of funds made available by this Act to the Internal Revenue Service shall be obligated or expended on conferences that do not adhere to the procedures, verification processes, documentation requirements, and policies issued by the Chief Financial Officer, Human Capital Office, and Agency-Wide Shared Services as a result of the recommendations in the report published on May 31, 2013, by the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration entitled ''Review of the August 2010 Small Business/Self-Employed Division's Conference in Anaheim, California'' (Reference Number 2013–10–037).

SEC. 110. None of the funds made available in this Act to the Internal Revenue Service may be obligated or expended—

(1) to make a payment to any employee under a bonus, award, or recognition program; or

(2) under any hiring or personnel selection process with respect to re-hiring a former employee, unless such program or process takes into account the conduct and Federal tax compliance of such employee or former employee.

SEC. 111. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used in contravention of section 6103 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to confidentiality and disclosure of returns and return information).

SEC. 112. Except to the extent provided in section 6014, 6020, or 6201(d) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, no funds in this or any other Act shall be available to the Secretary of the Treasury to provide to any person a proposed final return or statement for use by such person to satisfy a filing or reporting requirement under such Code.

SEC. 113. In addition to the amounts otherwise made available in this Act for the Internal Revenue Service, $290,000,000, to be available until September 30, 2018, shall be transferred by the Commissioner to the ''Taxpayer Services'', ''Enforcement'', or ''Operations Support'' accounts of the Internal Revenue Service for an additional amount to be used solely for measurable improvements in the customer service representative level of service rate, to improve the identification and prevention of refund fraud and identity theft, and to enhance cybersecurity to safeguard taxpayer data: *Provided*, That such funds shall supplement, not supplant any other amounts made available by the Internal Revenue Service for such purpose: *Provided further*, That such funds shall not be available until the Commissioner submits to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a spending plan for such funds: *Provided further*, That such funds shall not be used to support any provision of Public Law 111–148, Public Law 111–152, or any amendment made by either such Public Law.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

SEC. 114. Appropriations to the Department of the Treasury in this Act shall be available for uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by law (5 U.S.C. 5901), including maintenance, repairs, and cleaning; purchase of insurance for official motor vehicles operated in foreign countries; purchase of motor vehicles without regard to the general purchase price limitations for vehicles purchased and used overseas for the current fiscal year; entering into contracts with the Department of State for the furnishing of health and medical services to employees and their dependents serving in foreign countries; and services authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109.

SEC. 115. Not to exceed 2 percent of any appropriations in this title made available under the headings ''Departmental Offices—Salaries and Expenses'', ''Office of Inspector General'', ''Special Inspector General for the Troubled Asset Relief Program'', ''Financial Crimes Enforcement Network'', ''Bureau of the Fiscal Service'', and ''Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau'' may be transferred between such appropriations upon the advance approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate: *Provided*, That no transfer under this section may increase or decrease any such appropriation by more than 2 percent.

SEC. 116. Not to exceed 2 percent of any appropriation made available in this Act to the Internal Revenue Service may be transferred to the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration's appropriation upon the advance approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate: *Provided*, That no transfer may increase or decrease any such appropriation by more than 2 percent.

SEC. 117. None of the funds appropriated in this Act or otherwise available to the Department of the Treasury or the Bureau of Engraving and Printing may be used to redesign the $1 Federal Reserve note.

SEC. 118. The Secretary of the Treasury may transfer funds from the ''Bureau of the Fiscal Service-Salaries and Expenses'' to the Debt Collection Fund as necessary to cover the costs of debt collection: *Provided*, That such amounts shall be reimbursed to such salaries and expenses account from debt collections received in the Debt Collection Fund.

SEC. 119. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act may be used by the United States Mint to construct or operate any museum without the explicit approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, the House Committee on Financial Services, and the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

SEC. 120. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act or source to the Department of the Treasury, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, and the United States Mint, individually or collectively, may be used to consolidate any or all functions of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing and the United States Mint without the explicit approval of the House Committee on Financial Services; the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs; and the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

SEC. 121. Funds appropriated by this Act, or made available by the transfer of funds in this Act, for the Department of the Treasury's intelligence or intelligence related activities are deemed to be specifically authorized by the Congress for purposes of section 504 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 414) during fiscal year 2017 until the enactment of the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017.

SEC. 122. Not to exceed $5,000 shall be made available from the Bureau of Engraving and Printing's Industrial Revolving Fund for necessary official reception and representation expenses.

SEC. 123. The Secretary of the Treasury shall submit a Capital Investment Plan to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives not later than 30 days following the submission of the annual budget submitted by the President: *Provided*, That such Capital Investment Plan shall include capital investment spending from all accounts within the Department of the Treasury, including but not limited to the Department-wide Systems and Capital Investment Programs account, Treasury Franchise Fund account, and the Treasury Forfeiture Fund account: *Provided further*, That such Capital Investment Plan shall include expenditures occurring in previous fiscal years for each capital investment project that has not been fully completed.

SEC. 124. Within 45 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Treasury shall submit an itemized report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate on the amount of total funds charged to each office by the Franchise Fund including the amount charged for each service provided by the Franchise Fund to each office, a detailed description of the services, a detailed explanation of how each charge for each service is calculated, and a description of the role customers have in governing in the Franchise Fund.

SEC. 125. The Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the appropriate agencies, departments, bureaus, and commissions that have expertise in terrorism and complex financial instruments, shall provide a report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate, the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act on economic warfare and financial terrorism.

SEC. 126. During fiscal year 2017—

(1) none of the funds made available in this or any other Act may be used by the Department of the Treasury, including the Internal Revenue Service, to issue, revise, or finalize any regulation, revenue ruling, or other guidance not limited to a particular taxpayer relating to the standard which is used to determine whether an organization is operated exclusively for the promotion of social welfare for purposes of section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (including the proposed regulations published at 78 Fed. Reg. 71535 (November 29, 2013)); and

(2) the standard and definitions as in effect on January 1, 2010, which are used to make such determinations shall apply after the date of the enactment of this Act for purposes of determining status under section 501(c)(4) of such Code of organizations created on, before, or after such date.

SEC. 127. (a) Not later than 60 days after the end of each quarter, the Office of Financial Stability and the Office of Financial Research shall submit reports on their activities to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives and the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

(b) The reports required under subsection (a) shall include—

(1) the obligations made during the previous quarter by object class, office, and activity;

(2) the estimated obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year by object class, office, and activity;

(3) the number of full-time equivalents within each office during the previous quarter;

(4) the estimated number of full-time equivalents within each office for the remainder of the fiscal year; and

(5) actions taken to achieve the goals, objectives, and performance measures of each office.

(c) At the request of any such Committees specified in subsection (a), the Office of Financial Stability and the Office of Financial Research shall make officials available to testify on the contents of the reports required under subsection (a).

This title may be cited as the ''Department of the Treasury Appropriations Act, 2017''.

TITLE II

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT AND FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT

THE WHITE HOUSE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for the White House as authorized by law, including not to exceed $3,850,000 for services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109 and 3 U.S.C. 105; subsistence expenses as authorized by 3 U.S.C. 105, which shall be expended and accounted for as provided in that section; hire of passenger motor vehicles, and travel (not to exceed $100,000 to be expended and accounted for as provided by 3 U.S.C. 103); and not to exceed $19,000 for official reception and representation expenses, to be available for allocation within the Executive Office of the President; and for necessary expenses of the Office of Policy Development, including services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109 and 3 U.S.C. 107, $55,214,000.

EXECUTIVE RESIDENCE AT THE WHITE HOUSE

OPERATING EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Executive Residence at the White House, $12,723,000, to be expended and accounted for as provided by 3 U.S.C. 105, 109, 110, and 112–114.

REIMBURSABLE EXPENSES

For the reimbursable expenses of the Executive Residence at the White House, such sums as may be necessary: *Provided*, That all reimbursable operating expenses of the Executive Residence shall be made in accordance with the provisions of this paragraph: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, such amount for reimbursable operating expenses shall be the exclusive authority of the Executive Residence to incur obligations and to receive offsetting collections, for such expenses: *Provided further*, That the Executive Residence shall require each person sponsoring a reimbursable political event to pay in advance an amount equal to the estimated cost of the event, and all such advance payments shall be credited to this account and remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That the Executive Residence shall require the national committee of the political party of the President to maintain on deposit $25,000, to be separately accounted for and available for expenses relating to reimbursable political events sponsored by such committee during such fiscal year: *Provided further*, That the Executive Residence shall ensure that a written notice of any amount owed for a reimbursable operating expense under this paragraph is submitted to the person owing such amount within 60 days after such expense is incurred, and that such amount is collected within 30 days after the submission of such notice: *Provided further*, That the Executive Residence shall charge interest and assess penalties and other charges on any such amount that is not reimbursed within such 30 days, in accordance with the interest and penalty provisions applicable to an outstanding debt on a United States Government claim under 31 U.S.C. 3717: *Provided further*, That each such amount that is reimbursed, and any accompanying interest and charges, shall be deposited in the Treasury as miscellaneous receipts: *Provided further*, That the Executive Residence shall prepare and submit to the Committees on Appropriations, by not later than 90 days after the end of the fiscal year covered by this Act, a report setting forth the reimbursable operating expenses of the Executive Residence during the preceding fiscal year, including the total amount of such expenses, the amount of such total that consists of reimbursable official and ceremonial events, the amount of such total that consists of reimbursable political events, and the portion of each such amount that has been reimbursed as of the date of the report: *Provided further*, That the Executive Residence shall maintain a system for the tracking of expenses related to reimbursable events within the Executive Residence that includes a standard for the classification of any such expense as political or nonpolitical: *Provided further*, That no provision of this paragraph may be construed to exempt the Executive Residence from any other applicable requirement of subchapter I or II of chapter 37 of title 31, United States Code.

WHITE HOUSE REPAIR AND RESTORATION

For the repair, alteration, and improvement of the Executive Residence at the White House pursuant to 3 U.S.C. 105(d), $750,000, to remain available until expended, for required maintenance, resolution of safety and health issues, and continued preventative maintenance.

COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Council of Economic Advisers in carrying out its functions under the Employment Act of 1946 (15 U.S.C. 1021 et seq.), $4,201,000.

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL AND HOMELAND SECURITY COUNCIL

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the National Security Council and the Homeland Security Council, including services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, $12,000,000.

OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Office of Administration, including services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109 and 3 U.S.C. 107, and hire of passenger motor vehicles, $96,116,000, of which not to exceed $12,760,000 shall remain available until expended for continued modernization of information resources within the Executive Office of the President: *Provided*, That in addition, $4,925,000, shall remain available until September 30, 2018, for additional security improvements.

PRESIDENTIAL TRANSITION ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For expenses of the Office of Administration to carry out the Presidential Transition Act of 1963, as amended, and similar expenses, in addition to amounts otherwise appropriated by law, $7,582,000: *Provided*, That such funds may be transferred to other accounts that provide funding for offices within the Executive Office of the President and the Office of the Vice President in this Act or any other Act, to carry out such purposes.

OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Office of Management and Budget, including hire of passenger motor vehicles and services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, to carry out the provisions of chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code, and to prepare and submit the budget of the United States Government, in accordance with section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code, $95,000,000, of which not to exceed $3,000 shall be available for official representation expenses: *Provided*, That none of the funds appropriated in this Act for the Office of Management and Budget may be used for the purpose of reviewing any agricultural marketing orders or any activities or regulations under the provisions of the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937 (7 U.S.C. 601 et seq.): *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available for the Office of Management and Budget by this Act may be expended for the altering of the transcript of actual testimony of witnesses, except for testimony of officials of the Office of Management and Budget, before the Committees on Appropriations or their subcommittees: *Provided further*, That of the funds made available for the Office of Management and Budget by this Act, no less than three full-time equivalent senior staff position shall be dedicated solely to the Office of the Intellectual Property Enforcement Coordinator: *Provided further*, That none of the funds provided in this or prior Acts shall be used, directly or indirectly, by the Office of Management and Budget, for evaluating or determining if water resource project or study reports submitted by the Chief of Engineers acting through the Secretary of the Army are in compliance with all applicable laws, regulations, and requirements relevant to the Civil Works water resource planning process: *Provided further*, That the Office of Management and Budget shall have not more than 60 days in which to perform budgetary policy reviews of water resource matters on which the Chief of Engineers has reported: *Provided further*, That the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall notify the appropriate authorizing and appropriating committees when the 60-day review is initiated: *Provided further*, That if water resource reports have not been transmitted to the appropriate authorizing and appropriating committees within 15 days after the end of the Office of Management and Budget review period based on the notification from the Director, Congress shall assume Office of Management and Budget concurrence with the report and act accordingly.

OFFICE OF NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL POLICY

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Office of National Drug Control Policy; for research activities pursuant to the Office of National Drug Control Policy Reauthorization Act of 2006 (Public Law 109–469); not to exceed $10,000 for official reception and representation expenses; and for participation in joint projects or in the provision of services on matters of mutual interest with nonprofit, research, or public organizations or agencies, with or without reimbursement, $19,274,000: *Provided*, That the Office is authorized to accept, hold, administer, and utilize gifts, both real and personal, public and private, without fiscal year limitation, for the purpose of aiding or facilitating the work of the Office.

FEDERAL DRUG CONTROL PROGRAMS

HIGH INTENSITY DRUG TRAFFICKING AREAS PROGRAM

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Office of National Drug Control Policy's High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas Program, $254,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, for drug control activities consistent with the approved strategy for each of the designated High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (''HIDTAs''), of which not less than 51 percent shall be transferred to State and local entities for drug control activities and shall be obligated not later than 120 days after enactment of this Act: *Provided*, That up to 49 percent may be transferred to Federal agencies and departments in amounts determined by the Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy, of which up to $2,700,000 may be used for auditing services and associated activities: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding the requirements of Public Law 106–58, any unexpended funds obligated prior to fiscal year 2015 may be used for any other approved activities of that HIDTA, subject to reprogramming requirements: *Provided further*, That each HIDTA designated as of September 30, 2016, shall be funded at not less than the fiscal year 2016 base level, unless the Director submits to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate justification for changes to those levels based on clearly articulated priorities and published Office of National Drug Control Policy performance measures of effectiveness: *Provided further*, That the Director shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of the initial allocation of fiscal year 2017 funding among HIDTAs not later than 45 days after enactment of this Act, and shall notify the Committees of planned uses of discretionary HIDTA funding, as determined in consultation with the HIDTA Directors, not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act: *Provided further*, That upon a determination that all or part of the funds so transferred from this appropriation are not necessary for the purposes provided herein and upon notification to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, such amounts may be transferred back to this appropriation.

OTHER FEDERAL DRUG CONTROL PROGRAMS

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For other drug control activities authorized by the Office of National Drug Control Policy Reauthorization Act of 2006 (Public Law 109–469), $111,871,000, to remain available until expended, which shall be available as follows: $97,000,000 for the Drug-Free Communities Program, of which $2,000,000 shall be made available as directed by section 4 of Public Law 107–82, as amended by Public Law 109–469 (21 U.S.C. 1521 note); $2,000,000 for drug court training and technical assistance; $9,500,000 for anti-doping activities; $2,121,000 for the United States membership dues to the World Anti-Doping Agency; and $1,250,000 shall be made available as directed by section 1105 of Public Law 109–469; and an additional $3,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for activities authorized by section 103 of Public Law 114–198: *Provided*, That amounts made available under this heading may be transferred to other Federal departments and agencies to carry out such activities.

UNANTICIPATED NEEDS

For expenses necessary to enable the President to meet unanticipated needs, in furtherance of the national interest, security, or defense which may arise at home or abroad during the current fiscal year, as authorized by 3 U.S.C. 108, $800,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY OVERSIGHT AND REFORM

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses for the furtherance of integrated, efficient, secure, and effective uses of information technology in the Federal Government, $27,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the Director of the Office of Management and Budget may transfer these funds to one or more other agencies to carry out projects to meet these purposes.

SPECIAL ASSISTANCE TO THE PRESIDENT

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses to enable the Vice President to provide assistance to the President in connection with specially assigned functions; services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109 and 3 U.S.C. 106, including subsistence expenses as authorized by 3 U.S.C. 106, which shall be expended and accounted for as provided in that section; and hire of passenger motor vehicles, $4,228,000.

OFFICIAL RESIDENCE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT

OPERATING EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the care, operation, refurnishing, improvement, and to the extent not otherwise provided for, heating and lighting, including electric power and fixtures, of the official residence of the Vice President; the hire of passenger motor vehicles; and not to exceed $90,000 pursuant to 3 U.S.C. 106(b)(2), $299,000: *Provided*, That advances, repayments, or transfers from this appropriation may be made to any department or agency for expenses of carrying out such activities.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT AND FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 201. From funds made available in this Act under the headings ''The White House'', ''Executive Residence at the White House'', ''White House Repair and Restoration'', ''Council of Economic Advisers'', ''National Security Council and Homeland Security Council'', ''Office of Administration'', ''Special Assistance to the President'', and ''Official Residence of the Vice President'', the Director of the Office of Management and Budget (or such other officer as the President may designate in writing), may, with advance approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, transfer not to exceed 10 percent of any such appropriation to any other such appropriation, to be merged with and available for the same time and for the same purposes as the appropriation to which transferred: *Provided*, That the amount of an appropriation shall not be increased by more than 50 percent by such transfers: *Provided further*, That no amount shall be transferred from ''Special Assistance to the President'' or ''Official Residence of the Vice President'' without the approval of the Vice President.

SEC. 202. Within 90 days after the date of enactment of this section, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate on the costs of implementing the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (Public Law 111–203). Such report shall include—

(1) the estimated mandatory and discretionary obligations of funds through fiscal year 2019, by Federal agency and by fiscal year, including—

(A) the estimated obligations by cost inputs such as rent, information technology, contracts, and personnel;

(B) the methodology and data sources used to calculate such estimated obligations; and

(C) the specific section of such Act that requires the obligation of funds; and

(2) the estimated receipts through fiscal year 2019 from assessments, user fees, and other fees by the Federal agency making the collections, by fiscal year, including—

(A) the methodology and data sources used to calculate such estimated collections; and

(B) the specific section of such Act that authorizes the collection of funds.

SEC. 203. (a) During fiscal year 2017, any Executive order or Presidential memorandum issued or revoked by the President shall be accompanied by a written statement from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget on the budgetary impact, including costs, benefits, and revenues, of such order or memorandum.

(b) Any such statement shall include—

(1) a narrative summary of the budgetary impact of such order or memorandum on the Federal Government;

(2) the impact on mandatory and discretionary obligations and outlays as the result of such order or memorandum, listed by Federal agency, for each year in the 5-fiscal-year period beginning in fiscal year 2017; and

(3) the impact on revenues of the Federal Government as the result of such order or memorandum over the 5-fiscal-year period beginning in fiscal year 2017.

(c) If an Executive order or Presidential memorandum is issued during fiscal year 2017 due to a national emergency, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget may issue the statement required by subsection (a) not later than 15 days after the date that such order or memorandum is issued.

(d) The requirement for cost estimates for Presidential memoranda shall only apply for Presidential memoranda estimated to have a regulatory cost in excess of $100,000,000.

This title may be cited as the ''Executive Office of the President Appropriations Act, 2017''.

TITLE III

THE JUDICIARY

SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary for the operation of the Supreme Court, as required by law, excluding care of the building and grounds, including hire of passenger motor vehicles as authorized by 31 U.S.C. 1343 and 1344; not to exceed $10,000 for official reception and representation expenses; and for miscellaneous expenses, to be expended as the Chief Justice may approve, $76,668,000, of which $1,500,000 shall remain available until expended.

In addition, there are appropriated such sums as may be necessary under current law for the salaries of the chief justice and associate justices of the court.

CARE OF THE BUILDING AND GROUNDS

For such expenditures as may be necessary to enable the Architect of the Capitol to carry out the duties imposed upon the Architect by 40 U.S.C. 6111 and 6112, $14,868,000, to remain available until expended.

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE FEDERAL CIRCUIT

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For salaries of officers and employees, and for necessary expenses of the court, as authorized by law, $30,108,000.

In addition, there are appropriated such sums as may be necessary under current law for the salaries of the chief judge and judges of the court.

UNITED STATES COURT OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For salaries of officers and employees of the court, services, and necessary expenses of the court, as authorized by law, $18,462,000.

In addition, there are appropriated such sums as may be necessary under current law for the salaries of the chief judge and judges of the court.

COURTS OF APPEALS, DISTRICT COURTS, AND OTHER JUDICIAL SERVICES

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For the salaries of judges of the United States Court of Federal Claims, magistrate judges, and all other officers and employees of the Federal Judiciary not otherwise specifically provided for, necessary expenses of the courts, and the purchase, rental, repair, and cleaning of uniforms for Probation and Pretrial Services Office staff, as authorized by law, $4,996,445,000 (including the purchase of firearms and ammunition); of which not to exceed $27,817,000 shall remain available until expended for space alteration projects and for furniture and furnishings related to new space alteration and construction projects.

In addition, there are appropriated such sums as may be necessary under current law for the salaries of circuit and district judges (including judges of the territorial courts of the United States), bankruptcy judges, and justices and judges retired from office or from regular active service.

In addition, for expenses of the United States Court of Federal Claims associated with processing cases under the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986 (Public Law 99–660), not to exceed $6,510,000, to be appropriated from the Vaccine Injury Compensation Trust Fund.

DEFENDER SERVICES

For the operation of Federal Defender organizations; the compensation and reimbursement of expenses of attorneys appointed to represent persons under 18 U.S.C. 3006A and 3599, and for the compensation and reimbursement of expenses of persons furnishing investigative, expert, and other services for such representations as authorized by law; the compensation (in accordance with the maximums under 18 U.S.C. 3006A) and reimbursement of expenses of attorneys appointed to assist the court in criminal cases where the defendant has waived representation by counsel; the compensation and reimbursement of expenses of attorneys appointed to represent jurors in civil actions for the protection of their employment, as authorized by 28 U.S.C. 1875(d)(1); the compensation and reimbursement of expenses of attorneys appointed under 18 U.S.C. 983(b)(1) in connection with certain judicial civil forfeiture proceedings; the compensation and reimbursement of travel expenses of guardians ad litem appointed under 18 U.S.C. 4100(b); and for necessary training and general administrative expenses, $1,044,647,000 to remain available until expended.

FEES OF JURORS AND COMMISSIONERS

For fees and expenses of jurors as authorized by 28 U.S.C. 1871 and 1876; compensation of jury commissioners as authorized by 28 U.S.C. 1863; and compensation of commissioners appointed in condemnation cases pursuant to rule 71.1(h) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure (28 U.S.C. Appendix Rule 71.1(h)), $39,929,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the compensation of land commissioners shall not exceed the daily equivalent of the highest rate payable under 5 U.S.C. 5332.

COURT SECURITY

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, incident to the provision of protective guard services for United States courthouses and other facilities housing Federal court operations, and the procurement, installation, and maintenance of security systems and equipment for United States courthouses and other facilities housing Federal court operations, including building ingress-egress control, inspection of mail and packages, directed security patrols, perimeter security, basic security services provided by the Federal Protective Service, and other similar activities as authorized by section 1010 of the Judicial Improvement and Access to Justice Act (Public Law 100–702), $565,388,000, of which not to exceed $20,000,000 shall remain available until expended, to be expended directly or transferred to the United States Marshals Service, which shall be responsible for administering the Judicial Facility Security Program consistent with standards or guidelines agreed to by the Director of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts and the Attorney General.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES COURTS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts as authorized by law, including travel as authorized by 31 U.S.C. 1345, hire of a passenger motor vehicle as authorized by 31 U.S.C. 1343(b), advertising and rent in the District of Columbia and elsewhere, $87,500,000, of which not to exceed $8,500 is authorized for official reception and representation expenses.

FEDERAL JUDICIAL CENTER

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Federal Judicial Center, as authorized by Public Law 90–219, $28,335,000; of which $1,800,000 shall remain available through September 30, 2018, to provide education and training to Federal court personnel; and of which not to exceed $1,500 is authorized for official reception and representation expenses.

UNITED STATES SENTENCING COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For the salaries and expenses necessary to carry out the provisions of chapter 58 of title 28, United States Code, $18,100,000, of which not to exceed $1,000 is authorized for official reception and representation expenses.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—THE JUDICIARY

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 301. Appropriations and authorizations made in this title which are available for salaries and expenses shall be available for services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109.

SEC. 302. Not to exceed 5 percent of any appropriation made available for the current fiscal year for the Judiciary in this Act may be transferred between such appropriations, but no such appropriation, except ''Courts of Appeals, District Courts, and Other Judicial Services, Defender Services'' and ''Courts of

Appeals, District Courts, and Other Judicial Services, Fees of Jurors and Commissioners'', shall be increased by more than 10 percent by any such transfers: *Provided*, That any transfer pursuant to this section shall be treated as a reprogramming of funds under sections 604 and 608 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation or expenditure except in compliance with the procedures set forth in section 608.

SEC. 303. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the salaries and expenses appropriation for ''Courts of Appeals, District Courts, and Other Judicial Services'' shall be available for official reception and representation expenses of the Judicial Conference of the United States: *Provided*, That such available funds shall not exceed $11,000 and shall be administered by the Director of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts in the capacity as Secretary of the Judicial Conference.

SEC. 304. Section 3314(a) of title 40, United States Code, shall be applied by substituting ''Federal'' for ''executive'' each place it appears.

SEC. 305. In accordance with 28 U.S.C. 561–569, and notwithstanding any other provision of law, the United States Marshals Service shall provide, for such courthouses as its Director may designate in consultation with the Director of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts, for purposes of a pilot program, the security services that 40 U.S.C. 1315 authorizes the Department of Homeland Security to provide, except for the services specified in 40 U.S.C. 1315(b)(2)(E). For building-specific security services at these courthouses, the Director of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts shall reimburse the United States Marshals Service rather than the Department of Homeland Security.

SEC. 306. (a) Section 203(c) of the Judicial Improvements Act of 1990 (Public Law 101–650; 28 U.S.C. 133 note), is amended in the second sentence (relating to the District of Kansas) following paragraph (12), by striking ''25 years and 6 months'' and inserting ''26 years and 6 months''.

(b) Section 406 of the Transportation, Treasury, Housing and Urban Development, the Judiciary, the District of Columbia, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 2006 (Public Law 109–115; 119 Stat. 2470; 28 U.S.C. 133 note) is amended in the second sentence (relating to the eastern District of Missouri) by striking ''23 years and 6 months'' and inserting ''24 years and 6 months''.

(c) Section 312(c)(2) of the 21st Century Department of Justice Appropriations Authorization Act (Public Law 107–273; 28 U.S.C. 133 note), is amended—

(1) in the first sentence by striking ''14 years'' and inserting ''15 years'';

(2) in the second sentence (relating to the central District of California), by striking ''13 years and 6 months'' and inserting ''14 years and 6 months''; and

(3) in the third sentence (relating to the western district of North Carolina), by striking ''12 years'' and inserting ''13 years''.

SEC. 307. (a) Section 2(a)(2)(A) of the Temporary Bankruptcy Judgeships Extension Act of 2012 (28 U.S.C. 152 note; Public Law 112–121) is amended by striking ''subparagraphs (B), (C), (D), and (E)'' and inserting ''subparagraphs (B), (C), (D), (E), (F), (G), and (H)''.

(b) Section 2(a)(2) of the Temporary Bankruptcy Judgeships Extension Act of 2012 (28 U.S.C. 152 note; Public Law 112–121) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(F) EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN.—The 1st vacancy in the office of a bankruptcy judge for the eastern district of Michigan—

''(i) occurring 6 years or more after the date of the enactment of this Act, and

''(ii) resulting from the death, retirement, resignation, or removal of a bankruptcy judge, shall not be filled.

''(G) DISTRICT OF PUERTO RICO.—The 1st vacancy in the office of a bankruptcy judge for the district of Puerto Rico—

''(i) occurring 6 years or more after the date of the enactment of this Act, and

''(ii) resulting from the death, retirement, resignation, or removal of a bankruptcy judge, shall not be filled.

''(H) EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA.—The 1st vacancy in the office of a bankruptcy judge for the eastern district of Virginia—

''(i) occurring 6 years or more after the date of the enactment of this Act, and

''(ii) resulting from the death, retirement, resignation, or removal of a bankruptcy judge, shall not be filled.''.

(c) Section 2(a)(2)(C) of the Temporary Bankruptcy Judgeships Extension Act of 2012 (28 U.S.C. 152 note; Public Law 112–121) is amended—

(1) by redesignating clauses (i) and (ii) as clauses (ii) and (iii), respectively;

(2) by inserting before clause (ii), as so redesignated, the following:

''(i) in the case of the 1st and 2d vacancies, occurring more than 6 years after the date of the enactment of this Act,''; and

(3) in clause (ii), as so redesignated, by inserting ''in the case of the 3d and 4th vacancies,'' before ''occurring more than 5 years''.

(d) Section 2(a)(2)(D)(i) of the Temporary Bankruptcy Judgeships Extension Act of 2012 (28 U.S.C. 152 note; Public Law 112–121) is amended (with regard to the 1st and 2d vacancies in the southern district of Florida) by striking ''5 years'' and inserting ''6 years''.

This title may be cited as the ''Judiciary Appropriations Act, 2017''.

TITLE IV

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

FEDERAL FUNDS

FEDERAL PAYMENT FOR RESIDENT TUITION SUPPORT

For a Federal payment to the District of Columbia, to be deposited into a dedicated account, for a nationwide program to be administered by the Mayor, for District of Columbia resident tuition support, $40,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such funds, including any interest accrued thereon, may be used on behalf of eligible District of Columbia residents to pay an amount based upon the difference between in-State and out-of-State tuition at public institutions of higher education, or to pay up to $2,500 each year at eligible private institutions of higher education: *Provided further*, That the awarding of such funds may be prioritized on the basis of a resident's academic merit, the income and need of eligible students and such other factors as may be authorized: *Provided further*, That the District of Columbia government shall maintain a dedicated account for the Resident Tuition Support Program that shall consist of the Federal funds appropriated to the Program in this Act and any subsequent appropriations, any unobligated balances from prior fiscal years, and any interest earned in this or any fiscal year: *Provided further*, That the account shall be under the control of the District of Columbia Chief Financial Officer, who shall use those funds solely for the purposes of carrying out the Resident Tuition Support Program: *Provided further*, That the Office of the Chief Financial Officer shall provide a quarterly financial report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate for these funds showing, by object class, the expenditures made and the purpose therefor.

FEDERAL PAYMENT FOR EMERGENCY PLANNING AND SECURITY COSTS IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

For a Federal payment of necessary expenses, as determined by the Mayor of the District of Columbia in written consultation with the elected county or city officials of surrounding jurisdictions, $34,895,000, to remain available until expended, for the costs of providing public safety at events related to the presence of the National Capital in the District of Columbia, including support requested by the Director of the United States Secret Service in carrying out protective duties under the direction of the Secretary of Homeland Security, and for the costs of providing support to respond to immediate and specific terrorist threats or attacks in the District of Columbia or surrounding jurisdictions: *Provided*, That, of the amount provided under this heading, $19,995,000 shall be used for costs associated with the Presidential Inauguration.

FEDERAL PAYMENT TO THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURTS

For salaries and expenses for the District of Columbia Courts, $274,611,000 to be allocated as follows: for the District of Columbia Court of Appeals, $14,359,000, of which not to exceed $2,500 is for official reception and representation expenses; for the Superior Court of the District of Columbia, $125,380,000, of which not to exceed $2,500 is for official reception and representation expenses; for the District of Columbia Court System, $75,184,000, of which not to exceed $2,500 is for official reception and representation expenses; and $59,688,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, for capital improvements for District of Columbia courthouse facilities: *Provided*, That funds made available for capital improvements shall be expended consistent with the District of Columbia Courts master plan study and facilities condition assessment: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, all amounts under this heading shall be apportioned quarterly by the Office of Management and Budget and obligated and expended in the same manner as funds appropriated for salaries and expenses of other Federal agencies: *Provided further*, That 30 days after providing written notice to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, the District of Columbia Courts may reallocate not more than $6,000,000 of the funds provided under this heading among the items and entities funded under this heading: *Provided further*, That the Joint Committee on Judicial Administration in the District of Columbia may, by regulation, establish a program substantially similar to the program set forth in subchapter II of chapter 35 of title 5, United States Code, for employees of the District of Columbia Courts.

FEDERAL PAYMENT FOR DEFENDER SERVICES IN DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURTS

For payments authorized under section 11–2604 and section 11–2605, D.C. Official Code (relating to representation provided under the District of Columbia Criminal Justice Act), payments for counsel appointed in proceedings in the Family Court of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia under chapter 23 of title 16, D.C. Official Code, or

pursuant to contractual agreements to provide guardian ad litem representation, training, technical assistance, and such other services as are necessary to improve the quality of guardian ad litem representation, payments for counsel appointed in adoption proceedings under chapter 3 of title 16, D.C. Official Code, and payments authorized under section 21–2060, D.C. Official Code (relating to services provided under the District of Columbia Guardianship, Protective Proceedings, and Durable Power of Attorney Act of 1986), $49,890,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That funds provided under this heading shall be administered by the Joint Committee on Judicial Administration in the District of Columbia: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, this appropriation shall be apportioned quarterly by the Office of Management and Budget and obligated and expended in the same manner as funds appropriated for expenses of other Federal agencies.

FEDERAL PAYMENT TO THE COURT SERVICES AND OFFENDER SUPERVISION AGENCY FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

For salaries and expenses, including the transfer and hire of motor vehicles, of the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency for the District of Columbia, as authorized by the National Capital Revitalization and Self-Government Improvement Act of 1997, $248,008,000, of which not to exceed $2,000 is for official reception and representation expenses related to Community Supervision and Pretrial Services Agency programs, of which not to exceed $25,000 is for dues and assessments relating to the implementation of the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency Interstate Supervision Act of 2002; of which $182,721,000 shall be for necessary expenses of Community Supervision and Sex Offender Registration, to include expenses relating to the supervision of adults subject to protection orders or the provision of services for or related to such persons; and of which $65,287,000 shall be available to the Pretrial Services Agency, of which up to $1,800,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2018, for information technology requirements associated with the establishment of a comprehensive in-house synthetics testing program: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, all amounts under this heading shall be apportioned quarterly by the Office of Management and Budget and obligated and expended in the same manner as funds appropriated for salaries and expenses of other Federal agencies: *Provided further*, That amounts under this heading may be used for programmatic incentives for defendants to successfully complete their terms of supervision.

FEDERAL PAYMENT TO THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICE

For salaries and expenses, including the transfer and hire of motor vehicles, of the District of Columbia Public Defender Service, as authorized by the National Capital Revitalization and Self-Government Improvement Act of 1997, $41,829,000: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, all amounts under this heading shall be apportioned quarterly by the Office of Management and Budget and obligated and expended in the same manner as funds appropriated for salaries and expenses of Federal agencies.

FEDERAL PAYMENT TO THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY

For a Federal payment to the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority, $14,000,000, to remain available until expended, to continue implementation of the Combined Sewer Overflow Long-Term Plan: *Provided*, That the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority provides a 100 percent match for this payment.

FEDERAL PAYMENT TO THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL

For a Federal payment to the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, $2,000,000, to remain available until expended, to support initiatives related to the coordination of Federal and local criminal justice resources in the District of Columbia.

FEDERAL PAYMENT FOR JUDICIAL COMMISSIONS

For a Federal payment, to remain available until September 30, 2018, to the Commission on Judicial Disabilities and Tenure, $310,000, and for the Judicial Nomination Commission, $275,000.

FEDERAL PAYMENT FOR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

For a Federal payment for a school improvement program in the District of Columbia, $45,000,000, to remain available until expended, for payments authorized under the Scholarship for Opportunity and Results Act (division C of Public Law 112–10): *Provided*, That, to the extent that funds are available for opportunity scholarships and following the priorities included in section 3006 of such Act, the Secretary of Education shall make scholarships available to students eligible under section 3013(3) of such Act (Public Law 112–10; 125 Stat. 211) including students who were not offered a scholarship during any previous school year: *Provided further*, That within funds provided for opportunity scholarships $3,200,000 shall be for the activities specified in sections 3007(b) through 3007(d) and 3009 of the Act.

FEDERAL PAYMENT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA NATIONAL GUARD

For a Federal payment to the District of Columbia National Guard, $450,000, to remain available until expended for the Major General David F. Wherley, Jr. District of Columbia National Guard Retention and College Access Program.

FEDERAL PAYMENT FOR TESTING AND TREATMENT OF HIV/AIDS

For a Federal payment to the District of Columbia for the testing of individuals for, and the treatment of individuals with, human immunodeficiency virus and acquired immunodeficiency syndrome in the District of Columbia, $5,000,000.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA FUNDS

Local funds are appropriated for the District of Columbia for the current fiscal year out of the General Fund of the District of Columbia (''General Fund'') for programs and activities set forth under the heading ''Part A—Summary of Expenses'' and at the rate set forth under such heading, as included in D.C. Bill 21–668, as amended as of the date of the enactment of this Act: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, except as provided in section 450A of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act (section 1–204.50a, D.C. Official Code), sections 816 and 817 of the Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2009 (secs. 47–369.01 and 47–369.02, D.C. Official Code), and provisions of this Act, the total amount appropriated in this Act for operating expenses for the District of Columbia for fiscal year 2017 under this heading shall not exceed the estimates included in D.C. Bill 21–668, as amended as of the date of the enactment of this Act, or the sum of the total revenues of the District of Columbia for such fiscal year: *Provided further*, That the amount appropriated may be increased by proceeds of one-time transactions, which are expended for emergency or unanticipated operating or capital needs: *Provided further*, That such increases shall be approved by enactment of local District law and shall comply with all reserve requirements contained in the District of Columbia Home Rule Act: *Provided further*, That the Chief Financial Officer of the District of Columbia shall take such steps as are necessary to assure that the District of Columbia meets these requirements, including the apportioning by the Chief Financial Officer of the appropriations and funds made available to the District during fiscal year 2017, except that the Chief Financial Officer may not reprogram for operating expenses any funds derived from bonds, notes, or other obligations issued for capital projects.

This title may be cited as the ''District of Columbia Appropriations Act, 2017''.

TITLE V

INDEPENDENT AGENCIES

ADMINISTRATIVE CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED STATES

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Administrative Conference of the United States, authorized by 5 U.S.C. 591 et seq., $3,100,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, of which not to exceed $1,000 is for official reception and representation expenses.

COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of the Commodity Exchange Act (7 U.S.C. 1 et seq.), including the purchase and hire of passenger motor vehicles, and the rental of space (to include multiple year leases), in the District of Columbia and elsewhere, $250,000,000, including not to exceed $3,000 for official reception and representation expenses, and not to exceed $25,000 for the expenses for consultations and meetings hosted by the Commission with foreign governmental and other regulatory officials, of which not less than $50,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, shall be for the purchase of information technology and of which not less than $2,700,000 shall be for expenses of the Office of the Inspector General: *Provided*, That notwithstanding the limitations in 31 U.S.C. 1553, amounts provided under this heading are available for the liquidation of obligations equal to current year payments on leases entered into prior to the date of enactment of this Act: *Provided further*, That for the purpose of recording and liquidating any lease obligations that should have been recorded and liquidated against accounts closed pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1552, and consistent with the preceding proviso, such amounts shall be transferred to and recorded in a new no-year account in the Treasury, which may be established for the sole purpose of recording adjustments for and liquidating such unpaid obligations.

CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Consumer Product Safety Commission, including hire of passenger motor vehicles, services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, but at rates for individuals not to exceed the per diem rate equivalent to the maximum rate payable under 5 U.S.C. 5376, purchase of nominal awards to recognize non-Federal officials' contributions to Commission activities, and not to exceed $4,000 for official reception and representation expenses, $126,000,000, of

which $1,300,000 shall remain available until expended to carry out the program, including administrative costs, required by section 1405 of the Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act (Public Law 110–140; 15 U.S.C. 8004).

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION—CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

SEC. 501. During fiscal year 2017, none of the amounts made available by this Act may be used to finalize or implement the Safety Standard for Recreational Off-Highway Vehicles published by the Consumer Product Safety Commission in the Federal Register on November 19, 2014 (79 Fed. Reg. 68964) until after—

(1) the National Academy of Sciences, in consultation with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and the Department of Defense, completes a study to determine—

(A) the technical validity of the lateral stability and vehicle handling requirements proposed by such standard for purposes of reducing the risk of Recreational Off-Highway Vehicle (referred to in this section as ''ROV'') rollovers in the off-road environment, including the repeatability and reproducibility of testing for compliance with such requirements;

(B) the number of ROV rollovers that would be prevented if the proposed requirements were adopted;

(C) whether there is a technical basis for the proposal to provide information on a point-of-sale hangtag about a ROV's rollover resistance on a progressive scale; and

(D) the effect on the utility of ROVs used by the United States military if the proposed requirements were adopted; and

(2) a report containing the results of the study completed under paragraph (1) is delivered to—

(A) the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate;

(B) the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives;

(C) the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and

(D) the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses to carry out the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (Public Law 107–252), $9,600,000, of which $1,400,000 shall be transferred to the National Institute of Standards and Technology for election reform activities authorized under the Help America Vote Act of 2002.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Federal Communications Commission, as authorized by law, including uniforms and allowances therefor, as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 5901–5902; not to exceed $4,000 for official reception and representation expenses; purchase and hire of motor vehicles; special counsel fees; and services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, $339,844,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That in addition, $16,866,992 shall be made available until expended for necessary expenses associated with moving to a new facility or reconfiguring the existing space to significantly reduce space consumption: *Provided further*, That $356,710,992 of offsetting collections shall be assessed and collected pursuant to section 9 of title I of the Communications Act of 1934, shall be retained and used for necessary expenses and shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That the sum herein appropriated shall be reduced as such offsetting collections are received during fiscal year 2017 so as to result in a final fiscal year 2017 appropriation estimated at $0: *Provided further*, That any offsetting collections received in excess of $356,710,992 in fiscal year 2017 shall not be available for obligation: *Provided further*, That remaining offsetting collections from prior years collected in excess of the amount specified for collection in each such year and otherwise becoming available on October 1, 2016, shall not be available for obligation: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding 47 U.S.C. 309(j)(8)(B), proceeds from the use of a competitive bidding system that may be retained and made available for obligation shall not exceed $117,000,000 for fiscal year 2017: *Provided further*, That, of the amount appropriated under this heading, not less than $11,751,000 shall be for the salaries and expenses of the Office of Inspector General.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

SEC. 510. Section 302 of the Universal Service Antideficiency Temporary Suspension Act is amended by striking ''December 31, 2017'', each place it appears and inserting ''December 31, 2018''.

SEC. 511. None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be used by the Federal Communications Commission to modify, amend, or change its rules or regulations for universal service support payments to implement the February 27, 2004 recommendations of the Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service regarding single connection or primary line restrictions on universal service support payments.

FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978, $35,958,000, to be derived from the Deposit Insurance Fund or, only when appropriate, the FSLIC Resolution Fund.

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, $79,119,000, of which $8,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2018, for lease expiration and replacement lease expenses; and of which not to exceed $5,000 shall be available for reception and representation expenses.

FEDERAL LABOR RELATIONS AUTHORITY

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses to carry out functions of the Federal Labor Relations Authority, pursuant to Reorganization Plan Numbered 2 of 1978, and the Civil Service Reform Act of 1978, including services authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, and including hire of experts and consultants, hire of passenger motor vehicles, and including official reception and representation expenses (not to exceed $1,500) and rental of conference rooms in the District of Columbia and elsewhere, $26,200,000: *Provided*, That public members of the Federal Service Impasses Panel may be paid travel expenses and per diem in lieu of subsistence as authorized by law (5 U.S.C. 5703) for persons employed intermittently in the Government service, and compensation as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302, funds received from fees charged to non-Federal participants at labor-management relations conferences shall be credited to and merged with this account, to be available without further appropriation for the costs of carrying out these conferences.

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Federal Trade Commission, including uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 5901–5902; services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109; hire of passenger motor vehicles; and not to exceed $2,000 for official reception and representation expenses, $313,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That not to exceed $300,000 shall be available for use to contract with a person or persons for collection services in accordance with the terms of 31 U.S.C. 3718: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, not to exceed $125,000,000 of offsetting collections derived from fees collected for premerger notification filings under the Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvements Act of 1976 (15 U.S.C. 18a), regardless of the year of collection, shall be retained and used for necessary expenses in this appropriation: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, not to exceed $15,000,000 in offsetting collections derived from fees sufficient to implement and enforce the Telemarketing Sales Rule, promulgated under the Telemarketing and Consumer Fraud and Abuse Prevention Act (15 U.S.C. 6101 et seq.), shall be credited to this account, and be retained and used for necessary expenses in this appropriation: *Provided further*, That the sum herein appropriated from the general fund shall be reduced as such offsetting collections are received during fiscal year 2017, so as to result in a final fiscal year 2017 appropriation from the general fund estimated at not more than $173,000,000: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available to the Federal Trade Commission may be used to implement subsection (e)(2)(B) of section 43 of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1831t).

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

REAL PROPERTY ACTIVITIES

FEDERAL BUILDINGS FUND

LIMITATIONS ON AVAILABILITY OF REVENUE

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

Amounts in the Fund, including revenues and collections deposited into the Fund, shall be available for necessary expenses of real property management and related activities not otherwise provided for, including operation, maintenance, and protection of federally owned and leased buildings; rental of buildings in the District of Columbia; restoration of leased premises; moving governmental agencies (including space adjustments and telecommunications relocation expenses) in connection with the assignment, allocation, and transfer of space; contractual services incident to cleaning or servicing buildings, and moving; repair and alteration of federally owned buildings, including grounds, approaches, and appurtenances; care and safeguarding of sites; maintenance, preservation, demolition, and equipment; acquisition of buildings and sites by purchase, condemnation, or as otherwise authorized by law; acquisition of options to purchase buildings and sites; conversion and extension of federally owned buildings; preliminary planning and design of projects by contract or otherwise; construction of new buildings (including equipment for such buildings); and payment of principal, interest, and any other obligations for public buildings acquired by installment purchase and purchase contract;

in the aggregate amount of $8,845,147,000, of which—

(1) $205,749,000 shall remain available until expended for construction and acquisition (including funds for sites and expenses, and associated design and construction services) as follows:

(A) National Capital Region, FBI Headquarters Consolidation, $200,000,000;

(B) Pembina, North Dakota, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), $5,749,000:

Provided, That each of the foregoing limits of costs on new construction and acquisition projects may be exceeded to the extent that savings are effected in other such projects, but not to exceed 10 percent of the amounts included in a transmitted prospectus, if required, unless advance approval is obtained from the Committees on Appropriations of a greater amount;

(2) $676,035,000 shall remain available until expended for repairs and alterations, including associated design and construction services, of which—

(A) $289,245,000 is for Major Repairs and Alterations;

(B) $312,090,000 is for Basic Repairs and Alterations; and

(C) $74,700,000 is for Special Emphasis Programs, of which—

(i) $26,700,000 is for Judiciary Capital Security; and

(ii) $48,000,000 is for Consolidation Activities: *Provided*, That consolidation projects result in reduced annual rent paid by the tenant agency: *Provided further*, That no consolidation project exceed $10,000,000 in costs: *Provided further*, That consolidation projects are approved by each of the committees specified in section 3307(a) of title 40, United States Code: *Provided further*, That preference is given to consolidation projects that achieve a utilization rate of 130 usable square feet or less per person for office space: *Provided further*, That the obligation of funds under this paragraph for consolidation activities may not be made until 10 days after a proposed spending plan and explanation for each project to be undertaken, including estimated savings, has been submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate:

Provided, That funds made available in this or any previous Act in the Federal Buildings Fund for Repairs and Alterations shall, for prospectus projects, be limited to the amount identified for each project, except each project in this or any previous Act may be increased by an amount not to exceed 10 percent unless advance approval is obtained from the Committees on Appropriations of a greater amount: *Provided further*, That additional projects for which prospectuses have been fully approved may be funded under this category only if advance approval is obtained from the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That the amounts provided in this or any prior Act for ''Repairs and Alterations'' may be used to fund costs associated with implementing security improvements to buildings necessary to meet the minimum standards for security in accordance with current law and in compliance with the reprogramming guidelines of the appropriate Committees of the House and Senate: *Provided further*, That the difference between the funds appropriated and expended on any projects in this or any prior Act, under the heading ''Repairs and Alterations'', may be transferred to Basic Repairs and Alterations or used to fund authorized increases in prospectus projects: *Provided further*, That the amount provided in this or any prior Act for Basic Repairs and Alterations may be used to pay claims against the Government arising from any projects under the heading ''Repairs and Alterations'' or used to fund authorized increases in prospectus projects;

(3) $5,628,363,000 for rental of space to remain available until expended; and

(4) $2,335,000,000 for building operations to remain available until expended, of which $1,184,240,000 is for building services, and $1,150,760,000 is for salaries and expenses: *Provided*, That not to exceed 5 percent of any appropriation made available under this paragraph for building operations may be transferred between and merged with such appropriations upon notification to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, but no such appropriation shall be increased by more than 5 percent by any such transfers: *Provided further*, That section 521 of this title shall not apply with respect to funds made available under this heading for building operations: *Provided further*, That the total amount of funds made available from this Fund to the General Services Administration shall not be available for expenses of any construction, repair, alteration and acquisition project for which a prospectus, if required by 40 U.S.C. 3307(a), has not been approved, except that necessary funds may be expended for each project for required expenses for the development of a proposed prospectus: *Provided further*, That funds available in the Federal Buildings Fund may be expended for emergency repairs when advance approval is obtained from the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That amounts necessary to provide reimbursable special services to other agencies under 40 U.S.C. 592(b)(2) and amounts to provide such reimbursable fencing, lighting, guard booths, and other facilities on private or other property not in Government ownership or control as may be appropriate to enable the United States Secret Service to perform its protective functions pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 3056, shall be available from such revenues and collections: *Provided further*, That revenues and collections and any other sums accruing to this Fund during fiscal year 2017, excluding reimbursements under 40 U.S.C. 592(b)(2), in excess of the aggregate new obligational authority authorized for Real Property Activities of the Federal Buildings Fund in this Act shall remain in the Fund and shall not be available for expenditure except as authorized in appropriations Acts.

GENERAL ACTIVITIES

GOVERNMENT-WIDE POLICY

For expenses authorized by law, not otherwise provided for, for Government-wide policy and evaluation activities associated with the management of real and personal property assets and certain administrative services; Government-wide policy support responsibilities relating to acquisition, travel, motor vehicles, information technology management, and related technology activities; and services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109; $60,000,000, of which $1,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2018.

OPERATING EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For expenses authorized by law, not otherwise provided for, for Government-wide activities associated with utilization and donation of surplus personal property; disposal of real property; agency-wide policy direction, management, and communications; the Civilian Board of Contract Appeals; and services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109; $58,541,000, of which $25,869,000 is for Real and Personal Property Management and Disposal; $23,397,000 is for the Office of the Administrator, of which not to exceed $7,500 is for official reception and representation expenses; and $9,275,000 is for the Civilian Board of Contract Appeals: *Provided*, That not to exceed 5 percent of the appropriation made available under this heading for Office of the Administrator may be transferred to the appropriation for the Real and Personal Property Management and Disposal upon notification to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, but the appropriation for the Real and Personal Property Management and Disposal may not be increased by more than 5 percent by any such transfer.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General and service authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, $65,000,000: *Provided*, That not to exceed $50,000 shall be available for payment for information and detection of fraud against the Government, including payment for recovery of stolen Government property: *Provided further*, That not to exceed $2,500 shall be available for awards to employees of other Federal agencies and private citizens in recognition of efforts and initiatives resulting in enhanced Office of Inspector General effectiveness.

ALLOWANCES AND OFFICE STAFF FOR FORMER PRESIDENTS

For carrying out the provisions of the Act of August 25, 1958 (3 U.S.C. 102 note), and Public Law 95–138, $3,865,000.

EXPENSES, PRESIDENTIAL TRANSITION

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses to carry out the Presidential Transition Act of 1963, as amended, $9,500,000, of which not to exceed $1,000,000 is for activities authorized by subsections 3(a)(8) and 3(a)(9) of the Act: *Provided*, That such amounts may be transferred and credited to the ''Acquisition Services Fund'' or ''Federal Buildings Fund'' to reimburse obligations incurred prior to enactment of this Act for the purposes provided herein related to the Presidential election in 2016: *Provided further*, That amounts available under this heading shall be in addition to any other amounts available for such purposes.

FEDERAL CITIZEN SERVICES FUND

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Office of Citizen Services and Innovative Technologies, including services authorized by 40 U.S.C. 323 and 44 U.S.C. 3604; and for necessary expenses in support of interagency projects that enable the Federal Government to enhance its ability to conduct activities electronically, through the development and implementation of innovative uses of information technology; $55,894,000, to be deposited into the Federal Citizen Services Fund: *Provided*, That the previous amount may be transferred to Federal agencies to carry out the purpose of the Federal Citizen Services Fund: *Provided further*, That the appropriations, revenues, reimbursements, and collections deposited into the Fund shall be available until expended for necessary expenses of Federal Citizen Services and other activities that enable the Federal Government to enhance its ability to conduct activities electronically in the aggregate amount not to exceed $100,000,000: *Provided further*, That appropriations, revenues, reimbursements, and collections accruing to this Fund during fiscal year 2017 in excess of such amount shall

remain in the Fund and shall not be available for expenditure except as authorized in appropriations Acts: *Provided further*, That any appropriations provided to the Electronic Government Fund that remain unobligated may be transferred to the Federal Citizen Services Fund: *Provided further*, That the transfer authorities provided herein shall be in addition to any other transfer authority provided in this Act.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

(INCLUDING RESCISSION AND TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 520. Funds available to the General Services Administration shall be available for the hire of passenger motor vehicles.

SEC. 521. Funds in the Federal Buildings Fund made available for fiscal year 2017 for Federal Buildings Fund activities may be transferred between such activities only to the extent necessary to meet program requirements: *Provided*, That any proposed transfers shall be approved in advance by the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

SEC. 522. Except as otherwise provided in this title, funds made available by this Act shall be used to transmit a fiscal year 2018 request for United States Courthouse construction only if the request: (1) meets the design guide standards for construction as established and approved by the General Services Administration, the Judicial Conference of the United States, and the Office of Management and Budget; (2) reflects the priorities of the Judicial Conference of the United States as set out in its approved Courthouse Project Priorities plan; and (3) includes a standardized courtroom utilization study of each facility to be constructed, replaced, or expanded.

SEC. 523. None of the funds provided in this Act may be used to increase the amount of occupiable square feet, provide cleaning services, security enhancements, or any other service usually provided through the Federal Buildings Fund, to any agency that does not pay the rate per square foot assessment for space and services as determined by the General Services Administration in consideration of the Public Buildings Amendments Act of 1972 (Public Law 92–313).

SEC. 524. From funds made available under the heading Federal Buildings Fund, Limitations on Availability of Revenue, claims against the Government of less than $250,000 arising from direct construction projects and acquisition of buildings may be liquidated from savings effected in other construction projects with prior notification to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

SEC. 525. In any case in which the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate adopt a resolution granting lease authority pursuant to a prospectus transmitted to Congress by the Administrator of the General Services Administration under 40 U.S.C. 3307, the Administrator shall ensure that the delineated area of procurement is identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus for all lease agreements, except that, if the Administrator determines that the delineated area of the procurement should not be identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, the Administrator shall provide an explanatory statement to each of such committees and the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate prior to exercising any lease authority provided in the resolution.

SEC. 526. With respect to each project funded under the heading ''Major Repairs and Alterations'' or ''Judiciary Capital Security Program'', and with respect to E-Government projects funded under the heading ''Federal Citizen Services Fund'', the Administrator of General Services shall submit a spending plan and explanation for each project to be undertaken to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 527. The unobligated balance of the amount provided for the National Capital Region, Civilian Cyber Campus in subparagraph (D) of paragraph (1) under the heading ''General Services Administration—Federal Buildings Fund'' in Public Law 113–235 is hereby rescinded, and the unobligated balance of the aggregate amounts provided in such paragraph and in the matter preceding such paragraph are reduced accordingly.

HARRY S TRUMAN SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For payment to the Harry S Truman Scholarship Foundation Trust Fund, established by section 10 of Public Law 93–642, $1,000,000, to remain available until expended.

MERIT SYSTEMS PROTECTION BOARD

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses to carry out functions of the Merit Systems Protection Board pursuant to Reorganization Plan Numbered 2 of 1978, the Civil Service Reform Act of 1978, and the Whistleblower Protection Act of 1989 (5 U.S.C. 5509 note), including services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, rental of conference rooms in the District of Columbia and elsewhere, hire of passenger motor vehicles, direct procurement of survey printing, and not to exceed $2,000 for official reception and representation expenses, $44,786,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, and in addition not to exceed $2,345,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, for administrative expenses to adjudicate retirement appeals to be transferred from the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund in amounts determined by the Merit Systems Protection Board.

MORRIS K. UDALL AND STEWART L. UDALL FOUNDATION

MORRIS K. UDALL AND STEWART L. UDALL TRUST FUND

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For payment to the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, pursuant to the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Foundation Act (20 U.S.C. 5601 et seq.), $1,895,000, to remain available until expended, of which, notwithstanding sections 8 and 9 of such Act: (1) up to $50,000 shall be used to conduct financial audits pursuant to the Accountability of Tax Dollars Act of 2002 (Public Law 107–289); and (2) up to $1,000,000 shall be available to carry out the activities authorized by section 6(7) of Public Law 102–259 and section 817(a) of Public Law 106–568 (20 U.S.C. 5604(7)): *Provided*, That of the total amount made available under this heading $200,000 shall be transferred to the Office of Inspector General of the Department of the Interior, to remain available until expended, for audits and investigations of the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Foundation, consistent with the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.).

ENVIRONMENTAL DISPUTE RESOLUTION FUND

For payment to the Environmental Dispute Resolution Fund to carry out activities authorized in the Environmental Policy and Conflict Resolution Act of 1998, $3,249,000, to remain available until expended.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION

OPERATING EXPENSES

For necessary expenses in connection with the administration of the National Archives and Records Administration and archived Federal records and related activities, as provided by law, and for expenses necessary for the review and declassification of documents, the activities of the Public Interest Declassification Board, the operations and maintenance of the electronic records archives, the hire of passenger motor vehicles, and for uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by law (5 U.S.C. 5901), including maintenance, repairs, and cleaning, $380,634,000.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Reform Act of 2008, Public Law 110–409, 122 Stat. 4302–16 (2008), and the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.), and for the hire of passenger motor vehicles, $4,801,000.

REPAIRS AND RESTORATION

For the repair, alteration, and improvement of archives facilities, and to provide adequate storage for holdings, $7,500,000, to remain available until expended.

NATIONAL HISTORICAL PUBLICATIONS AND RECORDS COMMISSION

GRANTS PROGRAM

For necessary expenses for allocations and grants for historical publications and records as authorized by 44 U.S.C. 2504, $6,000,000, to remain available until expended.

NATIONAL CREDIT UNION ADMINISTRATION

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REVOLVING LOAN FUND

For the Community Development Revolving Loan Fund program as authorized by 42 U.S.C. 9812, 9822 and 9910, $2,000,000 shall be available until September 30, 2018, for technical assistance to low-income designated credit unions.

OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT ETHICS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses to carry out functions of the Office of Government Ethics pursuant to the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, the Ethics Reform Act of 1989, and the Stop Trading on Congressional Knowledge Act of 2012, including services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, rental of conference rooms in the District of Columbia and elsewhere, hire of passenger motor vehicles, and not to exceed $1,500 for official reception and representation expenses, $16,090,000.

OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF TRUST FUNDS)

For necessary expenses to carry out functions of the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) pursuant to Reorganization Plan Numbered 2 of 1978 and the Civil Service Reform Act of 1978, including services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109; medical examinations performed for veterans by private physicians on a fee basis; rental of conference rooms in the District of Columbia and elsewhere; hire of passenger motor vehicles; not to exceed $2,500 for official reception and representation expenses; advances for reimbursements to applicable funds of OPM and the Federal Bureau of Investigation for expenses incurred under Executive Order No.

10422 of January 9, 1953, as amended; and payment of per diem or subsistence allowances to employees where Voting Rights Act activities require an employee to remain overnight at his or her post of duty, $119,000,000: *Provided*, That of the total amount made available under this heading, not to exceed $11,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2018, for the operation and strengthening of the security of OPM legacy and Shell environment IT systems and the modernization, migration, and testing of such systems: *Provided further*, That the amount made available by the previous proviso may not be obligated until the Director of the Office of Personnel Management submits to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives a plan for expenditure of such amount, prepared in consultation with the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, the Administrator of the United States Digital Service, and the Secretary of Homeland Security, that—

(1) identifies the full scope and cost of the IT systems remediation and stabilization project;

(2) meets the capital planning and investment control review requirements established by the Office of Management and Budget, including Circular A–11, part 7;

(3) includes a Major IT Business Case under the requirements established by the Office of Management and Budget Exhibit 300;

(4) complies with the acquisition rules, requirements, guidelines, and systems acquisition management practices of the Government;

(5) complies with all Office of Management and Budget, Department of Homeland Security and National Institute of Standards and Technology requirements related to securing the agency's information system as described in 44 U.S.C. 3554; and

(6) is reviewed and commented upon within 90 days of plan development by the Inspector General of the Office of Personnel Management, and such comments are submitted to the Director of the Office of Personnel Management before the date of such submission: *Provided further*, That, not later than 6 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives a report that—

(A) evaluates—

(i) the steps taken by the Office of Personnel Management to prevent, mitigate, and respond to data breaches involving sensitive personnel records and information;

(ii) the Office's cybersecurity policies and procedures in place on the date of enactment of this Act, including policies and procedures relating to IT best practices such as data encryption, multifactor authentication, and continuous monitoring;

(iii) the Office's oversight of contractors providing IT services; and

(iv) the Office's compliance with government-wide initiatives to improve cybersecurity; and

(B) sets forth improvements that could be made to assist the Office of Personnel Management in addressing cybersecurity challenges:

Provided further, That of the total amount made available under this heading, $391,000 may be made available for strengthening the capacity and capabilities of the acquisition workforce (as defined by the Office of Federal Procurement Policy Act, as amended (41 U.S.C. 4001 et seq.)), including the recruitment, hiring, training, and retention of such workforce and information technology in support of acquisition workforce effectiveness or for management solutions to improve acquisition management; and in addition $140,000,000 for administrative expenses, to be transferred from the appropriate trust funds of OPM without regard to other statutes, including direct procurement of printed materials, for the retirement and insurance programs: *Provided further*, That the provisions of this appropriation shall not affect the authority to use applicable trust funds as provided by sections 8348(a)(1)(B), 8958(f)(2)(A), 8988(f)(2)(A), and 9004(f)(2)(A) of title 5, United States Code: *Provided further*, That no part of this appropriation shall be available for salaries and expenses of the Legal Examining Unit of OPM established pursuant to Executive Order No. 9358 of July 1, 1943, or any successor unit of like purpose: *Provided further*, That the President's Commission on White House Fellows, established by Executive Order No. 11183 of October 3, 1964, may, during fiscal year 2017, accept donations of money, property, and personal services: *Provided further*, That such donations, including those from prior years, may be used for the development of publicity materials to provide information about the White House Fellows, except that no such donations shall be accepted for travel or reimbursement of travel expenses, or for the salaries of employees of such Commission.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF TRUST FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978, including services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, hire of passenger motor vehicles, $5,072,000, and in addition, not to exceed $25,112,000 for administrative expenses to audit, investigate, and provide other oversight of the Office of Personnel Management's retirement and insurance programs, to be transferred from the appropriate trust funds of the Office of Personnel Management, as determined by the Inspector General: *Provided*, That the Inspector General is authorized to rent conference rooms in the District of Columbia and elsewhere.

OFFICE OF SPECIAL COUNSEL

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses to carry out functions of the Office of Special Counsel pursuant to Reorganization Plan Numbered 2 of 1978, the Civil Service Reform Act of 1978 (Public Law 95–454), the Whistleblower Protection Act of 1989 (Public Law 101–12) as amended by Public Law 107–304, the Whistleblower Protection Enhancement Act of 2012 (Public Law 112–199), and the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994 (Public Law 103–353), including services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, payment of fees and expenses for witnesses, rental of conference rooms in the District of Columbia and elsewhere, and hire of passenger motor vehicles; $24,750,000.

POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Postal Regulatory Commission in carrying out the provisions of the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act (Public Law 109–435), $16,200,000, to be derived by transfer from the Postal Service Fund and expended as authorized by section 603(a) of such Act.

PRIVACY AND CIVIL LIBERTIES OVERSIGHT BOARD

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board, as authorized by section 1061 of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 (42 U.S.C. 2000ee), $10,100,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018.

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for the Securities and Exchange Commission, including services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, the rental of space (to include multiple year leases) in the District of Columbia and elsewhere, and not to exceed $3,500 for official reception and representation expenses, $1,605,000,000, to remain available until expended; of which not less than $14,700,000 shall be for the Office of Inspector General; of which not to exceed $75,000 shall be available for a permanent secretariat for the International Organization of Securities Commissions; of which not to exceed $100,000 shall be available for expenses for consultations and meetings hosted by the Commission with foreign governmental and other regulatory officials, members of their delegations and staffs to exchange views concerning securities matters, such expenses to include necessary logistic and administrative expenses and the expenses of Commission staff and foreign invitees in attendance including: (1) incidental expenses such as meals; (2) travel and transportation; and (3) related lodging or subsistence; and of which not less than $72,049,000 shall be for the Division of Economic and Risk Analysis: *Provided*, That fees and charges authorized by section 31 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78ee) shall be credited to this account as offsetting collections: *Provided further*, That not to exceed $1,605,000,000 of such offsetting collections shall be available until expended for necessary expenses of this account: *Provided further*, That the total amount appropriated under this heading from the general fund for fiscal year 2017 shall be reduced as such offsetting fees are received so as to result in a final total fiscal year 2017 appropriation from the general fund estimated at not more than $0.

SELECTIVE SERVICE SYSTEM

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Selective Service System, including expenses of attendance at meetings and of training for uniformed personnel assigned to the Selective Service System, as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 4101–4118 for civilian employees; hire of passenger motor vehicles; services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109; and not to exceed $750 for official reception and representation expenses; $22,900,000: *Provided*, That during the current fiscal year, the President may exempt this appropriation from the provisions of 31 U.S.C. 1341, whenever the President deems such action to be necessary in the interest of national defense: *Provided further*, That none of the funds appropriated by this Act may be expended for or in connection with the induction of any person into the Armed Forces of the United States.

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, of the Small Business Administration, including hire of passenger motor vehicles as authorized by sections 1343 and 1344 of title 31, United States Code, and not to exceed $3,500 for official reception and representation expenses, $269,500,000, of which

not less than $12,000,000 shall be available for examinations, reviews, and other lender oversight activities: *Provided*, That the Administrator is authorized to charge fees to cover the cost of publications developed by the Small Business Administration, and certain loan program activities, including fees authorized by section 5(b) of the Small Business Act: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302, revenues received from all such activities shall be credited to this account, to remain available until expended, for carrying out these purposes without further appropriations: *Provided further*, That the Small Business Administration may accept gifts in an amount not to exceed $4,000,000 and may co-sponsor activities, each in accordance with section 132(a) of division K of Public Law 108–447, during fiscal year 2017: *Provided further*, That $6,100,000 shall be available for the Loan Modernization and Accounting System, to be available until September 30, 2018: *Provided further*, That $3,000,000 shall be for the Federal and State Technology Partnership Program under section 34 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 657d).

ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

For necessary expenses of programs supporting entrepreneurial and small business development, $245,100,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That $125,000,000 shall be available to fund grants for performance in fiscal year 2017 or fiscal year 2018 as authorized by section 21 of the Small Business Act: *Provided further*, That $31,000,000 shall be for marketing, management, and technical assistance under section 7(m) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(m)(4)) by intermediaries that make microloans under the microloan program: *Provided further*, That $18,000,000 shall be available for grants to States to carry out export programs that assist small business concerns authorized under section 22(l) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 649(l)).

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978, $19,900,000.

OFFICE OF ADVOCACY

For necessary expenses of the Office of Advocacy in carrying out the provisions of title II of Public Law 94–305 (15 U.S.C. 634a et seq.) and the Regulatory Flexibility Act of 1980 (5 U.S.C. 601 et seq.), $9,220,000, to remain available until expended.

BUSINESS LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the cost of direct loans, $4,338,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: *Provided further*, That subject to section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, during fiscal year 2017 commitments to guarantee loans under section 503 of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 shall not exceed $7,500,000,000: *Provided further*, That during fiscal year 2017 commitments for general business loans authorized under section 7(a) of the Small Business Act shall not exceed $27,500,000,000 for a combination of amortizing term loans and the aggregated maximum line of credit provided by revolving loans: *Provided further*, That during fiscal year 2017 commitments for loans authorized under subparagraph (C) of section 502(7) of The Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 696(7)) shall not exceed $7,500,000,000: *Provided further*, That during fiscal year 2017 commitments to guarantee loans for debentures under section 303(b) of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 shall not exceed $4,000,000,000: *Provided further*, That during fiscal year 2017, guarantees of trust certificates authorized by section 5(g) of the Small Business Act shall not exceed a principal amount of $12,000,000,000. In addition, for administrative expenses to carry out the direct and guaranteed loan programs, $152,726,000, which may be transferred to and merged with the appropriations for Salaries and Expenses.

DISASTER LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For administrative expenses to carry out the direct loan program authorized by section 7(b) of the Small Business Act, $185,977,000, to be available until expended, of which $1,000,000 is for the Office of Inspector General of the Small Business Administration for audits and reviews of disaster loans and the disaster loan programs and shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriations for the Office of Inspector General; of which $175,977,000 is for direct administrative expenses of loan making and servicing to carry out the direct loan program, which may be transferred to and merged with the appropriations for Salaries and Expenses; and of which $9,000,000 is for indirect administrative expenses for the direct loan program, which may be transferred to and merged with the appropriations for Salaries and Expenses.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

(INCLUDING RESCISSION AND TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 530. Not to exceed 5 percent of any appropriation made available for the current fiscal year for the Small Business Administration in this Act may be transferred between such appropriations, but no such appropriation shall be increased by more than 10 percent by any such transfers: *Provided*, That any transfer pursuant to this paragraph shall be treated as a reprogramming of funds under section 608 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation or expenditure except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section.

SEC. 531. Of the unobligated balances available for the Certified Development Company Program under section 503 of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, as amended, $55,000,000 are hereby permanently rescinded: *Provided*, That no amounts may be so rescinded from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

PAYMENT TO THE POSTAL SERVICE FUND

For payment to the Postal Service Fund for revenue forgone on free and reduced rate mail, pursuant to subsections (c) and (d) of section 2401 of title 39, United States Code, $34,658,000: *Provided*, That mail for overseas voting and mail for the blind shall continue to be free: *Provided further*, That 6-day delivery and rural delivery of mail shall continue at not less than the 1983 level: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available to the Postal Service by this Act shall be used to implement any rule, regulation, or policy of charging any officer or employee of any State or local child support enforcement agency, or any individual participating in a State or local program of child support enforcement, a fee for information requested or provided concerning an address of a postal customer: *Provided further*, That none of the funds provided in this Act shall be used to consolidate or close small rural and other small post offices.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978, $253,600,000, to be derived by transfer from the Postal Service Fund and expended as authorized by section 603(b)(3) of the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act (Public Law 109–435).

UNITED STATES TAX COURT

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses, including contract reporting and other services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, $51,226,000: *Provided*, That travel expenses of the judges shall be paid upon the written certificate of the judge.

TITLE VI

GENERAL PROVISIONS—THIS ACT

(INCLUDING RESCISSION)

SEC. 601. None of the funds in this Act shall be used for the planning or execution of any program to pay the expenses of, or otherwise compensate, non-Federal parties intervening in regulatory or adjudicatory proceedings funded in this Act.

SEC. 602. None of the funds appropriated in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year, nor may any be transferred to other appropriations, unless expressly so provided herein.

SEC. 603. The expenditure of any appropriation under this Act for any consulting service through procurement contract pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3109, shall be limited to those contracts where such expenditures are a matter of public record and available for public inspection, except where otherwise provided under existing law, or under existing Executive order issued pursuant to existing law.

SEC. 604. None of the funds made available in this Act may be transferred to any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government, except pursuant to a transfer made by, or transfer authority provided in, this Act or any other appropriations Act.

SEC. 605. None of the funds made available by this Act shall be available for any activity or for paying the salary of any Government employee where funding an activity or paying a salary to a Government employee would result in a decision, determination, rule, regulation, or policy that would prohibit the enforcement of section 307 of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1307).

SEC. 606. No funds appropriated pursuant to this Act may be expended by an entity unless the entity agrees that in expending the assistance the entity will comply with chapter 83 of title 41, United States Code.

SEC. 607. No funds appropriated or otherwise made available under this Act shall be made available to any person or entity that has been convicted of violating chapter 83 of title 41, United States Code.

SEC. 608. Except as otherwise provided in this Act, none of the funds provided in this Act, provided by previous appropriations Acts to the agencies or entities funded in this Act that remain available for obligation or expenditure in fiscal year 2017, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury derived by the collection of fees and available to the

agencies funded by this Act, shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a reprogramming of funds that: (1) creates a new program; (2) eliminates a program, project, or activity; (3) increases funds or personnel for any program, project, or activity for which funds have been denied or restricted by the Congress; (4) proposes to use funds directed for a specific activity by the Committee on Appropriations of either the House of Representatives or the Senate for a different purpose; (5) augments existing programs, projects, or activities in excess of $5,000,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less; (6) reduces existing programs, projects, or activities by $5,000,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less; or (7) creates or reorganizes offices, programs, or activities unless prior approval is received from the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate: *Provided*, That prior to any significant reorganization or restructuring of offices, programs, or activities, each agency or entity funded in this Act shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate: *Provided further*, That not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, each agency funded by this Act shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate to establish the baseline for application of reprogramming and transfer authorities for the current fiscal year: *Provided further*, That at a minimum the report shall include: (1) a table for each appropriation with a separate column to display the President's budget request, adjustments made by Congress, adjustments due to enacted rescissions, if appropriate, and the fiscal year enacted level; (2) a delineation in the table for each appropriation both by object class and program, project, and activity as detailed in the budget appendix for the respective appropriation; and (3) an identification of items of special congressional interest: *Provided further*, That the amount appropriated or limited for salaries and expenses for an agency shall be reduced by $100,000 per day for each day after the required date that the report has not been submitted to the Congress.

SEC. 609. Except as otherwise specifically provided by law, not to exceed 50 percent of unobligated balances remaining available at the end of fiscal year 2017 from appropriations made available for salaries and expenses for fiscal year 2017 in this Act, shall remain available through September 30, 2018, for each such account for the purposes authorized: *Provided*, That a request shall be submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate for approval prior to the expenditure of such funds: *Provided further*, That these requests shall be made in compliance with reprogramming guidelines.

SEC. 610. (a) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used by the Executive Office of the President to request—

(1) any official background investigation report on any individual from the Federal Bureau of Investigation; or

(2) a determination with respect to the treatment of an organization as described in section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of such Code from the Department of the Treasury or the Internal Revenue Service.

(b) Subsection (a) shall not apply—

(1) in the case of an official background investigation report, if such individual has given express written consent for such request not more than 6 months prior to the date of such request and during the same presidential administration; or

(2) if such request is required due to extraordinary circumstances involving national security.

SEC. 611. The cost accounting standards promulgated under chapter 15 of title 41, United States Code shall not apply with respect to a contract under the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program established under chapter 89 of title 5, United States Code.

SEC. 612. For the purpose of resolving litigation and implementing any settlement agreements regarding the nonforeign area cost-of-living allowance program, the Office of Personnel Management may accept and utilize (without regard to any restriction on unanticipated travel expenses imposed in an Appropriations Act) funds made available to the Office of Personnel Management pursuant to court approval.

SEC. 613. No funds appropriated by this Act shall be available to pay for an abortion, or the administrative expenses in connection with any health plan under the Federal employees health benefits program which provides any benefits or coverage for abortions.

SEC. 614. The provision of section 613 shall not apply where the life of the mother would be endangered if the fetus were carried to term, or the pregnancy is the result of an act of rape or incest.

SEC. 615. In order to promote Government access to commercial information technology, the restriction on purchasing nondomestic articles, materials, and supplies set forth in chapter 83 of title 41, United States Code (popularly known as the Buy American Act), shall not apply to the acquisition by the Federal Government of information technology (as defined in section 11101 of title 40, United States Code), that is a commercial item (as defined in section 103 of title 41, United States Code).

SEC. 616. Notwithstanding section 1353 of title 31, United States Code, no officer or employee of any regulatory agency or commission funded by this Act may accept on behalf of that agency, nor may such agency or commission accept, payment or reimbursement from a non-Federal entity for travel, subsistence, or related expenses for the purpose of enabling an officer or employee to attend and participate in any meeting or similar function relating to the official duties of the officer or employee when the entity offering payment or reimbursement is a person or entity subject to regulation by such agency or commission, or represents a person or entity subject to regulation by such agency or commission, unless the person or entity is an organization described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and exempt from tax under section 501(a) of such Code.

SEC. 617. Notwithstanding section 708 of this Act, funds made available to the Commodity Futures Trading Commission and the Securities and Exchange Commission by this or any other Act may be used for the interagency funding and sponsorship of a joint advisory committee to advise on emerging regulatory issues.

SEC. 618. (a)(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an Executive agency covered by this Act otherwise authorized to enter into contracts for either leases or the construction or alteration of real property for office, meeting, storage, or other space must consult with the General Services Administration before issuing a solicitation for offers of new leases or construction contracts, and in the case of succeeding leases, before entering into negotiations with the current lessor.

(2) Any such agency with authority to enter into an emergency lease may do so during any period declared by the President to require emergency leasing authority with respect to such agency.

(b) For purposes of this section, the term ''Executive agency covered by this Act'' means any Executive agency provided funds by this Act, but does not include the General Services Administration or the United States Postal Service.

SEC. 619. (a) There are appropriated for the following activities the amounts required under current law:

(1) Compensation of the President (3 U.S.C. 102).

(2) Payments to—

(A) the Judicial Officers' Retirement Fund (28 U.S.C. 377(o));

(B) the Judicial Survivors' Annuities Fund (28 U.S.C. 376(c)); and

(C) the United States Court of Federal Claims Judges' Retirement Fund (28 U.S.C. 178(l)).

(3) Payment of Government contributions—

(A) with respect to the health benefits of retired employees, as authorized by chapter 89 of title 5, United States Code, and the Retired Federal Employees Health Benefits Act (74 Stat. 849); and

(B) with respect to the life insurance benefits for employees retiring after December 31, 1989 (5 U.S.C. ch. 87).

(4) Payment to finance the unfunded liability of new and increased annuity benefits under the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund (5 U.S.C. 8348).

(5) Payment of annuities authorized to be paid from the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund by statutory provisions other than subchapter III of chapter 83 or chapter 84 of title 5, United States Code.

(b) Nothing in this section may be construed to exempt any amount appropriated by this section from any otherwise applicable limitation on the use of funds contained in this Act.

SEC. 620. The Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (Board) shall have authority to obligate funds for the scholarship program established by section 109(c)(2) of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (Public Law 107–204) in an aggregate amount not exceeding the amount of funds collected by the Board as of December 31, 2016, including accrued interest, as a result of the assessment of monetary penalties. Funds available for obligation in fiscal year 2017 shall remain available until expended.

SEC. 621. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used by the Federal Trade Commission to complete the draft report entitled ''Interagency Working Group on Food Marketed to Children: Preliminary Proposed Nutrition Principles to Guide Industry Self-Regulatory Efforts'' unless the Interagency Working Group on Food Marketed to Children complies with Executive Order No. 13563.

SEC. 622. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to pay the salaries and expenses for the following positions:

(1) Director, White House Office of Health Reform.

(2) Assistant to the President for Energy and Climate Change.

(3) Senior Advisor to the Secretary of the Treasury assigned to the Presidential Task Force on the Auto Industry and Senior Counselor for Manufacturing Policy.

(4) White House Director of Urban Affairs.

SEC. 623. None of the funds in this Act may be used for the Director of the Office of Personnel Management to award a contract, enter an extension of, or exercise an option on a contract to a contractor conducting the final quality review processes for background investigation fieldwork services or background investigation support services that, as of the date of the award of the contract, are being conducted by that contractor.

SEC. 624. (a) The head of each executive branch agency funded by this Act shall ensure that the Chief Information Officer of the agency has the authority to participate in decisions regarding the budget planning process related to information technology.

(b) Amounts appropriated for any executive branch agency funded by this Act that are available for information technology shall be allocated within the agency, consistent with the provisions of appropriations Acts and budget guidelines and recommendations from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, in such manner as specified by, or approved by, the Chief Information Officer of the agency in consultation with the Chief Financial Officer of the agency and budget officials.

SEC. 625. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used in contravention of chapter 29, 31, or 33 of title 44, United States Code.

SEC. 626. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used by a governmental entity to require the disclosure by a provider of electronic communication service to the public or remote computing service of the contents of a wire or electronic communication that is in electronic storage with the provider (as such terms are defined in sections 2510 and 2711 of title 18, United States Code) in a manner that violates the Fourth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

SEC. 627. None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be used by the Federal Communications Commission to modify, amend, or change the rules or regulations of the Commission for universal service high-cost support for competitive eligible telecommunications carriers in a way that is inconsistent with paragraph (e)(5) or (e)(6) of section 54.307 of title 47, Code of Federal Regulations, as in effect on July 15, 2015: *Provided*, That this section shall not prohibit the Commission from considering, developing, or adopting other support mechanisms as an alternative to Mobility Fund Phase II.

SEC. 628. No funds provided in this Act shall be used to deny an Inspector General funded under this Act timely access to any records, documents, or other materials available to the department or agency over which that Inspector General has responsibilities under the Inspector General Act of 1978, or to prevent or impede that Inspector General's access to such records, documents, or other materials, under any provision of law, except a provision of law that expressly refers to the Inspector General and expressly limits the Inspector General's right of access. A department or agency covered by this section shall provide its Inspector General with access to all such records, documents, and other materials in a timely manner. Each Inspector General shall ensure compliance with statutory limitations on disclosure relevant to the information provided by the establishment over which that Inspector General has responsibilities under the Inspector General Act of 1978. Each Inspector General covered by this section shall report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate within 5 calendar days any failures to comply with this requirement.

SEC. 629. (a) In the case of a television joint sales agreement, the Federal Communications Commission—

(1) may not require the termination or modification of such agreement as a condition of the transfer or assignment of a station license or the transfer of station ownership or control; and

(2) upon request of the transferee or assignee of the station license, shall eliminate any such condition that was imposed after March 31, 2014, and permit the licensees of the stations whose advertising was jointly sold pursuant to such agreement to enter into a new joint sales agreement on substantially similar terms and conditions as the prior agreement.

(b) In this section, the term ''joint sales agreement'' has the meaning given such term in Note 2(k) to section 73.3555 of title 47, Code of Federal Regulations, and where a joint sales agreement is part of a broader contract, this section shall be limited to the joint sales agreement portion of such contract.

SEC. 630. (a) Section 1105(a)(35) of title 31, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking subparagraph (B) and redesignating subparagraph (C) as subparagraph (B);

(2) by striking ''homeland security'' in each instance it appears and inserting ''cybersecurity''; and

(3) by amending subparagraph (B) (as redesignated by paragraph (1)) to read as follows:

''(B) Prior to implementing this paragraph, including determining what Federal activities or accounts constitute cybersecurity for purposes of budgetary classification, the Office of Management and Budget shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations and the Committees on the Budget of the House of Representatives and the Senate, the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Homeland Security and Government Affairs of the Senate.''.

(b) The amendments made by subsection (a) shall apply to budget submissions under section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code, for fiscal year 2018 and each subsequent fiscal year.

SEC. 631. (a) Effective one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, subtitle B of title IV of Public Law 102–281 is repealed.

(b) On the day before the date of the repeal under subsection (a), the Secretary of the Treasury shall transfer the amounts in the fund described in section 408(a) of subtitle A of title IV of such Public Law into the general fund of the Treasury.

SEC. 632. (a) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to maintain or establish a computer network unless such network blocks the viewing, downloading, and exchanging of pornography.

(b) Nothing in subsection (a) shall limit the use of funds necessary for any Federal, State, tribal, or local law enforcement agency or any other entity carrying out criminal investigations, prosecution, adjudication activities, or other law enforcement- or victim assistance-related activity.

SEC. 633. (a) For fiscal years 2016 through 2026, the Office of Personnel Management shall provide to each affected individual as defined in subsection (b) complimentary identity protection coverage that—

(1) is not less comprehensive than the complimentary identity protection coverage that the Office provided to affected individuals before the date of enactment of this Act;

(2) is effective for a period of not less than 10 years; and

(3) includes not less than $5,000,000 in identity theft insurance.

(b) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ''affected individual'' means any individual whose Social Security Number was compromised during—

(1) the data breach of personnel records of current and former Federal employees, at a network maintained by the Department of the Interior, that was announced by the Office of Personnel Management on June 4, 2015; or

(2) the data breach of systems of the Office of Personnel Management containing information related to the background investigations of current, former, and prospective Federal employees, and of other individuals.

SEC. 634. From the unobligated balances available in the Securities and Exchange Commission Reserve Fund established by section 991 of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (Public Law 111–203), $25,000,000 are rescinded.

SEC. 635. None of the funds made available by this Act shall be used by the Securities and Exchange Commission to finalize, issue, or implement any rule, regulation, or order regarding the disclosure of political contributions, contributions to tax exempt organizations, or dues paid to trade associations.

TITLE VII

GENERAL PROVISIONS—GOVERNMENT-WIDE

DEPARTMENTS, AGENCIES, AND CORPORATIONS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 701. No department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States receiving appropriated funds under this or any other Act for fiscal year 2017 shall obligate or expend any such funds, unless such department, agency, or instrumentality has in place, and will continue to administer in good faith, a written policy designed to ensure that all of its workplaces are free from the illegal use, possession, or distribution of controlled substances (as defined in the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 802)) by the officers and employees of such department, agency, or instrumentality.

SEC. 702. Unless otherwise specifically provided, the maximum amount allowable during the current fiscal year in accordance with subsection 1343(c) of title 31, United States Code, for the purchase of any passenger motor vehicle (exclusive of buses, ambulances, law enforcement vehicles, protective vehicles, and undercover surveillance vehicles), is hereby fixed at $19,947 except station wagons for which the maximum shall be $19,997: *Provided*, That these limits may be exceeded by not to exceed $7,250 for police-type vehicles: *Provided further*, That the limits set forth in this section may not be exceeded by more than 5 percent for electric or hybrid vehicles purchased for demonstration under the provisions of the Electric and Hybrid Vehicle Research, Development, and Demonstration Act of 1976: *Provided further*, That the limits set forth in this section may be exceeded by the incremental cost of clean alternative fuels vehicles acquired pursuant to Public Law 101–549 over the cost of comparable conventionally fueled vehicles: *Provided further*, That the limits set forth in this section shall not apply to any vehicle that is a commercial item and which operates on alternative fuel, including but not limited to electric, plug-in hybrid electric, and hydrogen fuel cell vehicles.

SEC. 703. Appropriations of the executive departments and independent establishments for the current fiscal year available for expenses of travel, or for the expenses of the activity concerned, are hereby made available for quarters allowances and cost-of-living allowances, in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 5922–5924.

SEC. 704. Unless otherwise specified in law during the current fiscal year, no part of any appropriation contained in this or any other Act shall be used to pay the compensation of any officer or employee of the Government of the United States (including any agency the majority of the stock of which is owned by the Government of the United States) whose post of duty is in the continental United States unless such person: (1) is a citizen of the United States; (2) is a person who is lawfully admitted for permanent residence and is seeking citizenship as outlined in 8 U.S.C. 1324b(a)(3)(B); (3) is a person who is admitted as a refugee under 8 U.S.C. 1157 or is granted asylum under 8 U.S.C. 1158 and has filed a declaration of intention to become a lawful permanent resident and then a citizen when eligible; or (4) is a person who owes allegiance to the United States: *Provided*, That for purposes of this section, affidavits signed by any such person shall be considered prima facie evidence that the requirements of this section with respect to his or her status are being complied with: *Provided further*, That for purposes of subsections (2) and (3) such affidavits shall be submitted prior to employment and updated thereafter as necessary: *Provided further*, That any person making a false affidavit shall be guilty of a felony, and upon conviction, shall be fined no more than $4,000 or imprisoned for not more than 1 year, or both: *Provided further*, That the above penal clause shall be in addition to, and not in substitution for, any other provisions of existing law: *Provided further*, That any payment made to any officer or employee contrary to the provisions of this section shall be recoverable in action by the Federal Government: *Provided further*, That this section shall not apply to any person who is an officer or employee of the Government of the United States on the date of enactment of this Act, or to international broadcasters employed by the Broadcasting Board of Governors, or to temporary employment of translators, or to temporary employment in the field service (not to exceed 60 days) as a result of emergencies: *Provided further*, That this section does not apply to the employment as Wildland firefighters for not more than 120 days of nonresident aliens employed by the Department of the Interior or the USDA Forest Service pursuant to an agreement with another country.

SEC. 705. Appropriations available to any department or agency during the current fiscal year for necessary expenses, including maintenance or operating expenses, shall also be available for payment to the General Services Administration for charges for space and services and those expenses of renovation and alteration of buildings and facilities which constitute public improvements performed in accordance with the Public Buildings Act of 1959 (73 Stat. 479), the Public Buildings Amendments of 1972 (86 Stat. 216), or other applicable law.

SEC. 706. In addition to funds provided in this or any other Act, all Federal agencies are authorized to receive and use funds resulting from the sale of materials, including Federal records disposed of pursuant to a records schedule recovered through recycling or waste prevention programs. Such funds shall be available until expended for the following purposes:

(1) Acquisition, waste reduction and prevention, and recycling programs as described in Executive Order No. 13693 (March 19, 2015), including any such programs adopted prior to the effective date of the Executive order.

(2) Other Federal agency environmental management programs, including, but not limited to, the development and implementation of hazardous waste management and pollution prevention programs.

(3) Other employee programs as authorized by law or as deemed appropriate by the head of the Federal agency.

SEC. 707. Funds made available by this or any other Act for administrative expenses in the current fiscal year of the corporations and agencies subject to chapter 91 of title 31, United States Code, shall be available, in addition to objects for which such funds are otherwise available, for rent in the District of Columbia; services in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 3109; and the objects specified under this head, all the provisions of which shall be applicable to the expenditure of such funds unless otherwise specified in the Act by which they are made available: *Provided*, That in the event any functions budgeted as administrative expenses are subsequently transferred to or paid from other funds, the limitations on administrative expenses shall be correspondingly reduced.

SEC. 708. No part of any appropriation contained in this or any other Act shall be available for interagency financing of boards (except Federal Executive Boards), commissions, councils, committees, or similar groups (whether or not they are interagency entities) which do not have a prior and specific statutory approval to receive financial support from more than one agency or instrumentality.

SEC. 709. None of the funds made available pursuant to the provisions of this or any other Act shall be used to implement, administer, or enforce any regulation which has been disapproved pursuant to a joint resolution duly adopted in accordance with the applicable law of the United States.

SEC. 710. During the period in which the head of any department or agency, or any other officer or civilian employee of the Federal Government appointed by the President of the United States, holds office, no funds may be obligated or expended in excess of $5,000 to furnish or redecorate the office of such department head, agency head, officer, or employee, or to purchase furniture or make improvements for any such office, unless advance notice of such furnishing or redecoration is transmitted to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate. For the purposes of this section, the term ''office'' shall include the entire suite of offices assigned to the individual, as well as any other space used primarily by the individual or the use of which is directly controlled by the individual.

SEC. 711. Notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 1346, or section 708 of this Act, funds made available for the current fiscal year by this or any other Act shall be available for the interagency funding of national security and emergency preparedness telecommunications initiatives which benefit multiple Federal departments, agencies, or entities, as provided by Executive Order No. 13618 (July 6, 2012).

SEC. 712. (a) None of the funds made available by this or any other Act may be obligated or expended by any department, agency, or other instrumentality of the Federal Government to pay the salaries or expenses of any individual appointed to a position of a confidential or policy-determining character that is excepted from the competitive service under section 3302 of title 5, United States Code, (pursuant to schedule C of subpart C of part 213 of title 5 of the Code of Federal Regulations) unless the head of the applicable department, agency, or other instrumentality employing such schedule C individual certifies to the Director of the Office of Personnel Management that the schedule C position occupied by the individual was not created solely or primarily in order to detail the individual to the White House.

(b) The provisions of this section shall not apply to Federal employees or members of the Armed Forces detailed to or from an element of the intelligence community (as that term is defined under section 3(4) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003(4))).

SEC. 713. No part of any appropriation contained in this or any other Act shall be available for the payment of the salary of any officer or employee of the Federal Government, who—

(1) prohibits or prevents, or attempts or threatens to prohibit or prevent, any other officer or employee of the Federal Government from having any direct oral or written communication or contact with any Member, committee, or subcommittee of the Congress in connection with any matter pertaining to the employment of such other officer or employee or pertaining to the department or agency of such other officer or employee in any way, irrespective of whether such communication or contact is at the initiative of such other officer or employee or in response to the request or inquiry of such Member, committee, or subcommittee; or

(2) removes, suspends from duty without pay, demotes, reduces in rank, seniority, status, pay, or performance or efficiency rating, denies promotion to, relocates, reassigns, transfers, disciplines, or discriminates in regard to any employment right, entitlement, or benefit, or any term or condition of employment of, any other officer or employee of the Federal Government, or attempts or threatens to commit any of the foregoing actions with respect to such other officer or employee, by reason of any communication or contact of such other officer or employee with any Member, committee, or subcommittee of the Congress as described in paragraph (1).

SEC. 714. (a) None of the funds made available in this or any other Act may be obligated or expended for any employee training that—

(1) does not meet identified needs for knowledge, skills, and abilities bearing directly upon the performance of official duties;

(2) contains elements likely to induce high levels of emotional response or psychological stress in some participants;

(3) does not require prior employee notification of the content and methods to be used in the training and written end of course evaluation;

(4) contains any methods or content associated with religious or quasi-religious belief systems or ''new age'' belief systems as defined in Equal Employment Opportunity Commission Notice N–915.022, dated September 2, 1988; or

(5) is offensive to, or designed to change, participants' personal values or lifestyle outside the workplace.

(b) Nothing in this section shall prohibit, restrict, or otherwise preclude an agency from conducting training bearing directly upon the performance of official duties.

SEC. 715. No part of any funds appropriated in this or any other Act shall be used by an agency of the executive branch, other than for normal and recognized executive-legislative relationships, for publicity or propaganda purposes, and for the preparation, distribution or use of any kit, pamphlet, booklet, publication, radio, television, or film presentation designed to support or defeat legislation pending before the Congress, except in presentation to the Congress itself.

SEC. 716. None of the funds appropriated by this or any other Act may be used by an agency to provide a Federal employee's home address to any labor organization except when the employee has authorized such disclosure or when such disclosure has been ordered by a court of competent jurisdiction.

SEC. 717. None of the funds made available in this or any other Act may be used to provide any non-public information such as mailing, telephone or electronic mailing lists to any person or any organization outside of the Federal Government without the approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

SEC. 718. No part of any appropriation contained in this or any other Act shall be used directly or indirectly, including by private contractor, for publicity or propaganda purposes within the United States not heretofore authorized by Congress.

SEC. 719. (a) In this section, the term ''agency''—

(1) means an Executive agency, as defined under 5 U.S.C. 105; and

(2) includes a military department, as defined under section 102 of such title, the Postal Service, and the Postal Regulatory Commission.

(b) Unless authorized in accordance with law or regulations to use such time for other purposes, an employee of an agency shall use official time in an honest effort to perform official duties. An employee not under a leave system, including a Presidential appointee exempted under 5 U.S.C. 6301(2), has an obligation to expend an honest effort and a reasonable proportion of such employee's time in the performance of official duties.

SEC. 720. Notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 1346 and section 708 of this Act, funds made available for the current fiscal year by this or any other Act to any department or agency, which is a member of the Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board (FASAB), shall be available to finance an appropriate share of FASAB administrative costs.

SEC. 721. Notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 1346 and section 708 of this Act, the head of each Executive department and agency is hereby authorized to transfer to or reimburse ''General Services Administration, Government-wide Policy'' with the approval of the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, funds made available for the current fiscal year by this or any other Act, including rebates from charge card and other contracts: *Provided*, That these funds shall be administered by the Administrator of General Services to support Government-wide and other multi-agency financial, information technology, procurement, and other management innovations, initiatives, and activities, including improving coordination and reducing duplication, as approved by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, in consultation with the appropriate interagency and multi-agency groups designated by the Director (including the President's Management Council for overall management improvement initiatives, the Chief Financial Officers Council for financial management initiatives, the Chief Information Officers Council for information technology initiatives, the Chief Human Capital Officers Council for human capital initiatives, the Chief Acquisition Officers Council for procurement initiatives, and the Performance Improvement Council for performance improvement initiatives): *Provided further*, That the total funds transferred or reimbursed shall not exceed $15,000,000 to improve coordination, reduce duplication, and for other activities related to Federal Government Priority Goals established by 31 U.S.C. 1120, and not to exceed $17,000,000 for Government-Wide innovations, initiatives, and activities: *Provided further*, That the funds transferred to or for reimbursement of ''General Services Administration, Government-wide Policy'' during fiscal year 2017 shall remain available for obligation through September 30, 2018: *Provided further*, That such transfers or reimbursements may only be made after 15 days following notification of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

SEC. 722. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a woman may breastfeed her child at any location in a Federal building or on Federal property, if the woman and her child are otherwise authorized to be present at the location.

SEC. 723. Notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 1346, or section 708 of this Act, funds made available for the current fiscal year by this or any other Act shall be available for the interagency funding of specific projects, workshops, studies, and similar efforts to carry out the purposes of the National Science and Technology Council (authorized by Executive Order No. 12881), which benefit multiple Federal departments, agencies, or entities: *Provided*, That the Office of Management and Budget shall provide a report describing the budget of and resources connected with the National Science and Technology Council to the Committees on Appropriations, the House Committee on Science and Technology, and the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation 90 days after enactment of this Act.

SEC. 724. Any request for proposals, solicitation, grant application, form, notification, press release, or other publications involving the distribution of Federal funds shall comply with any relevant requirements in part 200 of title 2, Code of Federal Regulations: *Provided*, That this section shall apply to direct payments, formula funds, and grants received by a State receiving Federal funds.

SEC. 725. (a) PROHIBITION OF FEDERAL AGENCY MONITORING OF INDIVIDUALS' INTERNET USE.—None of the funds made available in this or any other Act may be used by any Federal agency—

(1) to collect, review, or create any aggregation of data, derived from any means, that includes any personally identifiable information relating to an individual's access to or use of any Federal Government Internet site of the agency; or

(2) to enter into any agreement with a third party (including another government agency) to collect, review, or obtain any aggregation of data, derived from any means, that includes any personally identifiable information relating to an individual's access to or use of any nongovernmental Internet site.

(b) EXCEPTIONS.—The limitations established in subsection (a) shall not apply to—

(1) any record of aggregate data that does not identify particular persons;

(2) any voluntary submission of personally identifiable information;

(3) any action taken for law enforcement, regulatory, or supervisory purposes, in accordance with applicable law; or

(4) any action described in subsection (a)(1) that is a system security action taken by the operator of an Internet site and is necessarily incident to providing the Internet site services or to protecting the rights or property of the provider of the Internet site.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—For the purposes of this section:

(1) The term ''regulatory'' means agency actions to implement, interpret or enforce authorities provided in law.

(2) The term ''supervisory'' means examinations of the agency's supervised institutions, including assessing safety and soundness, overall financial condition, management practices and policies and compliance with applicable standards as provided in law.

SEC. 726. (a) None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be used to enter into or renew a contract which includes a provision providing prescription drug coverage, except where the contract also includes a provision for contraceptive coverage.

(b) Nothing in this section shall apply to a contract with—

(1) any of the following religious plans:

(A) Personal Care's HMO; and

(B) OSF HealthPlans, Inc.; and

(2) any existing or future plan, if the carrier for the plan objects to such coverage on the basis of religious beliefs.

(c) In implementing this section, any plan that enters into or renews a contract under this section may not subject any individual to discrimination on the basis that the individual refuses to prescribe or otherwise provide for contraceptives because such activities would be contrary to the individual's religious beliefs or moral convictions.

(d) Nothing in this section shall be construed to require coverage of abortion or abortion-related services.

SEC. 727. The United States is committed to ensuring the health of its Olympic, Pan American, and Paralympic athletes, and supports the strict adherence to anti-doping in sport through testing, adjudication, education, and research as performed by nationally recognized oversight authorities.

SEC. 728. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds appropriated for official travel to Federal departments and agencies may be used by such departments and agencies, if consistent with Office of Management and Budget Circular A–126 regarding official travel for Government personnel, to participate in the fractional aircraft ownership pilot program.

SEC. 729. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds appropriated or made available under this or any other appropriations Act may be used to implement or enforce restrictions or limitations on the Coast Guard Congressional Fellowship Program, or to implement the proposed regulations of the Office of Personnel Management to add sections 300.311 through 300.316 to part 300 of title 5 of the Code of Federal Regulations, published in the Federal Register, volume 68, number 174, on September 9, 2003 (relating to the detail of executive branch employees to the legislative branch).

SEC. 730. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no executive branch agency shall purchase, construct, or lease any additional facilities, except within or contiguous to existing locations, to be used for the purpose of conducting Federal law enforcement training without the advance approval of the

Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, except that the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center is authorized to obtain the temporary use of additional facilities by lease, contract, or other agreement for training which cannot be accommodated in existing Center facilities.

SEC. 731. Unless otherwise authorized by existing law, none of the funds provided in this or any other Act may be used by an executive branch agency to produce any prepackaged news story intended for broadcast or distribution in the United States, unless the story includes a clear notification within the text or audio of the prepackaged news story that the prepackaged news story was prepared or funded by that executive branch agency.

SEC. 732. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used in contravention of section 552a of title 5, United States Code (popularly known as the Privacy Act), and regulations implementing that section.

SEC. 733. (a) IN GENERAL.—None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act may be used for any Federal Government contract with any foreign incorporated entity which is treated as an inverted domestic corporation under section 835(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 395(b)) or any subsidiary of such an entity.

(b) WAIVERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Any Secretary shall waive subsection (a) with respect to any Federal Government contract under the authority of such Secretary if the Secretary determines that the waiver is required in the interest of national security.

(2) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Any Secretary issuing a waiver under paragraph (1) shall report such issuance to Congress.

(c) EXCEPTION.—This section shall not apply to any Federal Government contract entered into before the date of the enactment of this Act, or to any task order issued pursuant to such contract.

SEC. 734. During fiscal year 2017, for each employee who—

(1) retires under section 8336(d)(2) or 8414(b)(1)(B) of title 5, United States Code; or

(2) retires under any other provision of subchapter III of chapter 83 or chapter 84 of such title 5 and receives a payment as an incentive to separate, the separating agency shall remit to the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund an amount equal to the Office of Personnel Management's average unit cost of processing a retirement claim for the preceding fiscal year. Such amounts shall be available until expended to the Office of Personnel Management and shall be deemed to be an administrative expense under section 8348(a)(1)(B) of title 5, United States Code.

SEC. 735. (a) None of the funds made available in this or any other Act may be used to recommend or require any entity submitting an offer for a Federal contract to disclose any of the following information as a condition of submitting the offer:

(1) Any payment consisting of a contribution, expenditure, independent expenditure, or disbursement for an electioneering communication that is made by the entity, its officers or directors, or any of its affiliates or subsidiaries to a candidate for election for Federal office or to a political committee, or that is otherwise made with respect to any election for Federal office.

(2) Any disbursement of funds (other than a payment described in paragraph (1)) made by the entity, its officers or directors, or any of its affiliates or subsidiaries to any person with the intent or the reasonable expectation that the person will use the funds to make a payment described in paragraph (1).

(b) In this section, each of the terms ''contribution'', ''expenditure'', ''independent expenditure'', ''electioneering communication'', ''candidate'', ''election'', and ''Federal office'' has the meaning given such term in the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 431 et seq.).

SEC. 736. None of the funds made available in this or any other Act may be used to pay for the painting of a portrait of an officer or employee of the Federal government, including the President, the Vice President, a member of Congress (including a Delegate or a Resident Commissioner to Congress), the head of an executive branch agency (as defined in section 133 of title 41, United States Code), or the head of an office of the legislative branch.

SEC. 737. (a)(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, and except as otherwise provided in this section, no part of any of the funds appropriated for fiscal year 2017, by this or any other Act, may be used to pay any prevailing rate employee described in section 5342(a)(2)(A) of title 5, United States Code—

(A) during the period from the date of expiration of the limitation imposed by the comparable section for the previous fiscal years until the normal effective date of the applicable wage survey adjustment that is to take effect in fiscal year 2017, in an amount that exceeds the rate payable for the applicable grade and step of the applicable wage schedule in accordance with such section; and

(B) during the period consisting of the remainder of fiscal year 2017, in an amount that exceeds, as a result of a wage survey adjustment, the rate payable under subparagraph (A) by more than the sum of—

(i) the percentage adjustment taking effect in fiscal year 2017 under section 5303 of title 5, United States Code, in the rates of pay under the General Schedule; and

(ii) the difference between the overall average percentage of the locality-based comparability payments taking effect in fiscal year 2017 under section 5304 of such title (whether by adjustment or otherwise), and the overall average percentage of such payments which was effective in the previous fiscal year under such section.

(2) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no prevailing rate employee described in subparagraph (B) or (C) of section 5342(a)(2) of title 5, United States Code, and no employee covered by section 5348 of such title, may be paid during the periods for which paragraph (1) is in effect at a rate that exceeds the rates that would be payable under paragraph (1) were paragraph (1) applicable to such employee.

(3) For the purposes of this subsection, the rates payable to an employee who is covered by this subsection and who is paid from a schedule not in existence on September 30, 2016, shall be determined under regulations prescribed by the Office of Personnel Management.

(4) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, rates of premium pay for employees subject to this subsection may not be changed from the rates in effect on September 30, 2016, except to the extent determined by the Office of Personnel Management to be consistent with the purpose of this subsection.

(5) This subsection shall apply with respect to pay for service performed after September 30, 2016.

(6) For the purpose of administering any provision of law (including any rule or regulation that provides premium pay, retirement, life insurance, or any other employee benefit) that requires any deduction or contribution, or that imposes any requirement or limitation on the basis of a rate of salary or basic pay, the rate of salary or basic pay payable after the application of this subsection shall be treated as the rate of salary or basic pay.

(7) Nothing in this subsection shall be considered to permit or require the payment to any employee covered by this subsection at a rate in excess of the rate that would be payable were this subsection not in effect.

(8) The Office of Personnel Management may provide for exceptions to the limitations imposed by this subsection if the Office determines that such exceptions are necessary to ensure the recruitment or retention of qualified employees.

(b) Notwithstanding subsection (a), the adjustment in rates of basic pay for the statutory pay systems that take place in fiscal year 2017 under sections 5344 and 5348 of title 5, United States Code, shall be—

(1) not less than the percentage received by employees in the same location whose rates of basic pay are adjusted pursuant to the statutory pay systems under sections 5303 and 5304 of title 5, United States Code: *Provided*, That prevailing rate employees at locations where there are no employees whose pay is increased pursuant to sections 5303 and 5304 of title 5, United States Code, and prevailing rate employees described in section 5343(a)(5) of title 5, United States Code, shall be considered to be located in the pay locality designated as ''Rest of United States'' pursuant to section 5304 of title 5, United States Code, for purposes of this subsection; and

(2) effective as of the first day of the first applicable pay period beginning after September 30, 2016.

SEC. 738. (a) The Vice President may not receive a pay raise in calendar year 2017, notwithstanding the rate adjustment made under section 104 of title 3, United States Code, or any other provision of law.

(b) An employee serving in an Executive Schedule position, or in a position for which the rate of pay is fixed by statute at an Executive Schedule rate, may not receive a pay rate increase in calendar year 2017, notwithstanding schedule adjustments made under section 5318 of title 5, United States Code, or any other provision of law, except as provided in subsection (g), (h), or (i). This subsection applies only to employees who are holding a position under a political appointment.

(c) A chief of mission or ambassador at large may not receive a pay rate increase in calendar year 2017, notwithstanding section 401 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (Public Law 96–465) or any other provision of law, except as provided in subsection (g), (h), or (i).

(d) Notwithstanding sections 5382 and 5383 of title 5, United States Code, a pay rate increase may not be received in calendar year 2017 (except as provided in subsection (g), (h), or (i)) by—

(1) a noncareer appointee in the Senior Executive Service paid a rate of basic pay at or above level IV of the Executive Schedule; or

(2) a limited term appointee or limited emergency appointee in the Senior Executive Service serving under a political appointment and paid a rate of basic pay at or above level IV of the Executive Schedule.

(e) Any employee paid a rate of basic pay (including any locality-based payments under section 5304 of title 5, United States Code, or similar authority) at or above level

IV of the Executive Schedule who serves under a political appointment may not receive a pay rate increase in calendar year 2017, notwithstanding any other provision of law, except as provided in subsection (g), (h), or (i). This subsection does not apply to employees in the General Schedule pay system or the Foreign Service pay system, or to employees appointed under section 3161 of title 5, United States Code, or to employees in another pay system whose position would be classified at GS–15 or below if chapter 51 of title 5, United States Code, applied to them.

(f) Nothing in subsections (b) through (e) shall prevent employees who do not serve under a political appointment from receiving pay increases as otherwise provided under applicable law.

(g) A career appointee in the Senior Executive Service who receives a Presidential appointment and who makes an election to retain Senior Executive Service basic pay entitlements under section 3392 of title 5, United States Code, is not subject to this section.

(h) A member of the Senior Foreign Service who receives a Presidential appointment to any position in the executive branch and who makes an election to retain Senior Foreign Service pay entitlements under section 302(b) of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (Public Law 96–465) is not subject to this section.

(i) Notwithstanding subsections (b) through (e), an employee in a covered position may receive a pay rate increase upon an authorized movement to a different covered position with higher-level duties and a preestablished higher level or range of pay, except that any such increase must be based on the rates of pay and applicable pay limitations in effect on December 31, 2013.

(j) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, for an individual who is newly appointed to a covered position during the period of time subject to this section, the initial pay rate shall be based on the rates of pay and applicable pay limitations in effect on December 31, 2013.

(k) If an employee affected by subsections (b) through (e) is subject to a biweekly pay period that begins in calendar year 2017 but ends in calendar year 2018, the bar on the employee's receipt of pay rate increases shall apply through the end of that pay period.

SEC. 739. (a) The head of any Executive branch department, agency, board, commission, or office funded by this or any other appropriations Act shall submit annual reports to the Inspector General or senior ethics official for any entity without an Inspector General, regarding the costs and contracting procedures related to each conference held by any such department, agency, board, commission, or office during fiscal year 2017 for which the cost to the United States Government was more than $100,000.

(b) Each report submitted shall include, for each conference described in subsection (a) held during the applicable period—

(1) a description of its purpose;

(2) the number of participants attending;

(3) a detailed statement of the costs to the United States Government, including—

(A) the cost of any food or beverages;

(B) the cost of any audio-visual services;

(C) the cost of employee or contractor travel to and from the conference; and

(D) a discussion of the methodology used to determine which costs relate to the conference; and

(4) a description of the contracting procedures used including—

(A) whether contracts were awarded on a competitive basis; and

(B) a discussion of any cost comparison conducted by the departmental component or office in evaluating potential contractors for the conference.

(c) Within 15 days after the end of a quarter, the head of any such department, agency, board, commission, or office shall notify the Inspector General or senior ethics official for any entity without an Inspector General, of the date, location, and number of employees attending a conference held by any Executive branch department, agency, board, commission, or office funded by this or any other appropriations Act during fiscal year 2017 for which the cost to the United States Government was more than $20,000.

(d) A grant or contract funded by amounts appropriated by this or any other appropriations Act may not be used for the purpose of defraying the costs of a conference described in subsection (c) that is not directly and programmatically related to the purpose for which the grant or contract was awarded, such as a conference held in connection with planning, training, assessment, review, or other routine purposes related to a project funded by the grant or contract.

(e) None of the funds made available in this or any other appropriations Act may be used for travel and conference activities that are not in compliance with Office of Management and Budget Memorandum M–12–12 dated May 11, 2012 or any subsequent revisions to that memorandum.

SEC. 740. None of the funds made available in this or any other appropriations Act may be used to increase, eliminate, or reduce funding for a program, project, or activity as proposed in the President's budget request for a fiscal year until such proposed change is subsequently enacted in an appropriation Act, or unless such change is made pursuant to the reprogramming or transfer provisions of this or any other appropriations Act.

SEC. 741. None of the funds made available by this or any other Act may be used to implement, administer, enforce, or apply the rule entitled ''Competitive Area'' published by the Office of Personnel Management in the Federal Register on April 15, 2008 (73 Fed. Reg. 20180 et seq.).

SEC. 742. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act may be used to begin or announce a study or public-private competition regarding the conversion to contractor performance of any function performed by Federal employees pursuant to Office of Management and Budget Circular A–76 or any other administrative regulation, directive, or policy.

SEC. 743. (a) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act may be available for a contract, grant, or cooperative agreement with an entity that requires employees or contractors of such entity seeking to report fraud, waste, or abuse to sign internal confidentiality agreements or statements prohibiting or otherwise restricting such employees or contractors from lawfully reporting such waste, fraud, or abuse to a designated investigative or law enforcement representative of a Federal department or agency authorized to receive such information.

(b) The limitation in subsection (a) shall not contravene requirements applicable to Standard Form 312, Form 4414, or any other form issued by a Federal department or agency governing the nondisclosure of classified information.

SEC. 744. (a) No funds appropriated in this or any other Act may be used to implement or enforce the agreements in Standard Forms 312 and 4414 of the Government or any other nondisclosure policy, form, or agreement if such policy, form, or agreement does not contain the following provisions: ''These provisions are consistent with and do not supersede, conflict with, or otherwise alter the employee obligations, rights, or liabilities created by existing statute or Executive order relating to: (1) classified information; (2) communications to Congress; (3) the reporting to an Inspector General of a violation of any law, rule, or regulation, or mismanagement, a gross waste of funds, an abuse of authority, or a substantial and specific danger to public health or safety; or (4) any other whistleblower protection. The definitions, requirements, obligations, rights, sanctions, and liabilities created by controlling Executive orders and statutory provisions are incorporated into this agreement and are controlling.'': *Provided*, That notwithstanding the preceding provision of this section, a nondisclosure policy form or agreement that is to be executed by a person connected with the conduct of an intelligence or intelligence-related activity, other than an employee or officer of the United States Government, may contain provisions appropriate to the particular activity for which such document is to be used. Such form or agreement shall, at a minimum, require that the person will not disclose any classified information received in the course of such activity unless specifically authorized to do so by the United States Government. Such nondisclosure forms shall also make it clear that they do not bar disclosures to Congress, or to an authorized official of an executive agency or the Department of Justice, that are essential to reporting a substantial violation of law.

(b) A nondisclosure agreement may continue to be implemented and enforced notwithstanding subsection (a) if it complies with the requirements for such agreement that were in effect when the agreement was entered into.

(c) No funds appropriated in this or any other Act may be used to implement or enforce any agreement entered into during fiscal year 2014 which does not contain substantially similar language to that required in subsection (a).

SEC. 745. None of the funds made available by this or any other Act may be used to enter into a contract, memorandum of understanding, or cooperative agreement with, make a grant to, or provide a loan or loan guarantee to, any corporation that has any unpaid Federal tax liability that has been assessed, for which all judicial and administrative remedies have been exhausted or have lapsed, and that is not being paid in a timely manner pursuant to an agreement with the authority responsible for collecting the tax liability, where the awarding agency is aware of the unpaid tax liability, unless a Federal agency has considered suspension or debarment of the corporation and has made a determination that this further action is not necessary to protect the interests of the Government.

SEC. 746. None of the funds made available by this or any other Act may be used to enter into a contract, memorandum of understanding, or cooperative agreement with, make a grant to, or provide a loan or loan guarantee to, any corporation that was convicted of a felony criminal violation under any Federal law within the preceding 24 months, where the awarding agency is aware of the conviction, unless a Federal agency has considered suspension or debarment of the corporation and has made a determination that this further action is not necessary to protect the interests of the Government.

SEC. 747. (a) During fiscal year 2017, on the date on which a request is made for a transfer of funds in accordance with section 1017 of Public Law 111–203, the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate of such request.

(b) Any notification required by this section shall be made available on the Bureau's public Web site.

SEC. 748. (a) None of the funds made available under this or any other Act may be used to—

(1) implement, administer, carry out, modify, revise, or enforce Executive Order 13690, entitled ''Establishing a Federal Flood Risk Management Standard and a Process for Further Soliciting and Considering Stakeholder Input'' (issued January 30, 2015), other than for—

(A) acquiring, managing, or disposing of Federal lands and facilities;

(B) providing Federally undertaken, financed, or assisted construction or improvements; or

(C) conducting Federal activities or programs affecting land use, including water and related land resources planning, regulating, and licensing activities;

(2) implement Executive Order 13690 in a manner that modifies the non-grant components of the National Flood Insurance Program; or

(3) apply Executive Order 13690 or the Federal Flood Risk Management Standard by any component of the Department of Defense, including the Army Corps of Engineers in a way that changes the ''floodplain'' considered when determining whether or not to issue a Department of the Army permit under section 404 of the Clean Water Act or section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act.

(b) Subsection (a) of this section shall not be in effect during the period beginning on October 1, 2017 and ending on September 30, 2018.

SEC. 749. Except as expressly provided otherwise, any reference to ''this Act'' contained in any title other than title IV or VIII shall not apply to such title IV or VIII.

TITLE VIII

GENERAL PROVISIONS—DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

SEC. 801. There are appropriated from the applicable funds of the District of Columbia such sums as may be necessary for making refunds and for the payment of legal settlements or judgments that have been entered against the District of Columbia government.

SEC. 802. None of the Federal funds provided in this Act shall be used for publicity or propaganda purposes or implementation of any policy including boycott designed to support or defeat legislation pending before Congress or any State legislature.

SEC. 803. (a) None of the Federal funds provided under this Act to the agencies funded by this Act, both Federal and District government agencies, that remain available for obligation or expenditure in fiscal year 2017, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury of the United States derived by the collection of fees available to the agencies funded by this Act, shall be available for obligation or expenditures for an agency through a reprogramming of funds which—

(1) creates new programs;

(2) eliminates a program, project, or responsibility center;

(3) establishes or changes allocations specifically denied, limited or increased under this Act;

(4) increases funds or personnel by any means for any program, project, or responsibility center for which funds have been denied or restricted;

(5) re-establishes any program or project previously deferred through reprogramming;

(6) augments any existing program, project, or responsibility center through a reprogramming of funds in excess of $3,000,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less; or

(7) increases by 20 percent or more personnel assigned to a specific program, project or responsibility center,

unless prior approval is received from the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

(b) The District of Columbia government is authorized to approve and execute reprogramming and transfer requests of local funds under this title through November 7, 2017.

SEC. 804. None of the Federal funds provided in this Act may be used by the District of Columbia to provide for salaries, expenses, or other costs associated with the offices of United States Senator or United States Representative under section 4(d) of the District of Columbia Statehood Constitutional Convention Initiatives of 1979 (D.C. Law 3–171; D.C. Official Code, sec. 1–123).

SEC. 805. Except as otherwise provided in this section, none of the funds made available by this Act or by any other Act may be used to provide any officer or employee of the District of Columbia with an official vehicle unless the officer or employee uses the vehicle only in the performance of the officer's or employee's official duties. For purposes of this section, the term ''official duties'' does not include travel between the officer's or employee's residence and workplace, except in the case of—

(1) an officer or employee of the Metropolitan Police Department who resides in the District of Columbia or is otherwise designated by the Chief of the Department;

(2) at the discretion of the Fire Chief, an officer or employee of the District of Columbia Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department who resides in the District of Columbia and is on call 24 hours a day;

(3) at the discretion of the Director of the Department of Corrections, an officer or employee of the District of Columbia Department of Corrections who resides in the District of Columbia and is on call 24 hours a day;

(4) at the discretion of the Chief Medical Examiner, an officer or employee of the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner who resides in the District of Columbia and is on call 24 hours a day;

(5) at the discretion of the Director of the Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency, an officer or employee of the Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency who resides in the District of Columbia and is on call 24 hours a day;

(6) the Mayor of the District of Columbia; and

(7) the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia.

SEC. 806. (a) None of the Federal funds contained in this Act may be used by the District of Columbia Attorney General or any other officer or entity of the District government to provide assistance for any petition drive or civil action which seeks to require Congress to provide for voting representation in Congress for the District of Columbia.

(b) Nothing in this section bars the District of Columbia Attorney General from reviewing or commenting on briefs in private lawsuits, or from consulting with officials of the District government regarding such lawsuits.

SEC. 807. None of the Federal funds contained in this Act may be used to distribute any needle or syringe for the purpose of preventing the spread of blood borne pathogens in any location that has been determined by the local public health or local law enforcement authorities to be inappropriate for such distribution.

SEC. 808. Nothing in this Act may be construed to prevent the Council or Mayor of the District of Columbia from addressing the issue of the provision of contraceptive coverage by health insurance plans, but it is the intent of Congress that any legislation enacted on such issue should include a ''conscience clause'' which provides exceptions for religious beliefs and moral convictions.

SEC. 809. (a) None of the Federal funds contained in this Act may be used to enact or carry out any law, rule, or regulation to legalize or otherwise reduce penalties associated with the possession, use, or distribution of any schedule I substance under the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 801 et seq.) or any tetrahydrocannabinols derivative.

(b) No funds available for obligation or expenditure by the District of Columbia government under any authority may be used to enact any law, rule, or regulation to legalize or otherwise reduce penalties associated with the possession, use, or distribution of any schedule I substance under the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 801 et seq.) or any tetrahydrocannabinols derivative for recreational purposes.

SEC. 810. No funds available for obligation or expenditure by the District of Columbia government under any authority shall be expended for any abortion except where the life of the mother would be endangered if the fetus were carried to term or where the pregnancy is the result of an act of rape or incest.

SEC. 811. (a) No later than 30 calendar days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Chief Financial Officer for the District of Columbia shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress, the Mayor, and the Council of the District of Columbia, a revised appropriated funds operating budget in the format of the budget that the District of Columbia government submitted pursuant to section 442 of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act (D.C. Official Code, sec. 1–204.42), for all agencies of the District of Columbia government for fiscal year 2017 that is in the total amount of the approved appropriation and that realigns all budgeted data for personal services and other-than-personal services, respectively, with anticipated actual expenditures.

(b) This section shall apply only to an agency for which the Chief Financial Officer for the District of Columbia certifies that a reallocation is required to address unanticipated changes in program requirements.

SEC. 812. No later than 30 calendar days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Chief Financial Officer for the District of Columbia shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress, the Mayor, and the Council for the District of Columbia, a revised appropriated funds operating budget for the District of Columbia Public Schools that aligns schools budgets to actual enrollment. The revised appropriated funds budget

shall be in the format of the budget that the District of Columbia government submitted pursuant to section 442 of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act (D.C. Official Code, sec. 1–204.42).

SEC. 813. (a) Amounts appropriated in this Act as operating funds may be transferred to the District of Columbia's enterprise and capital funds and such amounts, once transferred, shall retain appropriation authority consistent with the provisions of this Act.

(b) The District of Columbia government is authorized to reprogram or transfer for operating expenses any local funds transferred or reprogrammed in this or the four prior fiscal years from operating funds to capital funds, and such amounts, once transferred or reprogrammed, shall retain appropriation authority consistent with the provisions of this Act.

(c) The District of Columbia government may not transfer or reprogram for operating expenses any funds derived from bonds, notes, or other obligations issued for capital projects.

SEC. 814. None of the Federal funds appropriated in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year, nor may any be transferred to other appropriations, unless expressly so provided herein.

SEC. 815. Except as otherwise specifically provided by law or under this Act, not to exceed 50 percent of unobligated balances remaining available at the end of fiscal year 2017 from appropriations of Federal funds made available for salaries and expenses for fiscal year 2017 in this Act, shall remain available through September 30, 2018, for each such account for the purposes authorized: *Provided*, That a request shall be submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate for approval prior to the expenditure of such funds: *Provided further*, That these requests shall be made in compliance with reprogramming guidelines outlined in section 803 of this Act.

SEC. 816. (a)(1) During fiscal year 2018, during a period in which neither a District of Columbia continuing resolution or a regular District of Columbia appropriation bill is in effect, local funds are appropriated in the amount provided for any project or activity for which local funds are provided in the Act referred to in paragraph (2) (subject to any modifications enacted by the District of Columbia as of the beginning of the period during which this subsection is in effect) at the rate set forth by such Act.

(2) The Act referred to in this paragraph is the Act of the Council of the District of Columbia pursuant to which a proposed budget is approved for fiscal year 2018 which (subject to the requirements of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act) will constitute the local portion of the annual budget for the District of Columbia government for fiscal year 2018 for purposes of section 446 of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act (sec. 1–204.46, D.C. Official Code).

(b) Appropriations made by subsection (a) shall cease to be available—

(1) during any period in which a District of Columbia continuing resolution for fiscal year 2018 is in effect; or

(2) upon the enactment into law of the regular District of Columbia appropriation bill for fiscal year 2018.

(c) An appropriation made by subsection (a) is provided under the authority and conditions as provided under this Act and shall be available to the extent and in the manner that would be provided by this Act.

(d) An appropriation made by subsection (a) shall cover all obligations or expenditures incurred for such project or activity during the portion of fiscal year 2018 for which this section applies to such project or activity.

(e) This section shall not apply to a project or activity during any period of fiscal year 2018 if any other provision of law (other than an authorization of appropriations)—

(1) makes an appropriation, makes funds available, or grants authority for such project or activity to continue for such period; or

(2) specifically provides that no appropriation shall be made, no funds shall be made available, or no authority shall be granted for such project or activity to continue for such period.

(f) Nothing in this section shall be construed to affect obligations of the government of the District of Columbia mandated by other law.

SEC. 817. Except as expressly provided otherwise, any reference to ''this Act'' contained in this title or in title IV shall be treated as referring only to the provisions of this title or of title IV.

TITLE IX—SOAR REAUTHORIZATION

SHORT TITLE; REFERENCES IN TITLE

SEC. 901. (a) SHORT TITLE.—This title may be cited as the ''Scholarships for Opportunity and Results Reauthorization Act'' or the ''SOAR Reauthorization Act''.

(b) REFERENCES IN ACT.—Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever in this title an amendment is expressed in terms of an amendment to or repeal of a section or other provision, the reference shall be considered to be made to that section or other provision of the Scholarships for Opportunity and Results Act (division C of Public Law 112–10; sec. 38–1853.01 et seq., D.C. Official Code).

REPEAL

SEC. 902. Section 817 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2016 (Public Law 114–113) is repealed, and any provision of law amended or repealed by such section is restored or revived as if such section had not been enacted into law.

PURPOSES

SEC. 903. Section 3003 (sec. 38–1853.03, D.C. Official Code) is amended by striking ''particularly parents'' and all that follows through '', with'' and inserting ''particularly parents of students who attend an elementary school or secondary school identified as one of the lowest-performing schools under the District of Columbia's accountability system, with''.

PROHIBITING IMPOSITION OF LIMITS ON TYPES OF ELIGIBLE STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN THE PROGRAM

SEC. 904. Section 3004(a) (sec. 38–1853.04(a), D.C. Official Code) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(3) PROHIBITING IMPOSITION OF LIMITS ON ELIGIBLE STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN THE PROGRAM.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the program under this division, the Secretary may not limit the number of eligible students receiving scholarships under section 3007(a), and may not prevent otherwise eligible students from participating in the program under this division, based on any of the following:

''(i) The type of school the student previously attended.

''(ii) Whether or not the student previously received a scholarship or participated in the program, including whether an eligible student was awarded a scholarship in any previous year but has not used the scholarship, regardless of the number of years of nonuse.

''(iii) Whether or not the student was a member of the control group used by the Institute of Education Sciences to carry out previous evaluations of the program under section 3009.

''(B) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in subparagraph (A) may be construed to waive the requirement under section 3005(b)(1)(B) that the eligible entity carrying out the program under this Act must carry out a random selection process, which gives weight to the priorities described in section 3006, if more eligible students seek admission in the program than the program can accommodate.''.

REQUIRING ELIGIBLE ENTITIES TO UTILIZE INTERNAL FISCAL AND QUALITY CONTROLS

SEC. 905. Section 3005(b)(1) (sec. 38–1853.05(b)(1), D.C. Official Code) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (I), by striking '', except that a participating school may not be required to submit to more than 1 site visit per school year'';

(2) by redesignating subparagraphs (K) and (L) as subparagraphs (L) and (M), respectively;

(3) by inserting after subparagraph (J) the following:

''(K) how the entity will ensure the financial viability of participating schools in which 85 percent or more of the total number of students enrolled at the school are participating eligible students that receive and use an opportunity scholarship;'';

(4) in subparagraph (L), as redesignated by paragraph (2), by striking ''and'' at the end; and

(5) by adding at the end the following:

''(N) how the eligible entity will ensure that it—

''(i) utilizes internal fiscal and quality controls; and

''(ii) complies with applicable financial reporting requirements and the requirements of this division; and''.

CLARIFICATION OF PRIORITIES FOR AWARDING SCHOLARSHIPS TO ELIGIBLE STUDENTS

SEC. 906. Section 3006(1) (sec. 38–1853.06(1), D.C. Official Code) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''attended'' and all that follows through the semicolon and inserting ''attended an elementary school or secondary school identified as one of the lowest-performing schools under the District of Columbia's accountability system; and'';

(2) by striking subparagraph (B);

(3) by redesignating subparagraph (C) as subparagraph (B); and

(4) in subparagraph (B), as redesignated by paragraph (3), by striking the semicolon at the end and inserting ''or whether such students have, in the past, attended a private school;''.

MODIFICATION OF REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS AND ELIGIBLE ENTITIES

SEC. 907. (a) CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS; COMPLIANCE WITH REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—Section 3007(a)(4) (sec. 38–1853.07(a)(4), D.C. Official Code) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (E), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(2) by striking subparagraph (F) and inserting the following:

''(F) ensures that, with respect to core subject matter, participating students are taught by a teacher who has a baccalaureate degree or equivalent degree, whether such degree was awarded in or outside of the United States;''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(G) conducts criminal background checks on school employees who have direct and unsupervised interaction with students; and

''(H) complies with all requests for data and information regarding the reporting requirements described in section 3010.''.

(b) ACCREDITATION.—Section 3007(a) (sec. 38–1853.07(a), D.C. Official Code), as amended by subsection (a), is further amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking ''paragraphs (2) and (3)'' and inserting ''paragraphs (2), (3), and (5)''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(5) ACCREDITATION REQUIREMENTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—None of the funds provided under this division for opportunity scholarships may be used by a participating eligible student to enroll in a participating private school unless the school—

''(i) in the case of a school that is a participating school as of the date of enactment of the SOAR Reauthorization Act—

''(I) is fully accredited by an accrediting body described in any of subparagraphs (A) through (G) of section 2202(16) of the District of Columbia School Reform Act of 1995 (Public Law 104–134; sec. 38–1802.02(16)(A)–(G), D.C. Official Code); or

''(II) if such participating school does not meet the requirements of subclause (I)—

''(aa) not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2016 (Public Law 114–113), the school is pursuing full accreditation by an accrediting body described in subclause (I); and

''(bb) is fully accredited by such an accrediting body not later than 5 years after the date on which that school began the process of pursuing full accreditation in accordance with item (aa); and

''(ii) in the case of a school that is not a participating school as of the date of enactment of the SOAR Reauthorization Act, is fully accredited by an accrediting body described in clause (i)(I) before becoming a participating school under this division.

''(B) REPORTS TO ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—Not later than 5 years after the date of enactment of the SOAR Reauthorization Act, each participating school shall submit to the eligible entity a certification that the school has been fully accredited in accordance with subparagraph (A).

''(C) ASSISTING STUDENTS IN ENROLLING IN OTHER SCHOOLS.—If a participating school fails to meet the requirements of this paragraph, the eligible entity shall assist the parents of the participating eligible students who attend the school in identifying, applying to, and enrolling in another participating school under this division.

''(6) TREATMENT OF STUDENTS AWARDED A SCHOLARSHIP IN A PREVIOUS YEAR.—An eligible entity shall treat a participating eligible student who was awarded an opportunity scholarship in any previous year and who has not used the scholarship as a renewal student and not as a new applicant, without regard as to—

''(A) whether the eligible student has used the scholarship; and

''(B) the year in which the scholarship was previously awarded.''.

(c) USE OF FUNDS FOR ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES AND PARENTAL ASSISTANCE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 3007 (sec. 38–1853.07, D.C. Official Code) is amended—

(A) by striking subsections (b) and (c) and inserting the following:

''(b) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES AND PARENTAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary shall make $2,000,000 of the amount made available under section 3014(a)(1) for each fiscal year available to eligible entities receiving a grant under section 3004(a) to cover the following expenses:

''(1) The administrative expenses of carrying out its program under this division during the year, including—

''(A) determining the eligibility of students to participate;

''(B) selecting the eligible students to receive scholarships;

''(C) determining the amount of the scholarships and issuing the scholarships to eligible students;

''(D) compiling and maintaining financial and programmatic records;

''(E) conducting site visits as described in section 3005(b)(1)(I); and

''(F)(i) conducting a study, including a survey of participating parents, on any barriers for participating eligible students in gaining admission to, or attending, the participating school that is their first choice; and

''(ii) not later than the end of the first full fiscal year after the date of enactment of the SOAR Reauthorization Act, submitting a report to Congress that contains the results of such study.

''(2) The expenses of educating parents about the eligible entity's program under this division, and assisting parents through the application process under this division, including—

''(A) providing information about the program and the participating schools to parents of eligible students, including information on supplemental financial aid that may be available at participating schools;

''(B) providing funds to assist parents of students in meeting expenses that might otherwise preclude the participation of eligible students in the program; and

''(C) streamlining the application process for parents.'';

(B) by redesignating subsection (d) as subsection (c); and

(C) by redesignating subsection (e), as added by section 162(b) of the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2017 (division C of Public Law 114–223, as amended by section 101(3) of the Further Continuing and Security Assistance Appropriations Act, 2017 (Public Law 114–254)), as subsection (d).

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 3007(d) (sec. 38–1853.07(d), D.C. Official Code), as redesignated by paragraph (1)(C), is amended by striking ''subsections (b), (c), and (d)'' each place it appears in paragraphs (2)(B) and (3) and inserting ''subsections (b) and (c)''.

(d) CLARIFICATION OF USE OF FUNDS FOR STUDENT ACADEMIC ASSISTANCE.—Section 3007(c) (sec. 38–1853.07(c), D.C. Official Code), as redesignated by subsection (c)(1)(B), is amended by striking ''previously attended'' and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting ''previously attended an elementary school or secondary school identified as one of the lowest-performing schools under the District of Columbia's accountability system.''.

PROGRAM EVALUATION

SEC. 908. (a) REVISION OF EVALUATION PROCEDURES AND REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 3009(a) (sec. 38–1853.09(a), D.C. Official Code) is amended to read as follows:

''(a) IN GENERAL.—

''(1) DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY AND THE MAYOR.—The Secretary and the Mayor of the District of Columbia shall—

''(A) jointly enter into an agreement with the Institute of Education Sciences of the Department of Education to evaluate annually the opportunity scholarship program under this division;

''(B) jointly enter into an agreement to monitor and evaluate the use of funds authorized and appropriated for the District of Columbia public schools and the District of Columbia public charter schools under this division; and

''(C) make the evaluations described in subparagraphs (A) and (B) public in accordance with subsection (c).

''(2) DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY.—The Secretary, through a grant, contract, or cooperative agreement, shall—

''(A) ensure that the evaluation under paragraph (1)(A)—

''(i) is conducted using an acceptable quasi-experimental research design for determining the effectiveness of the opportunity scholarship program under this division that does not use a control study group consisting of students who applied for but did not receive opportunity scholarships; and

''(ii) addresses the issues described in paragraph (4); and

''(B) disseminate information on the impact of the program—

''(i) on academic achievement and educational attainment of participating eligible students who use an opportunity scholarship; and

''(ii) on students and schools in the District of Columbia.

''(3) DUTIES OF THE INSTITUTE ON EDUCATION SCIENCES.—The Institute of Education Sciences of the Department of Education shall—

''(A) assess participating eligible students who use an opportunity scholarship in each of grades 3 through 8, as well as one of the grades at the high school level, by supervising the administration of the same reading and mathematics assessment used by the District of Columbia public schools to comply with section 1111(b) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6311(b));

''(B) measure the academic achievement of all participating eligible students who use an opportunity scholarship in the grades described in subparagraph (A); and

''(C) work with eligible entities receiving a grant under this division to ensure that the parents of each student who is a participating eligible student that uses an opportunity scholarship agrees to permit their child to participate in the evaluations and assessments carried out by the Institute of Education Sciences under this subsection.

''(4) ISSUES TO BE EVALUATED.—The issues to be evaluated under paragraph (1)(A) shall include the following:

''(A) A comparison of the academic achievement of participating eligible students who use an opportunity scholarship on the measurements described in paragraph (3)(B) to the academic achievement of a comparison group of students with similar backgrounds in the District of Columbia public schools and the District of Columbia public charter schools.

''(B) The success of the program under this division in expanding choice options for parents of participating eligible students and increasing the satisfaction of such parents and students with their choice.

''(C) The reasons parents of participating eligible students choose for their children to participate in the program, including important characteristics for selecting schools.

''(D) A comparison of the retention rates, high school graduation rates, college enrollment rates, college persistence rates, and

college graduation rates of participating eligible students who use an opportunity scholarship with the rates of students in the comparison group described in subparagraph (A).

''(E) A comparison of the college enrollment rates, college persistence rates, and college graduation rates of students who participated in the program in 2004, 2005, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, and 2015 as the result of winning the Opportunity Scholarship Program lottery with such enrollment, persistence, and graduation rates for students who entered but did not win such lottery in those years and who, as a result, served as the control group for previous evaluations of the program under this division. Nothing in this subparagraph may be construed to waive section 3004(a)(3)(A)(iii) with respect to any such student.

''(F) A comparison of the safety of the schools attended by participating eligible students who use an opportunity scholarship and the schools in the District of Columbia attended by students in the comparison group described in subparagraph (A), based on the perceptions of the students and parents.

''(G) An assessment of student academic achievement at participating schools in which 85 percent of the total number of students enrolled at the school are participating eligible students who receive and use an opportunity scholarship.

''(H) Such other issues with respect to participating eligible students who use an opportunity scholarship as the Secretary considers appropriate for inclusion in the evaluation, such as the impact of the program on public elementary schools and secondary schools in the District of Columbia.

''(5) PROHIBITING DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL INFORMATION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Any disclosure of personally identifiable information obtained under this division shall be in compliance with section 444 of the General Education Provisions Act (commonly known as the 'Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974') (20 U.S.C. 1232g).

''(B) STUDENTS NOT ATTENDING PUBLIC SCHOOL.—With respect to any student who is not attending a public elementary school or secondary school, personally identifiable information obtained under this division shall only be disclosed to—

''(i) individuals carrying out the evaluation described in paragraph (1)(A) for such student;

''(ii) the group of individuals providing information for carrying out the evaluation of such student; and

''(iii) the parents of such student.''.

(2) TRANSITION OF EVALUATION.—

(A) TERMINATION OF PREVIOUS EVALUATIONS.—The Secretary of Education shall—

(i) terminate the evaluations conducted under section 3009(a) of the Scholarships for Opportunity and Results Act (sec. 38–1853.09(a), D.C. Official Code), as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this title, after obtaining data for the 2017–2018 school year; and

(ii) submit any reports required for the 2017–2018 school year or preceding years with respect to the evaluations in accordance with section 3009(b) of such Act.

(B) NEW EVALUATIONS.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Effective beginning with respect to the 2018–2019 school year, the Secretary shall conduct new evaluations in accordance with the provisions of section 3009(a) of the Scholarships for Opportunity and Results Act (sec. 38–1853.09(a), D.C. Official Code), as amended by this title.

(ii) MOST RECENT EVALUATION.—As a component of the new evaluations described in clause (i), the Secretary shall continue to monitor and evaluate the students who were evaluated in the most recent evaluation under such section prior to the date of enactment of this title, including by monitoring and evaluating the test scores and other information of such students.

(b) DUTY OF MAYOR TO ENSURE INSTITUTE HAS ALL INFORMATION NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT EVALUATIONS.—Section 3011(a)(1) (sec. 38–1853.11(a)(1), D.C. Official Code) is amended to read as follows:

''(1) INFORMATION NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT EVALUATIONS.—Ensure that all District of Columbia public schools and District of Columbia public charter schools make available to the Institute of Education Sciences of the Department of Education all of the information the Institute requires to carry out the assessments and perform the evaluations required under section 3009(a).''.

FUNDING FOR DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS

SEC. 909. (a) MANDATORY WITHHOLDING OF FUNDS FOR FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH CONDITIONS.—Section 3011(b) (sec. 38–1853.11(b), D.C. Official Code) is amended to read as follows:

''(b) ENFORCEMENT.—If, after reasonable notice and an opportunity for a hearing, the Secretary determines that the Mayor has failed to comply with any of the requirements of subsection (a), the Secretary may withhold from the Mayor, in whole or in part—

''(1) the funds otherwise authorized to be appropriated under section 3014(a)(2), if the failure to comply relates to the District of Columbia public schools;

''(2) the funds otherwise authorized to be appropriated under section 3014(a)(3), if the failure to comply relates to the District of Columbia public charter schools; or

''(3) the funds otherwise authorized to be appropriated under both paragraphs (2) and (3) of section 3014(a), if the failure relates to both the District of Columbia public schools and the District of Columbia public charter schools.''.

(b) RULES FOR USE OF FUNDS PROVIDED FOR SUPPORT OF PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS.—Section 3011 (sec. 38–1853.11, D.C. Official Code) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (b) and (c) as subsections (c) and (d), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after subsection (a) the following new subsection:

''(b) SPECIFIC RULES REGARDING FUNDS PROVIDED FOR SUPPORT OF PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS.—The following rules shall apply with respect to the funds provided under this division for the support of District of Columbia public charter schools:

''(1) The Secretary may direct the funds provided for any fiscal year, or any portion thereof, to the Office of the State Superintendent of Education of the District of Columbia.

''(2) The Office of the State Superintendent of Education of the District of Columbia may transfer the funds to subgrantees that are—

''(A) specific District of Columbia public charter schools or networks of such schools; or

''(B) District of Columbia-based nonprofit organizations with experience in successfully providing support or assistance to District of Columbia public charter schools or networks of such schools.

''(3) The funds provided under this division for the support of District of Columbia public charter schools shall be available to any District of Columbia public charter school in good standing with the District of Columbia Charter School Board, and the Office of the State Superintendent of Education of the District of Columbia and the District of Columbia Charter School Board may not restrict the availability of such funds to certain types of schools on the basis of the school's location, governing body, or the school's facilities.''.

REVISION OF CURRENT MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

SEC. 910. Not later than the beginning of the 2018–2019 school year, the Secretary of Education and the Mayor of the District of Columbia shall revise the memorandum of understanding which is in effect under section 3012(d) of the Scholarships for Opportunity and Results Act as of the day before the date of the enactment of this title to address the following:

(1) The amendments made by this title.

(2) The need to ensure that participating schools under the Scholarships for Opportunity and Results Act meet fire code standards and maintain certificates of occupancy.

(3) The need to ensure that District of Columbia public schools and District of Columbia public charter schools meet the requirements under such Act to comply with all reasonable requests for information necessary to carry out the evaluations required under section 3009(a) of such Act.

DEFINITIONS

SEC. 911. Section 3013 (sec. 38–1853.13, D.C. Official Code) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (1) through (10) as paragraphs (2) through (11), respectively;

(2) by inserting before paragraph (2), as redesignated by paragraph (1), the following:

''(1) CORE SUBJECT MATTER.—The term 'core subject matter' means—

''(A) mathematics;

''(B) science; and

''(C) English, reading, or language arts.''; and

(3) in paragraph (4)(B), as redesignated by paragraph (1), by inserting ''household with a'' before ''student''.

EXTENSION OF AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

SEC. 912. (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3014(a) (sec. 38–1853.14, D.C. Official Code) is amended by striking ''and for each of the 4 succeeding fiscal years'' and inserting ''and for each fiscal year through fiscal year 2019''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect on September 30, 2016.

EFFECTIVE DATE

SEC. 913. Except as otherwise provided, the amendments made by this title shall apply with respect to school year 2018–2019 and each succeeding school year.

This division may be cited as the ''Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2017''.

DIVISION F—DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

TITLE I

DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT, OPERATIONS, INTELLIGENCE, AND OVERSIGHT

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY AND EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT

OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Secretary and for executive management for operations and support, $137,034,000: *Provided*,

That not to exceed $40,000 shall be for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That of the funds provided under this heading, $2,000,000 shall be withheld from obligation until the Secretary complies with section 107 of this Act.

MANAGEMENT DIRECTORATE

OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

For necessary expenses of the Management Directorate for operations and support, $597,817,000, of which $194,092,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That not to exceed $2,000 shall be for official reception and representation expenses.

PROCUREMENT, CONSTRUCTION, AND IMPROVEMENTS

For necessary expenses of the Management Directorate for procurement, construction, and improvements, $18,839,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

For necessary expenses of the Management Directorate for research and development, $2,500,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018.

INTELLIGENCE, ANALYSIS, AND OPERATIONS COORDINATION

OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

For necessary expenses of the Office of Intelligence and Analysis and the Office of Operations Coordination for operations and support, $263,551,000, of which $106,115,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That not to exceed $3,825 shall be for official reception and representation expenses and not to exceed $2,000,000 is available for facility needs associated with secure space at fusion centers, including improvements to buildings.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General for operations and support, $175,000,000: *Provided*, That not to exceed $300,000 may be used for certain confidential operational expenses, including the payment of informants, to be expended at the direction of the Inspector General.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

SEC. 101. The Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives, at the time the President's budget proposal for fiscal year 2018 is submitted pursuant to section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code, the Future Years Homeland Security Program, as authorized by section 874 of Public Law 107–296 (6 U.S.C. 454).

SEC. 102. Not later than 30 days after the last day of each month, the Chief Financial Officer of the Department of Homeland Security shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives a monthly budget and staffing report that includes total obligations of the Department for that month and for the fiscal year at the appropriation and program, project, and activity levels, by the source year of the appropriation.

SEC. 103. (a) Notwithstanding section 518 of Public Law 114–113, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit a report not later than October 15, 2017, to the Inspector General of the Department of Homeland Security listing all grants and contracts awarded by any means other than full and open competition during fiscal years 2016 and 2017.

(b) The Inspector General shall review the report required by subsection (a) to assess departmental compliance with applicable laws and regulations and report the results of that review to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives not later than February 15, 2018.

SEC. 104. The Secretary of Homeland Security shall require that all contracts of the Department of Homeland Security that provide award fees link such fees to successful acquisition outcomes, which shall be specified in terms of cost, schedule, and performance.

SEC. 105. The Secretary of Homeland Security, in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury, shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives of any proposed transfers of funds available under section 9703(g)(4)(B) of title 31, United States Code (as added by Public Law 102–393) from the Department of the Treasury Forfeiture Fund to any agency within the Department of Homeland Security: *Provided*, That none of the funds identified for such a transfer may be obligated until the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives are notified of the proposed transfers.

SEC. 106. All official costs associated with the use of Government aircraft by Department of Homeland Security personnel to support official travel of the Secretary and the Deputy Secretary shall be paid from amounts made available for the Office of the Secretary.

SEC. 107. (a) Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives, the Committees on the Judiciary of the Senate and the House of Representatives, the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate, and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives, a report for fiscal year 2016 on visa overstay data by country as required by section 1376 of title 8, United States Code: *Provided*, That the report on visa overstay data shall also include—

(1) overstays from all nonimmigrant visa categories under the immigration laws, delineated by each of the classes and sub-classes of such categories; and

(2) numbers as well as rates of overstays for each class and sub-class of such nonimmigrant categories on a per-country basis.

(b) The Secretary of Homeland Security shall publish on the Department's Web site the metrics developed to measure the effectiveness of security between the ports of entry, including the methodology and data supporting the resulting measures.

SEC. 108. Within 30 days of the date of enactment of this Act, and monthly thereafter, the Secretary or Chief Financial Officer shall certify to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives whether U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement is administering and executing its Enforcement and Removal Operations activities consistent with available budgetary authority provided by law: *Provided*, That such certification shall include both actual and projected financial obligation data, with the projections informed by seasonality, planned immigration enforcement operations, all relevant enforcement data systems, and other information sources as necessary.

TITLE II

SECURITY, ENFORCEMENT, AND INVESTIGATIONS

U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION

OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

For necessary expenses of U.S. Customs and Border Protection for operations and support, including the transportation of unaccompanied minor aliens; the provision of air and marine support to Federal, State, and local agencies in the enforcement or administration of laws enforced by the Department of Homeland Security; at the discretion of the Secretary of Homeland Security, the provision of such support to Federal, State, and local agencies in other law enforcement and emergency humanitarian efforts; the purchase and lease of up to 7,500 (6,500 for replacement only) police-type vehicles; the purchase, maintenance, or operation of marine vessels, aircraft, and unmanned aerial systems; and contracting with individuals for personal services abroad; $10,900,636,000; of which $3,274,000 shall be derived from the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund for administrative expenses related to the collection of the Harbor Maintenance Fee pursuant to section 9505(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (26 U.S.C. 9505(c)(3)) and notwithstanding section 1511(e)(1) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 551(e)(1)); of which $681,441,500 shall be available until September 30, 2018; and of which such sums as become available in the Customs User Fee Account, except sums subject to section 13031(f)(3) of the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 (19 U.S.C. 58c(f)(3)), shall be derived from that account: *Provided*, That not to exceed $34,425 shall be for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That not to exceed $150,000 shall be available for payment for rental space in connection with preclearance operations: *Provided further*, That not to exceed $1,000,000 shall be for awards of compensation to informants, to be accounted for solely under the certificate of the Secretary of Homeland Security.

PROCUREMENT, CONSTRUCTION, AND IMPROVEMENTS

For necessary expenses for U.S. Customs and Border Protection for procurement, construction, and improvements, including procurements to buy marine vessels, aircraft, and unmanned aerial systems, $273,617,000, of which $252,842,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2019, and of which $20,775,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2021.

U.S. IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT

OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

For necessary expenses of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement for operations and support, including the purchase and lease of up to 3,790 (2,350 for replacement only) police-type vehicles; overseas vetted units; and maintenance, minor construction, and minor leasehold improvements at owned and leased facilities, $6,168,532,000; of which $6,000,000 shall remain available until expended for efforts to enforce laws against forced child labor; of which not less than $15,000,000 shall be available for investigation of intellectual property rights violations, including operation of the National Intellectual Property Rights Coordination Center; of which $18,700,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2018, for the Visa Security Program and investigations abroad; of which

not less than $3,471,806,000 shall be for enforcement, detention, and removal operations, including transportation of unaccompanied minor aliens: *Provided*, That not to exceed $11,475 shall be for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That not to exceed $10,000,000 shall be available until expended for conducting special operations under section 3131 of the Customs Enforcement Act of 1986 (19 U.S.C. 2081): *Provided further*, That not to exceed $2,000,000 shall be for awards of compensation to informants, to be accounted for solely under the certificate of the Secretary of Homeland Security: *Provided further*, That not to exceed $11,216,000 shall be available to fund or reimburse other Federal agencies for the costs associated with the care, maintenance, and repatriation of smuggled aliens unlawfully present in the United States: *Provided further*, That of the funds provided under this heading, $25,000,000 shall be withheld from obligation until the comprehensive plan for immigration data improvement is submitted as required in section 212 of this Act.

PROCUREMENT, CONSTRUCTION, AND IMPROVEMENTS

For necessary expenses of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement for procurement, construction, and improvements, $29,800,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019.

TRANSPORTATION SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

For necessary expenses of the Transportation Security Administration for operations and support, $7,105,047,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That not to exceed $7,650 shall be for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That security service fees authorized under section 44940 of title 49, United States Code, shall be credited to this appropriation as offsetting collections and shall be available only for aviation security: *Provided further*, That the sum appropriated under this heading from the general fund shall be reduced on a dollar-for-dollar basis as such offsetting collections are received during fiscal year 2017 so as to result in a final fiscal year appropriation from the general fund estimated at not more than $4,975,047,000.

PROCUREMENT, CONSTRUCTION, AND IMPROVEMENTS

For necessary expenses of the Transportation Security Administration for procurement, construction, and improvements, $206,093,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

For necessary expenses of the Transportation Security Administration for research and development, $5,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018.

COAST GUARD

OPERATING EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for the operations and maintenance of the Coast Guard, not otherwise provided for; purchase or lease of not to exceed 25 passenger motor vehicles, which shall be for replacement only; purchase or lease of small boats for contingent and emergent requirements (at a unit cost of not more than $700,000) and repairs and service-life replacements, not to exceed a total of $31,000,000; purchase or lease of boats necessary for overseas deployments and activities; purchase, lease, or improvement of other equipment (at a unit cost of not more than $250,000); minor shore construction projects not exceeding $1,000,000 in total cost on any location; payments pursuant to section 156 of Public Law 97–377 (42 U.S.C. 402 note; 96 Stat. 1920); and recreation and welfare; $7,079,628,000; of which $502,692,000 shall be for defense-related activities, of which $162,692,000 is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985; of which $24,500,000 shall be derived from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund to carry out the purposes of section 1012(a)(5) of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2712(a)(5)); and of which $11,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2019, of which $6,000,000 is solely for grants authorized by the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2010 (46 U.S.C. 4502(i) and (j)) and $5,000,000 is to meet the obligations specified in 14 U.S.C. 98(b): *Provided*, That not to exceed $23,000 shall be for official reception and representation expenses.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE AND RESTORATION

For necessary expenses to carry out the environmental compliance and restoration functions of the Coast Guard under chapter 19 of title 14, United States Code, $13,315,000, to remain available until September 30, 2021.

RESERVE TRAINING

For necessary expenses of the Coast Guard Reserve; operations and maintenance of the Coast Guard Reserve Program; personnel and training costs; and equipment and services; $112,302,000.

ACQUISITION, CONSTRUCTION, AND IMPROVEMENTS

For necessary expenses of the Coast Guard for acquisition, construction, renovation, and improvement of aids to navigation, shore facilities (including facilities at Department of Defense installations used by the Coast Guard), vessels, and aircraft, including equipment related thereto, $1,370,007,000; of which $20,000,000 shall be derived from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund to carry out the purposes of section 1012(a)(5) of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2712(a)(5)); and of which $1,256,655,000 shall be available until September 30, 2021, of which $95,000,000 shall be immediately available and allotted to contract for long lead time materials for the tenth National Security Cutter notwithstanding the availability of funds for production or post-production costs.

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST, AND EVALUATION

For necessary expenses of the Coast Guard for research, development, test, and evaluation; and for maintenance, rehabilitation, lease, and operation of facilities and equipment; $36,319,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019, of which $500,000 shall be derived from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund to carry out the purposes of section 1012(a)(5) of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2712(a)(5)): *Provided*, That there may be credited to and used for the purposes of this appropriation funds received from State and local governments, other public authorities, private sources, and foreign countries for expenses incurred for research, development, testing, and evaluation.

RETIRED PAY

For retired pay, including the payment of obligations otherwise chargeable to lapsed appropriations for this purpose, payments under the Retired Serviceman's Family Protection and Survivor Benefits Plans, payment for career status bonuses, concurrent receipts, and combat-related special compensation, and payments for medical care of retired personnel and their dependents under chapter 55 of title 10, United States Code, $1,666,940,000, to remain available until expended.

UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE

OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

For necessary expenses of the United States Secret Service for operations and support, including purchase of not to exceed 652 vehicles for police-type use for replacement only; hire of passenger motor vehicles; purchase of motorcycles made in the United States; hire of aircraft; rental of buildings in the District of Columbia, fencing, lighting, guard booths, and other facilities on private or other property not in Government ownership or control, as may be necessary to perform protective functions; conduct of and participation in firearms matches; presentation of awards; conduct of behavioral research in support of protective intelligence and operations; payment in advance for commercial accommodations as may be necessary to perform protective functions; and payment, without regard to section 5702 of title 5, United States Code, of subsistence expenses of employees who are on protective missions, whether at or away from their duty stations; $1,821,451,000; of which $42,966,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2018, of which $6,000,000 shall be for a grant for activities related to investigations of missing and exploited children; and of which not less than $13,869,000 shall be for activities related to training in electronic crimes investigations and forensics: *Provided*, That not to exceed $19,125 shall be for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That not to exceed $100,000 shall be to provide technical assistance and equipment to foreign law enforcement organizations in counterfeit investigations.

PROCUREMENT, CONSTRUCTION, AND IMPROVEMENTS

For necessary expenses of the United States Secret Service for procurement, construction, and improvements, $90,627,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

For necessary expenses of the United States Secret Service for research and development, $2,500,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

SEC. 201. (a) For fiscal year 2017, the overtime limitation prescribed in section 5(c)(1) of the Act of February 13, 1911 (19 U.S.C. 267(c)(1)) shall be $45,000; and notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds appropriated by this Act shall be available to compensate any employee of U.S. Customs and Border Protection for overtime, from whatever source, in an amount that exceeds such limitation, except in individual cases determined by the Secretary of Homeland Security, or the designee of the Secretary, to be necessary for national security purposes, to prevent excessive costs, or in cases of immigration emergencies.

(b) None of the funds made available by this Act for the following accounts shall be available to compensate any employee for overtime in an annual amount in excess of $45,000:

(1) ''U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement—Operations and Support'', except that the Secretary of Homeland Security, or

the designee of the Secretary, may waive such amount as necessary for national security purposes and in cases of immigration emergencies.

(2) ''United States Secret Service—Operations and Support'', except that the Secretary of Homeland Security, or the designee of the Secretary, may waive such amount as necessary for national security purposes.

SEC. 202. Funding made available under the heading ''U.S. Customs and Border Protection—Operations and Support'' and ''U.S. Customs and Border Protection—Procurement, Construction, and Improvements'' shall be available for customs expenses when necessary to maintain operations and prevent adverse personnel actions in Puerto Rico in addition to funding provided by 48 U.S.C. 740.

SEC. 203. No U.S. Customs and Border Protection aircraft or other related equipment, with the exception of aircraft that are one of a kind and have been identified as excess to U.S. Customs and Border Protection requirements and aircraft that have been damaged beyond repair, shall be transferred to any other Federal agency, department, or office outside of the Department of Homeland Security during fiscal year 2017 without prior notice to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives.

SEC. 204. As authorized by section 601(b) of the United States-Colombia Trade Promotion Agreement Implementation Act (Public Law 112–42), fees collected from passengers arriving from Canada, Mexico, or an adjacent island pursuant to section 13031(a)(5) of the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 (19 U.S.C. 58c(a)(5)) shall be available until expended.

SEC. 205. For an additional amount for ''U.S. Customs and Border Protection—Operations and Support'', $31,000,000, to remain available until expended, to be reduced by amounts collected and credited to this appropriation from amounts authorized to be collected by section 286(i) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1356(i)), section 10412 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 8311), and section 817 of the Trade Facilitation and Trade Enforcement Act of 2015, or other such authorizing language: *Provided*, That to the extent that amounts realized from such collections exceed $31,000,000, those amounts in excess of $31,000,000 shall be credited to this appropriation, to remain available until expended.

SEC. 206. None of the funds made available in this Act for U.S. Customs and Border Protection may be used to prevent an individual not in the business of importing a prescription drug (within the meaning of section 801(g) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act) from importing a prescription drug from Canada that complies with the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act: *Provided*, That this section shall apply only to individuals transporting on their person a personal-use quantity of the prescription drug, not to exceed a 90-day supply: *Provided further*, That the prescription drug may not be—

(1) a controlled substance, as defined in section 102 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 802); or

(2) a biological product, as defined in section 351 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 262).

SEC. 207. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds provided in this or any other Act shall be used to approve a waiver of the navigation and vessel-inspection laws pursuant to 46 U.S.C. 501(b) for the transportation of crude oil distributed from and to the Strategic Petroleum Reserve until the Secretary of Homeland Security, after consultation with the Secretaries of the Departments of Energy and Transportation and representatives from the United States flag maritime industry, takes adequate measures to ensure the use of United States flag vessels: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives, the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives within 2 business days of any request for waivers of navigation and vessel-inspection laws pursuant to 46 U.S.C. 501(b) and the disposition of such requests.

SEC. 208. (a) Beginning on the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall not—

(1) establish, collect, or otherwise impose any new border crossing fee on individuals crossing the Southern border or the Northern border at a land port of entry; or

(2) conduct any study relating to the imposition of a border crossing fee.

(b) In this section, the term ''border crossing fee'' means a fee that every pedestrian, cyclist, and driver and passenger of a private motor vehicle is required to pay for the privilege of crossing the Southern border or the Northern border at a land port of entry.

SEC. 209. Without regard to the limitation as to time and condition of section 503(d) of this Act, the Secretary may reprogram and transfer funds within and into ''U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement—Operations and Support'' as necessary to ensure the detention of aliens prioritized for removal.

SEC. 210. None of the funds provided under the heading ''U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement—Operations and Support'' may be used to continue a delegation of law enforcement authority authorized under section 287(g) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1357(g)) if the Department of Homeland Security Inspector General determines that the terms of the agreement governing the delegation of authority have been materially violated.

SEC. 211. None of the funds provided under the heading ''U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement—Operations and Support'' may be used to continue any contract for the provision of detention services if the two most recent overall performance evaluations received by the contracted facility are less than ''adequate'' or the equivalent median score in any subsequent performance evaluation system.

SEC. 212. (a) Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives a comprehensive plan for immigration data improvement.

(b) The plan required in subsection (a) shall include—

(1) an action plan detailing necessary engagement with Federal partners, major milestones, and an estimated timeline for each of the major milestones leading to completion of the plan;

(2) a staffing plan, detailing the positions and titles for both Federal and contract staff necessary to execute the plan; and

(3) an estimate of the funding necessary to implement the plan.

SEC. 213. Members of the United States House of Representatives and the United States Senate, including the leadership; the heads of Federal agencies and commissions, including the Secretary, Deputy Secretary, Under Secretaries, and Assistant Secretaries of the Department of Homeland Security; the United States Attorney General, Deputy Attorney General, Assistant Attorneys General, and the United States Attorneys; and senior members of the Executive Office of the President, including the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, shall not be exempt from Federal passenger and baggage screening.

SEC. 214. Any award by the Transportation Security Administration to deploy explosives detection systems shall be based on risk, the airport's current reliance on other screening solutions, lobby congestion resulting in increased security concerns, high injury rates, airport readiness, and increased cost effectiveness.

SEC. 215. Notwithstanding section 44923 of title 49, United States Code, for fiscal year 2017, any funds in the Aviation Security Capital Fund established by section 44923(h) of title 49, United States Code, may be used for the procurement and installation of explosives detection systems or for the issuance of other transaction agreements for the purpose of funding projects described in section 44923(a) of such title.

SEC. 216. The reporting requirement in the ninth proviso under the heading ''Transportation Security Administration—Aviation Security'' in the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2016 (Public Law 114–113), shall apply in fiscal year 2017, except that the reference to ''this Act'' shall be treated as referring to this Act.

SEC. 217. None of the funds made available by this or any other Act may be used by the Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration to implement, administer, or enforce, in abrogation of the responsibility described in section 44903(n)(1) of title 49, United States Code, any requirement that airport operators provide airport-financed staffing to monitor exit points from the sterile area of any airport at which the Transportation Security Administration provided such monitoring as of December 1, 2013.

SEC. 218. None of the funds made available by this Act under the heading ''Coast Guard—Operating Expenses'' shall be for expenses incurred for recreational vessels under section 12114 of title 46, United States Code, except to the extent fees are collected from owners of yachts and credited to the appropriation made available by this Act under the heading ''Coast Guard—Operating Expenses'': *Provided*, That to the extent such fees are insufficient to pay expenses of recreational vessel documentation under such section 12114, and there is a backlog of recreational vessel applications, then personnel performing non-recreational vessel documentation functions under subchapter II of chapter 121 of title 46, United States Code, may perform documentation under section 12114.

SEC. 219. Without regard to the limitation as to time and condition of section 503(d) of this Act, after June 30, up to $10,000,000 may be reprogrammed to or from the Military Pay and Allowances funding category within ''Coast Guard—Operating Expenses'' in accordance with subsection (a) of section 503.

SEC. 220. None of the funds in this Act shall be used to reduce the Coast Guard's Operations Systems Center mission or its government-employed or contract staff levels.

SEC. 221. None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be used to conduct, or to implement the results of, a competition under Office of Management and Budget Circular A–

76 for activities performed with respect to the Coast Guard National Vessel Documentation Center.

SEC. 222. Funds made available in this Act may be used to alter operations within the Civil Engineering Program of the Coast Guard nationwide, including civil engineering units, facilities design and construction centers, maintenance and logistics commands, and the Coast Guard Academy, except that none of the funds provided in this Act may be used to reduce operations within any civil engineering unit unless specifically authorized by a statute enacted after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 223. Funds made available under this heading for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism may be allocated by program, project, and activity, notwithstanding section 503 of this Act.

SEC. 224. The United States Secret Service is authorized to obligate funds in anticipation of reimbursements from Federal agencies and entities, as defined in section 105 of title 5, United States Code, for personnel receiving training sponsored by the James J. Rowley Training Center, except that total obligations at the end of the fiscal year shall not exceed total budgetary resources available under the heading ''United States Secret Service—Operations and Support'' at the end of the fiscal year.

SEC. 225. None of the funds made available to the United States Secret Service by this Act or by previous appropriations Acts may be made available for the protection of the head of a Federal agency other than the Secretary of Homeland Security: *Provided*, That the Director of the Secret Service may enter into agreements to provide such protection on a fully reimbursable basis.

SEC. 226. None of the funds made available to the United States Secret Service by this Act or by previous appropriations Acts may be obligated for the purpose of opening a new permanent domestic or overseas office or location unless the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives are notified 15 days in advance of such obligation.

SEC. 227. For purposes of section 503(a)(3) of this Act, up to $15,000,000 may be reprogrammed within ''United States Secret Service—Operations and Support''.

SEC. 228. Funding made available in this Act for ''United States Secret Service—Operations and Support'' is available for travel of United States Secret Service employees on protective missions without regard to the limitations on such expenditures in this or any other Act if the Director of the United States Secret Service or a designee notifies the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives 10 or more days in advance, or as early as practicable, prior to such expenditures.

TITLE III

PROTECTION, PREPAREDNESS, RESPONSE, AND RECOVERY

NATIONAL PROTECTION AND PROGRAMS DIRECTORATE

OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

For necessary expenses of the National Protection and Programs Directorate for operations and support, $1,372,268,000, of which $117,148,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That not to exceed $3,825 shall be for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That of the funds provided under this heading, $20,000,000 shall be withheld from obligation until the Secretary of Homeland Security complies with section 301 of this Act.

FEDERAL PROTECTIVE SERVICE

The revenues and collections of security fees credited to this account shall be available until expended for necessary expenses related to the protection of federally owned and leased buildings and for the operations of the Federal Protective Service.

PROCUREMENT, CONSTRUCTION, AND IMPROVEMENTS

For necessary expenses of the National Protection and Programs Directorate for procurement, construction, and improvements, $440,035,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

For necessary expenses of the National Protection and Programs Directorate for research and development, $6,469,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018.

OFFICE OF HEALTH AFFAIRS

OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

For necessary expenses of the Office of Health Affairs for operations and support, $123,548,000, of which $16,161,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That of the funds provided under this heading, $2,000,000 shall be withheld from obligation for Mission Support until the Chief Medical Officer complies with section 302 of this Act: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Homeland Security may transfer up to $2,000,000 from the funds provided under this heading to ''Science and Technology Directorate—Research and Development'' for the purpose of advancing early detection capabilities related to a bioterrorism event.

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

For necessary expenses of the Federal Emergency Management Agency for operations and support, $1,048,551,000: *Provided*, That not to exceed $2,250 shall be for official reception and representation expenses.

PROCUREMENT, CONSTRUCTION, AND IMPROVEMENTS

For necessary expenses of the Federal Emergency Management Agency for procurement, construction, and improvements, $35,273,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018.

FEDERAL ASSISTANCE

For activities of the Federal Emergency Management Agency for Federal assistance through grants, contracts, cooperative agreements, and other activities, $2,983,458,000, which shall be allocated as follows:

(1) $467,000,000 for the State Homeland Security Grant Program under section 2004 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 605), of which $55,000,000 shall be for Operation Stonegarden: *Provided*, That notwithstanding subsection (c)(4) of such section 2004, for fiscal year 2017, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico shall make available to local and tribal governments amounts provided to the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico under this paragraph in accordance with subsection (c)(1) of such section 2004.

(2) $605,000,000 for the Urban Area Security Initiative under section 2003 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 604), of which $25,000,000 shall be for organizations (as described under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and exempt from tax under section 501(a) of such code) determined by the Secretary of Homeland Security to be at high risk of a terrorist attack.

(3) $100,000,000 for Public Transportation Security Assistance, Railroad Security Assistance, and Over-the-Road Bus Security Assistance under sections 1406, 1513, and 1532 of the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007 (6 U.S.C. 1135, 1163, and 1182), of which $10,000,000 shall be for Amtrak security and $2,000,000 shall be for Over-the-Road Bus Security: *Provided*, That such public transportation security assistance shall be provided directly to public transportation agencies.

(4) $100,000,000 for Port Security Grants in accordance with 46 U.S.C. 70107.

(5) $690,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, of which $345,000,000 shall be for Assistance to Firefighter Grants and $345,000,000 shall be for Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response Grants under sections 33 and 34 respectively of the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 (15 U.S.C. 2229 and 2229a).

(6) $350,000,000 for emergency management performance grants under the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4001), the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121), the Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act of 1977 (42 U.S.C. 7701), 6 U.S.C. 762, and Reorganization Plan No. 3 of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.).

(7) $100,000,000 for the National Predisaster Mitigation Fund under section 203 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5133), to remain available until expended.

(8) $177,531,000 for necessary expenses for Flood Hazard Mapping and Risk Analysis, in addition to and to supplement any other sums appropriated under the National Flood Insurance Fund, and such additional sums as may be provided by States or other political subdivisions for cost-shared mapping activities under 42 U.S.C. 4101(f)(2), to remain available until expended.

(9) $120,000,000 for the emergency food and shelter program under title III of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11331), to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That not to exceed 3.5 percent shall be for total administrative costs.

(10) $273,927,000 to sustain current operations for training, exercises, technical assistance, and other programs.

DISASTER RELIEF FUND

For necessary expenses in carrying out the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.), $7,328,515,000, to remain available until expended, of which $6,713,000,000 shall be for major disasters declared pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.) and is designated by the Congress as being for disaster relief pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(D) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE FUND

For activities under the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4001 et seq.), the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (42 U.S.C. 4001 et seq.), the Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012 (Public Law 112–141, 126 Stat. 916), and the Homeowner Flood Insurance Affordability Act of 2014 (Public Law 113–89; 128 Stat. 1020), $181,799,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, which shall be derived from offsetting amounts collected under section 1308(d) of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4015(d)); of which $13,436,000 shall be available for mission support associated with flood management; and of which $168,363,000 shall be available for flood plain management and flood mapping: *Provided*, That any additional fees collected pursuant to section 1308(d) of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4015(d)) shall be

credited as offsetting collections to this account, to be available for flood plain management and flood mapping: *Provided further*, That in fiscal year 2017, no funds shall be available from the National Flood Insurance Fund under section 1310 of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4017) in excess of—

(1) $147,042,000 for operating expenses and salaries and expenses associated with flood insurance operations;

(2) $1,123,000,000 for commissions and taxes of agents;

(3) such sums as are necessary for interest on Treasury borrowings; and

(4) $175,061,000, which shall remain available until expended, for flood mitigation actions and for flood mitigation assistance under section 1366 of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4104c), notwithstanding sections 1366(e) and 1310(a)(7) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 4104c(e), 4017):

Provided further, That the amounts collected under section 102 of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (42 U.S.C. 4012a) and section 1366(e) of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 shall be deposited in the National Flood Insurance Fund to supplement other amounts specified as available for section 1366 of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, notwithstanding section 102(f)(8), section 1366(e), and paragraphs (1) through (3) of section 1367(b) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 4012a(f)(8), 4104c(e), 4104d(b)(1)–(3)): *Provided further*, That total administrative costs shall not exceed 4 percent of the total appropriation: *Provided further*, That up to $5,000,000 is available to carry out section 24 of the Homeowner Flood Insurance Affordability Act of 2014 (42 U.S.C. 4033).

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 301. The Secretary of Homeland Security, or the designee of the Secretary, shall brief the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives on plans to—

(1) implement a facial recognition matching capability for Automated Biometric Identification System holdings, including the ability to search, store, and match, that is independent of other biometric modalities but scalable for future needs;

(2) accelerate the development of multimodal biometric capability (Homeland Advanced Recognition Technology Increment 2) to ensure that full multi-modal capability is available for stakeholders by the end of fiscal year 2018;

(3) establish a new, equitable governance structure in fiscal year 2017 that ensures stakeholder mission requirements are prioritized for implementation, to include—

(A) a project plan and capability execution schedule for each stakeholder mission;

(B) stakeholder management of all requests for services;

(C) a weighted on-boarding process for new requirements and priorities; and

(D) an executive stakeholder review process; and

(4) demonstrate new agile projects focused on the ability to fuse biographic intelligence information with biometric data.

SEC. 302. The Chief Medical Officer shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives that includes—

(1) a comprehensive strategy and project plan to advance the Nation's early detection capabilities related to a bioterrorism event;

(2) a description of the responsibilities of the Office of Health Affairs, Science and Technology Directorate, and other departmental components as appropriate for implementing such strategy;

(3) a description of technical and operational programmatic efficiencies to be gained by replacing or enhancing the current BioWatch system;

(4) specific timelines and benchmarks for implementation of a new or enhanced system, including, but not limited to—

(A) a mission needs statement;

(B) operational requirements documents;

(C) key performance parameters;

(D) a test and evaluation master plan; and

(E) an acquisition plan and strategy;

(5) an expenditure plan for fiscal year 2017 activities that advance the Nation's early detection capabilities related to a bioterrorism event; and

(6) detailed cost estimates for not less than 5 years for the development of a new or enhanced BioWatch system.

SEC. 303. Notwithstanding section 2008(a)(11) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 609(a)(11)) or any other provision of law, not more than 5 percent of the amount of a grant made available in paragraphs (1) through (4) under ''Federal Emergency Management Agency—Federal Assistance'', may be used by the grantee for expenses directly related to administration of the grant.

SEC. 304. Applications for grants under the heading ''Federal Emergency Management Agency—Federal Assistance'', for paragraphs (1) through (4), shall be made available to eligible applicants not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, eligible applicants shall submit applications not later than 80 days after the grant announcement, and the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency shall act within 65 days after the receipt of an application.

SEC. 305. Under the heading ''Federal Emergency Management Agency—Federal Assistance'', for grants under paragraphs (1) through (4), the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency shall brief the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives 5 full business days in advance of announcing publicly the intention of making an award.

SEC. 306. Under the heading ''Federal Emergency Management Agency—Federal Assistance'', for grants under paragraphs (1) and (2), the installation of communications towers is not considered construction of a building or other physical facility.

SEC. 307. Notwithstanding section 509 of this Act, the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency may use the funds provided under the heading ''Federal Emergency Management Agency—Federal Assistance'' in paragraph (10) to acquire real property for the purpose of establishing or appropriately extending the security buffer zones around Federal Emergency Management Agency training facilities.

SEC. 308. Notwithstanding any other provision of law—

(1) grants awarded to States along the Southwest Border of the United States under sections 2003 or 2004 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 604 and 605) using funds provided under the heading ''Federal Emergency Management Agency—Federal Assistance'' for grants under paragraph (1) in this Act, or under the heading ''Federal Emergency Management Agency—State and Local Programs'' in Public Law 114–4, division F of Public Law 113–76, or division D of Public Law 113–6 may be used by recipients or sub-recipients for costs, or reimbursement of costs, related to providing humanitarian relief to unaccompanied alien children and alien adults accompanied by an alien minor where they are encountered after entering the United States, provided that such costs were incurred between January 1, 2014, and December 31, 2014, or during the award period of performance; and

(2) grants awarded to States under section 2004 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 605) using funds provided under the heading ''Federal Emergency Management Agency—Federal Assistance'' for grants under paragraph (1) in this Act may be used by recipients or sub-recipients for costs, or reimbursement of costs, related to public safety in support of a State declaration of emergency.

SEC. 309. The reporting requirements in paragraphs (1) and (2) under the heading ''Federal Emergency Management Agency—Disaster Relief Fund'' in the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2015 (Public Law 114–4) shall be applied in fiscal year 2017 with respect to budget year 2018 and current fiscal year 2017, respectively, by substituting ''fiscal year 2018'' for ''fiscal year 2016'' in paragraph (1).

SEC. 310. The Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency shall transfer $56,872,752 in unobligated balances made available for the appropriations account for ''Federal Emergency Management Agency—Disaster Assistance Direct Loan Program Account'' by section 4502 of Public Law 110–28 to the appropriations account for ''Federal Emergency Management Agency—Disaster Relief Fund'': *Provided*, That amounts transferred to such account under this section shall be available for any authorized purpose of such account: *Provided further*, That amounts transferred pursuant to this section that were previously designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget are designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 and shall be transferred only if the President subsequently so designates the entire transfer and transmits such designation to the Congress.

SEC. 311. Notwithstanding 42 U.S.C. 5170c(b)(2)(B)(ii), the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency may allow the construction of an earthen levee by a State, local, or tribal government on covered hazard mitigation land: *Provided*, That such construction constitutes part of a flood control project, is constructed of naturally-occurring materials, and conforms to other criteria as established by the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency through policy.

SEC. 312. The aggregate charges assessed during fiscal year 2017, as authorized in title III of the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1999 (42 U.S.C. 5196e), shall not be less than 100 percent of the amounts anticipated by the Department of Homeland Security to be necessary for its Radiological Emergency Preparedness Program for the next fiscal year: *Provided*, That the methodology for assessment and collection of fees shall be fair and equitable and shall reflect costs of providing such services, including administrative costs of collecting such fees: *Provided further*, That such fees shall be deposited in a Radiological Emergency Preparedness Program account as offsetting collections and will become available for authorized purposes on October 1, 2017, and remain available until expended.

TITLE IV

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TRAINING, AND SERVICES

U.S. CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION SERVICES

OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

For necessary expenses of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services for operations and support of the E-Verify Program, $103,912,000.

PROCUREMENT, CONSTRUCTION, AND IMPROVEMENTS

For necessary expenses of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services for procurement, construction, and improvements of the E-Verify Program, $15,227,000.

FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING CENTERS

OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

For necessary expenses of the Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers for operations and support, including the purchase of not to exceed 117 vehicles for police-type use and hire of passenger motor vehicles, and services as authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, $242,518,000, of which up to $50,748,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2018, and of which $27,553,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That not to exceed $7,180 shall be for official reception and representation expenses.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY DIRECTORATE

OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

For necessary expenses of the Science and Technology Directorate for operations and support, including the purchase or lease of not to exceed 5 vehicles, $311,122,000, of which $182,334,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That not to exceed $7,650 shall be for official reception and representation expenses.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

For necessary expenses of the Science and Technology Directorate for research and development, $470,624,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019.

DOMESTIC NUCLEAR DETECTION OFFICE

OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

For necessary expenses of the Domestic Nuclear Detection Office for operations and support, $50,042,000: *Provided*, That not to exceed $2,250 shall be for official reception and representation expenses.

PROCUREMENT, CONSTRUCTION, AND IMPROVEMENTS

For necessary expenses of the Domestic Nuclear Detection Office for procurement, construction, and improvements, $101,053,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

For necessary expenses of the Domestic Nuclear Detection Office for research and development, $155,061,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019.

FEDERAL ASSISTANCE

For necessary expenses of the Domestic Nuclear Detection Office for Federal assistance through grants, contracts, cooperative agreements, and other activities, $46,328,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

SEC. 401. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds otherwise made available to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services may be used to acquire, operate, equip, and dispose of up to 5 vehicles, for replacement only, for areas where the Administrator of General Services does not provide vehicles for lease: *Provided*, That the Director of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services may authorize employees who are assigned to those areas to use such vehicles to travel between the employees' residences and places of employment.

SEC. 402. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services to grant an immigration benefit unless the results of background checks required by law to be completed prior to the granting of the benefit have been received by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, and the results do not preclude the granting of the benefit.

SEC. 403. None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be used to process or approve a competition under Office of Management and Budget Circular A–76 for services provided by employees (including employees serving on a temporary or term basis) of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services of the Department of Homeland Security who are known as Immigration Information Officers, Immigration Service Analysts, Contact Representatives, Investigative Assistants, or Immigration Services Officers.

SEC. 404. (a) Notwithstanding section 1356(n) of title 8, United States Code, of the funds deposited into the Immigration Examinations Fee Account, up to $10,000,000 may be allocated by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services in fiscal year 2017 for the purpose of providing an immigrant integration grants program.

(b) None of the funds made available to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services for grants for immigrant integration under subsection (a) or (c) may be used to provide services to aliens who have not been lawfully admitted for permanent residence.

(c) The Director of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services is authorized in fiscal year 2017, and in each fiscal year thereafter, to solicit, accept, administer, and utilize gifts, including donations of property, for the purpose of providing an immigrant integration grants program and related activities to promote citizenship and immigrant integration: *Provided*, That all sums received under this subsection shall be deposited in a separate account in the general fund of the Treasury to be known as the ''Citizenship Gift and Bequest Account'': *Provided further*, That all funds deposited into the Citizenship Gift and Bequest Account shall remain available until expended, and shall be available in addition to any funds appropriated or otherwise made available for an immigrant integration grants program or other activities to promote citizenship and immigrant integration.

(d) Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit the authority of the Secretary of Homeland Security under section 507 of the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2004 (Public Law 108–90) or any other law with respect to the solicitation and acceptance of gifts.

SEC. 405. The Director of the Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers is authorized to distribute funds to Federal law enforcement agencies for expenses incurred participating in training accreditation.

SEC. 406. The Director of the Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers shall schedule basic or advanced law enforcement training, or both, at all four training facilities under the control of the Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers to ensure that such training facilities are operated at the highest capacity throughout the fiscal year.

SEC. 407. The Federal Law Enforcement Training Accreditation Board, including representatives from the Federal law enforcement community and non-Federal accreditation experts involved in law enforcement training, shall lead the Federal law enforcement training accreditation process to continue the implementation of measuring and assessing the quality and effectiveness of Federal law enforcement training programs, facilities, and instructors.

SEC. 408. (a) There is to be established a ''Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers—Procurement, Construction, and Improvements'' appropriations account for planning, operational development, engineering, and purchases prior to sustainment and for information technology-related procurement, construction, and improvements, including non-tangible assets of the Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers.

(b) The Director of the Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers may accept transfers to the account established by subsection (a) from Government agencies requesting the construction of special use facilities, as authorized by the Economy Act (31 U.S.C. 1535(b)): *Provided*, That the Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers maintain administrative control and ownership upon completion of the facility.

SEC. 409. The functions of the Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers instructor staff shall be classified as inherently governmental for the purpose of the Federal Activities Inventory Reform Act of 1998 (31 U.S.C. 501 note).

TITLE V

GENERAL PROVISIONS

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS AND RESCISSIONS OF FUNDS)

SEC. 501. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year unless expressly so provided herein.

SEC. 502. Subject to the requirements of section 503 of this Act, the unexpended balances of prior appropriations provided for activities in this Act may be transferred to appropriation accounts for such activities established pursuant to this Act, may be merged with funds in the applicable established accounts, and thereafter may be accounted for as one fund for the same time period as originally enacted.

SEC. 503. (a) None of the funds provided by this Act, provided by previous appropriations Acts to the components in or transferred to the Department of Homeland Security that remain available for obligation or expenditure in fiscal year 2017, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury of the United States derived by the collection of fees available to the components funded by this Act, shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a reprogramming of funds that—

(1) creates or eliminates a program, project, or activity, or increases funds for any program, project, or activity for which funds have been denied or restricted by the Congress;

(2) contracts out any function or activity presently performed by Federal employees or any new function or activity proposed to be performed by Federal employees in the President's budget proposal for fiscal year 2017 for the Department of Homeland Security;

(3) augments funding for existing programs, projects, or activities in excess of $5,000,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less;

(4) reduces funding for any program, project, or activity, or numbers of personnel, by 10 percent or more;

(5) reorganizes components; or

(6) results from any general savings from a reduction in personnel that would result in a change in funding levels for programs, projects, or activities as approved by the Congress,

unless the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives are notified at least 15 days in advance of such reprogramming.

(b) Up to 5 percent of any appropriation made available for the current fiscal year for the Department of Homeland Security by this Act or provided by previous appropriations Acts may be transferred between such appropriations if the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives are notified at least 30 days in advance of such transfer, but no such appropriation, except as otherwise specifically provided, shall be increased by more than 10 percent by such transfer.

(c) Notwithstanding subsections (a) and (b), no funds shall be reprogrammed within or transferred between appropriations based upon an initial notification provided after June 30, except in extraordinary circumstances that imminently threaten the safety of human life or the protection of property.

(d) The notification thresholds and procedures set forth in subsections (a), (b), and (c) shall apply to any use of deobligated balances of funds provided in previous Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Acts.

(e) Notwithstanding subsection (b), the Secretary of Homeland Security may transfer to the fund established by 8 U.S.C. 1101 note, up to $20,000,000 from appropriations available to the Department of Homeland Security: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives 5 days in advance of such transfer.

SEC. 504. The Department of Homeland Security Working Capital Fund, established pursuant to section 403 of Public Law 103–356 (31 U.S.C. 501 note), shall continue operations as a permanent working capital fund for fiscal year 2017: *Provided*, That none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available to the Department of Homeland Security may be used to make payments to the Working Capital Fund, except for the activities and amounts allowed in the President's fiscal year 2017 budget: *Provided further*, That funds provided to the Working Capital Fund shall be available for obligation until expended to carry out the purposes of the Working Capital Fund: *Provided further*, That all departmental components shall be charged only for direct usage of each Working Capital Fund service: *Provided further*, That funds provided to the Working Capital Fund shall be used only for purposes consistent with the contributing component: *Provided further*, That the Working Capital Fund shall be paid in advance or reimbursed at rates which will return the full cost of each service: *Provided further*, That the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives shall be notified of any activity added to or removed from the fund: *Provided further*, That for any activity added to the fund, the notification shall identify sources of funds by program, project, and activity: *Provided further*, That the Chief Financial Officer of the Department of Homeland Security shall submit a quarterly execution report with activity-level detail, not later than 30 days after the end of each quarter.

SEC. 505. Except as otherwise specifically provided by law, not to exceed 50 percent of unobligated balances remaining available at the end of fiscal year 2017, as recorded in the financial records at the time of a reprogramming notification, but not later than June 30, 2018, from appropriations for ''Operations and Support'' and for ''Coast Guard—Operating Expenses'', and salaries and expenses for ''Coast Guard—Acquisition, Construction, and Improvements'' and ''Coast Guard—Reserve Training'' for fiscal year 2017 in this Act shall remain available through September 30, 2018, in the account and for the purposes for which the appropriations were provided: *Provided*, That prior to the obligation of such funds, a notification shall be submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives in accordance with section 503 of this Act.

SEC. 506. Funds made available by this Act for intelligence activities are deemed to be specifically authorized by the Congress for purposes of section 504 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 414) during fiscal year 2017 until the enactment of an Act authorizing intelligence activities for fiscal year 2017.

SEC. 507. (a) The Secretary of Homeland Security, or the designee of the Secretary, shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives at least 3 full business days in advance of—

(1) making or awarding a grant allocation, grant, contract, other transaction agreement, or task or delivery order on a Department of Homeland Security multiple award contract, or to issue a letter of intent totaling in excess of $1,000,000;

(2) awarding a task or delivery order requiring an obligation of funds in an amount greater than $10,000,000 from multi-year Department of Homeland Security funds;

(3) making a sole-source grant award; or

(4) announcing publicly the intention to make or award items under paragraph (1), (2), or (3), including a contract covered by the Federal Acquisition Regulation.

(b) If the Secretary of Homeland Security determines that compliance with this section would pose a substantial risk to human life, health, or safety, an award may be made without notification, and the Secretary shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives not later than 5 full business days after such an award is made or letter issued.

(c) A notification under this section—

(1) may not involve funds that are not available for obligation; and

(2) shall include the amount of the award; the fiscal year for which the funds for the award were appropriated; the type of contract; and the account from which the funds are being drawn.

SEC. 508. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no agency shall purchase, construct, or lease any additional facilities, except within or contiguous to existing locations, to be used for the purpose of conducting Federal law enforcement training without advance notification to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives, except that the Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers is authorized to obtain the temporary use of additional facilities by lease, contract, or other agreement for training that cannot be accommodated in existing Center facilities.

SEC. 509. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used for expenses for any construction, repair, alteration, or acquisition project for which a prospectus otherwise required under chapter 33 of title 40, United States Code, has not been approved, except that necessary funds may be expended for each project for required expenses for the development of a proposed prospectus.

SEC. 510. Sections 520, 522, and 530 of the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2008 (division E of Public Law 110–161; 121 Stat. 2073 and 2074) shall apply with respect to funds made available in this Act in the same manner as such sections applied to funds made available in that Act.

SEC. 511. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used in contravention of the applicable provisions of the Buy American Act: *Provided*, That for purposes of the preceding sentence, the term ''Buy American Act'' means chapter 83 of title 41, United States Code.

SEC. 512. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to amend the oath of allegiance required by section 337 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1448).

SEC. 513. Section 519 of division F of Public Law 114–113, regarding a prohibition on funding for any position designated as a Principal Federal Official, shall apply with respect to funds made available in this Act in the same manner as such section applied to funds made available in that Act.

SEC. 514. Section 831 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 391) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking ''Until September 30, 2016,'' and inserting ''Until September 30, 2017,''; and

(2) in subsection (c)(1), by striking ''September 30, 2016,'' and inserting ''September 30, 2017,''.

SEC. 515. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used for planning, testing, piloting, or developing a national identification card.

SEC. 516. Any official that is required by this Act to report or to certify to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives may not delegate such authority to perform that act unless specifically authorized herein.

SEC. 517. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available in this or any other Act may be used to transfer, release, or assist in the transfer or release to or within the United States, its territories, or possessions Khalid Sheikh Mohammed or any other detainee who—

(1) is not a United States citizen or a member of the Armed Forces of the United States; and

(2) is or was held on or after June 24, 2009, at the United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, by the Department of Defense.

SEC. 518. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used for first-class travel by the employees of agencies funded by this Act in contravention of sections 301–10.122 through 301–10.124 of title 41, Code of Federal Regulations.

SEC. 519. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to employ workers described in section 274A(h)(3) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1324a(h)(3)).

SEC. 520. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to pay award or incentive fees for contractor performance that has been judged to be below satisfactory performance or performance that does not meet the basic requirements of a contract.

SEC. 521. In developing any process to screen aviation passengers and crews for

transportation or national security purposes, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall ensure that all such processes take into consideration such passengers' and crews' privacy and civil liberties consistent with applicable laws, regulations, and guidance.

SEC. 522. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used by the Department of Homeland Security to enter into any Federal contract unless such contract is entered into in accordance with the requirements of subtitle I of title 41, United States Code, or chapter 137 of title 10, United States Code, and the Federal Acquisition Regulation, unless such contract is otherwise authorized by statute to be entered into without regard to the above referenced statutes.

SEC. 523. For an additional amount for ''Management Directorate—Procurement, Construction, and Improvements'', $13,253,000, to remain available until expended, for necessary expenses to plan, acquire, design, construct, renovate, remediate, equip, furnish, improve infrastructure, and occupy buildings and facilities for the Department headquarters consolidation project.

SEC. 524. (a) For an additional amount for financial systems modernization, $41,215,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018.

(b) Funds made available in subsection (a) for financial systems modernization may be transferred by the Secretary of Homeland Security between appropriations for the same purpose, notwithstanding section 503 of this Act.

(c) No transfer described in subsection (b) shall occur until 15 days after the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives are notified of such transfer.

SEC. 525. (a) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to maintain or establish a computer network unless such network blocks the viewing, downloading, and exchanging of pornography.

(b) Nothing in subsection (a) shall limit the use of funds necessary for any Federal, State, tribal, or local law enforcement agency or any other entity carrying out criminal investigations, prosecution, or adjudication activities.

SEC. 526. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used by a Federal law enforcement officer to facilitate the transfer of an operable firearm to an individual if the Federal law enforcement officer knows or suspects that the individual is an agent of a drug cartel unless law enforcement personnel of the United States continuously monitor or control the firearm at all times.

SEC. 527. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to pay for the travel to or attendance of more than 50 employees of a single component of the Department of Homeland Security, who are stationed in the United States, at a single international conference unless the Secretary of Homeland Security, or a designee, determines that such attendance is in the national interest and notifies the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives within at least 10 days of that determination and the basis for that determination: *Provided*, That for purposes of this section the term ''international conference'' shall mean a conference occurring outside of the United States attended by representatives of the United States Government and of foreign governments, international organizations, or nongovernmental organizations: *Provided further*, That the total cost to the Department of Homeland Security of any such conference shall not exceed $500,000.

SEC. 528. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to reimburse any Federal department or agency for its participation in a National Special Security Event.

SEC. 529. None of the funds made available to the Department of Homeland Security by this or any other Act may be obligated for any structural pay reform that affects more than 100 full-time positions or costs more than $5,000,000 in a single year before the end of the 30-day period beginning on the date on which the Secretary of Homeland Security submits to Congress a notification that includes—

(1) the number of full-time positions affected by such change;

(2) funding required for such change for the current year and through the Future Years Homeland Security Program;

(3) justification for such change; and

(4) an analysis of compensation alternatives to such change that were considered by the Department.

SEC. 530. (a) Any agency receiving funds made available in this Act shall, subject to subsections (b) and (c), post on the public website of that agency any report required to be submitted by the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives in this Act, upon the determination by the head of the agency that it shall serve the national interest.

(b) Subsection (a) shall not apply to a report if—

(1) the public posting of the report compromises homeland or national security; or

(2) the report contains proprietary information.

(c) The head of the agency posting such report shall do so only after such report has been made available to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives for not less than 45 days except as otherwise specified in law.

SEC. 531. None of the funds made available by this Act may be obligated or expended to implement the Arms Trade Treaty until the Senate approves a resolution of ratification for the Treaty.

SEC. 532. Within 60 days of any budget submission for the Department of Homeland Security for fiscal year 2018 that assumes revenues or proposes a reduction from the previous year based on user fees proposals that have not been enacted into law prior to the submission of the budget, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall provide the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives specific reductions in proposed discretionary budget authority commensurate with the revenues assumed in such proposals in the event that they are not enacted prior to October 1, 2017.

SEC. 533. (a) Funding provided in this Act for ''Operations and Support'' may be used for minor procurement, construction, and improvements.

(b) For purposes of subsection (a), ''minor'' refers to end items with a unit cost of $250,000 or less for personal property, and $2,000,000 or less for real property.

(RESCISSIONS)

SEC. 534. Of the funds appropriated to the Department of Homeland Security, the following funds are hereby rescinded from the following accounts and programs in the specified amounts: *Provided*, That no amounts may be rescinded from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (Public Law 99–177):

(1) $95,000,000 from Public Law 109–88;

(2) $3,000,000 from unobligated prior year balances from ''Office of the Chief Information Officer'';

(3) $31,293,000 from unobligated prior year balances from ''U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Automation Modernization'';

(4) $21,150,000 from unobligated prior year balances from ''U.S. Customs and Border Protection—Border Security, Fencing, Infrastructure, and Technology'';

(5) $21,450,000 from unobligated prior year balances from ''U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Air and Marine Operations'';

(6) $20,690,000 from unobligated prior year balances from ''U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Construction and Facilities Management'';

(7) $13,500,000 from Public Law 114–4 under the heading ''U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Salaries and Expenses'';

(8) $45,000,000 from Public Law 114–113 under the heading ''U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Salaries and Expenses'';

(9) $2,900,000 from unobligated prior year balances from ''U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Construction'';

(10) $104,650,000 from Public Law 114–113 under the heading ''Transportation Security Administration—Aviation Security'';

(11) $2,582,000 from Public Law 114–113 under the heading ''Transportation Security Administration—Surface Transportation Security'';

(12) $9,930,000 from Public Law 114–113 under the heading ''Transportation Security Administration—Intelligence and Vetting'';

(13) $2,518,000 from Public Law 114–113 under the heading ''Transportation Security Administration, Transportation Security Support'';

(14) $4,200,000 from Public Law 113–6 under the heading ''Coast Guard—Acquisition, Construction, and Improvements'';

(15) $19,300,000 from Public Law 113–76 under the heading ''Coast Guard—Acquisition, Construction, and Improvements'';

(16) $16,500,000 from Public Law 114–4 under the heading ''Coast Guard, Acquisition, Construction, and Improvements'';

(17) $31,000,000 from Public Law 114–113 under the heading ''Coast Guard—Acquisition, Construction, and Improvements'';

(18) $11,071,000 from unobligated prior year balances from ''Federal Emergency Management Agency, State and Local Programs'' account 70 0560;

(19) $977,289 from Public Law 113–76 under the heading ''Science and Technology—Research, Development, Acquisition, and Operations'';

(20) $5,000,000 from Public Law 114–4 under the heading ''Science and Technology—Research, Development, Acquisition, and Operations''; and

(21) $1,522,711 from Public Law 114–113 under the heading ''Science and Technology—Research, Development, Acquisition, and Operations''.

(RESCISSIONS)

SEC. 535. Of the funds transferred to the Department of Homeland Security when it was created in 2003, the following funds are hereby rescinded from the following accounts and programs in the specified amounts:

(1) $277,827 from ''Customs and Border Protection—Salaries and Expenses'';

(2) $621,375 from ''Immigrations and Customs Enforcement'';

(3) $84,268 from ''Immigrations and Customs Enforcement—Violent Crime Fund'';

(4) $499,074 from ''Transportation Security Administration—Salaries and Expenses'';

(5) $244,764 from ''United States Coast Guard—Acquisition, Construction and Improvements—IDS Aircraft'';

(6) $98,532 from ''United States Coast Guard—Acquisition, Construction and Improvements—IDS Vessels''; and

(7) $15,562 from ''Federal Emergency Management Association—Office of Domestic Preparedness''.

(RESCISSION)

SEC. 536. The following unobligated balances made available to the Department of Homeland Security pursuant to section 505 of the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2016 (Public Law 114–113) are rescinded:

(1) $45,676 from ''Office of the Chief Financial Officer'';

(2) $28,726 from ''Office of the Chief Information Officer'';

(3) $73,013 from ''Office of the Secretary and Executive Management'';

(4) $475,792 from ''Analysis and Operations'';

(5) $111,886 from ''Office of the Inspector General'';

(6) $11,536,855 from ''U.S. Customs and Border Protection—Salaries and Expenses'';

(7) $587,034 from ''U.S. Customs and Border Protection—Automation Modernization'';

(8) $241,044 from ''U.S. Customs and Border Protection—Air and Marine Interdiction, Operations, Maintenance, and Procurement'';

(9) $15,807,298 from ''Coast Guard—Operation Expenses'';

(10) $746,434 from ''Coast Guard—Reserve Training'';

(11) $310,872 from ''Coast Guard—Acquisition, Construction and Improvements'';

(12) $8,340,572 from ''United States Secret Service—Salaries and Expenses'';

(13) $332,309 from ''Federal Emergency Management Agency—State and Local Programs'';

(14) $48,524 from ''Federal Emergency Management Agency—United States Fire Administration'';

(15) $1,275,569 from ''Federal Emergency Management Agency—Management and Administration'';

(16) $59,453 from ''Office of Health Affairs'';

(17) $625,696 from ''United States Citizenship and Immigration Services—Salaries and Expenses'';

(18) $372,881 from ''Federal Law Enforcement Training Center—Salaries and Expenses'';

(19) $1,094,894 from ''Transportation Security Agency—Aviation Security''; and

(20) $228,240 from ''Transportation Security Agency—Transportation Security Support''.

(RESCISSION)

SEC. 537. From the unobligated balances available in the Department of the Treasury Forfeiture Fund established by section 9703 of title 31, United States Code (added by section 638 of Public Law 102–393), $187,000,000 shall be rescinded.

(RESCISSION)

SEC. 538. Of the unobligated balances made available to ''Federal Emergency Management Agency—Disaster Relief Fund'', $789,248,000 shall be rescinded: *Provided*, That no amounts may be rescinded from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended: *Provided further*, That no amounts may be rescinded from the amounts that were designated by the Congress as being for disaster relief pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(D) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SEC. 539. Section 401(b) of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1324a note) shall be applied by substituting ''September 30, 2017'' for ''September 30, 2015''.

SEC. 540. Subclauses 101(a)(27)(C)(ii)(II) and (III) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(27)(C)(ii)(II) and (III)) shall be applied by substituting ''September 30, 2017'' for ''September 30, 2015''.

SEC. 541. Section 220(c) of the Immigration and Nationality Technical Corrections Act of 1994 (8 U.S.C. 1182 note) shall be applied by substituting ''September 30, 2017'' for ''September 30, 2015''.

SEC. 542. Section 610(b) of the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1993 (8 U.S.C. 1153 note) shall be applied by substituting ''September 30, 2017'' for ''September 30, 2015''.

SEC. 543. Notwithstanding the numerical limitation set forth in section 214(g)(1)(B) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1184(g)(1)(B)), the Secretary of Homeland Security, after consultation with the Secretary of Labor, and upon the determination that the needs of American businesses cannot be satisfied in fiscal year 2017 with United States workers who are willing, qualified, and able to perform temporary nonagricultural labor, may increase the total number of aliens who may receive a visa under section 101(a)(15)(H)(ii)(b) of such Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(H)(ii)(b)) in such fiscal year above such limitation by not more than the highest number of H–2B nonimmigrants who participated in the H–2B returning worker program in any fiscal year in which returning workers were exempt from such numerical limitation.

SEC. 544. (a) For an additional amount for ''Federal Emergency Management Agency—Federal Assistance'', $41,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, exclusively for providing reimbursement of extraordinary law enforcement personnel costs for protection activities directly and demonstrably associated with any residence of the President that is designated or identified to be secured by the United States Secret Service.

(b) Funds under subsection (a) shall be available only for costs that a State or local agency—

(1) incurs after January 20, 2017, and before October 1, 2017;

(2) can demonstrate to the Administrator as being—

(A) in excess of the costs of normal and typical law enforcement operations;

(B) directly attributable to the provision of protection described herein; and

(C) associated with a non-governmental property designated or identified to be secured by the United States Secret Service pursuant to section 3 or section 4 of the Presidential Protection Assistance Act of 1976 (Public Law 94–524); and

(3) certifies to the Administrator as being for protection activities requested by the Director of the United States Secret Service.

(c) For purposes of subsection (a), a designation or identification of a property to be secured under subsection (b)(2)(C) made after incurring otherwise eligible costs shall apply retroactively to January 20, 2017.

(d) The Administrator may establish written criteria consistent with subsections (a) and (b).

(e) None of the funds provided shall be for hiring new or additional personnel.

(f) The Inspector General of the Department of Homeland Security shall audit reimbursements made under this section.

TITLE VI

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY—ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

SECURITY, ENFORCEMENT, AND INVESTIGATIONS

U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION

OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

For an additional amount for ''Operations and Support'', $274,813,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, which shall be available as follows:

(1) $91,315,000 for border security technology deployment;

(2) $47,500,000 to address facilities maintenance backlogs;

(3) $65,400,000 for improving hiring processes for Border Patrol Agents, Customs Officers, and Air and Marine personnel, and for relocation enhancements;

(4) $22,400,000 for border road maintenance; and

(5) $48,198,000 for surge operations.

PROCUREMENT, CONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENTS

For an additional amount for ''Procurement, Construction, and Improvements'', $497,400,000, to remain available until September 30, 2021, which shall be available based on the highest priority border security requirements as follows:

(1) $341,200,000 to replace approximately 40 miles of existing primary pedestrian and vehicle border fencing along the southwest border using previously deployed and operationally effective designs, such as currently deployed steel bollard designs, that prioritize agent safety; and to add gates to existing barriers;

(2) $78,800,000 for acquisition and deployment of border security technology; and

(3) $77,400,000 for new border road construction:

Provided, That the Secretary of Homeland Security shall, not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives a risk-based plan for improving security along the borders of the United States, including the use of personnel, fencing, other forms of tactical infrastructure, and technology, that—

(1) defines goals, objectives, activities, and milestones;

(2) includes a detailed implementation schedule with estimates for the planned obligation of funds for fiscal year 2017 through fiscal year 2021 that are linked to the milestone-based delivery of specific—

(A) capabilities and services;

(B) mission benefits and outcomes;

(C) program management capabilities; and

(D) lifecycle cost estimates;

(3) describes how specific projects under the plan will enhance border security goals and objectives and address the highest priority border security needs;

(4) identifies the planned locations, quantities, and types of resources, such as fencing, other physical barriers, or other tactical infrastructure and technology;

(5) includes a description of the methodology and analyses used to select specific resources for deployment to particular locations that includes—

(A) analyses of alternatives, including comparative costs and benefits;

(B) effects on communities and property owners near areas of infrastructure deployment; and

(C) other factors critical to the decision-making process;

(6) identifies staffing requirements, including full-time equivalents, contractors, and detailed personnel, by activity;

(7) identifies performance metrics for assessing and reporting on the contributions of border security capabilities realized from current and future investments;

(8) reports on the status of the Department of Homeland Security's actions to address open recommendations by the Office of Inspector General and the Government Accountability Office related to border security, including plans, schedules, and associated milestones for fully addressing such recommendations; and

(9) includes certifications by the Under Secretary for Management, including all documents, memoranda, and a description of the investment review and information technology management oversight and processes supporting such certifications, that—

(A) the program has been reviewed and approved in accordance with an acquisition review management process that complies with capital planning and investment control and review requirements established by the Office of Management and Budget, including as provided in Circular A–11, part 7; and

(B) all planned activities comply with Federal acquisition rules, requirements, guidelines, and practices.

U.S. IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT

OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

For an additional amount for ''Operations and Support'', $236,908,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, of which $147,870,000 shall be available for custody operations; of which $57,392,000 shall be available for alternatives to detention; and of which $31,646,000 shall be available for transportation and removal operations.

UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE

OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

For an additional amount for ''Operations and Support'', $58,012,000, to remain available until September 30, 2017.

PROCUREMENT, CONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENTS

For an additional amount for ''Procurement, Construction, and Improvements'' for necessary expenses for Presidential security, $72,988,000, of which $22,988,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2019, and of which $50,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2021.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—THIS TITLE

SEC. 601. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds made available in this title are in addition to amounts appropriated or otherwise made available for the Department of Homeland Security for fiscal year 2017.

This division may be cited as the ''Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2017''.

DIVISION G—DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

TITLE I

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

MANAGEMENT OF LANDS AND RESOURCES

For necessary expenses for protection, use, improvement, development, disposal, cadastral surveying, classification, acquisition of easements and other interests in lands, and performance of other functions, including maintenance of facilities, as authorized by law, in the management of lands and their resources under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management, including the general administration of the Bureau, and assessment of mineral potential of public lands pursuant to section 1010(a) of Public Law 96–487 (16 U.S.C. 3150(a)), $1,095,375,000, to remain available until expended, including all such amounts as are collected from permit processing fees, as authorized but made subject to future appropriation by section 35(d)(3)(A)(i) of the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C. 191), except that amounts from permit processing fees may be used for any bureau-related expenses associated with the processing of oil and gas applications for permits to drill and related use of authorizations; of which $3,000,000 shall be available in fiscal year 2017 subject to a match by at least an equal amount by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation for cost-shared projects supporting conservation of Bureau lands; and such funds shall be advanced to the Foundation as a lump-sum grant without regard to when expenses are incurred.

In addition, $39,696,000 is for Mining Law Administration program operations, including the cost of administering the mining claim fee program, to remain available until expended, to be reduced by amounts collected by the Bureau and credited to this appropriation from mining claim maintenance fees and location fees that are hereby authorized for fiscal year 2017, so as to result in a final appropriation estimated at not more than $1,095,375,000, and $2,000,000, to remain available until expended, from communication site rental fees established by the Bureau for the cost of administering communication site activities.

LAND ACQUISITION

For expenses necessary to carry out sections 205, 206, and 318(d) of Public Law 94–579, including administrative expenses and acquisition of lands or waters, or interests therein, $31,416,000, to be derived from the Land and Water Conservation Fund and to remain available until expended.

OREGON AND CALIFORNIA GRANT LANDS

For expenses necessary for management, protection, and development of resources and for construction, operation, and maintenance of access roads, reforestation, and other improvements on the revested Oregon and California Railroad grant lands, on other Federal lands in the Oregon and California land-grant counties of Oregon, and on adjacent rights-of-way; and acquisition of lands or interests therein, including existing connecting roads on or adjacent to such grant lands; $106,985,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That 25 percent of the aggregate of all receipts during the current fiscal year from the revested Oregon and California Railroad grant lands is hereby made a charge against the Oregon and California land-grant fund and shall be transferred to the General Fund in the Treasury in accordance with the second paragraph of subsection (b) of title II of the Act of August 28, 1937 (43 U.S.C. 1181f).

RANGE IMPROVEMENTS

For rehabilitation, protection, and acquisition of lands and interests therein, and improvement of Federal rangelands pursuant to section 401 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1751), notwithstanding any other Act, sums equal to 50 percent of all moneys received during the prior fiscal year under sections 3 and 15 of the Taylor Grazing Act (43 U.S.C. 315b, 315m) and the amount designated for range improvements from grazing fees and mineral leasing receipts from Bankhead-Jones lands transferred to the Department of the Interior pursuant to law, but not less than $10,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That not to exceed $600,000 shall be available for administrative expenses.

SERVICE CHARGES, DEPOSITS, AND FORFEITURES

For administrative expenses and other costs related to processing application documents and other authorizations for use and disposal of public lands and resources, for costs of providing copies of official public land documents, for monitoring construction, operation, and termination of facilities in conjunction with use authorizations, and for rehabilitation of damaged property, such amounts as may be collected under Public Law 94–579 (43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.), and under section 28 of the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C. 185), to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any provision to the contrary of section 305(a) of Public Law 94–579 (43 U.S.C. 1735(a)), any moneys that have been or will be received pursuant to that section, whether as a result of forfeiture, compromise, or settlement, if not appropriate for refund pursuant to section 305(c) of that Act (43 U.S.C. 1735(c)), shall be available and may be expended under the authority of this Act by the Secretary to improve, protect, or rehabilitate any public lands administered through the Bureau of Land Management which have been damaged by the action of a resource developer, purchaser, permittee, or any unauthorized person, without regard to whether all moneys collected from each such action are used on the exact lands damaged which led to the action: *Provided further*, That any such moneys that are in excess of amounts needed to repair damage to the exact land for which funds were collected may be used to repair other damaged public lands.

MISCELLANEOUS TRUST FUNDS

In addition to amounts authorized to be expended under existing laws, there is hereby appropriated such amounts as may be contributed under section 307 of Public Law 94–579 (43 U.S.C. 1737), and such amounts as may be advanced for administrative costs, surveys, appraisals, and costs of making conveyances of omitted lands under section 211(b) of that Act (43 U.S.C. 1721(b)), to remain available until expended.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

The Bureau of Land Management may carry out the operations funded under this Act by direct expenditure, contracts, grants, cooperative agreements and reimbursable agreements with public and private entities, including with States. Appropriations for the Bureau shall be available for purchase, erection, and dismantlement of temporary structures, and alteration and maintenance of necessary buildings and appurtenant facilities to which the United States has title; up to $100,000 for payments, at the discretion of the Secretary, for information or evidence concerning violations of laws administered by the Bureau; miscellaneous and emergency expenses of enforcement activities authorized or approved by the Secretary and to be accounted for solely on the Secretary's certificate, not to exceed $10,000: *Provided*, That notwithstanding Public Law 90–620 (44 U.S.C. 501), the Bureau may, under cooperative cost-sharing and partnership arrangements authorized by law, procure printing services from cooperators in connection with jointly produced publications for which the cooperators share the cost of printing either in cash

or in services, and the Bureau determines the cooperator is capable of meeting accepted quality standards: *Provided further*, That projects to be funded pursuant to a written commitment by a State government to provide an identified amount of money in support of the project may be carried out by the Bureau on a reimbursable basis. Appropriations herein made shall not be available for the destruction of healthy, unadopted, wild horses and burros in the care of the Bureau or its contractors or for the sale of wild horses and burros that results in their destruction for processing into commercial products: *Provided further*, That section 35 of the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C. 191) shall be applied for fiscal year 2017 as if the following were inserted after the period in subsection (d)(4):

''(5) There is appropriated to the Fee Account established in subsection (c)(3)(B)(ii) of this section, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, $26,000,000 for fiscal year 2017, to remain available until expended, for the processing of applications for permit to drill and related use authorizations, to be reduced by amounts collected by the Bureau and transferred to such Fee Account pursuant to subsection (d)(3)(A)(ii) of this section, so as to result in a final fiscal year 2017 appropriation from the general fund estimated at not more than $0. Any offsetting receipts received in excess of $26,000,000 in fiscal year 2017 that would have otherwise been transferred to the Fee Account established in subsection (c)(3)(B)(ii) of this section pursuant to subsection (d)(3)(A)(ii) of this section shall instead be deposited in the general fund of the Treasury.''.

UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

For necessary expenses of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, as authorized by law, and for scientific and economic studies, general administration, and for the performance of other authorized functions related to such resources, $1,258,761,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That not to exceed $20,515,000 shall be used for implementing subsections (a), (b), (c), and (e) of section 4 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1533) (except for processing petitions, developing and issuing proposed and final regulations, and taking any other steps to implement actions described in subsection (c)(2)(A), (c)(2)(B)(i), or (c)(2)(B)(ii)), of which not to exceed $4,605,000 shall be used for any activity regarding the designation of critical habitat, pursuant to subsection (a)(3), excluding litigation support, for species listed pursuant to subsection (a)(1) prior to October 1, 2015; of which not to exceed $1,501,000 shall be used for any activity regarding petitions to list species that are indigenous to the United States pursuant to subsections (b)(3)(A) and (b)(3)(B); and, of which not to exceed $1,504,000 shall be used for implementing subsections (a), (b), (c), and (e) of section 4 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1533) for species that are not indigenous to the United States.

CONSTRUCTION

For construction, improvement, acquisition, or removal of buildings and other facilities required in the conservation, management, investigation, protection, and utilization of fish and wildlife resources, and the acquisition of lands and interests therein; $18,615,000, to remain available until expended.

LAND ACQUISITION

For expenses necessary to carry out chapter 2003 of title 54, United States Code, including administrative expenses, and for acquisition of land or waters, or interest therein, in accordance with statutory authority applicable to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, $59,995,000, to be derived from the Land and Water Conservation Fund and to remain available until expended, of which, notwithstanding section 200306 of title 54, United States Code, not more than $10,000,000 shall be for land conservation partnerships authorized by the Highlands Conservation Act of 2004, including not to exceed $320,000 for administrative expenses: *Provided*, That none of the funds appropriated for specific land acquisition projects may be used to pay for any administrative overhead, planning or other management costs.

COOPERATIVE ENDANGERED SPECIES CONSERVATION FUND

For expenses necessary to carry out section 6 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1535), $53,495,000, to remain available until expended, of which $22,695,000 is to be derived from the Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund; and of which $30,800,000 is to be derived from the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE FUND

For expenses necessary to implement the Act of October 17, 1978 (16 U.S.C. 715s), $13,228,000.

NORTH AMERICAN WETLANDS CONSERVATION FUND

For expenses necessary to carry out the provisions of the North American Wetlands Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 4401 et seq.), $38,145,000, to remain available until expended.

NEOTROPICAL MIGRATORY BIRD CONSERVATION

For expenses necessary to carry out the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 6101 et seq.), $3,910,000, to remain available until expended.

MULTINATIONAL SPECIES CONSERVATION FUND

For expenses necessary to carry out the African Elephant Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 4201 et seq.), the Asian Elephant Conservation Act of 1997 (16 U.S.C. 4261 et seq.), the Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Act of 1994 (16 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.), the Great Ape Conservation Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.), and the Marine Turtle Conservation Act of 2004 (16 U.S.C. 6601 et seq.), $11,061,000, to remain available until expended.

STATE AND TRIBAL WILDLIFE GRANTS

For wildlife conservation grants to States and to the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, the United States Virgin Islands, the Northern Mariana Islands, American Samoa, and Indian tribes under the provisions of the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 and the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, for the development and implementation of programs for the benefit of wildlife and their habitat, including species that are not hunted or fished, $62,571,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of the amount provided herein, $4,209,000 is for a competitive grant program for Indian tribes not subject to the remaining provisions of this appropriation: *Provided further*, That $6,362,000 is for a competitive grant program to implement approved plans for States, territories, and other jurisdictions and at the discretion of affected States, the regional Associations of fish and wildlife agencies, not subject to the remaining provisions of this appropriation: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall, after deducting $10,571,000 and administrative expenses, apportion the amount provided herein in the following manner: (1) to the District of Columbia and to the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, each a sum equal to not more than one-half of 1 percent thereof; and (2) to Guam, American Samoa, the United States Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, each a sum equal to not more than one-fourth of 1 percent thereof: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall apportion the remaining amount in the following manner: (1) one-third of which is based on the ratio to which the land area of such State bears to the total land area of all such States; and (2) two-thirds of which is based on the ratio to which the population of such State bears to the total population of all such States: *Provided further*, That the amounts apportioned under this paragraph shall be adjusted equitably so that no State shall be apportioned a sum which is less than 1 percent of the amount available for apportionment under this paragraph for any fiscal year or more than 5 percent of such amount: *Provided further*, That the Federal share of planning grants shall not exceed 75 percent of the total costs of such projects and the Federal share of implementation grants shall not exceed 65 percent of the total costs of such projects: *Provided further*, That the non-Federal share of such projects may not be derived from Federal grant programs: *Provided further*, That any amount apportioned in 2017 to any State, territory, or other jurisdiction that remains unobligated as of September 30, 2018, shall be reapportioned, together with funds appropriated in 2019, in the manner provided herein.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

The United States Fish and Wildlife Service may carry out the operations of Service programs by direct expenditure, contracts, grants, cooperative agreements and reimbursable agreements with public and private entities. Appropriations and funds available to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service shall be available for repair of damage to public roads within and adjacent to reservation areas caused by operations of the Service; options for the purchase of land at not to exceed $1 for each option; facilities incident to such public recreational uses on conservation areas as are consistent with their primary purpose; and the maintenance and improvement of aquaria, buildings, and other facilities under the jurisdiction of the Service and to which the United States has title, and which are used pursuant to law in connection with management, and investigation of fish and wildlife resources: *Provided*, That notwithstanding 44 U.S.C. 501, the Service may, under cooperative cost sharing and partnership arrangements authorized by law, procure printing services from cooperators in connection with jointly produced publications for which the cooperators share at least one-half the cost of printing either in cash or services and the Service determines the cooperator is capable of meeting accepted quality standards: *Provided further*, That the Service may accept donated aircraft as replacements for existing aircraft: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302, all fees collected for non-toxic shot review and approval shall be deposited under the heading ''United States Fish and Wildlife Service—Resource Management'' and shall be available to the Secretary, without further appropriation, to be used for expenses of processing of such non-toxic shot type or coating applications and revising regulations

as necessary, and shall remain available until expended.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

OPERATION OF THE NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM

For expenses necessary for the management, operation, and maintenance of areas and facilities administered by the National Park Service and for the general administration of the National Park Service, $2,425,018,000, of which $10,032,000 for planning and interagency coordination in support of Everglades restoration and $124,461,000 for maintenance, repair, or rehabilitation projects for constructed assets shall remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That funds appropriated under this heading in this Act are available for the purposes of section 5 of Public Law 95–348.

NATIONAL RECREATION AND PRESERVATION

For expenses necessary to carry out recreation programs, natural programs, cultural programs, heritage partnership programs, environmental compliance and review, international park affairs, and grant administration, not otherwise provided for, $62,638,000.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION FUND

For expenses necessary in carrying out the National Historic Preservation Act (division A of subtitle III of title 54, United States Code), $80,910,000, to be derived from the Historic Preservation Fund and to remain available until September 30, 2018, of which $5,000,000 shall be for Save America's Treasures grants for preservation of national significant sites, structures, and artifacts as authorized by section 7303 of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (54 U.S.C. 3089): *Provided*, That an individual Save America's Treasures grant shall be matched by non-Federal funds: *Provided further*, That individual projects shall only be eligible for one grant: *Provided further*, That all projects to be funded shall be approved by the Secretary of the Interior in consultation with the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That of the funds provided for the Historic Preservation Fund, $500,000 is for competitive grants for the survey and nomination of properties to the National Register of Historic Places and as National Historic Landmarks associated with communities currently underrepresented, as determined by the Secretary, $13,000,000 is for competitive grants to preserve the sites and stories of the Civil Rights movement, and $4,000,000 is for grants to Historically Black Colleges and Universities: *Provided further*, That such competitive grants shall be made without imposing the matching requirements in section 302902(b)(3) of title 54, United States Code to States and Indian tribes as defined in chapter 3003 of such title, Native Hawaiian organizations, local governments, including Certified Local Governments, and nonprofit organizations.

CONSTRUCTION

For construction, improvements, repair, or replacement of physical facilities, and compliance and planning for programs and areas administered by the National Park Service, $209,353,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, for any project initially funded in fiscal year 2017 with a future phase indicated in the National Park Service 5-Year Line Item Construction Plan, a single procurement may be issued which includes the full scope of the project: *Provided further*, That the solicitation and contract shall contain the clause availability of funds found at 48 CFR 52.232–18: *Provided further*, That National Park Service Donations, Park Concessions Franchise Fees, and Recreation Fees may be made available for the cost of adjustments and changes within the original scope of effort for projects funded by the National Park Service Construction appropriation: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of the Interior shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations, in accordance with current reprogramming thresholds, prior to making any charges authorized by this section.

LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND

(RESCISSION)

The contract authority provided for fiscal year 2017 by section 200308 of title 54, United States Code, is rescinded.

LAND ACQUISITION AND STATE ASSISTANCE

For expenses necessary to carry out chapter 2003 of title 54, United States Code, including administrative expenses, and for acquisition of lands or waters, or interest therein, in accordance with the statutory authority applicable to the National Park Service, $162,029,000, to be derived from the Land and Water Conservation Fund and to remain available until expended, of which $110,006,000 is for the State assistance program and of which $10,000,000 shall be for the American Battlefield Protection Program grants as authorized by chapter 3081 of title 54, United States Code.

CENTENNIAL CHALLENGE

For expenses necessary to carry out the provisions of section 101701 of title 54, United States Code, relating to challenge cost share agreements, $20,000,000, to remain available until expended, for Centennial Challenge projects and programs: *Provided*, That not less than 50 percent of the total cost of each project or program shall be derived from non-Federal sources in the form of donated cash, assets, or a pledge of donation guaranteed by an irrevocable letter of credit.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

In addition to other uses set forth in section 101917(c)(2) of title 54, United States Code, franchise fees credited to a sub-account shall be available for expenditure by the Secretary, without further appropriation, for use at any unit within the National Park System to extinguish or reduce liability for Possessory Interest or leasehold surrender interest. Such funds may only be used for this purpose to the extent that the benefitting unit anticipated franchise fee receipts over the term of the contract at that unit exceed the amount of funds used to extinguish or reduce liability. Franchise fees at the benefitting unit shall be credited to the sub-account of the originating unit over a period not to exceed the term of a single contract at the benefitting unit, in the amount of funds so expended to extinguish or reduce liability.

For the costs of administration of the Land and Water Conservation Fund grants authorized by section 105(a)(2)(B) of the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006 (Public Law 109–432), the National Park Service may retain up to 3 percent of the amounts which are authorized to be disbursed under such section, such retained amounts to remain available until expended.

National Park Service funds may be transferred to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Department of Transportation, for purposes authorized under 23 U.S.C. 204. Transfers may include a reasonable amount for FHWA administrative support costs.

UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

SURVEYS, INVESTIGATIONS, AND RESEARCH

For expenses necessary for the United States Geological Survey to perform surveys, investigations, and research covering topography, geology, hydrology, biology, and the mineral and water resources of the United States, its territories and possessions, and other areas as authorized by 43 U.S.C. 31, 1332, and 1340; classify lands as to their mineral and water resources; give engineering supervision to power permittees and Federal Energy Regulatory Commission licensees; administer the minerals exploration program (30 U.S.C. 641); conduct inquiries into the economic conditions affecting mining and materials processing industries (30 U.S.C. 3, 21a, and 1603; 50 U.S.C. 98g(1)) and related purposes as authorized by law; and to publish and disseminate data relative to the foregoing activities; $1,085,167,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018; of which $71,237,189 shall remain available until expended for satellite operations; and of which $7,280,000 shall be available until expended for deferred maintenance and capital improvement projects that exceed $100,000 in cost: *Provided*, That none of the funds provided for the ecosystem research activity shall be used to conduct new surveys on private property, unless specifically authorized in writing by the property owner: *Provided further*, That no part of this appropriation shall be used to pay more than one-half the cost of topographic mapping or water resources data collection and investigations carried on in cooperation with States and municipalities.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

From within the amount appropriated for activities of the United States Geological Survey such sums as are necessary shall be available for contracting for the furnishing of topographic maps and for the making of geophysical or other specialized surveys when it is administratively determined that such procedures are in the public interest; construction and maintenance of necessary buildings and appurtenant facilities; acquisition of lands for gauging stations and observation wells; expenses of the United States National Committee for Geological Sciences; and payment of compensation and expenses of persons employed by the Survey duly appointed to represent the United States in the negotiation and administration of interstate compacts: *Provided*, That activities funded by appropriations herein made may be accomplished through the use of contracts, grants, or cooperative agreements as defined in section 6302 of title 31, United States Code: *Provided further*, That the United States Geological Survey may enter into contracts or cooperative agreements directly with individuals or indirectly with institutions or nonprofit organizations, without regard to 41 U.S.C. 6101, for the temporary or intermittent services of students or recent graduates, who shall be considered employees for the purpose of chapters 57 and 81 of title 5, United States Code, relating to compensation for travel and work injuries, and chapter 171 of title 28, United States Code, relating to tort claims, but shall not be considered to be Federal employees for any other purposes.

BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT

OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT

For expenses necessary for granting leases, easements, rights-of-way and agreements for use for oil and gas, other minerals, energy, and marine-related purposes on the Outer Continental Shelf and approving operations

related thereto, as authorized by law; for environmental studies, as authorized by law; for implementing other laws and to the extent provided by Presidential or Secretarial delegation; and for matching grants or cooperative agreements, $169,560,000, of which $74,616,000, is to remain available until September 30, 2018 and of which $94,944,000 is to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That this total appropriation shall be reduced by amounts collected by the Secretary and credited to this appropriation from additions to receipts resulting from increases to lease rental rates in effect on August 5, 1993, and from cost recovery fees from activities conducted by the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management pursuant to the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act, including studies, assessments, analysis, and miscellaneous administrative activities: *Provided further*, That the sum herein appropriated shall be reduced as such collections are received during the fiscal year, so as to result in a final fiscal year 2017 appropriation estimated at not more than $74,616,000: *Provided further*, That not to exceed $3,000 shall be available for reasonable expenses related to promoting volunteer beach and marine cleanup activities.

BUREAU OF SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT

OFFSHORE SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT

(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

For expenses necessary for the regulation of operations related to leases, easements, rights-of-way and agreements for use for oil and gas, other minerals, energy, and marine-related purposes on the Outer Continental Shelf, as authorized by law; for enforcing and implementing laws and regulations as authorized by law and to the extent provided by Presidential or Secretarial delegation; and for matching grants or cooperative agreements, $136,772,000, of which $93,242,000 is to remain available until September 30, 2018 and of which $43,530,000 is to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That this total appropriation shall be reduced by amounts collected by the Secretary and credited to this appropriation from additions to receipts resulting from increases to lease rental rates in effect on August 5, 1993, and from cost recovery fees from activities conducted by the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement pursuant to the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act, including studies, assessments, analysis, and miscellaneous administrative activities: *Provided further*, That the sum herein appropriated shall be reduced as such collections are received during the fiscal year, so as to result in a final fiscal year 2017 appropriation estimated at not more than $93,242,000.

For an additional amount, $53,000,000, to remain available until expended, to be reduced by amounts collected by the Secretary and credited to this appropriation, which shall be derived from non-refundable inspection fees collected in fiscal year 2017, as provided in this Act: *Provided*, That to the extent that amounts realized from such inspection fees exceed $53,000,000, the amounts realized in excess of $53,000,000 shall be credited to this appropriation and remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That for fiscal year 2017, not less than 50 percent of the inspection fees expended by the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement will be used to fund personnel and mission-related costs to expand capacity and expedite the orderly development, subject to environmental safeguards, of the Outer Continental Shelf pursuant to the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1331 et seq.), including the review of applications for permits to drill.

Of the unobligated balances available for this account, $25,000,000 are permanently rescinded.

OIL SPILL RESEARCH

For necessary expenses to carry out title I, section 1016, title IV, sections 4202 and 4303, title VII, and title VIII, section 8201 of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990, $14,899,000, which shall be derived from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund, to remain available until expended.

OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT

REGULATION AND TECHNOLOGY

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977, Public Law 95–87, $121,017,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That appropriations for the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement may provide for the travel and per diem expenses of State and tribal personnel attending Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement sponsored training.

In addition, for costs to review, administer, and enforce permits issued by the Office pursuant to section 507 of Public Law 95–87 (30 U.S.C. 1257), $40,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That fees assessed and collected by the Office pursuant to such section 507 shall be credited to this account as discretionary offsetting collections, to remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That the sum herein appropriated from the general fund shall be reduced as collections are received during the fiscal year, so as to result in a fiscal year 2017 appropriation estimated at not more than $121,017,000.

ABANDONED MINE RECLAMATION FUND

For necessary expenses to carry out title IV of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977, Public Law 95–87, $27,163,000, to be derived from receipts of the Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund and to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That pursuant to Public Law 97–365, the Department of the Interior is authorized to use up to 20 percent from the recovery of the delinquent debt owed to the United States Government to pay for contracts to collect these debts: *Provided further*, That funds made available under title IV of Public Law 95–87 may be used for any required non-Federal share of the cost of projects funded by the Federal Government for the purpose of environmental restoration related to treatment or abatement of acid mine drainage from abandoned mines: *Provided further*, That such projects must be consistent with the purposes and priorities of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act: *Provided further*, That amounts provided under this heading may be used for the travel and per diem expenses of State and tribal personnel attending Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement sponsored training.

In addition, $105,000,000, to remain available until expended, for grants to States for reclamation of abandoned mine lands and other related activities in accordance with the terms and conditions in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act): *Provided*, That such additional amount shall be used for economic and community development in conjunction with the priorities in section 403(a) of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 (30 U.S.C. 1233(a)): *Provided further*, That of such additional amount, $75,000,000 shall be distributed in equal amounts to the 3 Appalachian States with the greatest amount of unfunded needs to meet the priorities described in paragraphs (1) and (2) of such section, and $30,000,000 shall be distributed in equal amounts to the 3 Appalachian States with the subsequent greatest amount of unfunded needs to meet such priorities: *Provided further*, That such additional amount shall be allocated to States within 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS AND BUREAU OF INDIAN EDUCATION

OPERATION OF INDIAN PROGRAMS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For expenses necessary for the operation of Indian programs, as authorized by law, including the Snyder Act of November 2, 1921 (25 U.S.C. 13), the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act of 1975 (25 U.S.C. 450 et seq.), the Education Amendments of 1978 (25 U.S.C. 2001–2019), and the Tribally Controlled Schools Act of 1988 (25 U.S.C. 2501 et seq.), $2,339,346,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, except as otherwise provided herein; of which not to exceed $8,500 may be for official reception and representation expenses; of which not to exceed $74,773,000 shall be for welfare assistance payments: *Provided*, That in cases of designated Federal disasters, the Secretary may exceed such cap, from the amounts provided herein, to provide for disaster relief to Indian communities affected by the disaster: *Provided further*, That federally recognized Indian tribes and tribal organizations of federally recognized Indian tribes may use their tribal priority allocations for unmet welfare assistance costs: *Provided further*, That not to exceed $652,362,000 for school operations costs of Bureau-funded schools and other education programs shall become available on July 1, 2017, and shall remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided further*, That not to exceed $49,122,000 shall remain available until expended for housing improvement, road maintenance, attorney fees, litigation support, land records improvement, and the Navajo-Hopi Settlement Program: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, including but not limited to the Indian Self-Determination Act of 1975 (25 U.S.C. 450f et seq.) and section 1128 of the Education Amendments of 1978 (25 U.S.C. 2008), not to exceed $80,165,000 within and only from such amounts made available for school operations shall be available for administrative cost grants associated with grants approved prior to July 1, 2017: *Provided further*, That any forestry funds allocated to a federally recognized tribe which remain unobligated as of September 30, 2018, may be transferred during fiscal year 2019 to an Indian forest land assistance account established for the benefit of the holder of the funds within the holder's trust fund account: *Provided further*, That any such unobligated balances not so transferred shall expire on September 30, 2019: *Provided further*, That in order to enhance the safety of Bureau field employees, the Bureau may use funds to purchase uniforms or other identifying articles of clothing for personnel.

CONTRACT SUPPORT COSTS

For payments to tribes and tribal organizations for contract support costs associated with Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act agreements with the Bureau of Indian Affairs for fiscal year 2017, such sums as may be necessary, which shall

be available for obligation through September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, no amounts made available under this heading shall be available for transfer to another budget account.

CONSTRUCTION

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For construction, repair, improvement, and maintenance of irrigation and power systems, buildings, utilities, and other facilities, including architectural and engineering services by contract; acquisition of lands, and interests in lands; and preparation of lands for farming, and for construction of the Navajo Indian Irrigation Project pursuant to Public Law 87–483, $192,017,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such amounts as may be available for the construction of the Navajo Indian Irrigation Project may be transferred to the Bureau of Reclamation: *Provided further*, That not to exceed 6 percent of contract authority available to the Bureau of Indian Affairs from the Federal Highway Trust Fund may be used to cover the road program management costs of the Bureau: *Provided further*, That any funds provided for the Safety of Dams program pursuant to 25 U.S.C. 13 shall be made available on a nonreimbursable basis: *Provided further*, That for fiscal year 2017, in implementing new construction, replacement facilities construction, or facilities improvement and repair project grants in excess of $100,000 that are provided to grant schools under Public Law 100–297, the Secretary of the Interior shall use the Administrative and Audit Requirements and Cost Principles for Assistance Programs contained in 43 CFR part 12 as the regulatory requirements: *Provided further*, That such grants shall not be subject to section 12.61 of 43 CFR; the Secretary and the grantee shall negotiate and determine a schedule of payments for the work to be performed: *Provided further*, That in considering grant applications, the Secretary shall consider whether such grantee would be deficient in assuring that the construction projects conform to applicable building standards and codes and Federal, tribal, or State health and safety standards as required by 25 U.S.C. 2005(b), with respect to organizational and financial management capabilities: *Provided further*, That if the Secretary declines a grant application, the Secretary shall follow the requirements contained in 25 U.S.C. 2504(f): *Provided further*, That any disputes between the Secretary and any grantee concerning a grant shall be subject to the disputes provision in 25 U.S.C. 2507(e): *Provided further*, That in order to ensure timely completion of construction projects, the Secretary may assume control of a project and all funds related to the project, if, within 18 months of the date of enactment of this Act, any grantee receiving funds appropriated in this Act or in any prior Act, has not completed the planning and design phase of the project and commenced construction: *Provided further*, That this appropriation may be reimbursed from the Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians appropriation for the appropriate share of construction costs for space expansion needed in agency offices to meet trust reform implementation.

INDIAN LAND AND WATER CLAIM SETTLEMENTS AND MISCELLANEOUS PAYMENTS TO INDIANS

For payments and necessary administrative expenses for implementation of Indian land and water claim settlements pursuant to Public Laws 99–264, 100–580, 101–618, 111–11, 111–291, and 114–322, and for implementation of other land and water rights settlements, $45,045,000, to remain available until expended.

INDIAN GUARANTEED LOAN PROGRAM ACCOUNT

For the cost of guaranteed loans and insured loans, $8,757,000, of which $1,182,000 is for administrative expenses, as authorized by the Indian Financing Act of 1974: *Provided*, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: *Provided further*, That these funds are available to subsidize total loan principal, any part of which is to be guaranteed or insured, not to exceed $120,050,595.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

The Bureau of Indian Affairs may carry out the operation of Indian programs by direct expenditure, contracts, cooperative agreements, compacts, and grants, either directly or in cooperation with States and other organizations.

Notwithstanding 25 U.S.C. 15, the Bureau of Indian Affairs may contract for services in support of the management, operation, and maintenance of the Power Division of the San Carlos Irrigation Project.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no funds available to the Bureau of Indian Affairs for central office oversight and Executive Direction and Administrative Services (except executive direction and administrative services funding for Tribal Priority Allocations, regional offices, and facilities operations and maintenance) shall be available for contracts, grants, compacts, or cooperative agreements with the Bureau of Indian Affairs under the provisions of the Indian Self-Determination Act or the Tribal Self-Governance Act of 1994 (Public Law 103–413).

In the event any tribe returns appropriations made available by this Act to the Bureau of Indian Affairs, this action shall not diminish the Federal Government's trust responsibility to that tribe, or the government-to-government relationship between the United States and that tribe, or that tribe's ability to access future appropriations.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no funds available to the Bureau of Indian Education, other than the amounts provided herein for assistance to public schools under 25 U.S.C. 452 et seq., shall be available to support the operation of any elementary or secondary school in the State of Alaska.

No funds available to the Bureau of Indian Education shall be used to support expanded grades for any school or dormitory beyond the grade structure in place or approved by the Secretary of the Interior at each school in the Bureau of Indian Education school system as of October 1, 1995, except that the Secretary of the Interior may waive this prohibition to support expansion of up to one additional grade when the Secretary determines such waiver is needed to support accomplishment of the mission of the Bureau of Indian Education. Appropriations made available in this or any prior Act for schools funded by the Bureau shall be available, in accordance with the Bureau's funding formula, only to the schools in the Bureau school system as of September 1, 1996, and to any school or school program that was reinstated in fiscal year 2012. Funds made available under this Act may not be used to establish a charter school at a Bureau-funded school (as that term is defined in section 1141 of the Education Amendments of 1978 (25 U.S.C. 2021)), except that a charter school that is in existence on the date of the enactment of this Act and that has operated at a Bureau-funded school before September 1, 1999, may continue to operate during that period, but only if the charter school pays to the Bureau a pro rata share of funds to reimburse the Bureau for the use of the real and personal property (including buses and vans), the funds of the charter school are kept separate and apart from Bureau funds, and the Bureau does not assume any obligation for charter school programs of the State in which the school is located if the charter school loses such funding. Employees of Bureau-funded schools sharing a campus with a charter school and performing functions related to the charter school's operation and employees of a charter school shall not be treated as Federal employees for purposes of chapter 171 of title 28, United States Code.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, including section 113 of title I of appendix C of Public Law 106–113, if in fiscal year 2003 or 2004 a grantee received indirect and administrative costs pursuant to a distribution formula based on section 5(f) of Public Law 101–301, the Secretary shall continue to distribute indirect and administrative cost funds to such grantee using the section 5(f) distribution formula.

Funds available under this Act may not be used to establish satellite locations of schools in the Bureau school system as of September 1, 1996, except that the Secretary may waive this prohibition in order for an Indian tribe to provide language and cultural immersion educational programs for nonpublic schools located within the jurisdictional area of the tribal government which exclusively serve tribal members, do not include grades beyond those currently served at the existing Bureau-funded school, provide an educational environment with educator presence and academic facilities comparable to the Bureau-funded school, comply with all applicable Tribal, Federal, or State health and safety standards, and the Americans with Disabilities Act, and demonstrate the benefits of establishing operations at a satellite location in lieu of incurring extraordinary costs, such as for transportation or other impacts to students such as those caused by busing students extended distances: *Provided*, That no funds available under this Act may be used to fund operations, maintenance, rehabilitation, construction or other facilities-related costs for such assets that are not owned by the Bureau: *Provided further*, That the term ''satellite school'' means a school location physically separated from the existing Bureau school by more than 50 miles but that forms part of the existing school in all other respects.

Of the prior year unobligated balances available for the ''Operation of Indian Programs'' account, $3,400,000 are permanently rescinded.

DEPARTMENTAL OFFICES

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

DEPARTMENTAL OPERATIONS

For necessary expenses for management of the Department of the Interior, including the collection and disbursement of royalties, fees, and other mineral revenue proceeds, and for grants and cooperative agreements, as authorized by law, $271,074,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018; of which not to exceed $15,000 may be for official reception and representation expenses; and of which up to $1,000,000 shall be available for workers compensation payments and unemployment compensation payments associated

with the orderly closure of the United States Bureau of Mines; and of which $11,000,000 for the Office of Valuation Services is to be derived from the Land and Water Conservation Fund and shall remain available until expended; and of which $38,300,000 shall remain available until expended for the purpose of mineral revenue management activities: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, $15,000 under this heading shall be available for refunds of overpayments in connection with certain Indian leases in which the Secretary concurred with the claimed refund due, to pay amounts owed to Indian allottees or tribes, or to correct prior unrecoverable erroneous payments.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

For fiscal year 2017, up to $400,000 of the payments authorized by chapter 69 of title 31, United States Code, may be retained for administrative expenses of the Payments in Lieu of Taxes Program: *Provided*, That no payment shall be made pursuant to that chapter to otherwise eligible units of local government if the computed amount of the payment is less than $100: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may reduce the payment authorized by that chapter for an individual county by the amount necessary to correct prior year overpayments to that county: *Provided further*, That the amount needed to correct a prior year underpayment to an individual county shall be paid from any reductions for overpayments to other counties and the amount necessary to cover any remaining underpayment is hereby appropriated and shall be paid to individual counties: *Provided further*, That in the event the sums appropriated for any fiscal year for payments pursuant to that chapter are less than the full payments to all units of local government, then the payment to each local government shall be made proportionally.

INSULAR AFFAIRS

ASSISTANCE TO TERRITORIES

For expenses necessary for assistance to territories under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Interior and other jurisdictions identified in section 104(e) of Public Law 108–188, $91,925,000, of which: (1) $82,477,000 shall remain available until expended for territorial assistance, including general technical assistance, maintenance assistance, disaster assistance, coral reef initiative activities, and brown tree snake control and research; grants to the judiciary in American Samoa for compensation and expenses, as authorized by law (48 U.S.C. 1661(c)); grants to the Government of American Samoa, in addition to current local revenues, for construction and support of governmental functions; grants to the Government of the Virgin Islands as authorized by law; grants to the Government of Guam, as authorized by law; and grants to the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands as authorized by law (Public Law 94–241; 90 Stat. 272); and (2) $9,448,000 shall be available until September 30, 2018, for salaries and expenses of the Office of Insular Affairs: *Provided*, That all financial transactions of the territorial and local governments herein provided for, including such transactions of all agencies or instrumentalities established or used by such governments, may be audited by the Government Accountability Office, at its discretion, in accordance with chapter 35 of title 31, United States Code: *Provided further*, That Northern Mariana Islands Covenant grant funding shall be provided according to those terms of the Agreement of the Special Representatives on Future United States Financial Assistance for the Northern Mariana Islands approved by Public Law 104–134: *Provided further*, That the funds for the program of operations and maintenance improvement are appropriated to institutionalize routine operations and maintenance improvement of capital infrastructure with territorial participation and cost sharing to be determined by the Secretary based on the grantee's commitment to timely maintenance of its capital assets: *Provided further*, That any appropriation for disaster assistance under this heading in this Act or previous appropriations Acts may be used as non-Federal matching funds for the purpose of hazard mitigation grants provided pursuant to section 404 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170c).

COMPACT OF FREE ASSOCIATION

For grants and necessary expenses, $3,318,000, to remain available until expended, as provided for in sections 221(a)(2) and 233 of the Compact of Free Association for the Republic of Palau; and section 221(a)(2) of the Compacts of Free Association for the Government of the Republic of the Marshall Islands and the Federated States of Micronesia, as authorized by Public Law 99–658 and Public Law 108–188.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

At the request of the Governor of Guam, the Secretary may transfer discretionary funds or mandatory funds provided under section 104(e) of Public Law 108–188 and Public Law 104–134, that are allocated for Guam, to the Secretary of Agriculture for the subsidy cost of direct or guaranteed loans, plus not to exceed three percent of the amount of the subsidy transferred for the cost of loan administration, for the purposes authorized by the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 and section 306(a)(1) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act for construction and repair projects in Guam, and such funds shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: *Provided further*, That such loans or loan guarantees may be made without regard to the population of the area, credit elsewhere requirements, and restrictions on the types of eligible entities under the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 and section 306(a)(1) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act: *Provided further*, That any funds transferred to the Secretary of Agriculture shall be in addition to funds otherwise made available to make or guarantee loans under such authorities.

OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Solicitor, $65,769,000.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General, $50,047,000.

OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL TRUSTEE FOR AMERICAN INDIANS

FEDERAL TRUST PROGRAMS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the operation of trust programs for Indians by direct expenditure, contracts, cooperative agreements, compacts, and grants, $139,029,000, to remain available until expended, of which not to exceed $18,688,000 from this or any other Act, may be available for historical accounting: *Provided*, That funds for trust management improvements and litigation support may, as needed, be transferred to or merged with the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Bureau of Indian Education, ''Operation of Indian Programs'' account; the Office of the Solicitor, ''Salaries and Expenses'' account; and the Office of the Secretary, ''Departmental Operations'' account: *Provided further*, That funds made available through contracts or grants obligated during fiscal year 2017, as authorized by the Indian Self-Determination Act of 1975 (25 U.S.C. 450 et seq.), shall remain available until expended by the contractor or grantee: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary shall not be required to provide a quarterly statement of performance for any Indian trust account that has not had activity for at least 15 months and has a balance of $15 or less: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall issue an annual account statement and maintain a record of any such accounts and shall permit the balance in each such account to be withdrawn upon the express written request of the account holder: *Provided further*, That not to exceed $50,000 is available for the Secretary to make payments to correct administrative errors of either disbursements from or deposits to Individual Indian Money or Tribal accounts after September 30, 2002: *Provided further*, That erroneous payments that are recovered shall be credited to and remain available in this account for this purpose: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall not be required to reconcile Special Deposit Accounts with a balance of less than $500 unless the Office of the Special Trustee receives proof of ownership from a Special Deposit Accounts claimant: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding section 102 of the American Indian Trust Fund Management Reform Act of 1994 (Public Law 103–412) or any other provision of law, the Secretary may aggregate the trust accounts of individuals whose whereabouts are unknown for a continuous period of at least five years and shall not be required to generate periodic statements of performance for the individual accounts: *Provided further*, That with respect to the eighth proviso, the Secretary shall continue to maintain sufficient records to determine the balance of the individual accounts, including any accrued interest and income, and such funds shall remain available to the individual account holders.

DEPARTMENT-WIDE PROGRAMS

WILDLAND FIRE MANAGEMENT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses for fire preparedness, fire suppression operations, fire science and research, emergency rehabilitation, fuels management activities, and rural fire assistance by the Department of the Interior, $942,671,000, to remain available until expended, of which not to exceed $8,427,000 shall be for the renovation or construction of fire facilities: *Provided*, That such funds are also available for repayment of advances to other appropriation accounts from which funds were previously transferred for such purposes: *Provided further*, That of the funds provided $180,000,000 is for hazardous fuels management activities: *Provided further*, That of the funds provided $20,470,000 is for burned area rehabilitation: *Provided further*, That persons hired pursuant to 43 U.S.C. 1469 may be furnished subsistence and lodging without cost from funds available from this appropriation: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding 42 U.S.C. 1856d, sums received by a bureau or office of the Department of the Interior for fire protection rendered pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 1856 et seq., protection of

United States property, may be credited to the appropriation from which funds were expended to provide that protection, and are available without fiscal year limitation: *Provided further*, That using the amounts designated under this title of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior may enter into procurement contracts, grants, or cooperative agreements, for fuels management and resilient landscapes activities, and for training and monitoring associated with such fuels management and resilient landscapes activities, on Federal land, or on adjacent non-Federal land for activities that benefit resources on Federal land: *Provided further*, That the costs of implementing any cooperative agreement between the Federal Government and any non-Federal entity may be shared, as mutually agreed on by the affected parties: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding requirements of the Competition in Contracting Act, the Secretary, for purposes of fuels management and resilient landscapes activities, may obtain maximum practicable competition among: (1) local private, nonprofit, or cooperative entities; (2) Youth Conservation Corps crews, Public Lands Corps (Public Law 109–154), or related partnerships with State, local, or nonprofit youth groups; (3) small or micro-businesses; or (4) other entities that will hire or train locally a significant percentage, defined as 50 percent or more, of the project workforce to complete such contracts: *Provided further*, That in implementing this section, the Secretary shall develop written guidance to field units to ensure accountability and consistent application of the authorities provided herein: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under this heading may be used to reimburse the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service for the costs of carrying out their responsibilities under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) to consult and conference, as required by section 7 of such Act, in connection with wildland fire management activities: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of the Interior may use wildland fire appropriations to enter into leases of real property with local governments, at or below fair market value, to construct capitalized improvements for fire facilities on such leased properties, including but not limited to fire guard stations, retardant stations, and other initial attack and fire support facilities, and to make advance payments for any such lease or for construction activity associated with the lease: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture may authorize the transfer of funds appropriated for wildland fire management, in an aggregate amount not to exceed $50,000,000, between the Departments when such transfers would facilitate and expedite wildland fire management programs and projects: *Provided further*, That funds provided for wildfire suppression shall be available for support of Federal emergency response actions: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under this heading shall be available for assistance to or through the Department of State in connection with forest and rangeland research, technical information, and assistance in foreign countries, and, with the concurrence of the Secretary of State, shall be available to support forestry, wildland fire management, and related natural resource activities outside the United States and its territories and possessions, including technical assistance, education and training, and cooperation with United States and international organizations.

FLAME WILDFIRE SUPPRESSION RESERVE FUND

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses for large fire suppression operations of the Department of the Interior and as a reserve fund for suppression and Federal emergency response activities, $65,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such amounts are only available for transfer to the ''Wildland Fire Management'' account following a declaration by the Secretary in accordance with section 502 of the FLAME Act of 2009 (43 U.S.C. 1748a): *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

CENTRAL HAZARDOUS MATERIALS FUND

For necessary expenses of the Department of the Interior and any of its component offices and bureaus for the response action, including associated activities, performed pursuant to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (42 U.S.C. 9601 et seq.), $10,010,000, to remain available until expended.

NATURAL RESOURCE DAMAGE ASSESSMENT AND RESTORATION

NATURAL RESOURCE DAMAGE ASSESSMENT FUND

To conduct natural resource damage assessment, restoration activities, and onshore oil spill preparedness by the Department of the Interior necessary to carry out the provisions of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (42 U.S.C. 9601 et seq.), the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.), the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2701 et seq.), and 54 U.S.C. 100721 et seq., $7,767,000, to remain available until expended.

WORKING CAPITAL FUND

For the operation and maintenance of a departmental financial and business management system, information technology improvements of general benefit to the Department, cybersecurity, and the consolidation of facilities and operations throughout the Department, $67,100,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That none of the funds appropriated in this Act or any other Act may be used to establish reserves in the Working Capital Fund account other than for accrued annual leave and depreciation of equipment without prior approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may assess reasonable charges to State, local and tribal government employees for training services provided by the National Indian Program Training Center, other than training related to Public Law 93–638: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may lease or otherwise provide space and related facilities, equipment or professional services of the National Indian Program Training Center to State, local and tribal government employees or persons or organizations engaged in cultural, educational, or recreational activities (as defined in section 3306(a) of title 40, United States Code) at the prevailing rate for similar space, facilities, equipment, or services in the vicinity of the National Indian Program Training Center: *Provided further*, That all funds received pursuant to the two preceding provisos shall be credited to this account, shall be available until expended, and shall be used by the Secretary for necessary expenses of the National Indian Program Training Center: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may enter into grants and cooperative agreements to support the Office of Natural Resource Revenue's collection and disbursement of royalties, fees, and other mineral revenue proceeds, as authorized by law.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION

There is hereby authorized for acquisition from available resources within the Working Capital Fund, aircraft which may be obtained by donation, purchase or through available excess surplus property: *Provided*, That existing aircraft being replaced may be sold, with proceeds derived or trade-in value used to offset the purchase price for the replacement aircraft.

PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES

For necessary expenses for payments authorized by chapter 69 of title 31, United States Code, $465,000,000 shall be available for fiscal year 2017.

GENERAL PROVISIONS, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

EMERGENCY TRANSFER AUTHORITY—INTRA-BUREAU

SEC. 101. Appropriations made in this title shall be available for expenditure or transfer (within each bureau or office), with the approval of the Secretary, for the emergency reconstruction, replacement, or repair of aircraft, buildings, utilities, or other facilities or equipment damaged or destroyed by fire, flood, storm, or other unavoidable causes: *Provided*, That no funds shall be made available under this authority until funds specifically made available to the Department of the Interior for emergencies shall have been exhausted: *Provided further*, That all funds used pursuant to this section must be replenished by a supplemental appropriation, which must be requested as promptly as possible.

EMERGENCY TRANSFER AUTHORITY—DEPARTMENT-WIDE

SEC. 102. The Secretary may authorize the expenditure or transfer of any no year appropriation in this title, in addition to the amounts included in the budget programs of the several agencies, for the suppression or emergency prevention of wildland fires on or threatening lands under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Interior; for the emergency rehabilitation of burned-over lands under its jurisdiction; for emergency actions related to potential or actual earthquakes, floods, volcanoes, storms, or other unavoidable causes; for contingency planning subsequent to actual oil spills; for response and natural resource damage assessment activities related to actual oil spills or releases of hazardous substances into the environment; for the prevention, suppression, and control of actual or potential grasshopper and Mormon cricket outbreaks on lands under the jurisdiction of the Secretary, pursuant to the authority in section 417(b) of Public Law 106–224 (7 U.S.C. 7717(b)); for emergency reclamation projects under section 410 of Public Law 95–87; and shall transfer, from any no year funds available to the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, such funds as may be necessary to permit assumption of regulatory authority in the event a primacy State is not carrying out the regulatory provisions of the Surface Mining Act: *Provided*, That appropriations made in this title for wildland fire operations shall be available for the payment of obligations incurred during the preceding fiscal year, and for reimbursement to other Federal agencies for destruction of vehicles, aircraft, or other equipment in connection with their use for

wildland fire operations, such reimbursement to be credited to appropriations currently available at the time of receipt thereof: *Provided further*, That for wildland fire operations, no funds shall be made available under this authority until the Secretary determines that funds appropriated for ''wildland fire operations'' and ''FLAME Wildfire Suppression Reserve Fund'' shall be exhausted within 30 days: *Provided further*, That all funds used pursuant to this section must be replenished by a supplemental appropriation, which must be requested as promptly as possible: *Provided further*, That such replenishment funds shall be used to reimburse, on a pro rata basis, accounts from which emergency funds were transferred.

AUTHORIZED USE OF FUNDS

SEC. 103. Appropriations made to the Department of the Interior in this title shall be available for services as authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, when authorized by the Secretary, in total amount not to exceed $500,000; purchase and replacement of motor vehicles, including specially equipped law enforcement vehicles; hire, maintenance, and operation of aircraft; hire of passenger motor vehicles; purchase of reprints; payment for telephone service in private residences in the field, when authorized under regulations approved by the Secretary; and the payment of dues, when authorized by the Secretary, for library membership in societies or associations which issue publications to members only or at a price to members lower than to subscribers who are not members.

AUTHORIZED USE OF FUNDS, INDIAN TRUST MANAGEMENT

SEC. 104. Appropriations made in this Act under the headings Bureau of Indian Affairs and Bureau of Indian Education, and Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians and any unobligated balances from prior appropriations Acts made under the same headings shall be available for expenditure or transfer for Indian trust management and reform activities. Total funding for historical accounting activities shall not exceed amounts specifically designated in this Act for such purpose.

REDISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS, BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

SEC. 105. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to redistribute any Tribal Priority Allocation funds, including tribal base funds, to alleviate tribal funding inequities by transferring funds to address identified, unmet needs, dual enrollment, overlapping service areas or inaccurate distribution methodologies. No tribe shall receive a reduction in Tribal Priority Allocation funds of more than 10 percent in fiscal year 2017. Under circumstances of dual enrollment, overlapping service areas or inaccurate distribution methodologies, the 10 percent limitation does not apply.

ELLIS, GOVERNORS, AND LIBERTY ISLANDS

SEC. 106. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to acquire lands, waters, or interests therein including the use of all or part of any pier, dock, or landing within the State of New York and the State of New Jersey, for the purpose of operating and maintaining facilities in the support of transportation and accommodation of visitors to Ellis, Governors, and Liberty Islands, and of other program and administrative activities, by donation or with appropriated funds, including franchise fees (and other monetary consideration), or by exchange; and the Secretary is authorized to negotiate and enter into leases, subleases, concession contracts or other agreements for the use of such facilities on such terms and conditions as the Secretary may determine reasonable.

OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF INSPECTION FEES

SEC. 107. (a) In fiscal year 2017, the Secretary shall collect a nonrefundable inspection fee, which shall be deposited in the ''Offshore Safety and Environmental Enforcement'' account, from the designated operator for facilities subject to inspection under 43 U.S.C. 1348(c).

(b) Annual fees shall be collected for facilities that are above the waterline, excluding drilling rigs, and are in place at the start of the fiscal year. Fees for fiscal year 2017 shall be:

(1) $10,500 for facilities with no wells, but with processing equipment or gathering lines;

(2) $17,000 for facilities with 1 to 10 wells, with any combination of active or inactive wells; and

(3) $31,500 for facilities with more than 10 wells, with any combination of active or inactive wells.

(c) Fees for drilling rigs shall be assessed for all inspections completed in fiscal year 2017. Fees for fiscal year 2017 shall be:

(1) $30,500 per inspection for rigs operating in water depths of 500 feet or more; and

(2) $16,700 per inspection for rigs operating in water depths of less than 500 feet.

(d) The Secretary shall bill designated operators under subsection (b) within 60 days, with payment required within 30 days of billing. The Secretary shall bill designated operators under subsection (c) within 30 days of the end of the month in which the inspection occurred, with payment required within 30 days of billing.

BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT, REGULATION AND ENFORCEMENT REORGANIZATION

SEC. 108. The Secretary of the Interior, in order to implement a reorganization of the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement, may transfer funds among and between the successor offices and bureaus affected by the reorganization only in conformance with the reprogramming guidelines described in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act).

CONTRACTS AND AGREEMENTS FOR WILD HORSE AND BURRO HOLDING FACILITIES

SEC. 109. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior may enter into multiyear cooperative agreements with nonprofit organizations and other appropriate entities, and may enter into multiyear contracts in accordance with the provisions of section 3903 of title 41, United States Code (except that the 5-year term restriction in subsection (a) shall not apply), for the long-term care and maintenance of excess wild free roaming horses and burros by such organizations or entities on private land. Such cooperative agreements and contracts may not exceed 10 years, subject to renewal at the discretion of the Secretary.

MASS MARKING OF SALMONIDS

SEC. 110. The United States Fish and Wildlife Service shall, in carrying out its responsibilities to protect threatened and endangered species of salmon, implement a system of mass marking of salmonid stocks, intended for harvest, that are released from federally operated or federally financed hatcheries including but not limited to fish releases of coho, chinook, and steelhead species. Marked fish must have a visible mark that can be readily identified by commercial and recreational fishers.

EXHAUSTION OF ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW

SEC. 111. Paragraph (1) of section 122(a) of division E of Public Law 112–74 (125 Stat. 1013) is amended by striking ''through 2018,'' in the first sentence and inserting ''through 2020,''.

WILD LANDS FUNDING PROHIBITION

SEC. 112. None of the funds made available in this Act or any other Act may be used to implement, administer, or enforce Secretarial Order No. 3310 issued by the Secretary of the Interior on December 22, 2010: *Provided*, That nothing in this section shall restrict the Secretary's authorities under sections 201 and 202 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1711 and 1712).

CONTRACTS AND AGREEMENTS WITH INDIAN AFFAIRS

SEC. 113. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, during fiscal year 2017, in carrying out work involving cooperation with State, local, and tribal governments or any political subdivision thereof, Indian Affairs may record obligations against accounts receivable from any such entities, except that total obligations at the end of the fiscal year shall not exceed total budgetary resources available at the end of the fiscal year.

SAGE-GROUSE

SEC. 114. None of the funds made available by this or any other Act may be used by the Secretary of the Interior to write or issue pursuant to section 4 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1533)—

(1) a proposed rule for greater sage-grouse (*Centrocercus urophasianus*);

(2) a proposed rule for the Columbia basin distinct population segment of greater sage-grouse.

BLUE RIDGE NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA AND ERIE CANALWAY NATIONAL HERITAGE CORRIDOR

SEC. 115. (a) Section 140(i)(1) of Title I of Public Law 108–108, as amended (54 U.S.C. 320101 note), is further amended by striking ''$10,000,000'' and inserting ''$12,000,000''; and

(b) Section 810(a)(1) of Title VIII of Division B of Appendix D of Public Law 106–554, as amended (54 U.S.C. 320101 note), is further amended by striking ''$10,000,000'' and inserting ''$12,000,000''.

HUMANE TRANSFER OF EXCESS ANIMALS

SEC. 116. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of the Interior may transfer excess wild horses or burros that have been removed from the public lands to other Federal, State, and local government agencies for use as work animals: *Provided*, That the Secretary may make any such transfer immediately upon request of such Federal, State, or local government agency: *Provided further*, That any excess animal transferred under this provision shall lose its status as a wild free-roaming horse or burro as defined in the Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act: *Provided further*, That any Federal, State, or local government agency receiving excess wild horses or burros as authorized in this section shall not: destroy the horses or burros in a way that results in their destruction into commercial products; sell or otherwise transfer the horses or burros in a way that results in their destruction for processing into commercial products; or euthanize the horses or burros except upon the recommendation of a

licensed veterinarian, in cases of severe injury, illness, or advanced age.

REPUBLIC OF PALAU

SEC. 117. (a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (c), the United States Government, through the Secretary of the Interior shall provide to the Government of Palau for fiscal year 2017 grants in amounts equal to the annual amounts specified in subsections (a), (c), and (d) of section 211 of the Compact of Free Association between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of Palau (48 U.S.C. 1931 note) (referred to in this section as the ''Compact'').

(b) PROGRAMMATIC ASSISTANCE.—Subject to subsection (c), the United States shall provide programmatic assistance to the Republic of Palau for fiscal year 2017 in amounts equal to the amounts provided in subsections (a) and (b)(1) of section 221 of the Compact.

(c) LIMITATIONS ON ASSISTANCE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The grants and programmatic assistance provided under subsections (a) and (b) shall be provided to the same extent and in the same manner as the grants and assistance were provided in fiscal year 2009.

(2) TRUST FUND.—If the Government of Palau withdraws more than $5,000,000 from the trust fund established under section 211(f) of the Compact, amounts to be provided under subsections (a) and (b) shall be withheld from the Government of Palau.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR EXPERIENCED SERVICES PROGRAM

SEC. 118. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law relating to Federal grants and cooperative agreements, the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to make grants to, or enter into cooperative agreements with, private nonprofit organizations designated by the Secretary of Labor under title V of the Older Americans Act of 1965 to utilize the talents of older Americans in programs authorized by other provisions of law administered by the Secretary and consistent with such provisions of law.

(b) Prior to awarding any grant or agreement under subsection (a), the Secretary shall ensure that the agreement would not—

(1) result in the displacement of individuals currently employed by the Department, including partial displacement through reduction of non-overtime hours, wages, or employment benefits;

(2) result in the use of an individual under the Department of the Interior Experienced Services Program for a job or function in a case in which a Federal employee is in a layoff status from the same or substantially equivalent job within the Department; or

(3) affect existing contracts for services.

NATCHEZ NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

SEC. 119. The Secretary of the Interior is authorized to acquire by donation or purchase from willing sellers, any lands at the site of the historic Forks of the Road Slave Market, as generally depicted on the map entitled ''Natchez National Historical Park—Proposed Boundary Addition'', numbered 339/116045, and dated April 2016. Upon acquisition of any land or interests in land, the Secretary shall revise the boundary of Natchez National Historical Park to reflect the acquisition and the land shall be managed in accordance with the laws and regulations applicable to the park: *Provided*, That section 7 of Public Law 100–479 is amended by inserting ''land acquisition and development as authorized in'' after ''carry out''.

SPECIAL RESOURCE STUDY TO PRESERVE CIVIL RIGHTS SITES

SEC. 120. (a) STUDY.—The Secretary of the Interior (referred to in this section as the ''Secretary'') shall conduct a special resource study of significant civil rights sites in the State of Mississippi, including—

(1) the home of the late civil rights activist Medgar Evers, located at 2332 Margaret Walker Alexander Drive, Jackson, Mississippi;

(2) the Tallahatchie County Courthouse, located at 100 North Court Street, Sumner, Mississippi;

(3) the site of Bryant's Store, located at the intersection of County Road 518 and County Road 24, Money, Mississippi;

(4) the site of the former office of Dr. Gilbert Mason, Sr., located at 670 Division Street, Biloxi, Mississippi; and

(5) the Old Neshoba County Jail, located at 422 Myrtle Avenue, East, Philadelphia, Mississippi.

(b) CONTENTS.—In conducting the study under subsection (a), the Secretary shall—

(1) evaluate the national significance of each site;

(2) determine the suitability and feasibility of designating each site as a unit of the National Park System;

(3)(A) take into consideration other alternatives for preservation, protection, and interpretation of each site by—

(i) Federal, State, or local governmental entities; or

(ii) private or nonprofit organizations; and

(B) identify cost estimates for any Federal acquisition, development, interpretation, operation, and maintenance associated with the alternatives; and

(4) consult with interested Federal, State, and local governmental entities, private and nonprofit organizations, and other individuals.

(c) APPLICABLE LAW.—The study under subsection (a) shall be conducted in accordance with section 100507 of title 54, United States Code.

(d) STUDY RESULTS.—Not later than 3 years after the date on which funds are initially made available for the study under subsection (a), the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report that describes—

(1) the results of the study; and

(2) any relevant conclusions and recommendations of the Secretary.

CONTINUOUS OPERATIONS

SEC. 121. Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior shall amend the regulations issued under section 250.180 of title 30, Code of Federal Regulations—

(1) by striking each reference to ''180 days'' and inserting ''year'';

(2) by striking each reference to ''180th day'' and inserting ''year''; and

(3) by striking each reference to ''180-day period'' and inserting ''1-year period''.

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT FOUNDATION

SEC. 122. (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) BOARD.—The term ''Board'' means the Board of Directors of the Foundation established under subsection (c).

(2) FOUNDATION.—The term ''Foundation'' means the Bureau of Land Management Foundation established by subsection (b)(1)(A).

(3) PUBLIC LAND.—The term ''public land'' has the meaning given the term ''public lands'' in section 103 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1702).

(4) SECRETARY.—The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of the Interior.

(5) WILD FREE-ROAMING HORSES AND BURROS.—The term ''wild free-roaming horses and burros'' has the meaning given the term in section 2 of Public Law 92–195 (commonly known as the ''Wild Free-Roaming Horses And Burros Act'') (16 U.S.C. 1332).

(b) ESTABLISHMENT AND PURPOSES.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—There is established a foundation, to be known as the ''Bureau of Land Management Foundation''.

(B) LIMITATION.—The Foundation shall not be considered to be an agency or establishment of the United States.

(C) TAX EXEMPTION.—The Foundation shall be considered to be a charitable and nonprofit corporation under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

(2) PURPOSES.—The purposes of the Foundation are—

(A) to encourage, accept, and administer private gifts of money and real and personal property for the benefit of, or in connection with the activities and services of, the Bureau of Land Management;

(B) to carry out activities that advance the purposes for which public land is administered;

(C) to carry out and encourage educational, technical, scientific, and other assistance or activities that support the mission of the Bureau of Land Management; and

(D) to assist the Bureau of Land Management with challenges that could be better addressed with the support of a foundation, including—

(i) reclamation and conservation activities;

(ii) activities relating to wild free-roaming horses and burros; and

(iii) the stewardship of cultural and archeological treasures on public land.

(c) BOARD OF DIRECTORS.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Foundation shall be governed by a Board of Directors.

(B) COMPOSITION.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—The Board shall consist of not more than 9 members.

(ii) EX-OFFICIO MEMBER.—The Director of the Bureau of Land Management shall be an ex-officio, nonvoting member of the Board.

(C) REQUIREMENTS.—

(i) CITIZENSHIP.—A member appointed to the Board shall be a citizen of the United States.

(ii) EXPERTISE.—A majority of members appointed to the Board shall have education or experience relating to natural, cultural, conservation, or other resource management, law, or research.

(iii) DIVERSE POINTS OF VIEW.—To the maximum extent practicable, the members of the Board shall represent diverse points of view.

(2) DATE OF INITIAL APPOINTMENT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall appoint the initial members of the Board.

(3) TERMS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), a member of the Board shall be appointed for a term of 6 years.

(B) INITIAL APPOINTMENTS.—The Secretary shall stagger the initial appointments to the Board, as the Secretary determines to be appropriate, in a manner that ensures that—

(i) 1/3 of the members shall serve for a term of 2 years;

(ii) 1/3 of the members shall serve for a term of 4 years; and

(iii) 1/3 of the members shall serve for a term of 6 years.

(C) VACANCIES.—A vacancy on the Board shall be filled—

(i) not later than 60 days after the date of the vacancy;

(ii) in the manner in which the original appointment was made; and

(iii) for the remainder of the term of the member vacating the Board.

(D) REMOVAL FOR FAILURE TO ATTEND MEETINGS.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—A member of the Board may be removed from the Board by a majority vote of the Board, if the individual fails to attend 3 consecutive regularly scheduled meetings of the Board.

(ii) REQUIREMENTS.—A vacancy as the result of a removal under clause (i) shall be filled in accordance with subparagraph (C).

(E) LIMITATION.—A member of the Board shall not serve more than 12 consecutive years on the Board.

(4) CHAIRPERSON.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Board shall elect a Chairperson from among the members of the Board.

(B) TERM.—The Chairperson of the Board—

(i) shall serve as Chairperson for a 2-year term; and

(ii) may be reelected as Chairperson while serving as a member of the Board.

(5) QUORUM.—A majority of the voting members of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business of the Board.

(6) MEETINGS.—The Board shall meet—

(A) at the call of the Chairperson; but

(B) not less than once each calendar year.

(7) REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Serving as a member of the Board shall not constitute employment by the Federal Government for any purpose.

(B) REIMBURSEMENT.—A member of the Board shall serve without pay, other than reimbursement for the actual and necessary traveling and subsistence expenses incurred in the performance of the duties of the member for the Foundation, in accordance with section 5703 of title 5, United States Code.

(8) GENERAL POWERS.—The Board may—

(A) appoint officers and employees in accordance with paragraph (9);

(B) adopt a constitution and bylaws consistent with the purposes of the Foundation and this section; and

(C) carry out any other activities that may be necessary to function and to carry out this section.

(9) OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—No officer or employee may be appointed to the Foundation until the date on which the Board determines that the Foundation has sufficient funds to pay for the service of the officer or employee.

(B) LIMITATION.—Appointment as an officer or employee of the Foundation shall not constitute employment by the Federal Government.

(10) LIMITATION AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST.—

(A) PROHIBITION ON POLITICAL ACTIVITY.—The Foundation shall not participate or intervene in a political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

(B) LIMITATION ON PARTICIPATION.—No member of the Board or officer or employee of the Foundation shall participate, directly or indirectly, in the consideration or determination of any question before the Foundation that affects—

(i) the financial interests of the member of the Board, officer, or employee; or

(ii) the interests of any corporation partnership, entity, or organization in which the member of the Board, officer, or employee—

(I) is an officer, director, or trustee; or

(II) has any direct or indirect financial interest.

(d) POWERS AND OBLIGATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Foundation—

(A) shall have perpetual succession; and

(B) may conduct business throughout the several States, territories, and possessions of the United States.

(2) NOTICE; SERVICE OF PROCESS.—

(A) DESIGNATED AGENT.—The Foundation shall at all times maintain a designated agent in the District of Columbia authorized to accept service of process for the Foundation.

(B) SERVICE OF PROCESS.—The serving of notice to, or service of process on, the agent required under this paragraph, or mailed to the business address of the agent, shall be deemed to be notice to, or the service of process on, the Foundation.

(3) SEAL.—The Foundation shall have an official seal, to be selected by the Board, which shall be judicially noticed.

(4) POWERS.—To carry out the purposes of the Foundation, the Foundation shall have, in addition to powers otherwise authorized by this section, the usual powers of a not-for-profit corporation in the District of Columbia, including the power—

(A) to accept, receive, solicit, hold, administer, and use any gift, devise, or bequest, absolutely or in trust, of real or personal property, or any income from, or other interest in, the property;

(B) to acquire by donation, gift, devise, purchase, or exchange, and to dispose of, any real or personal property or interest in the property;

(C) to sell, donate, lease, invest, reinvest, retain, or otherwise dispose of any property or income from property, unless limited by the instrument of transfer;

(D) to borrow money and issue bonds, debentures, or other debt instruments;

(E) to sue and be sued, and complain and defend itself in any court of competent jurisdiction, except that the members of the Board shall not be held personally liable, except in a case of gross negligence;

(F)(i) to enter into contracts or other agreements with public agencies, private organizations, and persons; and

(ii) to make such payments as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of the contracts or agreements; and

(G) to carry out any activity necessary and proper to advance the purposes of the Foundation.

(5) REAL PROPERTY.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this section, an interest in real property shall include mineral and water rights, rights-of-way, and easements, appurtenant or in gross.

(B) ACCEPTANCE.—A gift, devise, or bequest of real property may be accepted by the Foundation, regardless of whether the property is encumbered, restricted, or subject to beneficial interests of a private person, if any current or future interest in the property is for the benefit of the Foundation.

(C) DECLINING GIFTS.—The Foundation may, at the discretion of the Foundation, decline any gift, devise, or bequest of real property.

(D) PROHIBITION ON CONDEMNATION.—No land, water, or interest in land or water, that is owned by the Foundation shall be subject to condemnation by any State, political subdivision of a State, or agent or instrumentality of a State or political subdivision of a State.

(e) ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES AND SUPPORT.—

(1) FUNDING.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—For the purposes of assisting the Foundation in establishing an office and meeting initial administrative, project, and other expenses, the Secretary may provide to the Foundation, from funds appropriated under subsection (j), such sums as are necessary for fiscal years 2017 and 2018.

(B) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—Funds made available under subparagraph (A) shall remain available to the Foundation until expended for authorized purposes.

(2) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may provide to the Foundation personnel, facilities, equipment, and other administrative services, subject to such limitations, terms, and conditions as the Secretary may establish.

(B) REIMBURSEMENT.—The Foundation may reimburse the Secretary for any support provided under subparagraph (A), in whole or in part, and any reimbursement received by the Secretary under this subparagraph shall be deposited in the Treasury to the credit of the appropriations then current and chargeable for the cost of providing the services.

(f) VOLUNTEERS.—The Secretary may accept, without regard to the civil service classification laws (including regulations), the services of the Foundation, the Board, and the officers, employees, and agents of the Foundation, without compensation from the Department of the Interior, as volunteers for the performance of the functions under section 307(d) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1737(d)).

(g) AUDITS AND REPORT REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) AUDITS.—For purposes of section 10101 of title 36, United States Code, the Foundation shall be considered to be a private corporation established under Federal law.

(2) ANNUAL REPORTS.—At the end of each fiscal year, the Board shall submit to Congress a report that describes the proceedings and activities of the Foundation during that fiscal year, including a full and complete statement of the receipts, expenditures, and investments.

(h) UNITED STATES RELEASE FROM LIABILITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The United States shall not be liable for any debt, default, act, or omission of the Foundation.

(2) FULL FAITH AND CREDIT.—The full faith and credit of the United States shall not extend to any obligation of the Foundation.

(i) LIMITATION ON AUTHORITY.—Nothing in this section authorizes the Foundation to perform any function the authority for which is provided to the Bureau of Land Management under any other provision of law.

(j) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section.

TITLE II

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

For science and technology, including research and development activities, which shall include research and development activities under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980; necessary expenses for personnel and related costs and travel expenses; procurement of laboratory equipment and supplies; and other operating expenses in support of research and development, $713,823,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That of the funds included under this heading, $4,100,000 shall be for Research: National Priorities as specified in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division

A of this consolidated Act): *Provided further*, That of the unobligated balances from appropriations made available under this heading, $7,350,000 are permanently rescinded: *Provided further*, That no amounts may be rescinded pursuant to the preceding proviso from amounts made available in the first proviso for Research: National Priorities: *Provided further*, That such rescission shall be applied to program project areas, to the extent practicable, to reflect changes to funding projections due to routine attrition during fiscal year 2017.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS AND MANAGEMENT

(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

For environmental programs and management, including necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, for personnel and related costs and travel expenses; hire of passenger motor vehicles; hire, maintenance, and operation of aircraft; purchase of reprints; library memberships in societies or associations which issue publications to members only or at a price to members lower than to subscribers who are not members; administrative costs of the brownfields program under the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act of 2002; and not to exceed $9,000 for official reception and representation expenses, $2,619,799,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That of the funds included under this heading, $12,700,000 shall be for Environmental Protection: National Priorities as specified in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act): *Provided further*, That of the funds included under this heading, $435,857,000 shall be for Geographic Programs specified in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act): *Provided further*, That of the unobligated balances from appropriations made available under this heading, $21,800,000 are permanently rescinded: *Provided further*, That no amounts may be rescinded pursuant to the preceding proviso from amounts made available in the first proviso for Environmental Protection: National Priorities, from amounts made available in the second proviso for Geographic Programs, or from the National Estuary Program (33 U.S.C. 1330): *Provided further*, That such rescission shall be applied to program project areas, to the extent practicable, to reflect changes to funding projections due to routine attrition during fiscal year 2017.

In addition, $3,000,000 to remain available until expended, for necessary expenses of activities described in section 26(b)(1) of the Toxic Substances Control Act (15 U.S.C. 2625(b)(1)): *Provided*, That fees collected pursuant to that section of that Act and deposited in the ''TSCA Service Fee Fund'' as discretionary offsetting receipts in fiscal year 2017 shall be retained and used for necessary salaries and expenses in this appropriation and shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That the sum herein appropriated in this paragraph from the general fund for fiscal year 2017 shall be reduced by the amount of discretionary offsetting receipts received during fiscal year 2017, so as to result in a final fiscal year 2017 appropriation from the general fund estimated at not more than $0: *Provided further*, That to the extent that amounts realized from such receipts exceed $3,000,000, those amount in excess of $3,000,000 shall be deposited in the ''TSCA Service Fee Fund'' as discretionary offsetting receipts in fiscal year 2017, shall be retained and used for necessary salaries and expenses in this account, and shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That of the funds included in the first paragraph under this heading, the Chemical Risk Review and Reduction program project shall be allocated for this fiscal year, excluding the amount of any fees appropriated, not less than the amount of appropriations for that program project for fiscal year 2014.

HAZARDOUS WASTE ELECTRONIC MANIFEST SYSTEM FUND

For necessary expenses to carry out section 3024 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act (42 U.S.C. 6939g), including the development, operation, maintenance, and upgrading of the hazardous waste electronic manifest system established by such section, $3,178,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978, $41,489,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018.

BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

For construction, repair, improvement, extension, alteration, and purchase of fixed equipment or facilities of, or for use by, the Environmental Protection Agency, $34,467,000, to remain available until expended.

HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE SUPERFUND

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses to carry out the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA), including sections 111(c)(3), (c)(5), (c)(6), and (e)(4) (42 U.S.C. 9611) $1,088,769,000, to remain available until expended, consisting of such sums as are available in the Trust Fund on September 30, 2016, as authorized by section 517(a) of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (SARA) and up to $1,088,769,000 as a payment from general revenues to the Hazardous Substance Superfund for purposes as authorized by section 517(b) of SARA: *Provided*, That funds appropriated under this heading may be allocated to other Federal agencies in accordance with section 111(a) of CERCLA: *Provided further*, That of the funds appropriated under this heading, $8,778,000 shall be paid to the ''Office of Inspector General'' appropriation to remain available until September 30, 2018, and $15,496,000 shall be paid to the ''Science and Technology'' appropriation to remain available until September 30, 2018.

LEAKING UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK TRUST FUND PROGRAM

For necessary expenses to carry out leaking underground storage tank cleanup activities authorized by subtitle I of the Solid Waste Disposal Act, $91,941,000, to remain available until expended, of which $66,572,000 shall be for carrying out leaking underground storage tank cleanup activities authorized by section 9003(h) of the Solid Waste Disposal Act; $25,369,000 shall be for carrying out the other provisions of the Solid Waste Disposal Act specified in section 9508(c) of the Internal Revenue Code: *Provided*, That the Administrator is authorized to use appropriations made available under this heading to implement section 9013 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act to provide financial assistance to federally recognized Indian tribes for the development and implementation of programs to manage underground storage tanks.

INLAND OIL SPILL PROGRAMS

For expenses necessary to carry out the Environmental Protection Agency's responsibilities under the Oil Pollution Act of 1990, $18,209,000, to be derived from the Oil Spill Liability trust fund, to remain available until expended.

STATE AND TRIBAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS

For environmental programs and infrastructure assistance, including capitalization grants for State revolving funds and performance partnership grants, $3,527,161,000, to remain available until expended, of which—

(1) $1,393,887,000 shall be for making capitalization grants for the Clean Water State Revolving Funds under title VI of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act; and of which $863,233,000 shall be for making capitalization grants for the Drinking Water State Revolving Funds under section 1452 of the Safe Drinking Water Act: *Provided*, That for fiscal year 2017, to the extent there are sufficient eligible project applications and projects are consistent with State Intended Use Plans, not less than 10 percent of the funds made available under this title to each State for Clean Water State Revolving Fund capitalization grants shall be used by the State for projects to address green infrastructure, water or energy efficiency improvements, or other environmentally innovative activities: *Provided further*, That for fiscal year 2017, funds made available under this title to each State for Drinking Water State Revolving Fund capitalization grants may, at the discretion of each State, be used for projects to address green infrastructure, water or energy efficiency improvements, or other environmentally innovative activities: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding section 603(d)(7) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, the limitation on the amounts in a State water pollution control revolving fund that may be used by a State to administer the fund shall not apply to amounts included as principal in loans made by such fund in fiscal year 2017 and prior years where such amounts represent costs of administering the fund to the extent that such amounts are or were deemed reasonable by the Administrator, accounted for separately from other assets in the fund, and used for eligible purposes of the fund, including administration: *Provided further*, That for fiscal year 2017, notwithstanding the provisions of sections 201(g)(1), (h), and (l) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, grants under title II of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act for American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas, the United States Virgin Islands, and the District of Columbia may also be made for the purpose of providing assistance: (1) solely for facility plans, design activities, or plans, specification, and estimates for any proposed project for the construction of treatment works; and (2) for the construction, repair, or replacement of privately owned treatment works serving one or more principal residences or small commercial establishments: *Provided further*, That for fiscal year 2017, notwithstanding the provisions of 201(g)(1), (h), and (l) and section 518(c) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, funds reserved by the Administrator for grants under section 518(c) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act may also be used to provide assistance: (1) solely for facility plans, design activities, or plans, specifications, and estimates for any proposed project for the construction of treatment works; and (2) for the construction, repair, or replacement of privately owned treatment works serving one or more principal residences or small commercial establishments; Funds reserved under section 518(c) of such Act shall be

available for grants only to Indian tribes, as defined in section 518(h) of such Act and former Indian reservations in Oklahoma (as defined by the Secretary of the Interior) and Native Villages (as defined in Public Law 92–203): *Provided further*, That for fiscal year 2017, notwithstanding any provision of the Clean Water Act and regulations issued pursuant thereof, up to a total of $2,000,000 of the funds reserved by the Administrator for grants under section 518(c) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act may also be used for grants for training, technical assistance, and educational programs relating to the operation and management of the treatment works specified in section 518(c) of such Act; Funds reserved under section 518(c) of such Act shall be available for grants only to Indian tribes, as defined in section 518(h) of such Act and former Indian reservations in Oklahoma (as determined by the Secretary of the Interior) and Native Villages (as defined in Public Law 92–203): *Provided further*, That for fiscal year 2017, notwithstanding the limitation on amounts in section 518(c) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, up to a total of 2 percent of the funds appropriated, or $30,000,000, whichever is greater, and notwithstanding the limitation on amounts in section 1452(i) of the Safe Drinking Water Act, up to a total of 2 percent of the funds appropriated, or $20,000,000, whichever is greater, for State Revolving Funds under such Acts may be reserved by the Administrator for grants under section 518(c) and section 1452(i) of such Acts: *Provided further*, That for fiscal year 2017, notwithstanding the amounts specified in section 205(c) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, up to 1.5 percent of the aggregate funds appropriated for the Clean Water State Revolving Fund program under the Act less any sums reserved under section 518(c) of the Act, may be reserved by the Administrator for grants made under title II of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act for American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas, and United States Virgin Islands: *Provided further*, That for fiscal year 2017, notwithstanding the limitations on amounts specified in section 1452(j) of the Safe Drinking Water Act, up to 1.5 percent of the funds appropriated for the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund programs under the Safe Drinking Water Act may be reserved by the Administrator for grants made under section 1452(j) of the Safe Drinking Water Act: *Provided further*, That 10 percent of the funds made available under this title to each State for Clean Water State Revolving Fund capitalization grants and 20 percent of the funds made available under this title to each State for Drinking Water State Revolving Fund capitalization grants shall be used by the State to provide additional subsidy to eligible recipients in the form of forgiveness of principal, negative interest loans, or grants (or any combination of these), and shall be so used by the State only where such funds are provided as initial financing for an eligible recipient or to buy, refinance, or restructure the debt obligations of eligible recipients where such debt was incurred on or after the date of enactment of this Act, or where such debt was incurred prior to the date of enactment of this Act if the State, with concurrence from the Administrator, determines that such funds could be used to help address a threat to public health from heightened exposure to lead in drinking water or if a Federal or State emergency declaration has been issued due to a threat to public health from heightened exposure to lead in a municipal drinking water supply before the date of enactment of this Act: *Provided further*, That in a State in which such an emergency declaration has been issued, the State may use more than 20 percent of the funds made available under this title to the State for Drinking Water State Revolving Fund capitalization grants to provide additional subsidy to eligible recipients;

(2) $10,000,000 shall be for architectural, engineering, planning, design, construction and related activities in connection with the construction of high priority water and wastewater facilities in the area of the United States-Mexico Border, after consultation with the appropriate border commission: *Provided*, That no funds provided by this appropriations Act to address the water, wastewater and other critical infrastructure needs of the colonias in the United States along the United States-Mexico border shall be made available to a county or municipal government unless that government has established an enforceable local ordinance, or other zoning rule, which prevents in that jurisdiction the development or construction of any additional colonia areas, or the development within an existing colonia the construction of any new home, business, or other structure which lacks water, wastewater, or other necessary infrastructure;

(3) $20,000,000 shall be for grants to the State of Alaska to address drinking water and wastewater infrastructure needs of rural and Alaska Native Villages: *Provided*, That of these funds: (A) the State of Alaska shall provide a match of 25 percent; (B) no more than 5 percent of the funds may be used for administrative and overhead expenses; and (C) the State of Alaska shall make awards consistent with the Statewide priority list established in conjunction with the Agency and the U.S. Department of Agriculture for all water, sewer, waste disposal, and similar projects carried out by the State of Alaska that are funded under section 221 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1301) or the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1921 et seq.) which shall allocate not less than 25 percent of the funds provided for projects in regional hub communities;

(4) $80,000,000 shall be to carry out section 104(k) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA), including grants, interagency agreements, and associated program support costs: *Provided*, That not more than 25 percent of the amount appropriated to carry out section 104(k) of CERCLA shall be used for site characterization, assessment, and remediation of facilities described in section 101(39)(D)(ii)(II) of CERCLA: *Provided further*, That at least 10 percent shall be allocated for assistance in persistent poverty counties: *Provided further*, That for purposes of this section, the term ''persistent poverty counties'' means any county that has had 20 percent or more of its population living in poverty over the past 30 years, as measured by the 1990 and 2000 decennial censuses and the most recent Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates;

(5) $60,000,000 shall be for grants under title VII, subtitle G of the Energy Policy Act of 2005;

(6) $30,000,000 shall be for targeted airshed grants in accordance with the terms and conditions of the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act);

(7) $4,000,000 shall be to carry out the water quality program authorized in section 5004(d) of the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act (Public Law 114–322); and

(8) $1,066,041,000 shall be for grants, including associated program support costs, to States, federally recognized tribes, interstate agencies, tribal consortia, and air pollution control agencies for multi-media or single media pollution prevention, control and abatement and related activities, including activities pursuant to the provisions set forth under this heading in Public Law 104–134, and for making grants under section 103 of the Clean Air Act for particulate matter monitoring and data collection activities subject to terms and conditions specified by the Administrator, of which: $47,745,000 shall be for carrying out section 128 of CERCLA; $9,646,000 shall be for Environmental Information Exchange Network grants, including associated program support costs; $1,498,000 shall be for grants to States under section 2007(f)(2) of the Solid Waste Disposal Act, which shall be in addition to funds appropriated under the heading ''Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund Program'' to carry out the provisions of the Solid Waste Disposal Act specified in section 9508(c) of the Internal Revenue Code other than section 9003(h) of the Solid Waste Disposal Act; $17,848,000 of the funds available for grants under section 106 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act shall be for State participation in national- and State-level statistical surveys of water resources and enhancements to State monitoring programs.

WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCE AND INNOVATION PROGRAM ACCOUNT

For the cost of direct loans and for the cost of guaranteed loans, as authorized by the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act of 2014, $8,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: *Provided further*, That these funds are available to subsidize gross obligations for the principal amount of direct loans, including capitalized interest, and total loan principal, including capitalized interest, any part of which is to be guaranteed, not to exceed $976,000,000: *Provided further*, That amounts made available under this heading in this Act are in addition to amounts appropriated or otherwise made available for the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Program for fiscal year 2017.

In addition, fees authorized to be collected pursuant to sections 5029 and 5030 of the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act of 2014 shall be deposited in this account to remain available until expended.

In addition, for administrative expenses to carry out the direct and guaranteed loan programs, notwithstanding section 5033 of the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act of 2014, $2,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS AND RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

For fiscal year 2017, notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 6303(1) and 6305(1), the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, in carrying out the Agency's function to implement directly Federal environmental programs required or authorized by law in the absence of an acceptable tribal program, may award cooperative agreements to federally recognized Indian tribes or Intertribal consortia, if authorized by their member tribes, to assist the Administrator in implementing Federal environmental programs

for Indian tribes required or authorized by law, except that no such cooperative agreements may be awarded from funds designated for State financial assistance agreements.

The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency is authorized to collect and obligate pesticide registration service fees in accordance with section 33 of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act, as amended by Public Law 112–177, the Pesticide Registration Improvement Extension Act of 2012.

Notwithstanding section 33(d)(2) of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) (7 U.S.C. 136w–8(d)(2)), the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency may assess fees under section 33 of FIFRA (7 U.S.C. 136w–8) for fiscal year 2017.

The Administrator is authorized to transfer up to $300,000,000 of the funds appropriated for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative under the heading ''Environmental Programs and Management'' to the head of any Federal department or agency, with the concurrence of such head, to carry out activities that would support the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative and Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement programs, projects, or activities; to enter into an interagency agreement with the head of such Federal department or agency to carry out these activities; and to make grants to governmental entities, nonprofit organizations, institutions, and individuals for planning, research, monitoring, outreach, and implementation in furtherance of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative and the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement.

The Science and Technology, Environmental Programs and Management, Office of Inspector General, Hazardous Substance Superfund, and Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund Program Accounts, are available for the construction, alteration, repair, rehabilitation, and renovation of facilities provided that the cost does not exceed $150,000 per project.

For fiscal year 2017, and notwithstanding section 518(f) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1377(f)), the Administrator is authorized to use the amounts appropriated for any fiscal year under section 319 of the Act to make grants to Indian tribes pursuant to sections 319(h) and 518(e) of that Act.

The Administrator is authorized to use the amounts appropriated under the heading ''Environmental Programs and Management'' for fiscal year 2017 to provide grants to implement the Southeastern New England Watershed Restoration Program.

Notwithstanding the limitation on amounts in section 320(i) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, funds made available under this title for the National Estuary Program shall be used for the development, implementation, and monitoring of comprehensive conservation and management plans.

Of the unobligated balances available for ''State and Tribal Assistance Grants'' account, $61,198,000 are permanently rescinded: *Provided*, That no amounts may be rescinded from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 or from amounts that were made available by subsection (a) of section 196 of the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2017 (division C of Public Law 114–223), as amended by the Further Continuing and Security Assistance Appropriations Act, 2017 (Public Law 114–254).

TITLE III

RELATED AGENCIES

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

FOREST SERVICE

FOREST AND RANGELAND RESEARCH

For necessary expenses of forest and rangeland research as authorized by law, $288,514,000, to remain available through September 30, 2020: *Provided*, That of the funds provided, $77,000,000 is for the forest inventory and analysis program.

STATE AND PRIVATE FORESTRY

(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of cooperating with and providing technical and financial assistance to States, territories, possessions, and others, and for forest health management, including treatments of pests, pathogens, and invasive or noxious plants and for restoring and rehabilitating forests damaged by pests or invasive plants, cooperative forestry, and education and land conservation activities and conducting an international program as authorized, $228,923,000, to remain available through September 30, 2020, as authorized by law; of which $62,347,000 is to be derived from the Land and Water Conservation Fund to be used for the Forest Legacy Program, to remain available until expended.

Of the unobligated balances from amounts made available for the Forest Legacy Program and derived from the Land and Water Conservation Fund, $12,002,000 is hereby permanently rescinded from projects with cost savings or failed or partially failed projects that had funds returned.

NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Forest Service, not otherwise provided for, for management, protection, improvement, and utilization of the National Forest System, $1,513,318,000, to remain available through September 30, 2020: *Provided*, That of the funds provided, $40,000,000 shall be deposited in the Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Fund for ecological restoration treatments as authorized by 16 U.S.C. 7303(f): *Provided further*, That of the funds provided, $367,805,000 shall be for forest products: *Provided further*, That of the funds provided, up to $81,941,000 is for the Integrated Resource Restoration pilot program for Region 1, Region 3 and Region 4: *Provided further*, That of the funds provided for forest products, up to $65,560,000 may be transferred to support the Integrated Resource Restoration pilot program in the preceding proviso: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Agriculture may transfer to the Secretary of the Interior any unobligated funds appropriated in a previous fiscal year for operation of the Valles Caldera National Preserve: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding section 33 of the Bankhead Jones Farm Tenant Act (7 U.S.C. 1012), the Secretary of Agriculture, in calculating a fee for grazing on a National Grassland, may provide a credit of up to 50 percent of the calculated fee to a Grazing Association or direct permittee for a conservation practice approved by the Secretary in advance of the fiscal year in which the cost of the conservation practice is incurred. And, that the amount credited shall remain available to the Grazing Association or the direct permittee, as appropriate, in the fiscal year in which the credit is made and each fiscal year thereafter for use on the project for conservation practices approved by the Secretary.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT AND MAINTENANCE

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Forest Service, not otherwise provided for, $364,014,000, to remain available through September 30, 2020, for construction, capital improvement, maintenance and acquisition of buildings and other facilities and infrastructure; and for construction, reconstruction, decommissioning of roads that are no longer needed, including unauthorized roads that are not part of the transportation system, and maintenance of forest roads and trails by the Forest Service as authorized by 16 U.S.C. 532–538 and 23 U.S.C. 101 and 205: *Provided*, That $40,000,000 shall be designated for urgently needed road decommissioning, road and trail repair and maintenance and associated activities, and removal of fish passage barriers, especially in areas where Forest Service roads may be contributing to water quality problems in streams and water bodies which support threatened, endangered, or sensitive species or community water sources: *Provided further*, That funds becoming available in fiscal year 2017 under the Act of March 4, 1913 (16 U.S.C. 501) shall be transferred to the General Fund of the Treasury and shall not be available for transfer or obligation for any other purpose unless the funds are appropriated: *Provided further*, That of the funds provided for decommissioning of roads, up to $14,743,000 may be transferred to the ''National Forest System'' to support the Integrated Resource Restoration pilot program.

LAND ACQUISITION

For expenses necessary to carry out the provisions of chapter 2003 of title 54, United States Code, including administrative expenses, and for acquisition of land or waters, or interest therein, in accordance with statutory authority applicable to the Forest Service, $54,415,000, to be derived from the Land and Water Conservation Fund and to remain available until expended.

ACQUISITION OF LANDS FOR NATIONAL FORESTS SPECIAL ACTS

For acquisition of lands within the exterior boundaries of the Cache, Uinta, and Wasatch National Forests, Utah; the Toiyabe National Forest, Nevada; and the Angeles, San Bernardino, Sequoia, and Cleveland National Forests, California, as authorized by law, $950,000, to be derived from forest receipts.

ACQUISITION OF LANDS TO COMPLETE LAND EXCHANGES

For acquisition of lands, such sums, to be derived from funds deposited by State, county, or municipal governments, public school districts, or other public school authorities, and for authorized expenditures from funds deposited by non-Federal parties pursuant to Land Sale and Exchange Acts, pursuant to the Act of December 4, 1967 (16 U.S.C. 484a), to remain available through September 30, 2020, (16 U.S.C. 516–617a, 555a; Public Law 96–586; Public Law 76–589, 76–591; and Public Law 78–310).

RANGE BETTERMENT FUND

For necessary expenses of range rehabilitation, protection, and improvement, 50 percent of all moneys received during the prior fiscal year, as fees for grazing domestic livestock on lands in National Forests in the 16 Western States, pursuant to section 401(b)(1) of Public Law 94–579, to remain available through September 30, 2020, of which not to exceed 6 percent shall be available for administrative expenses associated with on-

the-ground range rehabilitation, protection, and improvements.

GIFTS, DONATIONS AND BEQUESTS FOR FOREST AND RANGELAND RESEARCH

For expenses authorized by 16 U.S.C. 1643(b), $45,000, to remain available through September 30, 2020, to be derived from the fund established pursuant to the above Act.

MANAGEMENT OF NATIONAL FOREST LANDS FOR SUBSISTENCE USES

For necessary expenses of the Forest Service to manage Federal lands in Alaska for subsistence uses under title VIII of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (Public Law 96–487), $2,500,000, to remain available through September 30, 2020.

WILDLAND FIRE MANAGEMENT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses for forest fire presuppression activities on National Forest System lands, for emergency fire suppression on or adjacent to such lands or other lands under fire protection agreement, hazardous fuels management on or adjacent to such lands, emergency rehabilitation of burned-over National Forest System lands and water, and for State and volunteer fire assistance, $2,833,415,000, to remain available through September 30, 2020: *Provided*, That such funds including unobligated balances under this heading, are available for repayment of advances from other appropriations accounts previously transferred for such purposes: *Provided further*, That such funds shall be available to reimburse State and other cooperating entities for services provided in response to wildfire and other emergencies or disasters to the extent such reimbursements by the Forest Service for non-fire emergencies are fully repaid by the responsible emergency management agency: *Provided further*, That funds provided shall be available for emergency rehabilitation and restoration, hazardous fuels management activities, support to Federal emergency response, and wildfire suppression activities of the Forest Service: *Provided further*, That of the funds provided, $390,000,000 is for hazardous fuels management activities, $19,795,000 is for research activities and to make competitive research grants pursuant to the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Research Act, (16 U.S.C. 1641 et seq.), $78,000,000 is for State fire assistance, and $15,000,000 is for volunteer fire assistance under section 10 of the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2106): *Provided further*, That amounts in this paragraph may be transferred to the ''National Forest System'', and ''Forest and Rangeland Research'' accounts to fund forest and rangeland research, vegetation and watershed management, heritage site rehabilitation, and wildlife and fish habitat management and restoration: *Provided further*, That the costs of implementing any cooperative agreement between the Federal Government and any non-Federal entity may be shared, as mutually agreed on by the affected parties: *Provided further*, That up to $15,000,000 of the funds provided herein may be used by the Secretary of Agriculture to enter into procurement contracts or cooperative agreements or to issue grants for hazardous fuels management activities and for training or monitoring associated with such hazardous fuels management activities on Federal land or on non-Federal land if the Secretary determines such activities benefit resources on Federal land: *Provided further*, That funds made available to implement the Community Forest Restoration Act, Public Law 106–393, title VI, shall be available for use on non-Federal lands in accordance with authorities made available to the Forest Service under the ''State and Private Forestry'' appropriation: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture may authorize the transfer of funds appropriated for wildland fire management, in an aggregate amount not to exceed $50,000,000, between the Departments when such transfers would facilitate and expedite wildland fire management programs and projects: *Provided further*, That of the funds provided for hazardous fuels management, not to exceed $15,000,000 may be used to make grants, using any authorities available to the Forest Service under the ''State and Private Forestry'' appropriation, for the purpose of creating incentives for increased use of biomass from National Forest System lands: *Provided further*, That funds designated for wildfire suppression, including funds transferred from the ''FLAME Wildfire Suppression Reserve Fund'', shall be assessed for cost pools on the same basis as such assessments are calculated against other agency programs: *Provided further*, That of the funds for hazardous fuels management, up to $24,000,000 may be transferred to the ''National Forest System'' to support the Integrated Resource Restoration pilot program.

FLAME WILDFIRE SUPPRESSION RESERVE FUND

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses for large fire suppression operations of the Department of Agriculture and as a reserve fund for suppression and Federal emergency response activities, $342,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such amounts are only available for transfer to the ''Wildland Fire Management'' account following a declaration by the Secretary in accordance with section 502 of the FLAME Act of 2009 (43 U.S.C. 1748a): *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—FOREST SERVICE

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS AND RESCISSIONS OF FUNDS)

Appropriations to the Forest Service for the current fiscal year shall be available for: (1) purchase of passenger motor vehicles; acquisition of passenger motor vehicles from excess sources, and hire of such vehicles; purchase, lease, operation, maintenance, and acquisition of aircraft to maintain the operable fleet for use in Forest Service wildland fire programs and other Forest Service programs; notwithstanding other provisions of law, existing aircraft being replaced may be sold, with proceeds derived or trade-in value used to offset the purchase price for the replacement aircraft; (2) services pursuant to 7 U.S.C. 2225, and not to exceed $100,000 for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109; (3) purchase, erection, and alteration of buildings and other public improvements (7 U.S.C. 2250); (4) acquisition of land, waters, and interests therein pursuant to 7 U.S.C. 428a; (5) for expenses pursuant to the Volunteers in the National Forest Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 558a, 558d, and 558a note); (6) the cost of uniforms as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 5901–5902; and (7) for debt collection contracts in accordance with 31 U.S.C. 3718(c).

Any appropriations or funds available to the Forest Service may be transferred to the Wildland Fire Management appropriation for forest firefighting, emergency rehabilitation of burned-over or damaged lands or waters under its jurisdiction, and fire preparedness due to severe burning conditions upon the Secretary's notification of the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations that all fire suppression funds appropriated under the headings ''Wildland Fire Management'' and ''FLAME Wildfire Suppression Reserve Fund'' will be obligated within 30 days: *Provided*, That all funds used pursuant to this paragraph must be replenished by a supplemental appropriation which must be requested as promptly as possible.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the Forest Service may transfer unobligated balances of discretionary funds appropriated to the Forest Service by this Act to or within the Wildland Fire Management Account, or reprogram funds within the Wildland Fire Management Account, to be used for the purposes of hazardous fuels management and emergency rehabilitation of burned-over National Forest System lands and water, such transferred funds shall remain available through September 30, 2020: *Provided*, That none of the funds transferred pursuant to this section shall be available for obligation without written notification to and the prior approval of the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress: *Provided further*, That this section does not apply to funds appropriated to the FLAME Wildfire Suppression Reserve Fund or funds derived from the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

Funds appropriated to the Forest Service shall be available for assistance to or through the Agency for International Development in connection with forest and rangeland research, technical information, and assistance in foreign countries, and shall be available to support forestry and related natural resource activities outside the United States and its territories and possessions, including technical assistance, education and training, and cooperation with United States, private, and international organizations. The Forest Service, acting for the International Program, may sign direct funding agreements with foreign governments and institutions as well as other domestic agencies (including the United States Agency for International Development, the Department of State, and the Millennium Challenge Corporation), United States private sector firms, institutions and organizations to provide technical assistance and training programs overseas on forestry and rangeland management.

Funds appropriated to the Forest Service shall be available for expenditure or transfer to the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, for removal, preparation, and adoption of excess wild horses and burros from National Forest System lands, and for the performance of cadastral surveys to designate the boundaries of such lands.

None of the funds made available to the Forest Service in this Act or any other Act with respect to any fiscal year shall be subject to transfer under the provisions of section 702(b) of the Department of Agriculture Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2257), section 442 of Public Law 106–224 (7 U.S.C. 7772), or section 10417(b) of Public Law 107–171 (7 U.S.C. 8316(b)).

None of the funds available to the Forest Service may be reprogrammed without the advance approval of the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations in accordance with the reprogramming procedures contained in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act).

Not more than $82,000,000 of funds available to the Forest Service shall be transferred to the Working Capital Fund of the Department

of Agriculture and not more than $14,500,000 of funds available to the Forest Service shall be transferred to the Department of Agriculture for Department Reimbursable Programs, commonly referred to as Greenbook charges. Nothing in this paragraph shall prohibit or limit the use of reimbursable agreements requested by the Forest Service in order to obtain services from the Department of Agriculture's National Information Technology Center and the Department of Agriculture's International Technology Service.

Of the funds available to the Forest Service, up to $5,000,000 shall be available for priority projects within the scope of the approved budget, which shall be carried out by the Youth Conservation Corps and shall be carried out under the authority of the Public Lands Corps Act of 1993, Public Law 103–82, as amended by Public Lands Corps Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2005, Public Law 109–154.

Of the funds available to the Forest Service, $4,000 is available to the Chief of the Forest Service for official reception and representation expenses.

Pursuant to sections 405(b) and 410(b) of Public Law 101–593, of the funds available to the Forest Service, up to $3,000,000 may be advanced in a lump sum to the National Forest Foundation to aid conservation partnership projects in support of the Forest Service mission, without regard to when the Foundation incurs expenses, for projects on or benefitting National Forest System lands or related to Forest Service programs: *Provided*, That of the Federal funds made available to the Foundation, no more than $300,000 shall be available for administrative expenses: *Provided further*, That the Foundation shall obtain, by the end of the period of Federal financial assistance, private contributions to match on at least one-for-one basis funds made available by the Forest Service: *Provided further*, That the Foundation may transfer Federal funds to a Federal or a non-Federal recipient for a project at the same rate that the recipient has obtained the non-Federal matching funds.

Pursuant to section 2(b)(2) of Public Law 98–244, up to $3,000,000 of the funds available to the Forest Service may be advanced to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation in a lump sum to aid cost-share conservation projects, without regard to when expenses are incurred, on or benefitting National Forest System lands or related to Forest Service programs: *Provided*, That such funds shall be matched on at least a one-for-one basis by the Foundation or its sub-recipients: *Provided further*, That the Foundation may transfer Federal funds to a Federal or non-Federal recipient for a project at the same rate that the recipient has obtained the non-Federal matching funds.

Funds appropriated to the Forest Service shall be available for interactions with and providing technical assistance to rural communities and natural resource-based businesses for sustainable rural development purposes.

Funds appropriated to the Forest Service shall be available for payments to counties within the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, pursuant to section 14(c)(1) and (2), and section 16(a)(2) of Public Law 99–663.

Any funds appropriated to the Forest Service may be used to meet the non-Federal share requirement in section 502(c) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3056(c)(2)).

Funds available to the Forest Service, not to exceed $65,000,000, shall be assessed for the purpose of performing fire, administrative and other facilities maintenance and decommissioning. Such assessments shall occur using a square foot rate charged on the same basis the agency uses to assess programs for payment of rent, utilities, and other support services.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any appropriations or funds available to the Forest Service not to exceed $500,000 may be used to reimburse the Office of the General Counsel (OGC), Department of Agriculture, for travel and related expenses incurred as a result of OGC assistance or participation requested by the Forest Service at meetings, training sessions, management reviews, land purchase negotiations and similar nonlitigation-related matters. Future budget justifications for both the Forest Service and the Department of Agriculture should clearly display the sums previously transferred and the requested funding transfers.

An eligible individual who is employed in any project funded under title V of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3056 et seq.) and administered by the Forest Service shall be considered to be a Federal employee for purposes of chapter 171 of title 28, United States Code.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, through the Office of Budget and Program Analysis, the Forest Service shall report no later than 30 business days following the close of each fiscal quarter all current and prior year unobligated balances, by fiscal year, budget line item and account, to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations.

The following unobligated balances identified by the following accounts are hereby rescinded: Forest and Rangeland Research, $815,000; National Forest System, $2,000,000; and State and Private Forestry, $3,500,000.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE

INDIAN HEALTH SERVICES

For expenses necessary to carry out the Act of August 5, 1954 (68 Stat. 674), the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act, the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, and titles II and III of the Public Health Service Act with respect to the Indian Health Service, $3,694,462,000, together with payments received during the fiscal year pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 238(b) and 238b, for services furnished by the Indian Health Service: *Provided*, That funds made available to tribes and tribal organizations through contracts, grant agreements, or any other agreements or compacts authorized by the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act of 1975 (25 U.S.C. 450), shall be deemed to be obligated at the time of the grant or contract award and thereafter shall remain available to the tribe or tribal organization without fiscal year limitation: *Provided further*, That $2,000,000 shall be available for grants or contracts with public or private institutions to provide alcohol or drug treatment services to Indians, including alcohol detoxification services: *Provided further*, That $928,830,000 for Purchased/Referred Care, including $53,000,000 for the Indian Catastrophic Health Emergency Fund, shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That of the funds provided, up to $36,000,000 shall remain available until expended for implementation of the loan repayment program under section 108 of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act: *Provided further*, That of the funds provided, $11,000,000 shall remain available until expended to supplement funds available for operational costs at tribal clinics operated under an Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act compact or contract where health care is delivered in space acquired through a full service lease, which is not eligible for maintenance and improvement and equipment funds from the Indian Health Service, and $29,000,000 shall be for costs related to or resulting from accreditation emergencies, of which up to $4,000,000 may be used to supplement amounts otherwise available for Purchased and Referred Care: *Provided further*, That the amounts collected by the Federal Government as authorized by sections 104 and 108 of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act (25 U.S.C. 1613a and 1616a) during the preceding fiscal year for breach of contracts shall be deposited to the Fund authorized by section 108A of the Act (25 U.S.C. 1616a–1) and shall remain available until expended and, notwithstanding section 108A(c) of the Act (25 U.S.C. 1616a–1(c)), funds shall be available to make new awards under the loan repayment and scholarship programs under sections 104 and 108 of the Act (25 U.S.C. 1613a and 1616a): *Provided further*, That the amounts made available within this account for the Substance Abuse and Suicide Prevention Program, for the Domestic Violence Prevention Program, for the Zero Suicide Initiative, for aftercare pilots at Youth Regional Treatment Centers, to improve collections from public and private insurance at Indian Health Service and tribally operated facilities, and for accreditation emergencies shall be allocated at the discretion of the Director of the Indian Health Service and shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That funds provided in this Act may be used for annual contracts and grants that fall within 2 fiscal years, provided the total obligation is recorded in the year the funds are appropriated: *Provided further*, That the amounts collected by the Secretary of Health and Human Services under the authority of title IV of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act shall remain available until expended for the purpose of achieving compliance with the applicable conditions and requirements of titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act, except for those related to the planning, design, or construction of new facilities: *Provided further*, That funding contained herein for scholarship programs under the Indian Health Care Improvement Act (25 U.S.C. 1613) shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That amounts received by tribes and tribal organizations under title IV of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act shall be reported and accounted for and available to the receiving tribes and tribal organizations until expended: *Provided further*, That the Bureau of Indian Affairs may collect from the Indian Health Service, tribes and tribal organizations operating health facilities pursuant to Public Law 93–638, such individually identifiable health information relating to disabled children as may be necessary for the purpose of carrying out its functions under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1400, et seq.): *Provided further*, That the Indian Health Care Improvement Fund may be used, as needed, to carry out activities typically funded under the Indian Health Facilities account.

CONTRACT SUPPORT COSTS

For payments to tribes and tribal organizations for contract support costs associated with Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act agreements with the Indian Health Service for fiscal year 2017,

such sums as may be necessary: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, no amounts made available under this heading shall be available for transfer to another budget account.

INDIAN HEALTH FACILITIES

For construction, repair, maintenance, improvement, and equipment of health and related auxiliary facilities, including quarters for personnel; preparation of plans, specifications, and drawings; acquisition of sites, purchase and erection of modular buildings, and purchases of trailers; and for provision of domestic and community sanitation facilities for Indians, as authorized by section 7 of the Act of August 5, 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2004a), the Indian Self-Determination Act, and the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, and for expenses necessary to carry out such Acts and titles II and III of the Public Health Service Act with respect to environmental health and facilities support activities of the Indian Health Service, $545,424,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds appropriated for the planning, design, construction, renovation or expansion of health facilities for the benefit of an Indian tribe or tribes may be used to purchase land on which such facilities will be located: *Provided further*, That not to exceed $500,000 may be used by the Indian Health Service to purchase TRANSAM equipment from the Department of Defense for distribution to the Indian Health Service and tribal facilities: *Provided further*, That none of the funds appropriated to the Indian Health Service may be used for sanitation facilities construction for new homes funded with grants by the housing programs of the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development: *Provided further*, That not to exceed $2,700,000 from this account and the ''Indian Health Services'' account may be used by the Indian Health Service to obtain ambulances for the Indian Health Service and tribal facilities in conjunction with an existing interagency agreement between the Indian Health Service and the General Services Administration: *Provided further*, That not to exceed $500,000 may be placed in a Demolition Fund, to remain available until expended, and be used by the Indian Health Service for the demolition of Federal buildings.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE

Appropriations provided in this Act to the Indian Health Service shall be available for services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109 at rates not to exceed the per diem rate equivalent to the maximum rate payable for senior-level positions under 5 U.S.C. 5376; hire of passenger motor vehicles and aircraft; purchase of medical equipment; purchase of reprints; purchase, renovation and erection of modular buildings and renovation of existing facilities; payments for telephone service in private residences in the field, when authorized under regulations approved by the Secretary; uniforms or allowances therefor as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 5901–5902; and for expenses of attendance at meetings that relate to the functions or activities of the Indian Health Service: *Provided*, That in accordance with the provisions of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, non-Indian patients may be extended health care at all tribally administered or Indian Health Service facilities, subject to charges, and the proceeds along with funds recovered under the Federal Medical Care Recovery Act (42 U.S.C. 2651–2653) shall be credited to the account of the facility providing the service and shall be available without fiscal year limitation: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other law or regulation, funds transferred from the Department of Housing and Urban Development to the Indian Health Service shall be administered under Public Law 86–121, the Indian Sanitation Facilities Act and Public Law 93–638: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated to the Indian Health Service in this Act, except those used for administrative and program direction purposes, shall not be subject to limitations directed at curtailing Federal travel and transportation: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available to the Indian Health Service in this Act shall be used for any assessments or charges by the Department of Health and Human Services unless identified in the budget justification and provided in this Act, or approved by the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations through the reprogramming process: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds previously or herein made available to a tribe or tribal organization through a contract, grant, or agreement authorized by title I or title V of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act of 1975 (25 U.S.C. 450), may be deobligated and reobligated to a self-determination contract under title I, or a self-governance agreement under title V of such Act and thereafter shall remain available to the tribe or tribal organization without fiscal year limitation: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available to the Indian Health Service in this Act shall be used to implement the final rule published in the Federal Register on September 16, 1987, by the Department of Health and Human Services, relating to the eligibility for the health care services of the Indian Health Service until the Indian Health Service has submitted a budget request reflecting the increased costs associated with the proposed final rule, and such request has been included in an appropriations Act and enacted into law: *Provided further*, That with respect to functions transferred by the Indian Health Service to tribes or tribal organizations, the Indian Health Service is authorized to provide goods and services to those entities on a reimbursable basis, including payments in advance with subsequent adjustment, and the reimbursements received therefrom, along with the funds received from those entities pursuant to the Indian Self-Determination Act, may be credited to the same or subsequent appropriation account from which the funds were originally derived, with such amounts to remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That reimbursements for training, technical assistance, or services provided by the Indian Health Service will contain total costs, including direct, administrative, and overhead associated with the provision of goods, services, or technical assistance: *Provided further*, That the appropriation structure for the Indian Health Service may not be altered without advance notification to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations.

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SCIENCES

For necessary expenses for the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences in carrying out activities set forth in section 311(a) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9660(a)) and section 126(g) of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986, $77,349,000.

AGENCY FOR TOXIC SUBSTANCES AND DISEASE REGISTRY

TOXIC SUBSTANCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH

For necessary expenses for the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) in carrying out activities set forth in sections 104(i) and 111(c)(4) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA) and section 3019 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act, $74,691,000, of which up to $1,000 per eligible employee of the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry shall remain available until expended for Individual Learning Accounts: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, in lieu of performing a health assessment under section 104(i)(6) of CERCLA, the Administrator of ATSDR may conduct other appropriate health studies, evaluations, or activities, including, without limitation, biomedical testing, clinical evaluations, medical monitoring, and referral to accredited healthcare providers: *Provided further*, That in performing any such health assessment or health study, evaluation, or activity, the Administrator of ATSDR shall not be bound by the deadlines in section 104(i)(6)(A) of CERCLA: *Provided further*, That none of the funds appropriated under this heading shall be available for ATSDR to issue in excess of 40 toxicological profiles pursuant to section 104(i) of CERCLA during fiscal year 2017, and existing profiles may be updated as necessary.

OTHER RELATED AGENCIES

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY AND OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

For necessary expenses to continue functions assigned to the Council on Environmental Quality and Office of Environmental Quality pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the Environmental Quality Improvement Act of 1970, and Reorganization Plan No. 1 of 1977, and not to exceed $750 for official reception and representation expenses, $3,000,000: *Provided*, That notwithstanding section 202 of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1970, the Council shall consist of one member, appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, serving as chairman and exercising all powers, functions, and duties of the Council.

CHEMICAL SAFETY AND HAZARD INVESTIGATION BOARD

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses in carrying out activities pursuant to section 112(r)(6) of the Clean Air Act, including hire of passenger vehicles, uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 5901–5902, and for services authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109 but at rates for individuals not to exceed the per diem equivalent to the maximum rate payable for senior level positions under 5 U.S.C. 5376, $11,000,000: *Provided*, That the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board (Board) shall have not more than three career Senior Executive Service positions: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, the individual appointed to the position of Inspector General of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) shall, by virtue of such appointment, also hold the position of Inspector General of the Board: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Inspector General of the Board shall utilize personnel of the Office of Inspector General of EPA in performing the

duties of the Inspector General of the Board, and shall not appoint any individuals to positions within the Board.

OFFICE OF NAVAJO AND HOPI INDIAN RELOCATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Office of Navajo and Hopi Indian Relocation as authorized by Public Law 93–531, $15,431,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That funds provided in this or any other appropriations Act are to be used to relocate eligible individuals and groups including evictees from District 6, Hopi-partitioned lands residents, those in significantly substandard housing, and all others certified as eligible and not included in the preceding categories: *Provided further*, That none of the funds contained in this or any other Act may be used by the Office of Navajo and Hopi Indian Relocation to evict any single Navajo or Navajo family who, as of November 30, 1985, was physically domiciled on the lands partitioned to the Hopi Tribe unless a new or replacement home is provided for such household: *Provided further*, That no relocatee will be provided with more than one new or replacement home: *Provided further*, That the Office shall relocate any certified eligible relocatees who have selected and received an approved homesite on the Navajo reservation or selected a replacement residence off the Navajo reservation or on the land acquired pursuant to section 11 of Public Law 93–531 (88 Stat. 1716): *Provided further*, That $200,000 shall be transferred to the Office of Inspector General of the Department of the Interior, to remain available until expended, for audits and investigations of the Office of Navajo and Hopi Indian Relocation, consistent with the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.).

INSTITUTE OF AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE CULTURE AND ARTS DEVELOPMENT

PAYMENT TO THE INSTITUTE

For payment to the Institute of American Indian and Alaska Native Culture and Arts Development, as authorized by title XV of Public Law 99–498 (20 U.S.C. 56 part A), $15,212,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That of the funds made available under this heading, not to exceed $7,377,000 shall become available on July 1, 2017, and shall remain available until September 30, 2018.

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Smithsonian Institution, as authorized by law, including research in the fields of art, science, and history; development, preservation, and documentation of the National Collections; presentation of public exhibits and performances; collection, preparation, dissemination, and exchange of information and publications; conduct of education, training, and museum assistance programs; maintenance, alteration, operation, lease agreements of no more than 30 years, and protection of buildings, facilities, and approaches; not to exceed $100,000 for services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109; and purchase, rental, repair, and cleaning of uniforms for employees, $729,444,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, except as otherwise provided herein; of which not to exceed $48,467,000 for the instrumentation program, collections acquisition, exhibition reinstallation, the National Museum of African American History and Culture, and the repatriation of skeletal remains program shall remain available until expended; and including such funds as may be necessary to support American overseas research centers: *Provided*, That funds appropriated herein are available for advance payments to independent contractors performing research services or participating in official Smithsonian presentations.

FACILITIES CAPITAL

For necessary expenses of repair, revitalization, and alteration of facilities owned or occupied by the Smithsonian Institution, by contract or otherwise, as authorized by section 2 of the Act of August 22, 1949 (63 Stat. 623), and for construction, including necessary personnel, $133,903,000, to remain available until expended, of which not to exceed $10,000 shall be for services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109.

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For the upkeep and operations of the National Gallery of Art, the protection and care of the works of art therein, and administrative expenses incident thereto, as authorized by the Act of March 24, 1937 (50 Stat. 51), as amended by the public resolution of April 13, 1939 (Public Resolution 9, Seventy-sixth Congress), including services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109; payment in advance when authorized by the treasurer of the Gallery for membership in library, museum, and art associations or societies whose publications or services are available to members only, or to members at a price lower than to the general public; purchase, repair, and cleaning of uniforms for guards, and uniforms, or allowances therefor, for other employees as authorized by law (5 U.S.C. 5901–5902); purchase or rental of devices and services for protecting buildings and contents thereof, and maintenance, alteration, improvement, and repair of buildings, approaches, and grounds; and purchase of services for restoration and repair of works of art for the National Gallery of Art by contracts made, without advertising, with individuals, firms, or organizations at such rates or prices and under such terms and conditions as the Gallery may deem proper, $132,961,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, of which not to exceed $3,620,000 for the special exhibition program shall remain available until expended.

REPAIR, RESTORATION AND RENOVATION OF BUILDINGS

For necessary expenses of repair, restoration and renovation of buildings, grounds and facilities owned or occupied by the National Gallery of Art, by contract or otherwise, for operating lease agreements of no more than 10 years, with no extensions or renewals beyond the 10 years, that address space needs created by the ongoing renovations in the Master Facilities Plan, as authorized, $22,564,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That contracts awarded for environmental systems, protection systems, and exterior repair or renovation of buildings of the National Gallery of Art may be negotiated with selected contractors and awarded on the basis of contractor qualifications as well as price.

JOHN F. KENNEDY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

For necessary expenses for the operation, maintenance and security of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, $22,260,000.

CAPITAL REPAIR AND RESTORATION

For necessary expenses for capital repair and restoration of the existing features of the building and site of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, $14,140,000, to remain available until expended.

WOODROW WILSON INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR SCHOLARS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary in carrying out the provisions of the Woodrow Wilson Memorial Act of 1968 (82 Stat. 1356) including hire of passenger vehicles and services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, $10,500,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018.

NATIONAL FOUNDATION ON THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS

GRANTS AND ADMINISTRATION

For necessary expenses to carry out the National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities Act of 1965, $149,849,000 shall be available to the National Endowment for the Arts for the support of projects and productions in the arts, including arts education and public outreach activities, through assistance to organizations and individuals pursuant to section 5 of the Act, for program support, and for administering the functions of the Act, to remain available until expended.

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES

GRANTS AND ADMINISTRATION

For necessary expenses to carry out the National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities Act of 1965, $149,848,000, to remain available until expended, of which $139,148,000 shall be available for support of activities in the humanities, pursuant to section 7(c) of the Act and for administering the functions of the Act; and $10,700,000 shall be available to carry out the matching grants program pursuant to section 10(a)(2) of the Act, including $8,500,000 for the purposes of section 7(h): *Provided*, That appropriations for carrying out section 10(a)(2) shall be available for obligation only in such amounts as may be equal to the total amounts of gifts, bequests, devises of money, and other property accepted by the chairman or by grantees of the National Endowment for the Humanities under the provisions of sections 11(a)(2)(B) and 11(a)(3)(B) during the current and preceding fiscal years for which equal amounts have not previously been appropriated.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

None of the funds appropriated to the National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities may be used to process any grant or contract documents which do not include the text of 18 U.S.C. 1913: *Provided*, That none of the funds appropriated to the National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities may be used for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That funds from nonappropriated sources may be used as necessary for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That the Chairperson of the National Endowment for the Arts may approve grants of up to $10,000, if in the aggregate the amount of such grants does not exceed 5 percent of the sums appropriated for grantmaking purposes per year: *Provided further*, That such small grant actions are taken pursuant to the terms of an expressed and direct delegation of authority from the National Council on the Arts to the Chairperson.

COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses of the Commission of Fine Arts under chapter 91 of title 40, United States Code, $2,762,000: *Provided*, That the

Commission is authorized to charge fees to cover the full costs of its publications, and such fees shall be credited to this account as an offsetting collection, to remain available until expended without further appropriation: *Provided further*, That the Commission is authorized to accept gifts, including objects, papers, artwork, drawings and artifacts, that pertain to the history and design of the Nation's Capital or the history and activities of the Commission of Fine Arts, for the purpose of artistic display, study or education: *Provided further*, That one-tenth of one percent of the funds provided under this heading may be used for official reception and representation expenses.

NATIONAL CAPITAL ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

For necessary expenses as authorized by Public Law 99–190 (20 U.S.C. 956a), $2,000,000.

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (Public Law 89–665), $6,493,000.

NATIONAL CAPITAL PLANNING COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the National Capital Planning Commission under chapter 87 of title 40, United States Code, including services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, $8,099,000: *Provided*, That one-quarter of 1 percent of the funds provided under this heading may be used for official reception and representational expenses associated with hosting international visitors engaged in the planning and physical development of world capitals.

UNITED STATES HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL MUSEUM

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL MUSEUM

For expenses of the Holocaust Memorial Museum, as authorized by Public Law 106–292 (36 U.S.C. 2301–2310), $57,000,000, of which $1,215,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2019, for the Museum's equipment replacement program; and of which $2,500,000 for the Museum's repair and rehabilitation program and $1,264,000 for the Museum's outreach initiatives program shall remain available until expended.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER MEMORIAL COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses, including the costs of construction design, of the Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial Commission, $1,600,000, to remain available until expended.

CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION

For necessary expenses of the Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial Commission for design and construction of a memorial in honor of Dwight D. Eisenhower, as authorized by Public Law 106–79, $45,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the contract with respect to the procurement shall contain the ''availability of funds'' clause described in section 52.232.18 of title 48, Code of Federal Regulations: *Provided further*, That the funds appropriated herein shall be deemed to satisfy the criteria for issuing a permit contained in 40 U.S.C. 8906(a)(4) and (b).

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE CENTENNIAL COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission, as authorized by this Act, $2,000,000, to remain available until expended.

TITLE IV

GENERAL PROVISIONS

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

RESTRICTION ON USE OF FUNDS

SEC. 401. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall be available for any activity or the publication or distribution of literature that in any way tends to promote public support or opposition to any legislative proposal on which Congressional action is not complete other than to communicate to Members of Congress as described in 18 U.S.C. 1913.

OBLIGATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

SEC. 402. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year unless expressly so provided herein.

DISCLOSURE OF ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

SEC. 403. The amount and basis of estimated overhead charges, deductions, reserves or holdbacks, including working capital fund and cost pool charges, from programs, projects, activities and subactivities to support government-wide, departmental, agency, or bureau administrative functions or headquarters, regional, or central operations shall be presented in annual budget justifications and subject to approval by the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate. Changes to such estimates shall be presented to the Committees on Appropriations for approval.

MINING APPLICATIONS

SEC. 404. (a) LIMITATION OF FUNDS.—None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available pursuant to this Act shall be obligated or expended to accept or process applications for a patent for any mining or mill site claim located under the general mining laws.

(b) EXCEPTIONS.—Subsection (a) shall not apply if the Secretary of the Interior determines that, for the claim concerned (1) a patent application was filed with the Secretary on or before September 30, 1994; and (2) all requirements established under sections 2325 and 2326 of the Revised Statutes (30 U.S.C. 29 and 30) for vein or lode claims, sections 2329, 2330, 2331, and 2333 of the Revised Statutes (30 U.S.C. 35, 36, and 37) for placer claims, and section 2337 of the Revised Statutes (30 U.S.C. 42) for mill site claims, as the case may be, were fully complied with by the applicant by that date.

(c) REPORT.—On September 30, 2018, the Secretary of the Interior shall file with the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations and the Committee on Natural Resources of the House and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report on actions taken by the Department under the plan submitted pursuant to section 314(c) of the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1997 (Public Law 104–208).

(d) MINERAL EXAMINATIONS.—In order to process patent applications in a timely and responsible manner, upon the request of a patent applicant, the Secretary of the Interior shall allow the applicant to fund a qualified third-party contractor to be selected by the Director of the Bureau of Land Management to conduct a mineral examination of the mining claims or mill sites contained in a patent application as set forth in subsection (b). The Bureau of Land Management shall have the sole responsibility to choose and pay the third-party contractor in accordance with the standard procedures employed by the Bureau of Land Management in the retention of third-party contractors.

CONTRACT SUPPORT COSTS, PRIOR YEAR LIMITATION

SEC. 405. Sections 405 and 406 of division F of the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015 (Public Law 113–235) shall continue in effect in fiscal year 2017.

CONTRACT SUPPORT COSTS, FISCAL YEAR 2017 LIMITATION

SEC. 406. Amounts provided by this Act for fiscal year 2017 under the headings ''Department of Health and Human Services, Indian Health Service, Contract Support Costs'' and ''Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs and Bureau of Indian Education, Contract Support Costs'' are the only amounts available for contract support costs arising out of self-determination or self-governance contracts, grants, compacts, or annual funding agreements for fiscal year 2017 with the Bureau of Indian Affairs or the Indian Health Service: *Provided*, That such amounts provided by this Act are not available for payment of claims for contract support costs for prior years, or for repayments of payments for settlements or judgments awarding contract support costs for prior years.

FOREST MANAGEMENT PLANS

SEC. 407. The Secretary of Agriculture shall not be considered to be in violation of subparagraph 6(f)(5)(A) of the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. 1604(f)(5)(A)) solely because more than 15 years have passed without revision of the plan for a unit of the National Forest System. Nothing in this section exempts the Secretary from any other requirement of the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act (16 U.S.C. 1600 et seq.) or any other law: *Provided*, That if the Secretary is not acting expeditiously and in good faith, within the funding available, to revise a plan for a unit of the National Forest System, this section shall be void with respect to such plan and a court of proper jurisdiction may order completion of the plan on an accelerated basis.

PROHIBITION WITHIN NATIONAL MONUMENTS

SEC. 408. No funds provided in this Act may be expended to conduct preleasing, leasing and related activities under either the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C. 181 et seq.) or the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1331 et seq.) within the boundaries of a National Monument established pursuant to the Act of June 8, 1906 (16 U.S.C. 431 et seq.) as such boundary existed on January 20, 2001, except where such activities are allowed under the Presidential proclamation establishing such monument.

LIMITATION ON TAKINGS

SEC. 409. Unless otherwise provided herein, no funds appropriated in this Act for the acquisition of lands or interests in lands may be expended for the filing of declarations of taking or complaints in condemnation without the approval of the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations: *Provided*, That this provision shall not apply to funds appropriated to implement the Everglades National Park Protection and Expansion Act of 1989, or to funds appropriated for Federal assistance to the State of Florida to acquire lands for Everglades restoration purposes.

TIMBER SALE REQUIREMENTS

SEC. 410. No timber sale in Alaska's Region 10 shall be advertised if the indicated rate is deficit (defined as the value of the timber is not sufficient to cover all logging and stumpage costs and provide a normal profit and risk allowance under the Forest Service's appraisal process) when appraised using a residual value appraisal. The western red cedar

timber from those sales which is surplus to the needs of the domestic processors in Alaska, shall be made available to domestic processors in the contiguous 48 United States at prevailing domestic prices. All additional western red cedar volume not sold to Alaska or contiguous 48 United States domestic processors may be exported to foreign markets at the election of the timber sale holder. All Alaska yellow cedar may be sold at prevailing export prices at the election of the timber sale holder.

PROHIBITION ON NO-BID CONTRACTS

SEC. 411. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act to executive branch agencies may be used to enter into any Federal contract unless such contract is entered into in accordance with the requirements of Chapter 33 of title 41, United States Code, or Chapter 137 of title 10, United States Code, and the Federal Acquisition Regulation, unless—

(1) Federal law specifically authorizes a contract to be entered into without regard for these requirements, including formula grants for States, or federally recognized Indian tribes; or

(2) such contract is authorized by the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (Public Law 93–638, 25 U.S.C. 450 et seq.) or by any other Federal laws that specifically authorize a contract within an Indian tribe as defined in section 4(e) of that Act (25 U.S.C. 450b(e)); or

(3) such contract was awarded prior to the date of enactment of this Act.

POSTING OF REPORTS

SEC. 412. (a) Any agency receiving funds made available in this Act, shall, subject to subsections (b) and (c), post on the public website of that agency any report required to be submitted by the Congress in this or any other Act, upon the determination by the head of the agency that it shall serve the national interest.

(b) Subsection (a) shall not apply to a report if—

(1) the public posting of the report compromises national security; or

(2) the report contains proprietary information.

(c) The head of the agency posting such report shall do so only after such report has been made available to the requesting Committee or Committees of Congress for no less than 45 days.

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS GRANT GUIDELINES

SEC. 413. Of the funds provided to the National Endowment for the Arts—

(1) The Chairperson shall only award a grant to an individual if such grant is awarded to such individual for a literature fellowship, National Heritage Fellowship, or American Jazz Masters Fellowship.

(2) The Chairperson shall establish procedures to ensure that no funding provided through a grant, except a grant made to a State or local arts agency, or regional group, may be used to make a grant to any other organization or individual to conduct activity independent of the direct grant recipient. Nothing in this subsection shall prohibit payments made in exchange for goods and services.

(3) No grant shall be used for seasonal support to a group, unless the application is specific to the contents of the season, including identified programs or projects.

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS PROGRAM PRIORITIES

SEC. 414. (a) In providing services or awarding financial assistance under the National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities Act of 1965 from funds appropriated under this Act, the Chairperson of the National Endowment for the Arts shall ensure that priority is given to providing services or awarding financial assistance for projects, productions, workshops, or programs that serve underserved populations.

(b) In this section:

(1) The term ''underserved population'' means a population of individuals, including urban minorities, who have historically been outside the purview of arts and humanities programs due to factors such as a high incidence of income below the poverty line or to geographic isolation.

(2) The term ''poverty line'' means the poverty line (as defined by the Office of Management and Budget, and revised annually in accordance with section 673(2) of the Community Services Block Grant Act (42 U.S.C. 9902(2))) applicable to a family of the size involved.

(c) In providing services and awarding financial assistance under the National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities Act of 1965 with funds appropriated by this Act, the Chairperson of the National Endowment for the Arts shall ensure that priority is given to providing services or awarding financial assistance for projects, productions, workshops, or programs that will encourage public knowledge, education, understanding, and appreciation of the arts.

(d) With funds appropriated by this Act to carry out section 5 of the National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities Act of 1965—

(1) the Chairperson shall establish a grant category for projects, productions, workshops, or programs that are of national impact or availability or are able to tour several States;

(2) the Chairperson shall not make grants exceeding 15 percent, in the aggregate, of such funds to any single State, excluding grants made under the authority of paragraph (1);

(3) the Chairperson shall report to the Congress annually and by State, on grants awarded by the Chairperson in each grant category under section 5 of such Act; and

(4) the Chairperson shall encourage the use of grants to improve and support community-based music performance and education.

STATUS OF BALANCES OF APPROPRIATIONS

SEC. 415. The Department of the Interior, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Forest Service, and the Indian Health Service shall provide the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate quarterly reports on the status of balances of appropriations including all uncommitted, committed, and unobligated funds in each program and activity.

REPORT ON USE OF CLIMATE CHANGE FUNDS

SEC. 416. Not later than 120 days after the date on which the President's fiscal year 2018 budget request is submitted to the Congress, the President shall submit a comprehensive report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate describing in detail all Federal agency funding, domestic and international, for climate change programs, projects, and activities in fiscal years 2016 and 2017, including an accounting of funding by agency with each agency identifying climate change programs, projects, and activities and associated costs by line item as presented in the President's Budget Appendix, and including citations and linkages where practicable to each strategic plan that is driving funding within each climate change program, project, and activity listed in the report.

PROHIBITION ON USE OF FUNDS

SEC. 417. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds made available in this Act or any other Act may be used to promulgate or implement any regulation requiring the issuance of permits under title V of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7661 et seq.) for carbon dioxide, nitrous oxide, water vapor, or methane emissions resulting from biological processes associated with livestock production.

GREENHOUSE GAS REPORTING RESTRICTIONS

SEC. 418. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds made available in this or any other Act may be used to implement any provision in a rule, if that provision requires mandatory reporting of greenhouse gas emissions from manure management systems.

MODIFICATION OF AUTHORITIES

SEC. 419. Section 8162(m)(3) of the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2000 (40 U.S.C. 8903 note; Public Law 106–79) is amended by striking ''September 30, 2016'' and inserting ''September 30, 2017''.

FUNDING PROHIBITION

SEC. 420. None of the funds made available by this or any other Act may be used to regulate the lead content of ammunition, ammunition components, or fishing tackle under the Toxic Substances Control Act (15 U.S.C. 2601 et seq.) or any other law.

EXTENSION OF GRAZING PERMITS

SEC. 421. The terms and conditions of section 325 of Public Law 108–108 (117 Stat. 1307), regarding grazing permits issued by the Forest Service on any lands not subject to administration under section 402 of the Federal Lands Policy and Management Act (43 U.S.C. 1752), shall remain in effect for fiscal year 2017.

STEWARDSHIP CONTRACTING AMENDMENTS

SEC. 422. Section 604(d) of the Healthy Forest Restoration Act of 2003 (16 U.S.C. 6591c(d)), as amended by the Agricultural Act of 2014 (Public Law 113–79), is further amended—

(1) in paragraph (5), by adding at the end the following: ''Notwithstanding the Materials Act of 1947 (30 U.S.C. 602(a)), the Director may enter into an agreement or contract under subsection (b).''; and

(2) in paragraph (7), by striking ''and the Director''.

FUNDING PROHIBITION

SEC. 423. (a) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to maintain or establish a computer network unless such network is designed to block access to pornography websites.

(b) Nothing in subsection (a) shall limit the use of funds necessary for any Federal, State, tribal, or local law enforcement agency or any other entity carrying out criminal investigations, prosecution, or adjudication activities.

CLARIFICATION OF EXEMPTIONS

SEC. 424. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to require a permit for the discharge of dredged or fill material under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251, et seq.) for the activities identified in subparagraphs (A) and (C) of section 404(f)(1) of the Act (33 U.S.C. 1344(f)(1)(A), (C)).

USE OF AMERICAN IRON AND STEEL

SEC. 425. (a)(1) None of the funds made available by a State water pollution control

revolving fund as authorized by section 1452 of the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300j–12) shall be used for a project for the construction, alteration, maintenance, or repair of a public water system or treatment works unless all of the iron and steel products used in the project are produced in the United States.

(2) In this section, the term ''iron and steel'' products means the following products made primarily of iron or steel: lined or unlined pipes and fittings, manhole covers and other municipal castings, hydrants, tanks, flanges, pipe clamps and restraints, valves, structural steel, reinforced precast concrete, and construction materials.

(b) Subsection (a) shall not apply in any case or category of cases in which the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency (in this section referred to as the ''Administrator'') finds that—

(1) applying subsection (a) would be inconsistent with the public interest;

(2) iron and steel products are not produced in the United States in sufficient and reasonably available quantities and of a satisfactory quality; or

(3) inclusion of iron and steel products produced in the United States will increase the cost of the overall project by more than 25 percent.

(c) If the Administrator receives a request for a waiver under this section, the Administrator shall make available to the public on an informal basis a copy of the request and information available to the Administrator concerning the request, and shall allow for informal public input on the request for at least 15 days prior to making a finding based on the request. The Administrator shall make the request and accompanying information available by electronic means, including on the official public Internet Web site of the Environmental Protection Agency.

(d) This section shall be applied in a manner consistent with United States obligations under international agreements.

(e) The Administrator may retain up to 0.25 percent of the funds appropriated in this Act for the Clean and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds for carrying out the provisions described in subsection (a)(1) for management and oversight of the requirements of this section.

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

SEC. 426. Section 6301(2) of title 40, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking ''The National Gallery of Art'' and inserting ''(A) The National Gallery of Art'';

(2) by redesignating subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C) as clauses (i), (ii), and (iii), respectively; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph: ''(B) All other buildings, service roads, walks, and other areas within the exterior boundaries of any real estate or land or interest in land (including temporary use) that the National Gallery of Art acquires and that the Director of the National Gallery of Art determines to be necessary for the adequate protection of individuals or property in the National Gallery of Art and suitable for administration as a part of the National Gallery of Art.''.

MIDWAY ISLAND

SEC. 427. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to destroy any buildings or structures on Midway Island that have been recommended by the United States Navy for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (54 U.S.C. 302101).

POLICIES RELATING TO BIOMASS ENERGY

SEC. 428. To support the key role that forests in the United States can play in addressing the energy needs of the United States, the Secretary of Energy, the Secretary of Agriculture, and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency shall, consistent with their missions, jointly—

(1) ensure that Federal policy relating to forest bioenergy—

(A) is consistent across all Federal departments and agencies; and

(B) recognizes the full benefits of the use of forest biomass for energy, conservation, and responsible forest management; and

(2) establish clear and simple policies for the use of forest biomass as an energy solution, including policies that—

(A) reflect the carbon-neutrality of forest bioenergy and recognize biomass as a renewable energy source, provided the use of forest biomass for energy production does not cause conversion of forests to non-forest use.

(B) encourage private investment throughout the forest biomass supply chain, including in—

(i) working forests;

(ii) harvesting operations;

(iii) forest improvement operations;

(iv) forest bioenergy production;

(v) wood products manufacturing; or

(vi) paper manufacturing;

(C) encourage forest management to improve forest health; and

(D) recognize State initiatives to produce and use forest biomass.

JOHN F. KENNEDY CENTER REAUTHORIZATION

SEC. 429. Section 13 of the John F. Kennedy Center Act (20 U.S.C. 76r) is amended by striking subsections (a) and (b) and inserting the following:

''(a) MAINTENANCE, REPAIR, AND SECURITY.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Board to carry out section 4(a)(1)(H), $22,260,000 for fiscal year 2017.

''(b) CAPITAL PROJECTS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Board to carry out subparagraphs (F) and (G) of section 4(a)(1), $14,140,000 for fiscal year 2017.''.

BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT, BOB MARSHALL WILDERNESS, HELENA-LEWIS AND CLARK NATIONAL FOREST

SEC. 430. The boundary of the Patrick's Basin Addition to the Bob Marshall Wilderness designated by section 3065(c)(1)(A) of the ''Carl Levin and Howard P. 'Buck' McKeon National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015'' (Public Law 113–291; 128 Stat. 3835) is modified to exclude approximately 603 acres of land as generally depicted as items 1 and 2 on the map entitled ''Patrick's Basin Addition to the Bob Marshall Wilderness—Kenck Cabin and South Fork Sun River Packbridge Adjustments'' and dated April 21, 2016, which shall be on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the Forest Service. The lands excluded from the wilderness shall be added to and administered as part of the Rocky Mountain Front Conservation Management Area established in section 3065(b).

INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE

SEC. 431. (a) The provisions of the following bills of the 115th Congress are hereby enacted into law:

(1) H.R. 2104 (the Morley Nelson Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area Boundary Modification Act of 2017), as introduced on April 20, 2017.

(2) S. 131 (the Alaska Mental Health Trust Land Exchange Act of 2017), as ordered to be reported on March 30, 2017, by the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate.

(3) S. 847 (the Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission Act), as introduced on April 5, 2017.

(b) In publishing this Act in slip form and in the United States Statutes at Large pursuant to section 112 of title 1, United States Code, the Archivist of the United States shall include after the date of approval at the end an appendix setting forth the text of the bills referred to in subsection (a).

This division may be cited as the ''Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017''.

DIVISION H—DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

TITLE I

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION

TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

For necessary expenses of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (referred to in this Act as ''WIOA''), the Second Chance Act of 2007, and the National Apprenticeship Act, $3,338,699,000, plus reimbursements, shall be available. Of the amounts provided:

(1) for grants to States for adult employment and training activities, youth activities, and dislocated worker employment and training activities, $2,709,832,000 as follows:

(A) $815,556,000 for adult employment and training activities, of which $103,556,000 shall be available for the period July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018, and of which $712,000,000 shall be available for the period October 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018;

(B) $873,416,000 for youth activities, which shall be available for the period April 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018; and

(C) $1,020,860,000 for dislocated worker employment and training activities, of which $160,860,000 shall be available for the period July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018, and of which $860,000,000 shall be available for the period October 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018: *Provided*, That pursuant to section 128(a)(1) of the WIOA, the amount available to the Governor for statewide workforce investment activities shall not exceed 15 percent of the amount allotted to the State from each of the appropriations under the preceding subparagraphs: *Provided further*, That the funds available for allotment to outlying areas to carry out subtitle B of title I of the WIOA shall not be subject to the requirements of section 127(b)(1)(B)(ii) of such Act; and

(2) for national programs, $628,867,000 as follows:

(A) $220,859,000 for the dislocated workers assistance national reserve, of which $20,859,000 shall be available for the period July 1, 2017 through September 30, 2018, and of which $200,000,000 shall be available for the period October 1, 2017 through September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That funds provided to carry out section 132(a)(2)(A) of the WIOA may be used to provide assistance to a State for statewide or local use in order to address cases where there have been worker dislocations across multiple sectors or across multiple local areas and such workers remain dislocated; coordinate the State workforce development plan with emerging economic development needs; and train such eligible dislocated workers: *Provided further*, That funds provided to carry out sections 168(b) and 169(c) of the WIOA may be used for technical assistance and demonstration projects, respectively, that provide assistance to new entrants in the workforce and incumbent workers: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding section 168(b) of the WIOA, of the

funds provided under this subparagraph, the Secretary of Labor (referred to in this title as ''Secretary'') may reserve not more than 10 percent of such funds to provide technical assistance and carry out additional activities related to the transition to the WIOA: *Provided further*, That, of the funds provided under this subparagraph, $20,000,000 shall be made available for applications submitted in accordance with section 170 of the WIOA for training and employment assistance for workers dislocated from coal mines and coal-fired power plants;

(B) $50,000,000 for Native American programs under section 166 of the WIOA, which shall be available for the period July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018;

(C) $81,896,000 for migrant and seasonal farmworker programs under section 167 of the WIOA, including $75,885,000 for formula grants (of which not less than 70 percent shall be for employment and training services), $5,517,000 for migrant and seasonal housing (of which not less than 70 percent shall be for permanent housing), and $494,000 for other discretionary purposes, which shall be available for the period July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law or related regulation, the Department of Labor shall take no action limiting the number or proportion of eligible participants receiving related assistance services or discouraging grantees from providing such services;

(D) $84,534,000 for YouthBuild activities as described in section 171 of the WIOA, which shall be available for the period April 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018;

(E) $2,500,000 for technical assistance activities under section 168 of the WIOA, which shall be available for the period July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018;

(F) $88,078,000 for ex-offender activities, under the authority of section 169 of the WIOA and section 212 of the Second Chance Act of 2007, which shall be available for the period April 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018: *Provided*, That of this amount, $25,000,000 shall be for competitive grants to national and regional intermediaries for activities that prepare young ex-offenders and school dropouts for employment, with a priority for projects serving high-crime, high-poverty areas;

(G) $6,000,000 for the Workforce Data Quality Initiative, under the authority of section 169 of the WIOA, which shall be available for the period July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018; and

(H) $95,000,000 to expand opportunities relating to apprenticeship programs registered under the National Apprenticeship Act, to be available to the Secretary to carry out activities through grants, cooperative agreements, contracts and other arrangements, with States and other appropriate entities, which shall be available for the period April 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018.

JOB CORPS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

To carry out subtitle C of title I of the WIOA, including Federal administrative expenses, the purchase and hire of passenger motor vehicles, the construction, alteration, and repairs of buildings and other facilities, and the purchase of real property for training centers as authorized by the WIOA, $1,704,155,000, plus reimbursements, as follows:

(1) $1,587,325,000 for Job Corps Operations, which shall be available for the period July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018;

(2) $84,500,000 for construction, rehabilitation and acquisition of Job Corps Centers, which shall be available for the period July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2020, and which may include the acquisition, maintenance, and repair of major items of equipment: *Provided*, That the Secretary may transfer up to 15 percent of such funds to meet the operational needs of such centers or to achieve administrative efficiencies: *Provided further*, That any funds transferred pursuant to the preceding proviso shall not be available for obligation after June 30, 2018: *Provided further*, That the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate are notified at least 15 days in advance of any transfer; and

(3) $32,330,000 for necessary expenses of Job Corps, which shall be available for obligation for the period October 1, 2016 through September 30, 2017:

Provided, That no funds from any other appropriation shall be used to provide meal services at or for Job Corps centers.

COMMUNITY SERVICE EMPLOYMENT FOR OLDER AMERICANS

To carry out title V of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (referred to in this Act as ''OAA''), $400,000,000, which shall be available for the period April 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018, and may be recaptured and reobligated in accordance with section 517(c) of the OAA.

FEDERAL UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS AND ALLOWANCES

For payments during fiscal year 2017 of trade adjustment benefit payments and allowances under part I of subchapter B of chapter 2 of title II of the Trade Act of 1974, and section 246 of that Act; and for training, employment and case management services, allowances for job search and relocation, and related State administrative expenses under part II of subchapter B of chapter 2 of title II of the Trade Act of 1974, and including benefit payments, allowances, training, employment and case management services, and related State administration provided pursuant to section 231(a) of the Trade Adjustment Assistance Extension Act of 2011 and section 405(a) of the Trade Preferences Extension Act of 2015, $849,000,000 together with such amounts as may be necessary to be charged to the subsequent appropriation for payments for any period subsequent to September 15, 2017: *Provided*, That notwithstanding section 502 of this Act, any part of the appropriation provided under this heading may remain available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year pursuant to the authorities of section 245(c) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2317(c)).

STATE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE AND EMPLOYMENT SERVICE OPERATIONS

For authorized administrative expenses, $89,066,000, together with not to exceed $3,434,625,000 which may be expended from the Employment Security Administration Account in the Unemployment Trust Fund (''the Trust Fund''), of which:

(1) $2,687,600,000 from the Trust Fund is for grants to States for the administration of State unemployment insurance laws as authorized under title III of the Social Security Act (including not less than $115,000,000 to conduct in-person reemployment and eligibility assessments and unemployment insurance improper payment reviews, and to provide reemployment services and referrals to training as appropriate, for claimants of unemployment insurance for ex-service members under 5 U.S.C. 8521 et. seq. and for claimants of regular unemployment compensation, including those who are profiled as most likely to exhaust their benefits in each State, and $5,500,000 for continued support of the Unemployment Insurance Integrity Center of Excellence), the administration of unemployment insurance for Federal employees and for ex-service members as authorized under 5 U.S.C. 8501–8523, and the administration of trade readjustment allowances, reemployment trade adjustment assistance, and alternative trade adjustment assistance under the Trade Act of 1974 and under section 231(a) of the Trade Adjustment Assistance Extension Act of 2011 and section 405(a) of the Trade Preferences Extension Act of 2015, and shall be available for obligation by the States through December 31, 2017, except that funds used for automation shall be available for Federal obligation through December 31, 2017, and for State obligation through September 30, 2019, or, if the automation is being carried out through consortia of States, for State obligation through September 30, 2022, and for expenditure through September 30, 2023, and funds for competitive grants awarded to States for improved operations and to conduct in-person reemployment and eligibility assessments and unemployment insurance improper payment reviews and provide reemployment services and referrals to training, as appropriate, shall be available for Federal obligation through December 31, 2017, and for obligation by the States through September 30, 2019, and funds for the Unemployment Insurance Integrity Center of Excellence shall be available for obligation by the State through September 30, 2018, and funds used for unemployment insurance workloads experienced by the States through September 30, 2017 shall be available for Federal obligation through December 31, 2017;

(2) $14,897,000 from the Trust Fund is for national activities necessary to support the administration of the Federal-State unemployment insurance system;

(3) $650,000,000 from the Trust Fund, together with $21,413,000 from the General Fund of the Treasury, is for grants to States in accordance with section 6 of the Wagner-Peyser Act, and shall be available for Federal obligation for the period July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018;

(4) $19,818,000 from the Trust Fund is for national activities of the Employment Service, including administration of the work opportunity tax credit under section 51 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, and the provision of technical assistance and staff training under the Wagner-Peyser Act;

(5) $62,310,000 from the Trust Fund is for the administration of foreign labor certifications and related activities under the Immigration and Nationality Act and related laws, of which $48,028,000 shall be available for the Federal administration of such activities, and $14,282,000 shall be available for grants to States for the administration of such activities; and

(6) $67,653,000 from the General Fund is to provide workforce information, national electronic tools, and one-stop system building under the Wagner-Peyser Act and shall be available for Federal obligation for the period July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018:

Provided, That to the extent that the Average Weekly Insured Unemployment (''AWIU'') for fiscal year 2017 is projected by the Department of Labor to exceed 2,453,000, an additional $28,600,000 from the Trust Fund shall be available for obligation for every 100,000 increase in the AWIU level (including a pro rata amount for any increment less than 100,000) to carry out title III of the Social Security Act: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated in this Act that are allotted to a State to carry out activities under

title III of the Social Security Act may be used by such State to assist other States in carrying out activities under such title III if the other States include areas that have suffered a major disaster declared by the President under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may use funds appropriated for grants to States under title III of the Social Security Act to make payments on behalf of States for the use of the National Directory of New Hires under section 453(j)(8) of such Act: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may use funds appropriated for grants to States under title III of the Social Security Act to make payments on behalf of States to the entity operating the State Information Data Exchange System: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated in this Act which are used to establish a national one-stop career center system, or which are used to support the national activities of the Federal-State unemployment insurance, employment service, or immigration programs, may be obligated in contracts, grants, or agreements with States and non-State entities: *Provided further*, That States awarded competitive grants for improved operations under title III of the Social Security Act, or awarded grants to support the national activities of the Federal-State unemployment insurance system, may award subgrants to other States and non-State entities under such grants, subject to the conditions applicable to the grants: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under this Act for activities authorized under title III of the Social Security Act and the Wagner-Peyser Act may be used by States to fund integrated Unemployment Insurance and Employment Service automation efforts, notwithstanding cost allocation principles prescribed under the final rule entitled ''Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards'' at part 200 of title 2, Code of Federal Regulations: *Provided further*, That the Secretary, at the request of a State participating in a consortium with other States, may reallot funds allotted to such State under title III of the Social Security Act to other States participating in the consortium in order to carry out activities that benefit the administration of the unemployment compensation law of the State making the request: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may collect fees for the costs associated with additional data collection, analyses, and reporting services relating to the National Agricultural Workers Survey requested by State and local governments, public and private institutions of higher education, and nonprofit organizations and may utilize such sums, in accordance with the provisions of 29 U.S.C. 9a, for the National Agricultural Workers Survey infrastructure, methodology, and data to meet the information collection and reporting needs of such entities, which shall be credited to this appropriation and shall remain available until September 30, 2018, for such purposes.

ADVANCES TO THE UNEMPLOYMENT TRUST FUND AND OTHER FUNDS

For repayable advances to the Unemployment Trust Fund as authorized by sections 905(d) and 1203 of the Social Security Act, and to the Black Lung Disability Trust Fund as authorized by section 9501(c)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986; and for nonrepayable advances to the revolving fund established by section 901(e) of the Social Security Act, to the Unemployment Trust Fund as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 8509, and to the ''Federal Unemployment Benefits and Allowances'' account, such sums as may be necessary, which shall be available for obligation through September 30, 2018.

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

For expenses of administering employment and training programs, $108,674,000, together with not to exceed $49,982,000 which may be expended from the Employment Security Administration Account in the Unemployment Trust Fund.

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for the Employee Benefits Security Administration, $181,000,000.

PENSION BENEFIT GUARANTY CORPORATION

PENSION BENEFIT GUARANTY CORPORATION FUND

The Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (''Corporation'') is authorized to make such expenditures, including financial assistance authorized by subtitle E of title IV of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, within limits of funds and borrowing authority available to the Corporation, and in accord with law, and to make such contracts and commitments without regard to fiscal year limitations, as provided by 31 U.S.C. 9104, as may be necessary in carrying out the program, including associated administrative expenses, through September 30, 2017, for the Corporation: *Provided*, That none of the funds available to the Corporation for fiscal year 2017 shall be available for obligations for administrative expenses in excess of $421,006,000: *Provided further*, That an amount not to exceed an additional $98,500,000 shall be available through September 30, 2021, for costs associated with the acquisition, occupancy, and related costs of headquarters space: *Provided further*, That to the extent that the number of new plan participants in plans terminated by the Corporation exceeds 100,000 in fiscal year 2017, an amount not to exceed an additional $9,200,000 shall be available through September 30, 2018, for obligation for administrative expenses for every 20,000 additional terminated participants: *Provided further*, That obligations in excess of the amounts provided in this paragraph may be incurred for unforeseen and extraordinary pretermination expenses or extraordinary multiemployer program related expenses after approval by the Office of Management and Budget and notification of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for the Wage and Hour Division, including reimbursement to State, Federal, and local agencies and their employees for inspection services rendered, $227,500,000.

OFFICE OF LABOR-MANAGEMENT STANDARDS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for the Office of Labor-Management Standards, $38,187,000.

OFFICE OF FEDERAL CONTRACT COMPLIANCE PROGRAMS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, $104,476,000.

OFFICE OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION PROGRAMS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs, $115,424,000, together with $2,177,000 which may be expended from the Special Fund in accordance with sections 39(c), 44(d), and 44(j) of the Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act.

SPECIAL BENEFITS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the payment of compensation, benefits, and expenses (except administrative expenses) accruing during the current or any prior fiscal year authorized by 5 U.S.C. 81; continuation of benefits as provided for under the heading ''Civilian War Benefits'' in the Federal Security Agency Appropriation Act, 1947; the Employees' Compensation Commission Appropriation Act, 1944; section 5(f) of the War Claims Act (50 U.S.C. App. 2004); obligations incurred under the War Hazards Compensation Act (42 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.); and 50 percent of the additional compensation and benefits required by section 10(h) of the Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act, $220,000,000, together with such amounts as may be necessary to be charged to the subsequent year appropriation for the payment of compensation and other benefits for any period subsequent to August 15 of the current year, for deposit into and to assume the attributes of the Employees' Compensation Fund established under 5 U.S.C. 8147(a): *Provided*, That amounts appropriated may be used under 5 U.S.C. 8104 by the Secretary to reimburse an employer, who is not the employer at the time of injury, for portions of the salary of a re-employed, disabled beneficiary: *Provided further*, That balances of reimbursements unobligated on September 30, 2016, shall remain available until expended for the payment of compensation, benefits, and expenses: *Provided further*, That in addition there shall be transferred to this appropriation from the Postal Service and from any other corporation or instrumentality required under 5 U.S.C. 8147(c) to pay an amount for its fair share of the cost of administration, such sums as the Secretary determines to be the cost of administration for employees of such fair share entities through September 30, 2017: *Provided further*, That of those funds transferred to this account from the fair share entities to pay the cost of administration of the Federal Employees' Compensation Act, $66,675,000 shall be made available to the Secretary as follows:

(1) For enhancement and maintenance of automated data processing systems operations and telecommunications systems, $22,740,000;

(2) For automated workload processing operations, including document imaging, centralized mail intake, and medical bill processing, $22,968,000;

(3) For periodic roll disability management and medical review, $16,866,000;

(4) For program integrity, $4,101,000; and

(5) The remaining funds shall be paid into the Treasury as miscellaneous receipts:

Provided further, That the Secretary may require that any person filing a notice of injury or a claim for benefits under 5 U.S.C. 81, or the Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act, provide as part of such notice and claim, such identifying information (including Social Security account number) as such regulations may prescribe.

SPECIAL BENEFITS FOR DISABLED COAL MINERS

For carrying out title IV of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977, as amended by Public Law 107–275, $61,319,000, to remain available until expended.

For making after July 31 of the current fiscal year, benefit payments to individuals

under title IV of such Act, for costs incurred in the current fiscal year, such amounts as may be necessary.

For making benefit payments under title IV for the first quarter of fiscal year 2018, $16,000,000, to remain available until expended.

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES, ENERGY EMPLOYEES OCCUPATIONAL ILLNESS COMPENSATION FUND

For necessary expenses to administer the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act, $59,846,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the Secretary may require that any person filing a claim for benefits under the Act provide as part of such claim such identifying information (including Social Security account number) as may be prescribed.

BLACK LUNG DISABILITY TRUST FUND

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Such sums as may be necessary from the Black Lung Disability Trust Fund (the ''Fund''), to remain available until expended, for payment of all benefits authorized by section 9501(d)(1), (2), (6), and (7) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986; and repayment of, and payment of interest on advances, as authorized by section 9501(d)(4) of that Act. In addition, the following amounts may be expended from the Fund for fiscal year 2017 for expenses of operation and administration of the Black Lung Benefits program, as authorized by section 9501(d)(5): not to exceed $38,246,000 for transfer to the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs, ''Salaries and Expenses''; not to exceed $31,994,000 for transfer to Departmental Management, ''Salaries and Expenses''; not to exceed $330,000 for transfer to Departmental Management, ''Office of Inspector General''; and not to exceed $356,000 for payments into miscellaneous receipts for the expenses of the Department of the Treasury.

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, $552,787,000, including not to exceed $100,850,000 which shall be the maximum amount available for grants to States under section 23(g) of the Occupational Safety and Health Act (the ''Act''), which grants shall be no less than 50 percent of the costs of State occupational safety and health programs required to be incurred under plans approved by the Secretary under section 18 of the Act; and, in addition, notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration may retain up to $499,000 per fiscal year of training institute course tuition and fees, otherwise authorized by law to be collected, and may utilize such sums for occupational safety and health training and education: *Provided*, That notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302, the Secretary is authorized, during the fiscal year ending September 30, 2017, to collect and retain fees for services provided to Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratories, and may utilize such sums, in accordance with the provisions of 29 U.S.C. 9a, to administer national and international laboratory recognition programs that ensure the safety of equipment and products used by workers in the workplace: *Provided further*, That none of the funds appropriated under this paragraph shall be obligated or expended to prescribe, issue, administer, or enforce any standard, rule, regulation, or order under the Act which is applicable to any person who is engaged in a farming operation which does not maintain a temporary labor camp and employs 10 or fewer employees: *Provided further*, That no funds appropriated under this paragraph shall be obligated or expended to administer or enforce any standard, rule, regulation, or order under the Act with respect to any employer of 10 or fewer employees who is included within a category having a Days Away, Restricted, or Transferred (''DART'') occupational injury and illness rate, at the most precise industrial classification code for which such data are published, less than the national average rate as such rates are most recently published by the Secretary, acting through the Bureau of Labor Statistics, in accordance with section 24 of the Act, except—

(1) to provide, as authorized by the Act, consultation, technical assistance, educational and training services, and to conduct surveys and studies;

(2) to conduct an inspection or investigation in response to an employee complaint, to issue a citation for violations found during such inspection, and to assess a penalty for violations which are not corrected within a reasonable abatement period and for any willful violations found;

(3) to take any action authorized by the Act with respect to imminent dangers;

(4) to take any action authorized by the Act with respect to health hazards;

(5) to take any action authorized by the Act with respect to a report of an employment accident which is fatal to one or more employees or which results in hospitalization of two or more employees, and to take any action pursuant to such investigation authorized by the Act; and

(6) to take any action authorized by the Act with respect to complaints of discrimination against employees for exercising rights under the Act:

Provided further, That the foregoing proviso shall not apply to any person who is engaged in a farming operation which does not maintain a temporary labor camp and employs 10 or fewer employees: *Provided further*, That $10,537,000 shall be available for Susan Harwood training grants: *Provided further*, That not less than $3,500,000 shall be for Voluntary Protection Programs.

MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for the Mine Safety and Health Administration, $373,816,000, including purchase and bestowal of certificates and trophies in connection with mine rescue and first-aid work, and the hire of passenger motor vehicles, including up to $2,000,000 for mine rescue and recovery activities and not less than $10,537,000 for State assistance grants: *Provided*, That amounts available for State assistance grants may be used for the purchase and maintenance of new equipment required by the final rule entitled ''Lowering Miners' Exposure to Respirable Coal Mine Dust, Including Continuous Personal Dust Monitors'' published by the Department of Labor in the Federal Register on May 1, 2014 (79 Fed. Reg. 24813 et seq.), for operators that demonstrate financial need as determined by the Secretary: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302, not to exceed $750,000 may be collected by the National Mine Health and Safety Academy for room, board, tuition, and the sale of training materials, otherwise authorized by law to be collected, to be available for mine safety and health education and training activities: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302, the Mine Safety and Health Administration is authorized to collect and retain up to $2,499,000 from fees collected for the approval and certification of equipment, materials, and explosives for use in mines, and may utilize such sums for such activities: *Provided further*, That the Secretary is authorized to accept lands, buildings, equipment, and other contributions from public and private sources and to prosecute projects in cooperation with other agencies, Federal, State, or private: *Provided further*, That the Mine Safety and Health Administration is authorized to promote health and safety education and training in the mining community through cooperative programs with States, industry, and safety associations: *Provided further*, That the Secretary is authorized to recognize the Joseph A. Holmes Safety Association as a principal safety association and, notwithstanding any other provision of law, may provide funds and, with or without reimbursement, personnel, including service of Mine Safety and Health Administration officials as officers in local chapters or in the national organization: *Provided further*, That any funds available to the Department of Labor may be used, with the approval of the Secretary, to provide for the costs of mine rescue and survival operations in the event of a major disaster.

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for the Bureau of Labor Statistics, including advances or reimbursements to State, Federal, and local agencies and their employees for services rendered, $544,000,000, together with not to exceed $65,000,000 which may be expended from the Employment Security Administration account in the Unemployment Trust Fund.

OFFICE OF DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT POLICY

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for the Office of Disability Employment Policy to provide leadership, develop policy and initiatives, and award grants furthering the objective of eliminating barriers to the training and employment of people with disabilities, $38,203,000.

DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses for Departmental Management, including the hire of three passenger motor vehicles, $334,536,000, together with not to exceed $308,000, which may be expended from the Employment Security Administration account in the Unemployment Trust Fund: *Provided*, That $59,825,000 for the Bureau of International Labor Affairs shall be available for obligation through December 31, 2017: *Provided further*, That funds available to the Bureau of International Labor Affairs may be used to administer or operate international labor activities, bilateral and multilateral technical assistance, and microfinance programs, by or through contracts, grants, subgrants and other arrangements: *Provided further*, That not more than $53,825,000 shall be for programs to combat exploitative child labor internationally and not less than $6,000,000 shall be used to implement model programs that address worker rights issues through technical assistance in countries with which the United States has free trade agreements or trade preference programs: *Provided further*, That $8,040,000 shall be used for program evaluation and shall be available for obligation through September 30, 2018: *Provided further*, That funds available for program evaluation may be used to administer grants for the

purpose of evaluation: *Provided further*, That grants made for the purpose of evaluation shall be awarded through fair and open competition: *Provided further*, That funds available for program evaluation may be transferred to any other appropriate account in the Department for such purpose: *Provided further*, That the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate are notified at least 15 days in advance of any transfer: *Provided further*, That the funds available to the Women's Bureau may be used for grants to serve and promote the interests of women in the workforce: *Provided further*, That of the amounts made available to the Women's Bureau, $994,000 shall be used for grants authorized by the Women in Apprenticeship and Nontraditional Occupations Act.

VETERANS EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING

Not to exceed $234,041,000 may be derived from the Employment Security Administration account in the Unemployment Trust Fund to carry out the provisions of chapters 41, 42, and 43 of title 38, United States Code, of which:

(1) $175,000,000 is for Jobs for Veterans State grants under 38 U.S.C. 4102A(b)(5) to support disabled veterans' outreach program specialists under section 4103A of such title and local veterans' employment representatives under section 4104(b) of such title, and for the expenses described in section 4102A(b)(5)(C), which shall be available for obligation by the States through December 31, 2017, and not to exceed 3 percent for the necessary Federal expenditures for data systems and contract support to allow for the tracking of participant and performance information: *Provided*, That, in addition, such funds may be used to support such specialists and representatives in the provision of services to transitioning members of the Armed Forces who have participated in the Transition Assistance Program and have been identified as in need of intensive services, to members of the Armed Forces who are wounded, ill, or injured and receiving treatment in military treatment facilities or warrior transition units, and to the spouses or other family caregivers of such wounded, ill, or injured members;

(2) $14,600,000 is for carrying out the Transition Assistance Program under 38 U.S.C. 4113 and 10 U.S.C. 1144: *Provided*, That, up to $300,000 of such funds may be used to enter into a cooperative agreement with a State relating to a mobile application to provide transition assistance to separating service members, veterans and eligible spouses;

(3) $41,027,000 is for Federal administration of chapters 41, 42, and 43 of title 38, United States Code; and

(4) $3,414,000 is for the National Veterans' Employment and Training Services Institute under 38 U.S.C. 4109:

Provided, That the Secretary may reallocate among the appropriations provided under paragraphs (1) through (4) above an amount not to exceed 3 percent of the appropriation from which such reallocation is made.

In addition, from the General Fund of the Treasury, $45,000,000 is for carrying out programs to assist homeless veterans and veterans at risk of homelessness who are transitioning from certain institutions under sections 2021, 2021A, and 2023 of title 38, United States Code: *Provided*, That notwithstanding subsections (c)(3) and (d) of section 2023, the Secretary may award grants through September 30, 2017, to provide services under such section: *Provided further*, That services provided under section 2023 may include, in addition to services to the individuals described in subsection (e) of such section, services to veterans recently released from incarceration who are at risk of homelessness.

IT MODERNIZATION

For necessary expenses for Department of Labor centralized infrastructure technology investment activities related to support systems and modernization, $18,778,000, which shall be available through September 30, 2018.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For salaries and expenses of the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978, $82,061,000, together with not to exceed $5,660,000 which may be expended from the Employment Security Administration account in the Unemployment Trust Fund.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 101. None of the funds appropriated by this Act for the Job Corps shall be used to pay the salary and bonuses of an individual, either as direct costs or any proration as an indirect cost, at a rate in excess of Executive Level II.

(TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 102. Not to exceed 1 percent of any discretionary funds (pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985) which are appropriated for the current fiscal year for the Department of Labor in this Act may be transferred between a program, project, or activity, but no such program, project, or activity shall be increased by more than 3 percent by any such transfer: *Provided*, That the transfer authority granted by this section shall not be used to create any new program or to fund any project or activity for which no funds are provided in this Act: *Provided further*, That the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate are notified at least 15 days in advance of any transfer.

SEC. 103. In accordance with Executive Order 13126, none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available pursuant to this Act shall be obligated or expended for the procurement of goods mined, produced, manufactured, or harvested or services rendered, in whole or in part, by forced or indentured child labor in industries and host countries already identified by the United States Department of Labor prior to enactment of this Act.

(INCLUDING RESCISSION)

SEC. 104. Except as otherwise provided in this section, none of the funds made available to the Department of Labor for grants under section 414(c) of the American Competitiveness and Workforce Improvement Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2916a) may be used for any purpose other than competitive grants for training individuals who are older than 16 years of age and are not currently enrolled in school within a local educational agency in the occupations and industries for which employers are using H–1B visas to hire foreign workers, and the related activities necessary to support such training: *Provided*, That of such funds available before September 30, 2017 up to $20,000,000 shall be available for obligation through September 30, 2018 by the Employment and Training Administration of the Department of Labor to process foreign labor certifications, including wage determinations and associated tasks and grants to States, submitted by employers to employ nonimmigrants described in section 101(a)(15)(H)(ii) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, to the extent necessary to eliminate backlogs and delays: *Provided further*, That of the unobligated funds available under section 286(s)(2) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1356(s)(2)), $46,000,000 are permanently rescinded.

SEC. 105. None of the funds made available by this Act under the heading ''Employment and Training Administration'' shall be used by a recipient or subrecipient of such funds to pay the salary and bonuses of an individual, either as direct costs or indirect costs, at a rate in excess of Executive Level II. This limitation shall not apply to vendors providing goods and services as defined in Office of Management and Budget Circular A–133. Where States are recipients of such funds, States may establish a lower limit for salaries and bonuses of those receiving salaries and bonuses from subrecipients of such funds, taking into account factors including the relative cost-of-living in the State, the compensation levels for comparable State or local government employees, and the size of the organizations that administer Federal programs involved including Employment and Training Administration programs.

(TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 106. (a) Notwithstanding section 102, the Secretary may transfer funds made available to the Employment and Training Administration by this Act, either directly or through a set-aside, for technical assistance services to grantees to ''Program Administration'' when it is determined that those services will be more efficiently performed by Federal employees: *Provided*, That this section shall not apply to section 171 of the WIOA.

(b) Notwithstanding section 102, the Secretary may transfer not more than 0.5 percent of each discretionary appropriation made available to the Employment and Training Administration by this Act to ''Program Administration'' in order to carry out program integrity activities relating to any of the programs or activities that are funded under any such discretionary appropriations: *Provided*, That funds transferred from under paragraphs (1) and (2) of the ''Office of Job Corps'' account shall be available under paragraph (3) of such account in order to carry out program integrity activities relating to the Job Corps program: *Provided further*, That funds transferred under this subsection shall be available for obligation through September 30, 2018.

(TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 107. (a) The Secretary may reserve not more than 0.75 percent from each appropriation made available in this Act identified in subsection (b) in order to carry out evaluations of any of the programs or activities that are funded under such accounts. Any funds reserved under this section shall be transferred to ''Departmental Management'' for use by the Office of the Chief Evaluation Officer within the Department of Labor, and shall be available for obligation through September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That such funds shall only be available if the Chief Evaluation Officer of the Department of Labor submits a plan to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate describing the evaluations to be carried out 15 days in advance of any transfer.

(b) The accounts referred to in subsection (a) are: ''Training and Employment Services'', ''Job Corps'', ''Community Service Employment for Older Americans'', ''State Unemployment Insurance and Employment Service Operations'', ''Employee Benefits Security Administration'', ''Office of Workers'

Compensation Programs'', ''Wage and Hour Division'', ''Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs'', ''Office of Labor Management Standards'', ''Occupational Safety and Health Administration'', ''Mine Safety and Health Administration'', ''Office of Disability Employment Policy'', funding made available to the ''Bureau of International Labor Affairs'' and ''Women's Bureau'' within the ''Departmental Management, Salaries and Expenses'' account, and ''Veterans Employment and Training''.

SEC. 108. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, beginning October 1, 2016, the Secretary of Labor, in consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture may select an entity to operate a Civilian Conservation Center on a competitive basis in accordance with section 147 of the WIOA, if the Secretary of Labor determines such Center has had consistently low performance under the performance accountability system in effect for the Job Corps program prior to July 1, 2016, or with respect to expected levels of performance established under section 159(c) of such Act beginning July 1, 2016.

SEC. 109. (a) Section 7 of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 207) shall be applied as if the following text is part of such section:

''(s)(1) The provisions of this section shall not apply for a period of 2 years after the occurrence of a major disaster to any employee—

''(A) employed to adjust or evaluate claims resulting from or relating to such major disaster, by an employer not engaged, directly or through an affiliate, in underwriting, selling, or marketing property, casualty, or liability insurance policies or contracts;

''(B) who receives from such employer on average weekly compensation of not less than $591.00 per week or any minimum weekly amount established by the Secretary, whichever is greater, for the number of weeks such employee is engaged in any of the activities described in subparagraph (C); and

''(C) whose duties include any of the following:

''(i) interviewing insured individuals, individuals who suffered injuries or other damages or losses arising from or relating to a disaster, witnesses, or physicians;

''(ii) inspecting property damage or reviewing factual information to prepare damage estimates;

''(iii) evaluating and making recommendations regarding coverage or compensability of claims or determining liability or value aspects of claims;

''(iv) negotiating settlements; or

''(v) making recommendations regarding litigation.

''(2) The exemption in this subsection shall not affect the exemption provided by section 13(a)(1).

''(3) For purposes of this subsection—

''(A) the term 'major disaster' means any disaster or catastrophe declared or designated by any State or Federal agency or department;

''(B) the term 'employee employed to adjust or evaluate claims resulting from or relating to such major disaster' means an individual who timely secured or secures a license required by applicable law to engage in and perform the activities described in clauses (i) through (v) of paragraph (1)(C) relating to a major disaster, and is employed by an employer that maintains worker compensation insurance coverage or protection for its employees, if required by applicable law, and withholds applicable Federal, State, and local income and payroll taxes from the wages, salaries and any benefits of such employees; and

''(C) the term 'affiliate' means a company that, by reason of ownership or control of 25 percent or more of the outstanding shares of any class of voting securities of one or more companies, directly or indirectly, controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with, another company.''.

(b) This section shall be effective on the date of enactment of this Act.

(RESCISSION)

SEC. 110. Of the funds made available under the heading ''Employment and Training Administration–Training and Employment Services'' in division H of Public Law 114–113, $75,000,000 is rescinded, to be derived from the amount made available in paragraph (2)(A) under such heading for the period October 1, 2016, through September 30, 2017.

SEC. 111. (a) FLEXIBILITY WITH RESPECT TO THE CROSSING OF H–2B NONIMMIGRANTS WORKING IN THE SEAFOOD INDUSTRY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), if a petition for H–2B nonimmigrants filed by an employer in the seafood industry is granted, the employer may bring the nonimmigrants described in the petition into the United States at any time during the 120-day period beginning on the start date for which the employer is seeking the services of the nonimmigrants without filing another petition.

(2) REQUIREMENTS FOR CROSSINGS AFTER 90TH DAY.—An employer in the seafood industry may not bring H–2B nonimmigrants into the United States after the date that is 90 days after the start date for which the employer is seeking the services of the nonimmigrants unless the employer—

(A) completes a new assessment of the local labor market by—

(i) listing job orders in local newspapers on 2 separate Sundays; and

(ii) posting the job opportunity on the appropriate Department of Labor Electronic Job Registry and at the employer's place of employment; and

(B) offers the job to an equally or better qualified United States worker who—

(i) applies for the job; and

(ii) will be available at the time and place of need.

(3) EXEMPTION FROM RULES WITH RESPECT TO STAGGERING.—The Secretary of Labor shall not consider an employer in the seafood industry who brings H–2B nonimmigrants into the United States during the 120-day period specified in paragraph (1) to be staggering the date of need in violation of section 655.20(d) of title 20, Code of Federal Regulations, or any other applicable provision of law.

(b) H–2B NONIMMIGRANTS DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''H–2B nonimmigrants'' means aliens admitted to the United States pursuant to section 101(a)(15)(H)(ii)(B) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(H)(ii)(B)).

SEC. 112. The determination of prevailing wage for the purposes of the H–2B program shall be the greater of—(1) the actual wage level paid by the employer to other employees with similar experience and qualifications for such position in the same location; or (2) the prevailing wage level for the occupational classification of the position in the geographic area in which the H–2B nonimmigrant will be employed, based on the best information available at the time of filing the petition. In the determination of prevailing wage for the purposes of the H–2B program, the Secretary shall accept private wage surveys even in instances where Occupational Employment Statistics survey data are available unless the Secretary determines that the methodology and data in the provided survey are not statistically supported.

SEC. 113. None of the funds in this Act shall be used to enforce the definition of corresponding employment found in 20 CFR 655.5 or the three-fourths guarantee rule definition found in 20 CFR 655.20, or any references thereto. Further, for the purpose of regulating admission of temporary workers under the H–2B program, the definition of temporary need shall be that provided in 8 CFR 214.2(h)(6)(ii)(B).

This title may be cited as the ''Department of Labor Appropriations Act, 2017''.

TITLE II

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

HEALTH RESOURCES AND SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

PRIMARY HEALTH CARE

For carrying out titles II and III of the Public Health Service Act (referred to in this Act as the ''PHS Act'') with respect to primary health care and the Native Hawaiian Health Care Act of 1988, $1,491,522,000: *Provided*, That no more than $1,000,000 shall be available until expended for carrying out the provisions of section 224(o) of the PHS Act: *Provided further*, That no more than $99,893,000 shall be available until expended for carrying out the provisions of sections 224(g)–(n) and (q) of the PHS Act, and for expenses incurred by the Department of Health and Human Services (referred to in this Act as ''HHS'') pertaining to administrative claims made under such law: *Provided further*, That of funds provided for the Health Centers program, as defined by section 330 of the PHS Act, by this Act or any other Act for fiscal year 2017, not less than $100,000,000 shall be obligated in fiscal year 2017 to support grants to expand medical services, behavioral health, oral health, pharmacy, or vision services.

HEALTH WORKFORCE

For carrying out titles III, VII, and VIII of the PHS Act with respect to the health workforce, sections 1128E and 1921 of the Social Security Act, and the Health Care Quality Improvement Act of 1986, $838,695,000: *Provided*, That sections 747(c)(2), 751(j)(2), 762(k), and the proportional funding amounts in paragraphs (1) through (4) of section 756(f) of the PHS Act shall not apply to funds made available under this heading: *Provided further*, That for any program operating under section 751 of the PHS Act on or before January 1, 2009, the Secretary of Health and Human Services (referred to in this title as the ''Secretary'') may hereafter waive any of the requirements contained in sections 751(d)(2)(A) and 751(d)(2)(B) of such Act for the full project period of a grant under such section: *Provided further*, That no funds shall be available for section 340G–1 of the PHS Act: *Provided further*, That fees collected for the disclosure of information under section 427(b) of the Health Care Quality Improvement Act of 1986 and sections 1128E(d)(2) and 1921 of the Social Security Act shall be sufficient to recover the full costs of operating the programs authorized by such sections and shall remain available until expended for the National Practitioner Data Bank: *Provided further*, That funds transferred to this account to carry out section 846 and subpart 3 of part D of title III of the PHS Act may be used to make prior year adjustments to awards made under such sections.

MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH

For carrying out titles III, XI, XII, and XIX of the PHS Act with respect to maternal and child health, title V of the Social Security Act, and section 712 of the American Jobs Creation Act of 2004, $848,617,000: *Provided*, That notwithstanding sections 502(a)(1) and 502(b)(1) of the Social Security Act, not more than $80,593,000 shall be available for carrying out special projects of regional and national significance pursuant to section 501(a)(2) of such Act and $10,276,000 shall be available for projects described in subparagraphs (A) through (F) of section 501(a)(3) of such Act.

RYAN WHITE HIV/AIDS PROGRAM

For carrying out title XXVI of the PHS Act with respect to the Ryan White HIV/AIDS program, $2,318,781,000, of which $1,970,881,000 shall remain available to the Secretary through September 30, 2019, for parts A and B of title XXVI of the PHS Act, and of which not less than $900,313,000 shall be for State AIDS Drug Assistance Programs under the authority of section 2616 or 311(c) of such Act.

HEALTH CARE SYSTEMS

For carrying out titles III and XII of the PHS Act with respect to health care systems, and the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Act of 2005, $104,193,000, of which $122,000 shall be available until expended for facilities renovations at the Gillis W. Long Hansen's Disease Center.

RURAL HEALTH

For carrying out titles III and IV of the PHS Act with respect to rural health, section 427(a) of the Federal Coal Mine Health and Safety Act of 1969, and sections 711 and 1820 of the Social Security Act, $156,060,000, of which $43,609,000 from general revenues, notwithstanding section 1820(j) of the Social Security Act, shall be available for carrying out the Medicare rural hospital flexibility grants program: *Provided*, That of the funds made available under this heading for Medicare rural hospital flexibility grants, $14,942,000 shall be available for the Small Rural Hospital Improvement Grant Program for quality improvement and adoption of health information technology and up to $1,000,000 shall be to carry out section 1820(g)(6) of the Social Security Act, with funds provided for grants under section 1820(g)(6) available for the purchase and implementation of telehealth services, including pilots and demonstrations on the use of electronic health records to coordinate rural veterans care between rural providers and the Department of Veterans Affairs electronic health record system: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding section 338J(k) of the PHS Act, $10,000,000 shall be available for State Offices of Rural Health.

FAMILY PLANNING

For carrying out the program under title X of the PHS Act to provide for voluntary family planning projects, $286,479,000: *Provided*, That amounts provided to said projects under such title shall not be expended for abortions, that all pregnancy counseling shall be nondirective, and that such amounts shall not be expended for any activity (including the publication or distribution of literature) that in any way tends to promote public support or opposition to any legislative proposal or candidate for public office.

PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

For program support in the Health Resources and Services Administration, $154,000,000: *Provided*, That funds made available under this heading may be used to supplement program support funding provided under the headings ''Primary Health Care'', ''Health Workforce'', ''Maternal and Child Health'', ''Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program'', ''Health Care Systems'', and ''Rural Health''.

VACCINE INJURY COMPENSATION PROGRAM TRUST FUND

For payments from the Vaccine Injury Compensation Program Trust Fund (the ''Trust Fund''), such sums as may be necessary for claims associated with vaccine-related injury or death with respect to vaccines administered after September 30, 1988, pursuant to subtitle 2 of title XXI of the PHS Act, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That for necessary administrative expenses, not to exceed $7,750,000 shall be available from the Trust Fund to the Secretary.

CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION

IMMUNIZATION AND RESPIRATORY DISEASES

For carrying out titles II, III, XVII, and XXI, and section 2821 of the PHS Act, titles II and IV of the Immigration and Nationality Act, and section 501 of the Refugee Education Assistance Act, with respect to immunization and respiratory diseases, $455,000,000.

HIV/AIDS, VIRAL HEPATITIS, SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES, AND TUBERCULOSIS PREVENTION

For carrying out titles II, III, XVII, and XXIII of the PHS Act with respect to HIV/AIDS, viral hepatitis, sexually transmitted diseases, and tuberculosis prevention, $1,117,278,000.

EMERGING AND ZOONOTIC INFECTIOUS DISEASES

For carrying out titles II, III, and XVII, and section 2821 of the PHS Act, titles II and IV of the Immigration and Nationality Act, and section 501 of the Refugee Education Assistance Act, with respect to emerging and zoonotic infectious diseases, $532,922,000.

CHRONIC DISEASE PREVENTION AND HEALTH PROMOTION

For carrying out titles II, III, XI, XV, XVII, and XIX of the PHS Act with respect to chronic disease prevention and health promotion, $777,646,000: *Provided*, That funds appropriated under this account may be available for making grants under section 1509 of the PHS Act for not less than 21 States, tribes, or tribal organizations: *Provided further*, That of the funds available under this heading, $10,000,000 shall be available to continue and expand community specific extension and outreach programs to combat obesity in counties with the highest levels of obesity: *Provided further*, That the proportional funding requirements under section 1503(a) of the PHS Act shall not apply to funds made available under this heading.

BIRTH DEFECTS, DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES, DISABILITIES AND HEALTH

For carrying out titles II, III, XI, and XVII of the PHS Act with respect to birth defects, developmental disabilities, disabilities and health, $137,560,000.

PUBLIC HEALTH SCIENTIFIC SERVICES

For carrying out titles II, III, and XVII of the PHS Act with respect to health statistics, surveillance, health informatics, and workforce development, $489,397,000.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

For carrying out titles II, III, and XVII of the PHS Act with respect to environmental health, $163,750,000.

INJURY PREVENTION AND CONTROL

For carrying out titles II, III, and XVII of the PHS Act with respect to injury prevention and control, $286,059,000: *Provided*, That of the funds provided under this heading, $112,000,000 shall be available for an evidence-based opioid drug overdose prevention program.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH

For carrying out titles II, III, and XVII of the PHS Act, sections 101, 102, 103, 201, 202, 203, 301, and 501 of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act, section 13 of the Mine Improvement and New Emergency Response Act, and sections 20, 21, and 22 of the Occupational Safety and Health Act, with respect to occupational safety and health, $335,200,000.

ENERGY EMPLOYEES OCCUPATIONAL ILLNESS COMPENSATION PROGRAM

For necessary expenses to administer the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act, $55,358,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That this amount shall be available consistent with the provision regarding administrative expenses in section 151(b) of division B, title I of Public Law 106–554.

GLOBAL HEALTH

For carrying out titles II, III, and XVII of the PHS Act with respect to global health, $435,121,000, of which $128,421,000 for international HIV/AIDS shall remain available through September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That funds may be used for purchase and insurance of official motor vehicles in foreign countries.

PUBLIC HEALTH PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

For carrying out titles II, III, and XVII of the PHS Act with respect to public health preparedness and response, and for expenses necessary to support activities related to countering potential biological, nuclear, radiological, and chemical threats to civilian populations, $1,405,000,000, of which $575,000,000 shall remain available until expended for the Strategic National Stockpile: *Provided*, That in the event the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (referred to in this title as ''CDC'') activates the Emergency Operations Center, the Director of the CDC may detail CDC staff without reimbursement for up to 90 days to support the work of the CDC Emergency Operations Center, so long as the Director provides a notice to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate within 15 days of the use of this authority and a full report within 30 days after use of this authority which includes the number of staff and funding level broken down by the originating center and number of days detailed: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under this heading may be used to support a contract for the operation and maintenance of an aircraft in direct support of activities throughout CDC to ensure the agency is prepared to address public health preparedness emergencies.

BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For acquisition of real property, equipment, construction, demolition, and renovation of facilities, $10,000,000, which shall remain available until September 30, 2021: *Provided*, That funds previously set-aside by CDC for repair and upgrade of the Lake Lynn Experimental Mine and Laboratory shall be used to acquire a replacement mine safety research facility: *Provided further*, That in addition, the prior year unobligated balance of any amounts assigned to former employees in accounts of CDC made available for Individual Learning Accounts shall be credited

to and merged with the amounts made available under this heading to support the replacement of the mine safety research facility.

CDC-WIDE ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAM SUPPORT

For carrying out titles II, III, XVII and XIX, and section 2821 of the PHS Act and for cross-cutting activities and program support for activities funded in other appropriations included in this Act for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, $113,570,000: *Provided*, That paragraphs (1) through (3) of subsection (b) of section 2821 of the PHS Act shall not apply to funds appropriated under this heading and in all other accounts of the CDC: *Provided further*, That employees of CDC or the Public Health Service, both civilian and commissioned officers, detailed to States, municipalities, or other organizations under authority of section 214 of the PHS Act, or in overseas assignments, shall be treated as non-Federal employees for reporting purposes only and shall not be included within any personnel ceiling applicable to the Agency, Service, or HHS during the period of detail or assignment: *Provided further*, That CDC may use up to $10,000 from amounts appropriated to CDC in this Act for official reception and representation expenses when specifically approved by the Director of CDC: *Provided further*, That in addition, such sums as may be derived from authorized user fees, which shall be credited to the appropriation charged with the cost thereof: *Provided further*, That with respect to the previous proviso, authorized user fees from the Vessel Sanitation Program and the Respirator Certification Program shall be available through September 30, 2018.

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the PHS Act with respect to cancer, $5,389,329,000, of which up to $50,000,000 may be used for facilities repairs and improvements at the National Cancer Institute—Frederick Federally Funded Research and Development Center in Frederick, Maryland: *Provided*, That of the $5,689,329,000 provided for in direct obligations under this heading, $5,389,329,000 is appropriated from the general fund and $300,000,000 was previously appropriated for fiscal year 2017 by section 194 of the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2017 (division C of Public Law 114–223), as amended by the Further Continuing and Security Assistance Appropriations Act, 2017 (Public Law 114–254) to support cancer research pursuant to section 1001 of the 21st Century Cures Act.

NATIONAL HEART, LUNG, AND BLOOD INSTITUTE

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the PHS Act with respect to cardiovascular, lung, and blood diseases, and blood and blood products, $3,206,589,000.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF DENTAL AND CRANIOFACIAL RESEARCH

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the PHS Act with respect to dental and craniofacial diseases, $425,751,000.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF DIABETES AND DIGESTIVE AND KIDNEY DISEASES

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the PHS Act with respect to diabetes and digestive and kidney disease, $1,870,595,000.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF NEUROLOGICAL DISORDERS AND STROKE

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the PHS Act with respect to neurological disorders and stroke, $1,783,654,000.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ALLERGY AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the PHS Act with respect to allergy and infectious diseases, $4,906,638,000.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF GENERAL MEDICAL SCIENCES

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the PHS Act with respect to general medical sciences, $2,650,838,000, of which $824,443,000 shall be from funds available under section 241 of the PHS Act: *Provided*, That not less than $333,361,000 is provided for the Institutional Development Awards program.

EUNICE KENNEDY SHRIVER NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF CHILD HEALTH AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the PHS Act with respect to child health and human development, $1,380,295,000.

NATIONAL EYE INSTITUTE

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the PHS Act with respect to eye diseases and visual disorders, $732,618,000.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SCIENCES

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the PHS Act with respect to environmental health sciences, $714,261,000.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON AGING

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the PHS Act with respect to aging, $2,048,610,000.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ARTHRITIS AND MUSCULOSKELETAL AND SKIN DISEASES

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the PHS Act with respect to arthritis and musculoskeletal and skin diseases, $557,851,000.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON DEAFNESS AND OTHER COMMUNICATION DISORDERS

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the PHS Act with respect to deafness and other communication disorders, $436,875,000.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF NURSING RESEARCH

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the PHS Act with respect to nursing research, $150,273,000.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON ALCOHOL ABUSE AND ALCOHOLISM

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the PHS Act with respect to alcohol abuse and alcoholism, $483,363,000.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON DRUG ABUSE

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the PHS Act with respect to drug abuse, $1,090,853,000.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF MENTAL HEALTH

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the PHS Act with respect to mental health, $1,601,931,000.

NATIONAL HUMAN GENOME RESEARCH INSTITUTE

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the PHS Act with respect to human genome research, $528,566,000.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF BIOMEDICAL IMAGING AND BIOENGINEERING

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the PHS Act with respect to biomedical imaging and bioengineering research, $357,080,000.

NATIONAL CENTER FOR COMPLEMENTARY AND INTEGRATIVE HEALTH

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the PHS Act with respect to complementary and integrative health, $134,689,000.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON MINORITY HEALTH AND HEALTH DISPARITIES

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the PHS Act with respect to minority health and health disparities research, $289,069,000.

JOHN E. FOGARTY INTERNATIONAL CENTER

For carrying out the activities of the John E. Fogarty International Center (described in subpart 2 of part E of title IV of the PHS Act), $72,213,000.

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the PHS Act with respect to health information communications, $407,510,000: *Provided*, That of the amounts available for improvement of information systems, $4,000,000 shall be available until September 30, 2018: *Provided further*, That in fiscal year 2017, the National Library of Medicine may enter into personal services contracts for the provision of services in facilities owned, operated, or constructed under the jurisdiction of the National Institutes of Health (referred to in this title as ''NIH'').

NATIONAL CENTER FOR ADVANCING TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCES

For carrying out section 301 and title IV of the PHS Act with respect to translational sciences, $705,903,000: *Provided*, That up to $25,835,000 shall be available to implement section 480 of the PHS Act, relating to the Cures Acceleration Network: *Provided further*, That at least $516,120,000 is provided to the Clinical and Translational Sciences Awards program.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

For carrying out the responsibilities of the Office of the Director, NIH, $1,665,183,000 (in addition to the $52,000,000 in the NIH Innovation Fund previously appropriated for fiscal year 2017 pursuant to section 1001 of the 21st Century Cures Act, 2017 (division C of Public Law 114–254)): *Provided*, That funding shall be available for the purchase of not to exceed 29 passenger motor vehicles for replacement only: *Provided further*, That all funds credited to the NIH Management Fund shall remain available for one fiscal year after the fiscal year in which they are deposited: *Provided further*, That $165,000,000 shall be for the National Children's Study Follow-on: *Provided further*, That $682,856,000 shall be available for the Common Fund established under section 402A(c)(1) of the PHS Act: *Provided further*, That of the funds provided, $10,000 shall be for official reception and representation expenses when specifically approved by the Director of the NIH: *Provided further*, That the Office of AIDS Research within the Office of the Director of the NIH may spend up to $8,000,000 to make grants for construction or renovation of facilities as provided for in section 2354(a)(5)(B) of the PHS Act: *Provided further*, That up to $190,000,000 (in addition to the $40,000,000 to support the Precision Medicine Initiative in the NIH Innovation Fund previously appropriated for fiscal year 2017 pursuant to section 1001 of the 21st Century Cures Act by section 194 of the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2017 (division C of Public Law 114–254)), of the funds provided herein are available to support the trans-NIH Precision Medicine Initiative.

In addition to other funds appropriated for the Common Fund established under section 402A(c) of the PHS Act, $12,600,000 is appropriated to the Common Fund from the 10-year Pediatric Research Initiative Fund described in section 9008 of title 26, United States Code, for the purpose of carrying out section 402(b)(7)(B)(ii) of the PHS Act (relating to pediatric research), as authorized in the Gabriella Miller Kids First Research Act.

BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

For the study of, construction of, demolition of, renovation of, and acquisition of equipment for, facilities of or used by NIH,

including the acquisition of real property, $128,863,000, to remain available through September 30, 2021.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

MENTAL HEALTH

For carrying out titles III, V, and XIX of the PHS Act with respect to mental health, and the Protection and Advocacy for Individuals with Mental Illness Act, $1,147,998,000: *Provided*, That notwithstanding section 520A(f)(2) of the PHS Act, no funds appropriated for carrying out section 520A shall be available for carrying out section 1971 of the PHS Act: *Provided further*, That in addition to amounts provided herein, $21,039,000 shall be available under section 241 of the PHS Act to carry out subpart I of part B of title XIX of the PHS Act to fund section 1920(b) technical assistance, national data, data collection and evaluation activities, and further that the total available under this Act for section 1920(b) activities shall not exceed 5 percent of the amounts appropriated for subpart I of part B of title XIX: *Provided further*, That section 520E(b)(2) of the PHS Act shall not apply to funds appropriated in this Act for fiscal year 2017: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding section 565(b)(1) of the PHS Act, technical assistance may be provided to a public entity to establish or operate a system of comprehensive community mental health services to children with a serious emotional disturbance, without regard to whether the public entity receives a grant under section 561(a) of such Act: *Provided further*, That States shall expend at least 10 percent of the amount each receives for carrying out section 1911 of the PHS Act to support evidence-based programs that address the needs of individuals with early serious mental illness, including psychotic disorders, regardless of the age of the individual at onset: *Provided further*, That none of the funds provided for section 1911 of the PHS Act shall be subject to section 241 of such Act: *Provided further*, That of the funds made available under this heading, $15,000,000 shall be to carry out section 224 of the Protecting Access to Medicare Act of 2014 (Public Law 113–93; 42 U.S.C. 290aa 22 note).

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT

For carrying out titles III and V of the PHS Act with respect to substance abuse treatment and title XIX of such Act with respect to substance abuse treatment and prevention, $2,131,306,000: *Provided*, That in addition to amounts provided herein, the following amounts shall be available under section 241 of the PHS Act: (1) $79,200,000 to carry out subpart II of part B of title XIX of the PHS Act to fund section 1935(b) technical assistance, national data, data collection and evaluation activities, and further that the total available under this Act for section 1935(b) activities shall not exceed 5 percent of the amounts appropriated for subpart II of part B of title XIX; and (2) $2,000,000 to evaluate substance abuse treatment programs: *Provided further*, That none of the funds provided for section 1921 of the PHS Act shall be subject to section 241 of such Act.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION

For carrying out titles III and V of the PHS Act with respect to substance abuse prevention, $223,219,000.

HEALTH SURVEILLANCE AND PROGRAM SUPPORT

For program support and cross-cutting activities that supplement activities funded under the headings ''Mental Health'', ''Substance Abuse Treatment'', and ''Substance Abuse Prevention'' in carrying out titles III, V, and XIX of the PHS Act and the Protection and Advocacy for Individuals with Mental Illness Act in the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, $116,830,000: *Provided*, That in addition to amounts provided herein, $31,428,000 shall be available under section 241 of the PHS Act to supplement funds available to carry out national surveys on drug abuse and mental health, to collect and analyze program data, and to conduct public awareness and technical assistance activities: *Provided further*, That, in addition, fees may be collected for the costs of publications, data, data tabulations, and data analysis completed under title V of the PHS Act and provided to a public or private entity upon request, which shall be credited to this appropriation and shall remain available until expended for such purposes: *Provided further*, That amounts made available in this Act for carrying out section 501(m) of the PHS Act shall remain available through September 30, 2018: *Provided further*, That funds made available under this heading may be used to supplement program support funding provided under the headings ''Mental Health'', ''Substance Abuse Treatment'', and ''Substance Abuse Prevention''.

AGENCY FOR HEALTHCARE RESEARCH AND QUALITY

HEALTHCARE RESEARCH AND QUALITY

For carrying out titles III and IX of the PHS Act, part A of title XI of the Social Security Act, and section 1013 of the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003, $324,000,000: *Provided*, That section 947(c) of the PHS Act shall not apply in fiscal year 2017: *Provided further*, That in addition, amounts received from Freedom of Information Act fees, reimbursable and interagency agreements, and the sale of data shall be credited to this appropriation and shall remain available until September 30, 2018.

CENTERS FOR MEDICARE AND MEDICAID SERVICES

GRANTS TO STATES FOR MEDICAID

For carrying out, except as otherwise provided, titles XI and XIX of the Social Security Act, $262,003,967,000, to remain available until expended.

For making, after May 31, 2017, payments to States under title XIX or in the case of section 1928 on behalf of States under title XIX of the Social Security Act for the last quarter of fiscal year 2017 for unanticipated costs incurred for the current fiscal year, such sums as may be necessary.

For making payments to States or in the case of section 1928 on behalf of States under title XIX of the Social Security Act for the first quarter of fiscal year 2018, $125,219,452,000, to remain available until expended.

Payment under such title XIX may be made for any quarter with respect to a State plan or plan amendment in effect during such quarter, if submitted in or prior to such quarter and approved in that or any subsequent quarter.

PAYMENTS TO HEALTH CARE TRUST FUNDS

For payment to the Federal Hospital Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Supplementary Medical Insurance Trust Fund, as provided under sections 217(g), 1844, and 1860D–16 of the Social Security Act, sections 103(c) and 111(d) of the Social Security Amendments of 1965, section 278(d)(3) of Public Law 97–248, and for administrative expenses incurred pursuant to section 201(g) of the Social Security Act, $299,187,700,000.

In addition, for making matching payments under section 1844 and benefit payments under section 1860D–16 of the Social Security Act that were not anticipated in budget estimates, such sums as may be necessary.

PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

For carrying out, except as otherwise provided, titles XI, XVIII, XIX, and XXI of the Social Security Act, titles XIII and XXVII of the PHS Act, the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments of 1988, and other responsibilities of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, not to exceed $3,669,744,000, to be transferred from the Federal Hospital Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Supplementary Medical Insurance Trust Fund, as authorized by section 201(g) of the Social Security Act; together with all funds collected in accordance with section 353 of the PHS Act and section 1857(e)(2) of the Social Security Act, funds retained by the Secretary pursuant to section 302 of the Tax Relief and Health Care Act of 2006; and such sums as may be collected from authorized user fees and the sale of data, which shall be credited to this account and remain available until September 30, 2022: *Provided*, That all funds derived in accordance with 31 U.S.C. 9701 from organizations established under title XIII of the PHS Act shall be credited to and available for carrying out the purposes of this appropriation: *Provided further*, That the Secretary is directed to collect fees in fiscal year 2017 from Medicare Advantage organizations pursuant to section 1857(e)(2) of the Social Security Act and from eligible organizations with risk-sharing contracts under section 1876 of that Act pursuant to section 1876(k)(4)(D) of that Act.

HEALTH CARE FRAUD AND ABUSE CONTROL ACCOUNT

In addition to amounts otherwise available for program integrity and program management, $725,000,000, to remain available through September 30, 2018, to be transferred from the Federal Hospital Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Supplementary Medical Insurance Trust Fund, as authorized by section 201(g) of the Social Security Act, of which $486,936,000 shall be for the Medicare Integrity Program at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, including administrative costs, to conduct oversight activities for Medicare Advantage under Part C and the Medicare Prescription Drug Program under Part D of the Social Security Act and for activities described in section 1893(b) of such Act, of which $82,132,000 shall be for the Department of Health and Human Services Office of Inspector General to carry out fraud and abuse activities authorized by section 1817(k)(3) of such Act, of which $82,132,000 shall be for the Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (''CHIP'') program integrity activities, and of which $73,800,000 shall be for the Department of Justice to carry out fraud and abuse activities authorized by section 1817(k)(3) of such Act: *Provided*, That the report required by section 1817(k)(5) of the Social Security Act for fiscal year 2017 shall include measures of the operational efficiency and impact on fraud, waste, and abuse in the Medicare, Medicaid, and CHIP programs for the funds provided by this appropriation: *Provided further*, That of the amount provided under this heading, $311,000,000 is provided to meet the terms of section 251(b)(2)(C)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended, and $414,000,000 is additional new budget authority specified for purposes of section 251(b)(2)(C) of such Act:

Provided further, That the Secretary shall support the full cost of the Senior Medicare Patrol program to combat health care fraud and abuse from the funds provided to this account.

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

PAYMENTS TO STATES FOR CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT AND FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAMS

For carrying out, except as otherwise provided, titles I, IV–D, X, XI, XIV, and XVI of the Social Security Act and the Act of July 5, 1960, $3,010,631,000, to remain available until expended; and for such purposes for the first quarter of fiscal year 2018, $1,400,000,000, to remain available until expended.

For carrying out, after May 31 of the current fiscal year, except as otherwise provided, titles I, IV–D, X, XI, XIV, and XVI of the Social Security Act and the Act of July 5, 1960, for the last 3 months of the current fiscal year for unanticipated costs, incurred for the current fiscal year, such sums as may be necessary.

LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE

For making payments under subsections (b) and (d) of section 2602 of the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Act of 1981, $3,390,304,000: *Provided*, That all but $491,000,000 of this amount shall be allocated as though the total appropriation for such payments for fiscal year 2017 was less than $1,975,000,000: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding section 2609A(a), of the amounts appropriated under section 2602(b), not more than $2,988,000 of such amounts may be reserved by the Secretary for technical assistance, training, and monitoring of program activities for compliance with internal controls, policies and procedures and may, in addition to the authorities provided in section 2609A(a)(1), use such funds through contracts with private entities that do not qualify as nonprofit organizations.

REFUGEE AND ENTRANT ASSISTANCE

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses for refugee and entrant assistance activities authorized by section 414 of the Immigration and Nationality Act and section 501 of the Refugee Education Assistance Act of 1980, and for carrying out section 462 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, section 235 of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008, the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (''TVPA''), and the Torture Victims Relief Act of 1998, $1,674,691,000, of which $1,645,201,000 shall remain available through September 30, 2019 for carrying out such sections 414, 501, 462, and 235: *Provided*, That amounts available under this heading to carry out the TVPA shall also be available for research and evaluation with respect to activities under such Act: *Provided further*, That the limitation in section 205 of this Act regarding transfers increasing any appropriation shall apply to transfers to appropriations under this heading by substituting ''10 percent'' for ''3 percent''.

PAYMENTS TO STATES FOR THE CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT

For carrying out the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 2014 (''CCDBG Act''), $2,856,000,000 shall be used to supplement, not supplant State general revenue funds for child care assistance for low-income families: *Provided*, That technical assistance under section 658I(a)(3) of such Act may be provided directly, or through the use of contracts, grants, cooperative agreements, or interagency agreements: *Provided further*, That all funds made available to carry out section 418 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 618), including funds appropriated for that purpose in such section 418 or any other provision of law, shall be subject to the reservation of funds authority in paragraphs (4) and (5) of section 658O(a) of the CCDBG Act.

SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANT

For making grants to States pursuant to section 2002 of the Social Security Act, $1,700,000,000: *Provided*, That notwithstanding subparagraph (B) of section 404(d)(2) of such Act, the applicable percent specified under such subparagraph for a State to carry out State programs pursuant to title XX–A of such Act shall be 10 percent.

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SERVICES PROGRAMS

For carrying out, except as otherwise provided, the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act, the Head Start Act, the Every Student Succeeds Act, the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act, sections 303 and 313 of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act, the Native American Programs Act of 1974, title II of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment and Adoption Reform Act of 1978 (adoption opportunities), part B–1 of title IV and sections 429, 473A, 477(i), 1110, 1114A, and 1115 of the Social Security Act, and the Community Services Block Grant Act (''CSBG Act''); for necessary administrative expenses to carry out titles I, IV, V, X, XI, XIV, XVI, and XX–A of the Social Security Act, the Act of July 5, 1960, the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Act of 1981, the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 2014, the Assets for Independence Act, title IV of the Immigration and Nationality Act, and section 501 of the Refugee Education Assistance Act of 1980; and for the administration of prior year obligations made by the Administration for Children and Families under the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act and the Help America Vote Act of 2002, $11,294,368,000, of which $37,943,000, to remain available through September 30, 2018, shall be for grants to States for adoption and legal guardianship incentive payments, as defined by section 473A of the Social Security Act and may be made for adoptions and legal guardianships completed before September 30, 2017: *Provided*, That $9,253,095,000 shall be for making payments under the Head Start Act: *Provided further*, That of the amount in the previous proviso, $8,588,095,000 shall be available for payments under section 640 of the Head Start Act, of which $80,000,000 shall be available for a cost of living adjustment notwithstanding section 640(a)(3)(A) of such Act: *Provided further*, That of the amount provided for making payments under the Head Start Act, $25,000,000 shall be available for allocation by the Secretary to supplement activities described in paragraphs (7)(B) and (9) of section 641(c) of such Act under the Designation Renewal System, established under the authority of sections 641(c)(7), 645A(b)(12) and 645A(d) of such Act: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding such section 640, of the amount provided for making payments under the Head Start Act, and in addition to funds otherwise available under such section 640, $640,000,000 shall be available through March 31, 2018 for Early Head Start programs as described in section 645A of such Act, for conversion of Head Start services to Early Head Start services as described in section 645(a)(5)(A) of such Act, for discretionary grants for high quality infant and toddler care through Early Head Start-Child Care Partnerships, to entities defined as eligible under section 645A(d) of such Act, for training and technical assistance for such activities, and for up to $14,000,000 in Federal costs of administration and evaluation, and, notwithstanding section 645A(c)(2) of such Act, these funds are available to serve children under age 4: *Provided further*, That funds described in the preceding two provisos shall not be included in the calculation of ''base grant'' in subsequent fiscal years, as such term is used in section 640(a)(7)(A) of such Act: *Provided further*, That $250,000,000 shall be available until December 31, 2017 for carrying out sections 9212 and 9213 of the Every Student Succeeds Act: *Provided further*, That, in accordance with section 9212(j) of such Act, funds made available in the preceding proviso may be allocated to the Department of Education to issue continuation grants on behalf of the Secretary: *Provided further*, That up to 3 percent of the funds in the second preceding proviso shall be available for technical assistance and evaluation related to grants awarded under such section 9212: *Provided further*, That $742,383,000 shall be for making payments under the CSBG Act: *Provided further*, That $27,733,000 shall be for sections 680 and 678E(b)(2) of the CSBG Act, of which not less than $19,883,000 shall be for section 680(a)(2) and not less than $7,500,000 shall be for section 680(a)(3)(B) of such Act: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding section 675C(a)(3) of such Act, to the extent Community Services Block Grant funds are distributed as grant funds by a State to an eligible entity as provided under such Act, and have not been expended by such entity, they shall remain with such entity for carryover into the next fiscal year for expenditure by such entity consistent with program purposes: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall establish procedures regarding the disposition of intangible assets and program income that permit such assets acquired with, and program income derived from, grant funds authorized under section 680 of the CSBG Act to become the sole property of such grantees after a period of not more than 12 years after the end of the grant period for any activity consistent with section 680(a)(2)(A) of the CSBG Act: *Provided further*, That intangible assets in the form of loans, equity investments and other debt instruments, and program income may be used by grantees for any eligible purpose consistent with section 680(a)(2)(A) of the CSBG Act: *Provided further*, That these procedures shall apply to such grant funds made available after November 29, 1999: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated for section 680(a)(2) of the CSBG Act shall be available for financing construction and rehabilitation and loans or investments in private business enterprises owned by community development corporations: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall issue performance standards for entities receiving funds from State and territorial grantees under the CSBG Act, and such States and territories shall assure the implementation of such standards prior to September 30, 2017, and include information on such implementation in the report required by section 678E(a)(2) of such Act: *Provided further*, That $1,864,000 shall be for a human services case management system for federally declared disasters, to include a comprehensive national case management contract and Federal costs of administering the system: *Provided further*, That up to $2,000,000 shall be for improving the Public Assistance Reporting Information System, including grants to States to support data collection for a study of the system's effectiveness.

PROMOTING SAFE AND STABLE FAMILIES

For carrying out, except as otherwise provided, section 436 of the Social Security Act,

$325,000,000 and, for carrying out, except as otherwise provided, section 437 of such Act, $59,765,000: *Provided*, That notwithstanding sections 438(c)(3)(A) and 436(b)(2) of such Act, $10,000,000 shall be available for such section 436(b)(2), of which no funds shall be available for carrying out sections 438(c)(3)(A)(ii) and (iii) of such Act.

PAYMENTS FOR FOSTER CARE AND PERMANENCY

For carrying out, except as otherwise provided, title IV–E of the Social Security Act, $5,764,000,000.

For carrying out, except as otherwise provided, title IV–E of the Social Security Act, for the first quarter of fiscal year 2018, $2,500,000,000.

For carrying out, after May 31 of the current fiscal year, except as otherwise provided, section 474 of title IV–E of the Social Security Act, for the last 3 months of the current fiscal year for unanticipated costs, incurred for the current fiscal year, such sums as may be necessary.

ADMINISTRATION FOR COMMUNITY LIVING

AGING AND DISABILITY SERVICES PROGRAMS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For carrying out, to the extent not otherwise provided, the Older Americans Act of 1965 (''OAA''), titles III and XXIX of the PHS Act, sections 1252 and 1253 of the PHS Act, section 119 of the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act of 2008, title XX–B of the Social Security Act, the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act, parts 2 and 5 of subtitle D of title II of the Help America Vote Act of 2002, the Assistive Technology Act of 1998, titles II and VII (and section 14 with respect to such titles) of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and for Department-wide coordination of policy and program activities that assist individuals with disabilities, $1,919,000,000, together with $47,115,000 to be transferred from the Federal Hospital Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Supplementary Medical Insurance Trust Fund to carry out section 4360 of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990: *Provided*, That amounts appropriated under this heading may be used for grants to States under section 361 of the OAA only for disease prevention and health promotion programs and activities which have been demonstrated through rigorous evaluation to be evidence-based and effective: *Provided further*, That of amounts made available under this heading to carry out sections 311, 331, and 336 of the OAA, up to one percent of such amounts shall be available for developing and implementing evidence-based practices for enhancing senior nutrition: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, funds made available under this heading to carry out section 311 of the OAA may be transferred to the Secretary of Agriculture in accordance with such section: *Provided further*, That $2,000,000 shall be for competitive grants to support alternative financing programs that provide for the purchase of assistive technology devices, such as a low-interest loan fund; an interest buydown program; a revolving loan fund; a loan guarantee; or an insurance program: *Provided further*, That applicants shall provide an assurance that, and information describing the manner in which, the alternative financing program will expand and emphasize consumer choice and control: *Provided further*, That State agencies and community-based disability organizations that are directed by and operated for individuals with disabilities shall be eligible to compete: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available under this heading may be used by an eligible system (as defined in section 102 of the Protection and Advocacy for Individuals with Mental Illness Act (42 U.S.C. 10802)) to continue to pursue any legal action in a Federal or State court on behalf of an individual or group of individuals with a developmental disability (as defined in section 102(8)(A) of the Developmental Disabilities and Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000 (20 U.S.C. 15002(8)(A)) that is attributable to a mental impairment (or a combination of mental and physical impairments), that has as the requested remedy the closure of State operated intermediate care facilities for people with intellectual or developmental disabilities, unless reasonable public notice of the action has been provided to such individuals (or, in the case of mental incapacitation, the legal guardians who have been specifically awarded authority by the courts to make healthcare and residential decisions on behalf of such individuals) who are affected by such action, within 90 days of instituting such legal action, which informs such individuals (or such legal guardians) of their legal rights and how to exercise such rights consistent with current Federal Rules of Civil Procedure: *Provided further*, That the limitations in the immediately preceding proviso shall not apply in the case of an individual who is neither competent to consent nor has a legal guardian, nor shall the proviso apply in the case of individuals who are a ward of the State or subject to public guardianship.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

GENERAL DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided, for general departmental management, including hire of six passenger motor vehicles, and for carrying out titles III, XVII, XXI, and section 229 of the PHS Act, the United States-Mexico Border Health Commission Act, and research studies under section 1110 of the Social Security Act, $460,629,000, together with $64,828,000 from the amounts available under section 241 of the PHS Act to carry out national health or human services research and evaluation activities: *Provided*, That of this amount, $53,900,000 shall be for minority AIDS prevention and treatment activities: *Provided further*, That of the funds made available under this heading, $101,000,000 shall be for making competitive contracts and grants to public and private entities to fund medically accurate and age appropriate programs that reduce teen pregnancy and for the Federal costs associated with administering and evaluating such contracts and grants, of which not more than 10 percent of the available funds shall be for training and technical assistance, evaluation, outreach, and additional program support activities, and of the remaining amount 75 percent shall be for replicating programs that have been proven effective through rigorous evaluation to reduce teenage pregnancy, behavioral risk factors underlying teenage pregnancy, or other associated risk factors, and 25 percent shall be available for research and demonstration grants to develop, replicate, refine, and test additional models and innovative strategies for preventing teenage pregnancy: *Provided further*, That of the amounts provided under this heading from amounts available under section 241 of the PHS Act, $6,800,000 shall be available to carry out evaluations (including longitudinal evaluations) of teenage pregnancy prevention approaches: *Provided further*, That of the funds made available under this heading, $15,000,000 shall be for making competitive grants which exclusively implement education in sexual risk avoidance (defined as voluntarily refraining from nonmarital sexual activity): *Provided further*, That funding for such competitive grants for sexual risk avoidance shall use medically accurate information referenced to peer-reviewed publications by educational, scientific, governmental, or health organizations; implement an evidence-based approach integrating research findings with practical implementation that aligns with the needs and desired outcomes for the intended audience; and teach the benefits associated with self-regulation, success sequencing for poverty prevention, healthy relationships, goal setting, and resisting sexual coercion, dating violence, and other youth risk behaviors such as underage drinking or illicit drug use without normalizing teen sexual activity: *Provided further*, That no more than 10 percent of the funding for such competitive grants for sexual risk avoidance shall be available for technical assistance and administrative costs of such programs: *Provided further*, That funds provided in this Act for embryo adoption activities may be used to provide to individuals adopting embryos, through grants and other mechanisms, medical and administrative services deemed necessary for such adoptions: *Provided further*, That such services shall be provided consistent with 42 CFR 59.5(a)(4).

OFFICE OF MEDICARE HEARINGS AND APPEALS

For expenses necessary for the Office of Medicare Hearings and Appeals, $107,381,000, to be transferred in appropriate part from the Federal Hospital Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Supplementary Medical Insurance Trust Fund.

OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL COORDINATOR FOR HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

For expenses necessary for the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology, including grants, contracts, and cooperative agreements for the development and advancement of interoperable health information technology, $60,367,000.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For expenses necessary for the Office of Inspector General, including the hire of passenger motor vehicles for investigations, in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978, $80,000,000: *Provided*, That of such amount, necessary sums shall be available for providing protective services to the Secretary and investigating non-payment of child support cases for which non-payment is a Federal offense under 18 U.S.C. 228.

OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS

For expenses necessary for the Office for Civil Rights, $38,798,000.

RETIREMENT PAY AND MEDICAL BENEFITS FOR COMMISSIONED OFFICERS

For retirement pay and medical benefits of Public Health Service Commissioned Officers as authorized by law, for payments under the Retired Serviceman's Family Protection Plan and Survivor Benefit Plan, and for medical care of dependents and retired personnel under the Dependents' Medical Care Act, such amounts as may be required during the current fiscal year.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES EMERGENCY FUND

For expenses necessary to support activities related to countering potential biological, nuclear, radiological, chemical, and cybersecurity threats to civilian populations, and for other public health emergencies, $950,958,000, of which $511,700,000 shall remain available through September 30, 2018, for expenses necessary to support advanced research and development pursuant to section

319L of the PHS Act and other administrative expenses of the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority: *Provided*, That funds provided under this heading for the purpose of acquisition of security countermeasures shall be in addition to any other funds available for such purpose: *Provided further*, That products purchased with funds provided under this heading may, at the discretion of the Secretary, be deposited in the Strategic National Stockpile pursuant to section 319F–2 of the PHS Act: *Provided further*, That $5,000,000 of the amounts made available to support emergency operations shall remain available through September 30, 2019.

For expenses necessary for procuring security countermeasures (as defined in section 319F–2(c)(1)(B) of the PHS Act), $510,000,000, to remain available until expended.

For an additional amount for expenses necessary to prepare for or respond to an influenza pandemic, $57,000,000; of which $40,000,000 shall be available until expended, for activities including the development and purchase of vaccine, antivirals, necessary medical supplies, diagnostics, and other surveillance tools: *Provided*, That notwithstanding section 496(b) of the PHS Act, funds may be used for the construction or renovation of privately owned facilities for the production of pandemic influenza vaccines and other biologics, if the Secretary finds such construction or renovation necessary to secure sufficient supplies of such vaccines or biologics.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 201. Funds appropriated in this title shall be available for not to exceed $50,000 for official reception and representation expenses when specifically approved by the Secretary.

SEC. 202. None of the funds appropriated in this title shall be used to pay the salary of an individual, through a grant or other extramural mechanism, at a rate in excess of Executive Level II.

SEC. 203. None of the funds appropriated in this Act may be expended pursuant to section 241 of the PHS Act, except for funds specifically provided for in this Act, or for other taps and assessments made by any office located in HHS, prior to the preparation and submission of a report by the Secretary to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate detailing the planned uses of such funds.

SEC. 204. Notwithstanding section 241(a) of the PHS Act, such portion as the Secretary shall determine, but not more than 2.5 percent, of any amounts appropriated for programs authorized under such Act shall be made available for the evaluation (directly, or by grants or contracts) and the implementation and effectiveness of programs funded in this title.

(TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 205. Not to exceed 1 percent of any discretionary funds (pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985) which are appropriated for the current fiscal year for HHS in this Act may be transferred between appropriations, but no such appropriation shall be increased by more than 3 percent by any such transfer: *Provided*, That the transfer authority granted by this section shall not be used to create any new program or to fund any project or activity for which no funds are provided in this Act: *Provided further*, That the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate are notified at least 15 days in advance of any transfer.

SEC. 206. In lieu of the timeframe specified in section 338E(c)(2) of the PHS Act, terminations described in such section may occur up to 60 days after the execution of a contract awarded in fiscal year 2017 under section 338B of such Act.

SEC. 207. None of the funds appropriated in this Act may be made available to any entity under title X of the PHS Act unless the applicant for the award certifies to the Secretary that it encourages family participation in the decision of minors to seek family planning services and that it provides counseling to minors on how to resist attempts to coerce minors into engaging in sexual activities.

SEC. 208. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no provider of services under title X of the PHS Act shall be exempt from any State law requiring notification or the reporting of child abuse, child molestation, sexual abuse, rape, or incest.

SEC. 209. None of the funds appropriated by this Act (including funds appropriated to any trust fund) may be used to carry out the Medicare Advantage program if the Secretary denies participation in such program to an otherwise eligible entity (including a Provider Sponsored Organization) because the entity informs the Secretary that it will not provide, pay for, provide coverage of, or provide referrals for abortions: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall make appropriate prospective adjustments to the capitation payment to such an entity (based on an actuarially sound estimate of the expected costs of providing the service to such entity's enrollees): *Provided further*, That nothing in this section shall be construed to change the Medicare program's coverage for such services and a Medicare Advantage organization described in this section shall be responsible for informing enrollees where to obtain information about all Medicare covered services.

SEC. 210. None of the funds made available in this title may be used, in whole or in part, to advocate or promote gun control.

SEC. 211. The Secretary shall make available through assignment not more than 60 employees of the Public Health Service to assist in child survival activities and to work in AIDS programs through and with funds provided by the Agency for International Development, the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund or the World Health Organization.

SEC. 212. In order for HHS to carry out international health activities, including HIV/AIDS and other infectious disease, chronic and environmental disease, and other health activities abroad during fiscal year 2017:

(1) The Secretary may exercise authority equivalent to that available to the Secretary of State in section 2(c) of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956. The Secretary shall consult with the Secretary of State and relevant Chief of Mission to ensure that the authority provided in this section is exercised in a manner consistent with section 207 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 and other applicable statutes administered by the Department of State.

(2) The Secretary is authorized to provide such funds by advance or reimbursement to the Secretary of State as may be necessary to pay the costs of acquisition, lease, alteration, renovation, and management of facilities outside of the United States for the use of HHS. The Department of State shall cooperate fully with the Secretary to ensure that HHS has secure, safe, functional facilities that comply with applicable regulation governing location, setback, and other facilities requirements and serve the purposes established by this Act. The Secretary is authorized, in consultation with the Secretary of State, through grant or cooperative agreement, to make available to public or nonprofit private institutions or agencies in participating foreign countries, funds to acquire, lease, alter, or renovate facilities in those countries as necessary to conduct programs of assistance for international health activities, including activities relating to HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases, chronic and environmental diseases, and other health activities abroad.

(3) The Secretary is authorized to provide to personnel appointed or assigned by the Secretary to serve abroad, allowances and benefits similar to those provided under chapter 9 of title I of the Foreign Service Act of 1980, and 22 U.S.C. 4081 through 4086 and subject to such regulations prescribed by the Secretary. The Secretary is further authorized to provide locality-based comparability payments (stated as a percentage) up to the amount of the locality-based comparability payment (stated as a percentage) that would be payable to such personnel under section 5304 of title 5, United States Code if such personnel's official duty station were in the District of Columbia. Leaves of absence for personnel under this subsection shall be on the same basis as that provided under subchapter I of chapter 63 of title 5, United States Code, or section 903 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980, to individuals serving in the Foreign Service.

(TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 213. The Director of the NIH, jointly with the Director of the Office of AIDS Research, may transfer up to 3 percent among institutes and centers from the total amounts identified by these two Directors as funding for research pertaining to the human immunodeficiency virus: *Provided*, That the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate are notified at least 15 days in advance of any transfer.

(TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 214. Of the amounts made available in this Act for NIH, the amount for research related to the human immunodeficiency virus, as jointly determined by the Director of NIH and the Director of the Office of AIDS Research, shall be made available to the ''Office of AIDS Research'' account. The Director of the Office of AIDS Research shall transfer from such account amounts necessary to carry out section 2353(d)(3) of the PHS Act.

SEC. 215. (a) AUTHORITY.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Director of NIH (''Director'') may use funds authorized under section 402(b)(12) of the PHS Act to enter into transactions (other than contracts, cooperative agreements, or grants) to carry out research identified pursuant to or research and activities described in such section 402(b)(12).

(b) PEER REVIEW.—In entering into transactions under subsection (a), the Director may utilize such peer review procedures (including consultation with appropriate scientific experts) as the Director determines to be appropriate to obtain assessments of scientific and technical merit. Such procedures shall apply to such transactions in lieu of the peer review and advisory council review procedures that would otherwise be required under sections 301(a)(3), 405(b)(1)(B), 405(b)(2), 406(a)(3)(A), 492, and 494 of the PHS Act.

SEC. 216. Not to exceed $45,000,000 of funds appropriated by this Act to the institutes and centers of the National Institutes of Health may be used for alteration, repair, or improvement of facilities, as necessary for the proper and efficient conduct of the activities authorized herein, at not to exceed $3,500,000 per project.

(TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 217. Of the amounts made available for NIH, 1 percent of the amount made available for National Research Service Awards (''NRSA'') shall be made available to the Administrator of the Health Resources and Services Administration to make NRSA awards for research in primary medical care to individuals affiliated with entities who have received grants or contracts under sections 736, 739, or 747 of the PHS Act, and 1 percent of the amount made available for NRSA shall be made available to the Director of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality to make NRSA awards for health service research.

SEC. 218. (a) The Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (''BARDA'') may enter into a contract, for more than one but no more than 10 program years, for purchase of research services or of security countermeasures, as that term is defined in section 319F–2(c)(1)(B) of the PHS Act (42 U.S.C. 247d–6b(c)(1)(B)), if—

(1) funds are available and obligated—

(A) for the full period of the contract or for the first fiscal year in which the contract is in effect; and

(B) for the estimated costs associated with a necessary termination of the contract; and

(2) the Secretary determines that a multiyear contract will serve the best interests of the Federal Government by encouraging full and open competition or promoting economy in administration, performance, and operation of BARDA's programs.

(b) A contract entered into under this section—

(1) shall include a termination clause as described by subsection (c) of section 3903 of title 41, United States Code; and

(2) shall be subject to the congressional notice requirement stated in subsection (d) of such section.

SEC. 219. (a) The Secretary shall establish a publicly accessible Web site to provide information regarding the uses of funds made available under section 4002 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 (''ACA'').

(b) With respect to funds provided under section 4002 of the ACA, the Secretary shall include on the Web site established under subsection (a) at a minimum the following information:

(1) In the case of each transfer of funds under section 4002(c), a statement indicating the program or activity receiving funds, the operating division or office that will administer the funds, and the planned uses of the funds, to be posted not later than the day after the transfer is made.

(2) Identification (along with a link to the full text) of each funding opportunity announcement, request for proposals, or other announcement or solicitation of proposals for grants, cooperative agreements, or contracts intended to be awarded using such funds, to be posted not later than the day after the announcement or solicitation is issued.

(3) Identification of each grant, cooperative agreement, or contract with a value of $25,000 or more awarded using such funds, including the purpose of the award and the identity of the recipient, to be posted not later than 5 days after the award is made.

(4) A report detailing the uses of all funds transferred under section 4002(c) during the fiscal year, to be posted not later than 90 days after the end of the fiscal year.

(c) With respect to awards made in fiscal years 2013 through 2017, the Secretary shall also include on the Web site established under subsection (a), semi-annual reports from each entity awarded a grant, cooperative agreement, or contract from such funds with a value of $25,000 or more, summarizing the activities undertaken and identifying any sub-grants or sub-contracts awarded (including the purpose of the award and the identity of the recipient), to be posted not later than 30 days after the end of each 6-month period.

(d) In carrying out this section, the Secretary shall—

(1) present the information required in subsection (b)(1) on a single webpage or on a single database;

(2) ensure that all information required in this section is directly accessible from the single webpage or database; and

(3) ensure that all information required in this section is able to be organized by program or State.

SEC. 220. (a) The Secretary shall publish in the fiscal year 2018 budget justification and on Departmental Web sites information concerning the employment of full-time equivalent Federal employees or contractors for the purposes of implementing, administering, enforcing, or otherwise carrying out the provisions of the ACA, and the amendments made by that Act, in the proposed fiscal year and each fiscal year since the enactment of the ACA.

(b) With respect to employees or contractors supported by all funds appropriated for purposes of carrying out the ACA (and the amendments made by that Act), the Secretary shall include, at a minimum, the following information:

(1) For each such fiscal year, the section of such Act under which such funds were appropriated, a statement indicating the program, project, or activity receiving such funds, the Federal operating division or office that administers such program, and the amount of funding received in discretionary or mandatory appropriations.

(2) For each such fiscal year, the number of full-time equivalent employees or contracted employees assigned to each authorized and funded provision detailed in accordance with paragraph (1).

(c) In carrying out this section, the Secretary may exclude from the report employees or contractors who—

(1) are supported through appropriations enacted in laws other than the ACA and work on programs that existed prior to the passage of the ACA;

(2) spend less than 50 percent of their time on activities funded by or newly authorized in the ACA; or

(3) work on contracts for which FTE reporting is not a requirement of their contract, such as fixed-price contracts.

SEC. 221. The Secretary shall publish, as part of the fiscal year 2018 budget of the President submitted under section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code, information that details the uses of all funds used by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services specifically for Health Insurance Exchanges for each fiscal year since the enactment of the ACA and the proposed uses for such funds for fiscal year 2018. Such information shall include, for each such fiscal year, the amount of funds used for each activity specified under the heading ''Health Insurance Exchange Transparency'' in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act).

SEC. 222. (a) The Secretary shall provide to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate:

(1) Detailed monthly enrollment figures from the Exchanges established under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 pertaining to enrollments during the open enrollment period; and

(2) Notification of any new or competitive grant awards, including supplements, authorized under section 330 of the Public Health Service Act.

(b) The Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate must be notified at least 2 business days in advance of any public release of enrollment information or the award of such grants.

SEC. 223. None of the funds made available by this Act from the Federal Hospital Insurance Trust Fund or the Federal Supplemental Medical Insurance Trust Fund, or transferred from other accounts funded by this Act to the ''Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services—Program Management'' account, may be used for payments under section 1342(b)(1) of Public Law 111–148 (relating to risk corridors).

SEC. 224. In addition to the amounts otherwise available for ''Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Program Management'', the Secretary of Health and Human Services may transfer up to $305,000,000 to such account from the Federal Hospital Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Supplementary Medical Insurance Trust Fund to support program management activity related to the Medicare Program: *Provided*, That except for the foregoing purpose, such funds may not be used to support any provision of Public Law 111–148 or Public Law 111–152 (or any amendment made by either such Public Law) or to supplant any other amounts within such account.

SEC. 225. The Secretary shall include in the fiscal year 2018 budget justification an analysis of how section 2713 of the PHS Act will impact eligibility for discretionary HHS programs.

SEC. 226. Effective during the period beginning on November 1, 2015 and ending January 1, 2019, any provision of law that refers (including through cross-reference to another provision of law) to the current recommendations of the United States Preventive Services Task Force with respect to breast cancer screening, mammography, and prevention shall be administered by the Secretary involved as if—

(1) such reference to such current recommendations were a reference to the recommendations of such Task Force with respect to breast cancer screening, mammography, and prevention last issued before 2009; and

(2) such recommendations last issued before 2009 applied to any screening mammography modality under section 1861(jj) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x(jj)).

This title may be cited as the ''Department of Health and Human Services Appropriations Act, 2017''.

TITLE III

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

EDUCATION FOR THE DISADVANTAGED

For carrying out title I and subpart 2 of part B of title II of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (referred to in this Act as ''ESEA'') and section 418A of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (referred to in

this Act as ''HEA''), $16,143,790,000, of which $5,225,990,000 shall become available on July 1, 2017, and shall remain available through September 30, 2018, and of which $10,841,177,000 shall become available on October 1, 2017, and shall remain available through September 30, 2018, for academic year 2017–2018: *Provided*, That $6,459,401,000 shall be for basic grants under section 1124 of the ESEA: *Provided further*, That up to $5,000,000 of these funds shall be available to the Secretary of Education (referred to in this title as ''Secretary'') on October 1, 2016, to obtain annually updated local educational agency-level census poverty data from the Bureau of the Census: *Provided further*, That $1,362,301,000 shall be for concentration grants under section 1124A of the ESEA: *Provided further*, That $3,819,050,000 shall be for targeted grants under section 1125 of the ESEA: *Provided further*, That $3,819,050,000 shall be for education finance incentive grants under section 1125A of the ESEA: *Provided further*, That $217,000,000 shall be for carrying out subpart 2 of part B of title II: *Provided further*, That $44,623,000 shall be for carrying out section 418A of the HEA.

IMPACT AID

For carrying out programs of financial assistance to federally affected schools authorized by title VII of the ESEA, $1,328,603,000, of which $1,189,233,000 shall be for basic support payments under section 7003(b), $48,316,000 shall be for payments for children with disabilities under section 7003(d), $17,406,000, to remain available for obligation through September 30, 2018, shall be for construction under section 7007(b), $68,813,000 shall be for Federal property payments under section 7002, and $4,835,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for facilities maintenance under section 7008: *Provided*, That for purposes of computing the amount of a payment for an eligible local educational agency under section 7003(a) for school year 2016–2017, children enrolled in a school of such agency that would otherwise be eligible for payment under section 7003(a)(1)(B) of such Act, but due to the deployment of both parents or legal guardians, or a parent or legal guardian having sole custody of such children, or due to the death of a military parent or legal guardian while on active duty (so long as such children reside on Federal property as described in section 7003(a)(1)(B)), are no longer eligible under such section, shall be considered as eligible students under such section, provided such students remain in average daily attendance at a school in the same local educational agency they attended prior to their change in eligibility status.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS

For carrying out school improvement activities authorized by part B of title I, part A of title II, subpart 1 of part A of title IV, part B of title IV, part B of title V, and parts B and C of title VI of the ESEA; the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act; section 203 of the Educational Technical Assistance Act of 2002; the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003; and the Civil Rights Act of 1964, $4,408,567,000, of which $2,588,002,000 shall become available on July 1, 2017, and remain available through September 30, 2018, and of which $1,681,441,000 shall become available on October 1, 2017, and shall remain available through September 30, 2018, for academic year 2017–2018: *Provided*, That $369,100,000 shall be for part B of title I: *Provided further*, That $1,191,673,000 shall be for part B of title IV: *Provided further*, That $33,397,000 shall be for part B of title VI and may be used for construction, renovation, and modernization of any elementary school, secondary school, or structure related to an elementary school or secondary school, run by the Department of Education of the State of Hawaii, that serves a predominantly Native Hawaiian student body: *Provided further*, That $32,453,000 shall be for part C of title VI and shall be awarded on a competitive basis, and also may be used for construction: *Provided further*, That $50,000,000 shall be available to carry out section 203 of the Educational Technical Assistance Act of 2002 and the Secretary shall make such arrangements as determined to be necessary to ensure that the Bureau of Indian Education has access to services provided under this section: *Provided further*, That $16,699,000 shall be available to carry out the Supplemental Education Grants program for the Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of the Marshall Islands: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may reserve up to 5 percent of the amount referred to in the previous proviso to provide technical assistance in the implementation of these grants: *Provided further*, That $175,840,000 shall be for part B of title V: *Provided further*, That $400,000,000 shall be available for grants under subpart 1 of part A of title IV: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding subsections (a) and (b) of section 4105 of such Act, each State may use funds reserved under section 4104(a)(1) of such Act to award subgrants, on a competitive basis, to local educational agencies receiving a grant under part A of title I, or consortia of such local educational agencies, of such Act, to enable the agencies or consortia to support activities authorized under one or more of sections 4107, 4108, and 4109(a) of such Act: *Provided further*, That each such subgrant shall be subject to the same terms and conditions as an allocation provided under section 4105 of such Act, except as otherwise provided in this Act: *Provided further*, That each State that awards such subgrants shall award such subgrants with priority given to local educational agencies, or consortia of local educational agencies, with the greatest need based on the number or percentage of children counted under section 1124(c), in a manner that ensures geographic diversity among subgrant recipients representing rural, suburban, and urban areas, and in a manner that distributes the total amount of funds available to the State under section 4104(a)(1) consistent with the requirements described in subparagraphs (C) through (E) of section 4106(e)(2) of such Act: *Provided further*, That each such subgrant awarded shall be for a term of one year and in an amount of not less than $10,000, and a subgrant recipient shall not be subject to any of the distribution requirements described in subparagraphs (C) through (E) of subsections (e)(2) and (f), of section 4106 of such Act: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding section 4109(b) of such Act, a subgrant recipient using such subgrant funds to carry out only activities authorized under section 4109(a) of such Act may use not more than 25 percent of the subgrant funds for purchasing technology infrastructure as described in such section 4109(b): *Provided further*, That amounts made available under this heading to a State agency awarding such subgrants shall remain available until September 30, 2018.

INDIAN EDUCATION

For expenses necessary to carry out, to the extent not otherwise provided, title VI, part A of the ESEA, $164,939,000, of which $57,993,000 shall be for subpart 2 of part A of title VI and $6,565,000 shall be for subpart 3 of part A of title VI.

INNOVATION AND IMPROVEMENT

For carrying out activities authorized by subparts 1, 3 and 4 of part B of title II, and parts C and D and subparts 1 and 4 of part F of title IV of the ESEA, $887,575,000: *Provided*, That $283,015,000 shall be for subparts 1, 3 and 4 of part B of title II and shall be made available without regard to sections 2201, 2231(b) and 2241: *Provided further*, That $504,560,000 shall be for parts C and D and subpart 4 of part F of title IV, and shall be made available without regard to sections 4311, 4409(a), and 4601 of the ESEA: *Provided further*, That section 4303(d)(3)(A)(i) shall not apply to the funds available for part C of title IV: *Provided further*, That of the funds available for part C of title IV, the Secretary shall use not less than $26,000,000 to carry out section 4304, of which not more than $10,000,000 shall be available to carry out section 4304(k), not more than $100,000,000 to carry out section 4305(b), and not less than $11,000,000 to carry out the activities in section 4305(a)(3): *Provided further*, That notwithstanding section 4601(b), $100,000,000 shall be available through December 31, 2017 for subpart 1 of part F of title IV.

SAFE SCHOOLS AND CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION

For carrying out activities authorized by subparts 2 and 3 of part F of title IV of the ESEA, $151,254,000: *Provided*, That $68,000,000 shall be available for section 4631, of which up to $5,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for the Project School Emergency Response to Violence (''Project SERV'') program to provide education-related services to local educational agencies and institutions of higher education in which the learning environment has been disrupted due to a violent or traumatic crisis: *Provided further*, That $10,000,000 shall be available for section 4625: *Provided further*, That $73,254,000 shall be available through December 31, 2017, for section 4624: *Provided further*, That section 4623(b) of the ESEA shall apply to funds appropriated for Promise Neighborhoods under this heading in prior appropriations acts.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ACQUISITION

For carrying out part A of title III of the ESEA, $737,400,000, which shall become available on July 1, 2017, and shall remain available through September 30, 2018, except that 6.5 percent of such amount shall be available on October 1, 2016, and shall remain available through September 30, 2018, to carry out activities under section 3111(c)(1)(C).

SPECIAL EDUCATION

For carrying out the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and the Special Olympics Sport and Empowerment Act of 2004, $13,064,358,000, of which $3,546,259,000 shall become available on July 1, 2017, and shall remain available through September 30, 2018, and of which $9,283,383,000 shall become available on October 1, 2017, and shall remain available through September 30, 2018, for academic year 2017–2018: *Provided*, That the amount for section 611(b)(2) of the IDEA shall be equal to the lesser of the amount available for that activity during fiscal year 2016, increased by the amount of inflation as specified in section 619(d)(2)(B) of the IDEA, or the percent change in the funds appropriated under section 611(i) of the IDEA, but not less than the amount for that activity during fiscal year 2016: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall, without regard to section 611(d) of the IDEA, distribute to all other States (as that term is defined in section 611(g)(2)), subject to the third proviso, any amount by which a State's allocation under section 611, from funds appropriated

under this heading, is reduced under section 612(a)(18)(B), according to the following: 85 percent on the basis of the States' relative populations of children aged 3 through 21 who are of the same age as children with disabilities for whom the State ensures the availability of a free appropriate public education under this part, and 15 percent to States on the basis of the States' relative populations of those children who are living in poverty: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may not distribute any funds under the previous proviso to any State whose reduction in allocation from funds appropriated under this heading made funds available for such a distribution: *Provided further*, That the States shall allocate such funds distributed under the second proviso to local educational agencies in accordance with section 611(f): *Provided further*, That the amount by which a State's allocation under section 611(d) of the IDEA is reduced under section 612(a)(18)(B) and the amounts distributed to States under the previous provisos in fiscal year 2012 or any subsequent year shall not be considered in calculating the awards under section 611(d) for fiscal year 2013 or for any subsequent fiscal years: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding the provision in section 612(a)(18)(B) regarding the fiscal year in which a State's allocation under section 611(d) is reduced for failure to comply with the requirement of section 612(a)(18)(A), the Secretary may apply the reduction specified in section 612(a)(18)(B) over a period of consecutive fiscal years, not to exceed five, until the entire reduction is applied: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may, in any fiscal year in which a State's allocation under section 611 is reduced in accordance with section 612(a)(18)(B), reduce the amount a State may reserve under section 611(e)(1) by an amount that bears the same relation to the maximum amount described in that paragraph as the reduction under section 612(a)(18)(B) bears to the total allocation the State would have received in that fiscal year under section 611(d) in the absence of the reduction: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall either reduce the allocation of funds under section 611 for any fiscal year following the fiscal year for which the State fails to comply with the requirement of section 612(a)(18)(A) as authorized by section 612(a)(18)(B), or seek to recover funds under section 452 of the General Education Provisions Act (20 U.S.C. 1234a): *Provided further*, That the funds reserved under 611(c) of the IDEA may be used to provide technical assistance to States to improve the capacity of the States to meet the data collection requirements of sections 616 and 618 and to administer and carry out other services and activities to improve data collection, coordination, quality, and use under parts B and C of the IDEA: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may use funds made available for the State Personnel Development Grants program under part D, subpart 1 of IDEA to evaluate program performance under such subpart.

REHABILITATION SERVICES

For carrying out, to the extent not otherwise provided, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Helen Keller National Center Act, $3,535,589,000, of which $3,398,554,000 shall be for grants for vocational rehabilitation services under title I of the Rehabilitation Act: *Provided*, That the Secretary may use amounts provided in this Act that remain available subsequent to the reallotment of funds to States pursuant to section 110(b) of the Rehabilitation Act for innovative activities aimed at improving the outcomes of individuals with disabilities as defined in section 7(20)(B) of the Rehabilitation Act, including activities aimed at improving the education and post-school outcomes of children receiving Supplemental Security Income (''SSI'') and their families that may result in long-term improvement in the SSI child recipient's economic status and self-sufficiency: *Provided further*, That States may award subgrants for a portion of the funds to other public and private, nonprofit entities: *Provided further*, That any funds made available subsequent to reallotment for innovative activities aimed at improving the outcomes of individuals with disabilities shall remain available until September 30, 2018.

SPECIAL INSTITUTIONS FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

AMERICAN PRINTING HOUSE FOR THE BLIND

For carrying out the Act to promote the Education of the Blind of March 3, 1879, $25,431,000.

NATIONAL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE FOR THE DEAF

For the National Technical Institute for the Deaf under titles I and II of the Education of the Deaf Act of 1986, $70,016,000: *Provided*, That from the total amount available, the Institute may at its discretion use funds for the endowment program as authorized under section 207 of such Act.

GALLAUDET UNIVERSITY

For the Kendall Demonstration Elementary School, the Model Secondary School for the Deaf, and the partial support of Gallaudet University under titles I and II of the Education of the Deaf Act of 1986, $121,275,000: *Provided*, That from the total amount available, the University may at its discretion use funds for the endowment program as authorized under section 207 of such Act.

CAREER, TECHNICAL, AND ADULT EDUCATION

For carrying out, to the extent not otherwise provided, the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 and the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (''AEFLA''), $1,720,686,000, of which $929,686,000 shall become available on July 1, 2017, and shall remain available through September 30, 2018, and of which $791,000,000 shall become available on October 1, 2017, and shall remain available through September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That of the amounts made available for AEFLA, $13,712,000 shall be for national leadership activities under section 242.

STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

For carrying out subparts 1, 3, and 10 of part A, and part C of title IV of the HEA, $24,198,210,000, which shall remain available through September 30, 2018.

The maximum Pell Grant for which a student shall be eligible during award year 2017–2018 shall be $4,860.

STUDENT AID ADMINISTRATION

For Federal administrative expenses to carry out part D of title I, and subparts 1, 3, 9, and 10 of part A, and parts B, C, D, and E of title IV of the HEA, and subpart 1 of part A of title VII of the Public Health Service Act, $1,576,854,000, to remain available through September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall allocate new student loan borrower accounts to eligible student loan servicers on the basis of their performance compared to all loan servicers utilizing established common metrics, and on the basis of the capacity of each servicer to process new and existing accounts: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall, no later than September 30, 2017, allow student loan borrowers who are consolidating Federal student loans to select from any student loan servicer to service their new consolidated student loan.

HIGHER EDUCATION

For carrying out, to the extent not otherwise provided, titles II, III, IV, V, VI, and VII of the HEA, the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961, and section 117 of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006, $2,055,439,000: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds made available in this Act to carry out title VI of the HEA and section 102(b)(6) of the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961 may be used to support visits and study in foreign countries by individuals who are participating in advanced foreign language training and international studies in areas that are vital to United States national security and who plan to apply their language skills and knowledge of these countries in the fields of government, the professions, or international development: *Provided further*, That of the funds referred to in the preceding proviso up to 1 percent may be used for program evaluation, national outreach, and information dissemination activities: *Provided further*, That up to 1.5 percent of the funds made available under chapter 2 of subpart 2 of part A of title IV of the HEA may be used for evaluation : *Provided further*, That, in making awards under section 402C of the HEA with funds appropriated by this Act, the Secretary shall announce new grant awards for which the notice inviting applications was published in the Federal Register on October 17, 2016 (81 F.R. 71,492) by June 1, 2017, and for all other new grant awards under such section by August 1, 2017: *Provided further*, That, in making continuation grant awards under subpart 2 of chapter 1 of part A of title IV of the HEA with funds appropriated by this Act, the Secretary shall issue continuation notifications no later than August 1, 2017.

HOWARD UNIVERSITY

For partial support of Howard University, $221,821,000, of which not less than $3,405,000 shall be for a matching endowment grant pursuant to the Howard University Endowment Act and shall remain available until expended.

COLLEGE HOUSING AND ACADEMIC FACILITIES LOANS PROGRAM

For Federal administrative expenses to carry out activities related to existing facility loans pursuant to section 121 of the HEA, $435,000.

HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY CAPITAL FINANCING PROGRAM ACCOUNT

For the cost of guaranteed loans, $20,150,000, as authorized pursuant to part D of title III of the HEA, which shall remain available through September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: *Provided further*, That these funds are available to subsidize total loan principal, any part of which is to be guaranteed, not to exceed $282,212,885: *Provided further*, That these funds may be used to support loans to public and private Historically Black Colleges and Universities without regard to the limitations within section 344(a) of the HEA.

In addition, for administrative expenses to carry out the Historically Black College and University Capital Financing Program entered into pursuant to part D of title III of the HEA, $334,000.

INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION SCIENCES

For carrying out activities authorized by the Education Sciences Reform Act of 2002, the National Assessment of Educational Progress Authorization Act, section 208 of the Educational Technical Assistance Act of 2002, and section 664 of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, $605,267,000, which shall remain available through September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That funds available to carry out section 208 of the Educational Technical Assistance Act may be used to link Statewide elementary and secondary data systems with early childhood, postsecondary, and workforce data systems, or to further develop such systems: *Provided further*, That up to $6,000,000 of the funds available to carry out section 208 of the Educational Technical Assistance Act may be used for awards to public or private organizations or agencies to support activities to improve data coordination, quality, and use at the local, State, and national levels.

DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

For carrying out, to the extent not otherwise provided, the Department of Education Organization Act, including rental of conference rooms in the District of Columbia and hire of three passenger motor vehicles, $432,000,000, of which up to $1,000,000, to remain available until expended, may be for relocation of, and renovation of buildings occupied by, Department staff: *Provided*, That $2,000,000 of the unobligated funds available under this heading and ''Student Aid Administration'' in this and prior appropriations acts that may be used for travel, printing, supplies and other administrative expenses shall be available for obligation for the Ready to Learn program.

OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS

For expenses necessary for the Office for Civil Rights, as authorized by section 203 of the Department of Education Organization Act, $108,500,000.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For expenses necessary for the Office of Inspector General, as authorized by section 212 of the Department of Education Organization Act, $59,256,000.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 301. No funds appropriated in this Act may be used for the transportation of students or teachers (or for the purchase of equipment for such transportation) in order to overcome racial imbalance in any school or school system, or for the transportation of students or teachers (or for the purchase of equipment for such transportation) in order to carry out a plan of racial desegregation of any school or school system.

SEC. 302. None of the funds contained in this Act shall be used to require, directly or indirectly, the transportation of any student to a school other than the school which is nearest the student's home, except for a student requiring special education, to the school offering such special education, in order to comply with title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. For the purpose of this section an indirect requirement of transportation of students includes the transportation of students to carry out a plan involving the reorganization of the grade structure of schools, the pairing of schools, or the clustering of schools, or any combination of grade restructuring, pairing, or clustering. The prohibition described in this section does not include the establishment of magnet schools.

SEC. 303. No funds appropriated in this Act may be used to prevent the implementation of programs of voluntary prayer and meditation in the public schools.

(TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 304. Not to exceed 1 percent of any discretionary funds (pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985) which are appropriated for the Department of Education in this Act may be transferred between appropriations, but no such appropriation shall be increased by more than 3 percent by any such transfer: *Provided*, That the transfer authority granted by this section shall not be used to create any new program or to fund any project or activity for which no funds are provided in this Act: *Provided further*, That the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate are notified at least 15 days in advance of any transfer.

SEC. 305. Section 105(f)(1)(B)(ix) of the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003 (48 U.S.C. 1921d(f)(1)(B)(ix)) shall be applied by substituting ''2017'' for ''2016''.

SEC. 306. Funds appropriated in this Act and consolidated for evaluation purposes under section 8601(c) of the ESEA shall be available from July 1, 2017, through September 30, 2018.

SEC. 307. (a) An institution of higher education that maintains an endowment fund supported with funds appropriated for title III or V of the HEA for fiscal year 2017 may use the income from that fund to award scholarships to students, subject to the limitation in section 331(c)(3)(B)(i) of the HEA. The use of such income for such purposes, prior to the enactment of this Act, shall be considered to have been an allowable use of that income, subject to that limitation.

(b) Subsection (a) shall be in effect until titles III and V of the HEA are reauthorized.

SEC. 308. Section 114(f) of the HEA (20 U.S.C. 1011c(f)) is amended by striking ''2016'' and inserting ''2017''.

SEC. 309. Section 458(a) of the HEA (20 U.S.C. 1087h(a)) is amended in paragraph (4) by striking ''2016'' and inserting ''2017''.

(INCLUDING RESCISSION)

SEC. 310. (a) Section 401(b) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070a(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(8)(A) Effective in the 2017–2018 award year and thereafter, the Secretary shall award an eligible student not more than one and one-half Federal Pell Grants during a single award year to permit such student to work toward completion of an eligible program if, during that single award year, the student—

''(i) has received a Federal Pell Grant for an award year and is enrolled in an eligible program for one or more additional payment periods during the same award year that are not otherwise fully covered by the student's Federal Pell Grant; and

''(ii) is enrolled on at least a half-time basis while receiving any funds under this section.

''(B) In the case of a student receiving more than one Federal Pell Grant in a single award year under subparagraph (A), the total amount of Federal Pell Grants awarded to such student for the award year may exceed the maximum basic grant level specified in the appropriate appropriations Act for such award year.

''(C) Any period of study covered by a Federal Pell Grant awarded under subparagraph (A) shall be included in determining a student's duration limit under subsection (c)(5).

''(D) In any case where an eligible student is receiving a Federal Pell Grant for a payment period that spans two award years, the Secretary shall allow the eligible institution in which the student is enrolled to determine the award year to which the additional period shall be assigned, as it determines is most beneficial to students.''.

(b) Section 401(b)(7)(A)(iv)(VII) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070a(b)(7)(A)(iv)(VII)) is amended by striking ''$1,574,000,000'' and inserting ''$1,320,000,000''.

(RESCISSION)

SEC. 311. Of the unobligated balances available from Public Law 114–113 under the heading ''Student Financial Assistance'' for carrying out subpart 1 of part A of title IV of the HEA, $1,310,000,000 are hereby rescinded.

This title may be cited as the ''Department of Education Appropriations Act, 2017''.

TITLE IV

RELATED AGENCIES

COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary for the Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled established under section 8502 of title 41, United States Code, $8,000,000: *Provided*, That in order to authorize any central nonprofit agency designated pursuant to section 8503(c) of title 41, United States Code, to perform contract requirements of the Committee as prescribed under section 51–3.2 of title 41, Code of Federal Regulations, the Committee shall enter into a written agreement with any such central nonprofit agency: *Provided further*, That such agreement entered into under the preceding proviso shall contain such auditing, oversight, and reporting provisions as necessary to implement chapter 85 of title 41, United States Code: *Provided further*, That such agreement shall include the elements listed under this heading in the explanatory statement accompanying Public Law 114–113: *Provided further*, That a fee may not be charged under section 51–3.5 of title 41, Code of Federal Regulations, unless such fee is under the terms of the written agreement between the Committee and any such central nonprofit agency: *Provided further*, That no less than $1,000,000 shall be available for the Office of Inspector General.

CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

OPERATING EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for the Corporation for National and Community Service (referred to in this title as ''CNCS'') to carry out the Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973 (referred to in this title as ''1973 Act'') and the National and Community Service Act of 1990 (referred to in this title as ''1990 Act''), $736,029,000, notwithstanding sections 198B(b)(3), 198S(g), 501(a)(4)(C), and 501(a)(4)(F) of the 1990 Act: *Provided*, That of the amounts provided under this heading: (1) up to 1 percent of program grant funds may be used to defray the costs of conducting grant application reviews, including the use of outside peer reviewers and electronic management of the grants cycle; (2) $16,538,000 shall be available to provide assistance to State commissions on national and community service, under section 126(a) of the 1990 Act and notwithstanding section 501(a)(5)(B) of the 1990 Act; (3) $30,000,000 shall be available to carry out subtitle E of the 1990 Act; and (4) $3,800,000 shall be available for expenses authorized under section 501(a)(4)(F) of the 1990 Act, which, notwithstanding the provisions of section 198P shall be awarded by CNCS on a competitive basis:

Provided further, That for the purposes of carrying out the 1990 Act, satisfying the requirements in section 122(c)(1)(D) may include a determination of need by the local community.

PAYMENT TO THE NATIONAL SERVICE TRUST

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For payment to the National Service Trust established under subtitle D of title I of the 1990 Act, $206,842,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That CNCS may transfer additional funds from the amount provided within ''Operating Expenses'' allocated to grants under subtitle C of title I of the 1990 Act to the National Service Trust upon determination that such transfer is necessary to support the activities of national service participants and after notice is transmitted to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate: *Provided further*, That amounts appropriated for or transferred to the National Service Trust may be invested under section 145(b) of the 1990 Act without regard to the requirement to apportion funds under 31 U.S.C. 1513(b).

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of administration as provided under section 501(a)(5) of the 1990 Act and under section 504(a) of the 1973 Act, including payment of salaries, authorized travel, hire of passenger motor vehicles, the rental of conference rooms in the District of Columbia, the employment of experts and consultants authorized under 5 U.S.C. 3109, and not to exceed $2,500 for official reception and representation expenses, $81,737,000.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the Inspector General Act of 1978, $5,750,000.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

SEC. 401. CNCS shall make any significant changes to program requirements, service delivery or policy only through public notice and comment rulemaking. For fiscal year 2017, during any grant selection process, an officer or employee of CNCS shall not knowingly disclose any covered grant selection information regarding such selection, directly or indirectly, to any person other than an officer or employee of CNCS that is authorized by CNCS to receive such information.

SEC. 402. AmeriCorps programs receiving grants under the National Service Trust program shall meet an overall minimum share requirement of 24 percent for the first 3 years that they receive AmeriCorps funding, and thereafter shall meet the overall minimum share requirement as provided in section 2521.60 of title 45, Code of Federal Regulations, without regard to the operating costs match requirement in section 121(e) or the member support Federal share limitations in section 140 of the 1990 Act, and subject to partial waiver consistent with section 2521.70 of title 45, Code of Federal Regulations.

SEC. 403. Donations made to CNCS under section 196 of the 1990 Act for the purposes of financing programs and operations under titles I and II of the 1973 Act or subtitle B, C, D, or E of title I of the 1990 Act shall be used to supplement and not supplant current programs and operations.

SEC. 404. In addition to the requirements in section 146(a) of the 1990 Act, use of an educational award for the purpose described in section 148(a)(4) shall be limited to individuals who are veterans as defined under section 101 of the Act.

SEC. 405. For the purpose of carrying out section 189D of the 1990 Act—

(1) entities described in paragraph (a) of such section shall be considered ''qualified entities'' under section 3 of the National Child Protection Act of 1993 (''NCPA'');

(2) individuals described in such section shall be considered ''volunteers'' under section 3 of NCPA; and

(3) State Commissions on National and Community Service established pursuant to section 178 of the 1990 Act, are authorized to receive criminal history record information, consistent with Public Law 92–544.

CORPORATION FOR PUBLIC BROADCASTING

For payment to the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (''CPB''), as authorized by the Communications Act of 1934, an amount which shall be available within limitations specified by that Act, for the fiscal year 2019, $445,000,000: *Provided*, That none of the funds made available to CPB by this Act shall be used to pay for receptions, parties, or similar forms of entertainment for Government officials or employees: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available to CPB by this Act shall be available or used to aid or support any program or activity from which any person is excluded, or is denied benefits, or is discriminated against, on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, or sex: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available to CPB by this Act shall be used to apply any political test or qualification in selecting, appointing, promoting, or taking any other personnel action with respect to officers, agents, and employees of CPB: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available to CPB by this Act shall be used to support the Television Future Fund or any similar purpose.

In addition, for the costs associated with replacing and upgrading the public broadcasting interconnection system, $50,000,000.

FEDERAL MEDIATION AND CONCILIATION SERVICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary for the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service (''Service'') to carry out the functions vested in it by the Labor-Management Relations Act, 1947, including hire of passenger motor vehicles; for expenses necessary for the Labor-Management Cooperation Act of 1978; and for expenses necessary for the Service to carry out the functions vested in it by the Civil Service Reform Act, $46,650,000, including up to $900,000 to remain available through September 30, 2018, for activities authorized by the Labor-Management Cooperation Act of 1978: *Provided*, That notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302, fees charged, up to full-cost recovery, for special training activities and other conflict resolution services and technical assistance, including those provided to foreign governments and international organizations, and for arbitration services shall be credited to and merged with this account, and shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That fees for arbitration services shall be available only for education, training, and professional development of the agency workforce: *Provided further*, That the Director of the Service is authorized to accept and use on behalf of the United States gifts of services and real, personal, or other property in the aid of any projects or functions within the Director's jurisdiction.

FEDERAL MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH REVIEW COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary for the Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission, $17,184,000.

INSTITUTE OF MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICES

OFFICE OF MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICES: GRANTS AND ADMINISTRATION

For carrying out the Museum and Library Services Act of 1996 and the National Museum of African American History and Culture Act, $231,000,000.

MEDICAID AND CHIP PAYMENT AND ACCESS COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary to carry out section 1900 of the Social Security Act, $7,765,000.

MEDICARE PAYMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary to carry out section 1805 of the Social Security Act, $11,925,000, to be transferred to this appropriation from the Federal Hospital Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Supplementary Medical Insurance Trust Fund.

NATIONAL COUNCIL ON DISABILITY

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary for the National Council on Disability as authorized by title IV of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, $3,250,000.

NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary for the National Labor Relations Board to carry out the functions vested in it by the Labor-Management Relations Act, 1947, and other laws, $274,224,000: *Provided*, That no part of this appropriation shall be available to organize or assist in organizing agricultural laborers or used in connection with investigations, hearings, directives, or orders concerning bargaining units composed of agricultural laborers as referred to in section 2(3) of the Act of July 5, 1935, and as amended by the Labor-Management Relations Act, 1947, and as defined in section 3(f) of the Act of June 25, 1938, and including in said definition employees engaged in the maintenance and operation of ditches, canals, reservoirs, and waterways when maintained or operated on a mutual, nonprofit basis and at least 95 percent of the water stored or supplied thereby is used for farming purposes.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

SEC. 406. None of the funds provided by this Act or previous Acts making appropriations for the National Labor Relations Board may be used to issue any new administrative directive or regulation that would provide employees any means of voting through any electronic means in an election to determine a representative for the purposes of collective bargaining.

NATIONAL MEDIATION BOARD

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary to carry out the provisions of the Railway Labor Act, including emergency boards appointed by the President, $13,800,000.

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH REVIEW COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary for the Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission, $13,225,000.

RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD

DUAL BENEFITS PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

For payment to the Dual Benefits Payments Account, authorized under section 15(d) of the Railroad Retirement Act of 1974, $25,000,000, which shall include amounts becoming available in fiscal year 2017 pursuant

to section 224(c)(1)(B) of Public Law 98–76; and in addition, an amount, not to exceed 2 percent of the amount provided herein, shall be available proportional to the amount by which the product of recipients and the average benefit received exceeds the amount available for payment of vested dual benefits: *Provided*, That the total amount provided herein shall be credited in 12 approximately equal amounts on the first day of each month in the fiscal year.

FEDERAL PAYMENTS TO THE RAILROAD RETIREMENT ACCOUNTS

For payment to the accounts established in the Treasury for the payment of benefits under the Railroad Retirement Act for interest earned on unnegotiated checks, $150,000, to remain available through September 30, 2018, which shall be the maximum amount available for payment pursuant to section 417 of Public Law 98–76.

LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATION

For necessary expenses for the Railroad Retirement Board (''Board'') for administration of the Railroad Retirement Act and the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act, $113,500,000, to be derived in such amounts as determined by the Board from the railroad retirement accounts and from moneys credited to the railroad unemployment insurance administration fund: *Provided*, That notwithstanding section 7(b)(9) of the Railroad Retirement Act this limitation may be used to hire attorneys only through the excepted service: *Provided further*, That the previous proviso shall not change the status under Federal employment laws of any attorney hired by the Railroad Retirement Board prior to January 1, 2013.

LIMITATION ON THE OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For expenses necessary for the Office of Inspector General for audit, investigatory and review activities, as authorized by the Inspector General Act of 1978, not more than $10,000,000, to be derived from the railroad retirement accounts and railroad unemployment insurance account.

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

PAYMENTS TO SOCIAL SECURITY TRUST FUNDS

For payment to the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund, as provided under sections 201(m) and 1131(b)(2) of the Social Security Act, $11,400,000.

SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME PROGRAM

For carrying out titles XI and XVI of the Social Security Act, section 401 of Public Law 92–603, section 212 of Public Law 93–66, as amended, and section 405 of Public Law 95–216, including payment to the Social Security trust funds for administrative expenses incurred pursuant to section 201(g)(1) of the Social Security Act, $43,618,163,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That any portion of the funds provided to a State in the current fiscal year and not obligated by the State during that year shall be returned to the Treasury: *Provided further*, That not more than $58,000,000 shall be available for research and demonstrations under sections 1110, 1115, and 1144 of the Social Security Act, and remain available through September 30, 2019.

For making, after June 15 of the current fiscal year, benefit payments to individuals under title XVI of the Social Security Act, for unanticipated costs incurred for the current fiscal year, such sums as may be necessary.

For making benefit payments under title XVI of the Social Security Act for the first quarter of fiscal year 2018, $15,000,000,000, to remain available until expended.

LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

For necessary expenses, including the hire of two passenger motor vehicles, and not to exceed $20,000 for official reception and representation expenses, not more than $12,357,945,000 may be expended, as authorized by section 201(g)(1) of the Social Security Act, from any one or all of the trust funds referred to in such section: *Provided*, That not less than $2,300,000 shall be for the Social Security Advisory Board: *Provided further*, That, $90,000,000 to remain available through September 30, 2018, shall be used for activities to address the hearing backlog within the Office of Disability Adjudication and Review: *Provided further*, That unobligated balances of funds provided under this paragraph at the end of fiscal year 2017 not needed for fiscal year 2017 shall remain available until expended to invest in the Social Security Administration information technology and telecommunications hardware and software infrastructure, including related equipment and non-payroll administrative expenses associated solely with this information technology and telecommunications infrastructure: *Provided further*, That the Commissioner of Social Security shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate prior to making unobligated balances available under the authority in the previous proviso: *Provided further*, That reimbursement to the trust funds under this heading for expenditures for official time for employees of the Social Security Administration pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 7131, and for facilities or support services for labor organizations pursuant to policies, regulations, or procedures referred to in section 7135(b) of such title shall be made by the Secretary of the Treasury, with interest, from amounts in the general fund not otherwise appropriated, as soon as possible after such expenditures are made.

Of the total amount made available under this heading, not more than $1,819,000,000, to remain available through March 31, 2018, is for the costs associated with continuing disability reviews under titles II and XVI of the Social Security Act, including work-related continuing disability reviews to determine whether earnings derived from services demonstrate an individual's ability to engage in substantial gainful activity, for the cost associated with conducting redeterminations of eligibility under title XVI of the Social Security Act, for the cost of co-operative disability investigation units, and for the cost associated with the prosecution of fraud in the programs and operations of the Social Security Administration by Special Assistant United States Attorneys: *Provided*, That, of such amount, $273,000,000 is provided to meet the terms of section 251(b)(2)(B)(ii)(III) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended, and $1,546,000,000 is additional new budget authority specified for purposes of section 251(b)(2)(B) of such Act: *Provided further*, That the Commissioner shall provide to the Congress (at the conclusion of the fiscal year) a report on the obligation and expenditure of these funds, similar to the reports that were required by section 103(d)(2) of Public Law 104–121 for fiscal years 1996 through 2002.

In addition, $123,000,000 to be derived from administration fees in excess of $5.00 per supplementary payment collected pursuant to section 1616(d) of the Social Security Act or section 212(b)(3) of Public Law 93–66, which shall remain available until expended. To the extent that the amounts collected pursuant to such sections in fiscal year 2017 exceed $123,000,000, the amounts shall be available in fiscal year 2018 only to the extent provided in advance in appropriations Acts.

In addition, up to $1,000,000 to be derived from fees collected pursuant to section 303(c) of the Social Security Protection Act, which shall remain available until expended.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For expenses necessary for the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978, $29,787,000, together with not to exceed $75,713,000, to be transferred and expended as authorized by section 201(g)(1) of the Social Security Act from the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund.

In addition, an amount not to exceed 3 percent of the total provided in this appropriation may be transferred from the ''Limitation on Administrative Expenses'', Social Security Administration, to be merged with this account, to be available for the time and purposes for which this account is available: *Provided*, That notice of such transfers shall be transmitted promptly to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate at least 15 days in advance of any transfer.

TITLE V

GENERAL PROVISIONS

(TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 501. The Secretaries of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education are authorized to transfer unexpended balances of prior appropriations to accounts corresponding to current appropriations provided in this Act. Such transferred balances shall be used for the same purpose, and for the same periods of time, for which they were originally appropriated.

SEC. 502. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year unless expressly so provided herein.

SEC. 503. (a) No part of any appropriation contained in this Act or transferred pursuant to section 4002 of Public Law 111–148 shall be used, other than for normal and recognized executive-legislative relationships, for publicity or propaganda purposes, for the preparation, distribution, or use of any kit, pamphlet, booklet, publication, electronic communication, radio, television, or video presentation designed to support or defeat the enactment of legislation before the Congress or any State or local legislature or legislative body, except in presentation to the Congress or any State or local legislature itself, or designed to support or defeat any proposed or pending regulation, administrative action, or order issued by the executive branch of any State or local government, except in presentation to the executive branch of any State or local government itself.

(b) No part of any appropriation contained in this Act or transferred pursuant to section 4002 of Public Law 111–148 shall be used to pay the salary or expenses of any grant or contract recipient, or agent acting for such recipient, related to any activity designed to influence the enactment of legislation, appropriations, regulation, administrative action, or Executive order proposed or pending before the Congress or any State government, State legislature or local legislature or legislative body, other than for normal and recognized executive-legislative relationships or participation by an agency or officer of a State, local or tribal government

in policymaking and administrative processes within the executive branch of that government.

(c) The prohibitions in subsections (a) and (b) shall include any activity to advocate or promote any proposed, pending or future Federal, State or local tax increase, or any proposed, pending, or future requirement or restriction on any legal consumer product, including its sale or marketing, including but not limited to the advocacy or promotion of gun control.

SEC. 504. The Secretaries of Labor and Education are authorized to make available not to exceed $28,000 and $20,000, respectively, from funds available for salaries and expenses under titles I and III, respectively, for official reception and representation expenses; the Director of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service is authorized to make available for official reception and representation expenses not to exceed $5,000 from the funds available for ''Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, Salaries and Expenses''; and the Chairman of the National Mediation Board is authorized to make available for official reception and representation expenses not to exceed $5,000 from funds available for ''National Mediation Board, Salaries and Expenses''.

SEC. 505. When issuing statements, press releases, requests for proposals, bid solicitations and other documents describing projects or programs funded in whole or in part with Federal money, all grantees receiving Federal funds included in this Act, including but not limited to State and local governments and recipients of Federal research grants, shall clearly state—

(1) the percentage of the total costs of the program or project which will be financed with Federal money;

(2) the dollar amount of Federal funds for the project or program; and

(3) percentage and dollar amount of the total costs of the project or program that will be financed by non-governmental sources.

SEC. 506. (a) None of the funds appropriated in this Act, and none of the funds in any trust fund to which funds are appropriated in this Act, shall be expended for any abortion.

(b) None of the funds appropriated in this Act, and none of the funds in any trust fund to which funds are appropriated in this Act, shall be expended for health benefits coverage that includes coverage of abortion.

(c) The term ''health benefits coverage'' means the package of services covered by a managed care provider or organization pursuant to a contract or other arrangement.

SEC. 507. (a) The limitations established in the preceding section shall not apply to an abortion—

(1) if the pregnancy is the result of an act of rape or incest; or

(2) in the case where a woman suffers from a physical disorder, physical injury, or physical illness, including a life-endangering physical condition caused by or arising from the pregnancy itself, that would, as certified by a physician, place the woman in danger of death unless an abortion is performed.

(b) Nothing in the preceding section shall be construed as prohibiting the expenditure by a State, locality, entity, or private person of State, local, or private funds (other than a State's or locality's contribution of Medicaid matching funds).

(c) Nothing in the preceding section shall be construed as restricting the ability of any managed care provider from offering abortion coverage or the ability of a State or locality to contract separately with such a provider for such coverage with State funds (other than a State's or locality's contribution of Medicaid matching funds).

(d)(1) None of the funds made available in this Act may be made available to a Federal agency or program, or to a State or local government, if such agency, program, or government subjects any institutional or individual health care entity to discrimination on the basis that the health care entity does not provide, pay for, provide coverage of, or refer for abortions.

(2) In this subsection, the term ''health care entity'' includes an individual physician or other health care professional, a hospital, a provider-sponsored organization, a health maintenance organization, a health insurance plan, or any other kind of health care facility, organization, or plan.

SEC. 508. (a) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used for—

(1) the creation of a human embryo or embryos for research purposes; or

(2) research in which a human embryo or embryos are destroyed, discarded, or knowingly subjected to risk of injury or death greater than that allowed for research on fetuses in utero under 45 CFR 46.204(b) and section 498(b) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 289g(b)).

(b) For purposes of this section, the term ''human embryo or embryos'' includes any organism, not protected as a human subject under 45 CFR 46 as of the date of the enactment of this Act, that is derived by fertilization, parthenogenesis, cloning, or any other means from one or more human gametes or human diploid cells.

SEC. 509. (a) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used for any activity that promotes the legalization of any drug or other substance included in schedule I of the schedules of controlled substances established under section 202 of the Controlled Substances Act except for normal and recognized executive-congressional communications.

(b) The limitation in subsection (a) shall not apply when there is significant medical evidence of a therapeutic advantage to the use of such drug or other substance or that federally sponsored clinical trials are being conducted to determine therapeutic advantage.

SEC. 510. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to promulgate or adopt any final standard under section 1173(b) of the Social Security Act providing for, or providing for the assignment of, a unique health identifier for an individual (except in an individual's capacity as an employer or a health care provider), until legislation is enacted specifically approving the standard.

SEC. 511. None of the funds made available in this Act may be obligated or expended to enter into or renew a contract with an entity if—

(1) such entity is otherwise a contractor with the United States and is subject to the requirement in 38 U.S.C. 4212(d) regarding submission of an annual report to the Secretary of Labor concerning employment of certain veterans; and

(2) such entity has not submitted a report as required by that section for the most recent year for which such requirement was applicable to such entity.

SEC. 512. None of the funds made available in this Act may be transferred to any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government, except pursuant to a transfer made by, or transfer authority provided in, this Act or any other appropriation Act.

SEC. 513. None of the funds made available by this Act to carry out the Library Services and Technology Act may be made available to any library covered by paragraph (1) of section 224(f) of such Act, as amended by the Children's Internet Protection Act, unless such library has made the certifications required by paragraph (4) of such section.

SEC. 514. (a) None of the funds provided under this Act, or provided under previous appropriations Acts to the agencies funded by this Act that remain available for obligation or expenditure in fiscal year 2017, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury of the United States derived by the collection of fees available to the agencies funded by this Act, shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a reprogramming of funds that—

(1) creates new programs;

(2) eliminates a program, project, or activity;

(3) increases funds or personnel by any means for any project or activity for which funds have been denied or restricted;

(4) relocates an office or employees;

(5) reorganizes or renames offices;

(6) reorganizes programs or activities; or

(7) contracts out or privatizes any functions or activities presently performed by Federal employees;

unless the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate are consulted 15 days in advance of such reprogramming or of an announcement of intent relating to such reprogramming, whichever occurs earlier, and are notified in writing 10 days in advance of such reprogramming.

(b) None of the funds provided under this Act, or provided under previous appropriations Acts to the agencies funded by this Act that remain available for obligation or expenditure in fiscal year 2017, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury of the United States derived by the collection of fees available to the agencies funded by this Act, shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a reprogramming of funds in excess of $500,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less, that—

(1) augments existing programs, projects (including construction projects), or activities;

(2) reduces by 10 percent funding for any existing program, project, or activity, or numbers of personnel by 10 percent as approved by Congress; or

(3) results from any general savings from a reduction in personnel which would result in a change in existing programs, activities, or projects as approved by Congress;

unless the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate are consulted 15 days in advance of such reprogramming or of an announcement of intent relating to such reprogramming, whichever occurs earlier, and are notified in writing 10 days in advance of such reprogramming.

SEC. 515. (a) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to request that a candidate for appointment to a Federal scientific advisory committee disclose the political affiliation or voting history of the candidate or the position that the candidate holds with respect to political issues not directly related to and necessary for the work of the committee involved.

(b) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to disseminate information that is deliberately false or misleading.

SEC. 516. Within 45 days of enactment of this Act, each department and related agency funded through this Act shall submit an operating plan that details at the program, project, and activity level any funding allocations for fiscal year 2017 that are different than those specified in this Act, the accompanying detailed table in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act), or the fiscal year 2017 budget request.

SEC. 517. The Secretaries of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education shall each prepare and submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a report on the number and amount of contracts, grants, and cooperative agreements exceeding $500,000 in value and awarded by the Department on a non-competitive basis during each quarter of fiscal year 2017, but not to include grants awarded on a formula basis or directed by law. Such report shall include the name of the contractor or grantee, the amount of funding, the governmental purpose, including a justification for issuing the award on a non-competitive basis. Such report shall be transmitted to the Committees within 30 days after the end of the quarter for which the report is submitted.

SEC. 518. None of the funds appropriated in this Act shall be expended or obligated by the Commissioner of Social Security, for purposes of administering Social Security benefit payments under title II of the Social Security Act, to process any claim for credit for a quarter of coverage based on work performed under a social security account number that is not the claimant's number and the performance of such work under such number has formed the basis for a conviction of the claimant of a violation of section 208(a)(6) or (7) of the Social Security Act.

SEC. 519. None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be used by the Commissioner of Social Security or the Social Security Administration to pay the compensation of employees of the Social Security Administration to administer Social Security benefit payments, under any agreement between the United States and Mexico establishing totalization arrangements between the social security system established by title II of the Social Security Act and the social security system of Mexico, which would not otherwise be payable but for such agreement.

SEC. 520. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, no funds appropriated in this Act shall be used to purchase sterile needles or syringes for the hypodermic injection of any illegal drug: *Provided*, That such limitation does not apply to the use of funds for elements of a program other than making such purchases if the relevant State or local health department, in consultation with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, determines that the State or local jurisdiction, as applicable, is experiencing, or is at risk for, a significant increase in hepatitis infections or an HIV outbreak due to injection drug use, and such program is operating in accordance with State and local law.

SEC. 521. (a) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to maintain or establish a computer network unless such network blocks the viewing, downloading, and exchanging of pornography.

(b) Nothing in subsection (a) shall limit the use of funds necessary for any Federal, State, tribal, or local law enforcement agency or any other entity carrying out criminal investigations, prosecution, or adjudication activities.

SEC. 522. None of the funds made available under this or any other Act, or any prior Appropriations Act, may be provided to the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now (ACORN), or any of its affiliates, subsidiaries, allied organizations, or successors.

SEC. 523. For purposes of carrying out Executive Order 13589, Office of Management and Budget Memorandum M–12–12 dated May 11, 2012, and requirements contained in the annual appropriations bills relating to conference attendance and expenditures:

(1) the operating divisions of HHS shall be considered independent agencies; and

(2) attendance at and support for scientific conferences shall be tabulated separately from and not included in agency totals.

SEC. 524. Federal agencies funded under this Act shall clearly state within the text, audio, or video used for advertising or educational purposes, including emails or Internet postings, that the communication is printed, published, or produced and disseminated at U.S. taxpayer expense. The funds used by a Federal agency to carry out this requirement shall be derived from amounts made available to the agency for advertising or other communications regarding the programs and activities of the agency.

SEC. 525. (a) Federal agencies may use Federal discretionary funds that are made available in this Act to carry out up to 10 Performance Partnership Pilots. Such Pilots shall be governed by the provisions of section 526 of division H of Public Law 113–76, except that in carrying out such Pilots section 526 shall be applied by substituting ''FISCAL YEAR 2017'' for ''FISCAL YEAR 2014'' in the title of subsection (b) and by substituting ''September 30, 2021'' for ''September 30, 2018'' each place it appears: *Provided*, That such pilots shall include communities that have experienced civil unrest.

(b) In addition, Federal agencies may use Federal discretionary funds that are made available in this Act to participate in Performance Partnership Pilots that are being carried out pursuant to the authority provided by section 526 of division H of Public Law 113–76, section 524 of division G of Public Law 113–235, and section 525 of division H of Public Law 114–113.

(c) Pilot sites selected under authorities in this Act and prior appropriations Acts may be granted by relevant agencies up to an additional 5 years to operate under such authorities.

SEC. 526. Not later than 30 days after the end of each calendar quarter, beginning with the first quarter of fiscal year 2013, the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services and Education and the Social Security Administration shall provide the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate a quarterly report on the status of balances of appropriations: *Provided*, That for balances that are unobligated and uncommitted, committed, and obligated but unexpended, the quarterly reports shall separately identify the amounts attributable to each source year of appropriation (beginning with fiscal year 2012, or, to the extent feasible, earlier fiscal years) from which balances were derived.

SEC. 527. Section 5 of the Special Olympics Sport and Empowerment Act of 2004 (Public Law 108–406; 118 Stat. 2296) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking all that follows after ''3(a),'' and inserting ''such sums as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017 and each of the 4 succeeding fiscal years;'';

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking all that follows after ''3(b),'' and inserting ''such sums as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017 and each of the 4 succeeding fiscal years; and''; and

(3) in paragraph (3), by striking all that follows after ''3(c),'' and inserting ''such sums as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017 and each of the 4 succeeding fiscal years.''.

(RESCISSION)

SEC. 528. Of the funds made available for fiscal year 2017 under section 3403 of Public Law 111–148, $15,000,000 are rescinded.

SEC. 529. Amounts deposited in the Child Enrollment Contingency Fund from the appropriation to the Fund for the first semi-annual allotment period for fiscal year 2017 under section 2104(n)(2)(A)(ii) of the Social Security Act and the income derived from investment of those funds pursuant to section 2104(n)(2)(C) of that Act, shall not be available for obligation in this fiscal year.

(RESCISSION)

SEC. 530. Of any available amounts appropriated under section 108 of Public Law 111–3, as amended, $541,900,000 are hereby rescinded.

(RESCISSION)

SEC. 531. Of the funds made available for purposes of carrying out section 2105(a)(3) of the Social Security Act, $5,750,000,000 are hereby rescinded.

(RESCISSION)

SEC. 532. Of any available amounts appropriated under section 301(b)(3) of Public Law 114-10, $1,132,000,000 are hereby rescinded.

SEC. 533. As of the date of enactment of this Act, section 170(b) of the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2017 (division C of Public Law 114–223), as amended by the Further Continuing and Security Assistance Appropriations Act, 2017 (Public Law 114-254), shall no longer have any force or effect: *Provided*, That any amounts made available pursuant to that section of that Act as of the date of enactment of this Act shall remain available until September 30, 2017: *Provided further*, That if any amounts made available pursuant to that section of that Act remain unobligated as of the date of enactment of this Act, then the balances available from those amounts shall be hereby rescinded immediately upon enactment of this Act.

This division may be cited as the ''Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017''.

DIVISION I—LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

TITLE I

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

SENATE

EXPENSE ALLOWANCES

For expense allowances of the Vice President, $18,760; the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, $37,520; Majority Leader of the Senate, $39,920; Minority Leader of the Senate, $39,920; Majority Whip of the Senate, $9,980; Minority Whip of the Senate, $9,980; Chairmen of the Majority and Minority Conference Committees, $4,690 for each Chairman; and Chairmen of the Majority and Minority Policy Committees, $4,690 for each Chairman; in all, $174,840.

REPRESENTATION ALLOWANCES FOR THE MAJORITY AND MINORITY LEADERS

For representation allowances of the Majority and Minority Leaders of the Senate, $14,070 for each such Leader; in all, $28,140.

SALARIES, OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES

For compensation of officers, employees, and others as authorized by law, including agency contributions, $182,287,812, which shall be paid from this appropriation as follows:

OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT

For the Office of the Vice President, $2,417,248.

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

For the Office of the President Pro Tempore, $723,466.

OFFICES OF THE MAJORITY AND MINORITY LEADERS

For Offices of the Majority and Minority Leaders, $5,255,576.

OFFICES OF THE MAJORITY AND MINORITY WHIPS

For Offices of the Majority and Minority Whips, $3,359,424.

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

For salaries of the Committee on Appropriations, $15,142,000.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEES

For the Conference of the Majority and the Conference of the Minority, at rates of compensation to be fixed by the Chairman of each such committee, $1,658,000 for each such committee; in all, $3,316,000.

OFFICES OF THE SECRETARIES OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE MAJORITY AND THE CONFERENCE OF THE MINORITY

For Offices of the Secretaries of the Conference of the Majority and the Conference of the Minority, $817,402.

POLICY COMMITTEES

For salaries of the Majority Policy Committee and the Minority Policy Committee, $1,692,905 for each such committee; in all, $3,385,810.

OFFICE OF THE CHAPLAIN

For Office of the Chaplain, $436,886.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

For Office of the Secretary, $24,772,000.

OFFICE OF THE SERGEANT AT ARMS AND DOORKEEPER

For Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper, $70,900,000.

OFFICES OF THE SECRETARIES FOR THE MAJORITY AND MINORITY

For Offices of the Secretary for the Majority and the Secretary for the Minority, $1,810,000.

AGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS AND RELATED EXPENSES

For agency contributions for employee benefits, as authorized by law, and related expenses, $49,952,000.

OFFICE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL OF THE SENATE

For salaries and expenses of the Office of the Legislative Counsel of the Senate, $5,808,500.

OFFICE OF SENATE LEGAL COUNSEL

For salaries and expenses of the Office of Senate Legal Counsel, $1,120,000.

EXPENSE ALLOWANCES OF THE SECRETARY OF THE SENATE, SERGEANT AT ARMS AND DOORKEEPER OF THE SENATE, AND SECRETARIES FOR THE MAJORITY AND MINORITY OF THE SENATE

For expense allowances of the Secretary of the Senate, $7,110; Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate, $7,110; Secretary for the Majority of the Senate, $7,110; Secretary for the Minority of the Senate, $7,110; in all, $28,440.

CONTINGENT EXPENSES OF THE SENATE

INQUIRIES AND INVESTIGATIONS

For expenses of inquiries and investigations ordered by the Senate, or conducted under paragraph 1 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, section 112 of the Supplemental Appropriations and Rescission Act, 1980 (Public Law 96–304), and Senate Resolution 281, 96th Congress, agreed to March 11, 1980, $133,265,000, of which $26,650,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2019.

U.S. SENATE CAUCUS ON INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL

For expenses of the United States Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control, $508,000.

SECRETARY OF THE SENATE

For expenses of the Office of the Secretary of the Senate, $10,250,000 of which $4,350,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2021 and of which $4,000,000 shall remain available until expended.

SERGEANT AT ARMS AND DOORKEEPER OF THE SENATE

For expenses of the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate, $126,535,000, which shall remain available until September 30, 2021.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

For miscellaneous items, $20,870,349 which shall remain available until September 30, 2019.

SENATORS' OFFICIAL PERSONNEL AND OFFICE EXPENSE ACCOUNT

For Senators' Official Personnel and Office Expense Account, $390,000,000 of which $19,109,218 shall remain available until September 30, 2019.

OFFICIAL MAIL COSTS

For expenses necessary for official mail costs of the Senate, $300,000.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

REQUIRING AMOUNTS REMAINING IN SENATORS' OFFICIAL PERSONNEL AND OFFICE EXPENSE ACCOUNT TO BE USED FOR DEFICIT REDUCTION OR TO REDUCE THE FEDERAL DEBT

SEC. 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any amounts appropriated under this Act under the heading ''SENATE'' under the heading ''CONTINGENT EXPENSES OF THE SENATE'' under the heading ''SENATORS' OFFICIAL PERSONNEL AND OFFICE EXPENSE ACCOUNT'' shall be available for obligation only during the fiscal year or fiscal years for which such amounts are made available. Any unexpended balances under such allowances remaining after the end of the period of availability shall be returned to the Treasury in accordance with the undesignated paragraph under the center heading ''GENERAL PROVISION'' under chapter XI of the Third Supplemental Appropriation Act, 1957 (2 U.S.C. 4107) and used for deficit reduction (or, if there is no Federal budget deficit after all such payments have been made, for reducing the Federal debt, in such manner as the Secretary of the Treasury considers appropriate).

AUTHORITY FOR TRANSFER OF FUNDS

SEC. 2. Section 3(c)(3) of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2004 (2 USC 2108(c)(3)) is amended—

(1) in the paragraph heading, by striking ''**and disbursements**'' and inserting ''**disbursements, and transfers**''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(D) TRANSFERS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The Commission may, for individual conservation or restoration projects estimated to cost greater than $100,000, transfer amounts in the fund to the Architect of the Capitol for the cost of conservation or restoration, in whole or in part, by the Architect of the Capitol of works of art, historical objects, documents, or material relating to historical matters placed or exhibited, or to be placed or exhibited, within the Senate wing of the United States Capitol or any Senate Office Building.

''(ii) AVAILABILITY.—Amounts transferred to the Architect of the Capitol under clause (i) and not subject to return under clause (v) shall remain available until expended.

''(iii) APPROVAL AND OVERSIGHT OF CONSERVATION OR RESTORATION.—Before authorizing transfers under clause (i), in whole or in part, the Commission, or the chairman and vice chairman acting jointly on behalf of the Commission and after giving notice to the Commission, shall review and approve a conservation or restoration project for which such amounts are intended (referred to in this section as the 'Project'). The Commission may require updated reports on the Project before any additional amounts are transferred for the Project. No disbursements may be made from funds transferred under clause (i) that are inconsistent with the Project approved by the Commission upon which the relevant transfer is based.

''(iv) ACCEPTANCE OF DONATIONS.—The Commission retains the discretion whether or not to approve the acceptance of any donation to the fund regardless of whether the donation is intended for a conservation or restoration Project under clause (i).

''(v) ISSUANCE OF GUIDELINES.—The Commission may prescribe such guidelines as it deems necessary for the approval and transfer of any amounts under clause (i) and the return of any undisbursed amounts.

''(vi) RETURN OF UNUSED FUNDS.—The Commission may require the return of amounts transferred to the Architect of the Capitol under clause (i) and not disbursed pursuant to an approved Project within five years of the transfer. Such amounts will be returned to the fund for use or disposition as the Commission shall determine appropriate. For purposes of this subsection, the Commission may, at any time, specify a date of return greater than five years from the transfer.

''(vii) DISBURSEMENT AND AUDIT RESPONSIBILITY.—Once amounts are transferred pursuant to clause (i), disbursements from transferred funds shall be made by the Architect of the Capitol upon review of vouchers by the Architect of the Capitol and not subject to the audit provisions of clause (c)(6) of this section. Such disbursements shall be limited to purposes for which funds may be disbursed pursuant to this section.

''(viii) TERMINATION.—The authority to transfer amounts to the Architect of the Capitol under clause (i) shall expire ten years after the date of its initial enactment. Any amounts transferred prior to the termination of authority to transfer may continue to be expended in accordance with this section.''.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For salaries and expenses of the House of Representatives, $1,189,050,766, as follows:

HOUSE LEADERSHIP OFFICES

For salaries and expenses, as authorized by law, $22,278,891, including: Office of the Speaker, $6,645,417, including $25,000 for official expenses of the Speaker; Office of the Majority Floor Leader, $2,180,048, including $10,000 for official expenses of the Majority Leader; Office of the Minority Floor Leader, $7,114,471, including $10,000 for official expenses of the Minority Leader; Office of the Majority Whip, including the Chief Deputy Majority Whip, $1,886,632, including $5,000 for official expenses of the Majority Whip; Office of the Minority Whip, including the Chief

Deputy Minority Whip, $1,459,639, including $5,000 for official expenses of the Minority Whip; Republican Conference, $1,505,426; Democratic Caucus, $1,487,258: *Provided*, That such amount for salaries and expenses shall remain available from January 3, 2017 until January 2, 2018.

MEMBERS' REPRESENTATIONAL ALLOWANCES INCLUDING MEMBERS' CLERK HIRE, OFFICIAL EXPENSES OF MEMBERS, AND OFFICIAL MAIL

For Members' representational allowances, including Members' clerk hire, official expenses, and official mail, $562,632,498.

COMMITTEE EMPLOYEES

STANDING COMMITTEES, SPECIAL AND SELECT

For salaries and expenses of standing committees, special and select, authorized by House resolutions, $127,053,373: *Provided*, That such amount shall remain available for such salaries and expenses until December 31, 2018, except that $3,150,200 of such amount shall remain available until expended for committee room upgrading.

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

For salaries and expenses of the Committee on Appropriations, $23,271,004, including studies and examinations of executive agencies and temporary personal services for such committee, to be expended in accordance with section 202(b) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 and to be available for reimbursement to agencies for services performed: *Provided*, That such amount shall remain available for such salaries and expenses until December 31, 2018.

SALARIES, OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES

For compensation and expenses of officers and employees, as authorized by law, $181,487,000, including: for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Clerk, including the positions of the Chaplain and the Historian, and including not more than $25,000 for official representation and reception expenses, of which not more than $20,000 is for the Family Room and not more than $2,000 is for the Office of the Chaplain, $26,268,000; for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Sergeant at Arms, including the position of Superintendent of Garages and the Office of Emergency Management, and including not more than $3,000 for official representation and reception expenses, $15,505,000, of which $5,618,902 shall remain available until expended; for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer including not more than $3,000 for official representation and reception expenses, $117,165,000, of which $2,120,000 shall remain available until expended; for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Inspector General, $4,963,000; for salaries and expenses of the Office of the General Counsel, $1,444,000; for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Parliamentarian, including the Parliamentarian, $2,000 for preparing the Digest of Rules, and not more than $1,000 for official representation and reception expenses, $1,999,000; for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Law Revision Counsel of the House, $3,167,000; for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Legislative Counsel of the House, $8,979,000; for salaries and expenses of the Office of Interparliamentary Affairs, $814,000; and for other authorized employees, $1,183,000.

ALLOWANCES AND EXPENSES

For allowances and expenses as authorized by House resolution or law, $272,328,000, including: supplies, materials, administrative costs and Federal tort claims, $3,625,000; official mail for committees, leadership offices, and administrative offices of the House, $190,000; Government contributions for health, retirement, Social Security, and other applicable employee benefits, $245,334,000, to remain available until March 31, 2018; Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery, $16,217,000, of which $5,000,000 shall remain available until expended; transition activities for new Members and staff $2,084,000, to remain available until expended; Wounded Warrior Program $2,500,000, to remain available until expended; Office of Congressional Ethics, $1,658,000; and miscellaneous items including purchase, exchange, maintenance, repair and operation of House motor vehicles, interparliamentary receptions, and gratuities to heirs of deceased employees of the House, $720,000.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

REQUIRING AMOUNTS REMAINING IN MEMBERS' REPRESENTATIONAL ALLOWANCES TO BE USED FOR DEFICIT REDUCTION OR TO REDUCE THE FEDERAL DEBT

SEC. 101. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any amounts appropriated under this Act for ''HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—SALARIES AND EXPENSES—MEMBERS' REPRESENTATIONAL ALLOWANCES'' shall be available only for fiscal year 2017. Any amount remaining after all payments are made under such allowances for fiscal year 2017 shall be deposited in the Treasury and used for deficit reduction (or, if there is no Federal budget deficit after all such payments have been made, for reducing the Federal debt, in such manner as the Secretary of the Treasury considers appropriate).

(b) REGULATIONS.—The Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives shall have authority to prescribe regulations to carry out this section.

(c) DEFINITION.—As used in this section, the term ''Member of the House of Representatives'' means a Representative in, or a Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the Congress.

DELIVERY OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

SEC. 102. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to deliver a printed copy of a bill, joint resolution, or resolution to the office of a Member of the House of Representatives (including a Delegate or Resident Commissioner to the Congress) unless the Member requests a copy.

DELIVERY OF CONGRESSIONAL RECORD

SEC. 103. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to deliver a printed copy of any version of the Congressional Record to the office of a Member of the House of Representatives (including a Delegate or Resident Commissioner to the Congress).

LIMITATION ON AMOUNT AVAILABLE TO LEASE VEHICLES

SEC. 104. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used by the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives to make any payments from any Members' Representational Allowance for the leasing of a vehicle, excluding mobile district offices, in an aggregate amount that exceeds $1,000 for the vehicle in any month.

LIMITATION ON PRINTED COPIES OF U.S. CODE TO HOUSE

SEC. 105. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to provide an aggregate number of more than 50 printed copies of any edition of the United States Code to all offices of the House of Representatives.

DELIVERY OF REPORTS OF DISBURSEMENTS

SEC. 106. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to deliver a printed copy of the report of disbursements for the operations of the House of Representatives under section 106 of the House of Representatives Administrative Reform Technical Corrections Act (2 U.S.C. 5535) to the office of a Member of the House of Representatives (including a Delegate or Resident Commissioner to the Congress).

DELIVERY OF DAILY CALENDAR

SEC. 107. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to deliver to the office of a Member of the House of Representatives (including a Delegate or Resident Commissioner to the Congress) a printed copy of the Daily Calendar of the House of Representatives which is prepared by the Clerk of the House of Representatives.

DELIVERY OF CONGRESSIONAL PICTORIAL DIRECTORY

SEC. 108. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to deliver a printed copy of the Congressional Pictorial Directory to the office of a Member of the House of Representatives (including a Delegate or Resident Commissioner to the Congress).

DELIVERY OF HOUSE TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

SEC. 109. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to deliver a printed copy of the United States House of Representatives Telephone Directory to the office of any Member of the House of Representatives (including a Delegate or Resident Commissioner to the Congress).

OVERSEAS TRAVEL TO ACCOMPANY MEMBERS OF HOUSE LEADERSHIP

SEC. 110. (a) TRAVEL AUTHORIZED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—A member of the Capitol Police may travel outside of the United States for official duty if—

(A) that travel is with, or in preparation for, travel of a Member of the House of Representatives who holds a position in a House Leadership Office, including travel of the Member as part of a congressional delegation; and

(B) the Sergeant at Arms of the House of Representatives gives prior approval to the travel of the member of the Capitol Police.

(2) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection—

(A) the term ''House Leadership office'' means an office of the House of Representatives for which the appropriation for salaries and expenses of the office for the year involved is provided under the heading ''House Leadership Offices'' in the act making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year involved;

(B) the term ''Member of the House of Representatives'' includes a Delegate or Resident Commissioner to the Congress; and

(C) the term ''United States'' means each of the several States of the United States, the District of Columbia, and the territories and possessions of the United States.

(b) REIMBURSEMENT FROM SERGEANT AT ARMS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—From amounts made available for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Sergeant at Arms of the House of Representatives, the Sergeant at Arms of the House of Representatives shall reimburse the Capitol Police for the overtime pay, travel, and related expenses of any member of the Capitol Police who travels under the authority of this section.

(2) USE OF AMOUNTS RECEIVED.—Any amounts received by the Capitol Police for reimbursements under paragraph (1) shall be credited to the accounts established for the general expenses or salaries of the Capitol Police, and shall be available to carry out the purposes of such accounts during the fiscal year in which the amounts are received and the following fiscal year.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall apply with respect to fiscal year 2017 and each succeeding fiscal year.

DELIVERY OF PRINTED BUDGET

SEC. 111. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to deliver a printed copy of the Budget of the United States Government; Analytical Perspectives, Budget of the United States Government; or the Appendix, Budget of the United States Government, to the office of any Member of the House of Representatives (including a Delegate or Resident Commissioner to the Congress).

DELIVERY OF PRINTED FEDERAL REGISTER

SEC. 112. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to deliver a printed copy of the Federal Register to a Member of the House of Representatives (including a Delegate or Resident Commissioner to the Congress) unless the Member requests a copy.

CYBERSECURITY ASSISTANCE FOR HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEC. 113. The head of any Federal entity that provides assistance to the House of Representatives in the House's efforts to deter, prevent, mitigate, or remediate cybersecurity risks to, and incidents involving, the information systems of the House shall take all necessary steps to ensure the constitutional integrity of the separate branches of the government at all stages of providing the assistance, including applying minimization procedures to limit the spread or sharing of privileged House and Member information.

JOINT ITEMS

For Joint Committees, as follows:

JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

For salaries and expenses of the Joint Economic Committee, $4,203,000, to be disbursed by the Secretary of the Senate.

JOINT COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

For salaries and expenses of the Joint Committee on Taxation, $10,095,000, to be disbursed by the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives.

For other joint items, as follows:

OFFICE OF THE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN

For medical supplies, equipment, and contingent expenses of the emergency rooms, and for the Attending Physician and his assistants, including:

(1) an allowance of $2,175 per month to the Attending Physician;

(2) an allowance of $1,300 per month to the Senior Medical Officer;

(3) an allowance of $725 per month each to three medical officers while on duty in the Office of the Attending Physician;

(4) an allowance of $725 per month to 2 assistants and $580 per month each not to exceed 11 assistants on the basis heretofore provided for such assistants; and

(5) $2,780,000 for reimbursement to the Department of the Navy for expenses incurred for staff and equipment assigned to the Office of the Attending Physician, which shall be advanced and credited to the applicable appropriation or appropriations from which such salaries, allowances, and other expenses are payable and shall be available for all the purposes thereof, $3,838,000, to be disbursed by the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives.

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For salaries and expenses of the Office of Congressional Accessibility Services, $1,429,000, to be disbursed by the Secretary of the Senate.

CAPITOL POLICE

SALARIES

For salaries of employees of the Capitol Police, including overtime, hazardous duty pay, and Government contributions for health, retirement, social security, professional liability insurance, and other applicable employee benefits, $325,300,000 of which overtime shall not exceed $36,805,000 unless the Committee on Appropriations of the House and Senate are notified, to be disbursed by the Chief of the Capitol Police or his designee.

GENERAL EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Capitol Police, including motor vehicles, communications and other equipment, security equipment and installation, uniforms, weapons, supplies, materials, training, medical services, forensic services, stenographic services, personal and professional services, the employee assistance program, the awards program, postage, communication services, travel advances, relocation of instructor and liaison personnel for the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, and not more than $5,000 to be expended on the certification of the Chief of the Capitol Police in connection with official representation and reception expenses, $68,000,000, to be disbursed by the Chief of the Capitol Police or his designee: *Provided*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, the cost of basic training for the Capitol Police at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center for fiscal year 2017 shall be paid by the Secretary of Homeland Security from funds available to the Department of Homeland Security.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION

AUTHORITY TO DISPOSE OF FORFEITED AND ABANDONED PROPERTY AND TO ACCEPT SURPLUS OR OBSOLETE PROPERTY OFFERED BY OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES

SEC. 1001. (a) Section 1003(a) of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2003 (2 U.S.C. 1906(a)) is amended by striking ''surplus or obsolete property of the Capitol Police'' and inserting the following: ''surplus or obsolete property of the Capitol Police, and property which is in the possession of the Capitol Police because it has been disposed, forfeited, voluntarily abandoned, or unclaimed,''.

(b) Upon notifying the Committees of Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate, the United States Capitol Police may accept surplus or obsolete property offered by another Federal department, agency, or office.

(c) This section and the amendment made by this section shall apply with respect to fiscal year 2017 and each succeeding fiscal year.

OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For salaries and expenses of the Office of Compliance, as authorized by section 305 of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1385), $3,959,000, of which $450,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That not more than $500 may be expended on the certification of the Executive Director of the Office of Compliance in connection with official representation and reception expenses.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For salaries and expenses necessary for operation of the Congressional Budget Office, including not more than $6,000 to be expended on the certification of the Director of the Congressional Budget Office in connection with official representation and reception expenses, $46,500,000.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION

ESTABLISHMENT OF SENIOR LEVEL POSITIONS

SEC. 1101. (a) Notwithstanding the fourth sentence of section 201(b) of the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 601(b)), the Director of the Congressional Budget Office may establish and fix the compensation of senior level positions in the Congressional Budget Office to meet critical scientific, technical, professional, or executive needs of the Office.

(b) LIMITATION ON COMPENSATION.—The annual rate of pay for any position established under this section may not exceed the annual rate of pay for level II of the Executive Schedule.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall apply with respect to fiscal year 2017 and each succeeding fiscal year.

ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL

CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATIONS

For salaries for the Architect of the Capitol, and other personal services, at rates of pay provided by law; for all necessary expenses for surveys and studies, construction, operation, and general and administrative support in connection with facilities and activities under the care of the Architect of the Capitol including the Botanic Garden; electrical substations of the Capitol, Senate and House office buildings, and other facilities under the jurisdiction of the Architect of the Capitol; including furnishings and office equipment; including not more than $5,000 for official reception and representation expenses, to be expended as the Architect of the Capitol may approve; for purchase or exchange, maintenance, and operation of a passenger motor vehicle, $92,957,000, of which $1,368,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2021.

CAPITOL BUILDING

For all necessary expenses for the maintenance, care and operation of the Capitol, $32,584,000, of which $8,584,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2021.

CAPITOL GROUNDS

For all necessary expenses for care and improvement of grounds surrounding the Capitol, the Senate and House office buildings, and the Capitol Power Plant, $12,826,000, of which $2,946,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2021.

SENATE OFFICE BUILDINGS

For all necessary expenses for the maintenance, care and operation of Senate office buildings; and furniture and furnishings to be expended under the control and supervision of the Architect of the Capitol, $88,406,000, of which $27,944,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2021.

HOUSE OFFICE BUILDINGS

For all necessary expenses for the maintenance, care and operation of the House office buildings, $185,731,000, of which $61,404,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2021, and of which $62,000,000 shall remain available until expended for the restoration and renovation of the Cannon House Office Building.

In addition, for a payment to the House Historic Buildings Revitalization Trust Fund, $17,000,000, to remain available until expended.

CAPITOL POWER PLANT

For all necessary expenses for the maintenance, care and operation of the Capitol

Power Plant; lighting, heating, power (including the purchase of electrical energy) and water and sewer services for the Capitol, Senate and House office buildings, Library of Congress buildings, and the grounds about the same, Botanic Garden, Senate garage, and air conditioning refrigeration not supplied from plants in any of such buildings; heating the Government Publishing Office and Washington City Post Office, and heating and chilled water for air conditioning for the Supreme Court Building, the Union Station complex, the Thurgood Marshall Federal Judiciary Building and the Folger Shakespeare Library, expenses for which shall be advanced or reimbursed upon request of the Architect of the Capitol and amounts so received shall be deposited into the Treasury to the credit of this appropriation, $86,646,000, of which $9,505,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2021: *Provided*, That not more than $9,000,000 of the funds credited or to be reimbursed to this appropriation as herein provided shall be available for obligation during fiscal year 2017.

LIBRARY BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

For all necessary expenses for the mechanical and structural maintenance, care and operation of the Library buildings and grounds, $47,080,000, of which $22,137,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2021.

CAPITOL POLICE BUILDINGS, GROUNDS AND SECURITY

For all necessary expenses for the maintenance, care and operation of buildings, grounds and security enhancements of the United States Capitol Police, wherever located, the Alternate Computing Facility, and Architect of the Capitol security operations, $20,033,000, of which $2,500,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2021.

BOTANIC GARDEN

For all necessary expenses for the maintenance, care and operation of the Botanic Garden and the nurseries, buildings, grounds, and collections; and purchase and exchange, maintenance, repair, and operation of a passenger motor vehicle; all under the direction of the Joint Committee on the Library, $14,067,000, of which $4,054,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2021: *Provided*, That, of the amount made available under this heading, the Architect of the Capitol may obligate and expend such sums as may be necessary for the maintenance, care and operation of the National Garden established under section 307E of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 1989 (2 U.S.C. 2146), upon vouchers approved by the Architect of the Capitol or a duly authorized designee.

CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER

For all necessary expenses for the operation of the Capitol Visitor Center, $20,557,000.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

NO BONUSES FOR CONTRACTORS BEHIND SCHEDULE OR OVER BUDGET

SEC. 1201. None of the funds made available in this Act for the Architect of the Capitol may be used to make incentive or award payments to contractors for work on contracts or programs for which the contractor is behind schedule or over budget, unless the Architect of the Capitol, or agency-employed designee, determines that any such deviations are due to unforeseeable events, government-driven scope changes, or are not significant within the overall scope of the project and/or program.

SCRIMS

SEC. 1202. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used for scrims containing photographs of building facades during restoration or construction projects performed by the Architect of the Capitol.

FLAG OFFICE REVOLVING FUND

SEC. 1203. (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in the Treasury of the United States a revolving fund to be known as the ''Flag Office Revolving Fund'' (in this section referred to as the ''Fund'') for services provided by the Flag Office of the Architect of the Capitol (in this section referred to as the ''Flag Office'').

(b) DEPOSIT OF FEES.—The Architect of the Capitol shall deposit any fees charged for services described in subsection (a) into the Fund.

(c) CONTENTS OF FUND.—The Fund shall consist of the following amounts:

(1) Amounts deposited by the Architect of the Capitol under subsection (b).

(2) Any other amounts received by the Architect of the Capitol which are attributable to services provided by the Flag Office.

(3) Such other amounts as may be appropriated under law.

(d) USE OF AMOUNTS IN FUND.—Amounts in the Fund shall be available for disbursement by the Architect of the Capitol, without fiscal year limitation, for expenses in connection with the services provided by the Flag Office, including—

(1) supplies, inventories, equipment, and other expenses;

(2) the reimbursement of any applicable appropriations account for amounts used from such appropriations account to pay the salaries of employees of the Flag Office; and

(3) amounts necessary to carry out the authorized levels in the Fallen Heroes Flag Act of 2016.

USE OF EXPIRED FUNDS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION PAYMENTS

SEC. 1204. (a) Available balances of expired Architect of the Capitol appropriations shall be available to the Architect of the Capitol for reimbursing the Federal Employees Compensation Account (as established by section 909 of the Social Security Act) for any amounts paid with respect to unemployment compensation payments for former employees of the Architect of the Capitol, notwithstanding any other provision of law, without regard to the fiscal year for which the obligation to make such payments is incurred.

(b) This section shall apply with respect to fiscal year 2017 and each succeeding fiscal year.

ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL CONTRACTING

SEC. 1205. In addition to recourses available under current policies and procedures, the Architect of the Capitol shall establish, document, and follow policies and procedures for suspension and debarment of firms or individuals the Architect has determined should be excluded from future contracts. The Architect shall provide for notice to other government agencies of suspension or debarment actions taken via the government-wide excluded parties system administered by the General Services Administration. The Architect shall consult the list of excluded parties when making responsibility determinations prior to the award of any contract.

AUTHORITY FOR A HOUSE OFFICE BUILDINGS SHUTTLE

SEC. 1206. (a) The proviso in the item relating to ''Capitol Grounds'' in title VI of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 1977 (90 Stat. 1453; 2 U.S.C. 2163) is amended by striking ''appropriated under this heading'' and inserting ''appropriated for any available account of the Architect of the Capitol''.

(b) The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to fiscal year 2017 and each succeeding fiscal year.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For all necessary expenses of the Library of Congress not otherwise provided for, including development and maintenance of the Library's catalogs; custody and custodial care of the Library buildings; special clothing; cleaning, laundering and repair of uniforms; preservation of motion pictures in the custody of the Library; operation and maintenance of the American Folklife Center in the Library; preparation and distribution of catalog records and other publications of the Library; hire or purchase of one passenger motor vehicle; and expenses of the Library of Congress Trust Fund Board not properly chargeable to the income of any trust fund held by the Board, $457,017,000, of which not more than $6,000,000 shall be derived from collections credited to this appropriation during fiscal year 2017, and shall remain available until expended, under the Act of June 28, 1902 (chapter 1301; 32 Stat. 480; 2 U.S.C. 150) and not more than $350,000 shall be derived from collections during fiscal year 2017 and shall remain available until expended for the development and maintenance of an international legal information database and activities related thereto: *Provided*, That the Library of Congress may not obligate or expend any funds derived from collections under the Act of June 28, 1902, in excess of the amount authorized for obligation or expenditure in appropriations Acts: *Provided further*, That the total amount available for obligation shall be reduced by the amount by which collections are less than $6,350,000: *Provided further*, That of the total amount appropriated, not more than $12,000 may be expended, on the certification of the Librarian of Congress, in connection with official representation and reception expenses for the Overseas Field Offices: *Provided further*, That of the total amount appropriated, $8,444,000 shall remain available until expended for the digital collections and educational curricula program: *Provided further*, That of the total amount appropriated, $1,300,000 shall remain available until expended for upgrade of the Legislative Branch Financial Management System: *Provided further*, That of the total amount appropriated, $4,039,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2019 to complete the first of three phases of the shelving replacement in the Law Library's collection storage areas.

COPYRIGHT OFFICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For all necessary expenses of the Copyright Office, $68,825,000, of which not more than $33,619,000, to remain available until expended, shall be derived from collections credited to this appropriation during fiscal year 2017 under section 708(d) of title 17, United States Code: *Provided*, That the Copyright Office may not obligate or expend any funds derived from collections under such section, in excess of the amount authorized for obligation or expenditure in appropriations Acts: *Provided further*, That not more than $5,929,000 shall be derived from collections during fiscal year 2017 under sections 111(d)(2), 119(b)(3), 803(e), 1005, and 1316 of such title: *Provided further*, That the total amount available for obligation shall be reduced by the amount by which collections are less than $39,548,000: *Provided further*, That $6,179,000 shall be derived from prior

year unobligated balances: *Provided further*, That not more than $100,000 of the amount appropriated is available for the maintenance of an ''International Copyright Institute'' in the Copyright Office of the Library of Congress for the purpose of training nationals of developing countries in intellectual property laws and policies: *Provided further*, That not more than $6,500 may be expended, on the certification of the Librarian of Congress, in connection with official representation and reception expenses for activities of the International Copyright Institute and for copyright delegations, visitors, and seminars: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding any provision of chapter 8 of title 17, United States Code, any amounts made available under this heading which are attributable to royalty fees and payments received by the Copyright Office pursuant to sections 111, 119, and chapter 10 of such title may be used for the costs incurred in the administration of the Copyright Royalty Judges program, with the exception of the costs of salaries and benefits for the Copyright Royalty Judges and staff under section 802(e).

CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For all necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of section 203 of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 166) and to revise and extend the Annotated Constitution of the United States of America, $107,945,234: *Provided*, That no part of such amount may be used to pay any salary or expense in connection with any publication, or preparation of material therefor (except the Digest of Public General Bills), to be issued by the Library of Congress unless such publication has obtained prior approval of either the Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives or the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate.

BOOKS FOR THE BLIND AND PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For all necessary expenses to carry out the Act of March 3, 1931 (chapter 400; 46 Stat. 1487; 2 U.S.C. 135a), $50,248,000: *Provided*, That of the total amount appropriated, $650,000 shall be available to contract to provide newspapers to blind and physically handicapped residents at no cost to the individual.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

REIMBURSABLE AND REVOLVING FUND ACTIVITIES

SEC. 1301. (a) IN GENERAL.—For fiscal year 2017, the obligational authority of the Library of Congress for the activities described in subsection (b) may not exceed $188,188,000.

(b) ACTIVITIES.—The activities referred to in subsection (a) are reimbursable and revolving fund activities that are funded from sources other than appropriations to the Library in appropriations Acts for the legislative branch.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS NATIONAL COLLECTION STEWARDSHIP FUND

SEC. 1302. (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is hereby established in the Treasury of the United States, as an account for the Librarian of Congress, the ''Library of Congress National Collection Stewardship Fund'' (hereafter in this section referred to as the ''Fund'').

(b) CONTENTS OF FUND.—The Fund shall consist of the following amounts:

(1) Such amounts as may be transferred by the Librarian from available amounts appropriated for any fiscal year for the Library of Congress under the heading ''Salaries and Expenses''.

(c) USE OF AMOUNTS.—Amounts in the Fund may be used by the Librarian as follows:

(1) The Librarian may use amounts directly for the purpose of preparing collection materials of the Library of Congress for long-term storage.

(2) The Librarian may transfer amounts to the Architect of the Capitol for the purpose of designing, constructing, altering, upgrading, and equipping collections preservation and storage facilities for the Library of Congress, or for the purpose of acquiring real property by lease for the preservation and storage of Library of Congress collections in accordance with section 1102 of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2009 (2 U.S.C. 1823a).

(d) CONTINUING AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—Any amounts in the Fund shall remain available until expended.

(e) ANNUAL REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the end of each fiscal year, the Librarian shall submit a joint report on the Fund to the Joint Committee on the Library and the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate.

(f) INITIAL 5-YEAR PLAN.—Not later than 6 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Librarian shall submit to the Joint Committee on the Library and the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate a report providing a plan for expenditures from the Fund for the first 5 fiscal years of the Fund's operation.

(g) NOTIFICATION OF TRANSFERS.—Prior to any transfer into the Fund, the Librarian shall notify the Joint Committee on the Library and the Committees on Appropriations of the House and the Senate of the amount and origin of funds to be transferred.

(h) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall apply with respect to fiscal year 2017 and each succeeding fiscal year.

GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING OFFICE

CONGRESSIONAL PUBLISHING

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For authorized publishing of congressional information and the distribution of congressional information in any format; expenses necessary for preparing the semimonthly and session index to the Congressional Record, as authorized by law (section 902 of title 44, United States Code); publishing of Government publications authorized by law to be distributed to Members of Congress; and publishing, and distribution of Government publications authorized by law to be distributed without charge to the recipient, $79,736,000: *Provided*, That this appropriation shall not be available for paper copies of the permanent edition of the Congressional Record for individual Representatives, Resident Commissioners or Delegates authorized under section 906 of title 44, United States Code: *Provided further*, That this appropriation shall be available for the payment of obligations incurred under the appropriations for similar purposes for preceding fiscal years: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding the 2-year limitation under section 718 of title 44, United States Code, none of the funds appropriated or made available under this Act or any other Act for printing and binding and related services provided to Congress under chapter 7 of title 44, United States Code, may be expended to print a document, report, or publication after the 27-month period beginning on the date that such document, report, or publication is authorized by Congress to be printed, unless Congress reauthorizes such printing in accordance with section 718 of title 44, United States Code: *Provided further*, That any unobligated or unexpended balances in this account or accounts for similar purposes for preceding fiscal years may be transferred to the Government Publishing Office Business Operations Revolving Fund for carrying out the purposes of this heading, subject to the approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding sections 901, 902, and 906 of title 44, United States Code, this appropriation may be used to prepare indexes to the Congressional Record on only a monthly and session basis.

PUBLIC INFORMATION PROGRAMS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF DOCUMENTS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For expenses of the public information programs of the Office of Superintendent of Documents necessary to provide for the cataloging and indexing of Government publications and their distribution to the public, Members of Congress, other Government agencies, and designated depository and international exchange libraries as authorized by law, $29,500,000: *Provided*, That amounts of not more than $2,000,000 from current year appropriations are authorized for producing and disseminating Congressional serial sets and other related publications for fiscal years 2015 and 2016 to depository and other designated libraries: *Provided further*, That any unobligated or unexpended balances in this account or accounts for similar purposes for preceding fiscal years may be transferred to the Government Publishing Office Business Operations Revolving Fund for carrying out the purposes of this heading, subject to the approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate.

GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING OFFICE BUSINESS OPERATIONS REVOLVING FUND

For payment to the Government Publishing Office Business Operations Revolving Fund, $7,832,000, to remain available until expended, for information technology development and facilities repair: *Provided*, That the Government Publishing Office is hereby authorized to make such expenditures, within the limits of funds available and in accordance with law, and to make such contracts and commitments without regard to fiscal year limitations as provided by section 9104 of title 31, United States Code, as may be necessary in carrying out the programs and purposes set forth in the budget for the current fiscal year for the Government Publishing Office Business Operations Revolving Fund: *Provided further*, That not more than $7,500 may be expended on the certification of the Director of the Government Publishing Office in connection with official representation and reception expenses: *Provided further*, That the Business Operations Revolving Fund shall be available for the hire or purchase of not more than 12 passenger motor vehicles: *Provided further*, That expenditures in connection with travel expenses of the advisory councils to the Director of the Government Publishing Office shall be deemed necessary to carry out the provisions of title 44, United States Code: *Provided further*, That the Business Operations Revolving Fund shall be available for temporary or intermittent services under section 3109(b) of title 5, United States Code, but at rates for individuals not more than the daily equivalent of the annual rate of

basic pay for level V of the Executive Schedule under section 5316 of such title: *Provided further*, That activities financed through the Business Operations Revolving Fund may provide information in any format: *Provided further*, That the Business Operations Revolving Fund and the funds provided under the heading ''Public Information Programs of the Superintendent of Documents'' may not be used for contracted security services at Government Publishing Office's passport facility in the District of Columbia.

GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Government Accountability Office, including not more than $12,500 to be expended on the certification of the Comptroller General of the United States in connection with official representation and reception expenses; temporary or intermittent services under section 3109(b) of title 5, United States Code, but at rates for individuals not more than the daily equivalent of the annual rate of basic pay for level IV of the Executive Schedule under section 5315 of such title; hire of one passenger motor vehicle; advance payments in foreign countries in accordance with section 3324 of title 31, United States Code; benefits comparable to those payable under sections 901(5), (6), and (8) of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 4081(5), (6), and (8)); and under regulations prescribed by the Comptroller General of the United States, rental of living quarters in foreign countries, $544,505,919: *Provided*, That, in addition, $23,350,000 of payments received under sections 782, 791, 3521, and 9105 of title 31, United States Code, shall be available without fiscal year limitation: *Provided further*, That this appropriation and appropriations for administrative expenses of any other department or agency which is a member of the National Intergovernmental Audit Forum or a Regional Intergovernmental Audit Forum shall be available to finance an appropriate share of either Forum's costs as determined by the respective Forum, including necessary travel expenses of non-Federal participants: *Provided further*, That payments hereunder to the Forum may be credited as reimbursements to any appropriation from which costs involved are initially financed.

OPEN WORLD LEADERSHIP CENTER TRUST FUND

For a payment to the Open World Leadership Center Trust Fund for financing activities of the Open World Leadership Center under section 313 of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2001 (2 U.S.C. 1151), $5,600,000: *Provided*, That funds made available to support Russian participants shall only be used for those engaging in free market development, humanitarian activities, and civic engagement, and shall not be used for officials of the central government of Russia.

JOHN C. STENNIS CENTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICE TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

For payment to the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Development Trust Fund established under section 116 of the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Training and Development Act (2 U.S.C. 1105), $430,000.

TITLE II

GENERAL PROVISIONS

MAINTENANCE AND CARE OF PRIVATE VEHICLES

SEC. 201. No part of the funds appropriated in this Act shall be used for the maintenance or care of private vehicles, except for emergency assistance and cleaning as may be provided under regulations relating to parking facilities for the House of Representatives issued by the Committee on House Administration and for the Senate issued by the Committee on Rules and Administration.

FISCAL YEAR LIMITATION

SEC. 202. No part of the funds appropriated in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond fiscal year 2017 unless expressly so provided in this Act.

RATES OF COMPENSATION AND DESIGNATION

SEC. 203. Whenever in this Act any office or position not specifically established by the Legislative Pay Act of 1929 (46 Stat. 32 et seq.) is appropriated for or the rate of compensation or designation of any office or position appropriated for is different from that specifically established by such Act, the rate of compensation and the designation in this Act shall be the permanent law with respect thereto: *Provided*, That the provisions in this Act for the various items of official expenses of Members, officers, and committees of the Senate and House of Representatives, and clerk hire for Senators and Members of the House of Representatives shall be the permanent law with respect thereto.

CONSULTING SERVICES

SEC. 204. The expenditure of any appropriation under this Act for any consulting service through procurement contract, under section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, shall be limited to those contracts where such expenditures are a matter of public record and available for public inspection, except where otherwise provided under existing law, or under existing Executive order issued under existing law.

COSTS OF LBFMC

SEC. 205. Amounts available for administrative expenses of any legislative branch entity which participates in the Legislative Branch Financial Managers Council (LBFMC) established by charter on March 26, 1996, shall be available to finance an appropriate share of LBFMC costs as determined by the LBFMC, except that the total LBFMC costs to be shared among all participating legislative branch entities (in such allocations among the entities as the entities may determine) may not exceed $2,000.

LIMITATION ON TRANSFERS

SEC. 206. None of the funds made available in this Act may be transferred to any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government, except pursuant to a transfer made by, or transfer authority provided in, this Act or any other appropriation Act.

GUIDED TOURS OF THE CAPITOL

SEC. 207. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), none of the funds made available to the Architect of the Capitol in this Act may be used to eliminate or restrict guided tours of the United States Capitol which are led by employees and interns of offices of Members of Congress and other offices of the House of Representatives and Senate.

(b) At the direction of the Capitol Police Board, or at the direction of the Architect of the Capitol with the approval of the Capitol Police Board, guided tours of the United States Capitol which are led by employees and interns described in subsection (a) may be suspended temporarily or otherwise subject to restriction for security or related reasons to the same extent as guided tours of the United States Capitol which are led by the Architect of the Capitol.

COMPUTER NETWORK ACTIVITY

SEC. 208. (a) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to maintain or establish a computer network unless such network blocks the viewing, downloading, and exchanging of pornography.

(b) Nothing in subsection (a) shall limit the use of funds necessary for any Federal, State, tribal, or local law enforcement agency or any other entity to carry out criminal investigations, prosecution, or adjudication activities, or for any committee or other entity of Congress to carry out investigations or reports on any matter, or for the Library of Congress or the Copyright Office to carry out any of its responsibilities under law.

This division may be cited as the ''Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2017''.

DIVISION J—DEPARTMENT OF STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

TITLE I

DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND RELATED AGENCY

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ADMINISTRATION OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR PROGRAMS

For necessary expenses of the Department of State and the Foreign Service not otherwise provided for, $6,147,254,000, of which up to $637,166,000 may remain available until September 30, 2018, and of which up to $1,899,479,000 may remain available until expended for Worldwide Security Protection: *Provided*, That funds made available under this heading shall be allocated in accordance with paragraphs (1) through (4) as follows:

(1) HUMAN RESOURCES.—For necessary expenses for training, human resources management, and salaries, including employment without regard to civil service and classification laws of persons on a temporary basis (not to exceed $700,000), as authorized by section 801 of the United States Information and Educational Exchange Act of 1948, $2,529,387,000, of which up to $463,417,000 is for Worldwide Security Protection.

(2) OVERSEAS PROGRAMS.—For necessary expenses for the regional bureaus of the Department of State and overseas activities as authorized by law, $1,401,847,000.

(3) DIPLOMATIC POLICY AND SUPPORT.—For necessary expenses for the functional bureaus of the Department of State, including representation to certain international organizations in which the United States participates pursuant to treaties ratified pursuant to the advice and consent of the Senate or specific Acts of Congress, general administration, and arms control, nonproliferation and disarmament activities as authorized, $757,713,000.

(4) SECURITY PROGRAMS.—For necessary expenses for security activities, $1,458,307,000, of which up to $1,436,062,000 is for Worldwide Security Protection.

(5) FEES AND PAYMENTS COLLECTED.—In addition to amounts otherwise made available under this heading—

(A) as authorized by section 810 of the United States Information and Educational Exchange Act, not to exceed $5,000,000, to remain available until expended, may be credited to this appropriation from fees or other payments received from English teaching, library, motion pictures, and publication programs and from fees from educational advising and counseling and exchange visitor programs; and

(B) not to exceed $15,000, which shall be derived from reimbursements, surcharges, and fees for use of Blair House facilities.

(6) TRANSFER OF FUNDS, REPROGRAMMING, AND OTHER MATTERS.—

(A) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, funds may be reprogrammed within

and between paragraphs (1) through (4) under this heading subject to section 7015 of this Act.

(B) Of the amount made available under this heading, not to exceed $10,000,000 may be transferred to, and merged with, funds made available by this Act under the heading ''Emergencies in the Diplomatic and Consular Service'', to be available only for emergency evacuations and rewards, as authorized.

(C) Funds appropriated under this heading are available for acquisition by exchange or purchase of passenger motor vehicles as authorized by law and, pursuant to section 1108(g) of title 31, United States Code, for the field examination of programs and activities in the United States funded from any account contained in this title.

(D) Funds appropriated under this heading may be made available for Conflict Stabilization Operations and for related reconstruction and stabilization assistance to prevent or respond to conflict or civil strife in foreign countries or regions, or to enable transition from such strife.

(E) Funds appropriated under this heading in this Act that are designated for Worldwide Security Protection shall continue to be made available for support of security-related training at sites in existence prior to the enactment of this Act.

CAPITAL INVESTMENT FUND

For necessary expenses of the Capital Investment Fund, as authorized, $12,600,000, to remain available until expended.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General, $87,069,000, notwithstanding section 209(a)(1) of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (Public Law 96–465), as it relates to post inspections: *Provided*, That of the funds appropriated under this heading, $13,060,000 may remain available until September 30, 2018.

EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMS

For expenses of educational and cultural exchange programs, as authorized, $634,143,000, to remain available until expended, of which not less than $240,000,000 shall be for the Fulbright Program and not less than $111,360,000 shall be for Citizen Exchange Program, including $4,125,000 for the Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange: *Provided*, That fees or other payments received from, or in connection with, English teaching, educational advising and counseling programs, and exchange visitor programs as authorized may be credited to this account, to remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That a portion of the Fulbright awards from the Eurasia and Central Asia regions shall be designated as Edmund S. Muskie Fellowships, following consultation with the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That Department of State-designated sponsors may not issue a Form DS–2019 (Certificate of Eligibility for Exchange Visitor (J–1) Status) to place student participants in seafood product preparation or packaging positions in the Summer Work Travel program in fiscal year 2017 unless prior to issuing such Form the sponsor provides to the Secretary of State a description of such program and verifies in writing to the Secretary that such program fully complies with part 62 of title 22 of the Code of Federal Regulations, notwithstanding subsection 62.32(h)(16) of such part, and with the requirements specified in Senate Report 114–290: *Provided further*, That any substantive modifications from the prior fiscal year to programs funded by this Act under this heading shall be subject to prior consultation with, and the regular notification procedures of, the Committees on Appropriations.

REPRESENTATION EXPENSES

For representation expenses as authorized, $8,030,000.

PROTECTION OF FOREIGN MISSIONS AND OFFICIALS

For expenses, not otherwise provided, to enable the Secretary of State to provide for extraordinary protective services, as authorized, $30,344,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018.

EMBASSY SECURITY, CONSTRUCTION, AND MAINTENANCE

For necessary expenses for carrying out the Foreign Service Buildings Act of 1926 (22 U.S.C. 292 et seq.), preserving, maintaining, repairing, and planning for buildings that are owned or directly leased by the Department of State, renovating, in addition to funds otherwise available, the Harry S Truman Building, and carrying out the Diplomatic Security Construction Program as authorized, $759,161,000, to remain available until expended, of which not to exceed $25,000 may be used for domestic and overseas representation expenses as authorized: *Provided*, That none of the funds appropriated in this paragraph shall be available for acquisition of furniture, furnishings, or generators for other departments and agencies of the United States Government.

In addition, for the costs of worldwide security upgrades, acquisition, and construction as authorized, $358,698,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That not later than 45 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations the proposed allocation of funds made available under this heading and the actual and anticipated proceeds of sales for all projects in fiscal year 2017.

EMERGENCIES IN THE DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR SERVICE

For necessary expenses to enable the Secretary of State to meet unforeseen emergencies arising in the Diplomatic and Consular Service, as authorized, $7,900,000, to remain available until expended, of which not to exceed $1,000,000 may be transferred to, and merged with, funds appropriated by this Act under the heading ''Repatriation Loans Program Account'', subject to the same terms and conditions.

REPATRIATION LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

For the cost of direct loans, $1,300,000, as authorized: *Provided*, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: *Provided further*, That such funds are available to subsidize gross obligations for the principal amount of direct loans not to exceed $2,433,545.

PAYMENT TO THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE IN TAIWAN

For necessary expenses to carry out the Taiwan Relations Act (Public Law 96–8), $31,963,000.

INTERNATIONAL CENTER, WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Not to exceed $1,806,600 shall be derived from fees collected from other executive agencies for lease or use of facilities at the International Center in accordance with section 4 of the International Center Act (Public Law 90–553), and, in addition, as authorized by section 5 of such Act, $1,320,000, to be derived from the reserve authorized by such section, to be used for the purposes set out in that section.

PAYMENT TO THE FOREIGN SERVICE RETIREMENT AND DISABILITY FUND

For payment to the Foreign Service Retirement and Disability Fund, as authorized, $158,900,000.

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

CONTRIBUTIONS TO INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, to meet annual obligations of membership in international multilateral organizations, pursuant to treaties ratified pursuant to the advice and consent of the Senate, conventions or specific Acts of Congress, $1,262,966,000: *Provided*, That the Secretary of State shall, at the time of the submission of the President's budget to Congress under section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code, transmit to the Committees on Appropriations the most recent biennial budget prepared by the United Nations for the operations of the United Nations: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of State shall notify the Committees on Appropriations at least 15 days in advance (or in an emergency, as far in advance as is practicable) of any United Nations action to increase funding for any United Nations program without identifying an offsetting decrease elsewhere in the United Nations budget: *Provided further*, That not later than June 1, 2017, and 30 days after the end of fiscal year 2017, the Secretary of State shall report to the Committees on Appropriations any credits attributable to the United States, including from the United Nations Tax Equalization Fund, and provide updated fiscal year 2017 and fiscal year 2018 assessment costs including offsets from available credits and updated foreign currency exchange rates: *Provided further*, That any such credits shall only be available for United States assessed contributions to the United Nations regular budget, and the Committees on Appropriations shall be notified when such credits are applied to any assessed contribution, including any payment of arrearages: *Provided further*, That any notification regarding funds appropriated or otherwise made available under this heading in this Act or prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs submitted pursuant to section 7015 of this Act, section 34 of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2706), or any operating plan submitted pursuant to section 7076 of this Act, shall include an estimate of all known credits currently attributable to the United States and provide updated assessment costs including offsets from available credits and updated foreign currency exchange rates: *Provided further*, That any payment of arrearages under this heading shall be directed to activities that are mutually agreed upon by the United States and the respective international organization and shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That none of the funds appropriated under this heading shall be available for a United States contribution to an international organization for the United States share of interest costs made known to the United States Government by such organization for loans incurred on or after October 1, 1984, through external borrowings.

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACEKEEPING ACTIVITIES

For necessary expenses to pay assessed and other expenses of international peacekeeping

activities directed to the maintenance or restoration of international peace and security, $552,904,000, of which 15 percent shall remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That none of the funds made available by this Act shall be obligated or expended for any new or expanded United Nations peacekeeping mission unless, at least 15 days in advance of voting for such mission in the United Nations Security Council (or in an emergency as far in advance as is practicable), the Committees on Appropriations are notified of: (1) the estimated cost and duration of the mission, the objectives of the mission, the national interest that will be served, and the exit strategy; and (2) the sources of funds, including any reprogrammings or transfers, that will be used to pay the cost of the new or expanded mission, and the estimated cost in future fiscal years: *Provided further*, That none of the funds appropriated under this heading may be made available for obligation unless the Secretary of State certifies and reports to the Committees on Appropriations on a peacekeeping mission-by-mission basis that the United Nations is implementing effective policies and procedures to prevent United Nations employees, contractor personnel, and peacekeeping troops serving in such mission from trafficking in persons, exploiting victims of trafficking, or committing acts of sexual exploitation and abuse or other violations of human rights, and to bring to justice individuals who engage in such acts while participating in such mission, including prosecution in their home countries and making information about such prosecutions publicly available on the Web site of the United Nations: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of State shall work with the United Nations and foreign governments contributing peacekeeping troops to implement effective vetting procedures to ensure that such troops have not violated human rights: *Provided further*, That funds shall be available for peacekeeping expenses unless the Secretary of State determines that United States manufacturers and suppliers are not being given opportunities to provide equipment, services, and material for United Nations peacekeeping activities equal to those being given to foreign manufacturers and suppliers: *Provided further*, That none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available under this heading may be used for any United Nations peacekeeping mission that will involve United States Armed Forces under the command or operational control of a foreign national, unless the President's military advisors have submitted to the President a recommendation that such involvement is in the national interest of the United States and the President has submitted to Congress such a recommendation: *Provided further*, That not later than June 1, 2017, and 30 days after the end of fiscal year 2017, the Secretary of State shall report to the Committees on Appropriations any credits attributable to the United States, including those resulting from United Nations peacekeeping missions or the United Nations Tax Equalization Fund, and provide updated fiscal year 2017 and fiscal year 2018 assessment costs including offsets from available credits: *Provided further*, That any such credits shall only be available for United States assessed contributions to United Nations peacekeeping missions, and the Committees on Appropriations shall be notified when such credits are applied to any assessed contribution, including any payment of arrearages: *Provided further*, That any notification regarding funds appropriated or otherwise made available under this heading in this Act or prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs submitted pursuant to section 7015 of this Act, section 34 of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2706), or any operating plan submitted pursuant to section 7076 of this Act, shall include an estimate of all known credits currently attributable to the United States and provide updated assessment costs including offsets from available credits: *Provided further*, That any payment of arrearages with funds appropriated by this Act shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of State shall work with the United Nations and members of the United Nations Security Council to evaluate and prioritize peacekeeping missions, and to consider a draw down when mission goals have been substantially achieved.

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSIONS

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, to meet obligations of the United States arising under treaties, or specific Acts of Congress, as follows:

INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY AND WATER COMMISSION, UNITED STATES AND MEXICO

For necessary expenses for the United States Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission, United States and Mexico, and to comply with laws applicable to the United States Section, including not to exceed $6,000 for representation expenses; as follows:

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For salaries and expenses, not otherwise provided for, $48,134,000.

CONSTRUCTION

For detailed plan preparation and construction of authorized projects, $29,400,000, to remain available until expended, as authorized.

AMERICAN SECTIONS, INTERNATIONAL COMMISSIONS

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided, for the International Joint Commission and the International Boundary Commission, United States and Canada, as authorized by treaties between the United States and Canada or Great Britain, and the Border Environment Cooperation Commission as authorized by the North American Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act (Public Law 103–182), $12,258,000: *Provided*, That of the amount provided under this heading for the International Joint Commission, up to $500,000 may remain available until September 30, 2018, and $9,000 may be made available for representation expenses.

INTERNATIONAL FISHERIES COMMISSIONS

For necessary expenses for international fisheries commissions, not otherwise provided for, as authorized by law, $37,502,000: *Provided*, That the United States share of such expenses may be advanced to the respective commissions pursuant to section 3324 of title 31, United States Code.

RELATED AGENCY

BROADCASTING BOARD OF GOVERNORS

INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING OPERATIONS

For necessary expenses to enable the Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG), as authorized, to carry out international communication activities, and to make and supervise grants for radio, Internet, and television broadcasting to the Middle East, $772,108,000: *Provided*, That in addition to amounts otherwise available for such purposes, up to $32,501,000 of the amount appropriated under this heading may remain available until expended for satellite transmissions and Internet freedom programs, of which not less than $13,800,000 shall be for Internet freedom programs: *Provided further*, That of the total amount appropriated under this heading, not to exceed $35,000 may be used for representation expenses, of which $10,000 may be used for such expenses within the United States as authorized, and not to exceed $30,000 may be used for representation expenses of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty: *Provided further*, That the BBG shall notify the Committees on Appropriations within 15 days of any determination by the BBG that any of its broadcast entities, including its grantee organizations, provides an open platform for international terrorists or those who support international terrorism, or is in violation of the principles and standards set forth in subsections (a) and (b) of section 303 of the United States International Broadcasting Act of 1994 (22 U.S.C. 6202) or the entity's journalistic code of ethics: *Provided further*, That significant modifications to BBG broadcast hours previously justified to Congress, including changes to transmission platforms (shortwave, medium wave, satellite, Internet, and television), for all BBG language services shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That in addition to funds made available under this heading, and notwithstanding any other provision of law, up to $5,000,000 in receipts from advertising and revenue from business ventures, up to $500,000 in receipts from cooperating international organizations, and up to $1,000,000 in receipts from privatization efforts of the Voice of America and the International Broadcasting Bureau, shall remain available until expended for carrying out authorized purposes.

BROADCASTING CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

For the purchase, rent, construction, repair, preservation, and improvement of facilities for radio, television, and digital transmission and reception; the purchase, rent, and installation of necessary equipment for radio, television, and digital transmission and reception, including to Cuba, as authorized; and physical security worldwide, in addition to amounts otherwise available for such purposes, $9,700,000, to remain available until expended, as authorized.

RELATED PROGRAMS

THE ASIA FOUNDATION

For a grant to The Asia Foundation, as authorized by The Asia Foundation Act (22 U.S.C. 4402), $17,000,000, to remain available until expended.

UNITED STATES INSTITUTE OF PEACE

For necessary expenses of the United States Institute of Peace, as authorized by the United States Institute of Peace Act (22 U.S.C. 4601 et seq.), $37,884,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, which shall not be used for construction activities.

CENTER FOR MIDDLE EASTERN-WESTERN DIALOGUE TRUST FUND

For necessary expenses of the Center for Middle Eastern-Western Dialogue Trust Fund, as authorized by section 633 of the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2004 (22 U.S.C. 2078), the total amount of the interest and earnings accruing to such Fund on or before September 30, 2017, to remain available until expended.

EISENHOWER EXCHANGE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

For necessary expenses of Eisenhower Exchange Fellowships, Incorporated, as authorized by sections 4 and 5 of the Eisenhower Exchange Fellowship Act of 1990 (20 U.S.C. 5204–5205), all interest and earnings accruing to the Eisenhower Exchange Fellowship Program Trust Fund on or before September 30, 2017, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That none of the funds appropriated herein shall be used to pay any salary or other compensation, or to enter into any contract providing for the payment thereof, in excess of the rate authorized by section 5376 of title 5, United States Code; or for purposes which are not in accordance with section 200 of title 2 of the Code of Federal Regulations, including the restrictions on compensation for personal services.

ISRAELI ARAB SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

For necessary expenses of the Israeli Arab Scholarship Program, as authorized by section 214 of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1992 and 1993 (22 U.S.C. 2452), all interest and earnings accruing to the Israeli Arab Scholarship Fund on or before September 30, 2017, to remain available until expended.

EAST-WEST CENTER

To enable the Secretary of State to provide for carrying out the provisions of the Center for Cultural and Technical Interchange Between East and West Act of 1960, by grant to the Center for Cultural and Technical Interchange Between East and West in the State of Hawaii, $16,700,000.

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR DEMOCRACY

For grants made by the Department of State to the National Endowment for Democracy, as authorized by the National Endowment for Democracy Act (22 U.S.C. 4412), $170,000,000, to remain available until expended, of which $117,500,000 shall be allocated in the traditional and customary manner, including for the core institutes, and $52,500,000 shall be for democracy programs.

OTHER COMMISSIONS

COMMISSION FOR THE PRESERVATION OF AMERICA'S HERITAGE ABROAD

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for the Commission for the Preservation of America's Heritage Abroad, $888,000, as authorized by chapter 3123 of title 54, United States Code: *Provided*, That the Commission may procure temporary, intermittent, and other services notwithstanding paragraph (3) of section 312304(b) of such chapter: *Provided further*, That such authority shall terminate on October 1, 2017: *Provided further*, That the Commission shall notify the Committees on Appropriations prior to exercising such authority.

UNITED STATES COMMISSION ON INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom, as authorized by title II of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6431 et seq.), $3,500,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, including not more than $4,000 for representation expenses.

COMMISSION ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, as authorized by Public Law 94–304, $2,579,000, including not more than $4,000 for representation expenses, to remain available until September 30, 2018.

CONGRESSIONAL-EXECUTIVE COMMISSION ON THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Congressional-Executive Commission on the People's Republic of China, as authorized by title III of the U.S.-China Relations Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 6911 et seq.), $2,000,000, including not more than $3,000 for representation expenses, to remain available until September 30, 2018.

UNITED STATES-CHINA ECONOMIC AND SECURITY REVIEW COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the United States-China Economic and Security Review Commission, as authorized by section 1238 of the Floyd D. Spence National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2001 (22 U.S.C. 7002), $3,500,000, including not more than $4,000 for representation expenses, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That the authorities, requirements, limitations, and conditions contained in the second through sixth provisos under this heading in the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2010 (division F of Public Law 111–117) shall continue in effect during fiscal year 2017 and shall apply to funds appropriated under this heading as if included in this Act.

TITLE II

UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT

OPERATING EXPENSES

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of section 667 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, $1,204,609,000, of which up to $180,691,000 may remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That none of the funds appropriated under this heading and under the heading ''Capital Investment Fund'' in this title may be made available to finance the construction (including architect and engineering services), purchase, or long-term lease of offices for use by the United States Agency for International Development, unless the USAID Administrator has identified such proposed use of funds in a report submitted to the Committees on Appropriations at least 15 days prior to the obligation of funds for such purposes: *Provided further*, That contracts or agreements entered into with funds appropriated under this heading may entail commitments for the expenditure of such funds through the following fiscal year: *Provided further*, That the authority of sections 610 and 109 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 may be exercised by the Secretary of State to transfer funds appropriated to carry out chapter 1 of part I of such Act to ''Operating Expenses'' in accordance with the provisions of those sections: *Provided further*, That of the funds appropriated or made available under this heading, not to exceed $250,000 may be available for representation and entertainment expenses, of which not to exceed $5,000 may be available for entertainment expenses, and not to exceed $100,500 shall be for official residence expenses, for USAID during the current fiscal year.

CAPITAL INVESTMENT FUND

For necessary expenses for overseas construction and related costs, and for the procurement and enhancement of information technology and related capital investments, pursuant to section 667 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, $174,985,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That this amount is in addition to funds otherwise available for such purposes: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under this heading shall be available subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of section 667 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, $67,600,000, of which up to $10,140,000 may remain available until September 30, 2018, for the Office of Inspector General of the United States Agency for International Development.

TITLE III

BILATERAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE

FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT

For necessary expenses to enable the President to carry out the provisions of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, and for other purposes, as follows:

GLOBAL HEALTH PROGRAMS

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of chapters 1 and 10 of part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, for global health activities, in addition to funds otherwise available for such purposes, $3,054,950,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, and which shall be apportioned directly to the United States Agency for International Development: *Provided*, That this amount shall be made available for training, equipment, and technical assistance to build the capacity of public health institutions and organizations in developing countries, and for such activities as: (1) child survival and maternal health programs; (2) immunization and oral rehydration programs; (3) other health, nutrition, water and sanitation programs which directly address the needs of mothers and children, and related education programs; (4) assistance for children displaced or orphaned by causes other than AIDS; (5) programs for the prevention, treatment, control of, and research on HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, polio, malaria, and other infectious diseases including neglected tropical diseases, and for assistance to communities severely affected by HIV/AIDS, including children infected or affected by AIDS; (6) disaster preparedness training for health crises; (7) programs to prevent, prepare for, and respond to, unanticipated and emerging global health threats; and (8) family planning/reproductive health: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under this paragraph may be made available for a United States contribution to the GAVI Alliance: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available in this Act nor any unobligated balances from prior appropriations Acts may be made available to any organization or program which, as determined by the President of the United States, supports or participates in the management of a program of coercive abortion or involuntary sterilization: *Provided further*, That any determination made under the previous proviso must be made not later than 6 months after the date of enactment of this Act, and must be accompanied by the evidence and criteria utilized to make the determination: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available under this Act may be used to pay for the performance of abortion as a method of family planning or to motivate or coerce any person to practice abortions: *Provided further*, That nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to alter any existing statutory

prohibitions against abortion under section 104 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available under this Act may be used to lobby for or against abortion: *Provided further*, That in order to reduce reliance on abortion in developing nations, funds shall be available only to voluntary family planning projects which offer, either directly or through referral to, or information about access to, a broad range of family planning methods and services, and that any such voluntary family planning project shall meet the following requirements: (1) service providers or referral agents in the project shall not implement or be subject to quotas, or other numerical targets, of total number of births, number of family planning acceptors, or acceptors of a particular method of family planning (this provision shall not be construed to include the use of quantitative estimates or indicators for budgeting and planning purposes); (2) the project shall not include payment of incentives, bribes, gratuities, or financial reward to: (A) an individual in exchange for becoming a family planning acceptor; or (B) program personnel for achieving a numerical target or quota of total number of births, number of family planning acceptors, or acceptors of a particular method of family planning; (3) the project shall not deny any right or benefit, including the right of access to participate in any program of general welfare or the right of access to health care, as a consequence of any individual's decision not to accept family planning services; (4) the project shall provide family planning acceptors comprehensible information on the health benefits and risks of the method chosen, including those conditions that might render the use of the method inadvisable and those adverse side effects known to be consequent to the use of the method; and (5) the project shall ensure that experimental contraceptive drugs and devices and medical procedures are provided only in the context of a scientific study in which participants are advised of potential risks and benefits; and, not less than 60 days after the date on which the USAID Administrator determines that there has been a violation of the requirements contained in paragraph (1), (2), (3), or (5) of this proviso, or a pattern or practice of violations of the requirements contained in paragraph (4) of this proviso, the Administrator shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations a report containing a description of such violation and the corrective action taken by the Agency: *Provided further*, That in awarding grants for natural family planning under section 104 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 no applicant shall be discriminated against because of such applicant's religious or conscientious commitment to offer only natural family planning; and, additionally, all such applicants shall comply with the requirements of the previous proviso: *Provided further*, That for purposes of this or any other Act authorizing or appropriating funds for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs, the term ''motivate'', as it relates to family planning assistance, shall not be construed to prohibit the provision, consistent with local law, of information or counseling about all pregnancy options: *Provided further*, That information provided about the use of condoms as part of projects or activities that are funded from amounts appropriated by this Act shall be medically accurate and shall include the public health benefits and failure rates of such use.

In addition, for necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 for the prevention, treatment, and control of, and research on, HIV/AIDS, $5,670,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2021, which shall be apportioned directly to the Department of State: *Provided*, That funds appropriated under this paragraph may be made available, notwithstanding any other provision of law, except for the United States Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria Act of 2003 (Public Law 108–25), as amended, for a United States contribution to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (Global Fund), and shall be expended at the minimum rate necessary to make timely payment for projects and activities: *Provided further*, That the amount of such contribution should be $1,350,000,000: *Provided further*, That section 202(d)(4)(A)(i) and (vi) of Public Law 108–25, as amended, shall be applied with respect to such funds made available for fiscal years 2015 through 2017 by substituting ''2004'' for ''2009'': *Provided further*, That up to 5 percent of the aggregate amount of funds made available to the Global Fund in fiscal year 2017 may be made available to USAID for technical assistance related to the activities of the Global Fund, subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That of the funds appropriated under this paragraph, up to $17,000,000 may be made available, in addition to amounts otherwise available for such purposes, for administrative expenses of the Office of the United States Global AIDS Coordinator.

DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of sections 103, 105, 106, 214, and sections 251 through 255, and chapter 10 of part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, $2,995,465,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018.

INTERNATIONAL DISASTER ASSISTANCE

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of section 491 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 for international disaster relief, rehabilitation, and reconstruction assistance, $498,483,000, to remain available until expended.

TRANSITION INITIATIVES

For necessary expenses for international disaster rehabilitation and reconstruction assistance administered by the Office of Transition Initiatives, United States Agency for International Development, pursuant to section 491 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, $35,600,000, to remain available until expended, to support transition to democracy and long-term development of countries in crisis: *Provided*, That such support may include assistance to develop, strengthen, or preserve democratic institutions and processes, revitalize basic infrastructure, and foster the peaceful resolution of conflict: *Provided further*, That the USAID Administrator shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations at least 5 days prior to beginning a new program of assistance: *Provided further*, That if the Secretary of State determines that it is important to the national interest of the United States to provide transition assistance in excess of the amount appropriated under this heading, up to $15,000,000 of the funds appropriated by this Act to carry out the provisions of part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 may be used for purposes of this heading and under the authorities applicable to funds appropriated under this heading: *Provided further*, That funds made available pursuant to the previous proviso shall be made available subject to prior consultation with the Committees on Appropriations.

COMPLEX CRISES FUND

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to support programs and activities to prevent or respond to emerging or unforeseen foreign challenges and complex crises overseas, $10,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That funds appropriated under this heading may be made available on such terms and conditions as are appropriate and necessary for the purposes of preventing or responding to such challenges and crises, except that no funds shall be made available for lethal assistance or to respond to natural disasters: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under this heading may be made available notwithstanding any other provision of law, except sections 7007, 7008, and 7018 of this Act and section 620M of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under this heading may be used for administrative expenses, in addition to funds otherwise available for such purposes, except that such expenses may not exceed 5 percent of the funds appropriated under this heading: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under this heading shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations, except that such notifications shall be transmitted at least 5 days prior to the obligation of funds.

DEVELOPMENT CREDIT AUTHORITY

For the cost of direct loans and loan guarantees provided by the United States Agency for International Development, as authorized by sections 256 and 635 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, up to $50,000,000 may be derived by transfer from funds appropriated by this Act to carry out part I of such Act and under the heading ''Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia'': *Provided*, That funds provided under this paragraph and funds provided as a gift that are used for purposes of this paragraph pursuant to section 635(d) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 shall be made available only for micro- and small enterprise programs, urban programs, and other programs which further the purposes of part I of such Act: *Provided further*, That funds provided as a gift that are used for purposes of this paragraph shall be subject to prior consultation with, and the regular notification procedures of, the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such direct and guaranteed loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, as amended: *Provided further*, That funds made available by this paragraph may be used for the cost of modifying any such guaranteed loans under this Act or prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs, and funds used for such cost, including if the cost results in a negative subsidy, shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That the provisions of section 107A(d) (relating to general provisions applicable to the Development Credit Authority) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as contained in section 306 of H.R. 1486 as reported by the House Committee on International Relations on May 9, 1997, shall be applicable to direct loans and loan guarantees provided under this heading, except that the principal amount of loans made or guaranteed under this heading with respect to any single country shall not exceed $300,000,000: *Provided further*, That these funds are available to subsidize total loan principal, any portion of which is to be guaranteed, of up to $1,750,000,000.

In addition, for administrative expenses to carry out credit programs administered by USAID, $10,000,000, which may be transferred to, and merged with, funds made available under the heading ''Operating Expenses'' in title II of this Act: *Provided*, That funds made available under this heading shall remain available until September 30, 2019.

ECONOMIC SUPPORT FUND

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of chapter 4 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, $1,041,761,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018.

DEMOCRACY FUND

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 for the promotion of democracy globally, including to carry out the purposes of section 502(b)(3) and (5) of Public Law 98–164 (22 U.S.C. 4411), $145,375,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, which shall be made available for the Human Rights and Democracy Fund of the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, Department of State: *Provided*, That funds appropriated under this heading that are made available to the National Endowment for Democracy and its core institutes are in addition to amounts otherwise available by this Act for such purposes: *Provided further*, That the Assistant Secretary for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, Department of State, shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations prior to the obligation of funds appropriated under this paragraph.

For an additional amount for such purposes, $65,125,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, which shall be made available for the Bureau for Democracy, Conflict, and Humanitarian Assistance, United States Agency for International Development.

ASSISTANCE FOR EUROPE, EURASIA AND CENTRAL ASIA

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, the FREEDOM Support Act (Public Law 102–511), and the Support for Eastern European Democracy (SEED) Act of 1989 (Public Law 101–179), $291,638,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, which shall be available, notwithstanding any other provision of law, except section 7070 of this Act, for assistance and related programs for countries identified in section 3 of Public Law 102–511 and section 3(c) of Public Law 101–179, in addition to funds otherwise available for such purposes: *Provided*, That funds appropriated by this Act under the headings ''Global Health Programs'' and ''Economic Support Fund'' that are made available for assistance for such countries shall be administered in accordance with the responsibilities of the coordinator designated pursuant to section 102 of Public Law 102–511 and section 601 of Public Law 101–179: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under this heading shall be considered to be economic assistance under the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 for purposes of making available the administrative authorities contained in that Act for the use of economic assistance.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

MIGRATION AND REFUGEE ASSISTANCE

For necessary expenses not otherwise provided for, to enable the Secretary of State to carry out the provisions of section 2(a) and (b) of the Migration and Refugee Assistance Act of 1962, and other activities to meet refugee and migration needs; salaries and expenses of personnel and dependents as authorized by the Foreign Service Act of 1980; allowances as authorized by sections 5921 through 5925 of title 5, United States Code; purchase and hire of passenger motor vehicles; and services as authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, $912,802,000, to remain available until expended, of which not less than $35,000,000 shall be made available to respond to small-scale emergency humanitarian requirements, and $7,500,000 shall be made available for refugees resettling in Israel.

UNITED STATES EMERGENCY REFUGEE AND MIGRATION ASSISTANCE FUND

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of section 2(c) of the Migration and Refugee Assistance Act of 1962, as amended (22 U.S.C. 2601(c)), $10,000,000, to remain available until expended.

INDEPENDENT AGENCIES

PEACE CORPS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of the Peace Corps Act (22 U.S.C. 2501 et seq.), including the purchase of not to exceed five passenger motor vehicles for administrative purposes for use outside of the United States, $410,000,000, of which $5,500,000 is for the Office of Inspector General, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That the Director of the Peace Corps may transfer to the Foreign Currency Fluctuations Account, as authorized by section 16 of the Peace Corps Act (22 U.S.C. 2515), an amount not to exceed $5,000,000: *Provided further*, That funds transferred pursuant to the previous proviso may not be derived from amounts made available for Peace Corps overseas operations: *Provided further*, That of the funds appropriated under this heading, not to exceed $104,000 may be available for representation expenses, of which not to exceed $4,000 may be made available for entertainment expenses: *Provided further*, That any decision to open, close, significantly reduce, or suspend a domestic or overseas office or country program shall be subject to prior consultation with, and the regular notification procedures of, the Committees on Appropriations, except that prior consultation and regular notification procedures may be waived when there is a substantial security risk to volunteers or other Peace Corps personnel, pursuant to section 7015(e) of this Act: *Provided further*, That none of the funds appropriated under this heading shall be used to pay for abortions: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding the previous proviso, section 614 of division E of Public Law 113–76 shall apply to funds appropriated under this heading.

MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE CORPORATION

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of the Millennium Challenge Act of 2003 (22 U.S.C. 7701 et seq.) (MCA), $905,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of the funds appropriated under this heading, up to $105,000,000 may be available for administrative expenses of the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC): *Provided further*, That up to 5 percent of the funds appropriated under this heading may be made available to carry out the purposes of section 616 of the MCA for fiscal year 2017: *Provided further*, That section 605(e) of the MCA shall apply to funds appropriated under this heading: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under this heading may be made available for a Millennium Challenge Compact entered into pursuant to section 609 of the MCA only if such Compact obligates, or contains a commitment to obligate subject to the availability of funds and the mutual agreement of the parties to the Compact to proceed, the entire amount of the United States Government funding anticipated for the duration of the Compact: *Provided further*, That the MCC Chief Executive Officer shall notify the Committees on Appropriations not later than 15 days prior to commencing negotiations for any country compact or threshold country program; signing any such compact or threshold program; or terminating or suspending any such compact or threshold program: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under this heading by this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs that are available to implement section 609(g) of the MCA shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That no country should be eligible for a threshold program after such country has completed a country compact: *Provided further*, That any funds that are deobligated from a Millennium Challenge Compact shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations prior to re-obligation: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding section 606(a)(2) of the MCA, a country shall be a candidate country for purposes of eligibility for assistance for the fiscal year if the country has a per capita income equal to or below the World Bank's lower middle income country threshold for the fiscal year and is among the 75 lowest per capita income countries as identified by the World Bank; and the country meets the requirements of section 606(a)(1)(B) of the MCA: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding section 606(b)(1) of the MCA, in addition to countries described in the preceding proviso, a country shall be a candidate country for purposes of eligibility for assistance for the fiscal year if the country has a per capita income equal to or below the World Bank's lower middle income country threshold for the fiscal year and is not among the 75 lowest per capita income countries as identified by the World Bank; and the country meets the requirements of section 606(a)(1)(B) of the MCA: *Provided further*, That any MCC candidate country under section 606 of the MCA with a per capita income that changes in the fiscal year such that the country would be reclassified from a low income country to a lower middle income country or from a lower middle income country to a low income country shall retain its candidacy status in its former income classification for the fiscal year and the 2 subsequent fiscal years: *Provided further*, That publication in the Federal Register of a notice of availability of a copy of a Compact on the MCC Web site shall be deemed to satisfy the requirements of section 610(b)(2) of the MCA for such Compact: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available by this Act or prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs shall be available for a threshold program in a country that is not currently a candidate country: *Provided further*, That of the funds appropriated under this heading, not to exceed $100,000 may be available for representation and entertainment expenses, of which not to exceed $5,000 may be available for entertainment expenses.

INTER-AMERICAN FOUNDATION

For necessary expenses to carry out the functions of the Inter-American Foundation in accordance with the provisions of section 401 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1969, $22,500,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That of the funds

appropriated under this heading, not to exceed $2,000 may be available for representation expenses.

UNITED STATES AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

For necessary expenses to carry out title V of the International Security and Development Cooperation Act of 1980 (Public Law 96–533), $30,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, of which not to exceed $2,000 may be available for representation expenses: *Provided*, That funds made available to grantees may be invested pending expenditure for project purposes when authorized by the Board of Directors of the United States African Development Foundation (USADF): *Provided further*, That interest earned shall be used only for the purposes for which the grant was made: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding section 505(a)(2) of the African Development Foundation Act (22 U.S.C. 290h–3(a)(2)), in exceptional circumstances the Board of Directors of the USADF may waive the $250,000 limitation contained in that section with respect to a project and a project may exceed the limitation by up to 10 percent if the increase is due solely to foreign currency fluctuation: *Provided further*, That the USADF shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations after each time such waiver authority is exercised: *Provided further*, That the USADF may make rent or lease payments in advance from appropriations available for such purpose for offices, buildings, grounds, and quarters in Africa as may be necessary to carry out its functions: *Provided further*, That the USADF may maintain bank accounts outside the United States Treasury and retain any interest earned on such accounts, in furtherance of the purposes of the African Development Foundation Act: *Provided further*, That the USADF may not withdraw any appropriation from the Treasury prior to the need of spending such funds for program purposes.

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of section 129 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, $30,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019, which shall be available notwithstanding any other provision of law.

TITLE IV

INTERNATIONAL SECURITY ASSISTANCE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL AND LAW ENFORCEMENT

For necessary expenses to carry out section 481 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, $889,664,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That the Department of State may use the authority of section 608 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, without regard to its restrictions, to receive excess property from an agency of the United States Government for the purpose of providing such property to a foreign country or international organization under chapter 8 of part I of such Act, subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That section 482(b) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 shall not apply to funds appropriated under this heading, except that any funds made available notwithstanding such section shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under this heading shall be made available to support training and technical assistance for foreign law enforcement, corrections, and other judicial authorities, utilizing regional partners: *Provided further*, That not less than $72,565,000 of the funds appropriated under this heading shall be transferred to, and merged with, funds appropriated by this Act under the heading ''Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia'', which shall be available for the same purposes as funds appropriated under this heading: *Provided further*, That of the funds appropriated under this heading, not less than $7,000,000 shall be made available, on a competitive basis, for rule of law programs for transitional and post-conflict states, and for activities to coordinate rule of law programs among foreign governments, international and nongovernmental organizations, and other United States Government agencies: *Provided further*, That funds made available under this heading that are transferred to another department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government pursuant to section 632(b) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 valued in excess of $5,000,000, and any agreement made pursuant to section 632(a) of such Act, shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

NONPROLIFERATION, ANTI-TERRORISM, DEMINING AND RELATED PROGRAMS

For necessary expenses for nonproliferation, anti-terrorism, demining and related programs and activities, $500,696,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, to carry out the provisions of chapter 8 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 for anti-terrorism assistance, chapter 9 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, section 504 of the FREEDOM Support Act, section 23 of the Arms Export Control Act, or the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 for demining activities, the clearance of unexploded ordnance, the destruction of small arms, and related activities, notwithstanding any other provision of law, including activities implemented through nongovernmental and international organizations, and section 301 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 for a United States contribution to the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty Preparatory Commission, and for a voluntary contribution to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA): *Provided*, That the Secretary of State shall inform the appropriate congressional committees of information regarding any separate arrangements relating to the ''Road-map for the Clarification of Past and Present Outstanding Issues Regarding Iran's Nuclear Program'' between the IAEA and the Islamic Republic of Iran, in classified form if necessary, if such information becomes known to the Department of State: *Provided further*, That for the clearance of unexploded ordnance, the Secretary of State should prioritize those areas where such ordnance was caused by the United States: *Provided further*, That funds made available under this heading for the Nonproliferation and Disarmament Fund shall be made available, notwithstanding any other provision of law and subject to prior consultation with, and the regular notification procedures of, the Committees on Appropriations, to promote bilateral and multilateral activities relating to nonproliferation, disarmament, and weapons destruction, and shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That such funds may also be used for such countries other than the Independent States of the former Soviet Union and international organizations when it is in the national security interest of the United States to do so: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under this heading may be made available for the IAEA unless the Secretary of State determines that Israel is being denied its right to participate in the activities of that Agency: *Provided further*, That funds made available for conventional weapons destruction programs, including demining and related activities, in addition to funds otherwise available for such purposes, may be used for administrative expenses related to the operation and management of such programs and activities, subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of section 551 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, $135,041,000: *Provided*, That funds appropriated under this heading may be used, notwithstanding section 660 of such Act, to provide assistance to enhance the capacity of foreign civilian security forces, including gendarmes, to participate in peacekeeping operations: *Provided further*, That of the funds appropriated under this heading, not less than $34,500,000 shall be made available for a United States contribution to the Multinational Force and Observers mission in the Sinai: *Provided further*, That none of the funds appropriated under this heading shall be obligated except as provided through the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY EDUCATION AND TRAINING

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of section 541 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, $110,300,000, of which up to $6,000,000 may remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That the civilian personnel for whom military education and training may be provided under this heading may include civilians who are not members of a government whose participation would contribute to improved civil-military relations, civilian control of the military, or respect for human rights: *Provided further*, That of the funds appropriated under this heading, not to exceed $55,000 may be available for entertainment expenses.

FOREIGN MILITARY FINANCING PROGRAM

For necessary expenses for grants to enable the President to carry out the provisions of section 23 of the Arms Export Control Act, $4,785,805,000: *Provided*, That to expedite the provision of assistance to foreign countries and international organizations, the Secretary of State, following consultation with the Committees on Appropriations and subject to the regular notification procedures of such Committees, may use the funds appropriated under this heading to procure defense articles and services to enhance the capacity of foreign security forces: *Provided further*, That of the funds appropriated under this heading, not less than $3,100,000,000 shall be available for grants only for Israel: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under this heading for grants only for Israel in fiscal year 2017 shall be disbursed within 30 days of enactment of this Act: *Provided further*, That to the extent that the Government of Israel requests that funds be used for such purposes, grants made available for Israel under this heading shall, as agreed by the United States and Israel, be available for advanced weapons systems, of which not less than $815,300,000 shall be available for the procurement in Israel of defense articles and defense services, including research and development: *Provided further*, That none of the

funds made available under this heading shall be made available to support or continue any program initially funded under the authority of section 1206 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2006 (Public Law 109–163; 119 Stat. 3456), section 2282 of title 10, United States Code, section 333 of title 10, United States Code, as added by section 1241 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114–328), or any successor authorities, unless the Secretary of State, in coordination with the Secretary of Defense, has justified such program to the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated or otherwise made available under this heading shall be nonrepayable notwithstanding any requirement in section 23 of the Arms Export Control Act: *Provided further*, That funds made available under this heading shall be obligated upon apportionment in accordance with paragraph (5)(C) of section 1501(a) of title 31, United States Code.

None of the funds made available under this heading shall be available to finance the procurement of defense articles, defense services, or design and construction services that are not sold by the United States Government under the Arms Export Control Act unless the foreign country proposing to make such procurement has first signed an agreement with the United States Government specifying the conditions under which such procurement may be financed with such funds: *Provided*, That all country and funding level increases in allocations shall be submitted through the regular notification procedures of section 7015 of this Act: *Provided further*, That funds made available under this heading may be used, notwithstanding any other provision of law, for demining, the clearance of unexploded ordnance, and related activities, and may include activities implemented through nongovernmental and international organizations: *Provided further*, That only those countries for which assistance was justified for the ''Foreign Military Sales Financing Program'' in the fiscal year 1989 congressional presentation for security assistance programs may utilize funds made available under this heading for procurement of defense articles, defense services, or design and construction services that are not sold by the United States Government under the Arms Export Control Act: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under this heading shall be expended at the minimum rate necessary to make timely payment for defense articles and services: *Provided further*, That not more than $80,000,000 of the funds appropriated under this heading may be obligated for necessary expenses, including the purchase of passenger motor vehicles for replacement only for use outside of the United States, for the general costs of administering military assistance and sales, except that this limitation may be exceeded only through the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That of the funds made available under this heading for general costs of administering military assistance and sales, not to exceed $4,000 may be available for entertainment expenses and not to exceed $130,000 may be available for representation expenses: *Provided further*, That not more than $920,200,000 of funds realized pursuant to section 21(e)(1)(A) of the Arms Export Control Act may be obligated for expenses incurred by the Department of Defense during fiscal year 2017 pursuant to section 43(b) of the Arms Export Control Act, except that this limitation may be exceeded only through the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

TITLE V
MULTILATERAL ASSISTANCE

FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND PROGRAMS

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of section 301 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, and of section 2 of the United Nations Environment Program Participation Act of 1973, $339,000,000: *Provided*, That section 307(a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 shall not apply to contributions to the United Nations Democracy Fund.

INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY

For payment to the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development as trustee for the Global Environment Facility by the Secretary of the Treasury, $146,563,000, to remain available until expended.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

For payment to the International Development Association by the Secretary of the Treasury, $1,197,128,000, to remain available until expended.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT

For payment to the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development by the Secretary of the Treasury for the United States share of the paid-in portion of the increases in capital stock, $5,963,421, to remain available until expended.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

For payment to the Inter-American Development Bank by the Secretary of the Treasury for the United States share of the paid-in portion of the increase in capital stock, $21,939,727, to remain available until expended.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE ASIAN DEVELOPMENT FUND

For payment to the Asian Development Bank's Asian Development Fund by the Secretary of the Treasury, $99,233,000, to remain available until expended.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

For payment to the African Development Bank by the Secretary of the Treasury for the United States share of the paid-in portion of the increase in capital stock, $32,418,000, to remain available until expended.

LIMITATION ON CALLABLE CAPITAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

The United States Governor of the African Development Bank may subscribe without fiscal year limitation to the callable capital portion of the United States share of such capital stock in an amount not to exceed $507,860,808.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT FUND

For payment to the African Development Fund by the Secretary of the Treasury, $214,332,000, to remain available until expended.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

For payment to the International Fund for Agricultural Development by the Secretary of the Treasury, $30,000,000, to remain available until expended.

GLOBAL AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY PROGRAM

For payment to the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program by the Secretary of the Treasury, $23,000,000, to remain available until expended.

TITLE VI
EXPORT AND INVESTMENT ASSISTANCE

EXPORT-IMPORT BANK OF THE UNITED STATES

INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, $5,700,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018.

PROGRAM ACCOUNT

The Export-Import Bank of the United States is authorized to make such expenditures within the limits of funds and borrowing authority available to such corporation, and in accordance with law, and to make such contracts and commitments without regard to fiscal year limitations, as provided by section 104 of the Government Corporation Control Act, as may be necessary in carrying out the program for the current fiscal year for such corporation: *Provided*, That none of the funds available during the current fiscal year may be used to make expenditures, contracts, or commitments for the export of nuclear equipment, fuel, or technology to any country, other than a nuclear-weapon state as defined in Article IX of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons eligible to receive economic or military assistance under this Act, that has detonated a nuclear explosive after the date of the enactment of this Act.

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

For administrative expenses to carry out the direct and guaranteed loan and insurance programs, including hire of passenger motor vehicles and services as authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, and not to exceed $30,000 for official reception and representation expenses for members of the Board of Directors, not to exceed $110,000,000: *Provided*, That the Export-Import Bank (the Bank) may accept, and use, payment or services provided by transaction participants for legal, financial, or technical services in connection with any transaction for which an application for a loan, guarantee or insurance commitment has been made: *Provided further*, That the Bank shall charge fees for necessary expenses (including special services performed on a contract or fee basis, but not including other personal services) in connection with the collection of moneys owed the Bank, repossession or sale of pledged collateral or other assets acquired by the Bank in satisfaction of moneys owed the Bank, or the investigation or appraisal of any property, or the evaluation of the legal, financial, or technical aspects of any transaction for which an application for a loan, guarantee or insurance commitment has been made, or systems infrastructure directly supporting transactions: *Provided further*, That in addition to other funds appropriated for administrative expenses, such fees shall be credited to this account for such purposes, to remain available until expended.

RECEIPTS COLLECTED

Receipts collected pursuant to the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945, as amended, and the Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990, as amended, in an amount not to exceed the amount appropriated herein, shall be credited as offsetting collections to this account: *Provided*, That the sums herein appropriated from the General Fund shall be reduced on a dollar-for-dollar basis by such offsetting collections so as to result in a final fiscal year appropriation from the General Fund estimated at $0: *Provided further*, That amounts

collected in fiscal year 2017 in excess of obligations, up to $10,000,000 shall become available on September 1, 2017, and shall remain available until September 30, 2020.

OVERSEAS PRIVATE INVESTMENT CORPORATION

NONCREDIT ACCOUNT

The Overseas Private Investment Corporation is authorized to make, without regard to fiscal year limitations, as provided by section 9104 of title 31, United States Code, such expenditures and commitments within the limits of funds available to it and in accordance with law as may be necessary: *Provided*, That the amount available for administrative expenses to carry out the credit and insurance programs (including an amount for official reception and representation expenses which shall not exceed $35,000) shall not exceed $70,000,000: *Provided further*, That project-specific transaction costs, including direct and indirect costs incurred in claims settlements, and other direct costs associated with services provided to specific investors or potential investors pursuant to section 234 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, shall not be considered administrative expenses for the purposes of this heading.

PROGRAM ACCOUNT

For the cost of direct and guaranteed loans, $20,000,000, as authorized by section 234 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, to be derived by transfer from the Overseas Private Investment Corporation Noncredit Account: *Provided*, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: *Provided further*, That such sums shall be available for direct loan obligations and loan guaranty commitments incurred or made during fiscal years 2017, 2018, and 2019: *Provided further*, That funds so obligated in fiscal year 2017 remain available for disbursement through 2025; funds obligated in fiscal year 2018 remain available for disbursement through 2026; and funds obligated in fiscal year 2019 remain available for disbursement through 2027: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Overseas Private Investment Corporation is authorized to undertake any program authorized by title IV of chapter 2 of part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 in Iraq: *Provided further*, That funds made available pursuant to the authority of the previous proviso shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

In addition, such sums as may be necessary for administrative expenses to carry out the credit program may be derived from amounts available for administrative expenses to carry out the credit and insurance programs in the Overseas Private Investment Corporation Noncredit Account and merged with said account.

TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

For necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of section 661 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, $75,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That of the amounts made available under this heading, up to $2,500,000 may be made available to provide comprehensive procurement advice to foreign governments to support local procurements funded by the United States Agency for International Development, the Millennium Challenge Corporation, and the Department of State: *Provided further*, That of the funds appropriated under this heading, not more than $5,000 may be available for representation and entertainment expenses.

TITLE VII

GENERAL PROVISIONS

ALLOWANCES AND DIFFERENTIALS

SEC. 7001. Funds appropriated under title I of this Act shall be available, except as otherwise provided, for allowances and differentials as authorized by subchapter 59 of title 5, United States Code; for services as authorized by section 3109 of such title and for hire of passenger transportation pursuant to section 1343(b) of title 31, United States Code.

UNOBLIGATED BALANCES REPORT

SEC. 7002. Any department or agency of the United States Government to which funds are appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act shall provide to the Committees on Appropriations a quarterly accounting of cumulative unobligated balances and obligated, but unexpended, balances by program, project, and activity, and Treasury Account Fund Symbol of all funds received by such department or agency in fiscal year 2017 or any previous fiscal year, disaggregated by fiscal year: *Provided*, That the report required by this section shall be submitted not later than 30 days after the end of each fiscal quarter and should specify by account the amount of funds obligated pursuant to bilateral agreements which have not been further sub-obligated.

CONSULTING SERVICES

SEC. 7003. The expenditure of any appropriation under title I of this Act for any consulting service through procurement contract, pursuant to section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, shall be limited to those contracts where such expenditures are a matter of public record and available for public inspection, except where otherwise provided under existing law, or under existing Executive Order issued pursuant to existing law.

DIPLOMATIC FACILITIES

SEC. 7004. (a) CAPITAL SECURITY COST SHARING INFORMATION.—The Secretary of State shall promptly inform the Committees on Appropriations of each instance in which a Federal department or agency is delinquent in providing the full amount of funding required by section 604(e) of the Secure Embassy Construction and Counterterrorism Act of 1999 (22 U.S.C. 4865 note).

(b) EXCEPTION.—Notwithstanding paragraph (2) of section 604(e) of the Secure Embassy Construction and Counterterrorism Act of 1999 (as enacted into law by section 1000(a)(7) of Public Law 106–113 and contained in appendix G of that Act), as amended by section 111 of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114–323), a project to construct a facility of the United States may include office space or other accommodations for members of the United States Marine Corps.

(c) NEW DIPLOMATIC FACILITIES.—For the purposes of calculating the fiscal year 2017 costs of providing new United States diplomatic facilities in accordance with section 604(e) of the Secure Embassy Construction and Counterterrorism Act of 1999 (22 U.S.C. 4865 note), the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, shall determine the annual program level and agency shares in a manner that is proportional to the contribution of the Department of State for this purpose.

(d) CONSULTATION AND NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS.—Funds appropriated by this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs, which may be made available for the acquisition of property or award of construction contracts for overseas United States diplomatic facilities during fiscal year 2017, shall be subject to prior consultation with, and the regular notification procedures of, the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided*, That notifications pursuant to this subsection shall include the information enumerated under the heading ''Embassy Security, Construction, and Maintenance'' in House Report 114–693 and Senate Report 114–290: *Provided further*, That any such notification for a new diplomatic facility justified to the Committees on Appropriations in Appendix 1 of the Congressional Budget Justification, Department of State, Diplomatic Engagement, Fiscal Year 2017, or not previously justified to such Committees, shall also include confirmation that the Department of State has completed the requisite value engineering studies required pursuant to OMB Circular A–131, Value Engineering December 31, 2013 and the Bureau of Overseas Building Operations Policy and Procedure Directive, P&PD, Cost 02: Value Engineering.

(e) INTERIM AND TEMPORARY FACILITIES ABROAD.—

(1) Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading ''Embassy Security, Construction, and Maintenance'' may be made available to address security vulnerabilities at interim and temporary United States diplomatic facilities abroad, including physical security upgrades and local guard staffing, except that the amount of funds made available for such purposes from this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs shall be a minimum of $25,000,000: *Provided*, That the uses of such funds should be the responsibility of the Assistant Secretary for Diplomatic Security, Department of State, in consultation with the Director of the Bureau of Overseas Buildings Operations, Department of State: *Provided further*, That such funds shall be subject to prior consultation with the Committees on Appropriations.

(2) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the opening, closure, or any significant modification to an interim or temporary United States diplomatic facility shall be subject to prior consultation with the appropriate congressional committees and the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations, except that such consultation and notification may be waived if there is a security risk to personnel.

(f) TRANSFER OF FUNDS AUTHORITY.—Funds appropriated under the heading ''Diplomatic and Consular Programs'', including for Worldwide Security Protection, and under the heading ''Embassy Security, Construction, and Maintenance'' in titles I and VIII of this Act may be transferred to, and merged with, funds appropriated by such titles under such headings if the Secretary of State determines and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that to do so is necessary to implement the recommendations of the Benghazi Accountability Review Board, or to prevent or respond to security situations and requirements, following consultation with, and subject to the regular notification procedures of, such Committees: *Provided*, That such transfer authority is in addition to any transfer authority otherwise available under any other provision of law.

(g) SOFT TARGETS.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading ''Embassy Security, Construction, and Maintenance'' may be made available for security upgrades to soft targets, including schools, recreational

facilities, and residences used by United States diplomatic personnel and their dependents, except that the amount made available for such purposes shall be a minimum of $10,000,000: *Provided*, That the uses of such funds should be the responsibility of the Assistant Secretary for Diplomatic Security, Department of State, in consultation with the Director of the Bureau of Overseas Building Operations.

(h) REPORTS.—

(1) None of the funds appropriated under the heading ''Embassy Security, Construction, and Maintenance'' in this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs, made available through Federal agency Capital Security Cost Sharing contributions and reimbursements, or generated from the proceeds of real property sales, other than from real property sales located in London, United Kingdom, may be made available for site acquisition and mitigation, planning, design, or construction of the New London Embassy: *Provided*, That the reporting requirement contained in section 7004(f)(2) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2012 (division I of Public Law 112–74) shall remain in effect during fiscal year 2017.

(2) Within 45 days of enactment of this Act and every 4 months thereafter until September 30, 2018, the Secretary of State shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations a report on the new Mexico City Embassy and Beirut Embassy projects: *Provided*, That such report shall include, for each of the projects—

(A) a detailed breakout of the project factors that formed the basis of the initial cost estimate used to justify such project to the Committees on Appropriations, as described under the heading ''Embassy Security Construction and Maintenance'' in House Report 114–693;

(B) a comparison of the current project factors as compared to the project factors submitted pursuant to subparagraph (A) of this subsection, and an explanation of any changes; and

(C) the impact of currency exchange rate fluctuations on project costs.

(i) STRENGTHENING OVERSIGHT.—Funds appropriated by this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs under the heading ''Diplomatic and Consular Programs'' for Worldwide Security Protection shall be made available to strengthen oversight of the local guard force at a critical post abroad through the use of United States Government employees or contractors who are United States citizens: *Provided*, That such funds are in addition to funds otherwise made available by such Acts for such purposes: *Provided further*, That the total annual operating costs associated with providing such oversight in fiscal year 2017 and subsequent fiscal years shall be shared among agencies through the International Cooperative Administrative Support Services program: *Provided further*, That not later than 45 days after enactment of this Act, and prior to the obligation of funds for such purposes, the Secretary of State shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations on plans to carry out the requirement of this subsection: *Provided further*, That amounts made available pursuant to this subsection from prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs that were previously designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operation/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 are designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of such Act.

PERSONNEL ACTIONS

SEC. 7005. Any costs incurred by a department or agency funded under title I of this Act resulting from personnel actions taken in response to funding reductions included in this Act shall be absorbed within the total budgetary resources available under title I to such department or agency: *Provided*, That the authority to transfer funds between appropriations accounts as may be necessary to carry out this section is provided in addition to authorities included elsewhere in this Act: *Provided further*, That use of funds to carry out this section shall be treated as a reprogramming of funds under section 7015 of this Act.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE MANAGEMENT

SEC. 7006. (a) FINANCIAL SYSTEMS IMPROVEMENT.—Funds appropriated by this Act for the operations of the Department of State under the headings ''Diplomatic and Consular Programs'' and ''Capital Investment Fund'' shall be made available to implement the recommendations contained in the Foreign Assistance Data Review Findings Report (FADR) and the Office of Inspector General (OIG) report entitled ''Department Financial Systems Are Insufficient to Track and Report on Foreign Assistance Funds'': *Provided*, That not later than 45 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations a plan, including timeline and costs, for implementing the FADR and OIG recommendations: *Provided further*, That such funds may not be obligated for enhancements to, or expansions of, the Budget System Modernization Financial System, Central Resource Management System, Joint Financial Management System, or Foreign Assistance Coordination and Tracking System until such plan is submitted to the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That such funds may not be obligated for new, or expansion of existing, ad hoc electronic systems to track commitments, obligations or expenditures of funds unless the Secretary of State, following consultation with the Chief Information Officer of the Department of State, has reviewed and certified that such new system or expansion is consistent with the FADR and OIG recommendations.

(b) WORKING CAPITAL FUND.—Funds appropriated by this Act or otherwise made available to the Department of State for payments to the Working Capital Fund may only be used for the service centers included in Appendix 1 of the Congressional Budget Justification, Department of State, Diplomatic Engagement, Fiscal Year 2017: *Provided*, That the amounts for such service centers shall be the amounts included in such budget justification, except as provided in section 7015(b) of this Act: *Provided further*, That Federal agency components shall be charged only for their direct usage of each Working Capital Fund service: *Provided further*, That prior to increasing the percentage charged to Department of State bureaus and offices for procurement-related activities, the Secretary of State shall include the proposed increase in the Department of State budget justification or, at least 60 days prior to the increase, provide the Committees on Appropriations a justification for such increase, including a detailed assessment of the cost and benefit of the services provided by the procurement fee: *Provided further*, That Federal agency components may only pay for Working Capital Fund services that are consistent with the purpose and authorities of such components: *Provided further*, That the Working Capital Fund shall be paid in advance or reimbursed at rates which will return the full cost of each service.

(c) CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 45 days after the initial obligation of funds appropriated under titles III and IV of this Act that are made available to a Department of State bureau or office with responsibility for the oversight or management of such funds, the Secretary of State shall certify and report to the Committees on Appropriations, on an individual bureau or office basis, that such bureau or office is in compliance with Department and Federal financial management policies, procedures and regulations, as appropriate: *Provided*, That if the Secretary is unable to make such certification for an individual bureau or office, the Secretary shall submit a plan and timeline to such Committees detailing the steps to be taken to ensure such compliance.

(d) REPORT ON SOLE SOURCE AWARDS.—Not later than December 31, 2017, the Secretary of State shall submit a report to the appropriate congressional committees detailing all sole-source awards made by the Department of State during the previous fiscal year in excess of $2,000,000: *Provided*, That such report should be posted on the Department of State Web site.

PROHIBITION AGAINST DIRECT FUNDING FOR CERTAIN COUNTRIES

SEC. 7007. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available pursuant to titles III through VI of this Act shall be obligated or expended to finance directly any assistance or reparations for the governments of Cuba, North Korea, Iran, or Syria: *Provided*, That for purposes of this section, the prohibition on obligations or expenditures shall include direct loans, credits, insurance, and guarantees of the Export-Import Bank or its agents.

COUPS D'ÉTAT

SEC. 7008. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available pursuant to titles III through VI of this Act shall be obligated or expended to finance directly any assistance to the government of any country whose duly elected head of government is deposed by military coup d'état or decree or, after the date of enactment of this Act, a coup d'état or decree in which the military plays a decisive role: *Provided*, That assistance may be resumed to such government if the Secretary of State certifies and reports to the appropriate congressional committees that subsequent to the termination of assistance a democratically elected government has taken office: *Provided further*, That the provisions of this section shall not apply to assistance to promote democratic elections or public participation in democratic processes: *Provided further*, That funds made available pursuant to the previous provisos shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

TRANSFER OF FUNDS AUTHORITY

SEC. 7009. (a) DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND BROADCASTING BOARD OF GOVERNORS.—

(1) Not to exceed 5 percent of any appropriation made available for the current fiscal year for the Department of State under title I of this Act may be transferred between, and merged with, such appropriations, but no

such appropriation, except as otherwise specifically provided, shall be increased by more than 10 percent by any such transfers, and no such transfer may be made to increase the appropriation under the heading ''Representation Expenses''.

(2) Not to exceed 5 percent of any appropriation made available for the current fiscal year for the Broadcasting Board of Governors under title I of this Act may be transferred between, and merged with, such appropriations, but no such appropriation, except as otherwise specifically provided, shall be increased by more than 10 percent by any such transfers.

(3) Any transfer pursuant to this subsection shall be treated as a reprogramming of funds under section 7015 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation or expenditure except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section.

(b) TITLE VI AGENCIES.—Not to exceed 5 percent of any appropriation other than for administrative expenses made available for fiscal year 2017, for programs under title VI of this Act may be transferred between such appropriations for use for any of the purposes, programs, and activities for which the funds in such receiving account may be used, but no such appropriation, except as otherwise specifically provided, shall be increased by more than 25 percent by any such transfer: *Provided,* That the exercise of such authority shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

(c) LIMITATION ON TRANSFERS OF FUNDS BETWEEN AGENCIES.—

(1) None of the funds made available under titles II through V of this Act may be transferred to any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government, except pursuant to a transfer made by, or transfer authority provided in, this Act or any other appropriations Act.

(2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), in addition to transfers made by, or authorized elsewhere in, this Act, funds appropriated by this Act to carry out the purposes of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 may be allocated or transferred to agencies of the United States Government pursuant to the provisions of sections 109, 610, and 632 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961.

(3) Any agreement entered into by the United States Agency for International Development or the Department of State with any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government pursuant to section 632(b) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 valued in excess of $1,000,000 and any agreement made pursuant to section 632(a) of such Act, with funds appropriated by this Act or prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs under the headings ''Global Health Programs'', ''Development Assistance'', ''Economic Support Fund'', and ''Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia'' shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided*, That the requirement in the previous sentence shall not apply to agreements entered into between USAID and the Department of State.

(d) TRANSFER OF FUNDS BETWEEN ACCOUNTS.—None of the funds made available under titles II through V of this Act may be obligated under an appropriations account to which such funds were not appropriated, except for transfers specifically provided for in this Act, unless the President, not less than 5 days prior to the exercise of any authority contained in the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to transfer funds, consults with and provides a written policy justification to the Committees on Appropriations.

(e) AUDIT OF INTER-AGENCY TRANSFERS OF FUNDS.—Any agreement for the transfer or allocation of funds appropriated by this Act or prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations and related programs, entered into between the Department of State or USAID and another agency of the United States Government under the authority of section 632(a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 or any comparable provision of law, shall expressly provide that the Inspector General (IG) for the agency receiving the transfer or allocation of such funds, or other entity with audit responsibility if the receiving agency does not have an IG, shall perform periodic program and financial audits of the use of such funds and report to the Department of State or USAID, as appropriate, upon completion of such audits: *Provided*, That such audits shall be transmitted to the Committees on Appropriations by the Department of State or USAID, as appropriate: *Provided further*, That funds transferred under such authority may be made available for the cost of such audits.

(f) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State and the USAID Administrator shall each submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations detailing all transfers to another agency of the United States Government made pursuant to sections 632(a) and 632(b) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 with funds provided in the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2016 (division K of Public Law 114–113) as of the date of enactment of this Act: *Provided*, That such reports shall include a list of each transfer made pursuant to such sections with the respective funding level, appropriation account, and the receiving agency.

PROHIBITION ON CERTAIN OPERATIONAL EXPENSES

SEC. 7010. (a) FIRST-CLASS TRAVEL.—None of the funds made available by this Act may be used for first-class travel by employees of United States Government departments and agencies funded by this Act in contravention of section 301–10.122 through 301–10.124 of title 41, Code of Federal Regulations.

(b) COMPUTER NETWORKS.—None of the funds made available by this Act for the operating expenses of any United States Government department or agency may be used to establish or maintain a computer network for use by such department or agency unless such network has filters designed to block access to sexually explicit Web sites: *Provided*, That nothing in this subsection shall limit the use of funds necessary for any Federal, State, tribal, or local law enforcement agency, or any other entity carrying out the following activities: criminal investigations, prosecutions, and adjudications; administrative discipline; and the monitoring of such Web sites undertaken as part of official business.

(c) PROHIBITION ON PROMOTION OF TOBACCO.—None of the funds made available by this Act shall be available to promote the sale or export of tobacco or tobacco products, or to seek the reduction or removal by any foreign country of restrictions on the marketing of tobacco or tobacco products, except for restrictions which are not applied equally to all tobacco or tobacco products of the same type.

AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS

SEC. 7011. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall remain available for obligation after the expiration of the current fiscal year unless expressly so provided by this Act: *Provided,* That funds appropriated for the purposes of chapters 1 and 8 of part I, section 661, chapters 4, 5, 6, 8, and 9 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, section 23 of the Arms Export Control Act, and funds provided under the headings ''Development Credit Authority'' and ''Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia'' shall remain available for an additional 4 years from the date on which the availability of such funds would otherwise have expired, if such funds are initially obligated before the expiration of their respective periods of availability contained in this Act: *Provided further,* That notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, any funds made available for the purposes of chapter 1 of part I and chapter 4 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 which are allocated or obligated for cash disbursements in order to address balance of payments or economic policy reform objectives, shall remain available for an additional 4 years from the date on which the availability of such funds would otherwise have expired, if such funds are initially allocated or obligated before the expiration of their respective periods of availability contained in this Act: *Provided further,* That the Secretary of State shall provide a report to the Committees on Appropriations not later than October 30, 2017, detailing by account and source year, the use of this authority during the previous fiscal year.

LIMITATION ON ASSISTANCE TO COUNTRIES IN DEFAULT

SEC. 7012. No part of any appropriation provided under titles III through VI in this Act shall be used to furnish assistance to the government of any country which is in default during a period in excess of 1 calendar year in payment to the United States of principal or interest on any loan made to the government of such country by the United States pursuant to a program for which funds are appropriated under this Act unless the President determines, following consultations with the Committees on Appropriations, that assistance for such country is in the national interest of the United States.

PROHIBITION ON TAXATION OF UNITED STATES ASSISTANCE

SEC. 7013. (a) PROHIBITION ON TAXATION.—None of the funds appropriated under titles III through VI of this Act may be made available to provide assistance for a foreign country under a new bilateral agreement governing the terms and conditions under which such assistance is to be provided unless such agreement includes a provision stating that assistance provided by the United States shall be exempt from taxation, or reimbursed, by the foreign government, and the Secretary of State and the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development shall expeditiously seek to negotiate amendments to existing bilateral agreements, as necessary, to conform with this requirement.

(b) NOTIFICATION AND REIMBURSEMENT OF FOREIGN TAXES.—An amount equivalent to 200 percent of the total taxes assessed during fiscal year 2017 on funds appropriated by this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs by a foreign government or entity against United States assistance programs, either directly or through grantees, contractors, and subcontractors shall be withheld from obligation from funds appropriated for assistance

for fiscal year 2018 and for prior fiscal years and allocated for the central government of such country or for the West Bank and Gaza program if, not later than September 30, 2018, such taxes have not been reimbursed: *Provided*, That the Secretary of State shall report to the Committees on Appropriations by such date on the foreign governments and entities that have not reimbursed such taxes, including any amount of funds withheld pursuant to this subsection.

(c) DE MINIMIS EXCEPTION.—Foreign taxes of a de minimis nature shall not be subject to the provisions of subsection (b).

(d) REPROGRAMMING OF FUNDS.—Funds withheld from obligation for each foreign government or entity pursuant to subsection (b) shall be reprogrammed for assistance for countries which do not assess taxes on United States assistance or which have an effective arrangement that is providing substantial reimbursement of such taxes, and that can reasonably accommodate such assistance in a programmatically responsible manner.

(e) DETERMINATIONS.—

(1) The provisions of this section shall not apply to any foreign government or entity that assesses such taxes if the Secretary of State reports to the Committees on Appropriations that—

(A) such foreign government or entity has an effective arrangement that is providing substantial reimbursement of such taxes; or

(B) the foreign policy interests of the United States outweigh the purpose of this section to ensure that United States assistance is not subject to taxation.

(2) The Secretary of State shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations at least 15 days prior to exercising the authority of this subsection with regard to any foreign government or entity.

(f) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Secretary of State shall issue rules, regulations, or policy guidance, as appropriate, to implement the prohibition against the taxation of assistance contained in this section.

(g) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section—

(1) the term ''bilateral agreement'' refers to a framework bilateral agreement between the Government of the United States and the government of the country receiving assistance that describes the privileges and immunities applicable to United States foreign assistance for such country generally, or an individual agreement between the Government of the United States and such government that describes, among other things, the treatment for tax purposes that will be accorded the United States assistance provided under that agreement; and

(2) the term ''taxes and taxation'' shall include value added taxes and customs duties but shall not include individual income taxes assessed to local staff.

(h) REPORT.—The Secretary of State, in consultation with the heads of other relevant departments or agencies of the United States Government, shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations, not later than 90 days after the enactment of this Act, detailing steps taken by such departments or agencies to comply with the requirements of this section, including rules, regulations, and policy guidance issued pursuant to subsection (f).

RESERVATIONS OF FUNDS

SEC. 7014. (a) REPROGRAMMING.—Funds appropriated under titles III through VI of this Act which are specifically designated may be reprogrammed for other programs within the same account notwithstanding the designation if compliance with the designation is made impossible by operation of any provision of this or any other Act: *Provided*, That any such reprogramming shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That assistance that is reprogrammed pursuant to this subsection shall be made available under the same terms and conditions as originally provided.

(b) EXTENSION OF AVAILABILITY.—In addition to the authority contained in subsection (a), the original period of availability of funds appropriated by this Act and administered by the Department of State or the United States Agency for International Development that are specifically designated for particular programs or activities by this or any other Act may be extended for an additional fiscal year if the Secretary of State or the USAID Administrator, as appropriate, determines and reports promptly to the Committees on Appropriations that the termination of assistance to a country or a significant change in circumstances makes it unlikely that such designated funds can be obligated during the original period of availability: *Provided*, That such designated funds that continue to be available for an additional fiscal year shall be obligated only for the purpose of such designation.

(c) OTHER ACTS.—Ceilings and specifically designated funding levels contained in this Act shall not be applicable to funds or authorities appropriated or otherwise made available by any subsequent Act unless such Act specifically so directs: *Provided*, That specifically designated funding levels or minimum funding requirements contained in any other Act shall not be applicable to funds appropriated by this Act.

NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

SEC. 7015. (a) NOTIFICATION OF CHANGES IN PROGRAMS, PROJECTS, AND ACTIVITIES.—None of the funds made available in titles I and II of this Act or prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs to the departments and agencies funded by this Act that remain available for obligation in fiscal year 2017, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury of the United States derived by the collection of fees or of currency reflows or other offsetting collections, or made available by transfer, to the departments and agencies funded by this Act, shall be available for obligation to—

(1) create new programs;

(2) eliminate a program, project, or activity;

(3) close, suspend, open, or reopen a mission or post;

(4) create, close, reorganize, or rename bureaus, centers, or offices; or

(5) contract out or privatize any functions or activities presently performed by Federal employees;

unless previously justified to the Committees on Appropriations or such Committees are notified 15 days in advance of such obligation.

(b) NOTIFICATION OF REPROGRAMMING OF FUNDS.—None of the funds provided under titles I and II of this Act or prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs, to the departments and agencies funded under titles I and II of this Act that remain available for obligation in fiscal year 2017, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury of the United States derived by the collection of fees available to the department and agency funded under title I of this Act, shall be available for obligation or expenditure for activities, programs, or projects through a reprogramming of funds in excess of $1,000,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less, that—

(1) augments or changes existing programs, projects, or activities;

(2) relocates an existing office or employees;

(3) reduces by 10 percent funding for any existing program, project, or activity, or numbers of personnel by 10 percent as approved by Congress; or

(4) results from any general savings, including savings from a reduction in personnel, which would result in a change in existing programs, activities, or projects as approved by Congress;

unless the Committees on Appropriations are notified 15 days in advance of such reprogramming of funds.

(c) NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENT.—None of the funds made available by this Act under the headings ''Global Health Programs'', ''Development Assistance'', ''International Organizations and Programs'', ''Trade and Development Agency'', ''International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement'', ''Economic Support Fund'', ''Democracy Fund'', ''Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia'', ''Peacekeeping Operations'', ''Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining and Related Programs'', ''Millennium Challenge Corporation'', ''Foreign Military Financing Program'', ''International Military Education and Training'', and ''Peace Corps'', shall be available for obligation for activities, programs, projects, type of materiel assistance, countries, or other operations not justified or in excess of the amount justified to the Committees on Appropriations for obligation under any of these specific headings unless the Committees on Appropriations are notified 15 days in advance: *Provided*, That the President shall not enter into any commitment of funds appropriated for the purposes of section 23 of the Arms Export Control Act for the provision of major defense equipment, other than conventional ammunition, or other major defense items defined to be aircraft, ships, missiles, or combat vehicles, not previously justified to Congress or 20 percent in excess of the quantities justified to Congress unless the Committees on Appropriations are notified 15 days in advance of such commitment: *Provided further*, That requirements of this subsection or any similar provision of this or any other Act shall not apply to any reprogramming for an activity, program, or project for which funds are appropriated under titles III through VI of this Act of less than 10 percent of the amount previously justified to Congress for obligation for such activity, program, or project for the current fiscal year: *Provided further*, That any notification submitted pursuant to subsection (f) of this section shall include information (if known on the date of transmittal of such notification) on the use of notwithstanding authority: *Provided further*, That if subsequent to the notification of assistance it becomes necessary to rely on notwithstanding authority, the Committees on Appropriations should be informed at the earliest opportunity and to the extent practicable.

(d) NOTIFICATION OF TRANSFER OF FUNDS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, with the exception of funds transferred to, and merged with, funds appropriated under title I of this Act, funds transferred by the Department of Defense to the Department of State and the United States Agency for International Development for assistance for foreign countries and international organizations, and funds made available for programs

previously authorized under section 1206 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2006 (Public Law 109–163; 119 Stat. 3456), section 2282 of title 10, United States Code, section 333 of title 10, United States Code, as added by section 1241 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114–328), or any successor authorities, shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

(e) WAIVER.—The requirements of this section or any similar provision of this Act or any other Act, including any prior Act requiring notification in accordance with the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations, may be waived if failure to do so would pose a substantial risk to human health or welfare: *Provided*, That in case of any such waiver, notification to the Committees on Appropriations shall be provided as early as practicable, but in no event later than 3 days after taking the action to which such notification requirement was applicable, in the context of the circumstances necessitating such waiver: *Provided further*, That any notification provided pursuant to such a waiver shall contain an explanation of the emergency circumstances.

(f) COUNTRY NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS.—None of the funds appropriated under titles III through VI of this Act may be obligated or expended for assistance for Afghanistan, Bahrain, Bolivia, Burma, Cambodia, Colombia, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Libya, Mexico, Pakistan, Philippines, the Russian Federation, Somalia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syria, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Yemen, and Zimbabwe except as provided through the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

(g) TRUST FUNDS.—Funds appropriated or otherwise made available in title III of this Act and prior Acts making funds available for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs that are made available for a trust fund held by an international financial institution as defined by section 7034(r)(3) of this Act shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided*, That such notification shall include the information specified under this section in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this Consolidated Act).

(h) PILOT PROGRAM NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENT.—Funds appropriated under Title I of this Act under the heading ''Diplomatic and Consular Programs'' that are made available for a pilot program for lateral entry into the Foreign Service shall be subject to prior consultation with, and the regular notification procedures of, the Committees on Appropriations.

(i) WITHHOLDING OF FUNDS.—Funds appropriated by this Act under titles III and IV that are withheld from obligation or otherwise not programmed as a result of application of a provision of law in this or any other Act shall, if reprogrammed, be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

NOTIFICATION ON EXCESS DEFENSE EQUIPMENT

SEC. 7016. Prior to providing excess Department of Defense articles in accordance with section 516(a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, the Department of Defense shall notify the Committees on Appropriations to the same extent and under the same conditions as other committees pursuant to subsection (f) of that section: *Provided*, That before issuing a letter of offer to sell excess defense articles under the Arms Export Control Act, the Department of Defense shall notify the Committees on Appropriations in accordance with the regular notification procedures of such Committees if such defense articles are significant military equipment (as defined in section 47(9) of the Arms Export Control Act) or are valued (in terms of original acquisition cost) at $7,000,000 or more, or if notification is required elsewhere in this Act for the use of appropriated funds for specific countries that would receive such excess defense articles: *Provided further*, That such Committees shall also be informed of the original acquisition cost of such defense articles.

LIMITATION ON AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS FOR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND PROGRAMS

SEC. 7017. Subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations, funds appropriated under titles I and III through V of this Act, which are returned or not made available for organizations and programs because of the implementation of section 307(a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, shall remain available for obligation until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That the requirement to withhold funds for programs in Burma under section 307(a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 shall not apply to funds appropriated by this Act.

PROHIBITION ON FUNDING FOR ABORTIONS AND INVOLUNTARY STERILIZATION

SEC. 7018. None of the funds made available to carry out part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, may be used to pay for the performance of abortions as a method of family planning or to motivate or coerce any person to practice abortions. None of the funds made available to carry out part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, may be used to pay for the performance of involuntary sterilization as a method of family planning or to coerce or provide any financial incentive to any person to undergo sterilizations. None of the funds made available to carry out part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, may be used to pay for any biomedical research which relates in whole or in part, to methods of, or the performance of, abortions or involuntary sterilization as a means of family planning. None of the funds made available to carry out part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, may be obligated or expended for any country or organization if the President certifies that the use of these funds by any such country or organization would violate any of the above provisions related to abortions and involuntary sterilizations.

ALLOCATIONS

SEC. 7019. (a) ALLOCATION TABLES.—Subject to subsection (b), funds appropriated by this Act under titles III through V shall be made available in the amounts specifically designated in the respective tables included in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this Consolidated Act): *Provided*, That such designated amounts for foreign countries and international organizations shall serve as the amounts for such countries and international organizations transmitted to Congress in the report required by section 653(a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961.

(b) AUTHORIZED DEVIATIONS.—Unless otherwise provided for by this Act, the Secretary of State and the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, as applicable, may only deviate up to 5 percent from the amounts specifically designated in the respective tables included in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this Consolidated Act): *Provided*, That such percentage may be exceeded only to respond to significant, exigent, or unforeseen events, or to address other exceptional circumstances directly related to the national interest: *Provided further*, That deviations pursuant to the previous proviso shall be subject to prior consultation with, and the regular notification procedures of, the Committees on Appropriations.

(c) LIMITATION.—For specifically designated amounts that are included, pursuant to subsection (a), in the report required by section 653(a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, no deviations authorized by subsection (b) may take place until submission of such report.

(d) EXCEPTIONS.—

(1) Subsections (a) and (b) shall not apply to—

(A) amounts designated for ''International Military Education and Training'' in the respective tables included in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this Consolidated Act); and

(B) funds for which the initial period of availability has expired.

(2) The authority in subsection (b) to deviate below amounts designated in the respective tables included in the joint explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this Consolidated Act) shall not apply to the table included under the heading ''Global Health Programs'' in such joint explanatory statement.

REPRESENTATION AND ENTERTAINMENT EXPENSES

SEC. 7020. (a) USES OF FUNDS.—Each Federal department, agency, or entity funded in titles I or II of this Act, and the Department of the Treasury and independent agencies funded in titles III or VI of this Act, shall take steps to ensure that domestic and overseas representation and entertainment expenses further official agency business and United States foreign policy interests—

(1) are primarily for fostering relations outside of the Executive Branch;

(2) are principally for meals and events of a protocol nature;

(3) are not for employee-only events; and

(4) do not include activities that are substantially of a recreational character.

(b) LIMITATIONS.—None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act under the headings ''International Military Education and Training'' or ''Foreign Military Financing Program'' for Informational Program activities or under the headings ''Global Health Programs'', ''Development Assistance'', ''Economic Support Fund'', and ''Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia'' may be obligated or expended to pay for—

(1) alcoholic beverages; or

(2) entertainment expenses for activities that are substantially of a recreational character, including but not limited to entrance fees at sporting events, theatrical and musical productions, and amusement parks.

PROHIBITION ON ASSISTANCE TO GOVERNMENTS SUPPORTING INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM

SEC. 7021. (a) LETHAL MILITARY EQUIPMENT EXPORTS.—

(1) PROHIBITION.—None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by titles III through VI of this Act may be made available to any foreign government which provides lethal military equipment to a

country the government of which the Secretary of State has determined supports international terrorism for purposes of section 6(j) of the Export Administration Act of 1979 as continued in effect pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act: *Provided*, That the prohibition under this section with respect to a foreign government shall terminate 12 months after that government ceases to provide such military equipment: *Provided further*, That this section applies with respect to lethal military equipment provided under a contract entered into after October 1, 1997.

(2) DETERMINATION.—Assistance restricted by paragraph (1) or any other similar provision of law, may be furnished if the President determines that to do so is important to the national interest of the United States.

(3) REPORT.—Whenever the President makes a determination pursuant to paragraph (2), the President shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations a report with respect to the furnishing of such assistance, including a detailed explanation of the assistance to be provided, the estimated dollar amount of such assistance, and an explanation of how the assistance furthers United States national interest.

(b) BILATERAL ASSISTANCE.—

(1) LIMITATIONS.—Funds appropriated for bilateral assistance in titles III through VI of this Act and funds appropriated under any such title in prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs, shall not be made available to any foreign government which the President determines—

(A) grants sanctuary from prosecution to any individual or group which has committed an act of international terrorism;

(B) otherwise supports international terrorism; or

(C) is controlled by an organization designated as a terrorist organization under section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189).

(2) WAIVER.—The President may waive the application of paragraph (1) to a government if the President determines that national security or humanitarian reasons justify such waiver: *Provided*, That the President shall publish each such waiver in the Federal Register and, at least 15 days before the waiver takes effect, shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of the waiver (including the justification for the waiver) in accordance with the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

AUTHORIZATION REQUIREMENTS

SEC. 7022. Funds appropriated by this Act, except funds appropriated under the heading ''Trade and Development Agency'', may be obligated and expended notwithstanding section 10 of Public Law 91–672 (22 U.S.C. 2412), section 15 of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2680), section 313 of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1994 and 1995 (22 U.S.C. 6212), and section 504(a)(1) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3094(a)(1)).

DEFINITION OF PROGRAM, PROJECT, AND ACTIVITY

SEC. 7023. For the purpose of titles II through VI of this Act ''program, project, and activity'' shall be defined at the appropriations Act account level and shall include all appropriations and authorizations Acts funding directives, ceilings, and limitations with the exception that for the following accounts: ''Economic Support Fund'', ''Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia'', and ''Foreign Military Financing Program'', ''program, project, and activity'' shall also be considered to include country, regional, and central program level funding within each such account; and for the development assistance accounts of the United States Agency for International Development, ''program, project, and activity'' shall also be considered to include central, country, regional, and program level funding, either as—

(1) justified to Congress; or

(2) allocated by the Executive Branch in accordance with a report, to be provided to the Committees on Appropriations within 30 days of the enactment of this Act, as required by section 653(a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 or as modified pursuant to section 7019 of this Act.

AUTHORITIES FOR THE PEACE CORPS, INTER-AMERICAN FOUNDATION AND UNITED STATES AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

SEC. 7024. Unless expressly provided to the contrary, provisions of this or any other Act, including provisions contained in prior Acts authorizing or making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs, shall not be construed to prohibit activities authorized by or conducted under the Peace Corps Act, the Inter-American Foundation Act or the African Development Foundation Act: *Provided*, That prior to conducting activities in a country for which assistance is prohibited, the agency shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations and report to such Committees within 15 days of taking such action.

COMMERCE, TRADE AND SURPLUS COMMODITIES

SEC. 7025. (a) WORLD MARKETS.—None of the funds appropriated or made available pursuant to titles III through VI of this Act for direct assistance and none of the funds otherwise made available to the Export-Import Bank and the Overseas Private Investment Corporation shall be obligated or expended to finance any loan, any assistance, or any other financial commitments for establishing or expanding production of any commodity for export by any country other than the United States, if the commodity is likely to be in surplus on world markets at the time the resulting productive capacity is expected to become operative and if the assistance will cause substantial injury to United States producers of the same, similar, or competing commodity: *Provided*, That such prohibition shall not apply to the Export-Import Bank if in the judgment of its Board of Directors the benefits to industry and employment in the United States are likely to outweigh the injury to United States producers of the same, similar, or competing commodity, and the Chairman of the Board so notifies the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That this subsection shall not prohibit—

(1) activities in a country that is eligible for assistance from the International Development Association, is not eligible for assistance from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and does not export on a consistent basis the agricultural commodity with respect to which assistance is furnished; or

(2) activities in a country the President determines is recovering from widespread conflict, a humanitarian crisis, or a complex emergency.

(b) EXPORTS.—None of the funds appropriated by this or any other Act to carry out chapter 1 of part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 shall be available for any testing or breeding feasibility study, variety improvement or introduction, consultancy, publication, conference, or training in connection with the growth or production in a foreign country of an agricultural commodity for export which would compete with a similar commodity grown or produced in the United States: *Provided*, That this subsection shall not prohibit—

(1) activities designed to increase food security in developing countries where such activities will not have a significant impact on the export of agricultural commodities of the United States;

(2) research activities intended primarily to benefit United States producers;

(3) activities in a country that is eligible for assistance from the International Development Association, is not eligible for assistance from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and does not export on a consistent basis the agricultural commodity with respect to which assistance is furnished; or

(4) activities in a country the President determines is recovering from widespread conflict, a humanitarian crisis, or a complex emergency.

(c) INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall instruct the United States executive directors of the international financial institutions, as defined in section 7034(r)(3) of this Act, to use the voice and vote of the United States to oppose any assistance by such institutions, using funds appropriated or made available by this Act, for the production or extraction of any commodity or mineral for export, if it is in surplus on world markets and if the assistance will cause substantial injury to United States producers of the same, similar, or competing commodity.

SEPARATE ACCOUNTS

SEC. 7026. (a) SEPARATE ACCOUNTS FOR LOCAL CURRENCIES.—

(1) AGREEMENTS.—If assistance is furnished to the government of a foreign country under chapters 1 and 10 of part I or chapter 4 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 under agreements which result in the generation of local currencies of that country, the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development shall—

(A) require that local currencies be deposited in a separate account established by that government;

(B) enter into an agreement with that government which sets forth—

(i) the amount of the local currencies to be generated; and

(ii) the terms and conditions under which the currencies so deposited may be utilized, consistent with this section; and

(C) establish by agreement with that government the responsibilities of USAID and that government to monitor and account for deposits into and disbursements from the separate account.

(2) USES OF LOCAL CURRENCIES.—As may be agreed upon with the foreign government, local currencies deposited in a separate account pursuant to subsection (a), or an equivalent amount of local currencies, shall be used only—

(A) to carry out chapter 1 or 10 of part I or chapter 4 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (as the case may be), for such purposes as—

(i) project and sector assistance activities; or

(ii) debt and deficit financing; or

(B) for the administrative requirements of the United States Government.

(3) PROGRAMMING ACCOUNTABILITY.—USAID shall take all necessary steps to ensure that

the equivalent of the local currencies disbursed pursuant to subsection (a)(2)(A) from the separate account established pursuant to subsection (a)(1) are used for the purposes agreed upon pursuant to subsection (a)(2).

(4) TERMINATION OF ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.—Upon termination of assistance to a country under chapter 1 or 10 of part I or chapter 4 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (as the case may be), any unencumbered balances of funds which remain in a separate account established pursuant to subsection (a) shall be disposed of for such purposes as may be agreed to by the government of that country and the United States Government.

(5) REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—The USAID Administrator shall report as part of the congressional budget justification submitted to the Committees on Appropriations on the use of local currencies for the administrative requirements of the United States Government as authorized in subsection (a)(2)(B), and such report shall include the amount of local currency (and United States dollar equivalent) used or to be used for such purpose in each applicable country.

(b) SEPARATE ACCOUNTS FOR CASH TRANSFERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—If assistance is made available to the government of a foreign country, under chapter 1 or 10 of part I or chapter 4 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as cash transfer assistance or as nonproject sector assistance, that country shall be required to maintain such funds in a separate account and not commingle with any other funds.

(2) APPLICABILITY OF OTHER PROVISIONS OF LAW.—Such funds may be obligated and expended notwithstanding provisions of law which are inconsistent with the nature of this assistance including provisions which are referenced in the Joint Explanatory Statement of the Committee of Conference accompanying House Joint Resolution 648 (House Report No. 98–1159).

(3) NOTIFICATION.—At least 15 days prior to obligating any such cash transfer or nonproject sector assistance, the President shall submit a notification through the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations, which shall include a detailed description of how the funds proposed to be made available will be used, with a discussion of the United States interests that will be served by such assistance (including, as appropriate, a description of the economic policy reforms that will be promoted by such assistance).

(4) EXEMPTION.—Nonproject sector assistance funds may be exempt from the requirements of paragraph (1) only through the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

ELIGIBILITY FOR ASSISTANCE

SEC. 7027. (a) ASSISTANCE THROUGH NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS.—Restrictions contained in this or any other Act with respect to assistance for a country shall not be construed to restrict assistance in support of programs of nongovernmental organizations from funds appropriated by this Act to carry out the provisions of chapters 1, 10, 11, and 12 of part I and chapter 4 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 and from funds appropriated under the heading ''Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia'': *Provided*, That before using the authority of this subsection to furnish assistance in support of programs of nongovernmental organizations, the President shall notify the Committees on Appropriations pursuant to the regular notification procedures, including a description of the program to be assisted, the assistance to be provided, and the reasons for furnishing such assistance: *Provided further*, That nothing in this subsection shall be construed to alter any existing statutory prohibitions against abortion or involuntary sterilizations contained in this or any other Act.

(b) PUBLIC LAW 480.—During fiscal year 2017, restrictions contained in this or any other Act with respect to assistance for a country shall not be construed to restrict assistance under the Food for Peace Act (Public Law 83–480): *Provided*, That none of the funds appropriated to carry out title I of such Act and made available pursuant to this subsection may be obligated or expended except as provided through the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

(c) EXCEPTION.—This section shall not apply—

(1) with respect to section 620A of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 or any comparable provision of law prohibiting assistance to countries that support international terrorism; or

(2) with respect to section 116 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 or any comparable provision of law prohibiting assistance to the government of a country that violates internationally recognized human rights.

LOCAL COMPETITION

SEC. 7028. (a) REQUIREMENTS FOR EXCEPTIONS TO COMPETITION FOR LOCAL ENTITIES.—Funds appropriated by this Act that are made available to the United States Agency for International Development may only be made available for limited competitions through local entities if—

(1) prior to the determination to limit competition to local entities, USAID has—

(A) assessed the level of local capacity to effectively implement, manage, and account for programs included in such competition; and

(B) documented the written results of the assessment and decisions made; and

(2) prior to making an award after limiting competition to local entities—

(A) each successful local entity has been determined to be responsible in accordance with USAID guidelines; and

(B) effective monitoring and evaluation systems are in place to ensure that award funding is used for its intended purposes; and

(3) no level of acceptable fraud is assumed.

(b) REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—In addition to the requirements of subsection (a)(1), the USAID Administrator shall report to the appropriate congressional committees not later than 45 days after the end of fiscal year 2017 on all awards subject to limited or no competition for local entities: *Provided*, That such report should be posted on the USAID Web site: *Provided further*, That the requirements of this subsection shall only apply to awards in excess of $3,000,000 and sole source awards to local entities in excess of $2,000,000.

(c) EXTENSION OF PROCUREMENT AUTHORITY.—Section 7077 of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2012 (division I of Public Law 112–74), as amended, shall continue in effect during fiscal year 2017.

INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

SEC. 7029. (a) EVALUATIONS AND REPORT.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall instruct the United States executive director of each international financial institution to seek to require that such institution adopts and implements a publicly available policy, including the strategic use of peer reviews and external experts, to conduct independent, in-depth evaluations of the effectiveness of at least 25 percent of all loans, grants, programs, and significant analytical non-lending activities in advancing the institution's goals of reducing poverty and promoting equitable economic growth, consistent with relevant safeguards, to ensure that decisions to support such loans, grants, programs, and activities are based on accurate data and objective analysis: *Provided*, That not later than 45 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations on steps taken by the United States executive directors and the international financial institutions consistent with this subsection.

(b) SAFEGUARDS.—

(1) The Secretary of the Treasury shall instruct the United States Executive Director of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the International Development Association to vote against any loan, grant, policy, or strategy if such institution has adopted and is implementing any social or environmental safeguard relevant to such loan, grant, policy, or strategy that provides less protection than World Bank safeguards in effect on September 30, 2015.

(2) The Secretary of the Treasury should instruct the United States executive director of each international financial institution to vote against loans or other financing for projects unless such projects—

(A) provide for accountability and transparency, including the collection, verification and publication of beneficial ownership information related to extractive industries and on-site monitoring during the life of the project;

(B) will be developed and carried out in accordance with best practices regarding environmental conservation; cultural protection; and empowerment of local populations, including free, prior and informed consent of affected indigenous communities;

(C) do not provide incentives for, or facilitate, forced displacement; and

(D) do not partner with or otherwise involve enterprises owned or controlled by the armed forces.

(c) COMPENSATION.—None of the funds appropriated under title V of this Act may be made as payment to any international financial institution while the United States executive director to such institution is compensated by the institution at a rate which, together with whatever compensation such executive director receives from the United States, is in excess of the rate provided for an individual occupying a position at level IV of the Executive Schedule under section 5315 of title 5, United States Code, or while any alternate United States executive director to such institution is compensated by the institution at a rate in excess of the rate provided for an individual occupying a position at level V of the Executive Schedule under section 5316 of title 5, United States Code.

(d) HUMAN RIGHTS.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall instruct the United States executive director of each international financial institution to seek to require that such institution conducts rigorous human rights due diligence and risk management, as appropriate, in connection with any loan, grant, policy, or strategy of such institution: *Provided*, That prior to voting on any such loan, grant, policy, or strategy the executive director shall consult with the Assistant Secretary for Democracy, Human Rights,

and Labor, Department of State, if the executive director has reason to believe that such loan, grant, policy, or strategy could result in forced displacement or other violation of human rights.

(e) FRAUD AND CORRUPTION.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall instruct the United States executive director of each international financial institution to promote in loan, grant, and other financing agreements improvements in borrowing countries' financial management and judicial capacity to investigate, prosecute, and punish fraud and corruption.

(f) BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP INFORMATION.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall instruct the United States executive director of each international financial institution to seek to require that such institution collects, verifies, and publishes, to the maximum extent practicable, beneficial ownership information (excluding proprietary information) for any corporation or limited liability company, other than a publicly listed company, that receives funds from any such financial institution: *Provided*, That not later than 45 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations on steps taken by the United States executive directors and the international financial institutions consistent with this subsection.

(g) WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTIONS.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall instruct the United States executive director of each international financial institution to seek to require that each such institution is effectively implementing and enforcing policies and procedures which reflect best practices for the protection of whistleblowers from retaliation, including best practices for—

(1) protection against retaliation for internal and lawful public disclosure;

(2) legal burdens of proof;

(3) statutes of limitation for reporting retaliation;

(4) access to independent adjudicative bodies, including external arbitration; and

(5) results that eliminate the effects of proven retaliation.

DEBT-FOR-DEVELOPMENT

SEC. 7030. In order to enhance the continued participation of nongovernmental organizations in debt-for-development and debt-for-nature exchanges, a nongovernmental organization which is a grantee or contractor of the United States Agency for International Development may place in interest bearing accounts local currencies which accrue to that organization as a result of economic assistance provided under title III of this Act and, subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations, any interest earned on such investment shall be used for the purpose for which the assistance was provided to that organization.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET TRANSPARENCY

SEC. 7031. (a) LIMITATION ON DIRECT GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE.—

(1) REQUIREMENTS.—Funds appropriated by this Act may be made available for direct government-to-government assistance only if—

(A)(i) each implementing agency or ministry to receive assistance has been assessed and is considered to have the systems required to manage such assistance and any identified vulnerabilities or weaknesses of such agency or ministry have been addressed;

(ii) the recipient agency or ministry employs and utilizes staff with the necessary technical, financial, and management capabilities;

(iii) the recipient agency or ministry has adopted competitive procurement policies and systems;

(iv) effective monitoring and evaluation systems are in place to ensure that such assistance is used for its intended purposes;

(v) no level of acceptable fraud is assumed; and

(vi) the government of the recipient country is taking steps to publicly disclose on an annual basis its national budget, to include income and expenditures;

(B) the recipient government is in compliance with the principles set forth in section 7013 of this Act;

(C) the recipient agency or ministry is not headed or controlled by an organization designated as a foreign terrorist organization under section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189);

(D) the Government of the United States and the government of the recipient country have agreed, in writing, on clear and achievable objectives for the use of such assistance, which should be made available on a cost-reimbursable basis; and

(E) the recipient government is taking steps to protect the rights of civil society, including freedoms of expression, association, and assembly.

(2) CONSULTATION AND NOTIFICATION.—In addition to the requirements in paragraph (1), no funds may be made available for direct government-to-government assistance without prior consultation with, and notification of, the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided*, That such notification shall contain an explanation of how the proposed activity meets the requirements of paragraph (1): *Provided further*, That the requirements of this paragraph shall only apply to direct government-to-government assistance in excess of $10,000,000 and all funds available for cash transfer, budget support, and cash payments to individuals.

(3) SUSPENSION OF ASSISTANCE.—The Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development or the Secretary of State, as appropriate, shall suspend any direct government-to-government assistance if the Administrator or the Secretary has credible information of material misuse of such assistance, unless the Administrator or the Secretary reports to the Committees on Appropriations that it is in the national interest of the United States to continue such assistance, including a justification, or that such misuse has been appropriately addressed.

(4) SUBMISSION OF INFORMATION.—The Secretary of State shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations, concurrent with the fiscal year 2018 congressional budget justification materials, amounts planned for assistance described in paragraph (1) by country, proposed funding amount, source of funds, and type of assistance.

(5) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the enactment of this Act and 6 months thereafter until September 30, 2018, the USAID Administrator shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations a report that—

(A) details all assistance described in paragraph (1) provided during the previous 6-month period by country, funding amount, source of funds, and type of such assistance; and

(B) the type of procurement instrument or mechanism utilized and whether the assistance was provided on a reimbursable basis.

(6) DEBT SERVICE PAYMENT PROHIBITION.—None of the funds made available by this Act may be used by the government of any foreign country for debt service payments owed by any country to any international financial institution: *Provided*, That for purposes of this paragraph, the term ''international financial institution'' has the meaning given the term in section 7034(r)(3) of this Act.

(b) NATIONAL BUDGET AND CONTRACT TRANSPARENCY.—

(1) MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS OF FISCAL TRANSPARENCY.—The Secretary of State shall continue to update and strengthen the ''minimum requirements of fiscal transparency'' for each government receiving assistance appropriated by this Act, as identified in the report required by section 7031(b) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2014 (division K of Public Law 113–76).

(2) DEFINITION.—For purposes of paragraph (1), ''minimum requirements of fiscal transparency'' are requirements consistent with those in subsection (a)(1), and the public disclosure of national budget documentation (to include receipts and expenditures by ministry) and government contracts and licenses for natural resource extraction (to include bidding and concession allocation practices).

(3) DETERMINATION AND REPORT.—For each government identified pursuant to paragraph (1), the Secretary of State, not later than 180 days after enactment of this Act, shall make or update any determination of ''significant progress'' or ''no significant progress'' in meeting the minimum requirements of fiscal transparency, and make such determinations publicly available in an annual ''Fiscal Transparency Report'' to be posted on the Department of State Web site: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall identify the significant progress made by each such government to publicly disclose national budget documentation, contracts, and licenses which are additional to such information disclosed in previous fiscal years, and include specific recommendations of short- and long-term steps such government should take to improve fiscal transparency: *Provided further*, That the annual report shall include a detailed description of how funds appropriated by this Act are being used to improve fiscal transparency, and identify benchmarks for measuring progress.

(4) ASSISTANCE.—Funds appropriated under title III of this Act shall be made available for programs and activities to assist governments identified pursuant to paragraph (1) to improve budget transparency and to support civil society organizations in such countries that promote budget transparency: *Provided,* That such sums shall be in addition to funds otherwise available for such purposes: *Provided further*, That a description of the uses of such funds shall be included in the annual ''Fiscal Transparency Report'' required by paragraph (3).

(c) ANTI-KLEPTOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS.—

(1)(A) INELIGIBILITY.—Officials of foreign governments and their immediate family members about whom the Secretary of State has credible information have been involved in significant corruption, including corruption related to the extraction of natural resources, or a gross violation of human rights shall be ineligible for entry into the United States.

(B) The Secretary shall also publicly or privately designate or identify officials of foreign governments and their immediate family members about whom the Secretary has such credible information without regard to whether the individual has applied for a visa.

(2) EXCEPTION.—Individuals shall not be ineligible if entry into the United States would further important United States law enforcement objectives or is necessary to permit the United States to fulfill its obligations under the United Nations Headquarters Agreement: *Provided*, That nothing in paragraph (1) shall be construed to derogate from United States Government obligations under applicable international agreements.

(3) WAIVER.—The Secretary may waive the application of paragraph (1) if the Secretary determines that the waiver would serve a compelling national interest or that the circumstances which caused the individual to be ineligible have changed sufficiently.

(4) REPORT.—Not later than 6 months after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit a report, including a classified annex if necessary, to the Committees on Appropriations and the Committees on the Judiciary describing the information related to corruption or violation of human rights concerning each of the individuals found ineligible in the previous 12 months pursuant to paragraph (1)(A) as well as the individuals who the Secretary designated or identified pursuant to paragraph (1)(B), or who would be ineligible but for the application of paragraph (2), a list of any waivers provided under paragraph (3), and the justification for each waiver.

(5) POSTING OF REPORT.—Any unclassified portion of the report required under paragraph (4) shall be posted on the Department of State Web site.

(6) CLARIFICATION.—For purposes of paragraphs (1)(B), (4), and (5), the records of the Department of State and of diplomatic and consular offices of the United States pertaining to the issuance or refusal of visas or permits to enter the United States shall not be considered confidential.

(d) NETWORKS OF CORRUPTION.—If the Secretary of State has credible information of networks of corruption involving the participation of, or support from, a senior official in a country that receives assistance funded by this Act under titles III or IV, the Secretary shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations describing such networks, which shall include the information required under the heading ''Economic Support Fund'' in Senate Report 114–290.

(e) EXTRACTION OF NATURAL RESOURCES.—

(1) ASSISTANCE.—Funds appropriated by this Act shall be made available to promote and support transparency and accountability of expenditures and revenues related to the extraction of natural resources, including by strengthening implementation and monitoring of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative, implementing and enforcing section 8204 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–246; 122 Stat. 2052) and to prevent the sale of conflict diamonds, and provide technical assistance to promote independent audit mechanisms and support civil society participation in natural resource management.

(2) UNITED STATES POLICY.—

(A) The Secretary of the Treasury shall inform the management of the international financial institutions, and post on the Department of the Treasury Web site, that it is the policy of the United States to vote against any assistance by such institutions (including any loan, credit, grant, or guarantee) to any country for the extraction and export of a natural resource if the government of such country has in place laws, regulations, or procedures to prevent or limit the public disclosure of company payments as required by United States law, and unless such government has adopted laws, regulations, or procedures in the sector in which assistance is being considered for—

(i) accurately accounting for and public disclosure of payments to the host government by companies involved in the extraction and export of natural resources;

(ii) the independent auditing of accounts receiving such payments and public disclosure of the findings of such audits; and

(iii) public disclosure of such documents as Host Government Agreements, Concession Agreements, and bidding documents, allowing in any such dissemination or disclosure for the redaction of, or exceptions for, information that is commercially proprietary or that would create competitive disadvantage.

(B) The requirements of subparagraph (A) shall not apply to assistance for the purpose of building the capacity of such government to meet the requirements of this subparagraph.

(f) FOREIGN ASSISTANCE WEB SITE.—Funds appropriated by this Act under titles I and II, and funds made available for any independent agency in title III, as appropriate, shall be made available to support the provision of additional information on United States Government foreign assistance on the Department of State foreign assistance Web site: *Provided*, That all Federal agencies funded under this Act shall provide such information on foreign assistance, upon request, to the Department of State.

DEMOCRACY PROGRAMS

SEC. 7032. (a) FUNDING AND STRATEGY.—

(1) Of the funds appropriated by this Act under the headings ''Development Assistance'', ''Economic Support Fund'', ''Democracy Fund'', ''Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia'', and ''International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement'', not less than $2,308,517,000 shall be made available for democracy programs.

(2) Not later than 180 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in consultation with the relevant heads of other United States Government agencies, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a comprehensive, multi-year strategy for the promotion of democracy abroad, to include the identification of the national interest served by such activity, and the specific roles and responsibilities of such agencies in implementing the strategy.

(b) AUTHORITY.—Funds made available by this Act for democracy programs may be made available notwithstanding any other provision of law, and with regard to the National Endowment for Democracy (NED), any regulation.

(c) DEFINITION OF DEMOCRACY PROGRAMS.—For purposes of funds appropriated by this Act, the term ''democracy programs'' means programs that support good governance, credible and competitive elections, freedom of expression, association, assembly, and religion, human rights, labor rights, independent media, and the rule of law, and that otherwise strengthen the capacity of democratic political parties, governments, nongovernmental organizations and institutions, and citizens to support the development of democratic states, and institutions that are responsive and accountable to citizens.

(d) PROGRAM PRIORITIZATION.—Funds made available pursuant to this section that are made available for programs to strengthen government institutions shall be prioritized for those institutions that demonstrate a commitment to democracy and the rule of law, as determined by the Secretary of State or the USAID Administrator, as appropriate.

(e) RESTRICTION ON PRIOR APPROVAL.—With respect to the provision of assistance for democracy programs in this Act, the organizations implementing such assistance, the specific nature of that assistance, and the participants in such programs shall not be subject to the prior approval by the government of any foreign country: *Provided*, That the Secretary of State, in coordination with the USAID Administrator, shall report to the Committees on Appropriations, not later than 120 days after enactment of this Act, detailing steps taken by the Department of State and USAID to comply with the requirements of this subsection.

(f) CONTINUATION OF CURRENT PRACTICES.—USAID shall continue to implement civil society and political competition and consensus building programs abroad with funds appropriated by this Act in a manner that recognizes the unique benefits of grants and cooperative agreements in implementing such programs: *Provided*, That nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to affect the ability of any entity, including United States small businesses, from competing for proposals for USAID-funded civil society and political competition and consensus building programs.

(g) COUNTRY STRATEGY STRATEGIC REVIEWS.—Prior to the obligation of funds made available by this Act for Department of State and USAID democracy programs for a nondemocratic or democratic transitioning country for which a country strategy has been concluded after the date of enactment of this Act, as required by section 2111(c)(1) of the ADVANCE Democracy Act of 2007 (title XXI of Public Law 110–53; 22 U.S.C. 8211) or similar provision of law or regulation, the Under Secretary for Civilian Security, Democracy and Human Rights, Department of State, in consultation with the Assistant Secretary for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, Department of State, and the Assistant Administrator for Democracy, Conflict, and Humanitarian Assistance, USAID, shall review such strategy to ensure that it includes—

(1) specific goals and objectives for such program, including a specific plan and timeline to measure impacts;

(2) an assessment of the risks associated with the conduct of such program to intended beneficiaries and implementers, including steps to support and protect such individuals; and

(3) the funding requirements to initiate and sustain such program in fiscal year 2017 and subsequent fiscal years, as appropriate:

Provided, That for the purposes of this subsection, the term ''nondemocratic or democratic transitioning country'' shall have the same meaning as in section 2104(6) of Public Law 110–53.

(h) COMMUNICATION AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) INFORMING THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR DEMOCRACY.—The Assistant Secretary for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, Department of State, and the Assistant Administrator for Democracy, Conflict, and Humanitarian Assistance, USAID, shall regularly inform the National Endowment for Democracy of democracy programs that are planned and supported by funds made available by this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs.

(2) REPORT ON FUNDING INSTRUMENTS.—Not later than September 30, 2017, the Secretary of State and USAID Administrator shall each submit to the Committees on Appropriations a report detailing the use of contracts, grants, and cooperative agreements

in the conduct of democracy programs with funds made available by the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Act, 2016 (division K of Public Law 114–113), which shall include funding level, account, program sector and subsector, and a brief summary of purpose.

(3) REPORT ON PROGRAM CHANGES.—The Secretary of State or the USAID Administrator, as appropriate, shall report to the Committees on Appropriations within 30 days of a decision to significantly change the objectives or the content of a democracy program or to close such a program due to the increasingly repressive nature of the host country government: *Provided*, That the report shall also include a strategy for continuing support for democracy promotion, if such programming is feasible, and may be submitted in classified form, if necessary.

INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

SEC. 7033. (a) INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS FREEDOM OFFICE AND SPECIAL ENVOY TO PROMOTE RELIGIOUS FREEDOM.—

(1) Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading ''Diplomatic and Consular Programs'' shall be made available for the Office of International Religious Freedom, Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, Department of State, the Office of the Ambassador-at-Large for International Religious Freedom, and the Special Envoy to Promote Religious Freedom of Religious Minorities in the Near East and South Central Asia, as authorized in the Near East and South Central Asia Religious Freedom Act of 2014 (Public Law 113–161), including for support staff at not less than the amounts specified for such offices in the table under such heading in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this Consolidated Act).

(2) Funds appropriated under the heading ''Diplomatic and Consular Programs'' and designated for the Office of International Religious Freedom shall be made available for the development and implementation of an international religious freedom curriculum in accordance with the criteria specified under such heading in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this Consolidated Act).

(b) ASSISTANCE.—

(1) INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS FREEDOM PROGRAMS.—Of the funds appropriated by this Act under the heading ''Democracy Fund'' and available for the Human Rights and Democracy Fund (HRDF), not less than $10,000,000 shall be made available for international religious freedom programs: *Provided*, That the Ambassador-at-Large for International Religious Freedom shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations on the uses of such funds.

(2) PROTECTION AND INVESTIGATION PROGRAMS.—Of the funds appropriated by this Act under the heading ''Economic Support Fund'', not less than $10,000,000 shall be made available for programs to protect vulnerable and persecuted religious minorities: *Provided*, That a portion of such funds shall be made available for programs to investigate the persecution of such minorities by governments and non-state actors and for the public dissemination of information collected on such persecution, including on the Department of State Web site.

(3) HUMANITARIAN PROGRAMS.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the headings ''International Disaster Assistance'' and ''Migration and Refugee Assistance'' shall be made available for humanitarian assistance for vulnerable and persecuted religious minorities, including victims of genocide designated by the Secretary of State and other groups that have suffered crimes against humanity and ethnic cleansing, to—

(A) accelerate the implementation of an immediate, coordinated, and sustained response to provide humanitarian assistance;

(B) enhance protection of conflict victims, including those facing a dire humanitarian crisis and severe persecution because of their faith or ethnicity; and

(C) improve access to secure locations for obtaining humanitarian and resettlement services.

(4) TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE, RECONCILIATION, AND REINTEGRATION PROGRAMS IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA REGIONS.—

(A) Not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act and after consultation with relevant central governments in the Middle East and North Africa regions, the Secretary of State shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations a plan for transitional justice, reconciliation, and reintegration programs for vulnerable and persecuted religious minorities in such regions: *Provided*, That such plan shall include a description of actions to be taken by such governments to safeguard and promote the political and economic rights of such minorities, including the return, rehabilitation, and protection of property in areas of conflict.

(B) Of the funds appropriated by this Act under the heading ''Economic Support Fund'' that are made available for assistance for Iraq and Syria, not less than $5,000,000 shall be made available to support the implementation of the plan required by subparagraph (A): *Provided*, That such funds shall be matched, to the maximum extent practicable, from sources other than the United States Government.

(5) RESPONSIBILITY OF FUNDS.—Funds made available by paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) shall be the responsibility of the Ambassador-at-Large for International Religious Freedom, in consultation with other relevant United States Government officials.

(c) INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading ''Broadcasting Board of Governors, International Broadcasting Operations'' shall be made available for programs related to international religious freedom, including reporting on the condition of vulnerable and persecuted religious groups.

(d) ATROCITIES PREVENTION.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the headings ''Economic Support Fund'' and ''International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement'' shall be made available for programs to prevent atrocities and to implement the recommendations of the Atrocities Prevention Board, including with respect to the evaluation required by section 7033(d) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2016 (division K of Public Law 114–113): *Provided*, That the Under Secretary for Civilian Security, Democracy, and Human Rights, Department of State, shall be responsible for providing the strategic policy direction for, and policy oversight of, funds made available pursuant to this subsection to the Bureaus of International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement and Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, Department of State: *Provided further*, That such funds shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

(e) DESIGNATION OF NON-STATE ACTORS.—The President shall, concurrent with the annual foreign country review required by section 402(b)(1) of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6442(b)(1)), review and identify any non-state actors in such countries that have engaged in particularly severe violations of religious freedom, and designate, in a manner consistent with such Act, each such group as a non-state actor of particular concern for religious freedom operating in such reviewed country or surrounding region: *Provided*, That whenever the President designates such a non-state actor under this subsection, the President shall, as soon as practicable after the designation is made, submit a report to the appropriate congressional committees detailing the reasons for such designation.

(f) FUNDING CLARIFICATION.—Funds made available pursuant to subsections (b) and (d) are in addition to amounts otherwise made available for such purposes.

SPECIAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 7034. (a) VICTIMS OF WAR, DISPLACED CHILDREN, AND DISPLACED BURMESE.—Funds appropriated in titles III and VI of this Act that are made available for victims of war, displaced children, displaced Burmese, and to combat trafficking in persons and assist victims of such trafficking, may be made available notwithstanding any other provision of law.

(b) LAW ENFORCEMENT AND SECURITY.—

(1) CHILD SOLDIERS.—Funds appropriated by this Act should not be used to support any military training or operations that include child soldiers.

(2) CROWD CONTROL ITEMS.—Funds appropriated by this Act should not be used for tear gas, small arms, light weapons, ammunition, or other items for crowd control purposes for foreign security forces that use excessive force to repress peaceful expression, association, or assembly in countries undergoing democratic transition.

(3) DISARMAMENT, DEMOBILIZATION, AND REINTEGRATION.—Section 7034(d) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2015 (division J of Public Law 113–235) shall continue in effect during fiscal year 2017.

(4) FORENSIC ASSISTANCE.—

(A) Of the funds appropriated by this Act under the heading ''Economic Support Fund'', not less than $6,500,000 shall be made available for forensic anthropology assistance related to the exhumation of mass graves and the identification of victims of war crimes, genocide, and crimes against humanity, including in Iraq, Guatemala, Colombia, El Salvador, Syria, and Sri Lanka, which shall be administered by the Assistant Secretary for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, Department of State.

(B) Of the funds appropriated by this Act under the heading ''International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement'', not less than $6,000,000 shall be made available for DNA forensic technology programs to combat human trafficking in Central America and Mexico.

(5) INTERNATIONAL PRISON CONDITIONS.—Section 7065 of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2015 (division J of Public Law 113–235) shall continue in effect during fiscal year 2017.

(6) RECONSTITUTING CIVILIAN POLICE AUTHORITY.—In providing assistance with funds appropriated by this Act under section 660(b)(6) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, support for a nation emerging from instability may be deemed to mean support for regional, district, municipal, or other subnational entity emerging from instability, as well as a nation emerging from instability.

(7) SECURITY ASSISTANCE REPORT.—Not later than 120 days after enactment of this

Act, the Secretary of State shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations a report on funds obligated and expended during fiscal year 2016, by country and purpose of assistance, under the headings ''Peacekeeping Operations'', ''International Military Education and Training'', and ''Foreign Military Financing Program''.

(8) FOREIGN MILITARY SALES AND FOREIGN MILITARY FINANCING PROGRAM.—

(A) AVAILABILITY.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading ''Foreign Military Financing Program'' for the general costs of administering military assistance and sales shall be made available to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of programs authorized by Chapter 2 of the Arms Export Control Act: *Provided*, That prior to the obligation of funds for such purposes, the Secretary of State shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations.

(B) REVIEW AND REPORT.—The Secretary of State, in coordination with the Secretary of Defense, shall review the resources, personnel, and practices of the Departments of State and Defense that are associated with administering military assistance and sales programs and, not later than 120 days after enactment of this Act, submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on steps taken or planned to be taken to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of such programs.

(C) QUARTERLY STATUS REPORT.—Following the submission of the quarterly report required by section 36 of Public Law 90–629 (22 U.S.C. 2776), the Secretary of State, in coordination with the Secretary of Defense, shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations a status report that contains the information described under this heading in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this Consolidated Act).

(D) FOREIGN MILITARY FINANCING PROGRAM LOANS.—Not later than 60 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in coordination with the Secretary of Defense, shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations a report assessing the potential impact of transitioning assistance made available by this Act under the heading ''Foreign Military Financing Program'' from grants to loans, including the budgetary and diplomatic impacts, and the extent to which such transition would affect the foreign policy interest of the United States: *Provided*, That such report shall also include an assessment of the impact of proposals included in the fiscal year 2018 congressional budget justification that would transition such assistance from grants to loans.

(9) VETTING REPORT.—

(A) Not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit a report to the appropriate congressional committees on foreign assistance cases submitted for vetting for purposes of section 620M of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 during the preceding fiscal year, including—

(i) the total number of cases submitted, approved, suspended, or rejected for human rights reasons; and

(ii) for cases rejected, a description of the steps taken to assist the foreign government in taking effective measures to bring the responsible members of the security forces to justice, in accordance with section 620M(c) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961.

(B) The report required by this paragraph shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may be accompanied by a classified annex.

(10) ANNUAL FOREIGN MILITARY TRAINING REPORT.—For the purposes of implementing section 656 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, the term ''military training provided to foreign military personnel by the Department of Defense and the Department of State'' shall be deemed to include all military training provided by foreign governments with funds appropriated to the Department of Defense or the Department of State, except for training provided by the government of a country designated by section 517(b) of such Act as a major non-NATO ally.

(11) PROLIFERATION SECURITY INITIATIVE.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading ''Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining and Related Programs'' shall be made available for programs to increase international participation in the Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI) and endorsement of the PSI Statement of Interdiction Principles: *Provided*, That not later than 45 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations detailing steps to be taken to implement the requirements of this paragraph.

(12) AUTHORITY TO COUNTER EXTREMISM.—Funds made available by this Act under the heading ''Economic Support Fund'' to counter extremism may be made available notwithstanding any other provision of law restricting assistance to foreign countries, except sections 502B and 620A of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961: *Provided*, That the Secretary of State, or the USAID Administrator, as appropriate, shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations prior to exercising the authority of this paragraph.

(c) WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME.—Funds managed by the Bureau for Democracy, Conflict, and Humanitarian Assistance, United States Agency for International Development, from this or any other Act, may be made available as a general contribution to the World Food Programme, notwithstanding any other provision of law.

(d) DIRECTIVES AND AUTHORITIES.—

(1) RESEARCH AND TRAINING.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading ''Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia'' shall be made available to carry out the Program for Research and Training on Eastern Europe and the Independent States of the Former Soviet Union as authorized by the Soviet-Eastern European Research and Training Act of 1983 (22 U.S.C. 4501 et seq.).

(2) GENOCIDE VICTIMS MEMORIAL SITES AND TRIBUNALS.—

(A) Funds appropriated by this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs under the headings ''Economic Support Fund'' and ''Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia'' may be made available as contributions to establish and maintain memorial sites of genocide, subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

(B) Of the funds appropriated by this Act under the heading ''Economic Support Fund'', not less than $3,500,000 shall be made available, on a competitive basis, for reimbursement of costs related to research and documentation in support of the activities of international tribunals established to try cases of war crimes, genocide, and crimes against humanity.

(3) ADDITIONAL AUTHORITIES.—Of the amounts made available by title I of this Act under the heading ''Diplomatic and Consular Programs'', up to $500,000 may be made available for grants pursuant to section 504 of Public Law 95–426 (22 U.S.C. 2656d), including to facilitate collaboration with indigenous communities, and up to $1,000,000 may be made available for grants to carry out the activities of the Cultural Antiquities Task Force.

(4) AUTHORITY.—The USAID Administrator may use funds appropriated by this Act under title III to make innovation incentive awards: *Provided*, That each individual award may not exceed $100,000: *Provided further*, That no more than 10 such awards may be made during fiscal year 2017: *Provided further*, That for purposes of this paragraph the term ''innovation incentive award'' means the provision of funding on a competitive basis that—

(A) encourages and rewards the development of solutions for a particular, well-defined problem related to the alleviation of poverty; or

(B) helps identify and promote a broad range of ideas and practices facilitating further development of an idea or practice by third parties.

(e) PARTNER VETTING.—

(1) In lieu of the requirements in the second and third provisos of section 7034(e) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2016 (division K of Public Law 114–113), not later than 60 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State and the USAID Administrator shall jointly submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations, in classified form if necessary, detailing the findings, conclusions, and recommendations of the evaluation of the Partner Vetting System pilot program and recommendations for any new partner vetting program: *Provided*, That prior to the submission of the report, the Secretary and Administrator shall jointly consult with the Committees on Appropriations, and also consult with representatives of implementing organizations, on such findings, conclusions, and recommendations.

(2) The Secretary of State and USAID Administrator may initiate a partner vetting program to mitigate the risk of diversion of foreign assistance, or make significant modifications to any existing partner vetting program, only following consultation with the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided*, That the Secretary and Administrator should provide a direct vetting option for prime awardees in any partner vetting program initiated after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(f) CONTINGENCIES.—During fiscal year 2017, the President may use up to $125,000,000 under the authority of section 451 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, notwithstanding any other provision of law.

(g) INTERNATIONAL CHILD ABDUCTIONS.—The Secretary of State should withhold funds appropriated under title III of this Act for assistance for the central government of any country that is not taking appropriate steps to comply with the Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abductions, done at the Hague on October 25, 1980: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall report to the Committees on Appropriations within 15 days of withholding funds under this subsection.

(h) CULTURAL PRESERVATION PROJECT DETERMINATION.—None of the funds appropriated in titles I and III of this Act may be used for the preservation of religious sites unless the Secretary of State or the USAID Administrator, as appropriate, determines and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that such sites are historically, artistically, or culturally significant, that the purpose of the project is neither to advance nor to inhibit the free exercise of religion,

and that the project is in the national interest of the United States.

(i) TRANSFER OF FUNDS FOR EXTRAORDINARY PROTECTION.—The Secretary of State may transfer to, and merge with, funds under the heading ''Protection of Foreign Missions and Officials'' unobligated balances of expired funds appropriated under the heading ''Diplomatic and Consular Programs'' for fiscal year 2017, except for funds designated for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, at no later than the end of the fifth fiscal year after the last fiscal year for which such funds are available for the purposes for which appropriated: *Provided*, That not more than $50,000,000 may be transferred.

(j) PROTECTIONS AND REMEDIES FOR EMPLOYEES OF DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.—Section 7034(k) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2015 (division J of Public Law 113–235) shall continue in effect during fiscal year 2017.

(k) EXTENSION OF AUTHORITIES.—

(1) PASSPORT FEES.—Section 1(b)(2) of the Passport Act of June 4, 1920 (22 U.S.C. 214(b)(2)) shall be applied by substituting ''September 30, 2017'' for ''September 30, 2010''.

(2) INCENTIVES FOR CRITICAL POSTS.—The authority contained in section 1115(d) of the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2009 (Public Law 111–32) shall remain in effect through September 30, 2017.

(3) USAID CIVIL SERVICE ANNUITANT WAIVER.—Section 625(j)(1) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2385(j)(1)) shall be applied by substituting ''September 30, 2017'' for ''October 1, 2010'' in subparagraph (B).

(4) OVERSEAS PAY COMPARABILITY AND LIMITATION.—

(A) Subject to the limitation described in subparagraph (B), the authority provided by section 1113 of the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2009 (Public Law 111–32; 123 Stat. 1904) shall remain in effect through September 30, 2017.

(B) The authority described in subparagraph (A) may not be used to pay an eligible member of the Foreign Service (as defined in section 1113(b) of the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2009) a locality-based comparability payment (stated as a percentage) that exceeds two-thirds of the amount of the locality-based comparability payment (stated as a percentage) that would be payable to such member under section 5304 of title 5, United States Code, if such member's official duty station were in the District of Columbia.

(5) CATEGORICAL ELIGIBILITY.—The Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 1990 (Public Law 101–167) is amended—

(A) in section 599D (8 U.S.C. 1157 note)—

(i) in subsection (b)(3), by striking ''and 2016'' and inserting ''2016, and 2017''; and

(ii) in subsection (e), by striking ''2016'' each place it appears and inserting ''2017''; and

(B) in section 599E (8 U.S.C. 1255 note) in subsection (b)(2), by striking ''2016'' and inserting ''2017''.

(6) INSPECTOR GENERAL ANNUITANT WAIVER.—The authorities provided in section 1015(b) of the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2010 (Public Law 111–212) shall remain in effect through September 30, 2017.

(7) EXTENSION OF WAR RESERVES STOCKPILE AUTHORITY.—

(A) Section 12001(d) of the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2005 (Public Law 108–287; 118 Stat. 1011) is amended by striking ''2017'' and inserting ''2018''.

(B) Section 514(b)(2)(A) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2321h(b)(2)(A)) is amended by striking ''and 2017'' and inserting ''2017, and 2018''.

(8) MODIFICATION OF LIFE INSURANCE SUPPLEMENT.—Section 415(a)(1) of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 3975(a)(1)) is amended by adding—''The group life insurance supplement employee benefit paid or scheduled to be paid pursuant to this section should not be used to reduce any other payment to which a recipient is otherwise eligible under Federal law.''.

(l) DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND THE UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT.—Prior to implementing any reorganization of the Department of State or the United States Agency for International Development, including any action taken pursuant to the March 31, 2017 Executive Order 13781 on a Comprehensive Plan for Reorganizing the Executive Branch, the Secretary of State shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations on such reorganization: *Provided,* That such report shall include a detailed justification and analysis containing—

(1) the impact on personnel, both foreign service and civil service;

(2) the process used to identify the merger, closing or termination of any operating unit, including the process used to assess the impact of such action on programs, projects, and activities funded by this Act;

(3) the impact any such merger, closing or termination would have on the ability to conduct adequate monitoring and oversight of foreign assistance programs; and

(4) the national security interest served by each such merger, closing or termination, including a determination that such merger, closing or termination will not expand the influence of any adversary or competitor of the United States, including foreign terrorist organizations.

(m) HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE.—Funds appropriated by this Act that are available for monitoring and evaluation of assistance under the headings ''International Disaster Assistance'' and ''Migration and Refugee Assistance'' shall, as appropriate, be made available for the regular collection of feedback obtained directly from beneficiaries on the quality and relevance of such assistance: *Provided*, That the Department of State and USAID shall conduct regular oversight to ensure that such feedback is collected and used by implementing partners to maximize the cost-effectiveness and utility of such assistance, and require such partners that receive funds under such headings to establish procedures for collecting and responding to such feedback and inform the Department of State or USAID, as appropriate, of such procedures.

(n) HIV/AIDS WORKING CAPITAL FUND.—Funds available in the HIV/AIDS Working Capital Fund established pursuant to section 525(b)(1) of the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2005 (Public Law 108–477) may be made available for pharmaceuticals and other products for child survival, malaria, and tuberculosis to the same extent as HIV/AIDS pharmaceuticals and other products, subject to the terms and conditions in such section: *Provided*, That the authority in section 525(b)(5) of the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriation Act, 2005 (Public Law 108–477) shall be exercised by the Assistant Administrator for Global Health, USAID, with respect to funds deposited for such non-HIV/AIDS pharmaceuticals and other products, and shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of State shall include in the congressional budget justification an accounting of budgetary resources, disbursements, balances, and reimbursements related to such fund.

(o) LOANS AND ENTERPRISE FUNDS.—

(1) LOAN GUARANTEES.—Funds appropriated under the headings ''Economic Support Fund'' and ''Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia'' by this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs may be made available for the costs, as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, of loan guarantees for Jordan, Ukraine, Iraq, Egypt, and Tunisia, which are authorized to be provided: *Provided*, That amounts made available under this paragraph for the costs of such guarantees shall not be considered assistance for the purposes of provisions of law limiting assistance to a country.

(2) ENTERPRISE FUNDS.—Funds appropriated under the heading ''Economic Support Fund'' in this Act may be made available to establish and operate one or more enterprise funds for Egypt and Tunisia: *Provided*, That the first, third and fifth provisos under section 7041(b) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2012 (division I of Public Law 112–74) shall apply to funds appropriated by this Act under the heading ''Economic Support Fund'' for an enterprise fund or funds to the same extent and in the same manner as such provision of law applied to funds made available under such section (except that the clause excluding subsection (d)(3) of section 201 of the SEED Act shall not apply): *Provided further*, That in addition to the previous proviso, the authorities in the matter preceding the first proviso of such section may apply to any such enterprise fund or funds: *Provided further*, That the authority of any such enterprise fund or funds to provide assistance shall cease to be effective on December 31, 2027.

(3) DESIGNATION REQUIREMENT.—Funds made available pursuant to paragraph (1) from prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs that were previously designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 are designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of such Act.

(4) CONSULTATION AND NOTIFICATION.—Funds made available pursuant to the authorities of this subsection shall be subject to prior consultation with the appropriate congressional committees, and subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

(p) SMALL GRANTS AND ENTITIES.—

(1) Of the funds appropriated by this Act under the headings ''Development Assistance'', ''Economic Support Fund'', and ''Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia'', not less than $47,000,000 shall be made available for the Small Grants Program pursuant to section 7080 of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2015 (division J of

Public Law 113–235), which may remain available until September 30, 2021.

(2) For the purposes of section 7080 of division J of Public Law 113–235, ''eligible entities'' shall be defined as small local, international, and United States-based nongovernmental organizations, educational institutions, and other small entities that have received less than a total of $5,000,000 from USAID over the previous 5 fiscal years: *Provided*, That departments or centers of such educational institutions may be considered individually in determining such eligibility.

(q) EXCEPTION.—Notwithstanding section 201 of the Security Assistance Appropriations Act, 2017 (division B of Public Law 114–254), funds appropriated or otherwise made available by title II of such Act are in addition to amounts specifically designated by this Act or in the respective tables in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this Consolidated Act).

(r) DEFINITIONS.—

(1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—Unless otherwise defined in this Act, for purposes of this Act the term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means the Committees on Appropriations and Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committees on Appropriations and Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives.

(2) FUNDS APPROPRIATED BY THIS ACT AND PRIOR ACTS.—Unless otherwise defined in this Act, for purposes of this Act the term ''funds appropriated by this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs'' means funds that remain available for obligation, and have not expired.

(3) INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.—In this Act ''international financial institutions'' means the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the International Development Association, the International Finance Corporation, the Inter-American Development Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the Asian Development Bank, the Asian Development Fund, the Inter-American Investment Corporation, the North American Development Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the African Development Bank, the African Development Fund, and the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency.

(4) SOUTHERN KORDOFAN REFERENCE.—Any reference to Southern Kordofan in this or any other Act making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs shall be deemed to include portions of Western Kordofan that were previously part of Southern Kordofan prior to the 2013 division of Southern Kordofan.

(5) USAID.—In this Act, the term ''USAID'' means the United States Agency for International Development.

(6) CLARIFICATION.—Unless otherwise provided for in this Act, for the purposes of this Act the terms ''under this heading'', ''under the heading'', ''under the headings'', or similar phrases mean funds appropriated or otherwise made available under such heading or headings in all titles of this Act: *Provided*, That the term ''under the heading in this title'' or similar phrases means funds appropriated or otherwise made available only in such title.

(7) SPEND PLAN.—In this Act, the term ''spend plan'' means a plan for the uses of funds appropriated for a particular entity, country, program, purpose, or account and which shall include, at a minimum, a description of—

(A) realistic and sustainable goals, and a timeline for achieving such goals;

(B) amounts and sources of funds by account;

(C) criteria for measuring progress in achieving such goals;

(D) how such funds will complement other ongoing or planned programs; and

(E) implementing partners, to the maximum extent practicable.

ARAB LEAGUE BOYCOTT OF ISRAEL

SEC. 7035. It is the sense of the Congress that—

(1) the Arab League boycott of Israel, and the secondary boycott of American firms that have commercial ties with Israel, is an impediment to peace in the region and to United States investment and trade in the Middle East and North Africa;

(2) the Arab League boycott, which was regrettably reinstated in 1997, should be immediately and publicly terminated, and the Central Office for the Boycott of Israel immediately disbanded;

(3) all Arab League states should normalize relations with their neighbor Israel;

(4) the President and the Secretary of State should continue to vigorously oppose the Arab League boycott of Israel and find concrete steps to demonstrate that opposition by, for example, taking into consideration the participation of any recipient country in the boycott when determining to sell weapons to said country; and

(5) the President should report to Congress annually on specific steps being taken by the United States to encourage Arab League states to normalize their relations with Israel to bring about the termination of the Arab League boycott of Israel, including those to encourage allies and trading partners of the United States to enact laws prohibiting businesses from complying with the boycott and penalizing businesses that do comply.

PALESTINIAN STATEHOOD

SEC. 7036. (a) LIMITATION ON ASSISTANCE.—None of the funds appropriated under titles III through VI of this Act may be provided to support a Palestinian state unless the Secretary of State determines and certifies to the appropriate congressional committees that—

(1) the governing entity of a new Palestinian state—

(A) has demonstrated a firm commitment to peaceful co-existence with the State of Israel; and

(B) is taking appropriate measures to counter terrorism and terrorist financing in the West Bank and Gaza, including the dismantling of terrorist infrastructures, and is cooperating with appropriate Israeli and other appropriate security organizations; and

(2) the Palestinian Authority (or the governing entity of a new Palestinian state) is working with other countries in the region to vigorously pursue efforts to establish a just, lasting, and comprehensive peace in the Middle East that will enable Israel and an independent Palestinian state to exist within the context of full and normal relationships, which should include—

(A) termination of all claims or states of belligerency;

(B) respect for and acknowledgment of the sovereignty, territorial integrity, and political independence of every state in the area through measures including the establishment of demilitarized zones;

(C) their right to live in peace within secure and recognized boundaries free from threats or acts of force;

(D) freedom of navigation through international waterways in the area; and

(E) a framework for achieving a just settlement of the refugee problem.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the governing entity should enact a constitution assuring the rule of law, an independent judiciary, and respect for human rights for its citizens, and should enact other laws and regulations assuring transparent and accountable governance.

(c) WAIVER.—The President may waive subsection (a) if the President determines that it is important to the national security interest of the United States to do so.

(d) EXEMPTION.—The restriction in subsection (a) shall not apply to assistance intended to help reform the Palestinian Authority and affiliated institutions, or the governing entity, in order to help meet the requirements of subsection (a), consistent with the provisions of section 7040 of this Act (''Limitation on Assistance for the Palestinian Authority'').

RESTRICTIONS CONCERNING THE PALESTINIAN AUTHORITY

SEC. 7037. None of the funds appropriated under titles II through VI of this Act may be obligated or expended to create in any part of Jerusalem a new office of any department or agency of the United States Government for the purpose of conducting official United States Government business with the Palestinian Authority over Gaza and Jericho or any successor Palestinian governing entity provided for in the Israel-PLO Declaration of Principles: *Provided*, That this restriction shall not apply to the acquisition of additional space for the existing Consulate General in Jerusalem: *Provided further*, That meetings between officers and employees of the United States and officials of the Palestinian Authority, or any successor Palestinian governing entity provided for in the Israel-PLO Declaration of Principles, for the purpose of conducting official United States Government business with such authority should continue to take place in locations other than Jerusalem: *Provided further*, That as has been true in the past, officers and employees of the United States Government may continue to meet in Jerusalem on other subjects with Palestinians (including those who now occupy positions in the Palestinian Authority), have social contacts, and have incidental discussions.

PROHIBITION ON ASSISTANCE TO THE PALESTINIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION

SEC. 7038. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to provide equipment, technical support, consulting services, or any other form of assistance to the Palestinian Broadcasting Corporation.

ASSISTANCE FOR THE WEST BANK AND GAZA

SEC. 7039. (a) OVERSIGHT.—For fiscal year 2017, 30 days prior to the initial obligation of funds for the bilateral West Bank and Gaza Program, the Secretary of State shall certify to the Committees on Appropriations that procedures have been established to assure the Comptroller General of the United States will have access to appropriate United States financial information in order to review the uses of United States assistance for the Program funded under the heading ''Economic Support Fund'' for the West Bank and Gaza.

(b) VETTING.—Prior to the obligation of funds appropriated by this Act under the heading ''Economic Support Fund'' for assistance for the West Bank and Gaza, the Secretary of State shall take all appropriate steps to ensure that such assistance is not

provided to or through any individual, private or government entity, or educational institution that the Secretary knows or has reason to believe advocates, plans, sponsors, engages in, or has engaged in, terrorist activity nor, with respect to private entities or educational institutions, those that have as a principal officer of the entity's governing board or governing board of trustees any individual that has been determined to be involved in, or advocating terrorist activity or determined to be a member of a designated foreign terrorist organization: *Provided*, That the Secretary of State shall, as appropriate, establish procedures specifying the steps to be taken in carrying out this subsection and shall terminate assistance to any individual, entity, or educational institution which the Secretary has determined to be involved in or advocating terrorist activity.

(c) PROHIBITION.—

(1) RECOGNITION OF ACTS OF TERRORISM.—None of the funds appropriated under titles III through VI of this Act for assistance under the West Bank and Gaza Program may be made available for the purpose of recognizing or otherwise honoring individuals who commit, or have committed acts of terrorism.

(2) SECURITY ASSISTANCE AND REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds made available by this or prior appropriations Acts, including funds made available by transfer, may be made available for obligation for security assistance for the West Bank and Gaza until the Secretary of State reports to the Committees on Appropriations on the benchmarks that have been established for security assistance for the West Bank and Gaza and reports on the extent of Palestinian compliance with such benchmarks.

(d) AUDITS BY THE UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT.—

(1) The Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development shall ensure that Federal or non-Federal audits of all contractors and grantees, and significant subcontractors and sub-grantees, under the West Bank and Gaza Program, are conducted at least on an annual basis to ensure, among other things, compliance with this section.

(2) Of the funds appropriated by this Act up to $500,000 may be used by the Office of Inspector General of the United States Agency for International Development for audits, inspections, and other activities in furtherance of the requirements of this subsection: *Provided*, That such funds are in addition to funds otherwise available for such purposes.

(e) COMPTROLLER GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES AUDIT.—Subsequent to the certification specified in subsection (a), the Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct an audit and an investigation of the treatment, handling, and uses of all funds for the bilateral West Bank and Gaza Program, including all funds provided as cash transfer assistance, in fiscal year 2017 under the heading ''Economic Support Fund'', and such audit shall address—

(1) the extent to which such Program complies with the requirements of subsections (b) and (c); and

(2) an examination of all programs, projects, and activities carried out under such Program, including both obligations and expenditures.

(f) NOTIFICATION PROCEDURES.—Funds made available in this Act for West Bank and Gaza shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

(g) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations updating the report contained in section 2106 of chapter 2 of title II of the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act for Defense, the Global War on Terror, and Tsunami Relief, 2005 (Public Law 109–13).

LIMITATION ON ASSISTANCE FOR THE PALESTINIAN AUTHORITY

SEC. 7040. (a) PROHIBITION OF FUNDS.—None of the funds appropriated by this Act to carry out the provisions of chapter 4 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 may be obligated or expended with respect to providing funds to the Palestinian Authority.

(b) WAIVER.—The prohibition included in subsection (a) shall not apply if the President certifies in writing to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President pro tempore of the Senate, and the Committees on Appropriations that waiving such prohibition is important to the national security interest of the United States.

(c) PERIOD OF APPLICATION OF WAIVER.—Any waiver pursuant to subsection (b) shall be effective for no more than a period of 6 months at a time and shall not apply beyond 12 months after the enactment of this Act.

(d) REPORT.—Whenever the waiver authority pursuant to subsection (b) is exercised, the President shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations detailing the justification for the waiver, the purposes for which the funds will be spent, and the accounting procedures in place to ensure that the funds are properly disbursed: *Provided*, That the report shall also detail the steps the Palestinian Authority has taken to arrest terrorists, confiscate weapons and dismantle the terrorist infrastructure.

(e) CERTIFICATION.—If the President exercises the waiver authority under subsection (b), the Secretary of State must certify and report to the Committees on Appropriations prior to the obligation of funds that the Palestinian Authority has established a single treasury account for all Palestinian Authority financing and all financing mechanisms flow through this account, no parallel financing mechanisms exist outside of the Palestinian Authority treasury account, and there is a single comprehensive civil service roster and payroll, and the Palestinian Authority is acting to counter incitement of violence against Israelis and is supporting activities aimed at promoting peace, coexistence, and security cooperation with Israel.

(f) PROHIBITION TO HAMAS AND THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION.—

(1) None of the funds appropriated in titles III through VI of this Act may be obligated for salaries of personnel of the Palestinian Authority located in Gaza or may be obligated or expended for assistance to Hamas or any entity effectively controlled by Hamas, any power-sharing government of which Hamas is a member, or that results from an agreement with Hamas and over which Hamas exercises undue influence.

(2) Notwithstanding the limitation of paragraph (1), assistance may be provided to a power-sharing government only if the President certifies and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that such government, including all of its ministers or such equivalent, has publicly accepted and is complying with the principles contained in section 620K(b)(1) (A) and (B) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended.

(3) The President may exercise the authority in section 620K(e) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as added by the Palestinian Anti-Terrorism Act of 2006 (Public Law 109–446) with respect to this subsection.

(4) Whenever the certification pursuant to paragraph (2) is exercised, the Secretary of State shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations within 120 days of the certification and every quarter thereafter on whether such government, including all of its ministers or such equivalent are continuing to comply with the principles contained in section 620K(b)(1) (A) and (B) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended: *Provided*, That the report shall also detail the amount, purposes and delivery mechanisms for any assistance provided pursuant to the abovementioned certification and a full accounting of any direct support of such government.

(5) None of the funds appropriated under titles III through VI of this Act may be obligated for assistance for the Palestine Liberation Organization.

MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

SEC. 7041. (a) EGYPT.—

(1) CERTIFICATION AND REPORT.—Funds appropriated by this Act that are available for assistance for Egypt may be made available notwithstanding any other provision of law restricting assistance for Egypt, except for this subsection and section 620M of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, and may only be made available for assistance for the Government of Egypt if the Secretary of State certifies and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that such government is—

(A) sustaining the strategic relationship with the United States; and

(B) meeting its obligations under the 1979 Egypt-Israel Peace Treaty.

(2) ECONOMIC SUPPORT FUND.—

(A) FUNDING.—Of the funds appropriated by this Act under the heading ''Economic Support Fund'', up to $112,500,000 may be made available for assistance for Egypt, of which not less than $35,000,000 should be made available for higher education programs including not less than $10,000,000 for scholarships for Egyptian students with high financial need to attend not-for-profit institutions of higher education: *Provided*, That such funds may be made available for democracy programs and for development programs in the Sinai: *Provided further*, That such funds may not be made available for cash transfer assistance or budget support unless the Secretary of State certifies and reports to the appropriate congressional committees that the Government of Egypt is taking consistent and effective steps to stabilize the economy and implement market-based economic reforms.

(B) WITHHOLDING.—The Secretary of State shall withhold from obligation funds appropriated by this Act under the heading ''Economic Support Fund'' for assistance for Egypt, an amount of such funds that the Secretary determines to be equivalent to that expended by the United States Government for bail, and by nongovernmental organizations for legal and court fees, associated with democracy-related trials in Egypt until the Secretary certifies and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that the Government of Egypt has dismissed the convictions issued by the Cairo Criminal Court on June 4, 2013, in ''Public Prosecution Case No. 1110 for the Year 2012''.

(3) FOREIGN MILITARY FINANCING PROGRAM.—

(A) CERTIFICATION.—Of the funds appropriated by this Act under the heading ''Foreign Military Financing Program'', $1,300,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, may be made available for

assistance for Egypt: *Provided*, That 15 percent of such funds shall be withheld from obligation until the Secretary of State certifies and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that the Government of Egypt is taking effective steps to—

(i) advance democracy and human rights in Egypt, including to govern democratically and protect religious minorities and the rights of women, which are in addition to steps taken during the previous calendar year for such purposes;

(ii) implement reforms that protect freedoms of expression, association, and peaceful assembly, including the ability of civil society organizations and the media to function without interference;

(iii) release political prisoners and provide detainees with due process of law;

(iv) hold Egyptian security forces accountable, including officers credibly alleged to have violated human rights; and

(v) provide regular access for United States officials to monitor such assistance in areas where the assistance is used:

Provided further, That such funds may be transferred to an interest bearing account in the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, following consultation with the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That the certification requirement of this paragraph shall not apply to funds appropriated by this Act under such heading for counterterrorism, border security, and nonproliferation programs for Egypt.

(B) WAIVER.—The Secretary of State may waive the certification requirement in subparagraph (A) if the Secretary determines and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that to do so is important to the national security interest of the United States, and submits a report to such Committees containing a detailed justification for the use of such waiver and the reasons why any of the requirements of subparagraph (A) cannot be met.

(4) OVERSIGHT AND CONSULTATION REQUIREMENTS.—

(A) The Secretary of State shall take all practicable steps to ensure that mechanisms are in place for monitoring, oversight, and control of funds made available by this subsection for assistance for Egypt.

(B) Not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations on any plan to restructure military assistance for Egypt, which should include an assessment of the potential benefits of such restructuring on the capabilities of the Egyptian military, and a description of any planned modifications regarding the procurement of military equipment.

(b) IRAN.—

(1) FUNDING.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the headings ''Diplomatic and Consular Programs'', ''Economic Support Fund'', and ''Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining and Related Programs'' shall be used by the Secretary of State—

(A) to support the United States policy to prevent Iran from achieving the capability to produce or otherwise obtain a nuclear weapon;

(B) to support an expeditious response to any violation of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action or United Nations Security Council Resolution 2231;

(C) to support the implementation and enforcement of sanctions against Iran for support of terrorism, human rights abuses, and ballistic missile and weapons proliferation; and

(D) for democracy programs for Iran, to be administered by the Assistant Secretary for Near Eastern Affairs, Department of State, in consultation with the Assistant Secretary for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, Department of State.

(2) CONTINUATION OF PROHIBITION.—The terms and conditions of paragraph (2) of section 7041(c) in division I of Public Law 112–74 shall continue in effect during fiscal year 2017.

(3) REPORTS.—

(A) The Secretary of State shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations the semiannual report required by section 2 of the Iran Nuclear Agreement Review Act of 2015 (42 U.S.C. 2160e(d)(4)).

(B) Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on the status of the implementation and enforcement of bilateral United States and multilateral sanctions against Iran and actions taken by the United States and the international community to enforce such sanctions against Iran: *Provided*, That the report shall also include any entities involved in providing significant support for the development of a ballistic missile by the Government of Iran after October 1, 2015, including shipping and financing, and note whether such entities are currently under United States sanctions: *Provided further*, That such report shall be submitted in an unclassified form, but may contain a classified annex if necessary.

(C) The Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees the report on Iran contained in section 7041(b)(3)(C) of S. 3117, the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2017 (as introduced in the Senate on June 29, 2016), in the manner described.

(c) IRAQ.—

(1) PURPOSES.—Funds appropriated by this Act shall be made available for assistance for Iraq to promote governance, security, and internal and regional stability, including in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq and other areas impacted by the conflict in Syria, and among religious and ethnic minority populations in Iraq.

(2) EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL PROGRAMS.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading ''Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining and Related Programs'' shall be made available for explosive ordnance disposal programs in areas liberated from extremist organizations in Iraq.

(3) KURDISTAN REGIONAL GOVERNMENT.—

(A) Funds appropriated by this Act under the headings ''International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement'' and ''Foreign Military Financing Program'' that are available for assistance for Iraq shall be made available to enhance the capacity of Kurdistan Regional Government security services and for security programs in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq to address requirements arising from the violence in Syria and Iraq: *Provided*, That the Secretary of State shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations prior to obligating such funds.

(B) Funds appropriated by this Act under the headings ''International Disaster Assistance'' and ''Migration and Refugee Assistance'' should be made available for assistance for the Kurdistan Region of Iraq to address the needs of internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugees: *Provided*, That funds appropriated by this Act under the heading ''Economic Support Fund'' shall be made available for programs to mitigate the impact of such IDPs and refugees in such Region, including for assistance for communities hosting such persons.

(4) BASING RIGHTS AGREEMENT.—None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used by the Government of the United States to enter into a permanent basing rights agreement between the United States and Iraq.

(d) ISRAEL.—Title II of the Security Assistance Appropriations Act, 2017 (division B of Public Law 114–254), under the heading ''Foreign Military Financing Program'', is amended by inserting after ''Middle East'' and before the colon the following, '', of which $75,000,000 shall be made available for grants only for Israel in fiscal year 2017'': *Provided*, That amounts that were previously designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 are designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of such Act.

(e) JORDAN.—

(1) FUNDING LEVELS.—Of the funds appropriated by this Act under titles III and IV, not less than $1,279,950,000 shall be made available for assistance for Jordan, of which not less than $475,000,000 shall be for budget support for the Government of Jordan.

(2) RESPONSE TO THE SYRIAN CRISIS.—Funds appropriated by this Act shall be made available for programs to implement the Jordan Compact Action Plan and the Jordan Response Plan for the Syria Crisis 2016–2018, including assistance for host communities in Jordan.

(f) LEBANON.—

(1) LIMITATION.—None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be made available for the Lebanese Internal Security Forces (ISF) or the Lebanese Armed Forces (LAF) if the ISF or the LAF is controlled by a foreign terrorist organization, as designated pursuant to section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189).

(2) CONSULTATION REQUIREMENT.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the headings ''International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement'' and ''Foreign Military Financing Program'' that are available for assistance for Lebanon may be made available for programs and equipment for the ISF and the LAF to address security and stability requirements in areas affected by the conflict in Syria, following consultation with the appropriate congressional committees.

(3) ECONOMIC SUPPORT FUND.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading ''Economic Support Fund'' that are available for assistance for Lebanon may be made available notwithstanding section 1224 of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Year 2003 (Public Law 107–228; 22 U.S.C. 2346 note).

(4) FOREIGN MILITARY FINANCING PROGRAM.—In addition to the activities described in paragraph (2), funds appropriated by this Act under the heading ''Foreign Military Financing Program'' for assistance for Lebanon may be made available only to professionalize the LAF and to strengthen border security and combat terrorism, including training and equipping the LAF to secure Lebanon's borders, interdicting arms shipments, preventing the use of Lebanon as a safe haven for terrorist groups, and to implement United Nations Security Council Resolution 1701: *Provided*, That funds may not be

obligated for assistance for the LAF until the Secretary of State submits to the Committees on Appropriations a spend plan, including actions to be taken to ensure equipment provided to the LAF is only used for the intended purposes, except such plan may not be considered as meeting the notification requirements under section 7015 of this Act or under section 634A of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, and shall be submitted not later than September 1, 2017: *Provided further*, That any notification submitted pursuant to such sections shall include any funds specifically intended for lethal military equipment.

(g) LIBYA.—

(1) FUNDING.—

(A) Funds appropriated by titles III and IV of this Act shall be made available for assistance for Libya for programs to strengthen governing institutions and civil society, improve border security, and promote democracy and stability in Libya, and for activities to address the humanitarian needs of the people of Libya.

(B) Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading ''Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining and Related Programs'' shall be made available for explosive ordnance disposal programs in areas liberated from extremist organizations in Libya.

(C) The Secretary of State shall promptly inform the appropriate congressional committees of each instance in which assistance provided pursuant to this subsection has been diverted or destroyed, to include the type and amount of assistance, a description of the incident and parties involved, and an explanation of the response of the Department of State.

(2) LIMITATIONS.—

(A) COOPERATION ON THE SEPTEMBER 2012 ATTACK ON UNITED STATES PERSONNEL AND FACILITIES.—None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be made available for assistance for the central Government of Libya unless the Secretary of State certifies and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that such government is cooperating with United States Government efforts to investigate and bring to justice those responsible for the attack on United States personnel and facilities in Benghazi, Libya in September 2012: *Provided*, That the limitation in this paragraph shall not apply to funds made available for the purpose of protecting United States Government personnel or facilities.

(B) INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS.—The limitation on the uses of funds in section 7041(f)(2) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2014 (division K of Public Law 113–76) shall apply to funds appropriated by this Act that are made available for assistance for Libya.

(3) CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENT.—Prior to the initial obligation of funds made available by this Act for assistance for Libya, the Secretary of State shall certify and report to the Committees on Appropriations that all practicable steps have been taken to ensure that mechanisms are in place for monitoring, oversight, and control of funds made available by this subsection for assistance for Libya.

(h) MOROCCO.—

(1) AVAILABILITY AND CONSULTATION REQUIREMENT.—Funds appropriated under title III of this Act shall be made available for assistance for the Western Sahara: *Provided*, That not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act and prior to the obligation of such funds, the Secretary of State, in consultation with the USAID Administrator, shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations on the proposed uses of such funds.

(2) FOREIGN MILITARY FINANCING PROGRAM.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading ''Foreign Military Financing Program'' that are available for assistance for Morocco may only be used for the purposes requested in the Congressional Budget Justification, Foreign Operations, Fiscal Year 2017.

(i) REFUGEE ASSISTANCE IN NORTH AFRICA.—Not later than 45 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, after consultation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the Executive Director of the World Food Programme, shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations describing steps taken to strengthen monitoring of the delivery of humanitarian assistance provided for refugees in North Africa, including any steps taken to ensure that all vulnerable refugees are receiving such assistance.

(j) SYRIA.—

(1) NON-LETHAL ASSISTANCE.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the headings ''Economic Support Fund'', ''International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement'', and ''Peacekeeping Operations'' shall be made available, to the extent practicable and notwithstanding any other provision of law, for non-lethal assistance for programs to address the needs of civilians affected by conflict in Syria, and for programs that seek to—

(A) establish governance in Syria that is representative, inclusive, and accountable;

(B) empower women through political and economic programs, and address the psychosocial needs of women and their families in Syria and neighboring countries;

(C) develop and implement political processes that are democratic, transparent, and strengthen the rule of law;

(D) further the legitimacy and viability of the Syrian opposition through cross-border programs;

(E) develop and sustain civil society and independent media in Syria;

(F) promote stability and economic development in Syria;

(G) document, investigate, and prosecute human rights violations in Syria, including through transitional justice programs and support for nongovernmental organizations;

(H) expand the role of women in negotiations to end the violence and in any political transition in Syria;

(I) assist Syrian refugees whose education has been interrupted by the ongoing conflict to complete higher education requirements at universities and other academic institutions in the region, and through distance learning;

(J) assist vulnerable populations in Syria and in neighboring countries;

(K) protect and preserve the cultural identity of the people of Syria as a counterbalance to extremism, particularly those living in neighboring countries and among youth;

(L) protect and preserve cultural heritage sites in Syria, particularly those damaged and destroyed by extremists; and

(M) counter extremism in Syria.

(2) EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL PROGRAMS.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading ''Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining and Related Programs'' shall be made available for explosive ordnance disposal programs in areas liberated from extremist organizations in Syria.

(3) SYRIAN ORGANIZATIONS.—Funds appropriated by this Act that are made available for assistance for Syria pursuant to the authority of this subsection shall be made available, on an open and competitive basis, to continue a program to strengthen the capability of Syrian civil society organizations to address the immediate and long-term needs of the Syrian people inside Syria in a manner that supports the sustainability of such organizations in implementing Syrian-led humanitarian and development programs and the comprehensive strategy required in section 7041(i)(3) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2014 (division K of Public Law 113–76): *Provided*, That funds made available by this paragraph shall be the responsibility of the Assistant Secretary for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, Department of State.

(4) STRATEGY UPDATE.—Funds appropriated by this Act that are made available for assistance for Syria pursuant to the authority of this subsection may only be made available after the Secretary of State, in consultation with the heads of relevant United States Government agencies, submits, in classified form if necessary, an update to the comprehensive strategy required in section 7041(i)(3) of Public Law 113–76.

(5) MONITORING AND OVERSIGHT.—Prior to the obligation of funds appropriated by this Act and made available for assistance for Syria, the Secretary of State shall take all practicable steps to ensure that mechanisms are in place for monitoring, oversight, and control of such assistance inside Syria: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall promptly inform the appropriate congressional committees of each instance in which assistance provided pursuant to this subsection has been diverted or destroyed, to include the type and amount of assistance, a description of the incident and parties involved, and an explanation of the response of the Department of State.

(6) CONSULTATION AND NOTIFICATION.—Funds made available pursuant to this subsection may only be made available following consultation with the appropriate congressional committees, and shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

(k) TUNISIA.—Of the funds appropriated under titles III and IV of this Act, not less than $165,400,000 shall be made available for assistance for Tunisia.

(l) WEST BANK AND GAZA.—

(1) REPORT ON ASSISTANCE.—Prior to the initial obligation of funds made available by this Act under the heading ''Economic Support Fund'' for assistance for the West Bank and Gaza, the Secretary of State shall report to the Committees on Appropriations that the purpose of such assistance is to—

(A) advance Middle East peace;

(B) improve security in the region;

(C) continue support for transparent and accountable government institutions;

(D) promote a private sector economy; or

(E) address urgent humanitarian needs.

(2) LIMITATIONS.—

(A)(i) None of the funds appropriated under the heading ''Economic Support Fund'' in this Act may be made available for assistance for the Palestinian Authority, if after the date of enactment of this Act—

(I) the Palestinians obtain the same standing as member states or full membership as a state in the United Nations or any specialized agency thereof outside an agreement negotiated between Israel and the Palestinians; or

(II) the Palestinians initiate an International Criminal Court (ICC) judicially authorized investigation, or actively support

such an investigation, that subjects Israeli nationals to an investigation for alleged crimes against Palestinians.

(ii) The Secretary of State may waive the restriction in clause (i) of this subparagraph resulting from the application of subclause (I) of such clause if the Secretary certifies to the Committees on Appropriations that to do so is in the national security interest of the United States, and submits a report to such Committees detailing how the waiver and the continuation of assistance would assist in furthering Middle East peace.

(B)(i) The President may waive the provisions of section 1003 of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1988 and 1989 (Public Law 100–204) if the President determines and certifies in writing to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President pro tempore of the Senate, and the appropriate congressional committees that the Palestinians have not, after the date of enactment of this Act—

(I) obtained in the United Nations or any specialized agency thereof the same standing as member states or full membership as a state outside an agreement negotiated between Israel and the Palestinians; and

(II) taken any action with respect to the ICC that is intended to influence a determination by the ICC to initiate a judicially authorized investigation, or to actively support such an investigation, that subjects Israeli nationals to an investigation for alleged crimes against Palestinians.

(ii) Not less than 90 days after the President is unable to make the certification pursuant to clause (i) of this subparagraph, the President may waive section 1003 of Public Law 100–204 if the President determines and certifies in writing to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President pro tempore of the Senate, and the Committees on Appropriations that the Palestinians have entered into direct and meaningful negotiations with Israel: *Provided*, That any waiver of the provisions of section 1003 of Public Law 100–204 under clause (i) of this subparagraph or under previous provisions of law must expire before the waiver under the preceding sentence may be exercised.

(iii) Any waiver pursuant to this subparagraph shall be effective for no more than a period of 6 months at a time and shall not apply beyond 12 months after the enactment of this Act.

(3) REDUCTION.—The Secretary of State shall reduce the amount of assistance made available by this Act under the heading ''Economic Support Fund'' for the Palestinian Authority by an amount the Secretary determines is equivalent to the amount expended by the Palestinian Authority, the Palestine Liberation Organization, and any successor or affiliated organizations with such entities as payments for acts of terrorism by individuals who are imprisoned after being fairly tried and convicted for acts of terrorism and by individuals who died committing acts of terrorism during the previous calendar year: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall report to the Committees on Appropriations on the amount reduced for fiscal year 2017 prior to the obligation of funds for the Palestinian Authority.

(4) SECURITY REPORT.—The reporting requirements contained in section 1404 of the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2008 (Public Law 110–252) shall apply to funds made available by this Act, including a description of modifications, if any, to the security strategy of the Palestinian Authority.

(5) INCITEMENT REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations detailing steps taken by the Palestinian Authority to counter incitement of violence against Israelis and to promote peace and coexistence with Israel.

AFRICA

SEC. 7042. (a) AFRICAN GREAT LAKES REGION ASSISTANCE RESTRICTION.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading ''International Military Education and Training'' for the central government of a country in the African Great Lakes region may be made available only for Expanded International Military Education and Training and professional military education until the Secretary of State determines and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that such government is not facilitating or otherwise participating in destabilizing activities in a neighboring country, including aiding and abetting armed groups.

(b) BOKO HARAM.—Funds appropriated by this Act that are made available for assistance for Cameroon, Chad, Niger, and Nigeria—

(1) shall be made available for assistance for women and girls who are targeted by the terrorist organization Boko Haram, consistent with the provisions of section 7059 of this Act, and for individuals displaced by Boko Haram violence; and

(2) may be made available for counterterrorism programs to combat Boko Haram.

(c) CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC.—Funds made available by this Act for assistance for the Central African Republic shall be made available for reconciliation and peacebuilding programs, including activities to promote inter-faith dialogue at the national and local levels, and for programs to prevent crimes against humanity.

(d) ETHIOPIA.—

(1) FORCED EVICTIONS.—

(A) Funds appropriated by this Act for assistance for Ethiopia may not be made available for any activity that supports forced evictions.

(B) The Secretary of the Treasury should instruct the United States executive director of each international financial institution to use the voice and vote of the United States to support projects in Ethiopia only if such projects are developed and carried out in accordance with the requirements of section 7029(b)(2) of this Act.

(2) CONSULTATION REQUIREMENT.—Programs and activities to improve livelihoods shall include prior consultation with, and the participation of, affected communities, including in the South Omo and Gambella regions.

(3) FOREIGN MILITARY FINANCING PROGRAM.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading ''Foreign Military Financing Program'' for assistance for Ethiopia may only be made available for border security and counterterrorism programs, support for international peacekeeping efforts, and assistance for professional military education.

(e) LAKE CHAD BASIN COUNTRIES.—Funds appropriated by this Act for democracy and other development programs for Cameroon, Chad, Niger, and Nigeria should be made available, following consultation with the Committees on Appropriations, to protect freedoms of expression, association and religion, including support for journalists, civil society, and opposition political parties, and should be used to assist the governments of such countries to strengthen accountability and the rule of law, including within the security forces.

(f) LORD'S RESISTANCE ARMY.—Funds appropriated by this Act shall be made available for programs and activities in areas affected by the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) consistent with the goals of the Lord's Resistance Army Disarmament and Northern Uganda Recovery Act (Public Law 111–172), including to improve physical access, telecommunications infrastructure, and early-warning mechanisms and to support the disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration of former LRA combatants, especially child soldiers.

(g) MALAWI.—Of the funds appropriated by this Act under the heading ''Development Assistance'', not less than $56,000,000 shall be made available for assistance for Malawi, of which up to $10,000,000 shall be made available for higher education programs.

(h) POWER AFRICA INITIATIVE.—Funds appropriated by this Act that are made available for the Power Africa initiative shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

(i) SOUTH SUDAN.—

(1) STRATEGY REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 45 days after enactment of this Act and prior to the initial obligation of funds made available by this Act for assistance for the central Government of South Sudan, the Secretary of State, in consultation with the USAID Administrator, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a United States diplomatic and assistance strategy for South Sudan, consistent with the requirements under this section in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this Consolidated Act): *Provided*, That such strategy shall include a description of how the cessation of hostilities and the delivery of humanitarian assistance and essential services will be prioritized: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of State shall consult with such committees prior to submitting such strategy.

(2) CERTIFICATION.—None of the funds appropriated by this Act that are available for assistance for the central Government of South Sudan may be made available until the Secretary of State certifies and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that such government is taking effective steps to—

(A) end hostilities and pursue good faith negotiations for a political settlement of the conflict;

(B) provide access for humanitarian organizations;

(C) end the recruitment and use of child soldiers;

(D) protect freedoms of expression, association, and assembly;

(E) reduce corruption related to the extraction and sale of oil and gas;

(F) establish democratic institutions;

(G) establish accountable military and police forces under civilian authority; and

(H) investigate and prosecute individuals credibly alleged to have committed gross violations of human rights, including at the Terrain compound in Juba, South Sudan on July 11, 2016.

(3) EXCLUSIONS.—The limitation of paragraph (2) shall not apply to—

(A) humanitarian assistance;

(B) assistance to support South Sudan peace negotiations or to advance or implement a peace agreement; and

(C) assistance to support implementation of outstanding issues of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement and mutual arrangements related to such Agreement.

(4) CONSULTATION.—Prior to the initial obligation of funds made available for the central Government of South Sudan pursuant to

paragraphs (3)(B) and (C), the Secretary of State shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations on the intended uses of such funds, steps taken by such government to advance or implement a peace agreement, and progress made by the Government of South Sudan in meeting the requirements in paragraph (2).

(j) SUDAN.—

(1) LIMITATION.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds appropriated by this Act may be made available for assistance for the Government of Sudan.

(2) LIMITATION ON LOANS.—None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be made available for the cost, as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, of modifying loans and loan guarantees held by the Government of Sudan, including the cost of selling, reducing, or canceling amounts owed to the United States, and modifying concessional loans, guarantees, and credit agreements.

(3) EXCLUSIONS.—The limitations of paragraphs (1) and (2) shall not apply to—

(A) humanitarian assistance;

(B) assistance for democracy programs;

(C) assistance for the Darfur region, Southern Kordofan State, Blue Nile State, other marginalized areas and populations in Sudan, and Abyei; and

(D) assistance to support implementation of outstanding issues of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement, mutual arrangements related to post-referendum issues associated with such Agreement, or any other internationally recognized viable peace agreement in Sudan.

(k) ZIMBABWE.—

(1) INSTRUCTION.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall instruct the United States executive director of each international financial institution to vote against any extension by the respective institution of any loan or grant to the Government of Zimbabwe, except to meet basic human needs or to promote democracy, unless the Secretary of State certifies and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that the rule of law has been restored, including respect for ownership and title to property, and freedoms of expression, association, and assembly.

(2) LIMITATIONS.—None of the funds appropriated by this Act shall be made available for assistance for the central Government of Zimbabwe, except for health and education, unless the Secretary of State certifies and reports as required in paragraph (1), and funds may be made available for macroeconomic growth assistance if the Secretary reports to the Committees on Appropriations that such government is implementing transparent fiscal policies, including public disclosure of revenues from the extraction of natural resources.

EAST ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

SEC. 7043. (a) ASIA REBALANCING INITIATIVE.—Except for paragraphs (1)(C), (4), (5)(B) and (C), and 6(B), section 7043(a) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2015 (division J of Public Law 113–235) shall continue in effect during fiscal year 2017: *Provided*, That section 7043(a)(8) of such Act shall be applied to funds appropriated by this Act by adding ''East Asia,'' before ''Southeast Asia''.

(b) BURMA.—

(1) BILATERAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE.—

(A) Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading ''Economic Support Fund'' for assistance for Burma may be made available notwithstanding any other provision of law, except for this subsection, and following consultation with the appropriate congressional committees.

(B) Funds appropriated under title III of this Act for assistance for Burma—

(i) shall be made available to strengthen civil society organizations in Burma and for programs to strengthen independent media;

(ii) shall be made available for community-based organizations operating in Thailand to provide food, medical, and other humanitarian assistance to internally displaced persons in eastern Burma, in addition to assistance for Burmese refugees from funds appropriated by this Act under the heading ''Migration and Refugee Assistance'';

(iii) shall be made available for programs to promote ethnic and religious tolerance, including in Rakhine and Kachin states;

(iv) shall be made available to promote rural economic development in Burma, including through microfinance and sustainable power generation programs;

(v) shall be made available to increase opportunities for foreign direct investment by strengthening the rule of law, transparency, and accountability;

(vi) may not be made available to any individual or organization if the Secretary of State has credible information that such individual or organization has committed a gross violation of human rights, including against Rohingya and other minority groups, or that advocates violence against ethnic or religious groups and individuals in Burma;

(vii) may not be made available to any organization or entity controlled by the military of Burma; and

(viii) may be made available for programs administered by the Office of Transition Initiatives, United States Agency for International Development, for ethnic groups and civil society in Burma to help sustain ceasefire agreements and further prospects for reconciliation and peace, which may include support to representatives of ethnic armed groups for this purpose.

(2) INTERNATIONAL SECURITY ASSISTANCE.—None of the funds appropriated by this Act under the headings ''International Military Education and Training'' and ''Foreign Military Financing Program'' may be made available for assistance for Burma: *Provided*, That the Department of State may continue consultations with the armed forces of Burma only on human rights and disaster response in a manner consistent with the prior fiscal year, and following consultation with the appropriate congressional committees.

(3) MULTILATERAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary of the Treasury should instruct the United States executive director of each international financial institution to use the voice and vote of the United States to support projects in Burma only if such projects are developed and carried out in accordance with the requirements of section 7029(b)(2) of this Act.

(4) PROGRAMS, POSITION, AND RESPONSIBILITIES.—

(A) Any new program or activity in Burma initiated in fiscal year 2017 shall be subject to prior consultation with the appropriate congressional committees.

(B) Section 7043(b)(7) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2015 (division J of Public Law 113–235) shall continue in effect during fiscal year 2017.

(C) The United States Chief of Mission in Burma, in consultation with the Assistant Secretary for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, Department of State, shall be responsible for democracy and human rights programs in Burma.

(c) CAMBODIA.—

(1) HUMAN RIGHTS CONDITIONS.—Of the funds appropriated in title IV of this Act that are made available for assistance for the central Government of Cambodia, 25 percent shall be withheld from obligation until the Secretary of State certifies and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that such government—

(A) is taking effective steps to strengthen regional security and stability, particularly regarding territorial disputes in the South China Sea;

(B) has ceased efforts to intimidate civil society and the political opposition in Cambodia, is credibly investigating the murder of social and political activists, and is taking actions to address the concerns detailed in the September 14, 2016 United Nations Human Rights Situation in Cambodia—Joint Statement; and

(C) is establishing conditions for the holding of free and fair elections in Cambodia in 2017 and 2018 through a non-partisan election commission; fair election processes; credible post-election dispute resolution mechanisms; open and inclusive participation, to include the return of exiled former opposition leaders; and respect for freedoms of assembly and speech.

(2) KHMER ROUGE TRIBUNAL.—Of the funds appropriated by this Act that are made available for assistance for Cambodia under the heading ''Economic Support Fund'', not more than $1,500,000 may be made available for a contribution to the Extraordinary Chambers in the Court of Cambodia (ECCC): *Provided*, That such funds may only be made available if the Secretary of State certifies and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that such contribution is in the national interest of the United States and will support the prosecution and punishment of individuals responsible for genocide in Cambodia in a credible manner: *Provided further*, That if the Secretary of State is unable to make the certification required by the previous proviso, such funds shall be made available for research and education programs associated with the Khmer Rouge genocide in Cambodia, which are in addition to funds otherwise made available under paragraph (3): *Provided further*, That such funds shall be subject to prior consultation with, and the regular notification procedures of, such Committees: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of State shall seek reimbursements from the Principal Donors Group for the Documentation Center of Cambodia for costs incurred in support of the ECCC.

(3) RESEARCH AND EDUCATION.—Funds made available by this Act for democracy programs in Cambodia shall be made available for research and education programs associated with the Khmer Rouge genocide in Cambodia.

(d) NORTH KOREA.—

(1) BROADCASTS.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading ''International Broadcasting Operations'' shall be made available to maintain broadcasting hours into North Korea at levels not less than the prior fiscal year.

(2) REFUGEES.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading ''Migration and Refugee Assistance'' should be made available for assistance for refugees from North Korea, including protection activities in the People's Republic of China and other countries in Asia.

(3) DATABASE AND REPORT.—Funds appropriated by this Act under title III shall be made available to maintain a database of prisons and gulags in North Korea, in accordance with section 7032(i) of the Department

of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2014 (division K of Public Law 113–76).

(4) LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS.—None of the funds made available by this Act under the heading ''Economic Support Fund'' may be made available for assistance for the Government of North Korea.

(e) PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA.—

(1) LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS.—None of the funds appropriated under the heading ''Diplomatic and Consular Programs'' in this Act may be obligated or expended for processing licenses for the export of satellites of United States origin (including commercial satellites and satellite components) to the People's Republic of China (PRC) unless, at least 15 days in advance, the Committees on Appropriations are notified of such proposed action.

(2) PEOPLE'S LIBERATION ARMY.—The terms and requirements of section 620(h) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 shall apply to foreign assistance projects or activities of the People's Liberation Army (PLA) of the PRC, to include such projects or activities by any entity that is owned or controlled by, or an affiliate of, the PLA: *Provided*, That none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available pursuant to this Act may be used to finance any grant, contract, or cooperative agreement with the PLA, or any entity that the Secretary of State has reason to believe is owned or controlled by, or an affiliate of, the PLA.

(3) COUNTER INFLUENCE PROGRAMS.—Funds appropriated by this Act for public diplomacy under title I and for assistance under titles III and IV shall be made available to counter the influence of the PRC, in accordance with the strategy required by section 7043(e)(3) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2014 (division K of Public Law 113–76), following consultation with the Committees on Appropriations.

(4) AUTHORITY AND NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENT.—

(A) The uses of funds made available by this Act for the promotion of democracy in the PRC, except for funds made available under subsection (g), shall be the responsibility of the Assistant Secretary for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, Department of State.

(B) Funds appropriated by this Act that are made available for trilateral programs conducted with the PRC shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

(f) PHILIPPINES.—Prior to the initial obligation of funds appropriated by this Act for assistance for the Philippines, but not later than 180 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations, which shall include the information required under this section in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this Consolidated Act).

(g) TIBET.—

(1) FINANCING OF PROJECTS IN TIBET.—The Secretary of the Treasury should instruct the United States executive director of each international financial institution to use the voice and vote of the United States to support financing of projects in Tibet if such projects do not provide incentives for the migration and settlement of non-Tibetans into Tibet or facilitate the transfer of ownership of Tibetan land and natural resources to non-Tibetans, are based on a thorough needs-assessment, foster self-sufficiency of the Tibetan people and respect Tibetan culture and traditions, and are subject to effective monitoring.

(2) PROGRAMS FOR TIBETAN COMMUNITIES.—

(A) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds appropriated by this Act under the heading ''Economic Support Fund'' shall be made available to nongovernmental organizations to support activities which preserve cultural traditions and promote sustainable development, education, and environmental conservation in Tibetan communities in the Tibetan Autonomous Region and in other Tibetan communities in China.

(B) Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading ''Economic Support Fund'' shall be made available for programs to promote and preserve Tibetan culture, development, and the resilience of Tibetan communities in India and Nepal, and to assist in the education and development of the next generation of Tibetan leaders from such communities: *Provided*, That such funds are in addition to amounts made available in subparagraph (A) for programs inside Tibet.

(h) VIETNAM.—

(1) DIOXIN REMEDIATION.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, of the funds appropriated by this Act under the heading ''Economic Support Fund'', not less than $20,000,000 shall be made available for activities related to the remediation of dioxin contaminated sites in Vietnam and may be made available for assistance for the Government of Vietnam, including the military, for such purposes.

(2) HEALTH AND DISABILITY PROGRAMS.—Of the funds appropriated by this Act under the heading ''Development Assistance'', not less than $10,000,000 shall be made available for health and disability programs in areas sprayed with Agent Orange and otherwise contaminated with dioxin, to assist individuals with severe upper or lower body mobility impairment and/or cognitive or developmental disabilities.

SOUTH AND CENTRAL ASIA

SEC. 7044. (a) AFGHANISTAN.—

(1) STRATEGY AND PERSONNEL.—

(A) STRATEGY.—Not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act and prior to the initial obligation of funds made available for assistance for Afghanistan by this Act under the headings ''Economic Support Fund'' and ''International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement'', the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a revised strategy for United States engagement in Afghanistan: *Provided*, That such strategy shall include detailed information on the roles and responsibilities of the Department of State, the United States Agency for International Development, and other non-defense United States Government agencies in Afghanistan, including the anticipated number of government and contractor personnel to be assigned in Afghanistan in fiscal years 2018 and 2019: *Provided further*, That such strategy shall also include detailed information on development programs to be supported by funds made available by this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs, including a description of specific safeguards to ensure that any such funds supporting projects in areas under the control of the Taliban or other extremist organizations do not further the legitimacy of such organizations: *Provided further*, That such strategy shall also include detailed information, in classified form if necessary, on specific steps to be taken to encourage a negotiated political resolution of the conflict in Afghanistan.

(B) PERSONNEL REPORT.—Not later than 30 days after enactment of this Act and every 120 days thereafter until September 30, 2018, the Secretary of State shall submit a report, in classified form if necessary, to the appropriate congressional committees detailing by agency the number of personnel present in Afghanistan under Chief of Mission authority per section 3927 of title 22, United States Code, at the end of the 120 day period preceding the submission of such report: *Provided*, That such report shall also include the number of locally employed staff and contractors supporting United States Embassy operations in Afghanistan during the reporting period.

(2) ASSISTANCE AND CONDITIONS.—

(A) FUNDING AND LIMITATIONS.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the headings ''Economic Support Fund'' and ''International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement'' may be made available for assistance for Afghanistan: *Provided*, That such funds may not be obligated for any project or activity that—

(i) includes the participation of any Afghan individual or organization, including government entity, that the Secretary of State determines to be involved in corrupt practices, illicit narcotics production or trafficking, or a violation of human rights;

(ii) cannot be sustained, as appropriate, by the Government of Afghanistan or another Afghan entity;

(iii) is not regularly accessible for the purposes of conducting effective oversight in accordance with applicable Federal statutes and regulations;

(iv) initiates any new, major infrastructure development; or

(v) legitimizes the Taliban or other extremist organizations in areas not under the control of the Government of Afghanistan.

(B) CERTIFICATION AND REPORT.—Prior to the initial obligation of funds made available by this Act under the headings ''Economic Support Fund'' and ''International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement'' for assistance for the central Government of Afghanistan, the Secretary of State shall certify and report to the Committees on Appropriations, after consultation with the Government of Afghanistan, that—

(i) goals and benchmarks for the specific uses of such funds have been established by the Governments of the United States and Afghanistan;

(ii) conditions are in place that increase the transparency and accountability of the Government of Afghanistan for funds obligated under the New Development Partnership;

(iii) the Government of Afghanistan is implementing laws and policies to govern democratically and protect the rights of individuals, civil society, and the media;

(iv) the Government of Afghanistan is taking consistent steps to protect and advance the rights of women and girls in Afghanistan;

(v) the Government of Afghanistan is effectively implementing a whole-of-government, anti-corruption strategy that has been endorsed by the High Council on Rule of Law and Anti-Corruption, as agreed to at the Brussels Conference on Afghanistan in October 2016, and is prosecuting individuals alleged to be involved in corrupt or illegal activities in Afghanistan;

(vi) monitoring and oversight frameworks for programs implemented with such funds are in accordance with all applicable audit

policies of the Department of State and USAID, including in areas under the control of the Taliban or other extremist organizations;

(vii) the necessary policies and procedures are in place to ensure Government of Afghanistan compliance with section 7013 of this Act, ''Prohibition on Taxation of United States Assistance''; and

(viii) the Government of Afghanistan is publicly reporting its national budget, including revenues and expenditures.

(C) WAIVER.—The Secretary of State may waive the certification requirement of subparagraph (B) if the Secretary determines that to do so is important to the national security interest of the United States and the Secretary submits a report to the Committees on Appropriations, in classified form if necessary, on the justification for the waiver and the reasons why any of the requirements of subparagraph (B) cannot be met.

(D) PROGRAMS.—Funds appropriated by this Act that are made available for assistance for Afghanistan shall be made available in the following manner—

(i) for programs that protect and strengthen the rights of women and girls and promote the political and economic empowerment of women, including their meaningful inclusion in political processes: *Provided*, That such assistance to promote economic empowerment of women shall be made available as grants to Afghan and international organizations, to the maximum extent practicable;

(ii) for programs in South and Central Asia to expand linkages between Afghanistan and countries in the region, subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations; and

(iii) to assist the Government of Afghanistan to increase revenue collection and expenditure.

(E) TAXATION.—None of the funds appropriated by this Act for assistance for Afghanistan may be made available for direct government-to-government assistance unless the Secretary of State certifies and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that United States companies and organizations that are implementing United States foreign assistance programs in Afghanistan in a manner consistent with United States laws and regulations are not subjected by such government to taxes or other fees in contravention of diplomatic and other agreements between the Governments of the United States and Afghanistan, or to retaliation for the nonpayment of taxes or fees imposed in the past: *Provided*, That not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations an assessment of the dollar value of improper taxes or fees levied by such government against such companies and organizations in fiscal years 2014, 2015, and 2016.

(3) GOALS AND BENCHMARKS.—Not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report describing the goals and benchmarks required in paragraph (2)(B)(i): *Provided*, That not later than 6 months after the submission of such report and every 6 months thereafter until September 30, 2018, the Secretary of State shall submit a report to such committees on the status of achieving such goals and benchmarks: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of State should suspend assistance for the Government of Afghanistan if any report required by this paragraph indicates that such government is failing to make measurable progress in meeting such goals and benchmarks.

(4) AUTHORITIES.—

(A) Funds appropriated by this Act under title III through VI that are made available for assistance for Afghanistan may be made available—

(i) notwithstanding section 7012 of this Act or any similar provision of law and section 660 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961;

(ii) for reconciliation programs and disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration activities for former combatants who have renounced violence against the Government of Afghanistan, in accordance with section 7046(a)(2)(B)(ii) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2012 (division I of Public Law 112–74); and

(iii) for an endowment to empower women and girls.

(B) Section 7046(a)(2)(A) of division I of Public Law 112–74 shall apply to funds appropriated by this Act for assistance for Afghanistan.

(C) Section 1102(c) of the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2009 (title XI of Public Law 111–32) shall continue in effect during fiscal year 2017.

(5) BASING RIGHTS AGREEMENT.—None of the funds made available by this Act may be used by the United States Government to enter into a permanent basing rights agreement between the United States and Afghanistan.

(b) NEPAL.—

(1) ASSISTANCE.—Not less than $112,500,000 of the funds appropriated by this Act under the headings ''Global Health Programs'', ''Economic Support Fund'', ''International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement'', and ''Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining and Related Programs'' shall be made available for assistance for Nepal, including for earthquake recovery and reconstruction programs.

(2) FOREIGN MILITARY FINANCING PROGRAM.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading ''Foreign Military Financing Program'' shall only be made available for humanitarian and disaster relief and reconstruction activities in Nepal, and in support of international peacekeeping operations: *Provided*, That such funds may only be made available for any additional uses if the Secretary of State certifies and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that the Government of Nepal is investigating and prosecuting violations of human rights and the laws of war, and the Nepal Army is cooperating fully with civilian judicial authorities in such cases.

(c) PAKISTAN.—

(1) CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENT.—None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act under the headings ''Economic Support Fund'', ''International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement'', and ''Foreign Military Financing Program'' for assistance for the Government of Pakistan may be made available unless the Secretary of State certifies and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that the Government of Pakistan is—

(A) cooperating with the United States in counterterrorism efforts against the Haqqani Network, the Quetta Shura Taliban, Lashkar e-Tayyiba, Jaish-e-Mohammed, Al-Qaeda, and other domestic and foreign terrorist organizations, including taking effective steps to end support for such groups and prevent them from basing and operating in Pakistan and carrying out cross border attacks into neighboring countries;

(B) not supporting terrorist activities against United States or coalition forces in Afghanistan, and Pakistan's military and intelligence agencies are not intervening extra-judicially into political and judicial processes in Pakistan;

(C) not financing or otherwise supporting schools supported by, affiliated with, or run by the Taliban or any designated foreign terrorist organization;

(D) dismantling improvised explosive device (IED) networks and interdicting precursor chemicals used in the manufacture of IEDs;

(E) preventing the proliferation of nuclear-related material and expertise;

(F) issuing visas in a timely manner for United States visitors engaged in counterterrorism efforts and assistance programs in Pakistan; and

(G) providing humanitarian organizations access to detainees, internally displaced persons, and other Pakistani civilians affected by the conflict.

(2) WAIVER AND REPORTS.—

(A) The Secretary of State may waive the certification requirement of paragraph (1) with respect to funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act under the headings ''Economic Support Fund'' and ''International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement'' for assistance for the Government of Pakistan if the Secretary determines that to do so is important to the national security interest of the United States.

(B) The Secretary of State may waive the certification requirement of paragraph (1) with respect to 95 percent of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act under the heading ''Foreign Military Financing Program'' for assistance for the Government of Pakistan if the Secretary determines that to do so is important to the national security interest of the United States: *Provided*, That funds withheld by application of this subparagraph shall be withheld from obligation until the Secretary submits to the Committees on Appropriations the certification required by paragraph (1).

(C) In exercising the authority of this paragraph, the Secretary of State shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations, in classified form if necessary, on the justification for any waivers in subparagraphs (A) and (B) and the reasons why any of the requirements of paragraph (1) cannot be met.

(3) ASSISTANCE.—

(A) Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading ''Foreign Military Financing Program'' for assistance for Pakistan may be made available only to support counterterrorism and counterinsurgency capabilities in Pakistan.

(B) Funds appropriated by this Act under the headings ''Economic Support Fund'' and ''Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining and Related Programs'' that are available for assistance for Pakistan shall be made available to interdict precursor materials from Pakistan to Afghanistan that are used to manufacture IEDs, including calcium ammonium nitrate; to support programs to train border and customs officials in Pakistan and Afghanistan; and for agricultural extension programs that encourage alternative fertilizer use among Pakistani farmers.

(C) Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading ''Economic Support Fund'' that are made available for assistance for infrastructure projects in Pakistan shall be implemented in a manner consistent with section 507(6) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2467(6)).

(D) Funds appropriated by this Act under titles III and IV for assistance for Pakistan may be made available notwithstanding any other provision of law, except for section 620M of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961.

(E) Of the funds appropriated under titles III and IV of this Act that are made available for assistance for Pakistan, $33,000,000 shall be withheld from obligation until the Secretary of State reports to the Committees on Appropriations that Dr. Shakil Afridi has been released from prison and cleared of all charges relating to the assistance provided to the United States in locating Osama bin Laden.

(4) SCHOLARSHIPS FOR WOMEN.—The authority and directives of section 7044(d)(4) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2015 (division J of Public Law 113–235) shall apply to funds appropriated by this Act that are made available for assistance for Pakistan: *Provided*, That prior to the obligation of funds for such purposes, the USAID Administrator shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations.

(5) REPORTS.—

(A)(i) The spend plan required by section 7076 of this Act for assistance for Pakistan shall include achievable and sustainable goals, benchmarks for measuring progress, and expected results regarding combating poverty and furthering development in Pakistan, countering terrorism and extremism, and establishing conditions conducive to the rule of law and transparent and accountable governance: *Provided*, That not later than 6 months after submission of such spend plan, and each 6 months thereafter until September 30, 2018, the Secretary of State shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations on the status of achieving the goals and benchmarks in such plan.

(ii) The Secretary of State should suspend assistance for the Government of Pakistan if any report required by clause (i) indicates that Pakistan is failing to make measurable progress in meeting such goals or benchmarks.

(B) Not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations detailing the costs and objectives associated with significant infrastructure projects supported by the United States in Pakistan, and an assessment of the extent to which such projects achieve such objectives.

(6) OVERSIGHT.—The Secretary of State shall take all practicable steps to ensure that mechanisms are in place for monitoring, oversight, and control of funds made available by this subsection for assistance for Pakistan.

(d) SRI LANKA.—

(1) BILATERAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading ''Economic Support Fund'' shall be made available for assistance for Sri Lanka for democracy and economic development programs, particularly in areas recovering from ethnic and religious conflict: *Provided*, That such funds shall be made available for programs to assist in the identification and resolution of cases of missing persons.

(2) CERTIFICATION.—Funds appropriated by this Act for assistance for the central Government of Sri Lanka may be made available only if the Secretary of State certifies and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that the Government of Sri Lanka is taking steps to—

(A) repeal laws that do not comply with international standards for arrest and detention, and to ensure that any successor legislation meets such standards;

(B) increase accountability and transparency in governance;

(C) support a credible justice mechanism in compliance with United Nations Human Rights Council Resolution (A/HCR/30/L.29) of October, 2015; and

(D) return land in former conflict zones to former owners or to compensate those whose land was confiscated without due process, which are in addition to steps taken during the previous calendar year.

(3) INTERNATIONAL SECURITY ASSISTANCE.—Funds appropriated under title IV of this Act that are available for assistance for Sri Lanka shall be subject to the following conditions—

(A) not to exceed $500,000 under the heading ''Foreign Military Financing Program'' may only be made available for programs to support humanitarian and disaster response efforts; to redeploy out of former conflict zones; and to restructure and reduce the size of the Sri Lankan armed forces; and

(B) funds under the heading ''Peacekeeping Operations'' may only be made available for training and equipment related to international peacekeeping operations.

(e) REGIONAL PROGRAMS.—

(1) CROSS BORDER PROGRAMS.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading ''Economic Support Fund'' for assistance for Afghanistan and Pakistan may be provided, notwithstanding any other provision of law that restricts assistance to foreign countries, for cross border stabilization and development programs between Afghanistan and Pakistan, or between either country and the Central Asian countries.

(2) SECURITY AND JUSTICE PROGRAMS.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the headings ''Economic Support Fund'', ''International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement'', and ''Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia'' that are available for assistance for countries in South and Central Asia shall be made available to enhance the recruitment, retention, and professionalism of women in the judiciary, police, and other security forces.

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

SEC. 7045. (a) CENTRAL AMERICA.—

(1) STRATEGY REVIEW AND UPDATE.—The Secretary of State, in consultation with the heads of other relevant United States Government agencies, shall review the United States Strategy for Engagement in Central America (the Strategy) and submit an updated Strategy to the appropriate congressional committees not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act: *Provided*, That such Strategy shall address the key factors in countries in Central America that contribute to the migration of undocumented Central Americans to the United States: *Provided further*, That such Strategy should support regional security and economic initiatives, including the Plan of the Alliance for Prosperity in the Northern Triangle in Central America (the Plan), to the extent the Secretary of State determines such initiatives are consistent with the national interest of the United States.

(2) FUNDING.—Subject to the requirements of this subsection, of the funds appropriated under titles III and IV of this Act, $655,000,000 should be made available for assistance for countries in Central America to implement the United States Strategy for Engagement in Central America: *Provided further*, That such funds shall be made available to the maximum extent practicable on a cost-matching basis.

(3) PRE-OBLIGATION REQUIREMENTS.—Prior to the obligation of funds made available pursuant to paragraph (2) and following the submission of the Strategy as required in paragraph (1), the Secretary of State shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations a multi-year spend plan as described under this section in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this Consolidated Act), including a description of how such funds shall prioritize addressing the key factors in countries in Central America that contribute to the migration of undocumented Central Americans to the United States.

(4) ASSISTANCE FOR THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENTS OF EL SALVADOR, GUATEMALA, AND HONDURAS.—Of the funds made available pursuant to paragraph (2) that are available for assistance for each of the central governments of El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras, the following amounts shall be withheld from obligation and may only be made available as follows:

(A) 25 percent may only be obligated after the Secretary of State certifies and reports to the appropriate congressional committees that such government is taking effective steps, which are in addition to those steps taken since the certification and report submitted during the prior year, if applicable, to—

(i) inform its citizens of the dangers of the journey to the southwest border of the United States;

(ii) combat human smuggling and trafficking;

(iii) improve border security, including to prevent illegal migration, human smuggling and trafficking, and trafficking of illicit drugs and other contraband; and

(iv) cooperate with United States Government agencies and other governments in the region to facilitate the return, repatriation, and reintegration of illegal migrants arriving at the southwest border of the United States who do not qualify for asylum, consistent with international law.

(B) An additional 50 percent may only be obligated after the Secretary of State certifies and reports to the appropriate congressional committees that such government is taking effective steps, which are in addition to those steps taken since the certification and report submitted during the prior year, if applicable, to—

(i) work cooperatively with an autonomous, publicly accountable entity to provide oversight of the Plan;

(ii) combat corruption, including investigating and prosecuting current and former government officials credibly alleged to be corrupt;

(iii) implement reforms, policies, and programs to improve transparency and strengthen public institutions, including increasing the capacity and independence of the judiciary and the Office of the Attorney General;

(iv) implement a policy to ensure that local communities, civil society organizations (including indigenous and other marginalized groups), and local governments are consulted in the design, and participate in the implementation and evaluation of, activities of the Plan that affect such communities, organizations, and governments;

(v) counter the activities of criminal gangs, drug traffickers, and organized crime;

(vi) investigate and prosecute in the civilian justice system government personnel, including military and police personnel, who are credibly alleged to have violated human rights, and ensure that such personnel are cooperating in such cases;

(vii) cooperate with commissions against corruption and impunity and with regional human rights entities;

(viii) support programs to reduce poverty, expand education and vocational training for at-risk youth, create jobs, and promote equitable economic growth particularly in areas contributing to large numbers of migrants;

(ix) implement a plan that includes goals, benchmarks and timelines to create a professional, accountable civilian police force and end the role of the military in internal policing, and make such plan available to the Department of State;

(x) protect the right of political opposition parties, journalists, trade unionists, human rights defenders, and other civil society activists to operate without interference;

(xi) increase government revenues, including by implementing tax reforms and strengthening customs agencies; and

(xii) resolve commercial disputes, including the confiscation of real property, between United States entities and such government.

(5) SUSPENSION OF ASSISTANCE AND PERIODIC REVIEW.—

(A) The Secretary of State shall periodically review the progress of each of the central governments of El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras in meeting the requirements of paragraphs (4)(A) and (4)(B): *Provided*, That if the Secretary determines that sufficient progress has not been made by a central government, the Secretary shall suspend, in whole or in part, assistance for such government for programs supporting such requirement, and shall notify the appropriate congressional committees in writing of such action: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may resume funding for such programs only after the Secretary certifies to such committees that corrective measures have been taken.

(B) The Secretary of State shall, following a change of national government in El Salvador, Guatemala, or Honduras, determine and report to the appropriate congressional committees that any new government has committed to take the steps to meet the requirements of paragraphs (4)(A) and (4)(B): *Provided*, That if the Secretary is unable to make such a determination in a timely manner, assistance made available under this subsection for such central government shall be suspended, in whole or in part, until such time as such determination and report can be made.

(6) TRANSFER OF FUNDS.—The Department of State and USAID may, following consultation with the Committees on Appropriations, transfer funds made available by this Act under the heading ''Development Assistance'' to the Inter-American Development Bank and the Inter-American Foundation to support the Strategy.

(b) COLOMBIA.—

(1) ASSISTANCE.—Of the funds appropriated by this Act under titles III and IV, not less than $391,253,000 shall be made available for assistance for Colombia, including to support the efforts of the Government of Colombia to—

(A) conduct a unified campaign against narcotics trafficking, organizations designated as foreign terrorist organizations pursuant to section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189), and other criminal or illegal armed groups: *Provided*, That aircraft supported by funds made available by this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs may be used to transport personnel and supplies involved in drug eradication and interdiction, including security for such activities, and to provide transport in support of alternative development programs and investigations by civilian judicial authorities;

(B) enhance security and stability in Colombia and the region;

(C) strengthen and expand governance, the rule of law, and access to justice throughout Colombia;

(D) promote economic and social development, including by improving access to areas impacted by conflict through demining programs; and

(E) implement a peace agreement between the Government of Colombia and illegal armed groups, in accordance with constitutional and legal requirements in Colombia: *Provided*, That such funds shall be subject to prior consultation with, and the regular notification procedures of, the Committees on Appropriations.

(2) LIMITATION.—None of the funds appropriated by this Act or prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs that are made available for assistance for Colombia may be made available for payment of reparations to conflict victims or compensation to demobilized combatants associated with a peace agreement between the Government of Colombia and illegal armed groups.

(3) PRE-OBLIGATION REQUIREMENTS.—Prior to the initial obligation of funds made available pursuant to paragraph (1), the Secretary of State, in consultation with the USAID Administrator, shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations a multi-year spend plan as described under section 7045 in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this Consolidated Act).

(4) REFUGEES.—Funds made available by this Act under the heading ''Economic Support Fund'' for assistance for Colombia shall be apportioned directly to USAID, except that not less than $7,000,000 of such funds shall be transferred to, and merged with, funds appropriated by this Act under the heading ''Migration and Refugee Assistance'' for assistance for Colombian refugees in neighboring countries.

(5) COUNTERNARCOTICS.—Of the funds made available by this Act under the heading ''International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement'' for assistance for Colombia, 20 percent may be obligated only in accordance with the conditions set forth under section 7045 in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this Consolidated Act).

(6) HUMAN RIGHTS.—Of the funds made available by this Act under the heading ''Foreign Military Financing Program'' for assistance for Colombia, 20 percent may be obligated only in accordance with the conditions set forth under section 7045 in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this Consolidated Act).

(7) EXCEPTIONS.—The limitations of paragraphs (5) and (6) shall not apply to funds made available for aviation instruction and maintenance, and maritime and riverine security programs.

(c) HAITI.—

(1) FUNDING.—Of the funds appropriated by this Act under the headings ''Development Assistance'' and ''Economic Support Fund'', not more than $45,000,000 may be made available for assistance for Haiti: *Provided*, That the funding limitation of this paragraph may be exceeded for food security and global health programs.

(2) CERTIFICATION.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the headings ''Development Assistance'' and ''Economic Support Fund'' that are made available for assistance for Haiti may not be made available for assistance for the central Government of Haiti unless the Secretary of State certifies and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that such government is taking effective steps, which are in addition to steps taken since the certification and report submitted during the prior year, if applicable, to—

(A) strengthen the rule of law in Haiti, including by—

(i) selecting judges in a transparent manner based on merit;

(ii) reducing pre-trial detention;

(iii) respecting the independence of the judiciary; and

(iv) improving governance by implementing reforms to increase transparency and accountability, including through the penal and criminal codes;

(B) combat corruption, including by implementing the anti-corruption law enacted in 2014 and prosecuting corrupt officials;

(C) increase government revenues, including by implementing tax reforms, and increase expenditures on public services; and

(D) resolve commercial disputes between United States entities and the Government of Haiti.

(3) HAITIAN COAST GUARD.—The Government of Haiti shall be eligible to purchase defense articles and services under the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2751 et seq.) for the Coast Guard.

EUROPE AND EURASIA

SEC. 7046. (a) ASSISTANCE FOR UKRAINE.—Of the funds appropriated by this Act under titles III and IV, not less than $410,465,000 shall be made available for assistance for Ukraine.

(b) LIMITATION.—None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be made available for assistance for a government of an Independent State of the former Soviet Union if such government directs any action in violation of the territorial integrity or national sovereignty of any other Independent State of the former Soviet Union, such as those violations included in the Helsinki Final Act: *Provided*, That except as otherwise provided in section 7070(a) of this Act, funds may be made available without regard to the restriction in this subsection if the President determines that to do so is in the national security interest of the United States: *Provided further*, That prior to executing the authority contained in the previous proviso the Secretary of State shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations on how such assistance supports the national security interest of the United States.

(c) SECTION 907 OF THE FREEDOM SUPPORT ACT.—Section 907 of the FREEDOM Support Act shall not apply to—

(1) activities to support democracy or assistance under title V of the FREEDOM Support Act and section 1424 of the Defense Against Weapons of Mass Destruction Act of 1996 (50 U.S.C. 2333) or non-proliferation assistance;

(2) any assistance provided by the Trade and Development Agency under section 661 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2421);

(3) any activity carried out by a member of the United States and Foreign Commercial Service while acting within his or her official capacity;

(4) any insurance, reinsurance, guarantee, or other assistance provided by the Overseas

Private Investment Corporation under title IV of chapter 2 of part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2191 et seq.);

(5) any financing provided under the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945; or

(6) humanitarian assistance.

WAR CRIMES TRIBUNALS

SEC. 7047. If the President determines that doing so will contribute to a just resolution of charges regarding genocide or other violations of international humanitarian law, the President may direct a drawdown pursuant to section 552(c) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 of up to $30,000,000 of commodities and services for the United Nations War Crimes Tribunal established with regard to the former Yugoslavia by the United Nations Security Council or such other tribunals or commissions as the Council may establish or authorize to deal with such violations, without regard to the ceiling limitation contained in paragraph (2) thereof: *Provided*, That the determination required under this section shall be in lieu of any determinations otherwise required under section 552(c): *Provided further*, That funds made available pursuant to this section shall be made available subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

UNITED NATIONS

SEC. 7048. (a) TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY.—

(1) Of the funds appropriated under title I and under the heading ''International Organizations and Programs'' in title V of this Act that are available for contributions to the United Nations (including the Department of Peacekeeping Operations), any United Nations agency, or the Organization of American States, 15 percent may not be obligated for such organization, department, or agency until the Secretary of State reports to the Committees on Appropriations that the organization, department, or agency is—

(A) posting on a publicly available Web site, consistent with privacy regulations and due process, regular financial and programmatic audits of such organization, department, or agency, and providing the United States Government with necessary access to such financial and performance audits; and

(B) effectively implementing and enforcing policies and procedures which reflect best practices for the protection of whistleblowers from retaliation, including best practices for—

(i) protection against retaliation for internal and lawful public disclosures;

(ii) legal burdens of proof;

(iii) statutes of limitation for reporting retaliation;

(iv) access to independent adjudicative bodies, including external arbitration; and

(v) results that eliminate the effects of proven retaliation.

(2) The restrictions imposed by or pursuant to paragraph (1) may be waived on a case-by-case basis if the Secretary of State determines and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that such waiver is necessary to avert or respond to a humanitarian crisis.

(b) RESTRICTIONS ON UNITED NATIONS DELEGATIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS.—

(1) None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to pay expenses for any United States delegation to any specialized agency, body, or commission of the United Nations if such agency, body, or commission is chaired or presided over by a country, the government of which the Secretary of State has determined, for purposes of section 6(j)(1) of the Export Administration Act of 1979 as continued in effect pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. App. 2405(j)(1)), supports international terrorism.

(2) None of the funds made available by this Act may be used by the Secretary of State as a contribution to any organization, agency, commission, or program within the United Nations system if such organization, agency, commission, or program is chaired or presided over by a country the government of which the Secretary of State has determined, for purposes of section 620A of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, section 40 of the Arms Export Control Act, section 6(j)(1) of the Export Administration Act of 1979, or any other provision of law, is a government that has repeatedly provided support for acts of international terrorism.

(3) The Secretary of State may waive the restriction in this subsection if the Secretary determines and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that to do so is in the national interest of the United States, including a description of the national interest served.

(c) UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL.—None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be made available in support of the United Nations Human Rights Council unless the Secretary of State determines and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that participation in the Council is important to the national interest of the United States and that the Council is taking significant steps to remove Israel as a permanent agenda item: *Provided*, That such report shall include a description of the national interest served and the steps taken to remove Israel as a permanent agenda item: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of State shall report to the Committees on Appropriations not later than September 30, 2017, on the resolutions considered in the United Nations Human Rights Council during the previous 12 months, and on steps taken to remove Israel as a permanent agenda item.

(d) UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY.—Prior to the initial obligation of funds for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), and not later than 45 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit a report in writing to the Committees on Appropriations on whether UNRWA is—

(1) utilizing Operations Support Officers in the West Bank, Gaza, and other fields of operation to inspect UNRWA installations and reporting any inappropriate use;

(2) acting promptly to address any staff or beneficiary violation of its own policies (including the policies on neutrality and impartiality of employees) and the legal requirements under section 301(c) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961;

(3) implementing procedures to maintain the neutrality of its facilities, including implementing a no-weapons policy, and conducting regular inspections of its installations, to ensure they are only used for humanitarian or other appropriate purposes;

(4) taking necessary and appropriate measures to ensure it is operating in compliance with the conditions of section 301(c) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 and continuing regular reporting to the Department of State on actions it has taken to ensure conformance with such conditions;

(5) taking steps to ensure the content of all educational materials currently taught in UNRWA-administered schools and summer camps is consistent with the values of human rights, dignity, and tolerance and does not induce incitement;

(6) not engaging in operations with financial institutions or related entities in violation of relevant United States law, and is taking steps to improve the financial transparency of the organization; and

(7) in compliance with the United Nations Board of Auditors' biennial audit requirements and is implementing in a timely fashion the Board's recommendations.

(e) PROHIBITION OF PAYMENTS TO UNITED NATIONS MEMBERS.—None of the funds appropriated or made available pursuant to titles III through VI of this Act for carrying out the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, may be used to pay in whole or in part any assessments, arrearages, or dues of any member of the United Nations or, from funds appropriated by this Act to carry out chapter 1 of part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, the costs for participation of another country's delegation at international conferences held under the auspices of multilateral or international organizations.

(f) UNITED NATIONS CAPITAL PROJECTS.—None of the funds made available by this Act may be used for the design, renovation, or construction of the United Nations Headquarters in New York: *Provided*, That any operating plan submitted pursuant to this Act for funds made available under the heading ''Contributions to International Organizations'' shall include information on capital projects, as described under this section in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this Consolidated Act).

(g) WITHHOLDING REPORT.—Not later than 45 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations detailing the amount of funds available for obligation or expenditure in fiscal year 2017 for contributions to any organization, department, agency, or program within the United Nations system or any international program that are withheld from obligation or expenditure due to any provision of law: *Provided*, That the Secretary of State shall update such report each time additional funds are withheld by operation of any provision of law: *Provided further*, That the reprogramming of any withheld funds identified in such report, including updates thereof, shall be subject to prior consultation with, and the regular notification procedures of, the Committees on Appropriations.

(h) SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE IN PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS.—

(1) Funds appropriated by this Act shall be made available to implement section 301 of the Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114–323): *Provided*, That the elements and objectives of subsection (c) of such section shall include the adoption of a United Nations policy requiring the mandatory repatriation from a United Nations peacekeeping operation of any personnel credibly alleged to have engaged in sexual exploitation or abuse, and a prohibition on the participation in such peacekeeping operations of personnel from any country the government of which is unwilling or unable to carry out its criminal or disciplinary responsibilities with respect to personnel credibly alleged to have engaged in sexual exploitation or abuse.

(2) The Secretary of State should withhold assistance to any unit of the security forces of a foreign country if the Secretary has credible information that such unit has engaged in sexual exploitation or abuse, including while serving in a United Nations peacekeeping operation, until the Secretary determines that the government of such

country is taking effective steps to bring the responsible members of such unit to justice and to prevent future incidents: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall promptly notify the government of each country subject to any withholding of assistance pursuant to this paragraph, and shall notify the appropriate congressional committees of such withholding not later than 10 days after a determination to withhold such assistance is made: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall, to the maximum extent practicable, assist such government in bringing the responsible members of such unit to justice.

(i) ADDITIONAL AVAILABILITY.—Funds appropriated under title I of this Act which are returned or not made available due to the implementation of subsection (a) or the second proviso under the heading ''Contributions for International Peacekeeping Activities'' of such title shall remain available for obligation until September 30, 2018.

(j) REPORT ON ARREARS.—Not later than 30 days after enactment of this Act, and updated every 90 days thereafter until September 30, 2018, the Secretary of State shall submit a report to the appropriate congressional committees detailing—

(1) a description of the treaty or other obligation of the United States to pay assessed contributions at specified rates for the United Nations and other international organizations by organization or entity;

(2) a description of relevant United States laws regarding such assessed rates and contributions;

(3) a description of, and justification for, any deviation from payment of such assessed rates and contributions, to include the cumulative amount of arrears owed, or anticipated to be owed, by the United States to any organization or entity as a result of such deviation;

(4) a specific plan for payment of such arrears;

(5) an analysis of when the amount of arrears owed by the United States may trigger Article 19 of the United Nations Charter or similar provision in a treaty, convention or charter governing participation in an international organization, resulting in the loss of a vote by the United States in the United Nations General Assembly or other governing body of an international organization; and

(6) an analysis of the impact to the national interest of the United States in international organizations, including the United Nations, as a result of arrears owed, if any, including with respect to the loss of influence within such organizations.

COMMUNITY-BASED POLICE ASSISTANCE

SEC. 7049. (a) AUTHORITY.—Funds made available by titles III and IV of this Act to carry out the provisions of chapter 1 of part I and chapters 4 and 6 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, may be used, notwithstanding section 660 of that Act, to enhance the effectiveness and accountability of civilian police authority through training and technical assistance in human rights, the rule of law, anti-corruption, strategic planning, and through assistance to foster civilian police roles that support democratic governance, including assistance for programs to prevent conflict, respond to disasters, address gender-based violence, and foster improved police relations with the communities they serve.

(b) NOTIFICATION.—Assistance provided under subsection (a) shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

DISABILITY PROGRAMS

SEC. 7050. (a) ASSISTANCE.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading ''Economic Support Fund'' shall be made available for programs and activities administered by the United States Agency for International Development to address the needs and protect and promote the rights of people with disabilities in developing countries, including initiatives that focus on independent living, economic self-sufficiency, advocacy, education, employment, transportation, sports, and integration of individuals with disabilities, including for the cost of translation.

(b) MANAGEMENT, OVERSIGHT, AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT.—Of the funds made available pursuant to this section, 5 percent may be used for USAID for management, oversight, and technical support.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

SEC. 7051. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to send or otherwise pay for the attendance of more than 50 employees of agencies or departments of the United States Government who are stationed in the United States, at any single international conference occurring outside the United States, unless the Secretary of State reports to the Committees on Appropriations at least 5 days in advance that such attendance is important to the national interest: *Provided*, That for purposes of this section the term ''international conference'' shall mean a conference attended by representatives of the United States Government and of foreign governments, international organizations, or nongovernmental organizations.

AIRCRAFT TRANSFER, COORDINATION, AND USE

SEC. 7052. (a) TRANSFER AUTHORITY.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law or regulation, aircraft procured with funds appropriated by this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs under the headings ''Diplomatic and Consular Programs'', ''International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement'', ''Andean Counterdrug Initiative'', and ''Andean Counterdrug Programs'' may be used for any other program and in any region, including for the transportation of active and standby Civilian Response Corps personnel and equipment during a deployment: *Provided*, That the responsibility for policy decisions and justification for the use of such transfer authority shall be the responsibility of the Secretary of State and the Deputy Secretary of State and this responsibility shall not be delegated.

(b) PROPERTY DISPOSAL.—The authority provided in subsection (a) shall apply only after the Secretary of State determines and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that the equipment is no longer required to meet programmatic purposes in the designated country or region: *Provided*, That any such transfer shall be subject to prior consultation with, and the regular notification procedures of, the Committees on Appropriations.

(c) AIRCRAFT COORDINATION.—

(1) The uses of aircraft purchased or leased by the Department of State and the United States Agency for International Development with funds made available in this Act or prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs shall be coordinated under the authority of the appropriate Chief of Mission: *Provided*, That such aircraft may be used to transport, on a reimbursable or nonreimbursable basis, Federal and non-Federal personnel supporting Department of State and USAID programs and activities: *Provided further*, That official travel for other agencies for other purposes may be supported on a reimbursable basis, or without reimbursement when traveling on a space available basis: *Provided further*, That funds received by the Department of State for the use of aircraft owned, leased, or chartered by the Department of State may be credited to the Working Capital Fund of the Department and shall be available for expenses related to the purchase, lease, maintenance, chartering, or operation of such aircraft.

(2) The requirement and authorities of this subsection shall only apply to aircraft, the primary purpose of which is the transportation of personnel.

(d) AIRCRAFT OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE.—To the maximum extent practicable, the costs of operations and maintenance, including fuel, of aircraft funded by this Act shall be borne by the recipient country.

PARKING FINES AND REAL PROPERTY TAXES OWED BY FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS

SEC. 7053. The terms and conditions of section 7055 of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2011 (division F of Public Law 111–117) shall apply to this Act: *Provided*, That the date ''September 30, 2009'' in subsection (f)(2)(B) of such section shall be deemed to be ''September 30, 2016''.

LANDMINES AND CLUSTER MUNITIONS

SEC. 7054. (a) LANDMINES.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, demining equipment available to the United States Agency for International Development and the Department of State and used in support of the clearance of landmines and unexploded ordnance for humanitarian purposes may be disposed of on a grant basis in foreign countries, subject to such terms and conditions as the Secretary of State may prescribe.

(b) CLUSTER MUNITIONS.—No military assistance shall be furnished for cluster munitions, no defense export license for cluster munitions may be issued, and no cluster munitions or cluster munitions technology shall be sold or transferred, unless—

(1) the submunitions of the cluster munitions, after arming, do not result in more than 1 percent unexploded ordnance across the range of intended operational environments, and the agreement applicable to the assistance, transfer, or sale of such cluster munitions or cluster munitions technology specifies that the cluster munitions will only be used against clearly defined military targets and will not be used where civilians are known to be present or in areas normally inhabited by civilians; or

(2) such assistance, license, sale, or transfer is for the purpose of demilitarizing or permanently disposing of such cluster munitions.

PROHIBITION ON PUBLICITY OR PROPAGANDA

SEC. 7055. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall be used for publicity or propaganda purposes within the United States not authorized before the date of the enactment of this Act by Congress: *Provided*, That not to exceed $25,000 may be made available to carry out the provisions of section 316 of the International Security and Development Cooperation Act of 1980 (Public Law 96–533).

CONTINUOUS SUPERVISION AND GENERAL DIRECTION OF ECONOMIC AND MILITARY ASSISTANCE

SEC. 7056. (a) Under the direction of the President, the Secretary of State shall be responsible for the continuous supervision and

general direction of economic assistance, law enforcement and justice sector assistance, military assistance, and military education and training programs, including but not limited to determining whether there shall be a military assistance (including civic action) or a military education and training program for a country and the value thereof, to the end that such programs are effectively integrated both at home and abroad and the foreign policy of the United States is best served thereby.

(b) Consistent with section 481(b) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, the Secretary of State shall be responsible for coordinating all assistance provided by the United States Government to support international efforts to combat illicit narcotics production or trafficking: *Provided*, That the provision of assistance by the Department of Defense which is comparable to assistance that may be made available by this Act under the heading ''International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement'' shall be provided in a manner consistent with the requirements of section 333(b) of title 10, United States Code, as added by section 1241 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114–328).

UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT

SEC. 7057. (a) AUTHORITY.—Up to $93,000,000 of the funds made available in title III of this Act pursuant to or to carry out the provisions of part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, including funds appropriated under the heading ''Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia'', may be used by the United States Agency for International Development to hire and employ individuals in the United States and overseas on a limited appointment basis pursuant to the authority of sections 308 and 309 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980.

(b) RESTRICTIONS.—

(1) The number of individuals hired in any fiscal year pursuant to the authority contained in subsection (a) may not exceed 175.

(2) The authority to hire individuals contained in subsection (a) shall expire on September 30, 2018.

(c) CONDITIONS.—The authority of subsection (a) should only be used to the extent that an equivalent number of positions that are filled by personal services contractors or other non-direct hire employees of USAID, who are compensated with funds appropriated to carry out part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, including funds appropriated under the heading ''Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia'', are eliminated.

(d) PROGRAM ACCOUNT CHARGED.—The account charged for the cost of an individual hired and employed under the authority of this section shall be the account to which the responsibilities of such individual primarily relate: *Provided*, That funds made available to carry out this section may be transferred to, and merged with, funds appropriated by this Act in title II under the heading ''Operating Expenses''.

(e) FOREIGN SERVICE LIMITED EXTENSIONS.—Individuals hired and employed by USAID, with funds made available in this Act or prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs, pursuant to the authority of section 309 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980, may be extended for a period of up to 4 years notwithstanding the limitation set forth in such section.

(f) DISASTER SURGE CAPACITY.—Funds appropriated under title III of this Act to carry out part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, including funds appropriated under the heading ''Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia'', may be used, in addition to funds otherwise available for such purposes, for the cost (including the support costs) of individuals detailed to or employed by USAID whose primary responsibility is to carry out programs in response to natural disasters, or man-made disasters subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

(g) PERSONAL SERVICES CONTRACTORS.—Funds appropriated by this Act to carry out chapter 1 of part I, chapter 4 of part II, and section 667 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, and title II of the Food for Peace Act (Public Law 83–480), may be used by USAID to employ up to 40 personal services contractors in the United States, notwithstanding any other provision of law, for the purpose of providing direct, interim support for new or expanded overseas programs and activities managed by the agency until permanent direct hire personnel are hired and trained: *Provided*, That not more than 15 of such contractors shall be assigned to any bureau or office: *Provided further*, That such funds appropriated to carry out title II of the Food for Peace Act (Public Law 83–480), may be made available only for personal services contractors assigned to the Office of Food for Peace.

(h) SMALL BUSINESS.—In entering into multiple award indefinite-quantity contracts with funds appropriated by this Act, USAID may provide an exception to the fair opportunity process for placing task orders under such contracts when the order is placed with any category of small or small disadvantaged business.

(i) SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE LIMITED APPOINTMENTS.—Individuals hired pursuant to the authority provided by section 7059(o) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2011 (division F of Public Law 111–117) may be assigned to or support programs in Afghanistan or Pakistan with funds made available in this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs.

GLOBAL HEALTH ACTIVITIES

SEC. 7058. (a) IN GENERAL.—Funds appropriated by titles III and IV of this Act that are made available for bilateral assistance for child survival activities or disease programs including activities relating to research on, and the prevention, treatment and control of, HIV/AIDS may be made available notwithstanding any other provision of law except for provisions under the heading ''Global Health Programs'' and the United States Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria Act of 2003 (117 Stat. 711; 22 U.S.C. 7601 et seq.), as amended: *Provided*, That of the funds appropriated under title III of this Act, not less than $575,000,000 should be made available for family planning/reproductive health, including in areas where population growth threatens biodiversity or endangered species.

(b) GLOBAL FUND.—Of the funds appropriated by this Act that are available for a contribution to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (Global Fund), 10 percent should be withheld from obligation until the Secretary of State determines and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that the Global Fund is—

(1) maintaining and implementing a policy of transparency, including the authority of the Global Fund Office of the Inspector General (OIG) to publish OIG reports on a public Web site;

(2) providing sufficient resources to maintain an independent OIG that—

(A) reports directly to the Board of the Global Fund;

(B) maintains a mandate to conduct thorough investigations and programmatic audits, free from undue interference; and

(C) compiles regular, publicly published audits and investigations of financial, programmatic, and reporting aspects of the Global Fund, its grantees, recipients, sub-recipients, and Local Fund Agents;

(3) effectively implementing and enforcing policies and procedures which reflect best practices for the protection of whistleblowers from retaliation, including best practices for—

(A) protection against retaliation for internal and lawful public disclosures;

(B) legal burdens of proof;

(C) statutes of limitation for reporting retaliation;

(D) access to independent adjudicative bodies, including external arbitration; and

(E) results that eliminate the effects of proven retaliation; and

(4) implementing the recommendations contained in the Consolidated Transformation Plan approved by the Board of the Global Fund on November 21, 2011:

Provided, That such withholding shall not be in addition to funds that are withheld from the Global Fund in fiscal year 2017 pursuant to the application of any other provision contained in this or any other Act.

(c) CONTAGIOUS INFECTIOUS DISEASE OUTBREAKS.—

(1) EMERGENCY RESERVE FUND.—Of the funds appropriated by this Act under the heading ''Global Health Programs'', $70,000,000 shall be made available for an Emergency Reserve Fund to address emerging health threats, and shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such funds shall be in addition to funds otherwise available for such purposes, and may be transferred to, and merged with, funds appropriated by this Act under the heading ''International Disaster Assistance'' for the purposes of this paragraph: *Provided further*, That such funds may only be made available if the Secretary of State determines and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that it is in the national interest to respond to an emerging health threat that poses severe threats to human health.

(2) EXTRAORDINARY MEASURES.—If the Secretary of State determines and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that an international infectious disease outbreak is sustained, severe, and is spreading internationally, or that it is in the national interest to respond to a Public Health Emergency of International Concern, funds appropriated by this Act under the headings ''Global Health Programs'', ''Development Assistance'', ''International Disaster Assistance'', ''Complex Crises Fund'', ''Economic Support Fund'', ''Democracy Fund'', ''Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia'', ''Migration and Refugee Assistance'', and ''Millennium Challenge Corporation'' may be made available to combat such infectious disease or public health emergency, and may be transferred to, and merged with, funds appropriated under such headings for the purposes of this paragraph.

(3) OVERSIGHT OF FUNDS.—Funds made available by this subsection shall be subject to prior consultation with, and the regular notification procedures of, the Committees on Appropriations.

GENDER EQUALITY

SEC. 7059. (a) GENDER EQUALITY.—Funds appropriated by this Act shall be made available to promote gender equality in United States Government diplomatic and development efforts by raising the status, increasing the participation, and protecting the rights of women and girls worldwide.

(b) WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP.—Of the funds appropriated by title III of this Act, not less than $50,000,000 shall be made available to increase leadership opportunities for women in countries where women and girls suffer discrimination due to law, policy, or practice, by strengthening protections for women's political status, expanding women's participation in political parties and elections, and increasing women's opportunities for leadership positions in the public and private sectors at the local, provincial, and national levels.

(c) GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE.—

(1)(A) Of the funds appropriated by titles III and IV of this Act, not less than $150,000,000 shall be made available to implement a multi-year strategy to prevent and respond to gender-based violence in countries where it is common in conflict and nonconflict settings.

(B) Funds appropriated by titles III and IV of this Act that are available to train foreign police, judicial, and military personnel, including for international peacekeeping operations, shall address, where appropriate, prevention and response to gender-based violence and trafficking in persons, and shall promote the integration of women into the police and other security forces.

(2) Department of State and United States Agency for International Development gender programs shall incorporate coordinated efforts to combat a variety of forms of gender-based violence, including child marriage, rape, female genital cutting and mutilation, and domestic violence, among other forms of gender-based violence in conflict and nonconflict settings.

(d) WOMEN, PEACE, AND SECURITY.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the headings ''Development Assistance'', ''Economic Support Fund'', ''Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia'', and ''International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement'' should be made available to support a multi-year strategy to expand, and improve coordination of, United States Government efforts to empower women as equal partners in conflict prevention, peace building, transitional processes, and reconstruction efforts in countries affected by conflict or in political transition, and to ensure the equitable provision of relief and recovery assistance to women and girls.

(e) WOMEN AND GIRLS AT RISK FROM EXTREMISM.—

(1) ASSISTANCE.—Of the funds appropriated by this Act under the heading ''Economic Support Fund'', not less than $15,000,000 shall be made available to support women and girls who are at risk from extremism and conflict, and for activities to—

(A) empower women and girls to counter extremism;

(B) address the needs of women and girls adversely impacted by extremism and conflict;

(C) document crimes committed by extremists against women and girls, and support investigations and prosecutions of such crimes, as appropriate;

(D) increase the participation and influence of women in formal and informal political processes and institutions at the local level and within traditional governing structures;

(E) support reconciliation programs between impacted minority, religious, and ethnic groups and the broader community;

(F) develop and implement legal reforms and protections for women and girls at the national and local government levels; and

(G) create and sustain networks for women and girls to collectively safeguard their rights on a regional basis.

(2) STRATEGY REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in consultation with the USAID Administrator, shall submit a comprehensive, inter-agency strategy to support women and girls who are at risk from extremism and conflict, including a description of monitoring and evaluation protocols.

(3) CLARIFICATION AND NOTIFICATION.—Funds made available pursuant to paragraph (1)—

(A) are in addition to amounts otherwise available by this Act for such purposes; and

(B) shall be made available following consultation with, and subject to the regular notification procedures of, the Committees on Appropriations.

SECTOR ALLOCATIONS

SEC. 7060. (a) BASIC EDUCATION AND HIGHER EDUCATION.—

(1) BASIC EDUCATION.—

(A) Of the funds appropriated under title III of this Act, not less than $800,000,000 shall be made available for assistance for basic education, and such funds may be made available notwithstanding any other provision of law that restricts assistance to foreign countries: *Provided*, That such funds should be used to implement the objectives of basic education programs for each Country Development Cooperation Strategy or similar strategy regarding basic education established by the United States Agency for International Development: *Provided further*, That such funds may also be used for secondary education activities: *Provided further*, That the USAID Administrator, following consultation with the Committees on Appropriations, may reprogram such funds between countries.

(B) Not later than 30 days after enactment of this Act, the USAID Administrator shall report to the Committees on Appropriations on the status of cumulative unobligated balances and obligated, but unexpended, balances in each country where USAID provides basic education assistance and such report shall also include details on the types of contracts and grants provided and the goals and objectives of such assistance: *Provided*, That the USAID Administrator shall update such report on a quarterly basis until September 30, 2018: *Provided further*, That if the USAID Administrator determines that any unobligated balances of funds specifically designated for assistance for basic education in prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs are in excess of the absorptive capacity of recipient countries, such funds may be made available for other programs authorized under chapter 1 of part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, notwithstanding such funding designation: *Provided further*, That the authority of the previous proviso shall be subject to prior consultation with, and the regular notification procedures of, the Committees on Appropriations.

(C) Of the funds appropriated under title III of this Act for assistance for basic education programs, not less than $75,000,000 shall be made available for a contribution to multilateral partnerships that support education.

(2) HIGHER EDUCATION.—Of the funds appropriated by title III of this Act, not less than $235,000,000 shall be made available for assistance for higher education, including not less than $35,000,000 for new and ongoing partnerships for human and institutional capacity building between higher education institutions in the United States and developing countries: *Provided*, That such funds may be made available notwithstanding any other provision of law that restricts assistance to foreign countries, and shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

(b) DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS.—Of the funds appropriated by this Act under the heading ''Development Assistance'', not less than $26,000,000 shall be made available for the American Schools and Hospitals Abroad program, and not less than $12,000,000 shall be made available for cooperative development programs of USAID.

(c) ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMS.—

(1) AUTHORITY AND NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENT.—

(A) Funds appropriated by this Act to carry out the provisions of sections 103 through 106, and chapter 4 of part II, of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 may be used, notwithstanding any other provision of law, except for the provisions of this subsection, to support environment programs.

(B) No funds are appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act for a contribution, grant, or other payment to the Green Climate Fund.

(C) Funds made available pursuant to this subsection shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

(2) CONSERVATION PROGRAMS AND LIMITATIONS.—

(A) Of the funds appropriated under title III of this Act, not less than $265,000,000 shall be made available for biodiversity conservation programs.

(B) Not less than $90,664,000 of the funds appropriated under titles III and IV of this Act shall be made available to combat the transnational threat of wildlife poaching and trafficking.

(C) None of the funds appropriated under title IV of this Act may be made available for training or other assistance for any military unit or personnel that the Secretary of State determines has been credibly alleged to have participated in wildlife poaching or trafficking, unless the Secretary reports to the Committees on Appropriations that to do so is in the national security interest of the United States.

(D) Funds appropriated by this Act for biodiversity programs shall not be used to support the expansion of industrial scale logging or any other industrial scale extractive activity into areas that were primary/intact tropical forests as of December 30, 2013, and the Secretary of the Treasury shall instruct the United States executive directors of each international financial institutions (IFI) to vote against any financing of any such activity.

(3) LARGE DAMS.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall instruct the United States executive director of each IFI that it is the policy of the United States to vote in relation to any loan, grant, strategy, or policy of such institution to support the construction of any large dam consistent with the criteria set forth in Senate Report 114–79, while also considering whether the project involves important foreign policy objectives.

(4) SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPES.—Of the funds appropriated under title III of this Act, not

less than $123,500,000 shall be made available for sustainable landscapes programs.

(d) FOOD SECURITY AND AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT.—Of the funds appropriated by title III of this Act, not less than $1,000,600,000 should be made available for food security and agricultural development programs, of which not less than $50,000,000 shall be made available for the Feed the Future Innovation Labs: *Provided*, That such funds may be made available for a United States contribution to the endowment of the Global Crop Diversity Trust.

(e) MICROENTERPRISE AND MICROFINANCE.—Of the funds appropriated by this Act, not less than $265,000,000 should be made available for microenterprise and microfinance development programs for the poor, especially women.

(f) PROGRAMS TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS AND MODERN SLAVERY.—

(1) TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS.—Of the funds appropriated by this Act under the headings ''Development Assistance'', ''Economic Support Fund'', ''Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia'', and ''International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement'', not less than $64,800,000 shall be made available for activities to combat trafficking in persons internationally, of which not less than $40,000,000 shall be from funds made available under the heading ''International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement'': *Provided*, That funds made available pursuant to this paragraph shall be made available to support a multifaceted approach to combat human trafficking in Guatemala: *Provided further*, That not later than 120 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations on the requirements enumerated under this section in House Report 114–693.

(2) MODERN SLAVERY.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading ''International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement'' shall be made available for the purposes authorized by section 1298 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114–328): *Provided*, That such funds are in addition to funds made available pursuant to paragraph (1), and shall be made available on an open and competitive basis: *Provided further*, That funds made available pursuant to this paragraph shall be made available subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

(3) COORDINATION.—The Secretary of State and the USAID Administrator, as appropriate, shall establish and implement guidelines to ensure that programs funded by paragraphs (1) and (2) to combat trafficking in persons and modern slavery are coordinated and complementary, and not duplicative.

(g) RECONCILIATION PROGRAMS.—Of the funds appropriated by this Act under the headings ''Economic Support Fund'', ''Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia'', and ''Development Assistance'', not less than $26,000,000 shall be made available to support people-to-people reconciliation programs which bring together individuals of different ethnic, religious, and political backgrounds from areas of civil strife and war: *Provided*, That the USAID Administrator shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations, prior to the initial obligation of funds, on the uses of such funds, and such funds shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That to the maximum extent practicable, such funds shall be matched by sources other than the United States Government.

(h) WATER AND SANITATION.—Of the funds appropriated by this Act, not less than $400,000,000 shall be made available for water supply and sanitation projects pursuant to the Senator Paul Simon Water for the Poor Act of 2005 (Public Law 109–121), of which not less than $145,000,000 shall be for programs in sub-Saharan Africa, and of which not less than $14,000,000 shall be made available for programs to design and build safe, public latrines in Africa and Asia.

OVERSEAS PRIVATE INVESTMENT CORPORATION

SEC. 7061. (a) TRANSFER OF FUNDS.—Whenever the President determines that it is in furtherance of the purposes of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, up to a total of $20,000,000 of the funds appropriated under title III of this Act may be transferred to, and merged with, funds appropriated by this Act for the Overseas Private Investment Corporation Program Account, to be subject to the terms and conditions of that account: *Provided*, That such funds shall not be available for administrative expenses of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation: *Provided further*, That designated funding levels in this Act shall not be transferred pursuant to this section: *Provided further*, That the exercise of such authority shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

(b) AUTHORITY.—Notwithstanding section 235(a)(2) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, the authority of subsections (a) through (c) of section 234 of such Act shall remain in effect until September 30, 2017.

ARMS TRADE TREATY

SEC. 7062. None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be obligated or expended to implement the Arms Trade Treaty until the Senate approves a resolution of ratification for the Treaty.

INSPECTORS GENERAL

SEC. 7063. (a) PROHIBITION ON USE OF FUNDS.—None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be used to deny an Inspector General funded under this Act timely access to any records, documents, or other materials available to the department or agency of the United States Government over which such Inspector General has responsibilities under the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.), or to prevent or impede the access of such Inspector General to such records, documents, or other materials, under any provision of law, except a provision of law that expressly refers to such Inspector General and expressly limits the right of access of such Inspector General.

(b) TIMELY ACCESS.—A department or agency of the United States Government covered by this section shall provide its Inspector General access to all records, documents, and other materials in a timely manner.

(c) COMPLIANCE.—Each Inspector General covered by this section shall ensure compliance with statutory limitations on disclosure relevant to the information provided by the department or agency over which that Inspector General has responsibilities under the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.).

(d) REPORT REQUIREMENT.—Each Inspector General covered by this section shall report to the Committees on Appropriations within 5 calendar days of any failure by any department or agency of the United States Government to provide its Inspector General access to all requested records, documents, and other materials.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS CONCERNING INDIVIDUALS DETAINED AT NAVAL STATION, GUANTÁNAMO BAY, CUBA

SEC. 7064. Not later than 5 days after the conclusion of an agreement with a country, including a state with a compact of free association with the United States, to receive by transfer or release individuals detained at United States Naval Station, Guantánamo Bay, Cuba, the Secretary of State shall notify the Committees on Appropriations in writing of the terms of the agreement, including whether funds appropriated by this Act or prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs will be made available for assistance for such country pursuant to such agreement.

MULTI-YEAR PLEDGES

SEC. 7065. None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be used to make any pledge for future year funding for any multilateral or bilateral program funded in titles III through VI of this Act unless such pledge was—

(1) previously justified, including the projected future year costs, in a congressional budget justification;

(2) included in an Act making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs or previously authorized by an Act of Congress;

(3) notified in accordance with the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations, including the projected future year costs; or

(4) the subject of prior consultation with the Committees on Appropriations and such consultation was conducted at least 7 days in advance of the pledge.

PROHIBITION ON USE OF TORTURE

SEC. 7066. (a) LIMITATION.—None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to support or justify the use of torture, cruel, or inhumane treatment by any official or contract employee of the United States Government.

(b) ASSISTANCE TO ELIMINATE TORTURE.—Funds appropriated under titles III and IV of this Act shall be made available, notwithstanding section 660 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 and following consultation with the Committees on Appropriations, for assistance to eliminate torture by foreign police, military or other security forces in countries receiving assistance from funds appropriated by this Act.

EXTRADITION

SEC. 7067. (a) LIMITATION.—None of the funds appropriated in this Act may be used to provide assistance (other than funds provided under the headings ''International Disaster Assistance'', ''Complex Crises Fund'', ''International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement'', ''Migration and Refugee Assistance'', ''United States Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance Fund'', and ''Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining and Related Assistance'') for the central government of a country which has notified the Department of State of its refusal to extradite to the United States any individual indicted for a criminal offense for which the maximum penalty is life imprisonment without the possibility of parole or for killing a law enforcement officer, as specified in a United States extradition request.

(b) CLARIFICATION.—Subsection (a) shall only apply to the central government of a country with which the United States maintains diplomatic relations and with which the United States has an extradition treaty and the government of that country is in

violation of the terms and conditions of the treaty.

(c) WAIVER.—The Secretary of State may waive the restriction in subsection (a) on a case-by-case basis if the Secretary certifies to the Committees on Appropriations that such waiver is important to the national interests of the United States.

COMMERCIAL LEASING OF DEFENSE ARTICLES

SEC. 7068. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, and subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations, the authority of section 23(a) of the Arms Export Control Act may be used to provide financing to Israel, Egypt, and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), and major non-NATO allies for the procurement by leasing (including leasing with an option to purchase) of defense articles from United States commercial suppliers, not including Major Defense Equipment (other than helicopters and other types of aircraft having possible civilian application), if the President determines that there are compelling foreign policy or national security reasons for those defense articles being provided by commercial lease rather than by government-to-government sale under such Act.

COUNTRY TRANSITION PLAN

SEC. 7069. Any bilateral country assistance strategy developed after the date of enactment of this Act for the provision of assistance for a foreign country in this fiscal year shall include a transition plan identifying end goals and options for winding down, within a targeted period of years, such bilateral assistance: *Provided*, That such transition plan shall be developed by the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, the heads of other relevant Federal agencies, and officials of such foreign government and representatives of civil society, as appropriate.

COUNTERING RUSSIAN INFLUENCE AND AGGRESSION

SEC. 7070. (a) LIMITATION.—None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be made available for assistance for the central Government of the Russian Federation.

(b) ANNEXATION OF CRIMEA.—

(1) None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be made available for assistance for the central government of a country that the Secretary of State determines and reports to the Committees on Appropriations has taken affirmative steps intended to support or be supportive of the Russian Federation annexation of Crimea: *Provided*, That except as otherwise provided in subsection (a), the Secretary may waive the restriction on assistance required by this paragraph if the Secretary determines and reports to such Committees that to do so is in the national interest of the United States, and includes a justification for such interest.

(2) None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be made available for—

(A) the implementation of any action or policy that recognizes the sovereignty of the Russian Federation over Crimea;

(B) the facilitation, financing, or guarantee of United States Government investments in Crimea, if such activity includes the participation of Russian Government officials, or other Russian owned or controlled financial entities; or

(C) assistance for Crimea, if such assistance includes the participation of Russian Government officials, or other Russian owned or controlled financial entities.

(3) The Secretary of the Treasury shall instruct the United States executive directors of each international financial institution to vote against any assistance by such institution (including any loan, credit, or guarantee) for any program that violates the sovereignty or territorial integrity of Ukraine.

(4) The requirements and limitations of this subsection shall cease to be in effect if the Secretary of State determines and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that the Government of Ukraine has reestablished sovereignty over Crimea.

(c) OCCUPATION OF THE GEORGIAN TERRITORIES OF ABKHAZIA AND TSKHINVALI REGION/SOUTH OSSETIA.—

(1) None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be made available for assistance for the central government of a country that the Secretary of State determines and reports to the Committees on Appropriations has recognized the independence of, or has established diplomatic relations with, the Russian occupied Georgian territories of Abkhazia and Tskhinvali Region/South Ossetia: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall publish on the Department of State Web site a list of any such central governments in a timely manner: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may waive the restriction on assistance required by this paragraph if the Secretary determines and reports to the Committees on Appropriations that to do so is in the national interest of the United States, and includes a justification for such interest.

(2) None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be made available to support the Russian occupation of the Georgian territories of Abkhazia and Tskhinvali Region/South Ossetia.

(3) The Secretary of the Treasury shall instruct the United States executive directors of each international financial institution to vote against any assistance by such institution (including any loan, credit, or guarantee) for any program that violates the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Georgia.

(4) Not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on actions taken by the Russian Federation to further consolidate the occupation of the Georgian territories of Abkhazia and Tskhinvali Region/South Ossetia, including the estimated annual costs of such occupation.

(d) ASSISTANCE TO COUNTER INFLUENCE AND AGGRESSION.—

(1) Of the funds appropriated by this Act under the headings ''Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia'', ''International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement'', and ''Foreign Military Financing Program'', not less than $100,000,000 shall be made available for assistance to counter Russian influence and aggression in countries in Europe and Eurasia: *Provided*, That such funds shall be referred to as the Countering Russian Influence Fund (the Fund), and be made available to civil society organizations and other entities in such countries for rule of law, media, cyber, and other programs that strengthen democratic institutions and processes, and counter Russian influence and aggression: *Provided further*, That not later than 45 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in consultation with the USAID Administrator, shall submit a spend plan to the Committees on Appropriations detailing the proposed uses of the Fund on a country-by-country basis: *Provided further*, That such funds shall be in addition to amounts made available for bilateral assistance for such countries.

(2) Funds appropriated by this Act and made available for assistance for the Eastern Partnership countries shall be made available to advance the implementation of Association Agreements and trade agreements with the European Union, and to reduce their vulnerability to external economic and political pressure from the Russian Federation.

(e) DEMOCRACY PROGRAMS.—Funds appropriated by this Act shall be made available to support democracy programs in the Russian Federation, including to promote Internet freedom, and shall also be made available to support the democracy and rule of law strategy required by section 7071(d) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2014 (division K of Public Law 113–76).

(f) REPORTS.—Not later than 45 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall update the reports required by section 7071(b)(2), (c), and (e) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2014 (division K of Public Law 113–76).

INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND

SEC. 7071. (a) EXTENSIONS.—The terms and conditions of sections 7086(b) (1) and (2) and 7090(a) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2010 (division F of Public Law 111–117) shall apply to this Act.

(b) REPAYMENT.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall instruct the United States Executive Director of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to seek to ensure that any loan will be repaid to the IMF before other private creditors.

SPECIAL DEFENSE ACQUISITION FUND

SEC. 7072. Not to exceed $900,000,000 may be obligated pursuant to section 51(c)(2) of the Arms Export Control Act for the purposes of the Special Defense Acquisition Fund (the Fund), to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That the provision of defense articles and defense services to foreign countries or international organizations from the Fund shall be subject to the concurrence of the Secretary of State.

STABILITY AND DEVELOPMENT IN REGIONS IMPACTED BY EXTREMISM AND CONFLICT

SEC. 7073. (a) COUNTERING FOREIGN FIGHTERS AND EXTREMIST ORGANIZATIONS, AND STRENGTHENING THE STATE SYSTEM.—

(1) Not later than 30 days after enactment of this Act and prior to the initial obligation of funds made available by this Act for the purposes of this subsection, the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development and the heads of relevant United States Government agencies, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a joint strategy to counter and defeat violent extremism and foreign fighters abroad, which shall include components to—

(A) counter the recruitment, radicalization, movement, and financing of such extremists and foreign fighters;

(B) secure borders of countries impacted by extremism;

(C) assist countries impacted by extremism to implement and establish criminal laws and policies to counter extremists and foreign fighters; and

(D) promote and strengthen democratic institutions and practices in countries impacted by extremism:

Provided, That such strategy shall include a detailed description of proposed monitoring, oversight, and vetting procedures.

(2) Funds appropriated under titles III and IV of this Act shall be made available for

programs and activities to implement the strategy required in paragraph (1) in a manner consistent with all applicable laws, regulations, and policies regarding the use of foreign assistance funds: *Provided*, That the Secretary of State shall promptly inform the appropriate congressional committees of each instance in which assistance provided pursuant to this subsection has been diverted or destroyed, to include the type and amount of assistance, a description of the incident and parties involved, and an explanation of the response of the Department of State or USAID, as appropriate: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of State shall ensure such programs are coordinated with and complement the efforts of other United States Government agencies and international partners: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall also ensure that information gained through the conduct of such programs is shared in a timely manner with relevant United States Government agencies and other international partners, as appropriate.

(3) Funds made available pursuant to this subsection are subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

(b) COUNTRIES IMPACTED BY SIGNIFICANT REFUGEE POPULATIONS OR INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the headings ''Development Assistance'' and ''Economic Support Fund'' shall be made available for programs in countries affected by significant populations of internally displaced persons or refugees to—

(1) expand and improve host government social services and basic infrastructure to accommodate the needs of such populations and persons;

(2) alleviate the social and economic strains placed on host communities, including through programs to promote livelihoods, vocational training, and formal and informal education;

(3) improve coordination of such assistance in a more effective and sustainable manner; and

(4) leverage increased assistance from donors other than the United States Government for central governments and local communities in such countries:

Provided, That the Secretary of State shall periodically inform the Committees on Appropriations of the amount and specific uses of funds made available for the purposes of this subsection.

ENTERPRISE FUNDS

SEC. 7074. (a) NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENT.—None of the funds made available under titles III through VI of this Act may be made available for Enterprise Funds unless the appropriate congressional committees are notified at least 15 days in advance.

(b) DISTRIBUTION OF ASSETS PLAN.—Prior to the distribution of any assets resulting from any liquidation, dissolution, or winding up of an Enterprise Fund, in whole or in part, the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a plan for the distribution of the assets of the Enterprise Fund.

(c) TRANSITION OR OPERATING PLAN.—Prior to a transition to and operation of any private equity fund or other parallel investment fund under an existing Enterprise Fund, the President shall submit such transition or operating plan to the appropriate congressional committees.

USE OF FUNDS IN CONTRAVENTION OF THIS ACT

SEC. 7075. If the President makes a determination not to comply with any provision of this Act on constitutional grounds, the head of the relevant Federal agency shall notify the Committees on Appropriations in writing within 5 days of such determination, the basis for such determination and any resulting changes to program and policy.

BUDGET DOCUMENTS

SEC. 7076. (a) OPERATING AND REORGANIZATION PLANS.—

(1) Not later than 45 days after the date of enactment of this Act, each department, agency, or organization funded in titles I, II, and VI of this Act, and the Department of the Treasury and Independent Agencies funded in title III of this Act, including the Inter-American Foundation and the United States African Development Foundation, shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations an operating plan for funds appropriated to such department, agency, or organization in such titles of this Act, or funds otherwise available for obligation in fiscal year 2017, that provides details of the uses of such funds at the program, project, and activity level: *Provided*, That such plans shall include, as applicable, a comparison between the congressional budget justification funding levels, the most recent congressional directives or approved funding levels, and the funding levels proposed by the department or agency; and a clear, concise, and informative description/justification: *Provided further*, That if such department, agency, or organization receives an additional amount under the same heading in title VIII of this Act, operating plans required by this subsection shall include consolidated information on all such funds: *Provided further*, That operating plans that include changes in levels of funding for programs, projects, and activities specified in the congressional budget justification, in this Act, or amounts specifically designated in the respective tables included in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this Consolidated Act), as applicable, shall be subject to the notification and reprogramming requirements of section 7015 of this Act.

(2) Concurrent with the submission of an operating plan pursuant to paragraph (1), each covered department, agency, or organization shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations a report detailing any planned reorganization of such department, agency, or organization, including any action planned pursuant to the March 31, 2017 Executive Order 13781 on a Comprehensive Plan for Reorganizing the Executive Branch, including—

(A) a detailed organization chart, including a brief description of each operating unit;

(B) the number of employees for each operating unit;

(C) the current policy for supporting the operations of the National Security Council (NSC) through the detail of agency staff, including staff projected to be detailed to the NSC during fiscal year 2018, if applicable; and

(D) a detailed explanation of the policies and procedures currently or expected to be used to comply with Executive Order 13781, including an assessment of how national security interests will be served by any proposed reorganizations.

(b) SPEND PLANS.—

(1) Prior to the initial obligation of funds, the Secretary of State or Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, as appropriate, shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations a spend plan for funds made available by this Act, for—

(A) assistance for Afghanistan, Iraq, Lebanon, Pakistan, and the West Bank and Gaza;

(B) Power Africa and the regional security initiatives listed under this section in House Report 114–693: *Provided*, That the spend plan for such initiatives shall include the amount of assistance planned for each country by account, to the maximum extent practicable; and

(C) democracy programs, programs to support section 7073(a) of this Act, and sectors enumerated in subsections (a), (c)(2), (d), (e), (f), (g), and (h) of section 7060 of this Act.

(2) Not later than 45 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Treasury shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations a detailed spend plan for funds made available by this Act under the heading ''Department of the Treasury, International Affairs Technical Assistance'' in title III.

(c) SPENDING REPORT.—Not later than 45 days after enactment of this Act, the USAID Administrator shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations a detailed report on spending of funds made available during fiscal year 2016 under the heading ''Development Credit Authority''.

(d) NOTIFICATIONS.—The spend plans referenced in subsection (b) shall not be considered as meeting the notification requirements in this Act or under section 634A of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961.

(e) CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET JUSTIFICATION.—

(1) The congressional budget justification for Department of State operations and foreign operations shall be provided to the Committees on Appropriations concurrent with the date of submission of the President's budget for fiscal year 2018: *Provided*, That the appendices for such justification shall be provided to the Committees on Appropriations not later than 10 calendar days thereafter.

(2) The Secretary of State and the USAID Administrator shall include in the congressional budget justification a detailed justification for multi-year availability for any funds requested under the headings ''Diplomatic and Consular Programs'' and ''Operating Expenses''.

REPORTS AND RECORDS MANAGEMENT

SEC. 7077. (a) PUBLIC POSTING OF REPORTS.—

(1) REQUIREMENT.—Any agency receiving funds made available by this Act shall, subject to paragraphs (2) and (3), post on the publicly available Web site of such agency any report required by this Act to be submitted to the Committees on Appropriations, upon a determination by the head of such agency that to do so is in the national interest.

(2) EXCEPTIONS.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply to a report if—

(A) the public posting of such report would compromise national security, including the conduct of diplomacy; or

(B) the report contains proprietary, privileged, or sensitive information.

(3) TIMING AND INTENTION.—The head of the agency posting such report shall, unless otherwise provided for in this Act, do so only after such report has been made available to the Committees on Appropriations for not less than 45 days: *Provided*, That any report required by this Act to be submitted to the Committees on Appropriations shall include information from the submitting agency on whether such report will be publicly posted.

(b) REQUESTS FOR DOCUMENTS.—None of the funds appropriated or made available pursuant to titles III through VI of this Act shall

be available to a nongovernmental organization, including any contractor, which fails to provide upon timely request any document, file, or record necessary to the auditing requirements of the Department of State and the United States Agency for International Development.

(c) RECORDS MANAGEMENT.—

(1) LIMITATION.—None of the funds appropriated by this Act under the headings ''Diplomatic and Consular Programs'' and ''Capital Investment Fund'' in title I, and ''Operating Expenses'' and ''Capital Investment Fund'' in title II that are made available to the Department of State and USAID may be made available to support the use or establishment of email accounts or email servers created outside the .gov domain or not fitted for automated records management as part of a Federal government records management program in contravention of the Presidential and Federal Records Act Amendments of 2014 (Public Law 113–187).

(2) DIRECTIVES.—The Secretary of State and USAID Administrator shall—

(A) update the policies, directives, and oversight necessary to comply with Federal statutes, regulations, and presidential executive orders and memoranda concerning the preservation of all records made or received in the conduct of official business, including record emails, instant messaging, and other online tools;

(B) use funds appropriated by this Act under the headings ''Diplomatic and Consular Programs'' and ''Capital Investment Fund'' in title I, and ''Operating Expenses'' and ''Capital Investment Fund'' in title II, as appropriate, to improve Federal records management pursuant to the Federal Records Act (44 U.S.C. Chapters 21, 29, 31, and 33) and other applicable Federal records management statutes, regulations, or policies for the Department of State and USAID;

(C) direct departing employees that all Federal records generated by such employees, including senior officials, belong to the Federal Government; and

(D) significantly improve the response time for identifying and retrieving Federal records, including requests made pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act.

(3) REPORT.—Not later than 45 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State and USAID Administrator shall each submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations and to the National Archives and Records Administration detailing, as appropriate and where applicable—

(A) any updates or modifications made to the policy of each agency regarding the use or the establishment of email accounts or email servers created outside the .gov domain or not fitted for automated records management as part of a Federal government records management program since the submission to the Committees on Appropriations on January 20, 2016, of the report required by section 7077(c)(2) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2016 (division K of Public Law 114–113);

(B) the extent to which each agency is in compliance with applicable Federal records management statutes, regulations, and policies, including meeting Directive goal 1.2 of the Managing Government Records Directive (M–12–18) by December 31, 2016; and

(C) any steps taken since the submission of the report referenced in subparagraph (A) to—

(i) comply with paragraph (1)(B) of this subsection;

(ii) ensure that all employees at every level have been instructed in procedures and processes to ensure that the documentation of their official duties is captured, preserved, managed, protected, and accessible in official Government systems of the Department of State and USAID;

(iii) implement recommendations 1 and 4 made by the Office of the Inspector General (OIG), Department of State, in the January 2016 Evaluation of the Department of State's FOIA Process for Requests Involving the Office of the Secretary (ESP-16-01);

(iv) reduce the backlog of Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and Congressional oversight requests, and measurably improve the response time for answering such requests; and

(v) strengthen cyber security measures to mitigate vulnerabilities, including those resulting from the use of personal email accounts or servers outside the .gov domain and implement the recommendations of the OIG in the May 2016 Evaluation of Email Records Management and Cybersecurity Requirements (ESP–16–03).

(4) IMPLEMENTATION AND OPERATING PLAN.—The reports required by paragraph (3) shall be submitted by the Secretary of State or USAID Administrator simultaneously with the operating plans required by section 7076 of this Act for funds appropriated under the headings listed in paragraph (1), and shall include an operating plan and timeline, as applicable, for—

(A) implementing the recommendations of the OIG reports referenced in clauses (iii) and (v); and

(B) measurably reducing the FOIA and Congressional oversight requests backlog.

(5) REPORT ASSESSMENT.—Not later than 180 days after the submission of the reports required by paragraph (3), the Comptroller General of the United States, in consultation with National Archives and Records Administration, as appropriate, shall conduct an assessment of such reports, and shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations on the scope and requirements of such assessment.

GLOBAL INTERNET FREEDOM

SEC. 7078. (a) FUNDING.—Of the funds available for obligation during fiscal year 2017 under the headings ''International Broadcasting Operations'', ''Economic Support Fund'', ''Democracy Fund'', and ''Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia'', not less than $50,500,000 shall be made available for programs to promote Internet freedom globally: *Provided*, That such programs shall be prioritized for countries whose governments restrict freedom of expression on the Internet, and that are important to the national interests of the United States: *Provided further*, That funds made available pursuant to this section shall be matched, to the maximum extent practicable, by sources other than the United States Government, including from the private sector.

(b) REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) Funds appropriated by this Act under the headings ''Economic Support Fund'', ''Democracy Fund'', and ''Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia'' that are made available pursuant to subsection (a) shall be—

(A) coordinated with other democracy programs funded by this Act under such headings, and shall be incorporated into country assistance and democracy promotion strategies, as appropriate;

(B) made available to the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, Department of State, for programs to implement the May 2011, International Strategy for Cyberspace; the Department of State International Cyberspace Policy Strategy required by section 402 of the Cybersecurity Act of 2015 (division N of Public Law 114–113); and the comprehensive strategy to promote Internet freedom and access to information in Iran, as required by section 414 of the Iran Threat Reduction and Syria Human Rights Act of 2012 (22 U.S.C. 8754);

(C) made available for programs that support the efforts of civil society to counter the development of repressive Internet-related laws and regulations, including countering threats to Internet freedom at international organizations; to combat violence against bloggers and other users; and to enhance digital security training and capacity building for democracy activists;

(D) made available for research of key threats to Internet freedom; the continued development of technologies that provide or enhance access to the Internet, including circumvention tools that bypass Internet blocking, filtering, and other censorship techniques used by authoritarian governments; and maintenance of the technological advantage of the United States Government over such censorship techniques: *Provided*, That the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG), shall coordinate any such research and development programs with other relevant United States Government departments and agencies in order to share information, technologies, and best practices, and to assess the effectiveness of such technologies; and

(E) the responsibility of the Assistant Secretary for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, Department of State.

(2) Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading ''International Broadcasting Operations'' that are made available pursuant to subsection (a) shall be—

(A) made available only for tools and techniques to securely develop and distribute BBG digital content; facilitate audience access to such content on Web sites that are censored; coordinate the distribution of BBG digital content to targeted regional audiences; and to promote and distribute such tools and techniques, including digital security techniques;

(B) coordinated with programs funded by this Act under the heading ''International Broadcasting Operations'', and shall be incorporated into country broadcasting strategies, as appropriate;

(C) coordinated by the BBG CEO to provide Internet circumvention tools and techniques for audiences in countries that are strategic priorities for the BBG and in a manner consistent with the BBG Internet freedom strategy; and

(D) made available for the research and development of new tools or techniques authorized in paragraph (A) only after the BBG CEO, in consultation with the Secretary of State and other relevant United States Government departments and agencies, evaluates the risks and benefits of such new tools or techniques, and establishes safeguards to minimize the use of such new tools or techniques for illicit purposes.

(c) COORDINATION AND SPEND PLANS.—After consultation among the relevant agency heads to coordinate and de-conflict planned activities, but not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State and the BBG CEO shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations spend plans for funds made available by this Act for programs to promote Internet freedom globally, which shall include a description of safeguards established by relevant agencies to

ensure that such programs are not used for illicit purposes: *Provided*, That the Department of State spend plan shall include funding for all such programs for all relevant Department of State and USAID offices and bureaus: *Provided further*, That prior to the obligation of such funds, such offices and bureaus shall consult with the Assistant Secretary for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, Department of State, to ensure that such programs support the Department of State Internet freedom strategy.

IMPACT ON JOBS IN THE UNITED STATES

SEC. 7079. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available under titles III through VI of this Act may be obligated or expended to provide—

(1) any financial incentive to a business enterprise currently located in the United States for the purpose of inducing such an enterprise to relocate outside the United States if such incentive or inducement is likely to reduce the number of employees of such business enterprise in the United States because United States production is being replaced by such enterprise outside the United States;

(2) assistance for any program, project, or activity that contributes to the violation of internationally recognized workers' rights, as defined in section 507(4) of the Trade Act of 1974, of workers in the recipient country, including any designated zone or area in that country: *Provided*, That the application of section 507(4)(D) and (E) of such Act should be commensurate with the level of development of the recipient country and sector, and shall not preclude assistance for the informal sector in such country, micro and small-scale enterprise, and smallholder agriculture;

(3) any assistance to an entity outside the United States if such assistance is for the purpose of directly relocating or transferring jobs from the United States to other countries and adversely impacts the labor force in the United States; or

(4) for the enforcement of any rule, regulation, policy, or guidelines implemented pursuant to—

(A) the third proviso of subsection 7079(b) of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2010;

(B) the modification proposed by the Overseas Private Investment Corporation in November 2013 to the Corporation's Environmental and Social Policy Statement relating to coal; or

(C) the Supplemental Guidelines for High Carbon Intensity Projects approved by the Export-Import Bank of the United States on December 12, 2013,

when enforcement of such rule, regulation, policy, or guidelines would prohibit, or have the effect of prohibiting, any coal-fired or other power-generation project the purpose of which is to: (i) provide affordable electricity in International Development Association (IDA)-eligible countries and IDA-blend countries; and (ii) increase exports of goods and services from the United States or prevent the loss of jobs from the United States.

FRAGILE STATES AND EXTREMISM

SEC. 7080. (a) FUNDING.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading ''Economic Support Fund'' that are made available for assistance for Syria, Iraq, and Somalia shall be made available to carry out the purposes of this section, subject to prior consultation with, and the regular notification procedures of, the Committees on Appropriations.

(b) COMPREHENSIVE PLAN.—Funds made available pursuant to subsection (a) shall be transferred to, and merged with, funds appropriated by this Act under the heading ''United States Institute of Peace'' for the purposes of developing a comprehensive plan (the Plan) to prevent the underlying causes of extremism in fragile states in the Sahel, Horn of Africa, and the Near East: *Provided*, That such funds are in addition to amounts otherwise available to the United States Institute of Peace (USIP) under title I of this Act: *Provided further*, That USIP shall consult with the Committees on Appropriations prior to developing such Plan: *Provided further*, That USIP shall also consult with relevant United States Government agencies, foreign governments, and civil society, as appropriate, in developing the Plan.

(c) DEMONSTRATION PROJECT.—Funds made available by subsection (a) shall be made available to implement the Plan required by subsection (b) through a demonstration project, consistent with the requirements described in section 7073(d)(2) of S. 3117 (as introduced in the Senate on June 29, 2016): *Provided*, That such funds shall be made available to the maximum extent practicable on a cost-matching basis from sources other than the United States Government.

CONSULAR AND BORDER SECURITY PROGRAMS

SEC. 7081. (a) SEPARATE FUND.—There is established in the Treasury a separate fund to be known as the ''Consular and Border Security Programs'' account into which the following fees shall be deposited for the purposes of the consular and border security programs.

(b) MACHINE-READABLE VISA FEE.—Section 103(d) of Public Law 107–173 (8 U.S.C. 1713) is amended by striking ''credited as an offsetting collection to any appropriation for the Department of State'' and inserting ''deposited in the Consular and Border Security Programs account''.

(c) PASSPORT AND IMMIGRANT VISA SECURITY SURCHARGES.—The fourth paragraph under the heading ''Diplomatic and Consular Programs'' in title IV of division B of Public Law 108–447 (8 U.S.C. 1714) is amended by striking ''credited to this account'' and inserting ''deposited in the Consular and Border Security Programs account''.

(d) DIVERSITY IMMIGRANT LOTTERY FEE.—Section 636 of title VI, division C of Public Law 104–208 (8 U.S.C. 1153 note) is amended by striking ''as an offsetting collection to any Department of State appropriation'' and inserting ''in the Consular and Border Security Programs account''.

(e) AFFIDAVIT OF SUPPORT FEE.—Section 232(c) of title II of division A of H.R. 3427 (106th Congress) (incorporated by reference by section 1000(a)(7) of division B of Public Law 106–113, as amended (8 U.S.C. 1183a note), is further amended by striking ''as an offsetting collection to any Department of State appropriation'' and inserting ''in the Consular and Border Security Programs account''.

(f) WESTERN HEMISPHERE TRAVEL INITIATIVE SURCHARGE.—Subsection (b)(1) of section 1 of the Passport Act of June 4, 1920 (22 U.S.C. 214(b)(1)) is amended by striking ''as an offsetting collection to the appropriate Department of State appropriation'' and inserting ''in the Consular and Border Security Programs account''.

(g) EXPEDITED PASSPORT FEE.—The first proviso under the heading ''Diplomatic and Consular Programs'' in title V of Public Law 103–317 (22 U.S.C. 214 note) is amended by inserting ''or in the Consular and Border Security Programs account'' after ''offsetting collection''.

(h) TRANSFER OF FUNDS.—

(1) The unobligated balances of amounts available from fees referenced under this section may be transferred to the Consular and Border Security Programs account.

(2) Funds deposited in or transferred to the Consular and Border Security Programs account may be transferred between funds appropriated under the heading ''Administration of Foreign Affairs''.

(3) The transfer authorities in this section shall be in addition to any other transfer authority available to the Department of State.

(i) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect no later than October 1, 2018, and shall be implemented in a manner that ensures the fees collected, transferred, and used in fiscal year 2019 can be readily tracked.

UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND

SEC. 7082. (a) CONTRIBUTION.—Of the funds made available under the heading ''International Organizations and Programs'' in this Act for fiscal year 2017, $32,500,000 shall be made available for the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

(b) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—Funds appropriated by this Act for UNFPA, that are not made available for UNFPA because of the operation of any provision of law, shall be transferred to the ''Global Health Programs'' account and shall be made available for family planning, maternal, and reproductive health activities, subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

(c) PROHIBITION ON USE OF FUNDS IN CHINA.—None of the funds made available by this Act may be used by UNFPA for a country program in the People's Republic of China.

(d) CONDITIONS ON AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—Funds made available by this Act for UNFPA may not be made available unless—

(1) UNFPA maintains funds made available by this Act in an account separate from other accounts of UNFPA and does not commingle such funds with other sums; and

(2) UNFPA does not fund abortions.

(e) REPORT TO CONGRESS AND DOLLAR-FOR-DOLLAR WITHHOLDING OF FUNDS.—

(1) Not later than 4 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations indicating the amount of funds that UNFPA is budgeting for the year in which the report is submitted for a country program in the People's Republic of China.

(2) If a report under paragraph (1) indicates that UNFPA plans to spend funds for a country program in the People's Republic of China in the year covered by the report, then the amount of such funds UNFPA plans to spend in the People's Republic of China shall be deducted from the funds made available to UNFPA after March 1 for obligation for the remainder of the fiscal year in which the report is submitted.

AFGHAN ALLIES

(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

SEC. 7083. (a) AFGHAN ALLIES.—Section 602(b)(3)(F) of the Afghan Allies Protection Act, 2009 (division F of Public Law 111–8), as amended, is further amended by substituting ''11,000'' for ''8,500'' in the matter preceding clause (i).

(b) RESCISSION OF FUNDS.—Of the funds appropriated in prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs that remain available for obligation under the

heading ''Bilateral Economic Assistance, Funds Appropriated to the President, Economic Support Fund'', $6,000,000 are rescinded: *Provided*, That no amounts may be rescinded from amounts that were designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism or as an emergency requirement pursuant to the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget or section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended.

TITLE VIII

OVERSEAS CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS/ GLOBAL WAR ON TERRORISM

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ADMINISTRATION OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR PROGRAMS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For an additional amount for ''Diplomatic and Consular Programs'', $2,410,386,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, of which $1,815,210,000 is for Worldwide Security Protection and shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the Secretary of State may transfer up to $5,000,000 of the total funds made available under this heading to any other appropriation of any department or agency of the United States, upon the concurrence of the head of such department or agency, to support operations in and assistance for Afghanistan and to carry out the provisions of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961: *Provided further*, That any such transfer shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under this heading in this title may be made available for Conflict Stabilization Operations and for related reconstruction and stabilization assistance to prevent or respond to conflict or civil strife in foreign countries or regions, or to enable transition from such strife: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For an additional amount for ''Office of Inspector General'', $54,900,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, for the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction (SIGAR) for reconstruction oversight: *Provided*, That printing and reproduction costs shall not exceed amounts for such costs during fiscal year 2016: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, any employee of SIGAR who completes at least 12 months of continuous service after the date of enactment of this Act or who is employed on the date on which SIGAR terminates, whichever occurs first, shall acquire competitive status for appointment to any position in the competitive service for which the employee possesses the required qualifications: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

EMBASSY SECURITY, CONSTRUCTION, AND MAINTENANCE

For an additional amount for ''Embassy Security, Construction, and Maintenance'', $1,238,800,000, to remain available until expended, of which $1,228,000,000 shall be for Worldwide Security Upgrades, acquisition, and construction as authorized: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

CONTRIBUTIONS TO INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

For an additional amount for ''Contributions to International Organizations'', $96,240,000: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACEKEEPING ACTIVITIES

For an additional amount for ''Contributions for International Peacekeeping Activities'', $1,354,660,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

RELATED AGENCY

BROADCASTING BOARD OF GOVERNORS

INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING OPERATIONS

For an additional amount for ''International Broadcasting Operations'', $4,800,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT

OPERATING EXPENSES

For an additional amount for ''Operating Expenses'', $152,080,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

BILATERAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE

FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT

INTERNATIONAL DISASTER ASSISTANCE

For an additional amount for ''International Disaster Assistance'', $2,323,203,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

For an additional amount for ''International Disaster Assistance'', $990,000,000, to remain available until expended, for famine prevention, relief, and mitigation, including for South Sudan, Somalia, Nigeria, and Yemen: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

TRANSITION INITIATIVES

For an additional amount for ''Transition Initiatives'', $37,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

COMPLEX CRISES FUND

For an additional amount for ''Complex Crises Fund'', $20,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

ECONOMIC SUPPORT FUND

For an additional amount for ''Economic Support Fund'', $2,609,242,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

ASSISTANCE FOR EUROPE, EURASIA AND CENTRAL ASIA

For an additional amount for ''Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia'', $453,696,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

MIGRATION AND REFUGEE ASSISTANCE

For an additional amount for ''Migration and Refugee Assistance'' to respond to refugee crises, including in Africa, the Near East, South and Central Asia, and Europe and Eurasia, $2,146,198,000, to remain available until expended, except that such funds shall not be made available for the resettlement costs of refugees in the United States: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

UNITED STATES EMERGENCY REFUGEE AND MIGRATION ASSISTANCE FUND

For an additional amount for ''United States Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance Fund'', $40,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

INTERNATIONAL SECURITY ASSISTANCE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL AND LAW ENFORCEMENT

For an additional amount for ''International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement'', $412,260,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

NONPROLIFERATION, ANTI-TERRORISM, DEMINING AND RELATED PROGRAMS

For an additional amount for ''Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining and Related Programs'', $341,754,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS

For an additional amount for ''Peacekeeping Operations'', $473,973,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: *Provided further*, That funds available for obligation under this heading in this Act may be used to pay assessed expenses of international peacekeeping activities in Somalia, subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT

FOREIGN MILITARY FINANCING PROGRAM

For an additional amount for ''Foreign Military Financing Program'', $1,325,808,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

SEC. 8001. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds appropriated in this title are in addition to amounts appropriated or otherwise made available in this Act for fiscal year 2017.

EXTENSION OF AUTHORITIES AND CONDITIONS

SEC. 8002. Unless otherwise provided for in this Act, the additional amounts appropriated by this title to appropriations accounts in this Act shall be available under the authorities and conditions applicable to such appropriations accounts.

TRANSFER OF FUNDS

SEC. 8003. (a)(1) Funds appropriated by this title in this Act under the headings ''Transition Initiatives'', ''Complex Crises Fund'', ''Economic Support Fund'', and ''Assistance for Europe, Eurasia and Central Asia'' may be transferred to, and merged with, funds appropriated by this title under such headings.

(2) Funds appropriated by this title in this Act under the headings ''International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement'', ''Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining and Related Programs'', ''Peacekeeping Operations'', and ''Foreign Military Financing Program'' may be transferred to, and merged with, funds appropriated by this title under such headings.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, not to exceed $15,000,000 from funds appropriated under the headings ''International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement'', ''Peacekeeping Operations'', and ''Foreign Military Financing Program'' by this title in this Act may be transferred to, and merged with, funds previously made available under the heading ''Global Security Contingency Fund''.

(c) The transfer authority provided in subsection (a) may only be exercised to address contingencies.

(d) The transfer authority provided in subsections (a) and (b) shall be subject to prior consultation with, and the regular notification procedures of, the Committees on Appropriations: *Provided*, That such transfer authority is in addition to any transfer authority otherwise available under any other provision of law, including section 610 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 which may be exercised by the Secretary of State for the purposes of this title.

COUNTERING THE ISLAMIC STATE OF IRAQ AND SYRIA AND COMBATING TERRORISM IN THE NEAR EAST AND AFRICA

SEC. 8004. (a) RELIEF AND RECOVERY FUND.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the headings ''Economic Support Fund'', ''International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement'', ''Peacekeeping Operations'', and ''Foreign Military Financing Program'' that are designated for the Relief and Recovery Fund in the tables included in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this Consolidated Act) shall be made available for assistance for areas liberated from, or under the influence of, the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria, other terrorist organizations, or violent extremist organizations in and around the Near East and Africa: *Provided*, That such funds are in addition to amounts otherwise made available for such purposes and to amounts specifically designated in this Act for assistance for foreign countries: *Provided further*, That such funds shall be made available to the maximum extent practicable on a cost-matching basis from sources other than the United States, except that no such funds may be made available for the costs of significant infrastructure projects: *Provided further*, That such funds appropriated under the headings ''Economic Support Fund'' and ''International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement'' shall be made available for programs and activities included under this section in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this Consolidated Act): *Provided further*, That the Secretary of State shall include funds made available pursuant to this subsection in the update to reports required by section 204 of the Security Assistance Appropriations Act, 2017 (division B of Public Law 114–254).

(b) COUNTERTERRORISM PARTNERSHIPS FUND.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading ''Nonproliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining and Related Programs'' shall be made available for the Counterterrorism Partnerships Fund: *Provided*, That funds made available pursuant to this subsection shall be made available to enhance the capacity of Kurdistan Regional Government security services and for security programs in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq that further the security interest of the United States.

(c) OVERSIGHT REQUIREMENT.—Prior to the obligation of funds made available pursuant to subsections (a) and (b), the Secretary of State shall take all practicable steps to ensure that mechanisms are in place for monitoring, oversight, and control of such funds: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall promptly inform the appropriate congressional committees of each instance in which assistance provided pursuant to subsections (a) and (b) has been diverted or destroyed, to include the type and amount of assistance, a description of the incident and parties involved, and an explanation of the response of the Department of State.

(d) NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENT.—Funds made available pursuant to this section shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations.

FAMINE PREVENTION, RELIEF, AND MITIGATION

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 8005. (a) TRANSFER AUTHORITY AND NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENT.—

(1) Of the funds appropriated by this title in the second paragraph under the heading ''International Disaster Assistance''—

(A) not less than $300,000,000 shall be transferred to, and merged with, the Foreign Agricultural Service, ''Food for Peace Title II Grants'' account; and

(B) not less than $1,500,000 shall be transferred to, and merged with, funds appropriated by this title under the heading ''Operating Expenses'' for the United States Agency for International Development.

(2) Funds appropriated by this title in the second paragraph under the heading ''International Disaster Assistance'' may be transferred to, and merged with, funds appropriated by this title under the heading ''Migration and Refugee Assistance''.

(3) The transfer authority of this subsection is in addition to any transfer authority otherwise available under any other provision of law, and shall be for famine prevention, relief, and mitigation.

(b) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—Not later than 30 days after enactment of this Act and every 45 days thereafter until September 30, 2018, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, in consultation with the Secretary of State and Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations a report on the proposed use of funds appropriated under the heading ''International Disaster Assistance'' from this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs, for famine prevention, relief, and mitigation: *Provided*, That such report shall include the requirements enumerated under this section in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this Consolidated Act).

This division may be cited as the ''Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2017''.

DIVISION K—TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

TITLE I

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Secretary, $114,000,000, of which not to exceed $2,758,000 shall be available for the immediate Office of the Secretary; not to exceed $1,040,000 shall be available for the immediate Office of the Deputy Secretary; not to exceed $20,772,000 shall be available for the Office of the General Counsel; not to exceed $10,033,000 shall be available for the Office of the Under Secretary of Transportation for Policy; not to exceed $14,019,000 shall be available for the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Budget and Programs; not to exceed $2,546,000 shall be available for the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Governmental Affairs; not to exceed $29,356,000 shall be available for the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration; not to exceed $2,142,000 shall be available for the Office of Public Affairs; not to exceed $1,760,000 shall be available for the Office of the Executive Secretariat; not to exceed $11,089,000 shall be available for the Office of Intelligence, Security, and Emergency Response; and not to exceed $18,485,000 shall be available for the Office of the Chief Information Officer: *Provided*, That the Secretary of Transportation is authorized to transfer funds appropriated for any office of the Office of the Secretary to any other office of the Office of the Secretary: *Provided further*, That no appropriation for any office shall be increased or decreased by more than 5 percent by all such transfers: *Provided further*, That notice of

any change in funding greater than 5 percent shall be submitted for approval to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That not to exceed $60,000 shall be for allocation within the Department for official reception and representation expenses as the Secretary may determine: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, excluding fees authorized in Public Law 107–71, there may be credited to this appropriation up to $2,500,000 in funds received in user fees: *Provided further*, That none of the funds provided in this Act shall be available for the position of Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs.

RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY

For necessary expenses related to the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Research and Technology, $13,000,000, of which $8,218,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That there may be credited to this appropriation, to be available until expended, funds received from States, counties, municipalities, other public authorities, and private sources for expenses incurred for training: *Provided further*, That any reference in law, regulation, judicial proceedings, or elsewhere to the Research and Innovative Technology Administration shall continue to be deemed to be a reference to the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Research and Technology of the Department of Transportation.

NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENTS

For capital investments in surface transportation infrastructure, $500,000,000, to remain available through September 30, 2020: *Provided*, That the Secretary of Transportation shall distribute funds provided under this heading as discretionary grants to be awarded to a State, local government, transit agency, or a collaboration among such entities on a competitive basis for projects that will have a significant impact on the Nation, a metropolitan area, or a region: *Provided further*, That projects eligible for funding provided under this heading shall include, but not be limited to, highway or bridge projects eligible under title 23, United States Code; public transportation projects eligible under chapter 53 of title 49, United States Code; passenger and freight rail transportation projects; and port infrastructure investments (including inland port infrastructure and land ports of entry): *Provided further*, That the Secretary may use up to 20 percent of the funds made available under this heading for the purpose of paying the subsidy and administrative costs of projects eligible for Federal credit assistance under chapter 6 of title 23, United States Code, if the Secretary finds that such use of the funds would advance the purposes of this paragraph: *Provided further*, That in distributing funds provided under this heading, the Secretary shall take such measures so as to ensure an equitable geographic distribution of funds, an appropriate balance in addressing the needs of urban and rural areas, and the investment in a variety of transportation modes: *Provided further*, That a grant funded under this heading shall be not less than $5,000,000 and not greater than $25,000,000: *Provided further*, That not more than 10 percent of the funds made available under this heading may be awarded to projects in a single State: *Provided further*, That the Federal share of the costs for which an expenditure is made under this heading shall be, at the option of the recipient, up to 80 percent: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall give priority to projects that require a contribution of Federal funds in order to complete an overall financing package: *Provided further*, That not less than 20 percent of the funds provided under this heading shall be for projects located in rural areas: *Provided further*, That for projects located in rural areas, the minimum grant size shall be $1,000,000 and the Secretary may increase the Federal share of costs above 80 percent: *Provided further*, That projects conducted using funds provided under this heading must comply with the requirements of subchapter IV of chapter 31 of title 40, United States Code: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall conduct a new competition to select the grants and credit assistance awarded under this heading: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may retain up to $20,000,000 of the funds provided under this heading, and may transfer portions of those funds to the Administrators of the Federal Highway Administration, the Federal Transit Administration, the Federal Railroad Administration and the Maritime Administration, to fund the award and oversight of grants and credit assistance made under the National Infrastructure Investments program.

NATIONAL SURFACE TRANSPORTATION AND INNOVATIVE FINANCE BUREAU

For necessary expenses for the establishment and administration of a new National Surface Transportation and Innovative Finance Bureau (the Bureau) within the Office of the Secretary of Transportation, $3,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the Secretary of Transportation shall use such amount for the necessary expenses to establish the Bureau and to fulfill the responsibilities of the Bureau, as detailed in section 9001 of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act (Public Law 114–94) (49 U.S.C. 116): *Provided further*, That the Secretary is required to receive the advance approval of the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations prior to exercising the authorities of 49 U.S.C. 116(h): *Provided further*, That the program be available to other Federal agencies, States, municipalities and project sponsors seeking Federal transportation expertise in obtaining financing.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT CAPITAL

For necessary expenses for upgrading and enhancing the Department of Transportation's financial systems and re-engineering business processes, $4,000,000, to remain available through September 30, 2018.

CYBER SECURITY INITIATIVES

For necessary expenses for cyber security initiatives, including necessary upgrades to wide area network and information technology infrastructure, improvement of network perimeter controls and identity management, testing and assessment of information technology against business, security, and other requirements, implementation of Federal cyber security initiatives and information infrastructure enhancements, and implementation of enhanced security controls on network devices, $15,000,000, to remain available through September 30, 2018.

OFFICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS

For necessary expenses of the Office of Civil Rights, $9,751,000.

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING, RESEARCH, AND DEVELOPMENT

For necessary expenses for conducting transportation planning, research, systems development, development activities, and making grants, to remain available until expended, $12,000,000: *Provided*, That of such amount, $3,000,000 shall be for necessary expenses of the Interagency Infrastructure Permitting Improvement Center (IIPIC): *Provided further*, That there may be transferred to this appropriation, to remain available until expended, amounts from other Federal agencies for expenses incurred under this heading for IIPIC activities not related to transportation infrastructure: *Provided further*, That the tools and analysis developed by the IIPIC shall be available to other Federal agencies for the permitting and review of major infrastructure projects not related to transportation only to the extent that other Federal agencies provide funding to the Department as provided for under the previous proviso.

WORKING CAPITAL FUND

For necessary expenses for operating costs and capital outlays of the Working Capital Fund, not to exceed $190,389,000 shall be paid from appropriations made available to the Department of Transportation: *Provided*, That such services shall be provided on a competitive basis to entities within the Department of Transportation: *Provided further*, That the above limitation on operating expenses shall not apply to non-DOT entities: *Provided further*, That no funds appropriated in this Act to an agency of the Department shall be transferred to the Working Capital Fund without majority approval of the Working Capital Fund Steering Committee and approval of the Secretary: *Provided further*, That no assessments may be levied against any program, budget activity, subactivity or project funded by this Act unless notice of such assessments and the basis therefor are presented to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations and are approved by such Committees.

MINORITY BUSINESS RESOURCE CENTER PROGRAM

For the cost of guaranteed loans, $339,000, as authorized by 49 U.S.C. 332: *Provided*, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: *Provided further*, That these funds are available to subsidize total loan principal, any part of which is to be guaranteed, not to exceed $18,367,000.

In addition, for administrative expenses to carry out the guaranteed loan program, $602,000.

SMALL AND DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS UTILIZATION AND OUTREACH

For necessary expenses for small and disadvantaged business utilization and outreach activities, $4,646,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That notwithstanding 49 U.S.C. 332, these funds may be used for business opportunities related to any mode of transportation.

PAYMENTS TO AIR CARRIERS

(AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND)

In addition to funds made available from any other source to carry out the essential air service program under 49 U.S.C. 41731 through 41742, $150,000,000, to be derived from the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That in determining between or among carriers competing to provide service to a community, the Secretary may consider the relative subsidy requirements of the carriers: *Provided further*, That basic essential air service minimum requirements shall not include the 15-passenger capacity requirement under subsection 41732(b)(3) of title 49, United States Code: *Provided further*, That none of the funds in this Act or any other Act shall be used to enter into a new contract with a community located less than 40

miles from the nearest small hub airport before the Secretary has negotiated with the community over a local cost share: *Provided further*, That amounts authorized to be distributed for the essential air service program under subsection 41742(b) of title 49, United States Code, shall be made available immediately from amounts otherwise provided to the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration: *Provided further*, That the Administrator may reimburse such amounts from fees credited to the account established under section 45303 of title 49, United States Code.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION

SEC. 101. None of the funds made available in this Act to the Department of Transportation may be obligated for the Office of the Secretary of Transportation to approve assessments or reimbursable agreements pertaining to funds appropriated to the modal administrations in this Act, except for activities underway on the date of enactment of this Act, unless such assessments or agreements have completed the normal reprogramming process for Congressional notification.

SEC. 102. In addition to authority provided by section 327 of title 49, United States Code, the Department's Working Capital Fund is hereby authorized to provide partial or full payments in advance and accept subsequent reimbursements from all Federal agencies from available funds for transit benefit distribution services that are necessary to carry out the Federal transit pass transportation fringe benefit program under Executive Order 13150 and section 3049 of Public Law 109–59: *Provided*, That the Department shall maintain a reasonable operating reserve in the Working Capital Fund, to be expended in advance to provide uninterrupted transit benefits to Government employees: *Provided further*, That such reserve will not exceed one month of benefits payable and may be used only for the purpose of providing for the continuation of transit benefits: *Provided further*, That the Working Capital Fund will be fully reimbursed by each customer agency from available funds for the actual cost of the transit benefit.

SEC. 103. The Secretary shall post on the Web site of the Department of Transportation a schedule of all meetings of the Council on Credit and Finance, including the agenda for each meeting, and require the Council on Credit and Finance to record the decisions and actions of each meeting.

FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

OPERATIONS

(AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND)

For necessary expenses of the Federal Aviation Administration, not otherwise provided for, including operations and research activities related to commercial space transportation, administrative expenses for research and development, establishment of air navigation facilities, the operation (including leasing) and maintenance of aircraft, subsidizing the cost of aeronautical charts and maps sold to the public, lease or purchase of passenger motor vehicles for replacement only, in addition to amounts made available by Public Law 112–95, $10,025,852,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, of which $9,173,000,000 shall be derived from the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, of which not to exceed $7,559,785,000 shall be available for air traffic organization activities; not to exceed $1,298,482,000 shall be available for aviation safety activities; not to exceed $19,826,000 shall be available for commercial space transportation activities; not to exceed $771,342,000 shall be available for finance and management activities; not to exceed $60,155,000 shall be available for NextGen and operations planning activities; not to exceed $107,161,000 shall be available for security and hazardous materials safety; and not to exceed $209,101,000 shall be available for staff offices: *Provided*, That not to exceed 5 percent of any budget activity, except for aviation safety budget activity, may be transferred to any budget activity under this heading: *Provided further*, That no transfer may increase or decrease any appropriation by more than 5 percent: *Provided further*, That any transfer in excess of 5 percent shall be treated as a reprogramming of funds under section 405 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation or expenditure except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section: *Provided further*, That not later than March 31 of each fiscal year hereafter, the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration shall transmit to Congress an annual update to the report submitted to Congress in December 2004 pursuant to section 221 of Public Law 108–176: *Provided further*, That the amount herein appropriated shall be reduced by $100,000 for each day after March 31 that such report has not been submitted to the Congress: *Provided further*, That not later than March 31 of each fiscal year hereafter, the Administrator shall transmit to Congress a companion report that describes a comprehensive strategy for staffing, hiring, and training flight standards and aircraft certification staff in a format similar to the one utilized for the controller staffing plan, including stated attrition estimates and numerical hiring goals by fiscal year: *Provided further*, That the amount herein appropriated shall be reduced by $100,000 per day for each day after March 31 that such report has not been submitted to Congress: *Provided further*, That funds may be used to enter into a grant agreement with a nonprofit standard-setting organization to assist in the development of aviation safety standards: *Provided further*, That none of the funds in this Act shall be available for new applicants for the second career training program: *Provided further*, That none of the funds in this Act shall be available for the Federal Aviation Administration to finalize or implement any regulation that would promulgate new aviation user fees not specifically authorized by law after the date of the enactment of this Act: *Provided further*, That there may be credited to this appropriation, as offsetting collections, funds received from States, counties, municipalities, foreign authorities, other public authorities, and private sources for expenses incurred in the provision of agency services, including receipts for the maintenance and operation of air navigation facilities, and for issuance, renewal or modification of certificates, including airman, aircraft, and repair station certificates, or for tests related thereto, or for processing major repair or alteration forms: *Provided further*, That of the funds appropriated under this heading, not less than $159,000,000 shall be for the contract tower program, including the contract tower cost share program: *Provided further*, That none of the funds in this Act for aeronautical charting and cartography are available for activities conducted by, or coordinated through, the Working Capital Fund: *Provided further*, That none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act or any other Act may be used to eliminate the Contract Weather Observers program at any airport.

FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT

(AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND)

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, for acquisition, establishment, technical support services, improvement by contract or purchase, and hire of national airspace systems and experimental facilities and equipment, as authorized under part A of subtitle VII of title 49, United States Code, including initial acquisition of necessary sites by lease or grant; engineering and service testing, including construction of test facilities and acquisition of necessary sites by lease or grant; construction and furnishing of quarters and related accommodations for officers and employees of the Federal Aviation Administration stationed at remote localities where such accommodations are not available; and the purchase, lease, or transfer of aircraft from funds available under this heading, including aircraft for aviation regulation and certification; to be derived from the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, $2,855,000,000, of which $486,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2017, and $2,369,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That there may be credited to this appropriation funds received from States, counties, municipalities, other public authorities, and private sources, for expenses incurred in the establishment, improvement, and modernization of national airspace systems: *Provided further*, That no later than March 31, the Secretary of Transportation shall transmit to the Congress an investment plan for the Federal Aviation Administration which includes funding for each budget line item for fiscal years 2018 through 2022, with total funding for each year of the plan constrained to the funding targets for those years as estimated and approved by the Office of Management and Budget.

RESEARCH, ENGINEERING, AND DEVELOPMENT

(AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND)

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, for research, engineering, and development, as authorized under part A of subtitle VII of title 49, United States Code, including construction of experimental facilities and acquisition of necessary sites by lease or grant, $176,500,000, to be derived from the Airport and Airway Trust Fund and to remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That there may be credited to this appropriation as offsetting collections, funds received from States, counties, municipalities, other public authorities, and private sources, which shall be available for expenses incurred for research, engineering, and development.

GRANTS-IN-AID FOR AIRPORTS

(LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION)

(LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)

(AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND)

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For liquidation of obligations incurred for grants-in-aid for airport planning and development, and noise compatibility planning and programs as authorized under subchapter I of chapter 471 and subchapter I of chapter 475 of title 49, United States Code, and under other law authorizing such obligations; for procurement, installation, and commissioning of runway incursion prevention devices and systems at airports of such title; for grants authorized under section 41743 of title 49, United States Code; and for inspection activities and administration of airport safety programs, including those related to airport operating certificates under section 44706 of title 49, United States Code, $3,750,000,000, to be derived from the Airport

and Airway Trust Fund and to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That none of the funds under this heading shall be available for the planning or execution of programs the obligations for which are in excess of $3,350,000,000 in fiscal year 2017, notwithstanding section 47117(g) of title 49, United States Code: *Provided further*, That none of the funds under this heading shall be available for the replacement of baggage conveyor systems, reconfiguration of terminal baggage areas, or other airport improvements that are necessary to install bulk explosive detection systems: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding section 47109(a) of title 49, United States Code, the Government's share of allowable project costs under paragraph (2) for subgrants or paragraph (3) of that section shall be 95 percent for a project at other than a large or medium hub airport that is a successive phase of a multiphased construction project for which the project sponsor received a grant in fiscal year 2011 for the construction project: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, of funds limited under this heading, not more than $107,691,000 shall be available for administration, not less than $15,000,000 shall be available for the Airport Cooperative Research Program, not less than $31,375,000 shall be available for Airport Technology Research, and $10,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be available and transferred to ''Office of the Secretary, Salaries and Expenses'' to carry out the Small Community Air Service Development Program: *Provided further*, That in addition to airports eligible under section 41743 of title 49, such program may include the participation of an airport that serves a community or consortium that is not larger than a small hub airport, according to FAA hub classifications effective at the time the Office of the Secretary issues a request for proposals.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

SEC. 110. None of the funds in this Act may be used to compensate in excess of 600 technical staff-years under the federally funded research and development center contract between the Federal Aviation Administration and the Center for Advanced Aviation Systems Development during fiscal year 2017.

SEC. 111. None of the funds in this Act shall be used to pursue or adopt guidelines or regulations requiring airport sponsors to provide to the Federal Aviation Administration without cost building construction, maintenance, utilities and expenses, or space in airport sponsor-owned buildings for services relating to air traffic control, air navigation, or weather reporting: *Provided*, That the prohibition of funds in this section does not apply to negotiations between the agency and airport sponsors to achieve agreement on ''below-market'' rates for these items or to grant assurances that require airport sponsors to provide land without cost to the FAA for air traffic control facilities.

SEC. 112. The Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration may reimburse amounts made available to satisfy 49 U.S.C. 41742(a)(1) from fees credited under 49 U.S.C. 45303 and any amount remaining in such account at the close of that fiscal year may be made available to satisfy section 41742(a)(1) for the subsequent fiscal year.

SEC. 113. Amounts collected under section 40113(e) of title 49, United States Code, shall be credited to the appropriation current at the time of collection, to be merged with and available for the same purposes of such appropriation.

SEC. 114. None of the funds in this Act shall be available for paying premium pay under subsection 5546(a) of title 5, United States Code, to any Federal Aviation Administration employee unless such employee actually performed work during the time corresponding to such premium pay.

SEC. 115. None of the funds in this Act may be obligated or expended for an employee of the Federal Aviation Administration to purchase a store gift card or gift certificate through use of a Government-issued credit card.

SEC. 116. None of the funds in this Act may be obligated or expended for retention bonuses for an employee of the Federal Aviation Administration without the prior written approval of the Assistant Secretary for Administration of the Department of Transportation.

SEC. 117. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds made available under this Act or any prior Act may be used to implement or to continue to implement any limitation on the ability of any owner or operator of a private aircraft to obtain, upon a request to the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration, a blocking of that owner's or operator's aircraft registration number from any display of the Federal Aviation Administration's Aircraft Situational Display to Industry data that is made available to the public, except data made available to a Government agency, for the noncommercial flights of that owner or operator.

SEC. 118. None of the funds in this Act shall be available for salaries and expenses of more than nine political and Presidential appointees in the Federal Aviation Administration.

SEC. 119. None of the funds made available under this Act may be used to increase fees pursuant to section 44721 of title 49, United States Code, until the Federal Aviation Administration provides to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations a report that justifies all fees related to aeronautical navigation products and explains how such fees are consistent with Executive Order 13642.

SEC. 119A. None of the funds in this Act may be used to close a regional operations center of the Federal Aviation Administration or reduce its services unless the Administrator notifies the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations not less than 90 full business days in advance.

SEC. 119B. None of the funds appropriated or limited by this Act may be used to change weight restrictions or prior permission rules at Teterboro airport in Teterboro, New Jersey.

SEC. 119C. None of the funds provided under this Act may be used by the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to withhold from consideration and approval any application for participation in the Contract Tower Program, or for reevaluation of Cost-share Program participants, pending as of January 1, 2016, as long as the Federal Aviation Administration has received an application from the airport, and as long as the Administrator determines such tower is eligible using the factors set forth in the Federal Aviation Administration report, Establishment and Discontinuance Criteria for Airport Traffic Control Towers (FAA–APO–90–7 as of August, 1990).

SEC. 119D. For fiscal year 2017, the Secretary of Transportation shall apportion to the sponsor of a primary airport under section 47114(c)(1)(A) of title 49, United States Code, an amount based on the number of passenger boardings at the airport during calendar year 2012 if the airport had—

(1) fewer than 10,000 passenger boardings during the calendar year used to calculate the apportionment for fiscal year 2017; and

(2) 10,000 or more passenger boardings during calendar year 2012.

SEC. 119E. Section 47109(c)(2) of title 49, United States Code, is amended to read as follows: ''The Government's share of allowable project costs determined under this subsection shall not exceed the lesser of 93.75 percent or the highest percentage Government share applicable to any project in any State under subsection (b), except that at a primary non-hub and non-primary commercial service airport located in a State as set forth in paragraph (1) of this subsection that is within 15 miles of another State as set forth in paragraph (1) of this subsection, the Government's share shall be an average of the Government share applicable to any project in each of the States.''.

SEC. 119F. (a) Subchapter I of chapter 471, as amended by this subtitle, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

''§ 47144. Use of funds for repairs for runway safety repairs

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Transportation may make project grants under this subchapter to an airport described in subsection (b) from funds under section 47114 apportioned to that airport or funds available for discretionary grants to that airport under section 47115 to conduct airport development to repair the runway safety area of the airport damaged as a result of a natural disaster in order to maintain compliance with the regulations of the Federal Aviation Administration relating to runway safety areas, without regard to whether construction of the runway safety area damaged was carried out using amounts the airport received under this subchapter.

''(b) AIRPORTS DESCRIBED.—An airport is described in this subsection if—

''(1) the airport is a public-use airport;

''(2) the airport is listed in the National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems of the Federal Aviation Administration;

''(3) the runway safety area of the airport was damaged as a result of a natural disaster;

''(4) the airport was denied funding under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 4121 et seq.) with respect to the disaster;

''(5) the operator of the airport has exhausted all legal remedies, including legal action against any parties (or insurers thereof) whose action or inaction may have contributed to the need for the repair of the runway safety area;

''(6) there is still a demonstrated need for the runway safety area to accommodate current or imminent aeronautical demand; and

''(7) the cost of repairing or replacing the runway safety area is reasonable in relation to the anticipated operational benefit of repairing the runway safety area, as determined by the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration.''.

(b) The analysis for chapter 471, as amended by this subtitle, is further amended by inserting after the item relating to section 47143 the following:

''47144. Use of funds for repairs for runway safety repairs.''.

FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Not to exceed $432,547,000, together with advances and reimbursements received by

the Federal Highway Administration, shall be obligated for necessary expenses for administration and operation of the Federal Highway Administration. In addition, not to exceed $3,248,000 shall be transferred to the Appalachian Regional Commission in accordance with section 104(a) of title 23, United States Code.

FEDERAL-AID HIGHWAYS

(LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)

(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

Funds available for the implementation or execution of Federal-aid highway and highway safety construction programs authorized under titles 23 and 49, United States Code, and the provisions of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act shall not exceed total obligations of $43,266,100,000 for fiscal year 2017: *Provided*, That the Secretary may collect and spend fees, as authorized by title 23, United States Code, to cover the costs of services of expert firms, including counsel, in the field of municipal and project finance to assist in the underwriting and servicing of Federal credit instruments and all or a portion of the costs to the Federal Government of servicing such credit instruments: *Provided further*, That such fees are available until expended to pay for such costs: *Provided further*, That such amounts are in addition to administrative expenses that are also available for such purpose, and are not subject to any obligation limitation or the limitation on administrative expenses under section 608 of title 23, United States Code.

(LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION)

(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

For the payment of obligations incurred in carrying out Federal-aid highway and highway safety construction programs authorized under title 23, United States Code, $44,005,100,000 derived from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account), to remain available until expended.

(RESCISSION)

(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

Of the unobligated balances of funds apportioned among the States under chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code, a total of $857,000,000 is hereby permanently rescinded on June 30, 2017: *Provided*, That such rescission shall not apply to funds distributed in accordance with sections 104(b)(3) and 130(f) of title 23, United States Code; section 133(d)(1)(A) of such title; the first sentence of section 133(d)(3)(A) of such title, as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of MAP–21 (Public Law 112–141); sections 133(d)(1) and 163 of such title, as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of SAFETEA–LU (Public Law 109–59); and section 104(b)(5) of such title, as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of MAP–21 (Public Law 112–141): *Provided further*, That such rescission shall not apply to funds that are exempt from the obligation limitation or subject to special no-year obligation limitation: *Provided further*, That the amount to be rescinded from a State shall be determined by multiplying the total amount of the rescission by the ratio that the unobligated balances subject to the rescission as of May 31, 2017, for the State; bears to the unobligated balances subject to the rescission as of May 31, 2017, for all States: *Provided further*, That the amount to be rescinded under this section from each program to which the rescission applies within a State shall be determined by multiplying the rescission amount calculated for such State by the ratio that the unobligated balance as of May 31, 2017, for such program in such State; bears to the unobligated balances as of May 31, 2017, for all programs to which the rescission applies in such State.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

SEC. 120. (a) For fiscal year 2017, the Secretary of Transportation shall—

(1) not distribute from the obligation limitation for Federal-aid highways—

(A) amounts authorized for administrative expenses and programs by section 104(a) of title 23, United States Code; and

(B) amounts authorized for the Bureau of Transportation Statistics;

(2) not distribute an amount from the obligation limitation for Federal-aid highways that is equal to the unobligated balance of amounts—

(A) made available from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) for Federal-aid highway and highway safety construction programs for previous fiscal years the funds for which are allocated by the Secretary (or apportioned by the Secretary under sections 202 or 204 of title 23, United States Code); and

(B) for which obligation limitation was provided in a previous fiscal year;

(3) determine the proportion that—

(A) the obligation limitation for Federal-aid highways, less the aggregate of amounts not distributed under paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection; bears to

(B) the total of the sums authorized to be appropriated for the Federal-aid highway and highway safety construction programs (other than sums authorized to be appropriated for provisions of law described in paragraphs (1) through (11) of subsection (b) and sums authorized to be appropriated for section 119 of title 23, United States Code, equal to the amount referred to in subsection (b)(12) for such fiscal year), less the aggregate of the amounts not distributed under paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection;

(4) distribute the obligation limitation for Federal-aid highways, less the aggregate amounts not distributed under paragraphs (1) and (2), for each of the programs (other than programs to which paragraph (1) applies) that are allocated by the Secretary under the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act and title 23, United States Code, or apportioned by the Secretary under sections 202 or 204 of that title, by multiplying—

(A) the proportion determined under paragraph (3); by

(B) the amounts authorized to be appropriated for each such program for such fiscal year; and

(5) distribute the obligation limitation for Federal-aid highways, less the aggregate amounts not distributed under paragraphs (1) and (2) and the amounts distributed under paragraph (4), for Federal-aid highway and highway safety construction programs that are apportioned by the Secretary under title 23, United States Code (other than the amounts apportioned for the National Highway Performance Program in section 119 of title 23, United States Code, that are exempt from the limitation under subsection (b)(12) and the amounts apportioned under sections 202 and 204 of that title) in the proportion that—

(A) amounts authorized to be appropriated for the programs that are apportioned under title 23, United States Code, to each State for such fiscal year; bears to

(B) the total of the amounts authorized to be appropriated for the programs that are apportioned under title 23, United States Code, to all States for such fiscal year.

(b) EXCEPTIONS FROM OBLIGATION LIMITATION.—The obligation limitation for Federal-aid highways shall not apply to obligations under or for—

(1) section 125 of title 23, United States Code;

(2) section 147 of the Surface Transportation Assistance Act of 1978 (23 U.S.C. 144 note; 92 Stat. 2714);

(3) section 9 of the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1981 (95 Stat. 1701);

(4) subsections (b) and (j) of section 131 of the Surface Transportation Assistance Act of 1982 (96 Stat. 2119);

(5) subsections (b) and (c) of section 149 of the Surface Transportation and Uniform Relocation Assistance Act of 1987 (101 Stat. 198);

(6) sections 1103 through 1108 of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (105 Stat. 2027);

(7) section 157 of title 23, United States Code (as in effect on June 8, 1998);

(8) section 105 of title 23, United States Code (as in effect for fiscal years 1998 through 2004, but only in an amount equal to $639,000,000 for each of those fiscal years);

(9) Federal-aid highway programs for which obligation authority was made available under the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (112 Stat. 107) or subsequent Acts for multiple years or to remain available until expended, but only to the extent that the obligation authority has not lapsed or been used;

(10) section 105 of title 23, United States Code (as in effect for fiscal years 2005 through 2012, but only in an amount equal to $639,000,000 for each of those fiscal years);

(11) section 1603 of SAFETEA–LU (23 U.S.C. 118 note; 119 Stat. 1248), to the extent that funds obligated in accordance with that section were not subject to a limitation on obligations at the time at which the funds were initially made available for obligation; and

(12) section 119 of title 23, United States Code (but, for each of fiscal years 2013 through 2017, only in an amount equal to $639,000,000).

(c) REDISTRIBUTION OF UNUSED OBLIGATION AUTHORITY.—Notwithstanding subsection (a), the Secretary shall, after August 1 of such fiscal year—

(1) revise a distribution of the obligation limitation made available under subsection (a) if an amount distributed cannot be obligated during that fiscal year; and

(2) redistribute sufficient amounts to those States able to obligate amounts in addition to those previously distributed during that fiscal year, giving priority to those States having large unobligated balances of funds apportioned under sections 144 (as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of Public Law 112–141) and 104 of title 23, United States Code.

(d) APPLICABILITY OF OBLIGATION LIMITATIONS TO TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH PROGRAMS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the obligation limitation for Federal-aid highways shall apply to contract authority for transportation research programs carried out under—

(A) chapter 5 of title 23, United States Code; and

(B) title VI of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act.

(2) EXCEPTION.—Obligation authority made available under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) remain available for a period of 4 fiscal years; and

(B) be in addition to the amount of any limitation imposed on obligations for Federal-aid highway and highway safety construction programs for future fiscal years.

(e) REDISTRIBUTION OF CERTAIN AUTHORIZED FUNDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the date of distribution of obligation limitation under subsection (a), the Secretary shall distribute to the States any funds (excluding funds authorized for the program under section 202 of title 23, United States Code) that—

(A) are authorized to be appropriated for such fiscal year for Federal-aid highway programs; and

(B) the Secretary determines will not be allocated to the States (or will not be apportioned to the States under section 204 of title 23, United States Code), and will not be available for obligation, for such fiscal year because of the imposition of any obligation limitation for such fiscal year.

(2) RATIO.—Funds shall be distributed under paragraph (1) in the same proportion as the distribution of obligation authority under subsection (a)(5).

(3) AVAILABILITY.—Funds distributed to each State under paragraph (1) shall be available for any purpose described in section 133(b) of title 23, United States Code.

SEC. 121. Notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302, funds received by the Bureau of Transportation Statistics from the sale of data products, for necessary expenses incurred pursuant to chapter 63 of title 49, United States Code, may be credited to the Federal-aid highways account for the purpose of reimbursing the Bureau for such expenses: *Provided*, That such funds shall be subject to the obligation limitation for Federal-aid highway and highway safety construction programs.

SEC. 122. (a) TRANSFER OF AMOUNTS.—

(1) STATE OF VIRGINIA.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Of the total amount apportioned to the State of Virginia under section 104 of title 23, United States Code, for fiscal year 2017, the Secretary of Transportation shall, by the later of November 30, 2016, or 30 days after the enactment of this Act, transfer to the National Park Service—

(i) an amount equal to—

(I) $30,000,000; multiplied by

(II) the ratio that—

(aa) the amount apportioned to the State of Virginia under such section 104; bears to

(bb) the combined amount apportioned to the State of Virginia and the District of Columbia under such section 104; and

(ii) an amount of obligation limitation equal to the amount calculated under clause (i).

(B) SOURCE AND AMOUNT.—For purpose of the transfer under subparagraph (A), the State of Virginia shall select at the discretion of the State—

(i) the programs (among those for which funding is apportioned as described in that subparagraph) from which to transfer the amount specified in that subparagraph; and

(ii) the amount to transfer from each of those programs (equal in aggregate to the amount calculated under subparagraph (A)(i)).

(2) DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Of the total amount apportioned to the District of Columbia under section 104 of title 23, United States Code, for fiscal year 2017, the Secretary of Transportation shall, by the later of November 30, 2016, or 30 days after the enactment of this Act, transfer to the National Park Service—

(i) an amount equal to—

(I) $30,000,000; multiplied by

(II) the ratio that—

(aa) the amount apportioned to the District of Columbia under such section 104; bears to

(bb) the combined amount apportioned to the State of Virginia and the District of Columbia under such section 104; and

(ii) an amount of obligation limitation equal to the amount calculated under clause (i).

(B) SOURCE AND AMOUNT.—For purpose of the transfer under subparagraph (A), the District of Columbia shall select at the discretion of the District—

(i) the programs (among those for which funding is apportioned as described in that subparagraph) from which to transfer the amount specified in that subparagraph; and

(ii) the amount to transfer from each of those programs (equal in aggregate to the amount calculated under subparagraph (A)(i)).

(3) FEDERAL LANDS TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM.—Of the amounts otherwise made available to the National Park Service under section 203 of title 23, United States Code, not less than 10 percent shall be set aside for purposes of this section.

(b) ELIGIBILITY AND FEDERAL SHARE.—The amounts under subsection (a) shall be—

(1) available to the National Park Service only for projects that—

(A) are eligible under section 203 of title 23, United States Code; and

(B) are located on bridges on the National Highway System that were originally constructed before 1945 and are in poor condition; and

(2) subject to the Federal share described in section 201(b)(7)(A) of title 23, United States Code.

(c) OTHER FUNDS AND OBLIGATION LIMITATION.—Any funds and obligation limitation transferred under subsection (a) shall be in addition to funds or obligation limitation otherwise made available to the National Park Service under sections 203 and 204 of title 23, United States Code.

SEC. 123. Not less than 15 days prior to waiving, under his or her statutory authority, any Buy America requirement for Federal-aid highways projects, the Secretary of Transportation shall make an informal public notice and comment opportunity on the intent to issue such waiver and the reasons therefor: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall provide an annual report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations on any waivers granted under the Buy America requirements.

SEC. 124. None of the funds in this Act to the Department of Transportation may be used to provide credit assistance unless not less than 3 days before any application approval to provide credit assistance under sections 603 and 604 of title 23, United States Code, the Secretary of Transportation provides notification in writing to the following committees: the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations; the Committee on Environment and Public Works and the Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs of the Senate; and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives: *Provided*, That such notification shall include, but not be limited to, the name of the project sponsor; a description of the project; whether credit assistance will be provided as a direct loan, loan guarantee, or line of credit; and the amount of credit assistance.

SEC. 125. None of the funds in this Act may be used to make a grant for a project under section 117 of title 23, United States Code, unless the Secretary, at least 60 days before making a grant under that section, provides written notification to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations of the proposed grant, including an evaluation and justification for the project and the amount of the proposed grant award.

FEDERAL MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY OPERATIONS AND PROGRAMS

(LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION)

(LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)

(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

For payment of obligations incurred in the implementation, execution and administration of motor carrier safety operations and programs pursuant to section 31110 of title 49, United States Code, as amended by the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act, $277,200,000, to be derived from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account), together with advances and reimbursements received by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, the sum of which shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, That funds available for implementation, execution or administration of motor carrier safety operations and programs authorized under title 49, United States Code, shall not exceed total obligations of $277,200,000 for ''Motor Carrier Safety Operations and Programs'' for fiscal year 2017, of which $9,180,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2019, is for the research and technology program.

MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY GRANTS

(LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION)

(LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)

(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

For payment of obligations incurred in carrying out sections 31102, 31103, 31104, and 31313 of title 49, United States Code, as amended by the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act, $367,000,000, to be derived from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) and to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That funds available for the implementation or execution of motor carrier safety programs shall not exceed total obligations of $367,000,000 in fiscal year 2017 for ''Motor Carrier Safety Grants''; of which $292,600,000 shall be available for the motor carrier safety assistance program, $31,200,000 shall be available for the commercial driver's license program implementation program, $42,200,000 shall be available for the high priority activities program, and $1,000,000 shall be available for the commercial motor vehicle operators grant program.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—FEDERAL MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

SEC. 130. Funds appropriated or limited in this Act shall be subject to the terms and conditions stipulated in section 350 of Public Law 107–87 and section 6901 of Public Law 110–28.

SEC. 131. The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration shall send notice of 49 CFR section 385.308 violations by certified mail, registered mail, or another manner of delivery, which records the receipt of the notice by the persons responsible for the violations.

SEC. 132. None of the funds made available by this Act or previous appropriations Acts under the heading ''Motor Carrier Safety Operations and Programs'' shall be used to pay for costs associated with design, development, testing, or implementation of a wireless roadside inspection program until 180

days after the Secretary of Transportation certifies to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations that such program does not conflict with existing non-Federal electronic screening systems, create capabilities already available, or require additional statutory authority to incorporate generated inspection data into safety determinations or databases, and has restrictions to specifically address privacy concerns of affected motor carriers and operators.

NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

OPERATIONS AND RESEARCH

For expenses necessary to discharge the functions of the Secretary, with respect to traffic and highway safety authorized under chapter 301 and part C of subtitle VI of title 49, United States Code, $180,075,000, of which $20,000,000 shall remain available through September 30, 2018.

OPERATIONS AND RESEARCH

(LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION)

(LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)

(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

For payment of obligations incurred in carrying out the provisions of 23 U.S.C. 403, and chapter 303 of title 49, United States Code, $145,900,000, to be derived from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) and to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That none of the funds in this Act shall be available for the planning or execution of programs the total obligations for which, in fiscal year 2017, are in excess of $145,900,000, of which $140,700,000 shall be for programs authorized under 23 U.S.C. 403 and $5,200,000 shall be for the National Driver Register authorized under chapter 303 of title 49, United States Code: *Provided further*, That within the $145,900,000 obligation limitation for operations and research, $20,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2018, and shall be in addition to the amount of any limitation imposed on obligations for future years.

HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY GRANTS

(LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION)

(LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)

(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

For payment of obligations incurred in carrying out provisions of 23 U.S.C. 402, 404, and 405, and section 4001(a)(6) of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act, to remain available until expended, $585,372,000, to be derived from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account): *Provided*, That none of the funds in this Act shall be available for the planning or execution of programs the total obligations for which, in fiscal year 2017, are in excess of $585,372,000 for programs authorized under 23 U.S.C. 402, 404, and 405, and section 4001(a)(6) of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act, of which $252,300,000 shall be for ''Highway Safety Programs'' under 23 U.S.C. 402; $277,500,000 shall be for ''National Priority Safety Programs'' under 23 U.S.C. 405; $29,500,000 shall be for ''High Visibility Enforcement Program'' under 23 U.S.C. 404; $26,072,000 shall be for ''Administrative Expenses'' under section 4001(a)(6) of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act: *Provided further*, That none of these funds shall be used for construction, rehabilitation, or remodeling costs, or for office furnishings and fixtures for State, local or private buildings or structures: *Provided further*, That not to exceed $500,000 of the funds made available for ''National Priority Safety Programs'' under 23 U.S.C. 405 for ''Impaired Driving Countermeasures'' (as described in subsection (d) of that section) shall be available for technical assistance to the States: *Provided further*, That with respect to the ''Transfers'' provision under 23 U.S.C. 405(a)(8), any amounts transferred to increase the amounts made available under section 402 shall include the obligation authority for such amounts: *Provided further*, That the Administrator shall notify the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations of any exercise of the authority granted under the previous proviso or under 23 U.S.C. 405(a)(8) within 5 days.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

SEC. 140. An additional $130,000 shall be made available to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, out of the amount limited for section 402 of title 23, United States Code, to pay for travel and related expenses for State management reviews and to pay for core competency development training and related expenses for highway safety staff.

SEC. 141. The limitations on obligations for the programs of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration set in this Act shall not apply to obligations for which obligation authority was made available in previous public laws but only to the extent that the obligation authority has not lapsed or been used.

SEC. 142. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to obligate or award funds for the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's National Roadside Survey.

SEC. 143. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to mandate global positioning system (GPS) tracking in private passenger motor vehicles without providing full and appropriate consideration of privacy concerns under 5 U.S.C. chapter 5, subchapter II.

FEDERAL RAILROAD ADMINISTRATION

SAFETY AND OPERATIONS

For necessary expenses of the Federal Railroad Administration, not otherwise provided for, $218,298,000, of which $15,900,000 shall remain available until expended.

RAILROAD RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

For necessary expenses for railroad research and development, $40,100,000, to remain available until expended.

RAILROAD REHABILITATION AND IMPROVEMENT FINANCING PROGRAM

The Secretary of Transportation is authorized to issue direct loans and loan guarantees pursuant to sections 501 through 504 of the Railroad Revitalization and Regulatory Reform Act of 1976 (Public Law 94–210), as amended, such authority shall exist as long as any such direct loan or loan guarantee is outstanding: *Provided*, That pursuant to section 502 of such Act, as amended, no new direct loans or loan guarantee commitments shall be made using Federal funds for the credit risk premium during fiscal year 2017, except for Federal funds awarded in accordance with section 3028(c) of Public Law 114–94.

FEDERAL-STATE PARTNERSHIP FOR STATE OF GOOD REPAIR GRANTS

For necessary expenses related to Federal-State Partnership for State of Good Repair Grants as authorized by section 24911 of title 49, United States Code, $25,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the Secretary may withhold up to one percent of the amount provided under this heading for the costs of project management oversight of grants carried out under section 24911 of title 49, United States Code.

CONSOLIDATED RAIL INFRASTRUCTURE AND SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS GRANTS

For necessary expenses related to Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements Grants as authorized by section 24407 of title 49, United States Code, $68,000,000, to remain available until expended, for projects eligible under sections 24407(c)(1) through 24407(c)(10) of title 49, United States Code, of which $10,000,000 shall be available for eligible projects under section 24407(c)(2) of title 49, United States Code, that contribute to the initiation or restoration of intercity passenger rail service: *Provided*, That the Secretary may withhold up to one percent of the amount provided under this heading for the costs of project management oversight of grants carried out under section 24407 of title 49, United States Code.

RESTORATION AND ENHANCEMENT GRANTS

For necessary expenses related to Restoration and Enhancement Grants, as authorized by section 24408 of title 49, United States Code, $5,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the Secretary may withhold up to one percent of the funds provided under this heading to fund the costs of project management and oversight.

NORTHEAST CORRIDOR GRANTS TO THE NATIONAL RAILROAD PASSENGER CORPORATION

To enable the Secretary of Transportation to make grants to the National Railroad Passenger Corporation for activities associated with the Northeast Corridor as authorized by section 11101(a) of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (division A of Public Law 114–94), $328,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the Secretary may retain up to one-half of 1 percent of the funds provided under both this heading and the National Network Grants to the National Railroad Passenger Corporation heading to fund the costs of project management and oversight of activities authorized by section 11101(c) of division A of Public Law 114–94: *Provided further*, That in addition to the project management oversight funds authorized under section 11101(c) of division A of Public Law 114–94, the Secretary may retain up to an additional $5,000,000 of the funds provided under this heading to fund expenses associated with the Northeast Corridor Commission established under section 24905 of title 49, United States Code: *Provided further*, That of the amounts made available under this heading and the National Network Grants to the National Railroad Passenger Corporation heading, not less than $50,000,000 shall be made available to bring Amtrak-served facilities and stations into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

NATIONAL NETWORK GRANTS TO THE NATIONAL RAILROAD PASSENGER CORPORATION

To enable the Secretary of Transportation to make grants to the National Railroad Passenger Corporation for activities associated with the National Network as authorized by section 11101(b) of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (division A of Public Law 114–94), $1,167,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the Secretary may retain up to an additional $2,000,000 of the funds provided under this heading to fund expenses associated with the State-Supported Route Committee established under 24712 of title 49, United States Code.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—FEDERAL RAILROAD ADMINISTRATION

SEC. 150. None of the funds provided to the National Railroad Passenger Corporation may be used to fund any overtime costs in excess of $35,000 for any individual employee: *Provided*, That the President of Amtrak may waive the cap set in the previous proviso for specific employees when the President of Amtrak determines such a cap poses a risk to the safety and operational efficiency of the system: *Provided further*, That the President of Amtrak shall report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations each quarter within 30 days of such quarter of the calendar year on waivers granted to employees and amounts paid above the cap for each month within such quarter and delineate the reasons each waiver was granted: *Provided further*, That the President of Amtrak shall report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations by March 1, 2017, a summary of all overtime payments incurred by the Corporation for 2016 and the three prior calendar years: *Provided further*, That such summary shall include the total number of employees that received waivers and the total overtime payments the Corporation paid to those employees receiving waivers for each month for 2016 and for the three prior calendar years.

FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

For necessary administrative expenses of the Federal Transit Administration's programs authorized by chapter 53 of title 49, United States Code, $113,165,000: *Provided*, That none of the funds provided or limited in this Act may be used to create a permanent office of transit security under this heading: *Provided further*, That upon submission to the Congress of the fiscal year 2018 President's budget, the Secretary of Transportation shall transmit to Congress the annual report on New Starts, including proposed allocations for fiscal year 2018.

TRANSIT FORMULA GRANTS

(LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION)

(LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)

(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

For payment of obligations incurred in the Federal Public Transportation Assistance Program in this account, and for payment of obligations incurred in carrying out the provisions of 49 U.S.C. 5305, 5307, 5310, 5311, 5312, 5314, 5318, 5329(e)(6), 5335, 5337, 5339, and 5340, as amended by the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act, and section 20005(b) of Public Law 112–141, and sections 3006(b) and 3028 of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act, $10,800,000,000, to be derived from the Mass Transit Account of the Highway Trust Fund and to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That funds available for the implementation or execution of programs authorized under 49 U.S.C. 5305, 5307, 5310, 5311, 5312, 5314, 5318, 5329(e)(6), 5335, 5337, 5339, and 5340, as amended by the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act, and section 20005(b) of Public Law 112–141, and sections 3006(b) and 3028 of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act, shall not exceed total obligations of $9,733,706,043 in fiscal year 2017: *Provided further*, That the Federal share of the cost of activities carried out under section 5312 shall not exceed 80 percent, except that if there is substantial public interest or benefit, the Secretary may approve a greater Federal share.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING

For necessary expenses to carry out 49 U.S.C. 5314, $5,000,000.

CAPITAL INVESTMENT GRANTS

For necessary expenses to carry out 49 U.S.C. 5309 and section 3005(b) of the FAST Act, $2,412,631,000, to remain available until expended.

GRANTS TO THE WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY

For grants to the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority as authorized under section 601 of division B of Public Law 110–432, $150,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the Secretary of Transportation shall approve grants for capital and preventive maintenance expenditures for the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority only after receiving and reviewing a request for each specific project: *Provided further*, That prior to approving such grants, the Secretary shall certify that the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority is making progress to improve its safety management system in response to the Federal Transit Administration's 2015 safety management inspection: *Provided further*, That prior to approving such grants, the Secretary shall certify that the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority is making progress toward full implementation of the corrective actions identified in the 2014 Financial Management Oversight Review Report: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall determine that the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority has placed the highest priority on those investments that will improve the safety of the system before approving such grants: *Provided further*, That the Secretary, in order to ensure safety throughout the rail system, may waive the requirements of section 601(e)(1) of division B of Public Law 110–432 (112 Stat. 4968).

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

(INCLUDING RESCISSION)

SEC. 160. The limitations on obligations for the programs of the Federal Transit Administration shall not apply to any authority under 49 U.S.C. 5338, previously made available for obligation, or to any other authority previously made available for obligation.

SEC. 161. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds appropriated or limited by this Act under the heading ''Fixed Guideway Capital Investment'' of the Federal Transit Administration for projects specified in this Act or identified in reports accompanying this Act not obligated by September 30, 2021, and other recoveries, shall be directed to projects eligible to use the funds for the purposes for which they were originally provided.

SEC. 162. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any funds appropriated before October 1, 2016, under any section of chapter 53 of title 49, United States Code, that remain available for expenditure, may be transferred to and administered under the most recent appropriation heading for any such section.

SEC. 163. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), none of the funds in this or any other Act may be available to advance in any way a new light or heavy rail project towards a full funding grant agreement as defined by 49 U.S.C. 5309 for the Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County, Texas if the proposed capital project is constructed on or planned to be constructed on Richmond Avenue west of South Shepherd Drive or on Post Oak Boulevard north of Richmond Avenue in Houston, Texas.

(b) The Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County, Texas, may attempt to construct or construct a new fixed guideway capital project, including light rail, in the locations referred to in subsection (a) if—

(1) voters in the jurisdiction that includes such locations approve a ballot proposition that specifies routes on Richmond Avenue west of South Shepherd Drive or on Post Oak Boulevard north of Richmond Avenue in Houston, Texas; and

(2) the proposed construction of such routes is part of a comprehensive, multimodal, service-area wide transportation plan that includes multiple additional segments of fixed guideway capital projects, including light rail for the jurisdiction set forth in the ballot proposition. The ballot language shall include reasonable cost estimates, sources of revenue to be used and the total amount of bonded indebtedness to be incurred as well as a description of each route and the beginning and end point of each proposed transit project.

SEC. 164. Any unobligated amounts made available for fiscal year 2012 or prior fiscal years to carry out the discretionary job access and reverse commute program under section 3037 of the transportation equity act for the 21st century are hereby rescinded: *Provided*, That such amounts are made available for projects eligible under 49 U.S.C. 5309(q).

SEC. 165. Section 5307(a) of title 49, United States Code, is amended by striking paragraphs (2) and (3) and inserting the following:

''(2) The Secretary may make grants under this section to finance the operating cost of equipment and facilities for use in public transportation, excluding rail fixed guideway, in an urbanized area with a population of not fewer than 200,000 individuals, as determined by the Bureau of the Census—

''(A) for public transportation systems that—

''(i) operate 75 or fewer buses in fixed route service or demand response service, excluding ADA complementary paratransit service, during peak service hours, in an amount not to exceed 75 percent of the share of the apportionment which is attributable to such systems within the urbanized area, as measured by vehicle revenue hours; or

''(ii) operate a minimum of 76 buses and a maximum of 100 buses in fixed route service or demand response service, excluding ADA complementary paratransit service, during peak service hours, in an amount not to exceed 50 percent of the share of the apportionment which is attributable to such systems within the urbanized area, as measured by vehicle revenue hours; or

''(B) subject to paragraph (3), for public transportation systems that—

''(i) operate 75 or fewer buses in fixed route service or demand response service, excluding ADA complementary paratransit service, during peak service hours, in an amount not to exceed 75 percent of the share of the apportionment allocated to such systems within the urbanized area, as determined by the local planning process and included in the designated recipient's final program of projects prepared under subsection (b); or

''(ii) operate a minimum of 76 buses and a maximum of 100 buses in fixed route service or demand response service, excluding ADA complementary paratransit service during peak service hours, in an amount not to exceed 50 percent of the share of the apportionment allocated to such systems within the urbanized area, as determined by the local planning process and included in the designated recipient's final program of projects prepared under subsection (b).

''(3) The amount available to a public transportation system under subparagraph

(B) of paragraph (2) shall be not more than 10 percent greater than the amount that would otherwise be available to the system under subparagraph (A) of that paragraph.''.

SAINT LAWRENCE SEAWAY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

The Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation is hereby authorized to make such expenditures, within the limits of funds and borrowing authority available to the Corporation, and in accord with law, and to make such contracts and commitments without regard to fiscal year limitations as provided by section 104 of the Government Corporation Control Act, as amended, as may be necessary in carrying out the programs set forth in the Corporation's budget for the current fiscal year.

OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

(HARBOR MAINTENANCE TRUST FUND)

For necessary expenses to conduct the operations, maintenance, and capital asset renewal activities of those portions of the St. Lawrence Seaway owned, operated, and maintained by the Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation, $36,028,000, to be derived from the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund, pursuant to Public Law 99–662.

MARITIME ADMINISTRATION

MARITIME SECURITY PROGRAM

For necessary expenses to maintain and preserve a U.S.-flag merchant fleet to serve the national security needs of the United States, $300,000,000, to remain available until expended.

OPERATIONS AND TRAINING

For necessary expenses of operations and training activities authorized by law, $175,560,000, of which $22,000,000 shall remain available until expended for maintenance and repair of training ships at State Maritime Academies, and of which $6,000,000 shall remain available until expended for National Security Multi-Mission Vessel Program for State Maritime Academies and National Security, and of which $2,400,000 shall remain available through September 30, 2018, for the Student Incentive Program at State Maritime Academies, and of which $1,800,000 shall remain available until expended for training ship fuel assistance payments, and of which $14,218,000 shall remain available until expended for facilities maintenance and repair, equipment, and capital improvements at the United States Merchant Marine Academy, and of which $3,000,000 shall remain available through September 30, 2018, for Maritime Environment and Technology Assistance program authorized under section 50307 of title 46, United States Code, and of which $5,000,000 shall remain available until expended for the Short Sea Transportation Program (America's Marine Highways) to make grants for the purposes authorized under sections 55601(b)(1) and (3) of title 46, United States Code: *Provided*, That not later than January 12, 2018, the Administrator of the Maritime Administration shall transmit to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations the annual report on sexual assault and sexual harassment at the United States Merchant Marine Academy as required pursuant to section 3507 of Public Law 110–417.

ASSISTANCE TO SMALL SHIPYARDS

To make grants to qualified shipyards as authorized under section 54101 of title 46, United States Code, as amended by Public Law 113–281, $10,000,000 to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall issue the Notice of Funding Availability no later than 15 days after enactment of this Act: *Provided further*, That from applications submitted under the previous proviso, the Secretary of Transportation shall make grants no later than 120 days after enactment of this Act in such amounts as the Secretary determines: *Provided further*, That not to exceed 2 percent of the funds appropriated under this heading shall be available for necessary costs of grant administration.

SHIP DISPOSAL

For necessary expenses related to the disposal of obsolete vessels in the National Defense Reserve Fleet of the Maritime Administration, $34,000,000, to remain available until expended, of which $24,000,000 shall be for the decommissioning of the Nuclear Ship *Savannah*.

MARITIME GUARANTEED LOAN (TITLE XI) PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For administrative expenses to carry out the guaranteed loan program, $3,000,000, which shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriations for ''Operations and Training'', Maritime Administration.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—MARITIME ADMINISTRATION

SEC. 170. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, in addition to any existing authority, the Maritime Administration is authorized to furnish utilities and services and make necessary repairs in connection with any lease, contract, or occupancy involving Government property under control of the Maritime Administration: *Provided*, That payments received therefor shall be credited to the appropriation charged with the cost thereof and shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That rental payments under any such lease, contract, or occupancy for items other than such utilities, services, or repairs shall be covered into the Treasury as miscellaneous receipts.

SEC. 171. None of the funds available or appropriated in this Act shall be used by the United States Department of Transportation or the United States Maritime Administration to negotiate or otherwise execute, enter into, facilitate or perform fee-for-service contracts for vessel disposal, scrapping or recycling, unless there is no qualified domestic ship recycler that will pay any sum of money to purchase and scrap or recycle a vessel owned, operated or managed by the Maritime Administration or that is part of the National Defense Reserve Fleet: *Provided*, That such sales offers must be consistent with the solicitation and provide that the work will be performed in a timely manner at a facility qualified within the meaning of section 3502 of Public Law 106–398: *Provided further*, That nothing contained herein shall affect the Maritime Administration's authority to award contracts at least cost to the Federal Government and consistent with the requirements of 54 U.S.C. 308704, section 3502, or otherwise authorized under the Federal Acquisition Regulation.

PIPELINE AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

OPERATIONAL EXPENSES

For necessary operational expenses of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, $22,500,000: *Provided*, That the Secretary of Transportation shall issue a final rule to expand the applicability of comprehensive oil spill response plans no later than August 1, 2017: *Provided further*, That $1,500,000 shall be for ''Pipeline Safety Information Grants to Communities'' as authorized under section 60130 of title 49, United States Code.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SAFETY

For expenses necessary to discharge the hazardous materials safety functions of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, $57,000,000, of which $7,570,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That up to $800,000 in fees collected under 49 U.S.C. 5108(g) shall be deposited in the general fund of the Treasury as offsetting receipts: *Provided further*, That there may be credited to this appropriation, to be available until expended, funds received from States, counties, municipalities, other public authorities, and private sources for expenses incurred for training, for reports publication and dissemination, and for travel expenses incurred in performance of hazardous materials exemptions and approvals functions.

PIPELINE SAFETY

(PIPELINE SAFETY FUND)

(OIL SPILL LIABILITY TRUST FUND)

For expenses necessary to conduct the functions of the pipeline safety program, for grants-in-aid to carry out a pipeline safety program, as authorized by 49 U.S.C. 60107, and to discharge the pipeline program responsibilities of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990, $156,288,000, of which $20,288,000 shall be derived from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund and shall remain available until September 30, 2019; and of which $128,000,000 shall be derived from the Pipeline Safety Fund, of which $63,335,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2019; and of which $8,000,000 shall be derived from the Pipeline Safety Fund as provided in 49 U.S.C. 60302 (section 12 of the PIPES Act of 2016 (Public Law 114–183)) from the Underground Natural Gas Storage Facility Safety Account for the purpose of carrying out 49 U.S.C. 60141 of such Act (section 12 of the PIPES Act of 2016 (Public Law 114–183)), of which $6,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That not less than $1,058,000 of the funds provided under this heading shall be for the One-Call State grant program.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS GRANTS

(EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS FUND)

Notwithstanding the fiscal year limitation specified in 49 U.S.C. 5116, not more than $28,318,000 shall be made available for obligation in fiscal year 2017 from amounts made available by 49 U.S.C. 5116(h), and 5128(b) and (c): *Provided*, That notwithstanding 49 U.S.C. 5116(h)(4), not more than 4 percent of the amounts made available from this account shall be available to pay administrative costs: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available by 49 U.S.C. 5116(h), 5128(b), or 5128(c) shall be made available for obligation by individuals other than the Secretary of Transportation, or his or her designee: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding 49 U.S.C. 5128(b) and (c) and the current year obligation limitation, prior year recoveries recognized in the current year shall be available to develop a hazardous materials response training curriculum for emergency responders, including response activities for the transportation of crude oil, ethanol and other flammable liquids by rail, consistent with National Fire Protection Association standards, and to make such training available through an electronic format: *Provided further*, That the prior year recoveries made available under this heading shall also be available to carry out 49 U.S.C. 5116(a)(1)(C) and 5116(i).

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Inspector General to carry out the provisions

of the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, $90,152,000: *Provided*, That the Inspector General shall have all necessary authority, in carrying out the duties specified in the Inspector General Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. App. 3), to investigate allegations of fraud, including false statements to the government (18 U.S.C. 1001), by any person or entity that is subject to regulation by the Department of Transportation: *Provided further*, That the funds made available under this heading may be used to investigate, pursuant to section 41712 of title 49, United States Code: (1) unfair or deceptive practices and unfair methods of competition by domestic and foreign air carriers and ticket agents; and (2) the compliance of domestic and foreign air carriers with respect to item (1) of this proviso.

GENERAL PROVISIONS—DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

SEC. 180. (a) During the current fiscal year, applicable appropriations to the Department of Transportation shall be available for maintenance and operation of aircraft; hire of passenger motor vehicles and aircraft; purchase of liability insurance for motor vehicles operating in foreign countries on official department business; and uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by law (5 U.S.C. 5901–5902).

(b) During the current fiscal year, applicable appropriations to the Department and its operating administrations shall be available for the purchase, maintenance, operation, and deployment of unmanned aircraft systems that advance the Department's, or its operating administrations', missions.

(c) Any unmanned aircraft system purchased or procured by the Department prior to the enactment of this Act shall be deemed authorized.

SEC. 181. Appropriations contained in this Act for the Department of Transportation shall be available for services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, but at rates for individuals not to exceed the per diem rate equivalent to the rate for an Executive Level IV.

SEC. 182. None of the funds in this Act shall be available for salaries and expenses of more than 110 political and Presidential appointees in the Department of Transportation: *Provided*, That none of the personnel covered by this provision may be assigned on temporary detail outside the Department of Transportation.

SEC. 183. (a) No recipient of funds made available in this Act shall disseminate personal information (as defined in 18 U.S.C. 2725(3)) obtained by a State department of motor vehicles in connection with a motor vehicle record as defined in 18 U.S.C. 2725(1), except as provided in 18 U.S.C. 2721 for a use permitted under 18 U.S.C. 2721.

(b) Notwithstanding subsection (a), the Secretary shall not withhold funds provided in this Act for any grantee if a State is in noncompliance with this provision.

SEC. 184. Funds received by the Federal Highway Administration and Federal Railroad Administration from States, counties, municipalities, other public authorities, and private sources for expenses incurred for training may be credited respectively to the Federal Highway Administration's ''Federal-Aid Highways'' account and to the Federal Railroad Administration's ''Safety and Operations'' account, except for State rail safety inspectors participating in training pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 20105.

SEC. 185. (a) None of the funds provided in this Act to the Department of Transportation may be used to make a loan, loan guarantee, line of credit, or discretionary grant totaling $500,000 or more unless the Secretary of Transportation notifies the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations not less than 3 full business days before any project competitively selected to receive any discretionary grant award, letter of intent, loan commitment, loan guarantee commitment, line of credit commitment, or full funding grant agreement is announced by the Department or its modal administrations: *Provided*, That the Secretary gives concurrent notification to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations for any ''quick release'' of funds from the emergency relief program: *Provided further*, That no notification shall involve funds that are not available for obligation.

(b) In addition to the notification required in subsection (a), none of the funds made available in this Act to the Department of Transportation may be used to make a loan, loan guarantee, line of credit, or discretionary grant unless the Secretary of Transportation provides the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations a comprehensive list of all such loans, loan guarantees, lines of credit, or discretionary grants that will be announced not less the 3 full business days before such announcement: *Provided*, That the requirement to provide a list in this subsection does not apply to any ''quick release'' of funds from the emergency relief program: *Provided further*, That no list shall involve funds that are not available for obligation.

SEC. 186. Rebates, refunds, incentive payments, minor fees and other funds received by the Department of Transportation from travel management centers, charge card programs, the subleasing of building space, and miscellaneous sources are to be credited to appropriations of the Department of Transportation and allocated to elements of the Department of Transportation using fair and equitable criteria and such funds shall be available until expended.

SEC. 187. Amounts made available in this or any other Act that the Secretary determines represent improper payments by the Department of Transportation to a third-party contractor under a financial assistance award, which are recovered pursuant to law, shall be available—

(1) to reimburse the actual expenses incurred by the Department of Transportation in recovering improper payments; and

(2) to pay contractors for services provided in recovering improper payments or contractor support in the implementation of the Improper Payments Information Act of 2002: *Provided*, That amounts in excess of that required for paragraphs (1) and (2)—

(A) shall be credited to and merged with the appropriation from which the improper payments were made, and shall be available for the purposes and period for which such appropriations are available: *Provided further*, That where specific project or accounting information associated with the improper payment or payments is not readily available, the Secretary may credit an appropriate account, which shall be available for the purposes and period associated with the account so credited; or

(B) if no such appropriation remains available, shall be deposited in the Treasury as miscellaneous receipts: *Provided further*, That prior to the transfer of any such recovery to an appropriations account, the Secretary shall notify the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations of the amount and reasons for such transfer: *Provided further*, That for purposes of this section, the term ''improper payments'' has the same meaning as that provided in section 2(d)(2) of Public Law 107–300.

SEC. 188. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, if any funds provided in or limited by this Act are subject to a reprogramming action that requires notice to be provided to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations, transmission of said reprogramming notice shall be provided solely to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations, and said reprogramming action shall be approved or denied solely by the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations: *Provided*, That the Secretary of Transportation may provide notice to other congressional committees of the action of the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations on such reprogramming but not sooner than 30 days following the date on which the reprogramming action has been approved or denied by the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations.

SEC. 189. Funds appropriated in this Act to the modal administrations may be obligated for the Office of the Secretary for the costs related to assessments or reimbursable agreements only when such amounts are for the costs of goods and services that are purchased to provide a direct benefit to the applicable modal administration or administrations.

SEC. 190. The Secretary of Transportation is authorized to carry out a program that establishes uniform standards for developing and supporting agency transit pass and transit benefits authorized under section 7905 of title 5, United States Code, including distribution of transit benefits by various paper and electronic media.

SEC. 191. The Department of Transportation may use funds provided by this Act, or any other Act, to assist a contract under title 49 U.S.C. or title 23 U.S.C. utilizing geographic, economic, or any other hiring preference not otherwise authorized by law, or to amend a rule, regulation, policy or other measure that forbids a recipient of a Federal Highway Administration or Federal Transit Administration grant from imposing such hiring preference on a contract or construction project with which the Department of Transportation is assisting, only if the grant recipient certifies the following:

(1) that except with respect to apprentices or trainees, a pool of readily available but unemployed individuals possessing the knowledge, skill, and ability to perform the work that the contract requires resides in the jurisdiction;

(2) that the grant recipient will include appropriate provisions in its bid document ensuring that the contractor does not displace any of its existing employees in order to satisfy such hiring preference; and

(3) that any increase in the cost of labor, training, or delays resulting from the use of such hiring preference does not delay or displace any transportation project in the applicable Statewide Transportation Improvement Program or Transportation Improvement Program.

SEC. 192. Section 5303(r)(2)(C) of title 49, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by inserting ''and 25 square miles of land area'' after ''145,000''; and

(2) by inserting ''and 12 square miles of land area'' after ''65,000''.

This title may be cited as the ''Department of Transportation Appropriations Act, 2017''.

TITLE II

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

EXECUTIVE OFFICES

For necessary salaries and expenses for Executive Offices, which shall be comprised of the offices of the Secretary, Deputy Secretary, Adjudicatory Services, Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations, Public Affairs, Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization, and the Center for Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships, $14,000,000: *Provided*, That not to exceed $25,000 of the amount made available under this heading shall be available to the Secretary for official reception and representation expenses as the Secretary may determine.

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT OFFICES

For necessary salaries and expenses for Administrative Support Offices, $517,647,000, of which $53,000,000 shall be available for the Office of the Chief Financial Officer; $95,250,000 shall be available for the Office of the General Counsel; $206,500,000 shall be available for the Office of Administration, and of which, no less than $4,500,000 shall be available for the cost of consolidation and reconfiguration of space in the Weaver Building in accordance with the space consolidation plan which would bring employees back into such Building and reduce the amount of leased space for such employees outside of such Building; $40,250,000 shall be available for the Office of the Chief Human Capital Officer; $51,000,000 shall be available for the Office of Field Policy and Management; $18,067,000 shall be available for the Office of the Chief Procurement Officer; $3,830,000 shall be available for the Office of Departmental Equal Employment Opportunity; $4,500,000 shall be available for the Office of Strategic Planning and Management; and $45,250,000 shall be available for the Office of the Chief Information Officer: *Provided*, That funds provided under this heading may be used for necessary administrative and non-administrative expenses of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, not otherwise provided for, including purchase of uniforms, or allowances therefor, as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 5901–5902; hire of passenger motor vehicles; and services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds appropriated under this heading may be used for advertising and promotional activities that directly support program activities funded in this title: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall provide the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations quarterly written notification regarding the status of pending congressional reports: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall provide in electronic form all signed reports required by Congress.

PROGRAM OFFICE SALARIES AND EXPENSES

PUBLIC AND INDIAN HOUSING

For necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of Public and Indian Housing, $216,000,000.

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

For necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of Community Planning and Development, $110,000,000.

HOUSING

For necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of Housing, $392,000,000.

POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH

For necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of Policy Development and Research, $24,000,000.

FAIR HOUSING AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

For necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity, $72,000,000.

OFFICE OF LEAD HAZARD CONTROL AND HEALTHY HOMES

For necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes, $9,353,000.

WORKING CAPITAL FUND

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the working capital fund for the Department of Housing and Urban Development (referred to in this paragraph as the ''Fund''), pursuant, in part, to section 7(f) of the Department of Housing and Urban Development Act (42 U.S.C. 3535(f)), amounts transferred to the Fund under this heading shall be available for Federal shared services used by offices and agencies of the Department, and for such portion of any office or agency's printing, records management, space renovation, furniture, or supply services as the Secretary determines shall be derived from centralized sources made available by the Department to all offices and agencies and funded through the Fund: *Provided*, That of the amounts made available in this title for salaries and expenses under the headings ''Executive Offices'', ''Administrative Support Offices'', ''Program Office Salaries and Expenses'', and ''Government National Mortgage Association'', the Secretary shall transfer to the Fund such amounts, to remain available until expended, as are necessary to fund services, specified in the first proviso, for which the appropriation would otherwise have been available, and may transfer not to exceed an additional $10,000,000, in aggregate, from all such appropriations, to be merged with the Fund and to remain available until expended for use for any office or agency: *Provided further*, That amounts in the Fund shall be the only amounts available to each office or agency of the Department for the services, or portion of services, specified in the first proviso: *Provided further*, That with respect to the Fund, the authorities and conditions under this heading shall supplement the authorities and conditions provided under section 7(f).

PUBLIC AND INDIAN HOUSING

TENANT-BASED RENTAL ASSISTANCE

For activities and assistance for the provision of tenant-based rental assistance authorized under the United States Housing Act of 1937, as amended (42 U.S.C. 1437 et seq.) (''the Act'' herein), not otherwise provided for, $16,292,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be available on October 1, 2016 (in addition to the $4,000,000,000 previously appropriated under this heading that shall be available on October 1, 2016), and $4,000,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be available on October 1, 2017: *Provided*, That the amounts made available under this heading are provided as follows:

(1) $18,355,000,000 shall be available for renewals of expiring section 8 tenant-based annual contributions contracts (including renewals of enhanced vouchers under any provision of law authorizing such assistance under section 8(t) of the Act) and including renewal of other special purpose incremental vouchers: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, from amounts provided under this paragraph and any carryover, the Secretary for the calendar year 2017 funding cycle shall provide renewal funding for each public housing agency based on validated voucher management system (VMS) leasing and cost data for the prior calendar year and by applying an inflation factor as established by the Secretary, by notice published in the Federal Register, and by making any necessary adjustments for the costs associated with the first-time renewal of vouchers under this paragraph including tenant protection, HOPE VI, and Choice Neighborhoods vouchers: *Provided further*, That none of the funds provided under this paragraph may be used to fund a total number of unit months under lease which exceeds a public housing agency's authorized level of units under contract, except for public housing agencies participating in the MTW demonstration, which are instead governed by the terms and conditions of their MTW agreements: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall, to the extent necessary to stay within the amount specified under this paragraph (except as otherwise modified under this paragraph), prorate each public housing agency's allocation otherwise established pursuant to this paragraph: *Provided further*, That except as provided in the following provisos, the entire amount specified under this paragraph (except as otherwise modified under this paragraph) shall be obligated to the public housing agencies based on the allocation and pro rata method described above, and the Secretary shall notify public housing agencies of their annual budget by the latter of 60 days after enactment of this Act or March 1, 2017: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may extend the notification period with the prior written approval of the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That public housing agencies participating in the MTW demonstration shall be funded pursuant to their MTW agreements and shall be subject to the same pro rata adjustments under the previous provisos: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may offset public housing agencies' calendar year 2017 allocations based on the excess amounts of public housing agencies' net restricted assets accounts, including HUD held programmatic reserves (in accordance with VMS data in calendar year 2016 that is verifiable and complete), as determined by the Secretary: *Provided further*, That public housing agencies participating in the MTW demonstration shall also be subject to the offset, as determined by the Secretary, excluding amounts subject to the single fund budget authority provisions of their MTW agreements, from the agencies' calendar year 2017 MTW funding allocation: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall use any offset referred to in the previous two provisos throughout the calendar year to prevent the termination of rental assistance for families as the result of insufficient funding, as determined by the Secretary, and to avoid or reduce the proration of renewal funding allocations: *Provided further*, That up to $75,000,000 shall be available only: (1) for adjustments in the allocations for public housing agencies, after application for an adjustment by a public housing agency that experienced a significant increase, as determined by the Secretary, in renewal costs of vouchers resulting from unforeseen circumstances or from portability under section 8(r) of the Act; (2) for vouchers that were not in use during the previous 12-month period in order to be available to meet a commitment pursuant to section 8(o)(13) of the Act; (3) for adjustments for costs associated with HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD–VASH) vouchers; and (4) for public housing agencies that despite taking reasonable cost savings measures, as determined by the Secretary, would otherwise be required to terminate rental assistance for

families as a result of insufficient funding: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall allocate amounts under the previous proviso based on need, as determined by the Secretary;

(2) $110,000,000 shall be for section 8 rental assistance for relocation and replacement of housing units that are demolished or disposed of pursuant to section 18 of the Act, conversion of section 23 projects to assistance under section 8, the family unification program under section 8(x) of the Act, relocation of witnesses in connection with efforts to combat crime in public and assisted housing pursuant to a request from a law enforcement or prosecution agency, enhanced vouchers under any provision of law authorizing such assistance under section 8(t) of the Act, HOPE VI and Choice Neighborhood vouchers, mandatory and voluntary conversions, and tenant protection assistance including replacement and relocation assistance or for project-based assistance to prevent the displacement of unassisted elderly tenants currently residing in section 202 properties financed between 1959 and 1974 that are refinanced pursuant to Public Law 106–569, as amended, or under the authority as provided under this Act: *Provided*, That when a public housing development is submitted for demolition or disposition under section 18 of the Act, the Secretary may provide section 8 rental assistance when the units pose an imminent health and safety risk to residents: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may only provide replacement vouchers for units that were occupied within the previous 24 months that cease to be available as assisted housing, subject only to the availability of funds: *Provided further*, That of the amounts made available under this paragraph, $5,000,000 may be available to provide tenant protection assistance, not otherwise provided under this paragraph, to residents residing in low vacancy areas and who may have to pay rents greater than 30 percent of household income, as the result of: (A) the maturity of a HUD-insured, HUD-held or section 202 loan that requires the permission of the Secretary prior to loan prepayment; (B) the expiration of a rental assistance contract for which the tenants are not eligible for enhanced voucher or tenant protection assistance under existing law; or (C) the expiration of affordability restrictions accompanying a mortgage or preservation program administered by the Secretary: *Provided further*, That such tenant protection assistance made available under the previous proviso may be provided under the authority of section 8(t) or section 8(o)(13) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(t)): *Provided further*, That any tenant protection voucher made available from amounts under this paragraph shall not be reissued by any public housing agency, except the replacement vouchers as defined by the Secretary by notice, when the initial family that received any such voucher no longer receives such voucher, and the authority for any public housing agency to issue any such voucher shall cease to exist: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may provide section 8 rental assistance from amounts made available under this paragraph for units assisted under a project-based subsidy contract funded under the ''Project-Based Rental Assistance'' heading under this title where the owner has received a Notice of Default and the units pose an imminent health and safety risk to residents: *Provided further*, That to the extent that the Secretary determines that such units are not feasible for continued rental assistance payments or transfer of the subsidy contract associated with such units to another project or projects and owner or owners, any remaining amounts associated with such units under such contract shall be recaptured and used to reimburse amounts used under this paragraph for rental assistance under the preceding proviso;

(3) $1,650,000,000 shall be for administrative and other expenses of public housing agencies in administering the section 8 tenant-based rental assistance program, of which up to $10,000,000 shall be available to the Secretary to allocate to public housing agencies that need additional funds to administer their section 8 programs, including fees associated with section 8 tenant protection rental assistance, the administration of disaster related vouchers, Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing vouchers, and other special purpose incremental vouchers: *Provided*, That no less than $1,640,000,000 of the amount provided in this paragraph shall be allocated to public housing agencies for the calendar year 2017 funding cycle based on section 8(q) of the Act (and related Appropriation Act provisions) as in effect immediately before the enactment of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998 (Public Law 105–276): *Provided further*, That if the amounts made available under this paragraph are insufficient to pay the amounts determined under the previous proviso, the Secretary may decrease the amounts allocated to agencies by a uniform percentage applicable to all agencies receiving funding under this paragraph or may, to the extent necessary to provide full payment of amounts determined under the previous proviso, utilize unobligated balances, including recaptures and carryovers, remaining from funds appropriated to the Department of Housing and Urban Development under this heading from prior fiscal years, excluding special purpose vouchers, notwithstanding the purposes for which such amounts were appropriated: *Provided further*, That all public housing agencies participating in the MTW demonstration shall be funded pursuant to their MTW agreements, and shall be subject to the same uniform percentage decrease as under the previous proviso: *Provided further*, That amounts provided under this paragraph shall be only for activities related to the provision of tenant-based rental assistance authorized under section 8, including related development activities;

(4) $120,000,000 for the renewal of tenant-based assistance contracts under section 811 of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 8013), including necessary administrative expenses: *Provided*, That administrative and other expenses of public housing agencies in administering the special purpose vouchers in this paragraph shall be funded under the same terms and be subject to the same pro rata reduction as the percent decrease for administrative and other expenses to public housing agencies under paragraph (3) of this heading: *Provided further*, That any amounts provided under this paragraph in this Act or prior Acts, remaining available after funding renewals and administrative expenses under this paragraph, shall be available for incremental tenant-based assistance contracts under such section 811, including necessary administrative expenses;

(5) $7,000,000 shall be for rental assistance and associated administrative fees for Tribal HUD–VA Supportive Housing to serve Native American veterans that are homeless or at-risk of homelessness living on or near a reservation or other Indian areas: *Provided*, That such amount shall be made available for renewal grants to the recipients that received assistance under the rental assistance and supportive housing demonstration program for Native American veterans authorized under the heading ''Tenant-Based Rental Assistance'' in title II of division K of the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015 (Public Law 113–235, 128 Stat. 2733): *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall be authorized to specify criteria for renewal grants, including data on the utilization of assistance reported by grant recipients under the demonstration program: *Provided further*, That any amounts remaining after such renewal assistance is awarded may be available for new grants to recipients eligible to receive block grants under the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. section 4101 et seq.) for rental assistance and associated administrative fees for Tribal HUD–VA Supportive Housing to serve Native American veterans that are homeless or at-risk of homelessness living on or near a reservation or other Indian areas: *Provided further*, That funds shall be awarded based on need, and administrative capacity established by the Secretary in a Notice published in the Federal Register after coordination with the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs: *Provided further*, That renewal grants and new grants under this paragraph shall be administered by block grant recipients in accordance with program requirements under the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996: *Provided further*, That assistance under this paragraph shall be modeled after, with necessary and appropriate adjustments for Native American grant recipients and veterans, the rental assistance and supportive housing program known as HUD–VASH program, including administration in conjunction with the Department of Veterans Affairs and overall implementation of section 8(o)(19) of the United States Housing Act of 1937: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development may waive, or specify alternative requirements for any provision of any statute or regulation that the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development administers in connection with the use of funds made available under this paragraph (except for requirements related to fair housing, nondiscrimination, labor standards, and the environment), upon a finding by the Secretary that any such waivers or alternative requirements are necessary for the effective delivery and administration of such assistance: *Provided further*, That grant recipients shall report to the Secretary on utilization of such rental assistance and other program data, as prescribed by the Secretary;

(6) $40,000,000 for incremental rental voucher assistance for use through a supported housing program administered in conjunction with the Department of Veterans Affairs as authorized under section 8(o)(19) of the United States Housing Act of 1937: *Provided*, That the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall make such funding available, notwithstanding section 204 (competition provision) of this title, to public housing agencies that partner with eligible VA Medical Centers or other entities as designated by the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs, based on geographical need for such assistance as identified by the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs, public housing agency administrative performance, and other factors as specified

by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development in consultation with the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development may waive, or specify alternative requirements for (in consultation with the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs), any provision of any statute or regulation that the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development administers in connection with the use of funds made available under this paragraph (except for requirements related to fair housing, nondiscrimination, labor standards, and the environment), upon a finding by the Secretary that any such waivers or alternative requirements are necessary for the effective delivery and administration of such voucher assistance: *Provided further*, That assistance made available under this paragraph shall continue to remain available for homeless veterans upon turn-over;

(7) $10,000,000 shall be made available for new incremental voucher assistance through the family unification program as authorized by section 8(x) of the Act: *Provided*, That the assistance made available under this paragraph shall continue to remain available for family unification upon turnover: *Provided further*, That for any public housing agency administering voucher assistance appropriated in a prior Act under the family unification program that determines that it no longer has an identified need for such assistance upon turnover, such agency shall notify the Secretary, and the Secretary shall recapture such assistance from the agency and reallocate it to any other public housing agency or agencies based on need for voucher assistance in connection with such program; and

(8) the Secretary shall separately track all special purpose vouchers funded under this heading.

HOUSING CERTIFICATE FUND

(INCLUDING RESCISSIONS)

Unobligated balances, including recaptures and carryover, remaining from funds appropriated to the Department of Housing and Urban Development under this heading, the heading ''Annual Contributions for Assisted Housing'' and the heading ''Project-Based Rental Assistance'', for fiscal year 2017 and prior years may be used for renewal of or amendments to section 8 project-based contracts and for performance-based contract administrators, notwithstanding the purposes for which such funds were appropriated: *Provided*, That any obligated balances of contract authority from fiscal year 1974 and prior that have been terminated shall be rescinded: *Provided further*, That amounts heretofore recaptured, or recaptured during the current fiscal year, from section 8 project-based contracts from source years fiscal year 1975 through fiscal year 1987 are hereby rescinded, and an amount of additional new budget authority, equivalent to the amount rescinded is hereby appropriated, to remain available until expended, for the purposes set forth under this heading, in addition to amounts otherwise available.

PUBLIC HOUSING CAPITAL FUND

For the Public Housing Capital Fund Program to carry out capital and management activities for public housing agencies, as authorized under section 9 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437g) (the ''Act'') $1,941,500,000, to remain available until September 30, 2020: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law or regulation, during fiscal year 2017, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development may not delegate to any Department official other than the Deputy Secretary and the Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing any authority under paragraph (2) of section 9(j) regarding the extension of the time periods under such section: *Provided further*, That for purposes of such section 9(j), the term ''obligate'' means, with respect to amounts, that the amounts are subject to a binding agreement that will result in outlays, immediately or in the future: *Provided further*, That up to $10,000,000 shall be to support ongoing public housing financial and physical assessment activities: *Provided further*, That up to $1,000,000 shall be to support the costs of administrative and judicial receiverships: *Provided further*, That of the total amount provided under this heading, not to exceed $21,500,000 shall be available for the Secretary to make grants, notwithstanding section 204 of this Act, to public housing agencies for emergency capital needs including safety and security measures necessary to address crime and drug-related activity as well as needs resulting from unforeseen or unpreventable emergencies and natural disasters excluding Presidentially declared emergencies and natural disasters under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.) occurring in fiscal year 2017: *Provided further*, That of the amount made available under the previous proviso, not less than $5,000,000 shall be for safety and security measures: *Provided further*, That in addition to the amount in the previous proviso for such safety and security measures, any amounts that remain available, after all applications received on or before September 30, 2018, for emergency capital needs have been processed, shall be allocated to public housing agencies for such safety and security measures: *Provided further*, That of the total amount provided under this heading $35,000,000 shall be for supportive services, service coordinator and congregate services as authorized by section 34 of the Act (42 U.S.C. 1437z–6) and the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4101 et seq.): *Provided further*, That of the total amount made available under this heading, $15,000,000 shall be for a Jobs-Plus initiative modeled after the Jobs-Plus demonstration: *Provided further*, That the funding provided under the previous proviso shall provide competitive grants to partnerships between public housing authorities, local workforce investment boards established under section 117 of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998, and other agencies and organizations that provide support to help public housing residents obtain employment and increase earnings: *Provided further*, That applicants must demonstrate the ability to provide services to residents, partner with workforce investment boards, and leverage service dollars: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may allow public housing agencies to request exemptions from rent and income limitation requirements under sections 3 and 6 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 as necessary to implement the Jobs-Plus program, on such terms and conditions as the Secretary may approve upon a finding by the Secretary that any such waivers or alternative requirements are necessary for the effective implementation of the Jobs-Plus initiative as a voluntary program for residents: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall publish by notice in the Federal Register any waivers or alternative requirements pursuant to the preceding proviso no later than 10 days before the effective date of such notice: *Provided further*, That for funds provided under this heading, the limitation in section 9(g)(1) of the Act shall be 25 percent: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may waive the limitation in the previous proviso to allow public housing agencies to fund activities authorized under section 9(e)(1)(C) of the Act: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall notify public housing agencies requesting waivers under the previous proviso if the request is approved or denied within 14 days of submitting the request: *Provided further*, That from the funds made available under this heading, the Secretary shall provide bonus awards in fiscal year 2017 to public housing agencies that are designated high performers: *Provided further*, That the Department shall notify public housing agencies of their formula allocation within 60 days of enactment of this Act: *Provided further*, That of the total amount provided under this heading, $25,000,000 shall be available for competitive grants to public housing agencies to evaluate and reduce lead-based paint hazards in public housing by carrying out the activities of risk assessments, abatement, and interim controls (as those terms are defined in section 1004 of the Residential Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 4851b)): *Provided further*, That for purposes of environmental review, a grant under the previous proviso shall be considered funds for projects or activities under title I of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437 et seq.) for purposes of section 26 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1437x) and shall be subject to the regulations implementing such section.

PUBLIC HOUSING OPERATING FUND

For 2017 payments to public housing agencies for the operation and management of public housing, as authorized by section 9(e) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437g(e)), $4,400,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018.

CHOICE NEIGHBORHOODS INITIATIVE

For competitive grants under the Choice Neighborhoods Initiative (subject to section 24 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437v), unless otherwise specified under this heading), for transformation, rehabilitation, and replacement housing needs of both public and HUD-assisted housing and to transform neighborhoods of poverty into functioning, sustainable mixed income neighborhoods with appropriate services, schools, public assets, transportation and access to jobs, $137,500,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That grant funds may be used for resident and community services, community development, and affordable housing needs in the community, and for conversion of vacant or foreclosed properties to affordable housing: *Provided further*, That the use of funds made available under this heading shall not be deemed to be public housing notwithstanding section 3(b)(1) of such Act: *Provided further*, That grantees shall commit to an additional period of affordability determined by the Secretary of not fewer than 20 years: *Provided further*, That grantees shall provide a match in State, local, other Federal or private funds: *Provided further*, That grantees may include local governments, tribal entities, public housing authorities, and nonprofits: *Provided further*, That for-profit developers may apply jointly with a public entity: *Provided further*, That for purposes of environmental review, a grantee shall be treated as a public housing agency under section 26 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437x), and grants under this heading shall be subject to the regulations

issued by the Secretary to implement such section: *Provided further*, That of the amount provided, not less than $50,000,000 shall be awarded to public housing agencies: *Provided further*, That such grantees shall create partnerships with other local organizations including assisted housing owners, service agencies, and resident organizations: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall consult with the Secretaries of Education, Labor, Transportation, Health and Human Services, Agriculture, and Commerce, the Attorney General, and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to coordinate and leverage other appropriate Federal resources: *Provided further*, That no more than $5,000,000 of funds made available under this heading may be provided as grants to undertake comprehensive local planning with input from residents and the community: *Provided further*, That unobligated balances, including recaptures, remaining from funds appropriated under the heading ''Revitalization of Severely Distressed Public Housing (HOPE VI)'' in fiscal year 2011 and prior fiscal years may be used for purposes under this heading, notwithstanding the purposes for which such amounts were appropriated.

FAMILY SELF-SUFFICIENCY

For the Family Self-Sufficiency program to support family self-sufficiency coordinators under section 23 of the United States Housing Act of 1937, to promote the development of local strategies to coordinate the use of assistance under sections 8(o) and 9 of such Act with public and private resources, and enable eligible families to achieve economic independence and self-sufficiency, $75,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That the Secretary may, by Federal Register notice, waive or specify alternative requirements under sections b(3), b(4), b(5), or c(1) of section 23 of such Act in order to facilitate the operation of a unified self-sufficiency program for individuals receiving assistance under different provisions of the Act, as determined by the Secretary: *Provided further*, That owners of a privately owned multifamily property with a section 8 contract may voluntarily make a Family Self-Sufficiency program available to the assisted tenants of such property in accordance with procedures established by the Secretary: *Provided further*, That such procedures established pursuant to the previous proviso shall permit participating tenants to accrue escrow funds in accordance with section 23(d)(2) and shall allow owners to use funding from residual receipt accounts to hire coordinators for their own Family Self-Sufficiency program.

NATIVE AMERICAN HOUSING BLOCK GRANTS

For the Native American Housing Block Grants program, as authorized under title I of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (NAHASDA) (25 U.S.C. 4111 et seq.), $654,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2021: *Provided*, That, notwithstanding the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996, to determine the amount of the allocation under title I of such Act for each Indian tribe, the Secretary shall apply the formula under section 302 of such Act with the need component based on single-race census data and with the need component based on multi-race census data, and the amount of the allocation for each Indian tribe shall be the greater of the two resulting allocation amounts: *Provided further*, That of the amounts made available under this heading, $3,500,000 shall be contracted for assistance for national or regional organizations representing Native American housing interests for providing training and technical assistance to Indian housing authorities and tribally designated housing entities as authorized under NAHASDA: *Provided further*, That of the funds made available under the previous proviso, not less than $2,000,000 shall be made available for a national organization as authorized under section 703 of NAHASDA (25 U.S.C. 4212): *Provided further*, That of the amounts made available under this heading, $3,500,000 shall be to support the inspection of Indian housing units, contract expertise, training, and technical assistance related to funding provided under this heading and other headings under this Act for the needs of Native American families and Indian country: *Provided further*, That of the amount provided under this heading, $2,000,000 shall be made available for the cost of guaranteed notes and other obligations, as authorized by title VI of NAHASDA: *Provided further*, That such costs, including the costs of modifying such notes and other obligations, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, as amended: *Provided further*, That these funds are available to subsidize the total principal amount of any notes and other obligations, any part of which is to be guaranteed, not to exceed $17,857,142: *Provided further*, That the Department will notify grantees of their formula allocation within 60 days of the date of enactment of this Act: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding section 302(d) of NAHASDA, if on the date of enactment of this Act, a recipient's total amount of undisbursed block grant funds in the Department's line of credit control system is greater than the sum of its prior 3 years' initial formula allocation calculations, the Secretary shall adjust that recipient's formula allocation that it would otherwise receive down by the difference between its total amount of undisbursed block grant funds in the Department's line of credit control system on the date of enactment of this Act, and the sum of its prior 3 years' initial formula allocation calculations: *Provided further*, That grant amounts not allocated to a recipient pursuant to the previous proviso shall be allocated under the need component of the formula proportionately among all other Indian tribes not subject to an adjustment under such proviso: *Provided further*, That the second proviso shall not apply to any Indian tribe that would otherwise receive a formula allocation of less than $5,000,000: *Provided further*, That to take effect, the three previous provisos do not require issuance or amendment of any regulation, shall not be subject to a formula challenge by an Indian tribe, and shall not be construed to confer hearing rights under any section of NAHASDA or its implementing regulations.

INDIAN HOUSING LOAN GUARANTEE FUND PROGRAM ACCOUNT

For the cost of guaranteed loans, as authorized by section 184 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992 (12 U.S.C. 1715z–13a), $5,500,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such costs, including the costs of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: *Provided further*, That these funds are available to subsidize total loan principal, any part of which is to be guaranteed, up to $1,341,463,415, to remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That up to $750,000 of this amount may be for administrative contract expenses including management processes and systems to carry out the loan guarantee program: *Provided further*, That an additional $1,727,000 shall be available until expended for such costs of guaranteed loans authorized under such section 184 issued to tribes and Indian housing authorities for the construction of rental housing for law enforcement, healthcare, educational, technical and other skilled workers: *Provided further*, That the funds specified in the previous proviso are available to subsidize total loan principal, any part of which is to be guaranteed, up to $421,219,512 to remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may specify any additional program requirements with respect to the previous two provisos through publication of a Mortgagee Letter or Notice.

NATIVE HAWAIIAN HOUSING BLOCK GRANT

For the Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant program, as authorized under title VIII of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4111 et seq.), $2,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2021.

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONS WITH AIDS

For carrying out the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS program, as authorized by the AIDS Housing Opportunity Act (42 U.S.C. 12901 et seq.), $356,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, except that amounts allocated pursuant to section 854(c)(5) of such Act shall remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall renew all expiring contracts for permanent supportive housing that initially were funded under section 854(c)(5) of such Act from funds made available under this heading in fiscal year 2010 and prior fiscal years that meet all program requirements before awarding funds for new contracts under such section: *Provided further*, That the Department shall notify grantees of their formula allocation within 60 days of enactment of this Act.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUND

For assistance to units of State and local government, and to other entities, for economic and community development activities, and for other purposes, $3,060,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019, unless otherwise specified: *Provided*, That of the total amount provided, $3,000,000,000 is for carrying out the community development block grant program under title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended (''the Act'' herein) (42 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.): *Provided further*, That unless explicitly provided for under this heading, not to exceed 20 percent of any grant made with funds appropriated under this heading shall be expended for planning and management development and administration: *Provided further*, That a metropolitan city, urban county, unit of general local government, or Indian tribe, or insular area that directly or indirectly receives funds under this heading may not sell, trade, or otherwise transfer all or any portion of such funds to another such entity in exchange for any other funds, credits or non-Federal considerations, but must use such funds for activities eligible under title I of the Act: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding section 105(e)(1) of the Act, no funds provided under this heading may be provided to a for-profit entity for an economic development project under section 105(a)(17) unless such project

has been evaluated and selected in accordance with guidelines required under subparagraph (e)(2): *Provided further*, That the Department shall notify grantees of their formula allocation within 60 days of enactment of this Act: *Provided further*, That of the total amount provided under this heading $60,000,000 shall be for grants to Indian tribes notwithstanding section 106(a)(1) of such Act, of which, notwithstanding any other provision of law (including section 204 of this Act), up to $4,000,000 may be used for emergencies that constitute imminent threats to health and safety.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT LOAN GUARANTEES PROGRAM ACCOUNT

Subject to section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, during fiscal year 2017, commitments to guarantee loans under section 108 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5308), any part of which is guaranteed, shall not exceed a total principal amount of $300,000,000, notwithstanding any aggregate limitation on outstanding obligations guaranteed in subsection (k) of such section 108: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall collect fees from borrowers, notwithstanding subsection (m) of such section 108, to result in a credit subsidy cost of zero for guaranteeing such loans, and any such fees shall be collected in accordance with section 502(7) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM

For the HOME Investment Partnerships program, as authorized under title II of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act, as amended, $950,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2020: *Provided*, That notwithstanding the amount made available under this heading, the threshold reduction requirements in sections 216(10) and 217(b)(4) of such Act shall not apply to allocations of such amount: *Provided further*, That the requirements under provisos 2 through 6 under this heading for fiscal year 2012 and such requirements applicable pursuant to the ''Full-Year Continuing Appropriations Act, 2013'', shall not apply to any project to which funds were committed on or after August 23, 2013, but such projects shall instead be governed by the Final Rule titled ''Home Investment Partnerships Program; Improving Performance and Accountability; Updating Property Standards'' which became effective on such date: *Provided further*, That the Department shall notify grantees of their formula allocation within 60 days of enactment of this Act.

SELF-HELP AND ASSISTED HOMEOWNERSHIP OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM

For the Self-Help and Assisted Homeownership Opportunity Program, as authorized under section 11 of the Housing Opportunity Program Extension Act of 1996, as amended, $50,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That of the total amount provided under this heading, $10,000,000 shall be made available to the Self-Help and Assisted Homeownership Opportunity Program as authorized under section 11 of the Housing Opportunity Program Extension Act of 1996, as amended: *Provided further*, That of the total amount provided under this heading, $35,000,000 shall be made available for the second, third, and fourth capacity building activities authorized under section 4(a) of the HUD Demonstration Act of 1993 (42 U.S.C. 9816 note), of which not less than $5,000,000 shall be made available for rural capacity building activities: *Provided further*, That of the total amount provided under this heading, $5,000,000 shall be made available for capacity building by national rural housing organizations with experience assessing national rural conditions and providing financing, training, technical assistance, information, and research to local nonprofits, local governments and Indian Tribes serving high need rural communities: *Provided further*, That an additional $4,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be for a program to rehabilitate and modify homes of disabled or low-income veterans as authorized under section 1079 of Public Law 113–291.

HOMELESS ASSISTANCE GRANTS

For the Emergency Solutions Grants program as authorized under subtitle B of title IV of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, as amended; the Continuum of Care program as authorized under subtitle C of title IV of such Act; and the Rural Housing Stability Assistance program as authorized under subtitle D of title IV of such Act, $2,383,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That any rental assistance amounts that are recaptured under such Continuum of Care program shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That not less than $310,000,000 of the funds appropriated under this heading shall be available for such Emergency Solutions Grants program, of which, $40,000,000 shall be made available, as determined by the Secretary, for grants for rapid re-housing or other critical activities in order to assist communities that lost significant capacity after January 1, 2016 to serve persons experiencing homelessness: *Provided further*, That not less than $2,018,000,000 of the funds appropriated under this heading shall be available for such Continuum of Care and Rural Housing Stability Assistance programs: *Provided further*, That up to $12,000,000 of the funds appropriated under this heading shall be available for the national homeless data analysis project: *Provided further*, That all funds awarded for supportive services under the Continuum of Care program and the Rural Housing Stability Assistance program shall be matched by not less than 25 percent in cash or in kind by each grantee: *Provided further*, That for all match requirements applicable to funds made available under this heading for this fiscal year and prior years, a grantee may use (or could have used) as a source of match funds other funds administered by the Secretary and other Federal agencies unless there is (or was) a specific statutory prohibition on any such use of any such funds: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall collect system performance measures for each continuum of care, and that relative to fiscal year 2015, under the Continuum of Care competition with respect to funds made available under this heading, the Secretary shall base an increasing share of the score on performance criteria: *Provided further*, That none of the funds provided under this heading shall be available to provide funding for new projects, except for projects created through reallocation, unless the Secretary determines that the continuum of care has demonstrated that projects are evaluated and ranked based on the degree to which they improve the continuum of care's system performance: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall prioritize funding under the Continuum of Care program to continuums of care that have demonstrated a capacity to reallocate funding from lower performing projects to higher performing projects: *Provided further*, That all awards of assistance under this heading shall be required to coordinate and integrate homeless programs with other mainstream health, social services, and employment programs for which homeless populations may be eligible: *Provided further*, That any unobligated amounts remaining from funds appropriated under this heading in fiscal year 2012 and prior years for project-based rental assistance for rehabilitation projects with 10-year grant terms may be used for purposes under this heading, notwithstanding the purposes for which such funds were appropriated: *Provided further*, That all balances for Shelter Plus Care renewals previously funded from the Shelter Plus Care Renewal account and transferred to this account shall be available, if recaptured, for Continuum of Care renewals in fiscal year 2017: *Provided further*, That the Department shall notify grantees of their formula allocation from amounts allocated (which may represent initial or final amounts allocated) for the Emergency Solutions Grant program within 60 days of enactment of this Act: *Provided further*, That up to $43,000,000 of the funds appropriated under this heading shall be to implement projects to demonstrate how a comprehensive approach to serving homeless youth, age 24 and under, in up to 11 communities, including at least five rural communities, can dramatically reduce youth homelessness: *Provided further*, That such projects shall be eligible for renewal under the continuum of care program subject to the same terms and conditions as other renewal applicants: *Provided further*, That youth aged 24 and under seeking assistance under this heading shall not be required to provide third party documentation to establish their eligibility under 42 U.S.C. 11302(a) or (b) to receive services: *Provided further*, That unaccompanied youth aged 24 and under or families headed by youth aged 24 and under who are living in unsafe situations may be served by youth-serving providers funded under this heading.

HOUSING PROGRAMS

PROJECT-BASED RENTAL ASSISTANCE

For activities and assistance for the provision of project-based subsidy contracts under the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437 et seq.) (''the Act''), not otherwise provided for, $10,416,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be available on October 1, 2016 (in addition to the $400,000,000 previously appropriated under this heading that became available October 1, 2016), and $400,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be available on October 1, 2017: *Provided*, That the amounts made available under this heading shall be available for expiring or terminating section 8 project-based subsidy contracts (including section 8 moderate rehabilitation contracts), for amendments to section 8 project-based subsidy contracts (including section 8 moderate rehabilitation contracts), for contracts entered into pursuant to section 441 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11401), for renewal of section 8 contracts for units in projects that are subject to approved plans of action under the Emergency Low Income Housing Preservation Act of 1987 or the Low-Income Housing Preservation and Resident Homeownership Act of 1990, and for administrative and other expenses associated with project-based activities and assistance funded under this paragraph: *Provided further*, That of the total amounts provided under this heading, not to exceed $235,000,000 shall be available for performance-based contract administrators for section 8 project-based assistance, for carrying out 42 U.S.C. 1437(f): *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development may also use such amounts in

the previous proviso for performance-based contract administrators for the administration of: interest reduction payments pursuant to section 236(a) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715z–1(a)); rent supplement payments pursuant to section 101 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965 (12 U.S.C. 1701s); section 236(f)(2) rental assistance payments (12 U.S.C. 1715z–1(f)(2)); project rental assistance contracts for the elderly under section 202(c)(2) of the Housing Act of 1959 (12 U.S.C. 1701q); project rental assistance contracts for supportive housing for persons with disabilities under section 811(d)(2) of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 8013(d)(2)); project assistance contracts pursuant to section 202(h) of the Housing Act of 1959 (Public Law 86–372; 73 Stat. 667); and loans under section 202 of the Housing Act of 1959 (Public Law 86–372; 73 Stat. 667): *Provided further*, That amounts recaptured under this heading, the heading ''Annual Contributions for Assisted Housing'', or the heading ''Housing Certificate Fund'', may be used for renewals of or amendments to section 8 project-based contracts or for performance-based contract administrators, notwithstanding the purposes for which such amounts were appropriated: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, upon the request of the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, project funds that are held in residual receipts accounts for any project subject to a section 8 project-based Housing Assistance Payments contract that authorizes HUD or a Housing Finance Agency to require that surplus project funds be deposited in an interest-bearing residual receipts account and that are in excess of an amount to be determined by the Secretary, shall be remitted to the Department and deposited in this account, to be available until expended: *Provided further*, That amounts deposited pursuant to the previous proviso shall be available in addition to the amount otherwise provided by this heading for uses authorized under this heading.

HOUSING FOR THE ELDERLY

For capital advances, including amendments to capital advance contracts, for housing for the elderly, as authorized by section 202 of the Housing Act of 1959, as amended, and for project rental assistance for the elderly under section 202(c)(2) of such Act, including amendments to contracts for such assistance and renewal of expiring contracts for such assistance for up to a 1-year term, and for senior preservation rental assistance contracts, including renewals, as authorized by section 811(e) of the American Housing and Economic Opportunity Act of 2000, as amended, and for supportive services associated with the housing, $502,400,000 to remain available until September 30, 2020, of which $10,000,000 shall be for capital advance and project-based rental assistance awards or for incremental senior preservation rental assistance contracts: *Provided*, That amounts for project rental assistance contracts are to remain available for the liquidation of valid obligations for 10 years following the date of such obligation: *Provided further*, That of the amount provided under this heading, up to $75,000,000 shall be for service coordinators and the continuation of existing congregate service grants for residents of assisted housing projects: *Provided further*, That amounts under this heading shall be available for Real Estate Assessment Center inspections and inspection-related activities associated with section 202 projects: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may waive the provisions of section 202 governing the terms and conditions of project rental assistance, except that the initial contract term for such assistance shall not exceed 5 years in duration: *Provided further*, That upon request of the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, project funds that are held in residual receipts accounts for any project subject to a section 202 project rental assistance contract, and that upon termination of such contract are in excess of an amount to be determined by the Secretary, shall be remitted to the Department and deposited in this account, to be available until September 30, 2020: *Provided further*, That amounts deposited in this account pursuant to the previous proviso shall be available, in addition to the amounts otherwise provided by this heading, for amendments and renewals: *Provided further*, That unobligated balances, including recaptures and carryover, remaining from funds transferred to or appropriated under this heading shall be available for amendments and renewals notwithstanding the purposes for which such funds originally were appropriated.

HOUSING FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

For amendments to capital advance contracts for supportive housing for persons with disabilities, as authorized by section 811 of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 8013), for project rental assistance for supportive housing for persons with disabilities under section 811(d)(2) of such Act and for project assistance contracts pursuant to section 202(h) of the Housing Act of 1959 (Public Law 86–372; 73 Stat. 667), including amendments to contracts for such assistance and renewal of expiring contracts for such assistance for up to a 1-year term, for project rental assistance to State housing finance agencies and other appropriate entities as authorized under section 811(b)(3) of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Housing Act, and for supportive services associated with the housing for persons with disabilities as authorized by section 811(b)(1) of such Act, $146,200,000, to remain available until September 30, 2020: *Provided*, That amounts made available under this heading shall be available for Real Estate Assessment Center inspections and inspection-related activities associated with section 811 projects: *Provided further*, That, in this fiscal year, upon the request of the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, project funds that are held in residual receipts accounts for any project subject to a section 811 project rental assistance contract and that upon termination of such contract are in excess of an amount to be determined by the Secretary shall be remitted to the Department and deposited in this account, to be available until September 30, 2020: *Provided further*, That amounts deposited in this account pursuant to the previous proviso shall be available in addition to the amounts otherwise provided by this heading for amendments and renewals: *Provided further*, That unobligated balances, including recaptures and carryover, remaining from funds transferred to or appropriated under this heading shall be used for amendments and renewals notwithstanding the purposes for which such funds originally were appropriated.

HOUSING COUNSELING ASSISTANCE

For contracts, grants, and other assistance excluding loans, as authorized under section 106 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, as amended, $55,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, including up to $4,500,000 for administrative contract services: *Provided*, That grants made available from amounts provided under this heading shall be awarded within 180 days of enactment of this Act: *Provided further*, That funds shall be used for providing counseling and advice to tenants and homeowners, both current and prospective, with respect to property maintenance, financial management/literacy, and such other matters as may be appropriate to assist them in improving their housing conditions, meeting their financial needs, and fulfilling the responsibilities of tenancy or homeownership; for program administration; and for housing counselor training: *Provided further*, That for purposes of providing such grants from amounts provided under this heading, the Secretary may enter into multiyear agreements as appropriate, subject to the availability of annual appropriations.

RENTAL HOUSING ASSISTANCE

For amendments to contracts under section 101 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965 (12 U.S.C. 1701s) and section 236(f)(2) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715z–1) in State-aided, noninsured rental housing projects, $20,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such amount, together with unobligated balances from recaptured amounts appropriated prior to fiscal year 2006 from terminated contracts under such sections of law, and any unobligated balances, including recaptures and carryover, remaining from funds appropriated under this heading after fiscal year 2005, shall also be available for extensions of up to one year for expiring contracts under such sections of law.

PAYMENT TO MANUFACTURED HOUSING FEES TRUST FUND

For necessary expenses as authorized by the National Manufactured Housing Construction and Safety Standards Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5401 et seq.), up to $10,500,000, to remain available until expended, of which $10,500,000 is to be derived from the Manufactured Housing Fees Trust Fund: *Provided*, That not to exceed the total amount appropriated under this heading shall be available from the general fund of the Treasury to the extent necessary to incur obligations and make expenditures pending the receipt of collections to the Fund pursuant to section 620 of such Act: *Provided further*, That the amount made available under this heading from the general fund shall be reduced as such collections are received during fiscal year 2017 so as to result in a final fiscal year 2017 appropriation from the general fund estimated at zero, and fees pursuant to such section 620 shall be modified as necessary to ensure such a final fiscal year 2017 appropriation: *Provided further*, That for the dispute resolution and installation programs, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development may assess and collect fees from any program participant: *Provided further*, That such collections shall be deposited into the Fund, and the Secretary, as provided herein, may use such collections, as well as fees collected under section 620, for necessary expenses of such Act: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding the requirements of section 620 of such Act, the Secretary may carry out responsibilities of the Secretary under such Act through the use of approved service providers that are paid directly by the recipients of their services.

FEDERAL HOUSING ADMINISTRATION

MUTUAL MORTGAGE INSURANCE PROGRAM ACCOUNT

New commitments to guarantee single family loans insured under the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund shall not exceed

$400,000,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That during fiscal year 2017, obligations to make direct loans to carry out the purposes of section 204(g) of the National Housing Act, as amended, shall not exceed $5,000,000: *Provided further*, That the foregoing amount in the previous proviso shall be for loans to nonprofit and governmental entities in connection with sales of single family real properties owned by the Secretary and formerly insured under the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund: *Provided further*, That for administrative contract expenses of the Federal Housing Administration, $130,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided further*, That to the extent guaranteed loan commitments exceed $200,000,000,000 on or before April 1, 2017, an additional $1,400 for administrative contract expenses shall be available for each $1,000,000 in additional guaranteed loan commitments (including a pro rata amount for any amount below $1,000,000), but in no case shall funds made available by this proviso exceed $30,000,000.

GENERAL AND SPECIAL RISK PROGRAM ACCOUNT

New commitments to guarantee loans insured under the General and Special Risk Insurance Funds, as authorized by sections 238 and 519 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715z–3 and 1735c), shall not exceed $30,000,000,000 in total loan principal, any part of which is to be guaranteed, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That during fiscal year 2017, gross obligations for the principal amount of direct loans, as authorized by sections 204(g), 207(l), 238, and 519(a) of the National Housing Act, shall not exceed $5,000,000, which shall be for loans to nonprofit and governmental entities in connection with the sale of single family real properties owned by the Secretary and formerly insured under such Act.

GOVERNMENT NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION

GUARANTEES OF MORTGAGE-BACKED SECURITIES LOAN GUARANTEE PROGRAM ACCOUNT

New commitments to issue guarantees to carry out the purposes of section 306 of the National Housing Act, as amended (12 U.S.C. 1721(g)), shall not exceed $500,000,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That $23,000,000 shall be available for necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of Government National Mortgage Association: *Provided further*, That to the extent that guaranteed loan commitments exceed $155,000,000,000 on or before April 1, 2017, an additional $100 for necessary salaries and expenses shall be available until expended for each $1,000,000 in additional guaranteed loan commitments (including a pro rata amount for any amount below $1,000,000), but in no case shall funds made available by this proviso exceed $3,000,000: *Provided further*, That receipts from Commitment and Multiclass fees collected pursuant to title III of the National Housing Act, as amended, shall be credited as offsetting collections to this account.

POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH

RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY

For contracts, grants, and necessary expenses of programs of research and studies relating to housing and urban problems, not otherwise provided for, as authorized by title V of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1970 (12 U.S.C. 1701z–1 et seq.), including carrying out the functions of the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development under section 1(a)(1)(i) of Reorganization Plan No. 2 of 1968, and for technical assistance, $89,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That with respect to amounts made available under this heading, notwithstanding section 204 of this title, the Secretary may enter into cooperative agreements funded with philanthropic entities, other Federal agencies, or State or local governments and their agencies for research projects: *Provided further*, That with respect to the previous proviso, such partners to the cooperative agreements must contribute at least a 50 percent match toward the cost of the project: *Provided further*, That for non-competitive agreements entered into in accordance with the previous two provisos, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall comply with section 2(b) of the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (Public Law 109–282, 31 U.S.C. note) in lieu of compliance with section 102(a)(4)(C) with respect to documentation of award decisions: *Provided further*, That prior to obligation of technical assistance funding, the Secretary shall submit a plan, for approval, to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations on how it will allocate funding for this activity.

FAIR HOUSING AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

FAIR HOUSING ACTIVITIES

For contracts, grants, and other assistance, not otherwise provided for, as authorized by title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, as amended by the Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988, and section 561 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1987, as amended, $65,300,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302, the Secretary may assess and collect fees to cover the costs of the Fair Housing Training Academy, and may use such funds to provide such training: *Provided further*, That no funds made available under this heading shall be used to lobby the executive or legislative branches of the Federal Government in connection with a specific contract, grant, or loan: *Provided further*, That of the funds made available under this heading, $300,000 shall be available to the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development for the creation and promotion of translated materials and other programs that support the assistance of persons with limited English proficiency in utilizing the services provided by the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

OFFICE OF LEAD HAZARD CONTROL AND HEALTHY HOMES

LEAD HAZARD REDUCTION

For the Lead Hazard Reduction Program, as authorized by section 1011 of the Residential Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act of 1992, $145,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018, of which $30,000,000 shall be for the Healthy Homes Initiative, pursuant to sections 501 and 502 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1970, that shall include research, studies, testing, and demonstration efforts, including education and outreach concerning lead-based paint poisoning and other housing-related diseases and hazards: *Provided*, That for purposes of environmental review, pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) and other provisions of the law that further the purposes of such Act, a grant under the Healthy Homes Initiative, or the Lead Technical Studies program under this heading or under prior appropriations Acts for such purposes under this heading, shall be considered to be funds for a special project for purposes of section 305(c) of the Multifamily Housing Property Disposition Reform Act of 1994: *Provided further*, That of the total amount made available under this heading, $55,000,000 shall be made available on a competitive basis for areas with the highest lead-based paint abatement needs: *Provided further*, That each recipient of funds provided under the previous proviso shall contribute an amount not less than 25 percent of the total: *Provided further*, That each applicant shall certify adequate capacity that is acceptable to the Secretary to carry out the proposed use of funds pursuant to a notice of funding availability: *Provided further*, That amounts made available under this heading in this or prior appropriations Acts, and that still remain available, may be used for any purpose under this heading notwithstanding the purpose for which such amounts were appropriated if a program competition is undersubscribed and there are other program competitions under this heading that are oversubscribed.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY FUND

For the development of, modifications to, and infrastructure for Department-wide and program-specific information technology systems, for the continuing operation and maintenance of both Department-wide and program-specific information systems, and for program-related maintenance activities, $257,000,000, of which $250,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2018, and of which $7,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That any amounts transferred to this Fund under this Act shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That any amounts transferred to this Fund from amounts appropriated by previously enacted appropriations Acts may be used for the purposes specified under this Fund, in addition to any other information technology purposes for which such amounts were appropriated: *Provided further*, That not more than 10 percent of the funds made available under this heading for development, modernization and enhancement may be obligated until the Secretary submits to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations, for approval, a plan for expenditure that—(A) identifies for each modernization project: (i) the functional and performance capabilities to be delivered and the mission benefits to be realized, (ii) the estimated life-cycle cost, and (iii) key milestones to be met; and (B) demonstrates that each modernization project is: (i) compliant with the department's enterprise architecture, (ii) being managed in accordance with applicable life-cycle management policies and guidance, (iii) subject to the department's capital planning and investment control requirements, and (iv) supported by an adequately staffed project office.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, $128,082,000: *Provided*, That the Inspector General shall have independent authority over all personnel issues within this office.

GENERAL PROVISIONS—DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

(INCLUDING RESCISSION)

SEC. 201. Fifty percent of the amounts of budget authority, or in lieu thereof 50 percent of the cash amounts associated with such budget authority, that are recaptured from projects described in section 1012(a) of the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Amendments Act of 1988 (42 U.S.C. 1437f note) shall be rescinded or in the case of

cash, shall be remitted to the Treasury, and such amounts of budget authority or cash recaptured and not rescinded or remitted to the Treasury shall be used by State housing finance agencies or local governments or local housing agencies with projects approved by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development for which settlement occurred after January 1, 1992, in accordance with such section. Notwithstanding the previous sentence, the Secretary may award up to 15 percent of the budget authority or cash recaptured and not rescinded or remitted to the Treasury to provide project owners with incentives to refinance their project at a lower interest rate.

SEC. 202. None of the amounts made available under this Act may be used during fiscal year 2017 to investigate or prosecute under the Fair Housing Act any otherwise lawful activity engaged in by one or more persons, including the filing or maintaining of a nonfrivolous legal action, that is engaged in solely for the purpose of achieving or preventing action by a Government official or entity, or a court of competent jurisdiction.

SEC. 203. Subsection (c) of section 854 of the AIDS Housing Opportunity Act (42 U.S.C. 12903(c)) is amended—

(1) in subclause (I) of paragraph (2)(A), by redesignating the subclause as clause ''(i)''; and

(2) in subparagraph (D) of paragraph (2), to read as follows:

''(D) ADJUSTMENT TO GRANTS.—For each of fiscal years 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, and 2021, with respect to a grantee that received an allocation in the prior fiscal year, the Secretary shall ensure that the grantee's share of total formula funds available for allocation does not decrease more than 5 percent nor gain more than 10 percent of the share of the total available formula funds that the grantee received in the preceding fiscal year.''.

SEC. 204. Except as explicitly provided in law, any grant, cooperative agreement or other assistance made pursuant to title II of this Act shall be made on a competitive basis and in accordance with section 102 of the Department of Housing and Urban Development Reform Act of 1989 (42 U.S.C. 3545).

SEC. 205. Funds of the Department of Housing and Urban Development subject to the Government Corporation Control Act or section 402 of the Housing Act of 1950 shall be available, without regard to the limitations on administrative expenses, for legal services on a contract or fee basis, and for utilizing and making payment for services and facilities of the Federal National Mortgage Association, Government National Mortgage Association, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, Federal Financing Bank, Federal Reserve banks or any member thereof, Federal Home Loan banks, and any insured bank within the meaning of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation Act, as amended (12 U.S.C. 1811–1).

SEC. 206. Unless otherwise provided for in this Act or through a reprogramming of funds, no part of any appropriation for the Department of Housing and Urban Development shall be available for any program, project or activity in excess of amounts set forth in the budget estimates submitted to Congress.

SEC. 207. Corporations and agencies of the Department of Housing and Urban Development which are subject to the Government Corporation Control Act are hereby authorized to make such expenditures, within the limits of funds and borrowing authority available to each such corporation or agency and in accordance with law, and to make such contracts and commitments without regard to fiscal year limitations as provided by section 104 of such Act as may be necessary in carrying out the programs set forth in the budget for 2017 for such corporation or agency except as hereinafter provided: *Provided*, That collections of these corporations and agencies may be used for new loan or mortgage purchase commitments only to the extent expressly provided for in this Act (unless such loans are in support of other forms of assistance provided for in this or prior appropriations Acts), except that this proviso shall not apply to the mortgage insurance or guaranty operations of these corporations, or where loans or mortgage purchases are necessary to protect the financial interest of the United States Government.

SEC. 208. The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall provide quarterly reports to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations regarding all uncommitted, unobligated, recaptured and excess funds in each program and activity within the jurisdiction of the Department and shall submit additional, updated budget information to these Committees upon request.

SEC. 209. The President's formal budget request for fiscal year 2018, as well as the Department of Housing and Urban Development's congressional budget justifications to be submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, shall use the identical account and sub-account structure provided under this Act.

SEC. 210. No funds provided under this title may be used for an audit of the Government National Mortgage Association that makes applicable requirements under the Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990 (2 U.S.C. 661 et seq.).

SEC. 211. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, subject to the conditions listed under this section, for fiscal years 2017 and 2018, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development may authorize the transfer of some or all project-based assistance, debt held or insured by the Secretary and statutorily required low-income and very low-income use restrictions if any, associated with one or more multifamily housing project or projects to another multifamily housing project or projects.

(b) PHASED TRANSFERS.—Transfers of project-based assistance under this section may be done in phases to accommodate the financing and other requirements related to rehabilitating or constructing the project or projects to which the assistance is transferred, to ensure that such project or projects meet the standards under subsection (c).

(c) The transfer authorized in subsection (a) is subject to the following conditions:

(1) NUMBER AND BEDROOM SIZE OF UNITS.—

(A) For occupied units in the transferring project: The number of low-income and very low-income units and the configuration (i.e., bedroom size) provided by the transferring project shall be no less than when transferred to the receiving project or projects and the net dollar amount of Federal assistance provided to the transferring project shall remain the same in the receiving project or projects.

(B) For unoccupied units in the transferring project: The Secretary may authorize a reduction in the number of dwelling units in the receiving project or projects to allow for a reconfiguration of bedroom sizes to meet current market demands, as determined by the Secretary and provided there is no increase in the project-based assistance budget authority.

(2) The transferring project shall, as determined by the Secretary, be either physically obsolete or economically nonviable.

(3) The receiving project or projects shall meet or exceed applicable physical standards established by the Secretary.

(4) The owner or mortgagor of the transferring project shall notify and consult with the tenants residing in the transferring project and provide a certification of approval by all appropriate local governmental officials.

(5) The tenants of the transferring project who remain eligible for assistance to be provided by the receiving project or projects shall not be required to vacate their units in the transferring project or projects until new units in the receiving project are available for occupancy.

(6) The Secretary determines that this transfer is in the best interest of the tenants.

(7) If either the transferring project or the receiving project or projects meets the condition specified in subsection (d)(2)(A), any lien on the receiving project resulting from additional financing obtained by the owner shall be subordinate to any FHA-insured mortgage lien transferred to, or placed on, such project by the Secretary, except that the Secretary may waive this requirement upon determination that such a waiver is necessary to facilitate the financing of acquisition, construction, and/or rehabilitation of the receiving project or projects.

(8) If the transferring project meets the requirements of subsection (d)(2), the owner or mortgagor of the receiving project or projects shall execute and record either a continuation of the existing use agreement or a new use agreement for the project where, in either case, any use restrictions in such agreement are of no lesser duration than the existing use restrictions.

(9) The transfer does not increase the cost (as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, as amended) of any FHA-insured mortgage, except to the extent that appropriations are provided in advance for the amount of any such increased cost.

(d) For purposes of this section—

(1) the terms ''low-income'' and ''very low-income'' shall have the meanings provided by the statute and/or regulations governing the program under which the project is insured or assisted;

(2) the term ''multifamily housing project'' means housing that meets one of the following conditions—

(A) housing that is subject to a mortgage insured under the National Housing Act;

(B) housing that has project-based assistance attached to the structure including projects undergoing mark to market debt restructuring under the Multifamily Assisted Housing Reform and Affordability Housing Act;

(C) housing that is assisted under section 202 of the Housing Act of 1959, as amended by section 801 of the Cranston-Gonzales National Affordable Housing Act;

(D) housing that is assisted under section 202 of the Housing Act of 1959, as such section existed before the enactment of the Cranston-Gonzales National Affordable Housing Act;

(E) housing that is assisted under section 811 of the Cranston-Gonzales National Affordable Housing Act; or

(F) housing or vacant land that is subject to a use agreement;

(3) the term ''project-based assistance'' means—

(A) assistance provided under section 8(b) of the United States Housing Act of 1937;

(B) assistance for housing constructed or substantially rehabilitated pursuant to assistance provided under section 8(b)(2) of such Act (as such section existed immediately before October 1, 1983);

(C) rent supplement payments under section 101 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965;

(D) interest reduction payments under section 236 and/or additional assistance payments under section 236(f)(2) of the National Housing Act;

(E) assistance payments made under section 202(c)(2) of the Housing Act of 1959; and

(F) assistance payments made under section 811(d)(2) of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act;

(4) the term ''receiving project or projects'' means the multifamily housing project or projects to which some or all of the project-based assistance, debt, and statutorily required low-income and very low-income use restrictions are to be transferred;

(5) the term ''transferring project'' means the multifamily housing project which is transferring some or all of the project-based assistance, debt, and the statutorily required low-income and very low-income use restrictions to the receiving project or projects; and

(6) the term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

(e) RESEARCH REPORT.—The Secretary shall conduct an evaluation of the transfer authority under this section, including the effect of such transfers on the operational efficiency, contract rents, physical and financial conditions, and long-term preservation of the affected properties.

SEC. 212. (a) No assistance shall be provided under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f) to any individual who—

(1) is enrolled as a student at an institution of higher education (as defined under section 102 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002));

(2) is under 24 years of age;

(3) is not a veteran;

(4) is unmarried;

(5) does not have a dependent child;

(6) is not a person with disabilities, as such term is defined in section 3(b)(3)(E) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437a(b)(3)(E)) and was not receiving assistance under such section 8 as of November 30, 2005;

(7) is not a youth who left foster care at age 14 or older and is at risk of becoming homeless; and

(8) is not otherwise individually eligible, or has parents who, individually or jointly, are not eligible, to receive assistance under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f).

(b) For purposes of determining the eligibility of a person to receive assistance under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f), any financial assistance (in excess of amounts received for tuition and any other required fees and charges) that an individual receives under the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001 et seq.), from private sources, or an institution of higher education (as defined under the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002)), shall be considered income to that individual, except for a person over the age of 23 with dependent children.

SEC. 213. The funds made available for Native Alaskans under the heading ''Native American Housing Block Grants'' in title II of this Act shall be allocated to the same Native Alaskan housing block grant recipients that received funds in fiscal year 2005.

SEC. 214. Notwithstanding the limitation in the first sentence of section 255(g) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715z–20(g)), the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development may, until September 30, 2017, insure and enter into commitments to insure mortgages under such section 255.

SEC. 215. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in fiscal year 2017, in managing and disposing of any multifamily property that is owned or has a mortgage held by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, and during the process of foreclosure on any property with a contract for rental assistance payments under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 or other Federal programs, the Secretary shall maintain any rental assistance payments under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 and other programs that are attached to any dwelling units in the property. To the extent the Secretary determines, in consultation with the tenants and the local government, that such a multifamily property owned or held by the Secretary is not feasible for continued rental assistance payments under such section 8 or other programs, based on consideration of (1) the costs of rehabilitating and operating the property and all available Federal, State, and local resources, including rent adjustments under section 524 of the Multifamily Assisted Housing Reform and Affordability Act of 1997 (''MAHRAA'') and (2) environmental conditions that cannot be remedied in a cost-effective fashion, the Secretary may, in consultation with the tenants of that property, contract for project-based rental assistance payments with an owner or owners of other existing housing properties, or provide other rental assistance. The Secretary shall also take appropriate steps to ensure that project-based contracts remain in effect prior to foreclosure, subject to the exercise of contractual abatement remedies to assist relocation of tenants for imminent major threats to health and safety after written notice to and informed consent of the affected tenants and use of other available remedies, such as partial abatements or receivership. After disposition of any multifamily property described under this section, the contract and allowable rent levels on such properties shall be subject to the requirements under section 524 of MAHRAA.

SEC. 216. The commitment authority funded by fees as provided under the heading ''Community Development Loan Guarantees Program Account'' may be used to guarantee, or make commitments to guarantee, notes, or other obligations issued by any State on behalf of non-entitlement communities in the State in accordance with the requirements of section 108 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974: *Provided*, That any State receiving such a guarantee or commitment shall distribute all funds subject to such guarantee to the units of general local government in non-entitlement areas that received the commitment.

SEC. 217. Public housing agencies that own and operate 400 or fewer public housing units may elect to be exempt from any asset management requirement imposed by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development in connection with the operating fund rule: *Provided*, That an agency seeking a discontinuance of a reduction of subsidy under the operating fund formula shall not be exempt from asset management requirements.

SEC. 218. With respect to the use of amounts provided in this Act and in future Acts for the operation, capital improvement and management of public housing as authorized by sections 9(d) and 9(e) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437g(d) and (e)), the Secretary shall not impose any requirement or guideline relating to asset management that restricts or limits in any way the use of capital funds for central office costs pursuant to section 9(g)(1) or 9(g)(2) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437g(g)(1), (2)): *Provided*, That a public housing agency may not use capital funds authorized under section 9(d) for activities that are eligible under section 9(e) for assistance with amounts from the operating fund in excess of the amounts permitted under section 9(g)(1) or 9(g)(2).

SEC. 219. No official or employee of the Department of Housing and Urban Development shall be designated as an allotment holder unless the Office of the Chief Financial Officer has determined that such allotment holder has implemented an adequate system of funds control and has received training in funds control procedures and directives. The Chief Financial Officer shall ensure that there is a trained allotment holder for each HUD sub-office under the accounts ''Executive Offices'' and ''Administrative Support Offices,'' as well as each account receiving appropriations for ''Program Office Salaries and Expenses'', ''Government National Mortgage Association—Guarantees of Mortgage-Backed Securities Loan Guarantee Program Account'', and ''Office of Inspector General'' within the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

SEC. 220. The Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development shall, for fiscal year 2017, notify the public through the Federal Register and other means, as determined appropriate, of the issuance of a notice of the availability of assistance or notice of funding availability (NOFA) for any program or discretionary fund administered by the Secretary that is to be competitively awarded. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, for fiscal year 2017, the Secretary may make the NOFA available only on the Internet at the appropriate Government web site or through other electronic media, as determined by the Secretary.

SEC. 221. Payment of attorney fees in program-related litigation shall be paid from the individual program office and Office of General Counsel salaries and expenses appropriations. The annual budget submission for the program offices and the Office of General Counsel shall include any such projected litigation costs for attorney fees as a separate line item request. No funds provided in this title may be used to pay any such litigation costs for attorney fees until the Department submits for review a spending plan for such costs to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations.

SEC. 222. The Secretary is authorized to transfer up to 10 percent or $4,000,000, whichever is less, of funds appropriated for any office under the heading ''Administrative Support Offices'' or for any account under the general heading ''Program Office Salaries and Expenses'' to any other such office or account: *Provided*, That no appropriation for any such office or account shall be increased or decreased by more than 10 percent or $4,000,000, whichever is less, without prior written approval of the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall provide notification to such Committees three business days in advance of any such transfers under this section up to 10 percent or $4,000,000, whichever is less.

SEC. 223. (a) Any entity receiving housing assistance payments shall maintain decent,

safe, and sanitary conditions, as determined by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (in this section referred to as the ''Secretary''), and comply with any standards under applicable State or local laws, rules, ordinances, or regulations relating to the physical condition of any property covered under a housing assistance payment contract.

(b) The Secretary shall take action under subsection (c) when a multifamily housing project with a section 8 contract or contract for similar project-based assistance—

(1) receives a Uniform Physical Condition Standards (UPCS) score of 60 or less; or

(2) fails to certify in writing to the Secretary within 3 days that all Exigent Health and Safety deficiencies identified by the inspector at the project have been corrected.

Such requirements shall apply to insured and noninsured projects with assistance attached to the units under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f), but do not apply to such units assisted under section 8(o)(13) (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)(13)) or to public housing units assisted with capital or operating funds under section 9 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437g).

(c)(1) Within 15 days of the issuance of the REAC inspection, the Secretary must provide the owner with a Notice of Default with a specified timetable, determined by the Secretary, for correcting all deficiencies. The Secretary must also provide a copy of the Notice of Default to the tenants, the local government, any mortgagees, and any contract administrator. If the owner's appeal results in a UPCS score of 60 or above, the Secretary may withdraw the Notice of Default.

(2) At the end of the time period for correcting all deficiencies specified in the Notice of Default, if the owner fails to fully correct such deficiencies, the Secretary may—

(A) require immediate replacement of project management with a management agent approved by the Secretary;

(B) impose civil money penalties, which shall be used solely for the purpose of supporting safe and sanitary conditions at applicable properties, as designated by the Secretary, with priority given to the tenants of the property affected by the penalty;

(C) abate the section 8 contract, including partial abatement, as determined by the Secretary, until all deficiencies have been corrected;

(D) pursue transfer of the project to an owner, approved by the Secretary under established procedures, which will be obligated to promptly make all required repairs and to accept renewal of the assistance contract as long as such renewal is offered;

(E) transfer the existing section 8 contract to another project or projects and owner or owners;

(F) pursue exclusionary sanctions, including suspensions or debarments from Federal programs;

(G) seek judicial appointment of a receiver to manage the property and cure all project deficiencies or seek a judicial order of specific performance requiring the owner to cure all project deficiencies;

(H) work with the owner, lender, or other related party to stabilize the property in an attempt to preserve the property through compliance, transfer of ownership, or an infusion of capital provided by a third-party that requires time to effectuate; or

(I) take any other regulatory or contractual remedies available as deemed necessary and appropriate by the Secretary.

(d) The Secretary shall also take appropriate steps to ensure that project-based contracts remain in effect, subject to the exercise of contractual abatement remedies to assist relocation of tenants for major threats to health and safety after written notice to the affected tenants. To the extent the Secretary determines, in consultation with the tenants and the local government, that the property is not feasible for continued rental assistance payments under such section 8 or other programs, based on consideration of—

(1) the costs of rehabilitating and operating the property and all available Federal, State, and local resources, including rent adjustments under section 524 of the Multifamily Assisted Housing Reform and Affordability Act of 1997 (''MAHRAA''); and

(2) environmental conditions that cannot be remedied in a cost-effective fashion, the Secretary may contract for project-based rental assistance payments with an owner or owners of other existing housing properties, or provide other rental assistance.

(e) The Secretary shall report quarterly on all properties covered by this section that are assessed through the Real Estate Assessment Center and have UPCS physical inspection scores of less than 60 or have received an unsatisfactory management and occupancy review within the past 36 months. The report shall include—

(1) the enforcement actions being taken to address such conditions, including imposition of civil money penalties and termination of subsidies, and identify properties that have such conditions multiple times;

(2) actions that the Department of Housing and Urban Development is taking to protect tenants of such identified properties; and

(3) any administrative or legislative recommendations to further improve the living conditions at properties covered under a housing assistance payment contract.

SEC. 224. None of the funds made available by this Act, or any other Act, for purposes authorized under section 8 (only with respect to the tenant-based rental assistance program) and section 9 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437 et seq.), may be used by any public housing agency for any amount of salary, including bonuses, for the chief executive officer of which, or any other official or employee of which, that exceeds the annual rate of basic pay payable for a position at level IV of the Executive Schedule at any time during any public housing agency fiscal year 2017.

SEC. 225. None of the funds in this Act may be available for the doctoral dissertation research grant program at the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

SEC. 226. Section 24 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437v) is amended—

(1) in subsection (m)(1), by striking ''fiscal year'' and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting ''fiscal year 2017.''; and

(2) in subsection (o), by striking ''September'' and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting ''September 30, 2017.''.

SEC. 227. None of the funds in this Act provided to the Department of Housing and Urban Development may be used to make a grant award unless the Secretary notifies the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations not less than 3 full business days before any project, State, locality, housing authority, tribe, nonprofit organization, or other entity selected to receive a grant award is announced by the Department or its offices.

SEC. 228. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to require or enforce the Physical Needs Assessment (PNA).

SEC. 229. None of the funds made available by this Act nor any receipts or amounts collected under any Federal Housing Administration program may be used to implement the Homeowners Armed with Knowledge (HAWK) program.

SEC. 230. None of the funds made available in this Act shall be used by the Federal Housing Administration, the Government National Mortgage Administration, or the Department of Housing and Urban Development to insure, securitize, or establish a Federal guarantee of any mortgage or mortgage backed security that refinances or otherwise replaces a mortgage that has been subject to eminent domain condemnation or seizure, by a State, municipality, or any other political subdivision of a State.

SEC. 231. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to terminate the status of a unit of general local government as a metropolitan city (as defined in section 102 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5302)) with respect to grants under section 106 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 5306).

SEC. 232. Amounts made available under this Act which are either appropriated, allocated, advanced on a reimbursable basis, or transferred to the Office of Policy Development and Research in the Department of Housing and Urban Development and functions thereof, for research, evaluation, or statistical purposes, and which are unexpended at the time of completion of a contract, grant, or cooperative agreement, may be deobligated and shall immediately become available and may be reobligated in that fiscal year or the subsequent fiscal year for the research, evaluation, or statistical purposes for which the amounts are made available to that Office subject to reprogramming requirements in section 405 of this Act.

SEC. 233. None of the funds provided in this Act or any other act may be used for awards, including performance, special act, or spot, for any employee of the Department of Housing and Urban Development who has been subject to administrative discipline in fiscal years 2016 or 2017, including suspension from work.

SEC. 234. Funds made available in this title under the heading ''Homeless Assistance Grants'' may be used by the Secretary to participate in Performance Partnership Pilots authorized under section 526 of division H of Public Law 113–76, section 524 of division G of Public Law 113–235, section 525 of division H of Public Law 114–113, and such authorities as are enacted for Performance Partnership Pilots in an appropriations Act for fiscal year 2017: *Provided*, That such participation shall be limited to no more than 10 continuums of care and housing activities to improve outcomes for disconnected youth.

SEC. 235. With respect to grant amounts awarded under the heading ''Homeless Assistance Grants'' for fiscal years 2015, 2016, and 2017 for the continuum of care (CoC) program as authorized under subtitle C of title IV of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, costs paid by program income of grant recipients may count toward meeting the recipient's matching requirements, provided the costs are eligible CoC costs that supplement the recipients CoC program.

SEC. 236. (a) From amounts made available under this title under the heading ''Homeless Assistance Grants'', the Secretary may award 1-year transition grants to recipients of funds for activities under subtitle C of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11381 et seq.) to transition from

one Continuum of Care program component to another.

(b) No more than 50 percent of each transition grant may be used for costs of eligible activities of the program component originally funded.

(c) Transition grants made under this section are eligible for renewal in subsequent fiscal years for the eligible activities of the new program component.

(d) In order to be eligible to receive a transition grant, the funding recipient must have the consent of the Continuum of Care and meet standards determined by the Secretary.

SEC. 237. (a) Section 302 of the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act (42 U.S.C. 4822) is amended in subsection (e)—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by striking ''handicapped'' and inserting ''persons with disabilities, or any 0-bedroom dwelling'';

(ii) by inserting ''or'' after ''expected to reside;''; and

(iii) by striking ''less than 7 years of age'' and inserting ''under age 6'';

(2) in paragraph (2) by striking ''; or'' and inserting ''.''; and

(3) by striking paragraph (3).

(b) Section 1004 of the Residential Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 4851b) is amended in paragraph (27)—

(1) by inserting ''or any 0-bedroom dwelling'' after ''disabilities,''; and

(2) by deleting ''housing for the elderly or persons with disabilities) or any 0 bedroom dwelling'' and inserting ''housing)''.

(c) Section 401 of the Toxic Substances Control Act (15 U.S.C. 2681) is amended in paragraph (17)—

(1) by inserting ''or any 0-bedroom dwelling'' after ''disabilities,''; and

(2) by deleting ''housing for the elderly or persons with disabilities) or any 0 bedroom dwelling'' and inserting ''housing)''.

SEC. 238. Section 211 of the Department of Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Act, 2008, is repealed.

SEC. 239. The language under the heading Rental Assistance Demonstration in the Department of Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Act, 2012 (Public Law 112–55), is amended—

(1) in the second proviso, by striking ''2018'' and inserting ''2020''; and

(2) in the fourth proviso, by striking ''185,000'' and inserting ''225,000''.

SEC. 240. The Secretary shall establish by notice such requirements as may be necessary to implement section 78001 of title LXXVIII of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (Public Law 114–94), and the notice shall take effect upon issuance: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall commence rulemaking based on the initial notice no later than the expiration of the 6-month period following issuance of the notice and the rulemaking shall allow for the opportunity for public comment.

SEC. 241. For fiscal year 2017 and hereafter, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development may use amounts made available for the Continuum of Care program under the ''Homeless Assistance Grants'' heading under this title to renew a grant originally awarded pursuant to the matter under the heading ''Department of Housing and Urban Development—Permanent Supportive Housing'' in chapter 6 of title III of the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2008 (Public Law 110–252; 122 Stat. 2351) for assistance under subtitle F of title IV of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11403 et seq.). Such renewal grant shall be awarded to the same grantee and be subject to the provisions of such Continuum of Care program except that the funds may be used outside the geographic area of the continuum of care.

SEC. 242. Section 218(g) of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 12748(g)) shall not apply with respect to the right of a jurisdiction to draw funds from its HOME Investment Trust Fund that otherwise expired or would expire in 2016, 2017, 2018, or 2019 under that section.

SEC. 243. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used by the Department of Housing and Urban Development to direct a grantee to undertake specific changes to existing zoning laws as part of carrying out the final rule entitled ''Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing'' (80 Fed. Reg. 42272 (July 16, 2015)) or the notice entitled ''Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Assessment Tool'' (79 Fed. Reg. 57949 (September 26, 2014)).

This title may be cited as the ''Department of Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Act, 2017''.

TITLE III
RELATED AGENCIES

ACCESS BOARD

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary for the Access Board, as authorized by section 502 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, $8,190,000: *Provided*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, there may be credited to this appropriation funds received for publications and training expenses.

FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Federal Maritime Commission as authorized by section 201(d) of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936, as amended (46 U.S.C. 307), including services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109; hire of passenger motor vehicles as authorized by 31 U.S.C. 1343(b); and uniforms or allowances therefore, as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 5901–5902, $27,490,000: *Provided*, That not to exceed $2,000 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses.

NATIONAL RAILROAD PASSENGER CORPORATION

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General for the National Railroad Passenger Corporation to carry out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, $23,274,000: *Provided*, That the Inspector General shall have all necessary authority, in carrying out the duties specified in the Inspector General Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. App. 3), to investigate allegations of fraud, including false statements to the government (18 U.S.C. 1001), by any person or entity that is subject to regulation by the National Railroad Passenger Corporation: *Provided further*, That the Inspector General may enter into contracts and other arrangements for audits, studies, analyses, and other services with public agencies and with private persons, subject to the applicable laws and regulations that govern the obtaining of such services within the National Railroad Passenger Corporation: *Provided further*, That the Inspector General may select, appoint, and employ such officers and employees as may be necessary for carrying out the functions, powers, and duties of the Office of Inspector General, subject to the applicable laws and regulations that govern such selections, appointments, and employment within the Corporation: *Provided further*, That concurrent with the President's budget request for fiscal year 2018, the Inspector General shall submit to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations a budget request for fiscal year 2018 in similar format and substance to those submitted by executive agencies of the Federal Government.

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the National Transportation Safety Board, including hire of passenger motor vehicles and aircraft; services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, but at rates for individuals not to exceed the per diem rate equivalent to the rate for a GS–15; uniforms, or allowances therefor, as authorized by law (5 U.S.C. 5901–5902), $106,000,000, of which not to exceed $2,000 may be used for official reception and representation expenses. The amounts made available to the National Transportation Safety Board in this Act include amounts necessary to make lease payments on an obligation incurred in fiscal year 2001 for a capital lease.

NEIGHBORHOOD REINVESTMENT CORPORATION

PAYMENT TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD REINVESTMENT CORPORATION

For payment to the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation for use in neighborhood reinvestment activities, as authorized by the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation Act (42 U.S.C. 8101–8107), $140,000,000, of which $5,000,000 shall be for a multi-family rental housing program.

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Surface Transportation Board, including services authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, $37,000,000: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, not to exceed $1,250,000 from fees established by the Chairman of the Surface Transportation Board shall be credited to this appropriation as offsetting collections and used for necessary and authorized expenses under this heading: *Provided further*, That the sum herein appropriated from the general fund shall be reduced on a dollar-for-dollar basis as such offsetting collections are received during fiscal year 2017, to result in a final appropriation from the general fund estimated at no more than $35,750,000.

UNITED STATES INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS

OPERATING EXPENSES

For necessary expenses (including payment of salaries, authorized travel, hire of passenger motor vehicles, the rental of conference rooms, and the employment of experts and consultants under section 3109 of title 5, United States Code) of the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness in carrying out the functions pursuant to title II of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, as amended, $3,600,000: *Provided*, That title II of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11319) is amended by striking ''October 1, 2017'' in section 209 and inserting ''October 1, 2018''.

TITLE IV
GENERAL PROVISIONS—THIS ACT

(INCLUDING RESCISSIONS)

SEC. 401. None of the funds in this Act shall be used for the planning or execution of any program to pay the expenses of, or otherwise compensate, non-Federal parties intervening in regulatory or adjudicatory proceedings funded in this Act.

SEC. 402. None of the funds appropriated in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year, nor may

any be transferred to other appropriations, unless expressly so provided herein.

SEC. 403. The expenditure of any appropriation under this Act for any consulting service through a procurement contract pursuant to section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, shall be limited to those contracts where such expenditures are a matter of public record and available for public inspection, except where otherwise provided under existing law, or under existing Executive order issued pursuant to existing law.

SEC. 404. (a) None of the funds made available in this Act may be obligated or expended for any employee training that—

(1) does not meet identified needs for knowledge, skills, and abilities bearing directly upon the performance of official duties;

(2) contains elements likely to induce high levels of emotional response or psychological stress in some participants;

(3) does not require prior employee notification of the content and methods to be used in the training and written end of course evaluation;

(4) contains any methods or content associated with religious or quasi-religious belief systems or ''new age'' belief systems as defined in Equal Employment Opportunity Commission Notice N–915.022, dated September 2, 1988; or

(5) is offensive to, or designed to change, participants' personal values or lifestyle outside the workplace.

(b) Nothing in this section shall prohibit, restrict, or otherwise preclude an agency from conducting training bearing directly upon the performance of official duties.

SEC. 405. Except as otherwise provided in this Act, none of the funds provided in this Act, provided by previous appropriations Acts to the agencies or entities funded in this Act that remain available for obligation or expenditure in fiscal year 2017, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury derived by the collection of fees and available to the agencies funded by this Act, shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a reprogramming of funds that—

(1) creates a new program;

(2) eliminates a program, project, or activity;

(3) increases funds or personnel for any program, project, or activity for which funds have been denied or restricted by the Congress;

(4) proposes to use funds directed for a specific activity by either the House or Senate Committees on Appropriations for a different purpose;

(5) augments existing programs, projects, or activities in excess of $5,000,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less;

(6) reduces existing programs, projects, or activities by $5,000,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less; or

(7) creates, reorganizes, or restructures a branch, division, office, bureau, board, commission, agency, administration, or department different from the budget justifications submitted to the Committees on Appropriations or the table accompanying the explanatory statement accompanying this Act, whichever is more detailed, unless prior approval is received from the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations: *Provided*, That not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, each agency funded by this Act shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and of the House of Representatives to establish the baseline for application of reprogramming and transfer authorities for the current fiscal year: *Provided further*, That the report shall include—

(A) a table for each appropriation with a separate column to display the prior year enacted level, the President's budget request, adjustments made by Congress, adjustments due to enacted rescissions, if appropriate, and the fiscal year enacted level;

(B) a delineation in the table for each appropriation and its respective prior year enacted level by object class and program, project, and activity as detailed in the budget appendix for the respective appropriation; and

(C) an identification of items of special congressional interest.

SEC. 406. Except as otherwise specifically provided by law, not to exceed 50 percent of unobligated balances remaining available at the end of fiscal year 2017 from appropriations made available for salaries and expenses for fiscal year 2017 in this Act, shall remain available through September 30, 2018, for each such account for the purposes authorized: *Provided*, That a request shall be submitted to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations for approval prior to the expenditure of such funds: *Provided further*, That these requests shall be made in compliance with reprogramming guidelines under section 405 of this Act.

SEC. 407. No funds in this Act may be used to support any Federal, State, or local projects that seek to use the power of eminent domain, unless eminent domain is employed only for a public use: *Provided*, That for purposes of this section, public use shall not be construed to include economic development that primarily benefits private entities: *Provided further*, That any use of funds for mass transit, railroad, airport, seaport or highway projects, as well as utility projects which benefit or serve the general public (including energy-related, communication-related, water-related and wastewater-related infrastructure), other structures designated for use by the general public or which have other common-carrier or public-utility functions that serve the general public and are subject to regulation and oversight by the government, and projects for the removal of an immediate threat to public health and safety or brownfields as defined in the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act (Public Law 107–118) shall be considered a public use for purposes of eminent domain.

SEC. 408. None of the funds made available in this Act may be transferred to any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government, except pursuant to a transfer made by, or transfer authority provided in, this Act or any other appropriations Act.

SEC. 409. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall be available to pay the salary for any person filling a position, other than a temporary position, formerly held by an employee who has left to enter the Armed Forces of the United States and has satisfactorily completed his or her period of active military or naval service, and has within 90 days after his or her release from such service or from hospitalization continuing after discharge for a period of not more than 1 year, made application for restoration to his or her former position and has been certified by the Office of Personnel Management as still qualified to perform the duties of his or her former position and has not been restored thereto.

SEC. 410. No funds appropriated pursuant to this Act may be expended by an entity unless the entity agrees that in expending the assistance the entity will comply with sections 2 through 4 of the Act of March 3, 1933 (41 U.S.C. 8301–8305, popularly known as the ''Buy American Act'').

SEC. 411. No funds appropriated or otherwise made available under this Act shall be made available to any person or entity that has been convicted of violating the Buy American Act (41 U.S.C. 8301–8305).

SEC. 412. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used for first-class airline accommodations in contravention of sections 301–10.122 and 301–10.123 of title 41, Code of Federal Regulations.

SEC. 413. (a) None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to approve a new foreign air carrier permit under sections 41301 through 41305 of title 49, United States Code, or exemption application under section 40109 of that title of an air carrier already holding an air operators certificate issued by a country that is party to the U.S.-E.U.-Iceland-Norway Air Transport Agreement where such approval would contravene United States law or Article 17 bis of the U.S.-E.U.-Iceland-Norway Air Transport Agreement.

(b) Nothing in this section shall prohibit, restrict or otherwise preclude the Secretary of Transportation from granting a foreign air carrier permit or an exemption to such an air carrier where such authorization is consistent with the U.S.-E.U.-Iceland-Norway Air Transport Agreement and United States law.

SEC. 414. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to send or otherwise pay for the attendance of more than 50 employees of a single agency or department of the United States Government, who are stationed in the United States, at any single international conference unless the relevant Secretary reports to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations at least 5 days in advance that such attendance is important to the national interest: *Provided*, That for purposes of this section the term ''international conference'' shall mean a conference occurring outside of the United States attended by representatives of the United States Government and of foreign governments, international organizations, or nongovernmental organizations.

SEC. 415. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used by the Department of Transportation, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, or any other Federal agency to lease or purchase new light duty vehicles for any executive fleet, or for an agency's fleet inventory, except in accordance with Presidential Memorandum—Federal Fleet Performance, dated May 24, 2011.

SEC. 416. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available under this Act may be used by the Surface Transportation Board to charge or collect any filing fee for rate or practice complaints filed with the Board in an amount in excess of the amount authorized for district court civil suit filing fees under section 1914 of title 28, United States Code.

SEC. 417. All unobligated balances, including recaptures and carryover, remaining from funds appropriated in division L of Public Law 114–113 for ''Department of Transportation-Office of the Secretary-Salaries and Expenses'', ''Department of Transportation-Office of the Secretary-Office of Civil Rights'', ''Department of Transportation-Office of the Secretary-Minority Business Outreach'', ''Department of Transportation-Federal Transit Administration-Administrative Expenses'', ''Department of Transportation-

Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration-Operational Expenses'', ''Department of Transportation-Surface Transportation Board-Salaries and Expenses'', ''Access Board-Salaries and Expenses'', ''Federal Maritime Commission-Salaries and Expenses'', ''National Railroad Passenger Corporation-Office of Inspector General-Salaries and Expenses'', ''National Transportation Safety Board-Salaries and Expenses'', and ''United States Interagency Council on Homelessness-Operating Expenses'' are rescinded.

SEC. 418. (a) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to deny an Inspector General funded under this Act timely access to any records, documents, or other materials available to the department or agency over which that Inspector General has responsibilities under the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.), or to prevent or impede that Inspector General's access to such records, documents, or other materials, under any provision of law, except a provision of law that expressly refers to the Inspector General and expressly limits the Inspector General's right of access.

(b) A department or agency covered by this section shall provide its Inspector General with access to all such records, documents, and other materials in a timely manner.

(c) Each Inspector General shall ensure compliance with statutory limitations on disclosure relevant to the information provided by the establishment over which that Inspector General has responsibilities under the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.).

(d) Each Inspector General covered by this section shall report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate within 5 calendar days any failures to comply with this requirement.

SEC. 419. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, on and after the date of enactment of this Act (without regard to fiscal year)—

(1) subsections (c) and (d) of section 395.3 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, as codified on the day before the date of enactment of this Act, are null and void; and

(2) section 395.3(c) of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, as in effect on December 26, 2011, is hereby restored to full force and effect.

SEC. 420. For an additional amount for the Emergency Relief Program as authorized by section 125 of title 23, United States Code, $528,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SEC. 421. For an additional amount for ''Department of Housing and Urban Development, Community Planning and Development, Community Development Fund'', $400,000,000, to remain available until expended, which amounts shall be allocated and used under the same authority and conditions as—

(1) the additional appropriations for fiscal year 2016 in section 145(a) of division C of Public Law 114–223 and for fiscal year 2017 in section 192(a) of division C of Public Law 114–223 (as added by section 101(3) of division A of Public Law 114–254) (except for the last proviso under such section 145(a) and the proviso under such section 192);

(2) the additional appropriation for fiscal year 2016 in section 420 of title IV of division L of Public Law 114–113 (except for the last two provisos under such section); and

(3) in section 145(a) of division C of Public Law 114–223 (except for the last proviso under such section 145(a)), for additional major disasters declared in calendar year 2017 or later until such funds are fully allocated:

Provided, That amounts authorized for use under section 192(b) of division C of Public Law 114–223 (as added by section 101(3) of division A of Public Law 114–254) may be used for necessary costs, including information technology costs, of administering and overseeing the obligation and expenditure of amounts made available under this section: *Provided further*, That amounts made available by this section shall be designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SEC. 422. (a) A State or territory, as defined in section 165 of title 23, United States Code, may use for any project eligible under section 133(b) of title 23 or section 165 of title 23 and located within the boundary of the State or territory any earmarked amount, and any associated obligation limitation, provided that the Department of Transportation for the State or territory for which the earmarked amount was originally designated or directed notifies the Secretary of Transportation of its intent to use its authority under this section and submits a quarterly report to the Secretary identifying the projects to which the funding would be applied. Notwithstanding the original period of availability of funds to be obligated under this section, such funds and associated obligation limitation shall remain available for obligation for a period of 3 fiscal years after the fiscal year in which the Secretary of Transportation is notified. The Federal share of the cost of a project carried out with funds made available under this section shall be the same as associated with the earmark.

(b) In this section, the term ''earmarked amount'' means—

(1) congressionally directed spending, as defined in rule XLIV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, identified in a prior law, report, or joint explanatory statement, which was authorized to be appropriated or appropriated more than 10 fiscal years prior to the current fiscal year, and administered by the Federal Highway Administration; or

(2) a congressional earmark, as defined in rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives identified in a prior law, report, or joint explanatory statement, which was authorized to be appropriated or appropriated more than 10 fiscal years prior to the current fiscal year, and administered by the Federal Highway Administration.

(c) The authority under subsection (a) may be exercised only for those projects or activities that have obligated less than 10 percent of the amount made available for obligation as of October 1 of the current fiscal year, and shall be applied to projects within the same general geographic area within 100 miles for which the funding was designated, except that a State or territory may apply such authority to unexpended balances of funds from projects or activities the State or territory certifies have been closed and for which payments have been made under a final voucher.

(d) The Secretary shall submit consolidated reports of the information provided by the States and territories each quarter to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations.

SEC. 423. (a) Section 1105(c) of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(89) United States Route 67 from Interstate 40 in North Little Rock, Arkansas, to United States Route 412.

''(90) The Edward T. Breathitt Parkway from Interstate 24 to Interstate 69.''.

(b) Section 1105(e)(5)(A) of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 is amended in the first sentence by striking ''and subsection (c)(83)'' and inserting ''subsection (c)(83), subsection (c)(89), and subsection (c)(90)''.

(c) Section 1105(e)(5)(C)(i) of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 is amended by adding at the end the following: ''The route referred to in subsection (c)(89) is designated as Interstate Route I–57. The route referred to in subsection (c)(90) is designated as Interstate Route I–169.''.

This division may be cited as the ''Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017''.

DIVISION L—MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS—ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2017

TITLE I

OVERSEAS CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY

For an additional amount for ''Military Construction, Army'', $39,500,000, to remain available until September 30, 2021: *Provided*, That such funds may be obligated and expended to carry out planning and design and military construction projects authorized by law: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS

For an additional amount for ''Military Construction, Navy and Marine Corps'', $66,708,000, to remain available until September 30, 2021: *Provided*, That such funds may be obligated and expended to carry out planning and design and military construction projects authorized by law: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR FORCE

For an additional amount for ''Military Construction, Air Force'', $105,300,000, to remain available until September 30, 2021: *Provided*, That such funds may be obligated and expended to carry out planning and design and military construction projects authorized by law: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

For an additional amount for ''Military Construction, Army National Guard'', $12,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2021: *Provided*, That such funds may be obligated and expended to carry out planning and design and military construction projects authorized by law: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to

section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR NATIONAL GUARD

For an additional amount for ''Military Construction, Air National Guard'', $13,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2021: *Provided*, That such funds may be obligated and expended to carry out planning and design and military construction projects authorized by law: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY RESERVE

For an additional amount for ''Military Construction, Army Reserve'', $10,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2021: *Provided*, That such funds may be obligated and expended to carry out planning and design and military construction projects authorized by law: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, NAVY RESERVE

For an additional amount for ''Military Construction, Navy Reserve'', $4,525,000, to remain available until September 30, 2021: *Provided*, That such funds may be obligated and expended to carry out planning and design and military construction projects authorized by law: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR FORCE RESERVE

For an additional amount for ''Military Construction, Air Force Reserve'', $9,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2021: *Provided*, That such funds may be obligated and expended to carry out planning and design and military construction projects authorized by law: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION—THIS TITLE

(RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

SEC. 101. Of the unobligated balances made available by division I of Public Law 113–235 for ''European Reassurance Initiative Military Construction'' for ''Military Construction, Air Force'', $12,300,000 are hereby rescinded: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

TITLE II

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

MEDICAL SERVICES

For an additional amount for ''Medical Services'', $50,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018: *Provided*, That such funds shall be for opioid and substance abuse prevention and treatment, and further implementation of the Jason Simcakoski Memorial and Promise Act (Title IX of Public Law 114–198).

TITLE III

GENERAL PROVISION—THIS DIVISION

SEC. 301. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds made available in this division are in addition to amounts appropriated or otherwise made available for the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs for fiscal year 2017: *Provided*, That such amounts shall be subject to the terms and conditions set forth in division A of Public Law 114–223.

This division may be cited as ''Military Construction and Veterans Affairs—Additional Appropriations Act, 2017''.

DIVISION M—OTHER MATTERS

TITLE I—HEALTH BENEFITS FOR MINERS ACT OF 2017

SEC. 101. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as ''Health Benefits for Miners Act of 2017''.

SEC. 102. EXTENSION OF TANF PROGRAM AND DETERMINING WHAT WORKS TO MOVE WELFARE RECIPIENTS INTO JOBS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Each of the following provisions of the Social Security Act is amended by striking ''fiscal year 2012'' each place it appears and inserting ''each of fiscal years 2017 and 2018'':

(1) Subparagraphs (A) and (C) of section 403(a)(1) (42 U.S.C. 603(a)(1)).

(2) Section 403(a)(2)(D) (42 U.S.C. 603(a)(2)(D)), except that the 2nd sentence of such section is amended by striking ''fiscal year 2012'' and inserting ''fiscal year 2017 or 2018''.

(3) Paragraphs (1)(A) and (2)(A) of section 412(a) (42 U.S.C. 612(a)).

(4) Section 418(a)(3) (42 U.S.C. 618(a)(3)).

(5) Section 1108(b)(2) (42 U.S.C. 1308(b)(2)).

(b) CONTINGENCY FUND.—Section 403(b)(2) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 603(b)(2)) is amended to read as follows:

''(2) DEPOSITS INTO FUND.—Out of any money in the Treasury of the United States not otherwise appropriated, there are appropriated for fiscal year 2018 such sums as are necessary for payment to the Fund in a total amount not to exceed $608,000,000.''.

(c) STRENGTHENING WELFARE RESEARCH AND EVALUATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF A WHAT WORKS CLEARINGHOUSE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 413 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 613) is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 413. EVALUATION OF TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES AND RELATED PROGRAMS.

''(a) EVALUATION OF THE IMPACTS OF TANF.—The Secretary shall conduct research on the effect of State programs funded under this part and any other State program funded with qualified State expenditures (as defined in section 409(a)(7)(B)(i)) on employment, self-sufficiency, child well-being, unmarried births, marriage, poverty, economic mobility, and other factors as determined by the Secretary.

''(b) EVALUATION OF GRANTS TO IMPROVE CHILD WELL-BEING BY PROMOTING HEALTHY MARRIAGE AND RESPONSIBLE FATHERHOOD.—The Secretary shall conduct research to determine the effects of the grants made under section 403(a)(2) on child well-being, marriage, family stability, economic mobility, poverty, and other factors as determined by the Secretary.

''(c) DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION.—The Secretary shall, in consultation with States receiving funds provided under this part, develop methods of disseminating information on any research, evaluation, or study conducted under this section, including facilitating the sharing of information and best practices among States and localities.

''(d) STATE-INITIATED EVALUATIONS.—A State shall be eligible to receive funding to evaluate the State program funded under this part or any other State program funded with qualified State expenditures (as defined in section 409(a)(7)(B)(i)) if—

''(1) the State submits to the Secretary a description of the proposed evaluation;

''(2) the Secretary determines that the design and approach of the proposed evaluation is rigorous and is likely to yield information that is credible and will be useful to other States; and

''(3) unless waived by the Secretary, the State contributes to the cost of the evaluation, from non-Federal sources, an amount equal to at least 25 percent of the cost of the proposed evaluation.

''(e) CENSUS BUREAU RESEARCH.—

''(1) The Bureau of the Census shall implement or enhance household surveys of program participation, in consultation with the Secretary and the Bureau of Labor Statistics and made available to interested parties, to allow for the assessment of the outcomes of continued welfare reform on the economic and child well-being of low-income families with children, including those who received assistance or services from a State program funded under this part or any other State program funded with qualified State expenditures (as defined in section 409(a)(7)(B)(i)). The content of the surveys should include such information as may be necessary to examine the issues of unmarried childbearing, marriage, welfare dependency and compliance with work requirements, the beginning and ending of spells of assistance, work, earnings and employment stability, and the well-being of children.

''(2) To carry out the activities specified in paragraph (1), the Bureau of the Census, the Secretary, and the Bureau of Labor Statistics shall consider ways to improve the surveys and data derived from the surveys to—

''(A) address under reporting of the receipt of means-tested benefits and tax benefits for low-income individuals and families;

''(B) increase understanding of poverty spells and long-term poverty, including by facilitating the matching of information to better understand intergenerational poverty;

''(C) generate a better geographical understanding of poverty such as through State-based estimates and measures of neighborhood poverty;

''(D) increase understanding of the effects of means-tested benefits and tax benefits on the earnings and incomes of low-income families; and

''(E) improve how poverty and economic well-being are measured, including through the use of consumption measures, material deprivation measures, social exclusion measures, and economic and social mobility measures.

''(f) RESEARCH AND EVALUATION CONDUCTED UNDER THIS SECTION.—Research and evaluation conducted under this section designed to determine the effects of a program or policy (other than research conducted under subsection (e)) shall use experimental designs using random assignment or other reliable, evidence-based research methodologies that allow for the strongest possible causal inferences when random assignment is not feasible.

''(g) DEVELOPMENT OF WHAT WORKS CLEARINGHOUSE OF PROVEN AND PROMISING APPROACHES TO MOVE WELFARE RECIPIENTS INTO WORK.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Labor, shall develop a database (which shall be referred to as the 'What Works Clearinghouse of Proven and Promising Projects to Move Welfare Recipients into Work') of the projects that used a proven approach or a promising approach in moving welfare recipients into work, based on independent, rigorous evaluations of the projects. The database shall include a separate listing of projects that used a developmental approach in delivering services and a further separate listing of the projects with no or negative effects. The Secretary shall add to the What Works Clearinghouse of Proven and Promising Projects to Move Welfare Recipients into Work data about the projects that, based on an independent, well-conducted experimental evaluation of a program or project, using random assignment or other research methodologies that allow for the strongest possible causal inferences, have shown they are proven, promising, developmental, or ineffective approaches.

''(2) CRITERIA FOR EVIDENCE OF EFFECTIVENESS OF APPROACH.—The Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Labor and organizations with experience in evaluating research on the effectiveness of various approaches in delivering services to move welfare recipients into work, shall—

''(A) establish criteria for evidence of effectiveness; and

''(B) ensure that the process for establishing the criteria—

''(i) is transparent;

''(ii) is consistent across agencies;

''(iii) provides opportunity for public comment; and

''(iv) takes into account efforts of Federal agencies to identify and publicize effective interventions, including efforts at the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Education, and the Department of Justice.

''(h) APPROPRIATION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Of the amount appropriated by section 403(a)(1) for each fiscal year, 0.33 percent shall be available for research, technical assistance, and evaluation under this section.

''(2) ALLOCATION.—Of the amount made available under paragraph (1) for each fiscal year, the Secretary shall make available $10,000,000 plus such additional amount as the Secretary deems necessary and appropriate, to carry out subsection (e).

''(3) BASELINE.—The baseline established pursuant to section 257 of the Balanced Budget and Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 907(b)(2)) for the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program shall be recorded by the Office of Management and Budget and the Congressional Budget Office at the level prior to any transfers recorded pursuant to section 413(h) of this Act.''.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 403(a)(1)(B) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 603(a)(1)(B)) is amended by inserting '', reduced by the percentage specified in section 413(h)(1) with respect to the fiscal year,'' before ''as the amount''.

SEC. 103. FULL FUNDING FOR STATE COURTS TO IMPROVE THE HANDLING OF CHILD WELFARE CASES.

Out of any money in the Treasury of the United States not otherwise appropriated, there are hereby appropriated for fiscal year 2017 $20,000,000 for grants under section 438 of the Social Security Act, in addition to any other amounts appropriated for such purpose. The amounts appropriated by the preceding sentence shall be considered to be amounts reserved under section 436(b)(2) of such Act for fiscal year 2017, for purposes of clauses (ii) and (iii) of section 438(c)(3)(A) of such Act.

SEC. 104. INCLUSION OF CERTAIN RETIREES IN THE MULTIEMPLOYER HEALTH BENEFIT PLAN.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 402(h)(2)(C) of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 (30 U.S.C. 1232(h)(2)(C)) is amended—

(1) by striking clauses (ii), (iii), and (iv); and

(2) by inserting after clause (i) the following:

''(ii) CALCULATION OF EXCESS.—The excess determined under clause (i) shall be calculated by taking into account only—

''(I) those beneficiaries actually enrolled in the Plan as of the date of the enactment of the Health Benefits for Miners Act of 2017 who are eligible to receive health benefits under the Plan on the first day of the calendar year for which the transfer is made, other than those beneficiaries enrolled in the Plan under the terms of a participation agreement with the current or former employer of such beneficiaries; and

''(II) those beneficiaries whose health benefits, defined as those benefits payable, following death or retirement or upon a finding of disability, directly by an employer in the bituminous coal industry under a coal wage agreement (as defined in section 9701(b)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986), would be denied or reduced as a result of a bankruptcy proceeding commenced in 2012 or 2015.

For purposes of subclause (I), a beneficiary enrolled in the Plan as of the date of the enactment of the Health Benefits for Miners Act of 2017 shall be deemed to have been eligible to receive health benefits under the Plan on January 1, 2017.

''(iii) ELIGIBILITY OF CERTAIN RETIREES.—Individuals referred to in clause (ii)(II) shall be treated as eligible to receive health benefits under the Plan.

''(iv) REQUIREMENTS FOR TRANSFER.—The amount of the transfer otherwise determined under this subparagraph for a fiscal year shall be reduced by any amount transferred for the fiscal year to the Plan, to pay benefits required under the Plan, from a voluntary employees' beneficiary association established as a result of a bankruptcy proceeding described in clause (ii).''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to fiscal years beginning after September 30, 2016.

SEC. 105. CUSTOMS USER FEES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 13031(j)(3)(A) of the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 (19 U.S.C. 58c(j)(3)(A)) is amended by striking ''September 30, 2025'' and inserting ''January 14, 2026''.

(b) RATE FOR MERCHANDISE PROCESSING FEES.—Section 503 of the United States–Korea Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act (Public Law 112–41; 19 U.S.C. 3805 note) is amended by striking ''September 30, 2025'' and inserting ''January 14, 2026''.

TITLE II—PUERTO RICO SECTION 1108(g) AMENDMENT OF 2017

SEC. 201. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as ''Puerto Rico Section 1108(g) Amendment of 2017''.

SEC. 202. PUERTO RICO SECTION 1108(g) AMENDMENT OF 2017.

(a) Section 1108(g) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1308(g)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (4), by inserting ''and with respect to fiscal years beginning with fiscal year 2017, if Puerto Rico qualifies for a payment under section 1903(a)(6) for a calendar quarter (beginning on or after July 1, 2017) of such fiscal year'' after ''1903(a)(3)''; and

(2) in paragraph (5)—

(A) in the first sentence, by striking ''The Secretary'' and inserting ''(A) Subject to subparagraph (B), the Secretary''; and

(B) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(B) The amount of the increase otherwise provided under subparagraph (A) for Puerto Rico shall be further increased by $295,900,000.''.

(b) All the unobligated amounts available under section 1323(c)(1) of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (42 U.S.C. 18043(c)(1)) are rescinded immediately upon the date of the enactment of this section.

TITLE III—GENERAL PROVISION

SEC. 301. BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

(a) STATUTORY PAYGO SCORECARDS.—The budgetary effects of this division and each succeeding division shall not be entered on either PAYGO scorecard maintained pursuant to section 4(d) of the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010.

(b) SENATE PAYGO SCORECARDS.—The budgetary effects of this division and each succeeding division shall not be entered on any PAYGO scorecard maintained for purposes of section 201 of S. Con. Res. 21 (110th Congress).

(c) CLASSIFICATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.—Notwithstanding Rule 3 of the Budget Scorekeeping Guidelines set forth in the joint explanatory statement of the committee of conference accompanying Conference Report 105–217 and section 250(c)(8) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, the budgetary effects of this division and each succeeding division shall not be estimated—

(1) for purposes of section 251 of such Act; and

(2) for purposes of paragraph (4)(C) of section 3 of the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 as being included in an appropriation Act.

DIVISION N—INTELLIGENCE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017

SEC. 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This division may be cited as the ''Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017''.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this division is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
Sec. 2. Definitions.
Sec. 3. Explanatory statement.

TITLE I—INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES

Sec. 101. Authorization of appropriations.
Sec. 102. Classified Schedule of Authorizations.
Sec. 103. Personnel ceiling adjustments.
Sec. 104. Intelligence Community Management Account.

TITLE II—CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY RETIREMENT AND DISABILITY SYSTEM

Sec. 201. Authorization of appropriations.

TITLE III—GENERAL INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY MATTERS

Sec. 301. Restriction on conduct of intelligence activities.
Sec. 302. Increase in employee compensation and benefits authorized by law.
Sec. 303. Support to nonprofit organizations assisting intelligence community employees.
Sec. 304. Promotion of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education in the intelligence community.

Sec. 305. Retention of employees of the intelligence community who have science, technology, engineering, or mathematics expertise.
Sec. 306. Management of intelligence community personnel.
Sec. 307. Notification of repair or modification of facilities to be used primarily by the intelligence community.
Sec. 308. Guidance and reporting requirement regarding the interactions between the intelligence community and entertainment industry.
Sec. 309. Protections for independent inspectors general of certain elements of the intelligence community.
Sec. 310. Congressional oversight of policy directives and guidance.
Sec. 311. Notification of memoranda of understanding.
Sec. 312. Technical correction to Executive Schedule.
Sec. 313. Maximum amount charged for declassification reviews.
TITLE IV—MATTERS RELATING TO ELEMENTS OF THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY
Subtitle A—Office of the Director of National Intelligence
Sec. 401. Designation of the Director of the National Counterintelligence and Security Center.
Sec. 402. Analyses and impact statements by Director of National Intelligence regarding investment into the United States.
Sec. 403. Assistance for governmental entities and private entities in recognizing online violent extremist content.
Subtitle B—Central Intelligence Agency
Sec. 411. Enhanced death benefits for personnel of the Central Intelligence Agency.
Sec. 412. Pay and retirement authorities of the Inspector General of the Central Intelligence Agency.
Subtitle C—Other Elements
Sec. 421. Enhancing the technical workforce for the Federal Bureau of Investigation.
Sec. 422. Plan on assumption of certain weather missions by the National Reconnaissance Office.
TITLE V—MATTERS RELATING TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES
Sec. 501. Committee to counter active measures by the Russian Federation to exert covert influence over peoples and governments.
Sec. 502. Strict enforcement of travel protocols and procedures of accredited diplomatic and consular personnel of the Russian Federation in the United States.
Sec. 503. Study and report on enhanced intelligence and information sharing with Open Skies Treaty member states.
TITLE VI—REPORTS AND OTHER MATTERS
Sec. 601. Declassification review with respect to detainees transferred from United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.
Sec. 602. Cyber Center for Education and Innovation-Home of the National Cryptologic Museum.
Sec. 603. Report on national security systems.
Sec. 604. Joint facilities certification.
Sec. 605. Leadership and management of space activities.
Sec. 606. Advances in life sciences and biotechnology.
Sec. 607. Reports on declassification proposals.
Sec. 608. Improvement in Government classification and declassification.
Sec. 609. Report on implementation of research and development recommendations.
Sec. 610. Report on Intelligence Community Research and Development Corps.
Sec. 611. Report on information relating to academic programs, scholarships, fellowships, and internships sponsored, administered, or used by the intelligence community.
Sec. 612. Report on intelligence community employees detailed to National Security Council.
Sec. 613. Intelligence community reporting to Congress on foreign fighter flows.
Sec. 614. Report on cybersecurity threats to seaports of the United States and maritime shipping.
Sec. 615. Report on reprisals against contractors of the intelligence community.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this division:

(1) CONGRESSIONAL INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEES.—The term ''congressional intelligence committees'' means—

(A) the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate; and

(B) the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives.

(2) INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY.—The term ''intelligence community'' has the meaning given that term in section 3(4) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003(4)).

SEC. 3. EXPLANATORY STATEMENT.

The explanatory statement regarding this division, printed in the House section of the Congressional Record on or about May 3, 2017, by the Chairman of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives, shall have the same effect with respect to the implementation of this division as if it were a joint explanatory statement of a committee of conference.

TITLE I—INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES

SEC. 101. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Funds are hereby authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 2017 for the conduct of the intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the following elements of the United States Government:

(1) The Office of the Director of National Intelligence.

(2) The Central Intelligence Agency.

(3) The Department of Defense.

(4) The Defense Intelligence Agency.

(5) The National Security Agency.

(6) The Department of the Army, the Department of the Navy, and the Department of the Air Force.

(7) The Coast Guard.

(8) The Department of State.

(9) The Department of the Treasury.

(10) The Department of Energy.

(11) The Department of Justice.

(12) The Federal Bureau of Investigation.

(13) The Drug Enforcement Administration.

(14) The National Reconnaissance Office.

(15) The National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency.

(16) The Department of Homeland Security.

SEC. 102. CLASSIFIED SCHEDULE OF AUTHORIZATIONS.

(a) SPECIFICATIONS OF AMOUNTS.—The amounts authorized to be appropriated under section 101 and, subject to section 103, the authorized personnel ceilings as of September 30, 2017, for the conduct of the intelligence activities of the elements listed in paragraphs (1) through (16) of section 101, are those specified in the classified Schedule of Authorizations prepared to accompany this division of this Act.

(b) AVAILABILITY OF CLASSIFIED SCHEDULE OF AUTHORIZATIONS.—

(1) AVAILABILITY.—The classified Schedule of Authorizations referred to in subsection (a) shall be made available to the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate, the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives, and to the President.

(2) DISTRIBUTION BY THE PRESIDENT.—Subject to paragraph (3), the President shall provide for suitable distribution of the classified Schedule of Authorizations referred to in subsection (a), or of appropriate portions of such Schedule, within the executive branch.

(3) LIMITS ON DISCLOSURE.—The President shall not publicly disclose the classified Schedule of Authorizations or any portion of such Schedule except—

(A) as provided in section 601(a) of the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007 (50 U.S.C. 3306(a));

(B) to the extent necessary to implement the budget; or

(C) as otherwise required by law.

SEC. 103. PERSONNEL CEILING ADJUSTMENTS.

(a) AUTHORITY FOR INCREASES.—The Director of National Intelligence may authorize employment of civilian personnel in excess of the number authorized for fiscal year 2017 by the classified Schedule of Authorizations referred to in section 102(a) if the Director of National Intelligence determines that such action is necessary to the performance of important intelligence functions, except that the number of personnel employed in excess of the number authorized under such section may not, for any element of the intelligence community, exceed—

(1) 3 percent of the number of civilian personnel authorized under such schedule for such element; or

(2) 10 percent of the number of civilian personnel authorized under such schedule for such element for the purposes of converting the performance of any function by contractors to performance by civilian personnel.

(b) TREATMENT OF CERTAIN PERSONNEL.—The Director of National Intelligence shall establish guidelines that govern, for each element of the intelligence community, the treatment under the personnel levels authorized under section 102(a), including any exemption from such personnel levels, of employment or assignment in—

(1) a student program, trainee program, or similar program;

(2) a reserve corps or as a reemployed annuitant; or

(3) details, joint duty, or long-term, full-time training.

(c) NOTICE TO CONGRESSIONAL INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEES.—Not later than 15 days prior to the exercise of an authority described in subsection (a), the Director of National Intelligence shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees—

(1) a written notice of the exercise of such authority; and

(2) in the case of an exercise of such authority subject to the limitation in subsection (a)(2), a written justification for the

contractor conversion that includes a comparison of whole of government costs.

SEC. 104. INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT ACCOUNT.

(a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated for the Intelligence Community Management Account of the Director of National Intelligence for fiscal year 2017 the sum of $563,588,000. Within such amount, funds identified in the classified Schedule of Authorizations referred to in section 102(a) for advanced research and development shall remain available until September 30, 2018.

(b) AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL LEVELS.—The elements within the Intelligence Community Management Account of the Director of National Intelligence are authorized 787 positions as of September 30, 2017. Personnel serving in such elements may be permanent employees of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence or personnel detailed from other elements of the United States Government.

(c) CLASSIFIED AUTHORIZATIONS.—

(1) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—In addition to amounts authorized to be appropriated for the Intelligence Community Management Account by subsection (a), there are authorized to be appropriated for the Intelligence Community Management Account for fiscal year 2017 such additional amounts as are specified in the classified Schedule of Authorizations referred to in section 102(a). Such additional amounts made available for advanced research and development shall remain available until September 30, 2018.

(2) AUTHORIZATION OF PERSONNEL.—In addition to the personnel authorized by subsection (b) for elements of the Intelligence Community Management Account as of September 30, 2017, there are authorized such additional personnel for the Community Management Account as of that date as are specified in the classified Schedule of Authorizations referred to in section 102(a).

TITLE II—CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY RETIREMENT AND DISABILITY SYSTEM

SEC. 201. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There is authorized to be appropriated for the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability Fund for fiscal year 2017 the sum of $514,000,000.

TITLE III—GENERAL INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY MATTERS

SEC. 301. RESTRICTION ON CONDUCT OF INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES.

The authorization of appropriations by this division shall not be deemed to constitute authority for the conduct of any intelligence activity which is not otherwise authorized by the Constitution or the laws of the United States.

SEC. 302. INCREASE IN EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS AUTHORIZED BY LAW.

Appropriations authorized by this division for salary, pay, retirement, and other benefits for Federal employees may be increased by such additional or supplemental amounts as may be necessary for increases in such compensation or benefits authorized by law.

SEC. 303. SUPPORT TO NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS ASSISTING INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY EMPLOYEES.

(a) DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE.—Section 102A of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3024) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(y) FUNDRAISING.—(1) The Director of National Intelligence may engage in fundraising in an official capacity for the benefit of nonprofit organizations that—

''(A) provide support to surviving family members of a deceased employee of an element of the intelligence community; or

''(B) otherwise provide support for the welfare, education, or recreation of employees of an element of the intelligence community, former employees of an element of the intelligence community, or family members of such employees.

''(2) In this subsection, the term 'fundraising' means the raising of funds through the active participation in the promotion, production, or presentation of an event designed to raise funds and does not include the direct solicitation of money by any other means.

''(3) Not later than 7 days after the date the Director engages in fundraising authorized by this subsection or at the time the decision is made to participate in such fundraising, the Director shall notify the congressional intelligence committees of such fundraising.

''(4) The Director, in consultation with the Director of the Office of Government Ethics, shall issue regulations to carry out the authority provided in this subsection. Such regulations shall ensure that such authority is exercised in a manner that is consistent with all relevant ethical constraints and principles, including the avoidance of any prohibited conflict of interest or appearance of impropriety.''.

(b) DIRECTOR OF THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY.—Section 12(f) of the Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949 (50 U.S.C. 3512(f)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(3) Not later than the date that is 7 days after the date the Director engages in fundraising authorized by this subsection or at the time the decision is made to participate in such fundraising, the Director shall notify the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives of the fundraising.''.

SEC. 304. PROMOTION OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND MATHEMATICS EDUCATION IN THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY.

(a) REQUIREMENT FOR INVESTMENT STRATEGY FOR STEM RECRUITING AND OUTREACH ACTIVITIES.—Along with the budget for fiscal year 2018 submitted by the President pursuant to section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code, the Director of National Intelligence shall submit a five-year investment strategy for outreach and recruiting efforts in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM), to include cybersecurity and computer literacy.

(b) REQUIREMENT FOR INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY PLANS FOR STEM RECRUITING AND OUTREACH ACTIVITIES.—For each of the fiscal years 2018 through 2022, the head of each element of the intelligence community shall submit an investment plan along with the materials submitted as justification of the budget request of such element that supports the strategy required by subsection (a).

SEC. 305. RETENTION OF EMPLOYEES OF THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY WHO HAVE SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, OR MATHEMATICS EXPERTISE.

(a) SPECIAL RATES OF PAY FOR CERTAIN OCCUPATIONS IN THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY.—The National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 113A the following:

''SEC. 113B. SPECIAL PAY AUTHORITY FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, OR MATHEMATICS POSITIONS.

''(a) AUTHORITY TO SET SPECIAL RATES OF PAY.—Notwithstanding part III of title 5, United States Code, the head of each element of the intelligence community may establish higher minimum rates of pay for 1 or more categories of positions in such element that require expertise in science, technology, engineering, or mathematics (STEM).

''(b) MAXIMUM SPECIAL RATE OF PAY.—A minimum rate of pay established for a category of positions under subsection (a) may not exceed the maximum rate of basic pay (excluding any locality-based comparability payment under section 5304 of title 5, United States Code, or similar provision of law) for the position in that category of positions without the authority of subsection (a) by more than 30 percent, and no rate may be established under this section in excess of the rate of basic pay payable for level IV of the Executive Schedule under section 5315 of title 5, United States Code.

''(c) NOTIFICATION OF REMOVAL FROM SPECIAL RATE OF PAY.—If the head of an element of the intelligence community removes a category of positions from coverage under a rate of pay authorized by subsection (a) after that rate of pay takes effect—

''(1) the head of such element shall provide notice of the loss of coverage of the special rate of pay to each individual in such category; and

''(2) the loss of coverage will take effect on the first day of the first pay period after the date of the notice.

''(d) REVISION OF SPECIAL RATES OF PAY.—Subject to the limitations in this section, rates of pay established under this section by the head of the element of the intelligence community may be revised from time to time by the head of such element and the revisions have the force and effect of statute.

''(e) REGULATIONS.—The head of each element of the intelligence community shall promulgate regulations to carry out this section with respect to such element, which shall, to the extent practicable, be comparable to the regulations promulgated to carry out section 5305 of title 5, United States Code.

''(f) REPORTS.—

''(1) REQUIREMENT FOR REPORTS.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017, the head of each element of the intelligence community shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees a report on any rates of pay established for such element under this section.

''(2) CONTENTS.—Each report required by paragraph (1) shall contain for each element of the intelligence community—

''(A) a description of any rates of pay established under subsection (a); and

''(B) the number of positions in such element that will be subject to such rates of pay.''.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in the first section of the National Security Act of 1947 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 113A the following:

''Sec. 113B. Special pay authority for science, technology, engineering, or math positions.''.

SEC. 306. MANAGEMENT OF INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY PERSONNEL.

(a) MULTI-SECTOR WORKFORCE INITIATIVE.—

(1) REQUIREMENT.—Beginning on October 1, 2018, the Director of National Intelligence shall improve management of the workforce of the intelligence community by enabling elements of the intelligence community to build and maintain an appropriate mix between employees of the United States Government and core contractors.

(2) BRIEFING TO CONGRESS.—Not later than July 1, 2017, and each 120 days thereafter until July 1, 2018, the Director of National Intelligence shall brief the congressional intelligence committees on the initiative required by paragraph (1).

(b) MANAGEMENT BASED ON WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS AND AUTHORIZED FUNDING.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Beginning on October 1, 2018, the personnel levels of the intelligence community shall be managed each fiscal year on the basis of—

(A) the workload required to carry out the functions and activities of the intelligence community; and

(B) the funds made available to the intelligence community in accordance with section 504 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3094).

(2) PROHIBITION ON CONSTRAINTS OR LIMITATIONS.—Beginning on October 1, 2018, the management of such personnel in the intelligence community in any fiscal year shall not be subject to an externally imposed constraint or limitation expressed in terms of man years, end strength, full-time equivalent positions, or maximum number of employees.

(c) BRIEFING AND REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence shall issue a written report and provide a briefing to the congressional intelligence committees on—

(1) the methodology used to calculate the number of civilian and contractor full-time equivalent positions in the intelligence community;

(2) the cost analysis tool used to calculate personnel costs in the intelligence community; and

(3) the plans of the Director of National Intelligence and the head of each element of the intelligence community to implement a multi-sector workforce as required by subsections (a) and (b).

(d) REPORT.—Not later than 240 days after date of the enactment of this Act, the Inspector General of the Intelligence Community shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees a written report on the accuracy of intelligence community data for the numbers and costs associated with the civilian and contractor workforce in each element of the intelligence community.

SEC. 307. NOTIFICATION OF REPAIR OR MODIFICATION OF FACILITIES TO BE USED PRIMARILY BY THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY.

Section 602(a)(2) of the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1995 (50 U.S.C. 3304(a)(2)) is amended by striking ''improvement project to'' and inserting ''project for the improvement, repair, or modification of''.

SEC. 308. GUIDANCE AND REPORTING REQUIREMENT REGARDING THE INTERACTIONS BETWEEN THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY AND ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ENGAGEMENT.—The term ''engagement''—

(A) means any significant interaction between an element of the intelligence community and an entertainment industry entity for the purposes of contributing to an entertainment product intended to be heard, read, viewed, or otherwise experienced by the public; and

(B) does not include routine inquiries made by the press or news media to the public affairs office of an intelligence community.

(2) ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY ENTITY.—The term ''entertainment industry entity'' means an entity that creates, produces, promotes, or distributes a work of entertainment intended to be heard, read, viewed, or otherwise experienced by an audience, including—

(A) theater productions, motion pictures, radio broadcasts, television broadcasts, podcasts, webcasts, other sound or visual recording, music, or dance;

(B) books and other published material; and

(C) such other entertainment activity, as determined by the Director of National Intelligence.

(b) DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE GUIDANCE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence shall issue, and release to the public, guidance regarding engagements by elements of the intelligence community with entertainment industry entities.

(2) CRITERIA.—The guidance required by paragraph (1) shall—

(A) permit an element of the intelligence community to conduct engagements, if the head of the element, or a designee of such head, provides prior approval; and

(B) require an unclassified annual report to the congressional intelligence committees regarding engagements.

(c) ANNUAL REPORT.—Each report required by subsection (b)(2)(B) shall include the following:

(1) A description of the nature and duration of each engagement included in the review.

(2) The cost incurred by the United States Government for each such engagement.

(3) A description of the benefits to the United States Government for each such engagement.

(4) A determination of whether any information was declassified, and whether any classified information was improperly disclosed, or each such engagement.

(5) A description of the work produced through each such engagement.

SEC. 309. PROTECTIONS FOR INDEPENDENT INSPECTORS GENERAL OF CERTAIN ELEMENTS OF THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY.

(a) LIMITATION ON ACTIVITIES OF EMPLOYEES OF AN OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL.—

(1) LIMITATIONS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence shall develop and implement a uniform policy for each covered office of an inspector general to better ensure the independence of each such office. Such policy shall include—

(A) provisions to prevent any conflict of interest related to a matter any employee of a covered office of an inspector general personally and substantially participated in during previous employment;

(B) standards to ensure personnel of a covered office of an inspector general are free both in fact and in appearance from personal, external, and organizational impairments to independence;

(C) provisions to permit the head of each covered office of an inspector general to waive the application of the policy with respect to an individual if such head—

(i) prepares a written and signed justification for such waiver that sets out, in detail, the need for such waiver, provided that waivers shall not be issued for in fact impairments to independence; and

(ii) submits to the congressional intelligence committees each such justification; and

(D) any other protections the Director determines appropriate.

(2) COVERED OFFICE OF AN INSPECTOR GENERAL DEFINED.—The term ''covered office of an inspector general'' means—

(A) the Office of the Inspector General of the Intelligence Community; and

(B) the office of an inspector general for—

(i) the Office of the Director of National Intelligence;

(ii) the Central Intelligence Agency;

(iii) the National Security Agency;

(iv) the Defense Intelligence Agency;

(v) the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency; and

(vi) the National Reconnaissance Office.

(3) BRIEFING TO THE CONGRESSIONAL INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEES.—Prior to the date that the policy required by paragraph (1) takes effect, the Director of National Intelligence shall provide the congressional intelligence committees a briefing on such policy.

(b) LIMITATION ON ROTATION OF EMPLOYEES OF AN OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL.—Section 102A(l)(3) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3024(l)(3)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(D) The mechanisms prescribed under subparagraph (A) and any other policies of the Director—

''(i) may not require an employee of an office of inspector general for an element of the intelligence community, including the Office of the Inspector General of the Intelligence Community, to rotate to a position in an office or organization of such an element over which such office of inspector general exercises jurisdiction; and

''(ii) shall be implemented in a manner that exempts employees of an office of inspector general from a rotation that may impact the independence of such office.''.

SEC. 310. CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT OF POLICY DIRECTIVES AND GUIDANCE.

(a) COVERED POLICY DOCUMENT DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''covered policy document'' means any classified or unclassified Presidential Policy Directive, Presidential Policy Guidance, or other similar policy document issued by the President, including any classified or unclassified annex to such a Directive, Guidance, or other document, that assigns tasks, roles, or responsibilities to the intelligence community or an element of the intelligence community.

(b) SUBMISSIONS TO CONGRESS.—The Director of National Intelligence shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees the following:

(1) Not later than 15 days after the date that a covered policy document is issued, a written notice of the issuance and a summary of the subject matter addressed by such covered policy document.

(2) Not later than 15 days after the date that the Director issues any guidance or direction on implementation of a covered policy document or implements a covered policy document, a copy of such guidance or direction or a description of such implementation.

(3) Not later than 15 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, for any covered policy document issued prior to such date that is being implemented by any element of the intelligence community or that is in effect on such date—

(A) a written notice that includes the date such covered policy document was issued and a summary of the subject matter addressed by such covered policy document; and

(B) if the Director has issued any guidance or direction on implementation of such covered policy document or is implementing

such covered policy document, a copy of the guidance or direction or a written description of such implementation.

SEC. 311. NOTIFICATION OF MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The head of each element of the intelligence community shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees a copy of each memorandum of understanding or other agreement regarding significant operational activities or policy between or among such element and any other entity or entities of the United States Government—

(1) for such a memorandum or agreement that is in effect on the date of the enactment of this Act, not later than 60 days after such date; and

(2) for such a memorandum or agreement entered into after such date, in a timely manner and not more than 60 days after the date such memorandum or other agreement is entered into.

(b) ADMINISTRATIVE MEMORANDUM OR AGREEMENT.—Nothing in this section may be construed to require an element of the intelligence community to submit to the congressional intelligence committees any memorandum or agreement that is solely administrative in nature, including a memorandum or agreement regarding joint duty or other routine personnel assignments.

SEC. 312. TECHNICAL CORRECTION TO EXECUTIVE SCHEDULE.

Section 5313 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by striking the item relating to ''Director of the National Counter Proliferation Center.''.

SEC. 313. MAXIMUM AMOUNT CHARGED FOR DECLASSIFICATION REVIEWS.

In reviewing and processing a request by a person for the mandatory declassification of information pursuant to Executive Order No. 13526, a successor executive order, or any provision of law, the head of an element of the intelligence community—

(1) may not charge the person reproduction fees in excess of the amount of fees that the head would charge the person for reproduction required in the course of processing a request for information under section 552 of title 5, United States Code (commonly referred to as the ''Freedom of Information Act''); and

(2) may waive or reduce any processing fees in the same manner as the head waives or reduces fees under such section 552.

TITLE IV—MATTERS RELATING TO ELEMENTS OF THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY

Subtitle A—Office of the Director of National Intelligence

SEC. 401. DESIGNATION OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL COUNTERINTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY CENTER.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 902 of the Counterintelligence Enhancement Act of 2002 (50 U.S.C. 3382) is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 902. DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL COUNTERINTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY CENTER.

''(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There shall be a Director of the National Counterintelligence and Security Center (referred to in this section as the 'Director'), who shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

''(b) MISSION.—The mission of the Director shall be to serve as the head of national counterintelligence for the United States Government.

''(c) DUTIES.—Subject to the direction and control of the Director of National Intelligence, the duties of the Director are as follows:

''(1) To carry out the mission referred to in subsection (b).

''(2) To act as chairperson of the National Counterintelligence Policy Board established under section 811 of the Counterintelligence and Security Enhancements Act of 1994 (50 U.S.C. 3381).

''(3) To act as head of the National Counterintelligence and Security Center established under section 904.

''(4) To participate as an observer on such boards, committees, and entities of the executive branch as the Director of National Intelligence considers appropriate for the discharge of the mission and functions of the Director and the National Counterintelligence and Security Center under section 904.''.

(2) TABLE OF CONTENTS AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2003 (Public Law 107–306; 116 Stat. 2383) is amended by striking the item relating to section 902 and inserting the following:

''Sec. 902. Director of the National Counterintelligence and Security Center.''.

(3) TECHNICAL EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) of section 401 of the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016 (division M of Public Law 114–113) shall not take effect, or, if the date of the enactment of this Act is on or after the effective date specified in subsection (b) of such section, such amendment shall be deemed to not have taken effect.

(b) NATIONAL COUNTERINTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY CENTER.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 904 of the Counterintelligence Enhancement Act of 2002 (50 U.S.C. 3383) is amended—

(A) by striking the section heading and inserting ''**NATIONAL COUNTERINTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY CENTER.**''; and

(B) by striking subsections (a), (b), and (c) and inserting the following:

''(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There shall be a National Counterintelligence and Security Center.

''(b) HEAD OF CENTER.—The Director of the National Counterintelligence and Security Center shall be the head of the National Counterintelligence and Security Center.

''(c) LOCATION OF CENTER.—The National Counterintelligence and Security Center shall be located in the Office of the Director of National Intelligence.''.

(2) FUNCTIONS.—Section 904(d) of the Counterintelligence Enhancement Act of 2002 (50 U.S.C. 3383(d)) is amended—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking ''National Counterintelligence Executive, the functions of the Office of the National Counterintelligence Executive'' and inserting ''Director of the National Counterintelligence and Security Center, the functions of the National Counterintelligence and Security Center'';

(B) in paragraph (5), in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking ''In consultation with'' and inserting ''At the direction of''; and

(C) in paragraph (6), in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking ''Office'' and inserting ''National Counterintelligence and Security Center''.

(3) PERSONNEL.—Section 904(f) of the Counterintelligence Enhancement Act of 2002 (50 U.S.C. 3383(f)) is amended—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking ''Office of the National Counterintelligence Executive may consist of personnel employed by the Office'' and inserting ''National Counterintelligence and Security Center may consist of personnel employed by the Center''; and

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking ''National Counterintelligence Executive'' and inserting ''Director of the National Counterintelligence and Security Center''.

(4) TREATMENT OF ACTIVITIES UNDER CERTAIN ADMINISTRATIVE LAWS.—Section 904(g) of the Counterintelligence Enhancement Act of 2002 (50 U.S.C. 3383(g)) is amended by striking ''Office shall be treated as operational files of the Central Intelligence Agency for purposes of section 701 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 431)'' and inserting ''National Counterintelligence and Security Center shall be treated as operational files of the Central Intelligence Agency for purposes of section 701 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3141)''.

(5) OVERSIGHT BY CONGRESS.—Section 904(h) of the Counterintelligence Enhancement Act of 2002 (50 U.S.C. 3383(h)) is amended—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking ''Office of the National Counterintelligence Executive'' and inserting ''National Counterintelligence and Security Center''; and

(B) in paragraphs (1) and (2), by striking ''Office'' and inserting ''Center'' both places that term appears.

(6) TABLE OF CONTENTS AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2003 (Public Law 107–306; 116 Stat. 2383), as amended by subsection (a)(2), is further amended by striking the item relating to section 904 and inserting the following:

''Sec. 904. National Counterintelligence and Security Center.''.

(c) OVERSIGHT OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE CENTERS.—Section 102A(f)(2) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3024(f)(2)) is amended by inserting '', the National Counterproliferation Center, and the National Counterintelligence and Security Center'' after ''National Counterterrorism Center''.

(d) DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL COUNTERINTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY CENTER WITHIN THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE.—Paragraph (8) of section 103(c) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3025(c)) is amended to read as follows:

''(8) The Director of the National Counterintelligence and Security Center.''.

(e) DUTIES OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL COUNTERINTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY CENTER.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 103F of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3031) is amended—

(A) by striking the section heading and inserting ''DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL COUNTERINTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY CENTER'';

(B) in subsection (a)—

(i) by striking the subsection heading and inserting ''DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL COUNTERINTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY CENTER.—''; and

(ii) by striking ''National Counterintelligence Executive under section 902 of the Counterintelligence Enhancement Act of 2002 (title IX of Public Law 107–306; 50 U.S.C. 402b et seq.)'' and inserting ''Director of the National Counterintelligence and Security Center appointed under section 902 of the Counterintelligence Enhancement Act of 2002 (50 U.S.C. 3382)''; and

(C) in subsection (b), by striking ''National Counterintelligence Executive'' and inserting ''Director of the National Counterintelligence and Security Center''.

(2) TABLE OF CONTENTS AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in the first section of the

National Security Act of 1947 is amended by striking the item relating to section 103F and inserting the following:

''Sec. 103F. Director of the National Counterintelligence and Security Center.''.

(f) COORDINATION OF COUNTERINTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES.—Section 811 of the Counterintelligence and Security Enhancements Act of 1994 (50 U.S.C. 3381) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b), by striking ''National Counterintelligence Executive under section 902 of the Counterintelligence Enhancement Act of 2002'' and inserting ''Director of the National Counterintelligence and Security Center appointed under section 902 of the Counterintelligence Enhancement Act of 2002 (50 U.S.C. 3382)'';

(2) in subsection (c)(1), by striking ''National Counterintelligence Executive.'' and inserting ''Director of the National Counterintelligence and Security Center.''; and

(3) in subsection (d)(1)(B)(ii)—

(A) by striking ''National Counterintelligence Executive'' and inserting ''Director of the National Counterintelligence and Security Center''; and

(B) by striking ''by the Office of the National Counterintelligence Executive under section 904(e)(2) of that Act'' and inserting ''pursuant to section 904(d)(2) of that Act (50 U.S.C. 3383(d)(2))''.

(g) INTELLIGENCE AND NATIONAL SECURITY ASPECTS OF ESPIONAGE PROSECUTIONS.—Section 341(b) of the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2004 (Public Law 108–177; 28 U.S.C. 519 note) is amended by striking ''Office of the National Counterintelligence Executive,'' and inserting ''National Counterintelligence and Security Center,''.

SEC. 402. ANALYSES AND IMPACT STATEMENTS BY DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE REGARDING INVESTMENT INTO THE UNITED STATES.

Section 102A of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3024), as amended by section 303, is further amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(z) ANALYSES AND IMPACT STATEMENTS REGARDING PROPOSED INVESTMENT INTO THE UNITED STATES.—(1) Not later than 20 days after the completion of a review or an investigation of any proposed investment into the United States for which the Director has prepared analytic materials, the Director shall submit to the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representative copies of such analytic materials, including any supplements or amendments to such analysis made by the Director.

''(2) Not later than 60 days after the completion of consideration by the United States Government of any investment described in paragraph (1), the Director shall determine whether such investment will have an operational impact on the intelligence community, and, if so, shall submit a report on such impact to the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives. Each such report shall—

''(A) describe the operational impact of the investment on the intelligence community; and

''(B) describe any actions that have been or will be taken to mitigate such impact.''.

SEC. 403. ASSISTANCE FOR GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES AND PRIVATE ENTITIES IN RECOGNIZING ONLINE VIOLENT EXTREMIST CONTENT.

(a) ASSISTANCE TO RECOGNIZE ONLINE VIOLENT EXTREMIST CONTENT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and consistent with the protection of intelligence sources and methods, the Director of National Intelligence shall publish on a publicly available Internet website a list of all logos, symbols, insignia, and other markings commonly associated with, or adopted by, an organization designated by the Secretary of State as a foreign terrorist organization under section 219(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189(a)).

(b) UPDATES.—The Director shall update the list published under subsection (a) every 180 days or more frequently as needed.

Subtitle B—Central Intelligence Agency

SEC. 411. ENHANCED DEATH BENEFITS FOR PERSONNEL OF THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY.

Section 11 of the Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949 (50 U.S.C. 3511) is amended to read as follows:

''BENEFITS AVAILABLE IN EVENT OF THE DEATH OF PERSONNEL

''SEC. 11. (a) AUTHORITY.—The Director may pay death benefits substantially similar to those authorized for members of the Foreign Service pursuant to the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 3901 et seq.) or any other provision of law. The Director may adjust the eligibility for death benefits as necessary to meet the unique requirements of the mission of the Agency.

''(b) REGULATIONS.—Regulations issued pursuant to this section shall be submitted to the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives before such regulations take effect.''.

SEC. 412. PAY AND RETIREMENT AUTHORITIES OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 17(e)(7) of the Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949 (50 U.S.C. 3517(e)(7)) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(C)(i) The Inspector General may designate an officer or employee appointed in accordance with subparagraph (A) as a law enforcement officer solely for purposes of subchapter III of chapter 83 or chapter 84 of title 5, United States Code, if such officer or employee is appointed to a position with responsibility for investigating suspected offenses against the criminal laws of the United States.

''(ii) In carrying out clause (i), the Inspector General shall ensure that any authority under such clause is exercised in a manner consistent with section 3307 of title 5, United States Code, as it relates to law enforcement officers.

''(iii) For purposes of applying sections 3307(d), 8335(b), and 8425(b) of title 5, United States Code, the Inspector General may exercise the functions, powers, and duties of an agency head or appointing authority with respect to the Office.''.

(b) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Subparagraph (C) of section 17(e)(7) of the Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949 (50 U.S.C. 3517(e)(7)), as added by subsection (a), may not be construed to confer on the Inspector General of the Central Intelligence Agency, or any other officer or employee of the Agency, any police or law enforcement or internal security functions or authorities.

Subtitle C—Other Elements

SEC. 421. ENHANCING THE TECHNICAL WORKFORCE FOR THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION.

(a) REPORT REQUIRED.—Building on the basic cyber human capital strategic plan provided to the congressional intelligence committees in 2015, not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act and updated two years thereafter, the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees, the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate, and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives a comprehensive strategic workforce report regarding initiatives to effectively integrate information technology expertise in the investigative process.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The report required by subsection (a) shall include the following:

(1) An assessment, including measurable benchmarks, of progress on initiatives to recruit, train, and retain personnel with the necessary skills and experiences in vital areas, including encryption, cryptography, and big data analytics.

(2) An assessment of whether officers of the Federal Bureau of Investigation who possess such skills are fully integrated into the Bureau's work, including Agent-led investigations.

(3) A description of the quality and quantity of the collaborations between the Bureau and private sector entities on cyber issues, including the status of efforts to benefit from employees with experience transitioning between the public and private sectors.

(4) An assessment of the utility of reinstituting, if applicable, and leveraging the Director's Advisory Board, which was originally constituted in 2005, to provide outside advice on how to better integrate technical expertise with the investigative process and on emerging concerns in cyber-related issues.

SEC. 422. PLAN ON ASSUMPTION OF CERTAIN WEATHER MISSIONS BY THE NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE.

(a) PLAN.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (c), the Director of the National Reconnaissance Office shall develop a plan for the National Reconnaissance Office to address how to carry out covered space-based environmental monitoring missions. Such plan shall include—

(A) a description of the related national security requirements for such missions;

(B) a description of the appropriate manner to meet such requirements; and

(C) the amount of funds that would be necessary to be transferred from the Air Force to the National Reconnaissance Office during fiscal years 2018 through 2022 to carry out such plan.

(2) ACTIVITIES.—In developing the plan under paragraph (1), the Director may conduct pre-acquisition activities, including with respect to requests for information, analyses of alternatives, study contracts, modeling and simulation, and other activities the Director determines necessary to develop such plan.

(3) SUBMISSION.—Not later than July 1, 2017, and except as provided in subsection (c), the Director shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees the plan under paragraph (1).

(b) INDEPENDENT COST ESTIMATE.—The Director of the Cost Assessment Improvement Group of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, in coordination with the Director of Cost Assessment and Program Evaluation, shall certify to the appropriate congressional committees that the amounts of funds identified under subsection (a)(1)(C) as being necessary to transfer are appropriate and include funding for positions and personnel to support program office costs.

(c) WAIVER BASED ON REPORT AND CERTIFICATION OF AIR FORCE ACQUISITION PROGRAM.—The Director of the National Reconnaissance Office may waive the requirement to develop a plan under subsection (a), if the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition Technology, and Logistics and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff jointly submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report by not later than July 1, 2017) that contains—

(1) a certification that the Secretary of the Air Force is carrying out a formal acquisition program that has received Milestone A approval to address the cloud characterization and theater weather imagery requirements of the Department of Defense; and

(2) an identification of the cost, schedule, requirements, and acquisition strategy of such acquisition program.

(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(A) the congressional intelligence committees; and

(B) the congressional defense committees (as defined in section 101(a)(16) of title 10, United States Code).

(2) COVERED SPACE-BASED ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING MISSIONS.—The term ''covered space-based environmental monitoring missions'' means the acquisition programs necessary to meet the national security requirements for cloud characterization and theater weather imagery.

(3) MILESTONE A APPROVAL.—The term ''Milestone A approval'' has the meaning given that term in section 2366a(d) of title 10, United States Code.

TITLE V—MATTERS RELATING TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES

SEC. 501. COMMITTEE TO COUNTER ACTIVE MEASURES BY THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION TO EXERT COVERT INFLUENCE OVER PEOPLES AND GOVERNMENTS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ACTIVE MEASURES BY RUSSIA TO EXERT COVERT INFLUENCE.—The term ''active measures by Russia to exert covert influence'' means activities intended to influence a person or government that are carried out in coordination with, or at the behest of, political leaders or the security services of the Russian Federation and the role of the Russian Federation has been hidden or not acknowledged publicly, including the following:

(A) Establishment or funding of a front group.

(B) Covert broadcasting.

(C) Media manipulation.

(D) Disinformation and forgeries.

(E) Funding agents of influence.

(F) Incitement and offensive counterintelligence.

(G) Assassinations.

(H) Terrorist acts.

(2) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—The term ''appropriate committees of Congress'' means—

(A) the congressional intelligence committees;

(B) the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate; and

(C) the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives.

(b) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established within the executive branch an interagency committee to counter active measures by the Russian Federation to exert covert influence.

(c) MEMBERSHIP.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—

(A) APPOINTMENT.—Each head of an agency or department of the Government set out under subparagraph (B) shall appoint one member of the committee established by subsection (b) from among officials of such agency or department who occupy a position that is required to be appointed by the President, with the advice and consent of the Senate.

(B) HEAD OF AN AGENCY OR DEPARTMENT.—The head of an agency or department of the Government set out under this subparagraph are the following:

(i) The Director of National Intelligence.

(ii) The Secretary of State.

(iii) The Secretary of Defense.

(iv) The Secretary of the Treasury.

(v) The Attorney General.

(vi) The Secretary of Energy.

(vii) The Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

(viii) The head of any other agency or department of the United States Government designated by the President for purposes of this section.

(d) MEETINGS.—The committee shall meet on a regular basis.

(e) DUTIES.—The duties of the committee established by subsection (b) shall be as follows:

(1) To counter active measures by Russia to exert covert influence, including by exposing falsehoods, agents of influence, corruption, human rights abuses, terrorism, and assassinations carried out by the security services or political elites of the Russian Federation or their proxies.

(2) Such other duties as the President may designate for purposes of this section.

(f) STAFF.—The committee established by subsection (b) may employ such staff as the members of such committee consider appropriate.

(g) BUDGET REQUEST.—A request for funds required for the functioning of the committee established by subsection (b) may be included in each budget for a fiscal year submitted by the President pursuant to section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code.

(h) ANNUAL REPORT.—

(1) REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, and consistent with the protection of intelligence sources and methods, the committee established by subsection (b) shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report describing steps being taken by the committee to counter active measures by Russia to exert covert influence.

(2) CONTENT.—Each report required by paragraph (1) shall include the following:

(A) A summary of the active measures by the Russian Federation to exert covert influence during the previous year, including significant incidents and notable trends.

(B) A description of the key initiatives of the committee.

(C) A description of the implementation of the committee's initiatives by the head of an agency or department of the Government set out under subsection (c)(1)(B).

(D) An analysis of the impact of the committee's initiatives.

(E) Recommendations for changes to the committee's initiatives from the previous year.

(3) SEPARATE REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—The requirement to submit an annual report under paragraph (1) is in addition to any other reporting requirements with respect to Russia.

SEC. 502. STRICT ENFORCEMENT OF TRAVEL PROTOCOLS AND PROCEDURES OF ACCREDITED DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR PERSONNEL OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION IN THE UNITED STATES.

(a) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''appropriate committees of Congress'' means—

(1) the congressional intelligence committees;

(2) the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate; and

(3) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives.

(b) ADVANCE NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary of State shall, in coordination with the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Director of National Intelligence, establish a mandatory advance notification regime governing all travel by accredited diplomatic and consular personnel of the Russian Federation in the United States and take necessary action to secure full compliance by Russian personnel and address any noncompliance.

(c) INTERAGENCY COOPERATION.—The Secretary of State, the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the Director of National Intelligence shall develop written mechanisms to share information—

(1) on travel by accredited diplomatic and consular personnel of the Russian Federation who are in the United States; and

(2) on any known or suspected noncompliance by such personnel with the regime required by subsection (b).

(d) QUARTERLY REPORTS.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and quarterly thereafter, and consistent with the protection of intelligence sources and methods—

(1) the Secretary of State shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a written report detailing the number of notifications submitted under the regime required by subsection (b); and

(2) the Secretary of State and the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation shall jointly submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a written report detailing the number of known or suspected violations of such requirements by any accredited diplomatic and consular personnel of the Russian Federation.

SEC. 503. STUDY AND REPORT ON ENHANCED INTELLIGENCE AND INFORMATION SHARING WITH OPEN SKIES TREATY MEMBER STATES.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—The term ''appropriate committees of Congress'' means—

(A) congressional intelligence committees;

(B) the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate; and

(C) the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives.

(2) COVERED STATE PARTY.—The term ''covered state party'' means a foreign country, that—

(A) was a state party to the Open Skies Treaty on February 22, 2016; and

(B) is not the Russian Federation or the Republic of Belarus.

(3) OPEN SKIES TREATY.—The term ''Open Skies Treaty'' means the Treaty on Open Skies, done at Helsinki March 24, 1992, and entered into force January 1, 2002.

(b) FEASIBILITY STUDY.—

(1) REQUIREMENT FOR STUDY.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment

of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence shall conduct and submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a study to determine the feasibility of creating an intelligence sharing arrangement and database to provide covered state parties with imagery that is comparable, delivered more frequently, and in equal or higher resolution than imagery available through the database established under the Open Skies Treaty.

(2) ELEMENTS.—The study required by paragraph (1) shall include an evaluation of the following:

(A) The methods by which the United States could collect and provide imagery, including commercial satellite imagery, national technical means, and through other intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance platforms, under an information sharing arrangement and database referred to in paragraph (1).

(B) The ability of other covered state parties to contribute imagery to the arrangement and database.

(C) Any impediments to the United States and other covered states parties providing such imagery, including any statutory barriers, insufficiencies in the ability to collect the imagery or funding, under such an arrangement.

(D) Whether imagery of Moscow, Chechnya, the international border between Russia and Georgia, Kaliningrad, or the Republic of Belarus could be provided under such an arrangement.

(E) The annual and projected costs associated with the establishment of such an arrangement and database, as compared with costs to the United States and other covered state parties of being parties to the Open Skies Treaty, including Open Skies Treaty plane maintenance, aircraft fuel, crew expenses, mitigation measures necessary associated with Russian Federation overflights of the United States or covered state parties, and new sensor development and acquisition.

(3) SUPPORT FROM OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES.—Each head of a Federal agency shall provide such support to the Director as may be necessary for the Director to conduct the study required by paragraph (1).

(c) REPORT.—

(1) REQUIREMENT FOR REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress the report described in this subsection.

(2) CONTENT OF REPORT.—The report required by paragraph (1) shall include the following:

(A) An intelligence assessment of Russian Federation warfighting doctrine and the extent to which Russian Federation flights under the Open Skies Treaty contribute to such doctrine.

(B) A counterintelligence analysis as to whether the Russian Federation has, could have, or intends to have the capability to exceed the imagery limits set forth in the Open Skies Treaty.

(C) A list of intelligence exchanges with covered state parties that have been updated on the information described in subparagraphs (A) and (B) and the date and form such information was provided.

(d) FORM OF SUBMISSION.—The study required by subsection (b) and the report required by subsection (c) shall be submitted in an unclassified form but may include a classified annex.

TITLE VI—REPORTS AND OTHER MATTERS

SEC. 601. DECLASSIFICATION REVIEW WITH RESPECT TO DETAINEES TRANSFERRED FROM UNITED STATES NAVAL STATION, GUANTANAMO BAY, CUBA.

(a) IN GENERAL.—For each individual detained at United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, who was transferred or released from United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, the Director of National Intelligence shall—

(1)(A) complete a declassification review of intelligence reports regarding past terrorist activities of that individual prepared by the National Counterterrorism Center for the individual's Periodic Review Board sessions, transfer, or release; or

(B) if the individual's transfer or release occurred prior to the date on which the National Counterterrorism Center first began to prepare such reports regarding detainees, such other intelligence report or reports that contain the same or similar information regarding the individual's past terrorist activities;

(2) make available to the public—

(A) any intelligence reports declassified as a result of the declassification review; and

(B) with respect to each individual transferred or released, for whom intelligence reports are declassified as a result of the declassification review, an unclassified summary which shall be prepared by the President of measures being taken by the country to which the individual was transferred or released to monitor the individual and to prevent the individual from carrying out future terrorist activities; and

(3) submit to the congressional intelligence committees a report setting out the results of the declassification review, including a description of intelligence reports covered by the review that were not declassified.

(b) SCHEDULE.—

(1) TRANSFER OR RELEASE PRIOR TO ENACTMENT.—Not later than 210 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence shall submit the report required by subsection (a)(3), which shall include the results of the declassification review completed for each individual detained at United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, who was transferred or released from United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, prior to the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) TRANSFER OR RELEASE AFTER ENACTMENT.—Not later than 120 days after the date an individual detained at United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, on or after the date of the enactment of this Act is transferred or released from United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, the Director shall submit the report required by subsection (a)(3) for such individual.

(c) PAST TERRORIST ACTIVITIES.—For purposes of this section, the past terrorist activities of an individual shall include all terrorist activities conducted by the individual before the individual's transfer to the detention facility at United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, including, at a minimum, the following:

(1) The terrorist organization, if any, with which affiliated.

(2) The terrorist training, if any, received.

(3) The role in past terrorist attacks against United States interests or allies.

(4) The direct responsibility, if any, for the death of United States citizens or members of the Armed Forces.

(5) Any admission of any matter specified in paragraphs (1) through (4).

(6) A description of the intelligence supporting any matter specified in paragraphs (1) through (5), including the extent to which such intelligence was corroborated, the level of confidence held by the intelligence community, and any dissent or reassessment by an element of the intelligence community.

SEC. 602. CYBER CENTER FOR EDUCATION AND INNOVATION-HOME OF THE NATIONAL CRYPTOLOGIC MUSEUM.

(a) AUTHORITY TO ESTABLISH AND OPERATE CENTER.—Chapter 449 of title 10, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

"§ 4781. Cyber Center for Education and Innovation-Home of the National Cryptologic Museum

''(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—(1) The Secretary of Defense may establish at a publicly accessible location at Fort George G. Meade the 'Cyber Center for Education and Innovation-Home of the National Cryptologic Museum' (in this section referred to as the 'Center').

''(2) The Center may be used for the identification, curation, storage, and public viewing of materials relating to the activities of the National Security Agency, its predecessor or successor organizations, and the history of cryptology.

''(3) The Center may contain meeting, conference, and classroom facilities that will be used to support such education, training, public outreach, and other purposes as the Secretary considers appropriate.

''(b) DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION, AND OPERATION.—The Secretary may enter into an agreement with the National Cryptologic Museum Foundation (in this section referred to as the 'Foundation'), a nonprofit organization, for the design, construction, and operation of the Center.

''(c) ACCEPTANCE AUTHORITY.—(1) If the Foundation constructs the Center pursuant to an agreement with the Foundation under subsection (b), upon satisfactory completion of the Center's construction or any phase thereof, as determined by the Secretary, and upon full satisfaction by the Foundation of any other obligations pursuant to such agreement, the Secretary may accept the Center (or any phase thereof) from the Foundation, and all right, title, and interest in the Center or such phase shall vest in the United States.

''(2) Notwithstanding section 1342 of title 31, the Secretary may accept services from the Foundation in connection with the design construction, and operation of the Center. For purposes of this section and any other provision of law, employees or personnel of the Foundation shall not be considered to be employees of the United States.

''(d) FEES AND USER CHARGES.—(1) The Secretary may assess fees and user charges to cover the cost of the use of Center facilities and property, including rental, user, conference, and concession fees.

''(2) Amounts received under paragraph (1) shall be deposited into the fund established under subsection (e).

''(e) FUND.—(1) Upon the Secretary's acceptance of the Center under subsection (c)(1)) there is established in the Treasury a fund to be known as the 'Cyber Center for Education and Innovation-Home of the National Cryptologic Museum Fund' (in this subsection referred to as the 'Fund').

''(2) The Fund shall consist of the following amounts:

''(A) Fees and user charges deposited by the Secretary under subsection (d).

''(B) Any other amounts received by the Secretary which are attributable to the operation of the Center.

''(3) Amounts in the Fund shall be available to the Secretary for the benefit and operation of the Center, including the costs of operation and the acquisition of books, manuscripts, works of art, historical artifacts, drawings, plans, models, and condemned or obsolete combat materiel.

''(4) Amounts in the Fund shall be available without fiscal year limitation.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 449 of title 10, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

''4781. Cyber Center for Education and Innovation-Home of the National Cryptologic Museum.''.

SEC. 603. REPORT ON NATIONAL SECURITY SYSTEMS.

(a) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''appropriate committees of Congress'' means—

(1) the congressional intelligence committees;

(2) the Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate; and

(3) the Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Director of the National Security Agency, in coordination with the Secretary of Defense and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report on national security systems.

(c) CONTENT.—Each report submitted under subsection (b) shall include information related to—

(1) national security systems or components thereof that have been decertified and are still in operational use;

(2) extension requests and the current status of any national security systems still in use or components thereof that have been decertified and are still in use;

(3) national security systems known to not be in compliance with the policies, principles, standards, and guidelines issued by the Committee on National Security Systems established pursuant to National Security Directive 42, signed by the President on July 5, 1990; and

(4) organizations which have not provided access or information to the Director of the National Security Agency that is adequate to enable the Director to make a determination as to whether such organizations are in compliance with the policies, principles, standards, and guidelines issued by such Committee on National Security Systems.

SEC. 604. JOINT FACILITIES CERTIFICATION.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) The Director of National Intelligence set a strategic goal to use joint facilities as a means to save costs by consolidating administrative and support functions across multiple elements of the intelligence community.

(2) The use of joint facilities provides more opportunities for operational collaboration and information sharing among elements of the intelligence community.

(b) CERTIFICATION.—Before an element of the intelligence community purchases, leases, or constructs a new facility that is 20,000 square feet or larger, the head of that element of the intelligence community shall submit to the Director of National Intelligence—

(1) a written certification that, to the best of the knowledge of the head of such element, all prospective joint facilities in the vicinity have been considered and the element is unable to identify a joint facility that meets the operational requirements of such element; and

(2) a written statement listing the reasons for not participating in the prospective joint facilities considered by the element.

SEC. 605. LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT OF SPACE ACTIVITIES.

(a) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''appropriate committees of Congress'' means the congressional intelligence committees, the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate, and the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives.

(b) UPDATE TO STRATEGY FOR COMPREHENSIVE INTERAGENCY REVIEW OF THE UNITED STATES NATIONAL SECURITY OVERHEAD SATELLITE ARCHITECTURE.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, shall issue a written update to the strategy required by section 312 of the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016 (division M of Public Law 114–113; 129 Stat. 2919).

(c) UNITY OF EFFORT IN SPACE OPERATIONS BETWEEN THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY AND DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE.—

(1) REQUIREMENT FOR PLAN.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a plan to functionally integrate the governance, operations, analysis, collection, policy, and acquisition activities related to space and counterspace carried out by the intelligence community. The plan shall include analysis of no fewer than 2 alternative constructs to implement this plan, and an assessment of statutory, policy, organizational, programmatic, and resources changes that may be required to implement each alternative construct.

(2) APPOINTMENT BY THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE.—Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, shall appoint a single official to oversee development of the plan required by paragraph (1).

(3) SCOPE OF PLAN.—The plan required by paragraph (1) shall include methods to functionally integrate activities carried out by—

(A) the National Reconnaissance Office;

(B) the functional managers for signals intelligence and geospatial intelligence;

(C) the Office of the Director of National Intelligence;

(D) other Intelligence Community elements with space-related programs;

(E) joint interagency efforts; and

(F) other entities as identified by the Director of National Intelligence in coordination with the Secretary of Defense.

(d) INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY SPACE WORKFORCE.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees a workforce plan to recruit, develop, and retain personnel in the intelligence community with skills and experience in space and counterspace operations, analysis, collection, policy, and acquisition.

(e) JOINT INTERAGENCY COMBINED SPACE OPERATIONS CENTER.—

(1) SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS.—The Director of the National Reconnaissance Office and the Commander of the United States Strategic Command, in consultation with the Director of National Intelligence, the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence, and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress concept of operations and requirements documents for the Joint Interagency Combined Space Operations Center by the date that is the earlier of—

(A) the completion of the experimental phase of such Center; or

(B) 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) QUARTERLY BRIEFINGS.—The Director of the National Reconnaissance Office and the Commander of the United States Strategic Command, in coordination with the Director of National Intelligence and Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence, shall provide to the appropriate committees of Congress briefings providing updates on activities and progress of the Joint Interagency Combined Space Operations Center to begin 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act. Such briefings shall be quarterly for the first year following enactment, and annually thereafter.

SEC. 606. ADVANCES IN LIFE SCIENCES AND BIOTECHNOLOGY.

(a) REQUIREMENT FOR PLAN.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence shall brief the congressional intelligence committees on a proposed plan to monitor advances in life sciences and biotechnology to be carried out by the Director.

(b) CONTENTS OF PLAN.—The plan required by subsection (a) shall include—

(1) a description of the approach the elements of the intelligence community will take to make use of organic life science and biotechnology expertise, within and outside the intelligence community on a routine and contingency basis;

(2) an assessment of the current collection and analytical posture of the life sciences and biotechnology portfolio as it relates to United States competitiveness and the global bio-economy, the risks and threats evolving with advances in genetic editing technologies, and the implications of such advances on future biodefense requirements; and

(3) an analysis of organizational requirements and responsibilities, including potentially creating new positions.

(c) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees, the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate, and the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives a report and provide a briefing on the role of the intelligence community in the event of a biological attack on the United States, including an assessment of the capabilities and gaps in technical capabilities that exist to address the potential circumstance of a novel unknown pathogen.

SEC. 607. REPORTS ON DECLASSIFICATION PROPOSALS.

(a) COVERED STUDIES DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''covered studies'' means the studies that the Director of National Intelligence requested that the elements of the intelligence community produce in the course of producing the fundamental classification guidance review for fiscal year 2017 required by Executive Order No. 13526 (50 U.S.C. 3161 note), as follows:

(1) A study of the feasibility of reducing the number of original classification authorities in each element of the intelligence

community to the minimum number required and any negative impacts that reduction could have on mission capabilities.

(2) A study of the actions required to implement a proactive discretionary declassification program distinct from the systematic, automatic, and mandatory declassification review programs outlined in part 2001 of title 32, Code of Federal Regulations, including section 2001.35 of such part.

(3) A study of the benefits and drawbacks of implementing a single classification guide that could be used by all elements of the intelligence community in the nonoperational and more common areas of such elements.

(4) A study of whether the classification level of ''confidential'' could be eliminated within agency-generated classification guides from use by elements of the intelligence community and any negative impacts that elimination could have on mission success.

(b) REPORTS AND BRIEFINGS TO CONGRESS.—

(1) PROGRESS REPORT.—Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence shall submit a report to the congressional intelligence committees and provide the congressional intelligence committees a briefing on the progress of the elements of the intelligence community in producing the covered studies.

(2) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than the earlier of 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act or June 30, 2017, the Director of National Intelligence shall submit a report and provide a briefing to the congressional intelligence committees on—

(A) the final versions of the covered studies that have been provided to the Director by the elements of the intelligence community; and

(B) a plan for implementation of each initiative included in each such covered study.

SEC. 608. IMPROVEMENT IN GOVERNMENT CLASSIFICATION AND DECLASSIFICATION.

(a) REVIEW OF GOVERNMENT CLASSIFICATION AND DECLASSIFICATION.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence shall—

(1) review the system by which the Government classifies and declassifies information;

(2) develop recommendations—

(A) to make such system a more effective tool for the protection of information relating to national security;

(B) to improve the sharing of information with partners and allies of the Government; and

(C) to support the appropriate declassification of information; and

(3) submit to the congressional intelligence committees a report with—

(A) the findings of the Director with respect to the review conducted under paragraph (1); and

(B) the recommendations developed under paragraph (2).

(b) ANNUAL CERTIFICATION OF CONTROLLED ACCESS PROGRAMS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not less frequently than once each year, the Director of National Intelligence shall certify in writing to the congressional intelligence committees whether the creation, validation, or substantial modification, including termination, for all existing and proposed controlled access programs, and the compartments and subcompartments within each, are substantiated and justified based on the information required by paragraph (2).

(2) INFORMATION REQUIRED.—Each certification pursuant to paragraph (1) shall include—

(A) the rationale for the revalidation, validation, or substantial modification, including termination, of each controlled access program, compartment and subcompartment;

(B) the identification of a control officer for each controlled access program; and

(C) a statement of protection requirements for each controlled access program.

SEC. 609. REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT RECOMMENDATIONS.

Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees a report that includes the following:

(1) An assessment of the actions each element of the intelligence community has completed to implement the recommendations made by the National Commission for the Review of the Research and Development Programs of the United States Intelligence Community established under section 1002 of the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2003 (Public Law 107–306; 50 U.S.C. 3001 note).

(2) An analysis of the balance between short-, medium-, and long-term research efforts carried out by each element of the intelligence community.

SEC. 610. REPORT ON INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CORPS.

Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees a report and provide briefing on a plan, with milestones and benchmarks, to implement an Intelligence Community Research and Development Corps, as recommended in the Report of the National Commission for the Review of the Research and Development Programs of the United States Intelligence Community, including an assessment—

(1) of the funding and modification to existing authorities needed to allow for the implementation of such Corps; and

(2) of additional legislative authorities, if any, necessary to undertake such implementation.

SEC. 611. REPORT ON INFORMATION RELATING TO ACADEMIC PROGRAMS, SCHOLARSHIPS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND INTERNSHIPS SPONSORED, ADMINISTERED, OR USED BY THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY.

(a) REPORT.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees a report by the intelligence community regarding covered academic programs. Such report shall include—

(1) a description of the extent to which the Director and the heads of the elements of the intelligence community independently collect information on covered academic programs, including with respect to—

(A) the number of applicants for such programs;

(B) the number of individuals who have participated in such programs; and

(C) the number of individuals who have participated in such programs and were hired by an element of the intelligence community after completing such program;

(2) to the extent that the Director and the heads independently collect the information described in paragraph (1), a chart, table, or other compilation illustrating such information for each covered academic program and element of the intelligence community, as appropriate, during the three-year period preceding the date of the report; and

(3) to the extent that the Director and the heads do not independently collect the information described in paragraph (1) as of the date of the report—

(A) whether the Director and the heads can begin collecting such information during fiscal year 2017; and

(B) the personnel, tools, and other resources required by the Director and the heads to independently collect such information.

(b) COVERED ACADEMIC PROGRAMS DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''covered academic programs'' means—

(1) the Federal Cyber Scholarship-for-Service Program under section 302 of the Cybersecurity Enhancement Act of 2014 (15 U.S.C. 7442);

(2) the National Security Education Program under the David L. Boren National Security Education Act of 1991 (50 U.S.C. 1901 et seq.);

(3) the Science, Mathematics, and Research for Transformation Defense Education Program under section 2192a of title 10, United States Code;

(4) the National Centers of Academic Excellence in Information Assurance and Cyber Defense of the National Security Agency and the Department of Homeland Security; and

(5) any other academic program, scholarship program, fellowship program, or internship program sponsored, administered, or used by an element of the intelligence community.

SEC. 612. REPORT ON INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY EMPLOYEES DETAILED TO NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL.

Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees a classified written report listing, by year, the number of employees of an element of the intelligence community who have been detailed to the National Security Council during the 10-year period preceding the date of the report.

SEC. 613. INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY REPORTING TO CONGRESS ON FOREIGN FIGHTER FLOWS.

(a) REPORTS REQUIRED.—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and every 180 days thereafter, the Director of National Intelligence, consistent with the protection of intelligence sources and methods, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on foreign fighter flows to and from terrorist safe havens abroad.

(b) CONTENTS.—Each report submitted under subsection (a) shall include, with respect to each terrorist safe haven, the following:

(1) The total number of foreign fighters who have traveled or are suspected of having traveled to the terrorist safe haven since 2011, including the countries of origin of such foreign fighters.

(2) The total number of United States citizens present in the terrorist safe haven.

(3) The total number of foreign fighters who have left the terrorist safe haven or whose whereabouts are unknown.

(c) FORM.—The reports submitted under subsection (a) may be submitted in classified form. If such a report is submitted in classified form, such report shall also include an unclassified summary.

(d) SUNSET.—The requirement to submit reports under subsection (a) shall terminate

on the date that is two years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(e) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(1) in the Senate—

(A) the Committee on Armed Services;

(B) the Select Committee on Intelligence;

(C) the Committee on the Judiciary;

(D) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs;

(E) the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs;

(F) the Committee on Foreign Relations; and

(G) the Committee on Appropriations; and

(2) in the House of Representatives—

(A) the Committee on Armed Services;

(B) the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence;

(C) the Committee on the Judiciary;

(D) the Committee on Homeland Security;

(E) the Committee on Financial Services;

(F) the Committee on Foreign Affairs; and

(G) the Committee on Appropriations.

SEC. 614. REPORT ON CYBERSECURITY THREATS TO SEAPORTS OF THE UNITED STATES AND MARITIME SHIPPING.

(a) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Under Secretary of Homeland Security for Intelligence and Analysis, in consultation with the Director of National Intelligence, and consistent with the protection of sources and methods, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on the cybersecurity threats to, and the cyber vulnerabilities within, the software, communications networks, computer networks, or other systems employed by—

(1) entities conducting significant operations at seaports in the United States;

(2) the maritime shipping concerns of the United States; and

(3) entities conducting significant operations at transshipment points in the United States.

(b) MATTERS INCLUDED.—The report under subsection (a) shall include the following:

(1) A description of any recent and significant cyberattacks or cybersecurity threats directed against software, communications networks, computer networks, or other systems employed by the entities and concerns described in paragraphs (1) through (3) of subsection (a).

(2) An assessment of—

(A) any planned cyberattacks directed against such software, networks, and systems;

(B) any significant vulnerabilities to such software, networks, and systems; and

(C) how such entities and concerns are mitigating such vulnerabilities.

(3) An update on the status of the efforts of the Coast Guard to include cybersecurity concerns in the National Response Framework, Emergency Support Functions, or both, relating to the shipping or ports of the United States.

(c) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(1) the congressional intelligence committees;

(2) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate; and

(3) the Committee on Homeland Security and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 615. REPORT ON REPRISALS AGAINST CONTRACTORS OF THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY.

(a) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Inspector General of the Intelligence Community, consistent with the protection of sources and methods, shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees a report on reprisals made against covered contractor employees.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The report under subsection (a) shall include the following:

(1) Identification of the number of known or claimed reprisals made against covered contractor employees during the 3-year period preceding the date of the report and any evaluation of such reprisals.

(2) An evaluation of the usefulness of establishing a prohibition on reprisals against covered contractor employees as a means of encouraging such contractors to make protected disclosures.

(3) A description of any challenges associated with establishing such a prohibition, including with respect to the nature of the relationship between the Federal Government, the contractor, and the covered contractor employee.

(4) A description of any approaches taken by the Federal Government to account for reprisals against non-intelligence community contractors who make protected disclosures, including pursuant to section 2409 of title 10, United States Code, and sections 4705 and 4712 of title 41, United States Code.

(5) Any recommendations the Inspector General determines appropriate.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) COVERED CONTRACTOR EMPLOYEE.—The term ''covered contractor employee'' means an employee of a contractor of an element of the intelligence community.

(2) REPRISAL.—The term ''reprisal'' means the discharge or other adverse personnel action made against a covered contractor employee for making a disclosure of information that would be a disclosure protected by law if the contractor were an employee of the Federal Government.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHIMKUS). Pursuant to House Resolution 305, the motion shall be debatable for 1 hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations.

The gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN) and the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. LOWEY) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on further consideration of H.R. 244 and that I may include tabular material on the same.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 6 minutes.

I rise today to present the House amendment to H.R. 244, a bill that will provide funding for the Federal Government for the rest of the year 2017.

This bill reflects shared values, which will help make our Nation stronger, safer, and more prosperous. It fulfills our constitutional duty to fund important services the American people rely on every day, and it does this in a responsible way, making the best use of every single taxpayer dollar, ensuring more reliability and predictability than a government operating under a continuing resolution. In short, it moves our Nation forward in the right direction.

The bill includes full-year funding for the remaining 11 annual appropriations bills for defense, infrastructure, health, and safety programs through the end of the fiscal year on September 30, as well as critical emergency and defense and border security funding requested by the President.

In total, it provides $1.63 trillion in base and overseas contingency operations funding. These levels meet the caps provided by the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015.

This bill makes the smart decisions investing funding where it is needed most: rebuilding our military, securing our borders, and bolstering economic growth, getting people back to work.

First and foremost and most importantly, this bill prioritizes funding for national defense, restoring the strength and capacity of our Armed Forces. Overall defense funding is increased by $25 billion above fiscal year 2016 levels.

This funding will help ensure our military has proper training, the best weapons and equipment needed to defeat ISIS, battle radical extremism around the world, and support our allies in the critical regions around the world against threats from Russia, China, Iran, North Korea, and other sources. To rebuild our end strength, this bill includes $1.6 billion for an additional 36,000 troops above the previous administration's request.

Most importantly, this bill supports our men and women in uniform—all volunteers—and provides them with a 2.1 percent pay raise, the largest in 6 years, and it takes care of their families.

To help secure our borders and protect our homeland, the bill provides Customs and Border Protection with a total of $12.2 billion, nearly a billion increase over fiscal year 2016. In fact, this is the largest increase to border security technologies and infrastructure in a decade, a downpayment on stronger, more effective systems and barriers.

Funding is also prioritized to tackle gang and drug crime, combat terrorism, and support law enforcement. Vital agencies like the FBI, the U.S. Marshals, the DEA, and Immigration and Customs Enforcement all receive funding boosts.

Other domestic funding is directed to proven, effective programs that improve the health and safety of all Americans. This includes increases for the National Institutes of Health and the CDC.

Significantly, we have increased funding to battle the opioid abuse epidemic by $781 million from last year. This funding will provide treatment, education and enforcement, and help the unacceptably high numbers of communities that have been devastated by this crisis.

Lastly, this legislation funds important national priorities like critical infrastructure and essential disaster relief, and supports our local communities, including renewing the D.C. Opportunity Scholarship Program and giving choice in the District to parents.

□ 1430

This bill should also be noted for what it doesn't do. Our legislation cuts, freezes, and eliminates funding for dozens of programs that have been wasteful, ineffective, or just plain unnecessary. For example, we cut funding at the EPA by $81 million and reined in its regulatory program to prevent overreach.

We froze IRS's funding at current levels and directed funds to improve services to taxpayers. And to ensure that each and every tax dollar is well spent, the bill implements strong oversight and accountability at every level of government.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to support this bill, as it reflects the needs of the American people and our common values. We are investing in the security and success of our Nation, and, for that, this bill deserves solid bipartisan support.

Mr. Speaker, there are many people to thank for their help in bringing this bill to the floor today. First and foremost, I want to thank my colleagues in the House. Each and every Member contributed to this effort, and, as a result, it is a better bill.

I especially want to thank my committee chairmen. They are stewards of these bills, and I appreciate all the hard work they have done to get us here today with their committee members.

I would also like to thank my counterpart, ranking member of the Appropriations Committee, Mrs. LOWEY, for her dedication to bringing this bill to the floor today, as well as our colleagues in the Senate for their partnership.

Lastly, I must thank the hardworking staff of the House Appropriations Committee. They have put in months of nonstop work to bring this bill before the House today. We wouldn't be here without the leadership of the full committee staff, led by Nancy Fox and Jim Kulikowski on the majority side, and Shalanda Young and Chris Bigelow on the minority side.

In the front office, we have, also working hard, Stephen Sepp, Shannon O'Keefe, Carol Murphy, Jennifer Hing, Marta Hernandez, Tammy Hughes, Rachel Kahler, David Roth, and Brad Allen. I thank all of you.

I also want to thank our hardworking clerks and their Democratic counterparts. All deserve our gratitude. The clerks: Tom O'Brien, John Martens, Jennifer Miller, Donna Shahbaz, Dena Baron, Valerie Baldwin, Dave LesStrang, Susan Ross, Liz Dawson, Maureen Holohan, Craig Higgins, and Doug Disrud.

Lastly, I want to thank Katie Hazlett, my chief of staff, and my personal staff.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. I yield myself an additional 1 minute.

Our subcommittees, as well as the minority staff, have worked night and day to get these fiscal year 2017 bills behind us and to get ahead and move ahead to the 2018 process. I appreciate all of them and their hard work.

Before I close, I would like to take a moment to acknowledge one special member of the committee staff, Dale Oak, who retires this week. Dale has dedicated over 20 years to the committee and even more to the government. He tacked one extra week on to that total, sticking around to help us complete this bill. This commitment is true to form for him, and we are immensely grateful for it.

Dale, we thank you for your years of service, and we wish you the best of luck in the future.

Mr. Speaker, it is now 7 months into the 2017 fiscal year. We must complete our work today. It is time to look ahead and begin work on the 2018 priorities. I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I am pleased to be here with Chairman FRELINGHUYSEN to complete the fiscal year 2017 appropriations process. Bipartisan negotiations resulted in a bill. The product of compromise makes important investments such as: increasing biomedical research at the NIH by $2 billion; increasing investments in early childhood and education programs such as Head Start, Title I, IDEA, and afterschool programs; making college more affordable by increasing Pell grants and making them available year round; providing robust funding for public broadcasting and community service; and investing in transportation, housing, first responders, and providing our military with the tools to deter and defeat threats abroad.

It would also: ensure American citizens in Puerto Rico continue to have access to health care; permanently extend health insurance benefits for retired mine workers; increase funding to combat the opioid epidemic; preserve Planned Parenthood's eligibility for Federal funds; provide $1.1 billion in disaster assistance for regions affected by storms and flooding, including North Carolina, California, Louisiana, West Virginia, and more.

It is imperative to note what this bill does not contain: not one cent for President Trump's border wall or additional fencing; no poison-pill riders that would have prevented so-called sanctuary cities from receiving Federal grants, undermined the Affordable Care Act, or harmed the FDA's ability to regulate tobacco products.

While I am pleased we reached this agreement, we should not celebrate coming to a full-year agreement in May for a fiscal year that began 7 months ago.

Last year, our committee was negotiating in good faith until the Trump transition team interfered, insisting on a CR until late April. This unnecessary and costly delay, combined with the President's proposed cuts for the FY17 and FY18 spending bills, do not bode well for our work in the coming months.

So, while I support this bill, I am under no illusions and expect this President will again insist on draconian cuts that will harm hardworking families and interfere with our ability to negotiate.

Just yesterday, the President irresponsibly tweeted: ''Our country needs a good 'shutdown' in September. . . . '' Perhaps the President needs a history lesson. The Constitution grants Congress the power of the purse. I hope the President is watching and that he will learn that good things happen when we work together for the American people.

Of course, our good bipartisan work on this bill would not have been possible without our excellent staff, and I want to personally thank all the minority and majority Appropriations Committee staffers, especially our Democratic Staff Director Shalanda Young; and Deputy Staff Director Chris Bigelow; and their majority counterparts, Nancy Fox and Jim Kulikowski.

Again, I appreciate the opportunity to work with Chairman FRELINGHUYSEN, and I appreciate the work of all our committee members, all our ranking members, and their personal staffs as well.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. ROGERS), my predecessor.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to support this legislation. I want to commend Chairman FRELINGHUYSEN and Mrs. LOWEY for a job well done.

Mr. Speaker, the most important point that I think I could make for many in this Chamber is that if you reject this omnibus spending bill that you all put together during the year, the alternative is a continuing resolution for the balance of the year which will put into effect the spending priorities of the previous administration. The Obama plan will still be in effect if you reject this omnibus bill. For many of us, that is the most important point that we could make.

Now, Mr. Speaker, this comprehensive bill responsibly funds key government programs through the rest of the fiscal year. As the battle against ISIS continues, funding for both defense and diplomacy must be a part of our national security framework.

Along with strategic increases for the Department of Defense, the omnibus includes critical funding for the Department of State and Foreign Operations. Protecting our diplomats abroad is a top priority, and the bill provides $6.1 billion to carry out that mission. The legislation also upholds our commitments to key international allies like Israel and Jordan and establishes a new $100 million fund to support nations facing Russian aggression.

We continue funding for global health, and humanitarian aid, and famine relief, including a new rapid response fund for emerging infectious diseases. And the bill dedicates significant resources to stop drug trafficking along our southern border with robust counternarcotic and law enforcement efforts in Mexico, Central America, and Colombia.

No funds are provided for either the Green Climate Fund or the U.N. panel on climate change, and funding for the U.N. is reduced by $640 million.

While national security is a key tenet of this legislation, the omnibus also promotes economic growth at home, particularly in my Kentucky district. Coal country came under siege under President Obama, with an onslaught of job-killing regulations. Our communities are working hard to recover, after losing nearly 12,000 mining jobs.

In addition to rolling back several anticoal regulations, the bill permanently provides healthcare benefits to retired coal miners and their families. This gives the people who powered our Nation for generations the peace of mind that they deserve.

The bill also provides Kentucky with $25 million to continue the Abandoned Mine Land Pilot Program, which creates jobs by reclaiming abandoned mine land for economic development. The Appalachian Regional Commission receives historic funding. With the $152 million appropriated, $10 million is dedicated to high-speed broadband cable in our region. EDA is also provided with $30 million to revitalize the coalfields.

In addition to creating jobs, this bill builds on our progress to combat drug abuse. Like Operation UNITE in my district, we take a holistic approach to fund a comprehensive Federal response. An increase of $781 million is provided for fighting the opioid epidemic, including treatment, and prevention, and law enforcement. This bill, Mr. Speaker, will save lives.

Mr. Speaker, I urge a ''yes'' vote. I commend the chairman and the ranking member for the great work they have put together in passing what is important to this Nation.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2½ minutes to the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR), ranking member of the Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my dear colleague, Mrs. LOWEY, the ranking member of the committee, for yielding, and thank Chairmen FRELINGHUYSEN, ROGERS, and Ranking Member LOWEY again for the hard work they did to push this bill across the finish line.

Yet today, I rise with frustration that it has taken us so long to finish doing our job. There is simply no good reason why, over 7 months into the 2017 fiscal year, we are only now taking a vote to fund this year's government operations. The American people deserve so much better.

There are many things in this bill with which I disagree, but I am pleased to see that the bill before us represents a bipartisan compromise. It also includes a lot of positive aspects.

For Ohio, the agreement brings welcome news to coal industry pensioneers. It also provides an important $600 million to fight the national opioid epidemic which has devastated our communities.

□ 1445

It also provides $300 million for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, assuring our critical work to improve water quality in the Great Lakes continues.

As ranking member of the Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee, I am well aware we have more work to do. But this bill continues our commitment to nuclear nonproliferation and provides a modest increase for innovative science as well as energy efficiency and renewable energy for America's future and for our global leadership.

Once again, I believe it is Democrats who are getting the job done for America and leading the charge of bipartisan negotiations and compromise to avoid a government shutdown. Our side of the aisle continues to focus on making progress, moving the ball forward inch by inch and making progress, advancing progress for our country a step at a time.

A recent poll reported that this is what 77 percent of the American people want: compromising, working together, and moving forward. I hope that this agreement will be a beachhead in our efforts to fulfill their wishes. This bill demonstrates Congress can work together collegially for the 2018 fiscal year appropriations to follow to benefit our Nation's future.

I thank, again, Chairman RODNEY FRELINGHUYSEN, Ranking Member NITA LOWEY, and all of our dedicated staff on appropriations on both sides of the aisle for the hard, bipartisan work they put in putting this bill forward together for America's sake. I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. GRANGER), who is the distinguished chairman of the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee.

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this bill.

This bill is where we take the first big step to begin rebuilding our military. The world is more dangerous and unstable than at any time in recent history. Iran, Russia, and China are increasingly challenging our vital interests and those of our allies. The threats coming from North Korea are more ominous than anything we have faced in decades. At the same time, terrorists from ISIS, al-Qaida, and their affiliates endanger our very way of life.

Our number one responsibility as Members of Congress is to provide for the defense of this Nation. Since becoming Defense Appropriations Subcommittee chairwoman, I have spent time talking to senior defense leadership to find out what they need to combat these threats. They have unanimously stated that the only thing our adversaries respect is strength and they need this bill passed to ensure our military is as strong and effective as possible.

The bill today brings total FY17 defense funding to $25 billion more than last year and $22 billion more than the Obama administration's original request. The bill includes $21 billion for critical military requirements, as requested by the new administration. The bill provides the resources for Secretary Mattis to implement his plan to restore our military so that we can fight the adversaries we face today and those we will face in the future.

Today we take the first critical step in Secretary Mattis' plan to fix the potholes in our military readiness. We do that by reversing the cuts to manpower proposed by the Obama administration and increase military pay. We provide $7.3 billion over the Obama budget to support operations, training, equipment maintenance, and military facility repairs.

We reverse steep cuts to equipment and modernization. The bill provides $12 billion more than the previous administration's request for additional aircraft, ships, vehicles, munitions, and

all the other needs of our troops. The bill also adds $2 billion above the Obama budget for research programs to ensure that we preserve our technological edge against increasingly capable adversaries.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Texas.

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, we provide additional funds to support the healthcare needs of our military personnel and their families, including medical research programs. We provide additional funds requested by the President for a reinvigorated strategy to defeat ISIS and other terrorist groups.

I urge the House to support Secretary Mattis by giving him this long overdue funding. We cannot turn our backs on our troops by forcing them to work under a continuing resolution. To paraphrase the Chief of Staff of the Air Force, there is no enemy that can do more damage to our military than a full-year continuing resolution. Our military is counting on us to pass this bill now. It is the only way to ensure the United States will be strong and able to lead in this very dangerous world.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge a ''yes'' vote.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2½ minutes to the distinguished gentleman from New York (Mr. SERRANO), who is the ranking member of the Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies.

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague from New York for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise—and you should listen to this very closely—in support of this bill. I do it because both sides understood the importance of coming together and trying to work on a solution to this situation. I have to say that the Republicans came to the table understanding that they had the majority of the votes, but that they also had the majority of the responsibility to make sure it was a unified decision that was made.

For my hometown of New York, there is money to reimburse the protection of Trump Tower, where the President has spent a lot of time and where the police department has to be picking up the bill. The Legal Services Corporation, one of our greatest programs, was scheduled to disappear. This bill does not allow that. Hispanic-serving institutions at the National Science Foundation are still alive and doing well. This bill allows for so many different issues in NOAA and in NASA to continue to grow.

But most of all what this bill does, in my opinion, is prove something that perhaps—and I'm not being naive here—we can carry forward. When we set our minds to coming together and when we set our minds to working as one group of people on behalf of our country, we can do it.

This bill we will vote on today, I will vote proudly because I know that we could have made this into another fight. I know for the next budget we will have differences. But please, my brothers and sisters, remember we were able to come together. And some on TV tonight will say that this side sold out or that side sold out. No. Both sides worked for the American people, and it works well.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. RYAN), the Speaker of the House.

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, first of all, I want to thank the chairman, I want to thank the ranking member, the ranking members, the chairmen of the subcommittees, and all the staff for their very hard work in putting this big body of work together.

I urge all of my colleagues to support this package. I want to explain why. Many of our priorities—not all, but many of our priorities are advanced in this, and that is because this is a bipartisan piece of legislation. So each side doesn't get everything they want, but we are able to come together and find a package that advances many of our important goals.

For me, I think it is important because it turns the page on the last administration, on the Obama years. It completes the unfinished business of the previous administration. Remember, we came to December, we had a continuing resolution. We are halfway through the fiscal year now, we have got to do the job of actually getting the government specifically funded, meeting more of our priorities. This does that. This marks the beginning of a new era.

No longer will the needs of our military be held hostage by the demands for more domestic spending. In my mind, that is what is most important here. Having negotiated a couple of the budget agreements in the prior administration, this, to me, is paramount and first among all things.

The rule we lived under under the previous administration basically says: You want more money for the men and women in the field who are in our military who need more resources to do their jobs? Okay, but we are going to need more money for Washington programs; and not just more money for Washington programs, but the same exact amount of money.

So no matter whether we need more money for our troops—we might need more ships, more bullets, more gas, and more planes—we had to have the exact same dollar amount, whether it was needed or not, for domestic spending.

That is the old formula we had under the prior administration, and that is not in here. That is really important. I think that is one of the most important game-changing accomplishments that is in here because we really believe our military needs help. We believe our military has been hollowed out in so many areas, and this bill helps fix this. So that dollar-for-dollar parity rule is a rule no more.

With this bill, we do not have that arbitrary standard—the standard that has contributed, in my opinion, to hollowing out our military and declining our readiness. While we have a lot more work to do to fully rebuild our military, this is a critical first step. With this bill, we will spend $25 billion more this year than last year on defense so that we can begin to rebuild our military readiness and our preparedness. We will do this without a corresponding increase in domestic spending. That, to me, is a new day under this new administration that we have with President Trump.

Of course, this legislation also addresses many other priorities for Republicans and for this administration. For starters, there is a big and solid down payment on securing our border. In fact, it is the biggest increase in border security in a decade. Funding for the D.C. Scholarship Opportunity Program, which reverses the Obama-era crusade against school choice, that is in here; national resources to fight the opioid epidemic, which is something that is ravishing communities across America; no new money for ObamaCare and no bailouts for insurance companies. This bill protects life.

This bill is a bipartisan compromise, as I mentioned, but it is, indeed, a good one for conservatives. That is why I urge my colleagues to support this bill. We all must agree that funding the government at all like this—and this is the last point I want to make—is not a process we want to continue. Yes, we are finishing unfinished business from last year, but let's all work together and endeavor to do these appropriation bills one at a time. That is the system that we are supposed to have, and that is the system that I think we all agree—Republicans and Democrats—that we need to have.

So let's work together to make sure that we don't just do one big bill, that we do this individually so that individual debate can occur, so that individual priorities can be met, and so that we can get back to regular order and we can better guarantee and maintain our Article I powers as the legislative branch of government exercising the power of the purse. I challenge every one of us to commit to that process.

In the meantime, let's bank these wins. Let's get this done. Let's turn this page on this last year, and let's make sure that we give the troops the support that they so desperately need. With that, I ask everyone to support this bill.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I just want to clarify that Democrats support a strong military and defense of our country, but we are very proud of the work that we are doing together in a bipartisan way to support the National Institutes of Health, afterschool programs, Head Start, and a full year of Pell grant that will help our young people get a college education. So I am proud of that work.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2½ minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BISHOP), who is the ranking member of the Committee on Agriculture.

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the omnibus appropriations bill. As the ranking member on the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee, I would like to take a few moments to highlight a few areas in the bill's agriculture section.

This has been a long time coming, beginning with a markup over 1 year ago in April 2016. Since then, many things have changed, but what has remained constant is the desire of the House Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Subcommittee to address the needs of rural America by adequately funding programs that serve them and the country.

While the total funding level is below 2016 and the House-reported bill, I believe we used what we had wisely. For example, we secured increased funding for agriculture research, food and plant health programs, the Farm Service Agency, and for rural development.

The bill also expands telemedicine, broadband access, and STEM distance learning, as well as provides $400 million in Community Development Block Grant funding for disaster assistance.

In rural development, which is central to rural communities and the economies vital for producing America's food and fiber products, the bill provides $37 billion in direct and guaranteed loans to support clean water, decent housing, telecommunications, electric services, and rural businesses, which is more than we provided last year.

On the grant side, water and waste grants are more than 10 percent higher than the President's budget request, broadband grants are more than three times higher than 2016, and community facility grants are 25 percent higher than the 2016 request and what was appropriated.

All the domestic nutrition programs, Mr. Speaker, are funded at levels that will fully meet estimated needs for the rest of the fiscal year. FDA is funded above both FY16 and FY17 requests.

□ 1500

However, for the third consecutive year, I am disappointed that Congress continued to keep the Commodity Futures Trading Commission at $250 million, making it increasingly difficult for the CFTC to carry out its core mission as well as its responsibilities under Dodd-Frank.

I am very disappointed the omnibus does not include carefully crafted cottonseed legislation to assist American cotton producers. I am looking forward to beginning FY 2018 reviews and farm bill negotiations to close the remaining gaps left with the FY 2017 omnibus.

Despite those concerns, I think this is a good bill. As a proud Representative of the largest cotton-producing district in the State of Georgia and the number one peanut- and pecan-producing district in the country, I urge my colleagues to support it so that we can get started on FY 2018 work and complete it in a timely manner for the benefit of our fellow Americans.

I want to thank the ranking member, chairman, and the majority and minority staffs for their bipartisan, hard work in getting this bill to the floor, along with my personal staff, particularly Ms. Ada Bacetty, who worked so hard.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. SIMPSON), chairman of the Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee.

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I first want to thank the ranking member and the chairman of the full committee for their hard work on this bill. Most people don't realize how hard the work is. I thank the ranking member, Ms. KAPTUR, for her hard work and committed efforts throughout these many months spent on drafting this bill, and also our Senate partners, LAMAR ALEXANDER and DIANNE FEINSTEIN. I want to thank the majority and minority staff for the incredible work and long hours that they spent in preparing this bill.

The Energy and Water section of this bill strengthens our Nation's defense, makes important investments in our Nation's water infrastructure, and advances an all-of-the-above energy strategy to ensure America's energy independence.

Weapons Activities, which provides funding to maintain the safety, security, and readiness of the Nation's nuclear weapons stockpile, is $471 million more than last year. Within that, funding for nuclear weapons infrastructure is $2.8 billion, an increase of 23 percent, and will address a backlog of deferred maintenance and high-risk, deteriorating infrastructure.

The Naval Reactors program, which supports the Navy's nuclear propulsion program, is increased by $45 million over last year. This fully funds the replacement of the Ohio class ballistic missile submarine.

The Army Corps of Engineers, which manages critical infrastructure projects supporting the health of our Nation's water resources, is increased by $49 million over the fiscal year 2016 levels. The bill makes full use of estimated annual revenues in the Inland Waterways Trust Fund and includes $1.3 billion for harbor maintenance trust fund activities, hitting the WRDA 2016 adjusted annual target.

Flood and storm damage reduction activities are provided with $29 million more than last year to mitigate damage from flooding events.

The bill capitalizes on America's abundant natural resources to ensure a balanced, all-of-the-above energy policy. These investments will improve our energy independence and keep our consumer prices affordable for constituents. The bill protects these investments by including $24 million more than last year to improve the resiliency and reliability of the Nation's electric grid against cyber attacks and extreme weather events.

The bill also helps peel back regulatory red tape, prohibiting changes to the definition of ''fill material'' and ''discharge of fill material,'' and also prohibits the regulation of certain agricultural activities. These are commonsense provisions that were included in this bill.

In addition to the Energy and Water section, I also would like to acknowledge some of the important provisions in the Interior section of this bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. I yield the gentleman an additional 15 seconds.

Mr. SIMPSON. The inclusion of language routing the Gateway West Transmission Line through the Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area, critical funding provided for wildfire programs in the Department of the Interior and the Forest Service, and the full support of the PILT program greatly strengthens this bill.

I thank Chairman CALVERT, Ranking Member MCCOLLUM, and the staff on the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Subcommittee for the work they do.

No westerner can hold their head up if they vote against this bill and the provisions in this bill for the Western States.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), the distinguished minority whip.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise in support of this legislation.

I want to thank Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN, Mrs. LOWEY, and all the subcommittee chairs and ranking members for the work that they have done to get us to this place.

This vote we are about to take represents an example of how Members of this House can work together to reach

a reasonable compromise and deliver a product that reflects both rationality and reasonableness. It is clear from recent history that Democratic Members' participation is absolutely essential if we are going to pass fiscal bills and appropriations bills. I am glad that the Republican leadership and negotiators came to that conclusion and worked with us to advance this omnibus to the floor.

I will support this omnibus funding bill. It is not a perfect bill, but no bill is a perfect bill. It is, however, a compromise that includes provisions that Democrats and Republicans want to see passed.

It does not include poison pill riders that would prevent Democratic support or, frankly, Republican support. It does not fund President Trump's border wall which, of course, he had promised the American people they would not pay for.

Furthermore, it includes critical funding for health benefits for America's coal miners and their families, and it funds Puerto Rico's Medicaid program.

This omnibus also adds additional funding for the National Institutes of Health, something that all of us ought to support, including former Vice President Biden's Cancer Moonshot, as well as Pell grants, disaster relief, international famine aid, and funding to fight opioid addiction.

It is the product of frank and thorough negotiations conducted by Ranking Member NITA LOWEY and Chairman RODNEY FRELINGHUYSEN, both of whom are positive leaders of the Appropriations Committee and of this House. I congratulate them and their staffs for their hard work to reach this funding agreement.

The Congress should not have waited this long to act, Mr. Speaker. It is now 7 months into the fiscal year. We should not allow this to happen again. It has happened too often, and it has happened under both parties, but it is not the way to run the greatest enterprise on Earth: the Federal Government of the United States of America.

We must get back to dealing with appropriations bills in a timely and discrete manner, appropriations bill by appropriations bill. It is important that we segue from these successful negotiations into talks in the same spirit of compromise to pass appropriations bills through regular order for fiscal year 2018 before the end of September. We are very late in doing this process.

I was very much alarmed by President Trump's tweet yesterday suggesting that he would welcome a government shutdown. It is this kind of flippant, uninformed, and irresponsible approach, as opposed to what ought to be a serious, bipartisan process, that puts us again and again at the eleventh hour, often months past the original deadline, trying to keep the government open.

We ought to do better. We must do better. I hope the bipartisan process that brought us to this omnibus bill will show us that we can do better.

In that context, I want to again thank Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN, with whom I have served for a long period of time both on the committee and as a colleague in the House of Representatives. I want to thank Mrs. LOWEY, with whom I served for 23 years on the Appropriations Committee and with whom I have served in my capacity as leader and herself as a leader on the Appropriations Committee.

This represents, today, what the Congress ought to be, how it ought to work, and what the American people expect. As we vote today on this bill, let us say to ourselves: let us continue this kind of cooperative, positive, constructive work.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. ADERHOLT), chairman of the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Subcommittee.

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the chairman and the ranking member and all of my colleagues who have worked so hard on this bill over the last several months. These appropriations bills are taking a long time to get through the process. A lot of times, we don't realize all the hard work. So I want to thank all of my colleagues for their work and all the staff that have had great input into it.

I want to echo what a lot of my other colleagues have said about this bill. As chairman of the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Subcommittee, I understand that, while the bill is not perfect—and, as has just been mentioned, no bill that we vote on is perfect—there are significant wins for agriculture, the food sector, and for rural America.

I wish that we had been able to include relief for the cotton growers. Also, regulatory relief for harm reduction products related to tobacco.

Members from rural districts with agriculture constituents like I have in Alabama can be very proud of the bill's accomplishments for rural America. It provides necessary relief for American farmers and ranchers who are experiencing a 50 percent reduction in income from 4 years ago.

We have been able to provide targeted increases for a few high-priority programs. The bill directs funding for rural communities, bolsters U.S. agriculture, maintains food and drug safety, ensures sound markets, and provides nutrition for children, families, and seniors at home and abroad.

There is increased oversight of nutrition programs, and there are provisions to prevent waste, fraud, and abuse, including closing a loophole to prevent fraudulent SNAP participation in multiple States.

The bill also includes a prohibition on gene editing of human embryos. This is a tremendous victory for those who are concerned about life.

In this bill, we stop additional Obama administration school meal regulations from being implemented by keeping the school meal sodium standards at the current target 1 level, we continue to have the whole grain waiver for schools that are having difficulty meeting that standard, and we allow flexibility in schools in serving low-fat flavored milk to students.

Furthermore, this is exactly what the new Secretary of Agriculture, Sonny Perdue, announced USDA will be implementing for the 2017–2018 school year.

The agriculture portion of this bill also contains important provisions that further the President's Buy American, Hire American initiatives. If we are to build infrastructure in America, then we need to spend dollars that support jobs right here in America instead of utilizing iron and steel made in Russia and China.

I am happy to support this bill, understanding that we have an opportunity in FY 2018 to craft bills that will be more fiscally and socially conservative. I look forward to working with the chairman and my colleagues as we go forward.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2½ minutes to the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Ms. MCCOLLUM), the distinguished ranking member of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Subcommittee.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this bipartisan compromise to fund our Federal Government for the remainder of the year.

It is frustrating that the Trump administration inserted itself into our congressional funding negotiations last year, which unnecessarily delayed this bill for 7 months. The delay created uncertainty and instability for local governments, schools, businesses, and the families we represent. Nevertheless, this final funding package we have under consideration today is a win for Minnesotans and Americans.

Democrats stood strong and united. That is why this bill does not include any funding for President Trump's wasteful border wall, which he wanted to pay for with cuts to our priorities here at home.

As the ranking member of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee, I am proud that we removed more than 75 poison pill riders from our part of the bill. These destructive policies would have delisted endangered species, rolled back environmental protections, and chipped away at our public lands.

In addition to removing these harmful Republican riders, Democrats also succeeded in holding off many devastating cuts proposed by the Trump

administration. We protected the EPA from steep cuts to its work to protect the air we breathe and the water we drink. We fully funded the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative to keep our lakes and communities that rely on them healthy. We increased funding for the National Endowments for the Arts and the Humanities, which enrich the quality of life across this Nation.

This final, bipartisan agreement will protect our environment, meet our trust and treaty obligations to Native Americans, and safeguard our natural and cultural heritage. Sadly, the President's 2018 budget would undo all this work, so we must stay vigilant.

□ 1515

I would like to take the opportunity to thank the chairman of the full committee as well as the ranking member, Mrs. LOWEY. I would also like to give a special thank-you to the chairman of the subcommittee, KEN CALVERT, and to all of our staff, both Republican and Democrat, on both sides who worked so hard to make this bill possible, along with my personal staff.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage an ''aye'' vote on this bill.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CULBERSON), the chair of the Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies.

Mr. CULBERSON. Mr. Speaker, the reason you can't buy a house or a business with a 1- or 2-page contract is all the detail in that big, thick stack of documents ensures that both parties are going to perform and do exactly as promised in the contract. The same is true of this appropriations bill. The Founders understood the power of the purse was the most important and powerful check and balance in the Constitution.

I am proud to support this legislation because the detail in this bill will help ensure that the agencies that are responsible for spending our taxpayers' hard-earned and very precious tax dollars have to perform according to the detail in this bill.

My portion of the bill—the Commerce, Justice, Science portion—is responsible for funding our Nation's law enforcement officers. Now that we have a President who will enforce the law, we ensure that our men and women in uniform who protect us have the resources they need in this bill. We funded the FBI with an additional $277 million to help those men and women fight terrorism, espionage, and cybercrime. The DEA, the Marshals Service, and the U.S. Attorneys all get increases to ensure our communities are made safer by combating gangs, drug trafficking, and violent crime. We make sure in this bill to fully fund opioid abuse programs to reduce this terrible plague that is now sweeping across our Nation.

We also in the Commerce, Justice, Science bill are responsible for funding the National Science Foundation, which we protected and made sure that the scientific community has the money they need to continue to do their great work.

I also, as a Houstonian and a Texan, take special pride in the funding that we have given to NASA to make sure that NASA will be restored to the glory days of Apollo with a funding total of $19.7 billion, and put them on a 50-year path to discover life in another world, the oceans of Europa, to look for that nearest Earthlike planet around the nearest star, develop an interstellar rocket propulsion system to go to at least 10 percent of the speed of light and to launch no later than 2069, the 100th anniversary of Neil Armstrong setting foot on the Moon. We have directed NASA to launch the first interstellar mission to that nearest Earthlike planet.

To pay for these increases, we are freezing 29 programs and cutting about 15 others to make sure that these are paid for.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 10 seconds to the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. CULBERSON. This bill protects our Second Amendment rights and contains pro-life protections that we have had in previous legislation. This is a good bill, Mr. Speaker. I urge all Members to support it.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2½ minutes to the gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. DELAURO), my friend with whom I have served on the Committee on Appropriations forever, the ranking member of the Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies.

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, the omnibus funding bill for 2017 makes important investments in health, education, and jobs programs, and rejects many of the damaging ideological riders that marked an earlier version of the Committee on Appropriations this year.

At a time when the administration is seeking massive cuts to programs that affect people's lives, this bill is more than respectable. It is a success. In fact, in some cases, we were able to increase funding. The bill provides an additional $2 billion for the National Institutes of Health. It ensures that critical lifesaving research can continue at our Nation's top research institution. Given that President Trump wants to cut in the 2018 budget $6 billion, and he wanted an additional $1.2 billion from 2017, this is a victory.

The bill finally restores year-round Pell eligibility, which helps to make college more affordable for hard-working students. Nontraditional students are most in need of this flexibility offered by year-round Pell. It helps them to graduate on time and with less debt.

There is an additional $3 million for senior nutrition programs and Meals on Wheels, extending our commitment to the health and the safety of our seniors. It invests in programs that help people to get the skills they need to earn higher wages and better jobs, including an increase of $15 million for Job Corps, $5 million for apprenticeships. I believe we ought to have more funding for apprenticeships.

There are no more investments as important as the ones we make for our children. This bill provides an additional $25 million for afterschool programs; $100 million for title I; $90 million for special education State grants; $95 million increase for the Child Care and Development Block Grant, desperately needed aid to working parents for safe and reliable child care; $85 million for Head Start and makes an early investment in the long-term health of our Nation's children.

This is the direction we should be moving: increasing funding for the priorities that touch people's lives. This omnibus ignores shortsighted cuts that have been proposed by the Trump administration and, instead, makes important investments in health, in education, and in jobs programs. I urge my colleagues to vote for it.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CARTER), the chairman of the Subcommittee on Homeland Security of the Committee on Appropriations.

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this legislation. The Homeland Security division of this bill contains $42.4 billion to fund the Department of Homeland Security. This amount includes $1.5 billion in additional funding as proposed by the President in his budget amendment. That is the largest boost to border security funding in nearly a decade. This bill is a sizable down payment on our promise to secure our borders, enforce our immigration laws, and keep our citizens safe.

This bill includes 39,324 detention beds, an increase of more than 5,000 over the previous number. This additional capacity will allow our immigration officials to end catch and release once and for all. Forty miles of upgraded fencing are in this bill. This upgraded barrier will stem the flow of drugs, smugglers, and illegal immigrants across our border, and give our Border Patrol agents the time they need to make an arrest.

Also included is $87 million of enhanced surveillance and radars so Border Patrol agents can more effectively detect illegal crossings, 26 miles of new road construction, and 758 miles of road improvements. I hear time and again from our agents on the border

that they not only need to detect illegal crossings, they must reach them to arrest them. These roads will literally pave the way toward that effort.

Here in Washington, people talk about border security and immigration. In Texas, we live it every day. We must get this problem under control. I am confident that with the support of President Trump and my colleagues in the House and Senate, we will bring sanity and the rule of law back to our borders. This bill is a vital step. I urge its passage.

I thank LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD, my ranking member, and both the majority and minority staffs for their hard work on this bill.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CUELLAR), a distinguished member of the Committee on Appropriations.

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to thank Chairman FRELINGHUYSEN and Ranking Member LOWEY for their hard work on this good bill.

This bill today is a compromise bill. It is a good bill because this is the way Congress is supposed to be working. I say it is a good bill because it provides an increase to the Pell grants, authorizes them in the summertime, year long. That will be good to get kids into education. It provides $2 billion to the National Institutes of Health. It provides a solution to the citrus greening crisis that is impacting our citrus growers in south Texas and other parts. It provides funding for 10 additional immigration judges and their support staff to help cut down the backlog of over half a million cases that we have on top of the 55 immigration judges we had last year. As Chairman CARTER said a few minutes ago, it adds $1.5 billion to improve the Nation's border security without funding the medieval wall that we have.

Again, I thank all of my colleagues for working in a bipartisan way.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. CALVERT), chairman of the Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the 2017 Consolidated Appropriations Act. The Interior division of this omnibus bill attempts to fairly balance the needs of our subcommittee's many diverse agencies and programs. It continues the subcommittee's critical work on addressing wildland fire, domestic energy production, the needs of our national parks, and meeting the obligations to Native Americans and Alaskan Natives. I look forward to working with the new leadership at the Interior Department in the FY 2018 appropriations process.

This bill provides funding for fire suppression at the 10-year average level. It includes $407 million in the FLAME wildfire suppression reserve account to help avoid borrowing resources from other forest programs to put out wildland fire.

This bill provides additional funding for the National Park Service, including efforts to address the maintenance backlog, the Service's Centennial, and the Centennial Challenge matching grant program.

The bill makes significant investments in health care, law enforcement, education programs in Indian Country, honoring the longstanding commitments to the American Indians and Alaska Natives.

This bill builds on the Trump administration's efforts to promote domestic energy and mineral development both onshore and offshore.

Before I close, I want to thank our ranking member, Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. She has been a partner and friend as we worked through our hearings, wrote the bill, and moved it through the legislative process to completion.

I also want to thank Chairman FRELINGHUYSEN for his support of the Interior Subcommittee and his leadership of the full committee. Kudos to you, Mr. Chairman, for bringing this appropriations process to a successful conclusion.

Finally, I thank the staff who have worked so hard on this bill. They include Dave LesStrang, Jason Gray, Darren Benjamin, Betsy Bina, Jackie Kilroy, and Kristin Richmond; also Ian Foley and Rebecca Keightley in my office.

Mr. Speaker, the package before us today is the product of many months of bipartisan negotiations. I urge Members on both sides of the aisle to support this important legislation.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. MENG), an outstanding new member of our Committee on Appropriations.

Ms. MENG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak in support of the legislation before us. Of course, this bill might not look like what it might if we had written it by our individual selves, but I think it is a good example of what genuine and honest compromise looks like. I thank Ranking Member LOWEY, Chairman FRELINGHUYSEN, and their respective staffs for their months of hard work in producing this omnibus.

Because of their joint efforts, the NIH will receive $2 billion in increased funding, America's coal miners will continue to receive the health benefits they have earned, an additional $600 million is provided to combat the opioid epidemic, needy students will be able to receive year-round Pell grants, $3.4 billion in LIHEAP funding will be distributed to our seniors, and $838 million will be made available for seniors' nutrition programs.

This is what responsible governing looks like. As a member of the House Committee on Appropriations, I look forward to working together in this manner in the future.

Thank you again, Ranking Member LOWEY and Chairman FRELINGHUYSEN, for your hard work in crafting this bill. I support it, and I urge my colleagues to do the same.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DIAZ-BALART), chair of the Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies.

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, before I speak about the specifics of this portion of the bill, I thank Chairman FRELINGHUYSEN. He has put countless hours to put this remarkable legislation together. I think he must be commended. I also thank Ranking Member LOWEY as well as the ranking member of the subcommittee, Mr. PRICE.

The American people expect us to get our job done, to fulfill our constitutional responsibility. That is precisely what we are doing today. The THUD portion of this agreement provides $57.7 billion in budget authority, which, by the way, is $5.5 billion below the budget request.

The transportation and housing programs in this bill support critical infrastructure, technologies, and housing opportunities that make a positive difference in the day-to-day lives of so many of our constituents.

This bill makes critical investments in our air traffic control system to make sure that continues to be the world leader in safety in the entire world.

□ 1530

We fund surface transportation investments authorized by the FAST Act to ensure that we improve and expand highways and bridges that are so vital to our national economy. And this bill also provides permanent regulatory relief from two overly burdensome additions to the hours-of-service restart rule made by the previous administration.

Mr. Speaker, this bill also provides $928 million in disaster assistance for communities devastated by storms and floods. This includes recovery assistance to Florida following the impact caused by Hurricane Matthew last October.

Mr. Speaker, we listened to the members of the committee and to the Members of Congress, and we did our best to address their highest priorities, while keeping in mind that our job is to protect the American taxpayer and cut ineffective, redundant programs. We are proud of this bill.

I thank the chairman for his hard work.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to yield 1½ minutes to the distinguished gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ).

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, let me take this opportunity to thank the gentlewoman from New York for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased this legislation contains $295.9 million for Puerto Rico's Medicaid program, which is running out of resources. Absent action, hundreds of thousands of our fellow citizens could lose health care.

Make no mistake, we are in this situation because of years of neglect from Washington. So, here we are again, fixing a hole created by Puerto Rico's second class treatment under Medicaid.

The funding in this bill is a first step toward rectifying the longstanding unequal treatment of Puerto Rico. By the way, Mr. Speaker, and Mr. President, last time I checked the history books, it was the U.S. Armed Forces who landed in Puerto Rico in 1898, and invaded Puerto Rico. So we have a moral obligation toward the people of Puerto Rico, American citizens.

Now, to the creditors, let me say this, and let me be clear: this money was not appropriated to line hedge funds' pockets. This money, and funds that would otherwise go to Puerto Rico's healthcare system, is for Puerto Ricans.

So I support this funding and look forward to seeking solutions for the island's long-term growth.

Finally, let me thank Leader PELOSI, Mr. HOYER, Ranking Member LOWEY, and Minority Leader SCHUMER for their efforts in securing these funds.

I thank my colleagues.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. YODER), chairman of the Subcommittee on Legislative Branch of the Appropriations Committee.

Mr. YODER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight some of the important provisions in this bipartisan omnibus legislation.

I want to specifically touch on the needed investments in medical research, education, and for our soldiers. It matches last year's $2 billion increase in research funding at the National Institutes of Health, the largest increase since 2003, renewing our commitment to science with a 13 percent increase in research funding over these last 2 years.

It improves access to education by increasing funding for Head Start programs and restores year-round Pell grants.

It invests $25 billion to rebuild our military for the 21st century and gives our troops the largest paying raise in 6 years.

Mr. Speaker, as chairman of the Legislative Branch Subcommittee, I am proud that our bill continues 13 percent reductions in spending on Congress since Republicans took control of the House of Representatives in 2011 and denies a pay increase for Members of Congress, showing the American people we are leading by example when it comes to fiscal responsibility.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI), the minority leader.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I thank our distinguished ranking member for her recognition and her leadership on this legislation that we have the opportunity to vote on. So I thank Ranking Member NITA LOWEY.

I thank the distinguished gentleman from New Jersey, Chairman FRELINGHUYSEN, for his leadership as well. And I commend his staff, Nancy Fox, and others for their hard work on this; and to Ranking Member LOWEY, Shalanda Young, Chris Bigelow, my own staff Richard Meltzer, and House and Senate staff members for getting us to this very important place.

The omnibus reflects significant progress defeating some dangerous riders, which I think are dangerous, and securing key victories.

Here is the thing: I spent many years in the Appropriations Committee. And I know, left to your own devices, the Appropriations Committee can find your common ground. You appreciate each other, you grant each other your positions on issues, and you understand the art of negotiating in a successful way.

There were some items that were suggested other than from the committee. From the White House, for example, a border wall, deportation force, things like that, 160 poison pills, which were ranging from undermining a woman's right to choose to dismantling Dodd-Frank, et cetera. But you all worked together to balance the equities and come up with a bill that will have, I believe, broad support in the Congress, certainly bipartisan support in the Congress.

But just not to speak about what we didn't like about the bill, there are some very positive aspects of it that I want to recognize—some nondefense increases in spending, which will save lives and create jobs.

Coal miners' health. We were so proud to secure more than $1 billion to deliver permanent health benefits to thousands of coal miners and their families who stood to lose their health benefits this month. God bless them for their advocacy. It was so important to our discussion.

Opioid epidemic. An additional $600 million for fighting the opioid epidemic.

Protecting EPA. There was going to be a huge cut, and now just a 1 percent cut in the EPA. We see that as a success.

Year-round Pell grants. So important.

Science funding. The omnibus increases funding for energy efficiency and renewable energy, the Department of Energy Office of Science, and ARPA-E, all initiatives that some wanted to cut but were happy had survived that interest in cutting.

Our colleague, Congresswoman VELÁZQUEZ, has led us on the Puerto Rico issue. The omnibus includes vital funds to stabilize Puerto Rico's underfunded Medicaid program, which threatened so many of our fellow Americans in Puerto Rico.

Democrats are very happy and give credit to, in a bipartisan way, led by Congresswoman BARBARA LEE, securing nearly $1 billion in humanitarian assistance to alleviate famine resulting from more drought and displacement in Africa and the Middle East, saving countless lives around the world. Left without assistance, maybe 1.5 million children would die of malnutrition in the next 6 months in Africa.

And then it takes us to biomedical research. I served with Mrs. LOWEY and others on the Labor-HHS Appropriations Subcommittee for many years. And the National Institutes of Health is this place that has the Biblical power to cure. It has scientific opportunity. And where there is scientific opportunity, we want to place additional resources. Lives depend on it.

So in stark contrast to the skinny budget that came out earlier, this legislation increases funding for the National Institutes of Health by $2 billion. And I want to say on that, as we relish that $2 billion and what it could mean to the good health of the American people, we have to protect our investments.

As we invest in new treatments and cures, we must also ensure that all Americans have access to them. That is why it is curious to me that on the same day that we vote on this omnibus bill and increase funding for the National Institutes of Health, increase funding for our veterans, and all the rest of that, Republicans are working furiously to advance TrumpCare's devastating impact on America's health care. No matter what anybody says to you about activities they are having today to tweak one piece of the bill, it will still be a bill that has higher costs, forcing families to pay higher premiums and deductibles and out-of-pocket costs. This will block some people from access to the lifesaving cures that we are investing in the National Institutes of Health to create.

Less coverage will take coverage from 24 million hardworking Americans.

Higher costs.

Fewer people covered.

Veterans tax. TrumpCare will deny tax credits for health care to 7 million military veterans.

TrumpCare destroys protections for preexisting conditions. So many of the investments at the National Institutes of Health that we are talking about are

to find cures and to find preventions. But when we are trying to find cures, that means that the people we are trying to cure have a preexisting medical condition. This would destroy the guarantee protection for a preexisting medical condition and gut the essential health benefits in the Affordable Care Act.

There is a crushing age tax. If you are 50 to 64, you will pay five times higher than others pay for health care.

It undermines our investments in Medicare.

So I mention this because I have always thought, when I sat on that committee year in and year out, day in and day out, hour on hour, listening to the challenges facing America's families for illnesses that they were suffering, a diagnosis that they were frightened by, that what they wanted us to do was to invest in a cure, but that meant access to that cure.

So they are trying to say: Well, we are going to help with high-risk pools, and that is going to neutralize everything I said about higher costs, lower coverage, et cetera. But the conservative Mercatus Center said: ''The amendment at hand focuses on high-risk pools, but the $8 billion amount is a pittance.''

And said: ''Spread over 5 years, it's a fifth of a pittance.''

That was Robert Graboyes, a healthcare expert at the conservative Mercatus Center.

Karen Pollitz, a healthcare expert at the Kaiser Family Foundation, said that the additional $8 billion would likely not be enough to make the high-risk pools workable. She said that would be enough money to cover costs for only 1 percent of the individual market.

So, again, let us protect the investment that we are making. Let us elevate it with pride and say $2 billion for the National Institutes of Health.

But what does that mean to you, the average American, if you can't have access to that in a way that is affordable?

Again, 51 years ago, Dr. King said, and I say again, because I say this all of the time: ''Of all the forms of inequality, injustice in health is the most shocking and the most inhuman because it often results in physical death.''

So, again, this appropriations bill is a way for us to help meet the needs of the American people. This Appropriations Committee did an excellent job in resolving differences and putting forth a balance of equities as we go forward.

But let us not give with one hand and take away with the other as we, in the same 24-hour period, say: Aren't we wonderful. $2 billion for medical research.

Under the Republican's healthcare plan, it will most likely benefit the privileged few at the expense of America's working families.

That is not what we are supposed to be doing here. That is what we are taking pride in. What we are taking pride in is of the great possibilities, but let's make those possibilities available.

And I say that as one who served for many years on the Appropriations Committee, one whose goal in life was to sit on the Labor-HHS Subcommittee and to increase the funding of the National Institutes of Health, but to do it for the purpose of all Americans having access.

Having said that, getting back to this omnibus bill, again, I am very proud of the work of NITA LOWEY, of the ranking members of the subcommittees, and of the staff who worked so hard. I am especially proud of the work, also, of our distinguished chairman, Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. I join him in recognizing the work of his subcommittee chairs on all of this. It is a product to be proud of. I thank Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN and Mrs. LOWEY.

I urge a ''yes'' vote.

□ 1545

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Puerto Rico (Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN).

Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico. Mr. Speaker, as a fiscal conservative, let me set the record straight. This bill's recognized $296 million of Medicaid funding is just a bridge, half of the bridge. This legislation simply reprograms this funding to partially address the impending Medicaid cliff in Puerto Rico.

This allocation does not constitute new money for the island. There should be no mistake about the territories' Medicaid program, which historically has been underfunded and treated differently from the States. This cliff is the result of ObamaCare.

Congress should understand that that failure to address this issue will provoke a complete collapse of Puerto Rico's healthcare delivery system and make worse the already ongoing mass exodus from the island to the mainland States, such as Florida and North Carolina.

Over 1.4 million United States American citizens in Puerto Rico receive health services through the Medicaid program at a per member, per year rate of $167 versus $500 to $600 in the 50 States.

It is quite a difference. I want to recognize and thank Speaker PAUL RYAN, Chairman FRELINGHUYSEN, Chairman COLE, Members of this House, and all of my colleagues for supporting this bill.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman FRELINGHUYSEN for his efforts to bring an omnibus to the floor. He came into the chairmanship having to finish FY17 and must quickly pivot to FY18. This is a package that Members of both parties can support. It came through bipartisan and bicameral negotiations and offers compromises for both parties.

This kind of cooperation best serves the American people. I thank the chairs and ranking members of the subcommittees who did most of the heavy lifting to produce this bill, and I again thank the committee and personal staff on both sides of the aisle for their hard work. It shows we can do our basic job keeping the government open without the threat of a shutdown.

Mr. Speaker, I yield the balance of my time to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN), the distinguished chairman.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time. I thank the gentlewoman and my ranking counterpart, Mrs. LOWEY, for that kindness, and may I associate with her our remarks, pay tribute to her leadership, the wonderful work of the staff that she has behind her and that I have behind me. I think the debate and the comments have been positive today.

The men and women of the greatest military in the world, the United States Armed Forces, are waiting for our support today with the passage of this package, this appropriations bill. Please don't let them down. Please support this bill, which provides for our national and economic security and takes us out from a very damaging and restrictive continuing resolution.

Today is a vote to keep the government open and get back to our appropriations process, which is our responsibility under the Constitution, the power of the purse. Let's take it and use it wisely.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. NUNES. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Section 3 of House Resolution 305, I am submitting the following explanatory material to accompany Division N—Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017—of H.R. 244, Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2017.

DIVISION N—INTELLIGENCE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017

The following is the explanation of the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017.

This explanation reflects the status of negotiations and disposition of issues reached between the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence and the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence (hereinafter, ''the Agreement''). The explanation shall have the same effect with respect to the implementation of this Act as if it were a joint explanatory statement of a conference committee.

The explanation comprises three parts: an overview of the application of the annex to accompany this statement; unclassified congressional direction; and a section-by-section analysis of the legislative text.

PART I: APPLICATION OF THE CLASSIFIED ANNEX

The classified nature of U.S. intelligence activities prevents the congressional intelligence committees from publicly disclosing many details concerning the conclusions and

recommendations of the Agreement. Therefore, a classified Schedule of Authorizations and a classified annex have been prepared to describe in detail the scope and intent of the congressional intelligence committees' actions. The Agreement authorizes the Intelligence Community (IC) to obligate and expend funds not altered or modified by the classified Schedule of Authorizations as requested in the President's budget, subject to modification under applicable reprogramming procedures.

The classified annex is the result of negotiations between the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence and the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence. It reconciles the differences between the committees' respective versions of the bill for the National Intelligence Program (NIP) and the Homeland Security Intelligence Program (HSIP) for Fiscal Year 2017. The Agreement also makes recommendations for the Military Intelligence Program (MIP), and the Information Systems Security Program (ISSP), consistent with the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017, and provides certain direction for these two programs.

The Agreement supersedes the classified annexes to the reports accompanying: H.R. 5077, as passed by the House on May 24, 2016; H.R. 6393, as passed by the House on November 20, 2016; H.R. 6480, as passed by the House on December 8, 2016; S. 3017, as reported by the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence on June 6, 2016; and S. 133, as reported by the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence on January 20, 2017. All references to the House-passed and Senate-reported annexes are solely to identify the heritage of specific provisions.

The classified Schedule of Authorizations is incorporated into the bill pursuant to Section 102. It has the status of law. The classified annex supplements and adds detail to clarify the authorization levels found in the bill and the classified Schedule of Authorizations. The classified annex shall have the same legal force as the report to accompany the bill.

PART II: SELECT UNCLASSIFIED CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTION

Managing intelligence community personnel

This Agreement by the congressional intelligence committees accepts the Senate's recommendations that IC elements should build, develop, and maintain a workforce appropriately balanced among its civilian, military and contractor workforce sectors to meet the missions assigned to it in law and by the president. The Agreement recognizes that the size and shape of the IC's multi-sector workforce should be based on mission needs, and encourages the IC to adjust its reliance on contractors when appropriate, both as a matter of general policy and as a way to conserve resources. The flexibility afforded in this provision should support this position. In addition, section 103 provides an increase in the number of civilian personnel authorized in the Schedule of Authorizations for the purposes of such contractor conversions in the interim for the remainder of fiscal year 2017. Nothing precludes the Congress from addressing the end strength for any element or office of the IC in the annual authorization bills.

Therefore, the committees direct that the ODNI provide the congressional intelligence committees briefings on the workforce initiative as directed in section 306, beginning July 1, 2017, and each 120 days thereafter until July 1, 2018, with benchmarks and milestones, for IC elements to manage a multi-sector workforce without personnel ceilings starting in fiscal year 2019. The ODNI, in coordination with the IC elements, shall establish a common methodology for collecting and reporting data, and include new exhibits in the annual congressional budget justification books that display full-time equivalents (government civilians, core contractors, non-core contractors, and military personnel), by program, expenditure center and project.

In the absence of authorized position ceiling levels, agencies will be bound to authorized and appropriated personal services funding levels.

Further, the transfer of non-personal services funding in below-threshold reprogramming is a concern to the committees. Therefore, the committees direct agencies to provide a written notification to the committees of any realignment and/or reprogramming of funding between personal services and non-personal services.

Commercial Geospatial Intelligence Strategy

The congressional intelligence committees applaud the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) for issuing its October 2015 Commercial Geospatial Intelligence (GEOINT) Strategy, which states a goal of fostering a ''more diverse, resilient, agile, and responsive GEOINT program that provides seamless user access to the best mix of commercial GEOINT . . . to fulfill National System for Geospatial-Intelligence (NSG) and Allied System for Geospatial-Intelligence (ASG) mission needs.'' The committees also find merit in the NGA's ''GEOINT Pathfinder'' project, which seeks to maximize the use of unclassified and commercially available data sources that can be easily and rapidly shared with a variety of military, United States and allied government, and non-government customers, and supports the project's continuation and expansion.

The committees further commend the NGA for pursuing new methods of intelligence collection and analysis to inform, complement, and add to its support of warfighter requirements by looking to emerging commercial technology providers, including small satellite companies, which hold the promise of rapid technological innovation and potentially significant future cost savings to the U.S. taxpayer. The committees further encourage the Director of the NGA to ensure sufficient funding is available to acquire new, unclassified sources, including commercial satellite imagery providing unprecedented global persistence, as well as products and services that provide information and context about changes relevant to geospatial intelligence. The committees also encourage the NGA to pursue new business models, including commercial acquisition practices, to enable the NGA's access to data, products, and services in ways consistent with best commercial practices.

The committees fully support the NGA's course of action in partnering with the commercial GEOINT industry to meet future warfighter intelligence requirements, while recognizing the need to take appropriate steps to protect national security, and encourage the Director of the NGA and the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence to keep the committees informed of their progress in implementing this strategy. Therefore, this Agreement directs the Department of Defense (DoD), in building future-year budgets, to ensure continued funding is provided for implementation, through at least Fiscal Year 2021, of the Commercial Geospatial Intelligence Strategy issued by the NGA in October 2015.

Space Launch Facilities

The congressional intelligence committees continue to believe it is critical to preserve a variety of launch range capabilities to support national security space missions. Spaceports or launch and range complexes may provide capabilities to reach mid-to-low or polar-to-high inclination orbits. The committees believe an important component of this effort may be state-owned and operated spaceports that are commercially licensed by the Federal Aviation Administration, which leverage non-federal public and private investments to bolster U.S. launch capabilities. Additionally, the committees believe that these facilities may be able to provide additional flexibility and resilience to the Nation's launch infrastructure, especially as the nation considers concepts such as the reconstitution of satellites to address the growing foreign counterspace threat. The committees note recent testimony by the Chief of Staff of the U.S. Air Force, General Mark Welsh, who stated,

As we look at this space enterprise and how we do it differently in the future, as we look more at disaggregation, microsats, cube sats, small sats, things that don't have to go from a large launch complex all the time, I think proliferating launch complexes is probably going to be a natural outshoot of this. I think it's commercially viable, it may be a way for companies to get into the launch business who could not afford to get into it or don't see a future in it and for large national security space launches, but I think this has got to be part of the strategy that this whole national team puts together as we look to the future.

Therefore, the Agreement directs the IC, in partnership with the U.S. Air Force, to consider the role and contribution of spaceports or launch and range complexes to our national security space launch capacity, and directs the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, in consultation with the Department of Defense and the U.S. Air Force, to brief the congressional intelligence committees on their plans to utilize such facilities within 90 days of enactment of this Act.

National Reconnaissance Office Workforce Optimization Strategy

The congressional intelligence committees have had longstanding interest in, and support for, a permanent government cadre to provide the National Reconnaissance Office (NRO) with a stable, expert acquisition workforce. The committees applaud the substantial progress that the NRO has made in the past year in this regard. The committees have parallel interests in providing the IC with flexibility to manage a multi-sector workforce and in continuing the reduction in the reliance on contractors.

Therefore, the Agreement directs the NRO to conduct a workforce review to optimize the mix between government civilians and contractors and report to the committees with a strategy within 90 days of enactment of this Act.

Guidance and reporting requirement regarding interactions between the intelligence community and entertainment industry.

The congressional intelligence committees believe that there are important, valid reasons for elements of the IC to engage with the entertainment industry, among other things to ensure the correction of inaccuracies, demonstrate the IC's commitment to transparency, and to ensure that the IC recruits and retains highly qualified personnel to the fullest extent possible. The committees further believe that IC engagement with

the entertainment industry should be conducted in the most cost effective and deliberate fashion possible, while ensuring that classified information is protected from unauthorized disclosure.

These engagements—some of which have been described in partially-declassified inspector general reports—cost taxpayer dollars, raise potential ethics concerns, increase the risk of disclosure of classified information, and consume the time and attention of IC personnel responsible for United States national security. Neither the production of entertainment nor the self-promotion of IC entities are legitimate purposes for these engagements.

Review of the National Intelligence University

The National Intelligence University (NIU) has made significant progress in recent years in its transition from a defense intelligence college to a national intelligence university that provides advanced education in a classified format. Such advanced education is integral to making intelligence a profession with recognized standards for performance and ethics and fostering an integrated IC workforce. While progress has been significant since the Director of National Intelligence (DNI) and Secretary of Defense agreed to redesignate Defense Intelligence Agency's (DIA) National Defense Intelligence College as NIU in 2011, the institution must continue to adapt to functioning as a university with a robust research agenda, and to serving the entire IC, not just elements of DoD.

Fiscal years 2017 and 2018 are of great significance for NIU, as it moves its principal facility to the IC Campus at Bethesda, completes activities associated with its 2018 decennial regional accreditation reaffirmation, and receives a new president. The congressional intelligence committees believe that these developments position NIU to make further progress in its vision to become the center of academic life for the IC.

To guide these next steps, the Agreement directs DIA, in coordination with ODNI and the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence, to, no later than 30 days after enactment of this Act, select a five member, external, and independent panel to conduct a review of NIU. The panel shall submit a report detailing the results of such review to the congressional intelligence and defense committees within 180 days of enactment of this Act. The panel should be composed of recognized academics, personnel from other DoD joint professional military education institutions, national security experts, and at least one member of NIU's Board of Visitors.

This review and the resulting report shall, among other things, assess:

(1) Methods for ensuring a student body that is more representative of all IC elements;

(2) Incentives for IC elements to send personnel to NIU to earn a degree or certificate, to include designating attendance at NIU as positions reimbursable by ODNI and requiring IC elements to employ the workforce concept of ''float'' for personnel enrolled in higher-education programs;

(3) How certificate programs align with NIU's unique value as an institution of advanced intelligence education;

(4) Methods to enhance NIU's research program, to include publication of a journal, hosting of conferences and other collaborative fora, and more formalized relationships with intelligence studies scholars;

(5) Whether and how educational components of other IC elements could provide educational offerings as part of the NIU curriculum;

(6) Potential advantages and risks associated with alternative governance models for NIU, to include moving it under the auspices of ODNI; and

(7) The feasibility and resource constraints of NIU tailoring degree offerings to meet the needs of IC personnel at different stages in their careers, similar to DoD's joint professional military education model.

Cost of living consideration

The congressional intelligence committees are concerned with the high cost of living for military, civilian, and contractor personnel at overseas Combatant Command intelligence centers. Although the committees recognize the benefits of co-locating intelligence analysts with the operational commander, the intelligence centers for both U.S. European Command (USEUCOM) and U.S. Africa Command (USAFRICOM) are located over 600 miles from their Combatant Command headquarters. Combatant Commanders based in the United States regularly communicate with forward deployed units, and the USEUCOM and USAFRICOM intelligence centers have developed mechanisms to effectively employ various teleconferencing and virtual communication tools to ensure collaboration across large distances.

The congressional intelligence committees are concerned that despite the utility of these virtual collaboration tools, DoD has not taken action to reduce the number of intelligence personnel stationed in high cost of living areas. These costs can exceed $65,000 per person, per year in annual cost of living allowances compared to the continental United States (CONUS) expenses. The additional costs associated with stationing intelligence personnel in high-cost overseas locations detract from other critical intelligence priorities. The committees are further concerned that DoD does not adequately account for the long-run expense of high costs of living when selecting locations for intelligence facilities.

Therefore, the Agreement directs the DIA to evaluate alternate mechanisms for staffing overseas Combatant Command intelligence centers, particularly those that are not co-located with Combatant Command headquarters, and to identify cost-savings opportunities by shifting personnel to lower cost locations, including in the continental United States.

Defense Intelligence Agency education opportunities

DIA presently allows DIA employees to receive pay for a single year only while attending certain graduate degree programs on a full-time basis. Employees may pursue such opportunities at the National Intelligence University and similar institutions; and, in certain circumstances, also at public and private civilian universities. However, the one-year limit discourages DIA personnel from pursuing multi-year graduate degree programs. Expanding DIA's program to allow highly qualified DIA employees to pursue multi-year graduate degree programs from accredited civilian universities would further improve retention, recruitment, and foster diversity of thought at DIA.

Therefore, the Agreement directs DIA, no later than 180 days after the enactment of this Act, to:

(1) Provide for and fund a program that allows for DIA employees to attend civilian graduate degree programs for up to two years each, based on the standard length of the relevant program, provided that:

(a) Where DIA deems appropriate, employees may pursue academic programs extending beyond two years. Consistent with current practices, the program should be made available to at least five employees each year, with each employee receiving a full-time salary while participating in the program; and

(b) Each DIA participant shall be subject to any program approvals, service obligations, repayment obligations, and other requirements pertaining to academic programs, as prescribed by applicable laws and policies.

(2) Brief the congressional intelligence committees on the status of the program's implementation.

Mental health prevalence

The congressional intelligence committees are committed to supporting the men and women of the IC, who bravely risk their lives serving their country as civilians in conflict zones and other dangerous locations around the world. These individuals often serve next to their military counterparts in areas of active hostilities. As such, they are often exposed to many of the emotional stresses generally associated with a tour of duty abroad. The committees believe there are deficiencies and inconsistencies in the pre- and post-deployment mental health and wellness services available to civilian employees.

Therefore, the Agreement directs the National Security Agency (NSA), NGA, the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), and DIA, no later than 180 days after the enactment of this Act, to provide a joint briefing to the congressional intelligence committees on the mental health screenings and related services that these agencies offer employees, both before and after they deploy to combat zones. Such briefing shall include a description of:

(1) Existing services available;

(2) Agency resources for and analysis of these services, including the frequency of use by employees compared to the total number returning from deployment; and

(3) How agencies with deployed civilian employees are sharing best practices and leveraging services or resources outside their agencies.

Review of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence

It has been more than ten years since the Congress established the position of the Director of National Intelligence (DNI) in the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004, building on its predecessor, the Director of Central Intelligence. Given this experience and the evolving security environment, the committees believe it appropriate to review the DNI's roles, missions and functions and adapt its authorities, organization and resources as needed.

Therefore, the Agreement directs the President to form an independent, external panel of at least five individuals with significant intelligence and national security expertise to review ODNI's roles, missions and functions and make recommendations, as needed, regarding its authorities, organization and resources. The panel shall:

(1) Evaluate ODNI's ability to fulfill the responsibilities assigned to it in law given its current scope and structure;

(2) Assess whether any roles and responsibilities currently assigned to the DNI could be more effectively or efficiently executed by other IC components or government agencies outside the IC;

(3) Analyze the personnel, funding, and authorities required for each component of

ODNI to perform each of its assigned responsibilities;

(4) Evaluate the organizational structure of ODNI;

(5) Review the size, role, purpose and function of ODNI's mission centers;

(6) Assess the value of the national intelligence manager construct;

(7) Review the size and mix of the ODNI workforce—to include the ratio between cadre and detailees, the balance between government and contractors, and grade structure—to perform its roles, missions and functions; and

(8) Make recommendations regarding the above.

The Agreement directs the President, no later than 30 days after the enactment of this Act, to select the individuals who will serve on the external panel and notify the congressional intelligence committees of such selection.

In addition, the Agreement directs the panel, no later than 180 days after the enactment of this Act, to provide a report on this review to the congressional intelligence committees. This report shall be unclassified, but may contain a classified annex. The Agreement further directs ODNI to reimburse the Executive Office of the President for any costs associated with the review.

Improving pre-publication review

The congressional intelligence committees are concerned that current and former IC personnel have published written material without completing mandatory pre-publication review procedures or have rejected changes required by the review process, resulting in the publication of classified information. The committees are particularly troubled by press reports suggesting that officials are unaware of the existence or scope of pre-publication review requirements.

The committees are also aware of the perception that the pre-publication review process can be unfair, untimely, and unduly onerous—and that these burdens may be at least partially responsible for some individuals ''opting out'' of the mandatory review process. The committees further understand that IC agencies' pre-publication review mechanisms vary, and that there is no binding, IC-wide guidance on the subject.

The committees believe that all IC personnel must be made aware of pre-publication review requirements and that the review process must yield timely, reasoned, and impartial decisions that are subject to appeal. The committees also believe that efficiencies can be identified by limiting the information subject to pre-publication review, to the fullest extent possible, to only those materials that might reasonably contain or be derived from classified information obtained during the course of an individual's association with the IC. In short, the pre-publication review process should be improved to better incentivize compliance and to ensure that personnel fulfill their commitments.

Therefore, the Agreement directs that, no later than 180 days after the enactment of this Act, the DNI shall issue an IC-wide policy regarding pre-publication review. The DNI shall transmit this policy to the congressional intelligence committees concurrently with its issuance. The policy should require each IC agency to develop and maintain a pre-publication policy that contains, at a minimum, the following elements:

(1) Identification of the individuals subject to pre-publication review requirements (''covered individuals'');

(2) Guidance on the types of information that must be submitted for pre-publication review, including works (a) unrelated to an individual's IC employment; or (b) published in cooperation with a third party, e.g.—

(a) Authored jointly by covered individuals and third parties;

(b) Authored by covered individuals but published under the name of a third party; or

(c) Authored by a third party but with substantial input from covered individuals.

(3) Guidance on a process by which covered individuals can participate in pre-publication reviews, and communicate openly and frequently with reviewers;

(4) Requirements for timely responses, as well as reasoned edits and decisions by reviewers;

(5) Requirements for a prompt and transparent appeal process;

(6) Guidelines for the assertion of inter-agency equities in pre-publication review;

(7) A summary of the lawful measures each agency may take to enforce its policy, to include civil and criminal referrals; and

(8) A description of procedures for post-publication review of documents that are alleged or determined to reveal classified information but were not submitted for pre-publication review.

Additionally, the Agreement directs ODNI, no later than 180 days after the enactment of this Act, to provide to the congressional intelligence committees a report on the adequacy of IC information technology efforts to improve and expedite pre-publication review processes, and the resources needed to ensure that IC elements can meet this direction.

The Agreement further directs the DNI, no later than 270 days after the enactment of this Act, to certify to the congressional intelligence committees that IC elements' pre-publication review policies, non-disclosure agreements, and any other agreements imposing pre-publication review obligations reflect the policy described above.

Student loan debt report

IC components need to be able to recruit talented young professionals. However, the soaring cost of college and post-graduate education in the United States is causing many young people to forgo public service in favor of career opportunities with more competitive pay or loan forgiveness benefits.

Therefore, the Agreement directs ODNI, no later than 180 days after the enactment of this Act, to provide a report to the congressional intelligence committees on programs that seek to help IC personnel manage student loan debt. The report shall include details about each IC element's program, including loan forgiveness, loan repayment, and financial counseling programs; efforts to inform prospective and current employees about such programs; and the number of employees who use such programs The report shall also include an analysis of the benefits and drawbacks of creating new programs and expanding existing programs, and shall identify any barriers to the establishment of IC-wide programs

Workforce development partnership

The congressional intelligence committees have long promoted novel recruiting, hiring, and retention practices, especially with respect to highly expert, highly sought-after Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) students and professionals. Despite these efforts, the IC continues to struggle with meeting STEM recruitment, hiring, and retention goals inside the IC.

The committees are therefore encouraged to learn that the IC is considering new and creative practices in this regard. For example, the committees were intrigued by the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory's (PNNL) budding Workforce Development Partnership with the CIA. Partnerships like this may allow IC agencies to leverage PNNL's robust employee recruiting network and seek out STEM students who might not otherwise consider IC employment.

Similarly, to address concerns that potential hires will accept other job offers while awaiting clearances, NGA has a program to allow interim hires to work on unclassified projects until clearances are adjudicated. In addition, several IC agencies have instituted a unique pay scale for their junior STEM workforce. The committees recognize the benefits of these initiatives, and believes that such efforts could have wider applicability across the IC.

Therefore, the Agreement directs the DNI Chief Human Capital Officer, no later than 180 days after the enactment of this Act, to provide to the congressional intelligence committees an interagency briefing on new approaches, including outreach and advertising, the IC is considering or conducting to attract a diverse, robust Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math and information technology workforce to meet the increasing demands in the IC.

Distributed Common Ground/Surface System-Army

The congressional intelligence committees believe the Distributed Common Ground/Surface System-Army (DCGS–A) provides operational and tactical commanders with enhanced, state-of-the-art intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR) tasking, processing, exploitation, and dissemination capabilities and connectivity to the defense intelligence information enterprise. DCGS-A is a critical tool for enabling military intelligence warfighters to process, fuse, and exploit data. In the past, the Army has struggled to keep pace for pre-deployment and in-theater training for DCGS-A. However, training for military intelligence analysts must be prioritized in the pre-deployment readiness cycle to ensure that those using this intelligence tool can effectively utilize its capabilities.

The Army has fielded over 95 percent of DCGS-A Increment 1 systems, with mixed results and often negative feedback from the users. The Army is in the process of fielding Increment 1, Release 2, which will address many of the initial concerns and deficiencies of Increment 1. The committees remain concerned that the Army has not sufficiently planned for user training in support of the release of Increment 1, Release 2 to operational users.

Therefore, the congressional intelligence committees request that the Army, no later than 90 days after the enactment of this Act, submit a plan to the congressional intelligence and defense committees on how the Army will fully incorporate Distributed Common Ground/Surface System-Army (DCGS–A) training into the readiness cycle for Army personnel. The plan should specifically address any lessons learned from the fielding of DCGS–A Increment 1 and any ongoing corrective actions to improve the roll-out of Increment 1, Release 2.

Common controller for unmanned aircraft systems

The congressional intelligence committees support the Army's efforts to develop a common controller for the RQ–7A/B Shadow and the RQ–11B Raven tactical unmanned aerial vehicles. However, the committees are concerned that the Army is not collaborating

with the Marine Corps on similar efforts to develop a ground controller for the Marine Corps family of tactical unmanned aerial systems (UAS), including the RQ–11B Raven, the RQ–12A Wasp, and the RQ–20A Puma.

Therefore, the Agreement requests that the Army and the Marine Corps Intelligence Activity (MCIA), no later than 90 days after the enactment of this Act, jointly submit a report to the congressional intelligence and defense committees on the feasibility of developing a common controller for all Brigade and Below unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) airframes, as well as U.S. Marine Corps small unit UAS. The report should address the potential performance and operational benefits of a common controller, anticipated development costs, and anticipated life-cycle cost savings of a common controller.

Review of dual-hatting relationship

The congressional intelligence committees support further evaluation of the dual-hatting of a single individual as both Commander of U.S. Cyber Command (USCYBERCOM) and Director of the National Security Agency (DIRNSA).

Therefore, the Agreement directs the Secretary of Defense, no later than 90 days after the enactment of this Act, to provide to the congressional intelligence and defense committees a briefing that reviews and provides an assessment of the dual-hatting of DIRNSA and Commander, USCYBERCOM. This briefing should address:

(1) Roles and responsibilities, including intelligence authorities, of USCYBERCOM and NSA;

(2) Assessment of the current impact of the dual-hatting relationship, including advantages and disadvantages;

(3) Plans and recommendations on courses of action that would be necessary to end the dual-hatting of DIRNSA and Commander, USCYBERCOM, which satisfy Section 1642 of the conference report accompanying S. 2943, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017;

(4) Suggested timelines for carrying out such courses of action;

(5) Recommendations for any changes in law that would be required by the end of dual-hatting; and

(6) Any additional topics as identified by the intelligence and defense committees.

The congressional intelligence committees further believe that a larger organizational review of NSA should be conducted with respect to the eventual termination of the dual-hatting relationship. The congressional intelligence committees seek to promote the efficient and effective execution of NSA's national intelligence mission. Specifically, the congressional intelligence committees believe that the organization of NSA should be examined to account for the evolution of its mission since its establishment, the current structure of the intelligence community, and the fact that the NSA is predominantly funded through the NIP.

Therefore, the Agreement further directs the DNI, no later than 120 days after the enactment of this Act, to conduct an assessment and provide a briefing to the congressional intelligence committees on options to better align the structure, budgetary procedures, and oversight of NSA with its national intelligence mission in the event of a termination of the dual-hafting relationship. This briefing should include:

(1) An assessment of the feasibility of transitioning NSA to civilian leadership appointed by the DNI in lieu of military leadership appointed by the Secretary of Defense;

(2) How NSA could be organizationally separated from DoD if USCYBERCOM were elevated to become a unified combatant command; and

(3) Any challenges, such as those requiring changes in law, associated with such a separation.

Acquisition security improvement

The congressional intelligence committees remain concerned about supply chain and cybersecurity vulnerabilities in the IC. The committees believe the IC should implement a more comprehensive approach to address these vulnerabilities, particularly during the acquisition process. However, ICD 801, the IC guideline governing the acquisition process, is outdated and must be revised to reflect current risks. In particular, despite issuance of ICD 731, Supply Chain Risk Management, in 2013, ICD 801 has not been updated to reflect this policy nor does it include consideration of cybersecurity vulnerabilities and mitigation.

Therefore, the Agreement directs ODNI, no later than 180 days after the enactment of this Act, to review and consider amendments to Intelligence Community Directive (ICD) 801 to better reflect and anticipate supply chain and cybersecurity risks and threats, as well as to outline policies to mitigate both risks and threats. In particular, the review should examine whether to:

(1) Expand risk management criteria in the acquisition process to include cyber and supply chain threats;

(2) Require counterintelligence and security assessments as part of the acquisition and procurement process;

(3) Propose and adopt new education requirements for acquisition professionals on cyber and supply chain threats; and

(4) Factor in the cost of cyber and supply chain security.

The Agreement further directs ODNI, no later than 210 days after the enactment of this Act, to provide to the congressional intelligence committees a report describing the review, including ODNI's process for considering amendments to ICD 801, and specifically addressing ODNI's analysis and conclusions with respect to paragraphs (1) through (4) above.

Cyber information sharing and customer feedback

The congressional intelligence committees commend NSA's new policies and procedures to facilitate greater information sharing of cyber threat indicators and defensive measures with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) at the unclassified level.

With the recent enactment of the Cybersecurity Act of 2015, which encourages greater information sharing between private sector stakeholders, as well as with government entities, the committees believe the next step is to ensure the entire IC is working to disseminate timely, actionable information to private sector stakeholders so they can better protect their information technology networks. The vast majority of U.S. networks reside in the private sector, and it is good governance to ensure that those networks are safe and secure for the general public.

The committees appreciate that the IC has begun efforts to increase unclassified cyber threat sharing. Because an increase in the quantity of reporting does not necessarily indicate effectiveness or usefulness, this Committee continues to monitor the quality of the information distributed.

Therefore, the Agreement directs ODNI, no later than 120 days after the enactment of this Act, to brief the congressional intelligence committees on IC-wide efforts to share more information with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) for further dissemination to the private sector. This briefing shall specifically address types of information shared, metrics on output, tabulation of low output producing agencies, recommendations on how low output agencies can increase sharing, timeliness of information shared, and average total time it takes for information to transit the system.

The Agreement also directs ODNI, in coordination with the DHS Office of Intelligence and Analysis (I&A), to conduct a survey of government and private sector participants of the National Cybersecurity and Communications Integration Center (NCCIC). The survey shall be anonymous, provide an accurate assessment of the usefulness and timeliness of the data received, and determine if customers are satisfied with intelligence briefings on threat actors impacting their specific industry. The Agreement further directs ODNI, no later than one year after the enactment of this Act, to provide to the congressional intelligence and homeland security committees an unclassified report detailing the results of this survey.

Department of Homeland Security utilization of National Labs expertise

The congressional intelligence committees believe that the Department of Energy (DOE) National Labs represent a unique and invaluable resource for the government and the IC in particular.

Therefore, the Agreement directs, no later than 180 days after the enactment of this Act, DHS I&A, in coordination with DOE Office of Intelligence and Counterintelligence (DOE–IN), to provide to the congressional intelligence committees a report on the current utilization of Department of Energy (DOE) National Labs expertise by DHS I&A. This report should address opportunities to increase DHS I&A's utilization of cybersecurity expertise of the National Labs as well as the budgetary implications of taking advantage of these potential opportunities.

Cybersecurity courses for Centers of Academic Excellence

The congressional intelligence committees are concerned by a recent analysis from a security firm, which determined that not one of the nation's leading undergraduate computer science programs requires students to take a cybersecurity course before graduating. Cybersecurity depends on IC professionals having a strong understanding of the cyber threat and how to mitigate it—which in turn requires a strong academic background. NSA and DHS cosponsor the Centers of Academic Excellence (CAE) in Cyber Defense program, which includes an emphasis on basic cybersecurity. Nevertheless, even some CAE-designated institutions lack cybersecurity course prerequisites in their computer science curricula.

Therefore, the Agreement directs ODNI, no later than 180 days after the enactment of this Act, to submit to the congressional intelligence committees a report on improving cybersecurity training within NIP-funded undergraduate and graduate computer science programs. The report should specifically address:

(1) The potential advantages and disadvantages of conditioning an institution's receipt of such funds on its computer science program's requiring cybersecurity as a precondition to graduation;

(2) How Centers of Academic Excellence programs might bolster cybersecurity educational requirements; and

(3) Recommendations to support the goal of ensuring that federally-funded computer

science programs properly equip students to confront future cybersecurity challenges.

PART III: SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS AND EXPLANATION OF LEGISLATIVE TEXT

The following is a section-by-section analysis and explanation of the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017.

TITLE I—INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES

Section 101. Authorization of appropriations

Section 101 lists the United States Government departments, agencies, and other elements for which the Act authorizes appropriations for intelligence and intelligence-related activities for Fiscal Year 2017.

Section 102. Classified Schedule of Authorizations

Section 102 provides that the details of the amounts authorized to be appropriated for intelligence and intelligence-related activities and the applicable personnel levels by program for Fiscal Year 2017 are contained in the classified Schedule of Authorizations and that the classified Schedule of Authorizations shall be made available to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and House of Representatives and to the President.

Section 103. Personnel ceiling adjustments

Section 103 provides that the DNI may authorize employment of civilian personnel in Fiscal Year 2017 in excess of the number of authorized positions by an amount not exceeding three percent of the total limit applicable to each IC element under Section 102, and ten percent of the number of civilian personnel authorized under such schedule for the purposes of contractor conversions. The DNI may do so only if necessary to the performance of important intelligence functions.

Section 104. Intelligence Community Management Account

Section 104 authorizes appropriations for the Intelligence Community Management Account (ICMA) of the DNI and sets the authorized personnel levels for the elements within the ICMA for Fiscal Year 2017.

TITLE II—CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY RETIREMENT AND DISABILITY SYSTEM

Section 201. Authorization of appropriations

Section 201 authorizes appropriations in the amount of $514,000,000 for Fiscal Year 2017 for the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability Fund.

TITLE III—GENERAL INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY MATTERS

Section 301. Restriction on conduct of intelligence activities

Section 301 provides that the authorization of appropriations by the Act shall not be deemed to constitute authority for the conduct of any intelligence activity that is not otherwise authorized by the Constitution or laws of the United States.

Section 302. Increase in employee compensation and benefits authorized by law

Section 302 provides that funds authorized to be appropriated by the Act for salary, pay, retirement, and other benefits for federal employees may be increased by such additional or supplemental amounts as may be necessary for increases in compensation or benefits authorized by law.

Section 303. Support to nonprofit organizations assisting intelligence community employees

Section 303 permits the DNI to engage in fundraising in an official capacity for the benefit of nonprofit organizations that provide support to surviving family members of a deceased employee of an element of the IC or otherwise provide support for the welfare, education, or recreation of IC employees, former employees, or their family members. Section 303 requires the DNI to issue regulations ensuring that the fundraising authority is exercised consistent with all relevant ethical limitations and principles. Section 303 further requires that the DNI and the Director of the CIA notify the congressional intelligence committees within seven days after they engage in such fundraising.

Section 304. Promotion of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education in the intelligence community

Section 304 requires the DNI to submit a five-year investment strategy for outreach and recruiting efforts in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM), to include cybersecurity and computer literacy. Section 304 further requires elements of the IC to submit STEM investment plans supporting this strategy for each of the fiscal years 2018 through 2022, along with the materials justifying the budget request of each element for these STEM recruiting and outreach activities.

Section 305. Retention of employees of the intelligence community who have science, technology, engineering, or mathematics expertise

Section 305 authorizes a new payscale to permit salary increases for employees in the IC with STEM backgrounds. Section 305 also requires notifications to individual employees if a position is removed from this new payscale. Section 305 further requires the head of each IC element to submit to the congressional intelligence committees a report on the new rates of pay and number of positions authorized under this payscale.

Section 306. Management of intelligence community personnel

Section 306 prohibits the Congress's use of government personnel ceilings in the management of the IC workforce starting in Fiscal Year 2019. Section 306 requires the DNI to provide briefings on the IC's initiative to maintain both employees and contractors within the IC, as well as both a briefing and a report on the methodology, cost analysis tool, and implementation plans. Section 306 further requires the IC IG to provide a written report on the accuracy of IC workforce data. This section will align the IC's management of personnel consistent with the practices of the Department of Defense and other federal agencies.

Section 307. Modifications to certain requirements for construction of facilities

Section 307 clarifies that the requirement to notify the congressional intelligence committees of improvement projects with an estimated cost greater than $1,000,000 for facilities used primarily by IC personnel includes repairs and modifications.

Section 308. Guidance and reporting requirement regarding interactions between the intelligence community and entertainment industry

Section 308 requires the DNI to issue public guidance regarding engagements by elements of the Intelligence Community with entertainment industry entities. The guidance will include DNI providing an annual report to the congressional intelligence committees detailing interactions between the IC and the entertainment industry. Section 308 also requires the report to include a description of the nature, duration, costs, benefits, and results of each engagement, as well as a determination that each engagement did not result in a disclosure of classified information and whether any information was declassified for the disclosure. Section 308 further requires that before an IC element may engage with the entertainment industry, the head of that element must approve the proposed engagement. Contractual relationships for professional services and technical expertise are exempt from these reporting requirements.

Section 309. Protections for independent inspectors general of elements of the intelligence community

Section 309 requires the ODNI to develop and implement a uniform policy for each identified Inspector General (IG) office in the IC to better ensure their independence. The provision specifies elements to be incorporated in such a policy including (a) guidance regarding conflicts of interest, (b) standards to ensure independence, and (c) a waiver provision. Section 309 further prohibits the DNI from requiring an employee of an OIG to rotate to a position in the element for which such office conducts oversight.

Section 310. Congressional oversight of policy directives and guidance

Section 310 requires the DNI to submit to the congressional intelligence committees notifications and copies of any classified or unclassified Presidential Policy Directive, Presidential Policy Guidance, or other similar policy document issued by the President which assigns tasks, roles, or responsibilities to the IC, within the specified timeframes. Section 310 further requires the Director to notify the congressional intelligence committees of guidance to implement such policies.

Section 311. Notification of memoranda of understanding

Section 311 requires the head of each element of the IC to submit to the congressional intelligence committees copies of each memorandum of understanding or other agreement regarding significant operational activities or policy entered into between or among such element and any other entity or entities of the federal government within specified timeframes.

Section 311 does not require an IC element to submit to the congressional intelligence committees any memorandum or agreement that is solely administrative in nature, including a memorandum or agreement regarding joint duty or other routine personnel assignments. An IC element also may redact any personally identifiable information from a memorandum or agreement which must be submitted to the intelligence committees.

Section 312. Technical correction to Executive Schedule

Section 312 contains a technical correction regarding the annual rate of basic pay for the Director of the National Counter Proliferation Center.

Section 313. Maximum amount charged for declassification reviews

Section 313 prohibits the head of an element of the IC from charging reproduction fees for a mandatory declassification review in excess of reproduction fees that the head would charge for a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). It also permits agency heads to waive processing fees for declassification reviews in the same manner as for FOIA.

TITLE IV—MATTERS RELATING TO ELEMENTS OF THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY

SUBTITLE A—OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

Section 401. Designation of the Director of the National Counterintelligence and Security Center

Section 401 renames the National Counterintelligence Executive as the ''National Counterintelligence and Security Center,'' with conforming amendments.

Section 402. Analyses and impact statements by Director of National Intelligence regarding proposed investment into the United States

Section 402 directs the DNI to submit to the congressional intelligence committees, after the completion of a review or an investigation of any proposed investment into the United States, any analytic materials prepared by the DNI. This requirement includes, but is not limited to, national security threat assessments provided to the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS) in connection with national security reviews and investigations conducted by CFIUS pursuant to Section 721(b) of the Defense Production Act of 1950 (50 U.S.C. 4565). This section is not intended to limit the ability of the DNI to transmit supplementary materials to the congressional intelligence committees along with the threat assessments.

Section 402 also directs the DNI to provide the committees with impact statements when the DNI determines a proposed investment into the United States will have an operational impact on the IC.

Section 403. Assistance for governmental entities and private entities in recognizing online violent extremist content

Section 403 requires the DNI to publish on a publicly available Internet website a list of all logos, symbols, insignia, and other markings commonly associated with, or adopted by, State Department-designated foreign terrorist organizations.

SUBTITLE B—CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

Section 411. Enhanced death benefits for personnel of the Central Intelligence Agency

Section 411 authorizes the Director of the CIA to pay death benefits substantially similar to those authorized for members of the Foreign Service, and requires the Director to submit implementing regulations to the congressional intelligence committees.

Section 412. Pay and retirement authorities of the Inspector General of the Central Intelligence Agency

Section 412 amends the Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949 to authorize the IC of the CIA to consider certain positions as law enforcement officers for purposes of calculating retirement eligibility and entitlements under chapters 83 and 84 of title 5, United States Code, if such officer or employee is appointed to a position with responsibility for investigating suspected offenses against the criminal laws of the United States. Section 412 may not be construed to confer on the IG of the CIA, or any other officer or employee of the CIA, any police or law enforcement or internal security functions or authorities.

SUBTITLE C—OTHER ELEMENTS

Section 421. Enhancing the technical workforce for the Federal Bureau of Investigation

Section 421 requires the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to produce a comprehensive strategic workforce report to demonstrate progress in expanding initiatives to effectively integrate information technology expertise in the investigative process. Section 421 further requires the report to include: (1) progress on training, recruitment, and retention of cyber-related personnel; (2) an assessment of whether FBI officers with these skill sets are fully integrated in the FBI's workforce; (3) the FBI's collaboration with the private sector on cyber issues; and (4) an assessment of the utility of reinstituting and leveraging the FBI Director's Advisory Board.

Section 422. Plan on assumption of certain weather missions by the National Reconnaissance Office

Section 422 requires the Director of the NRO to develop a plan to carry out certain space-based environmental monitoring missions currently performed by the Air Force. It also authorizes certain pre-acquisition activities and directs that an independent cost estimate be submitted to the congressional intelligence and defense committees. The Director of NRO may waive the requirement of Section 422 if the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics, and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; jointly submit a certification to the congressional intelligence and defense committees.

TITLE V—MATTERS RELATING TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Section 501. Committee to counter active measures by the Russian Federation to exert covert influence over peoples and governments

Nothing in this section shall authorize the Committee to take action with regard to activities protected by the First Amendment. Section 501 requires the President to establish an interagency committee to counter active measures by the Russian Federation that constitute Russian actions to exert covert influence over peoples and governments.

Section 502. Limitation on travel of accredited diplomats of the Russian Federation in the United States from their diplomatic post

Section 502 requires the Secretary of State, in coordination with the Director of the FBI and the DNI, to establish an advance notification regime governing all Russian Federation accredited diplomatic and consular personnel in the United States, as well as to take action to secure compliance and address noncompliance with the notification requirement. Section 502 also requires the Secretary of State, the Director of the FBI, and the DNI to develop written mechanisms to share such travel information and address noncompliance. Section 502 further requires written reporting to the specified committees detailing the number of notifications, and the number of known or suspected violations of such personnel requirements.

Section 503. Study and report on enhanced intelligence and information sharing with Open Skies Treaty member states

Section 503 requires the DNI, with support of other federal agencies, to conduct a study to determine the feasibility of creating an intelligence sharing arrangement and database among parties to the Open Skies Treaty (OST) with higher frequency, quality, and efficiency than that currently provided by the parameters of the OST. Section 503 also requires the Director to issue a report that includes an intelligence assessment on Russian Federation warfighting doctrine, the extent to which Russian Federation flights under the Open Skies Treaty contribute to the warfighting doctrine, a counterintelligence analysis as to the Russian Federation's capabilities, and a list of the covered parties that have been updated with this information.

TITLE VI—REPORTS AND OTHER MATTERS

Section 601. Declassification review of information on Guantanamo detainees and mitigation measures taken to monitor the individuals and prevent future attacks

Section 601 requires the DNI to complete a declassification review of intelligence reports prepared by the National Counterterrorism Center (NCTC) on the past terrorist activities of each Guantanamo detainee, for a detainee's Periodic Review Board (PRB) sessions, transfer, or release from Guantanamo. To the extent a transfer or release preceded the PRB's establishment, or the NCTC's preparation of intelligence reports, Section 601 requires the DNI to conduct a declassification review of intelligence reports containing the same or similar information as the intelligence reports prepared by the NCTC for PRB sessions, transfers, or releases.

Section 601 further requires the President to make any declassified intelligence reports publicly available, including unclassified summaries of measures being taken by the transferee countries to monitor the individual and prevent future terrorist activities. Section 601 requires the DNI to submit to the congressional intelligence committees a report setting forth the results of the declassification review, including a description of covered reports that were not declassified. Section 601 also sets the schedule for such reviews and further defines past terrorist activities to include terrorist organization affiliations, terrorist training, role in terrorist attacks, responsibility for the death of United States citizens or members of the Armed Forces, any admission thereof, and a description of the intelligence supporting the past terrorist activities, including corroboration, confidence level, and any dissent or reassessment by the IC.

Section 602. Cyber Center for Education and Innovation Home of the National Cryptologic Museum

Section 602 amends 10 U.S.C. 449 to enable the establishment of a Cyber Center for Education and Innovation—Home of the National Cryptologic Museum (the ''Center''). Section 602 also establishes in the Treasury a fund for the benefit and operation of the Center.

Section 603. Report on national security systems

Section 603 requires the Director of the National Security Agency, in coordination with the Secretary of Defense and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff to submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on national security systems.

Section 604. Joint facilities certification

Section 604 requires that before an element of the IC purchases, leases, or constructs a new facility that is 20,000 square feet or larger, the head of that element must first certify that all prospective joint facilities have been considered, that it is unable to identify a joint facility that meets its operational requirements, and it must list the reasons for not participating in joint facilities in that instance.

Section 605. Leadership and management of space activities

Section 605 requires the DNI, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, to

issue an update to the strategy for a comprehensive review of the United States national security overhead satellite architecture required in the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016. Section 605 requires the DNI, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, to submit a plan to functionally integrate the IC's governance, operations, analysis, collection, policy, and acquisition activities related to space and counterspace. The congressional intelligence committees believe the current fragmented arrangement across the IC does not provide sufficient coherence to meet the threat, fosters duplication, hinders integrated congressional oversight, and impedes effective alignment with the Department of Defense space activities. Section 605 also requires the DNI to submit a workforce plan for space and counterspace operations, policy, and acquisition. Section 605 further requires the Director of the NRO and the Commander of U.S. Strategic Command to submit a concept of operations and requirements documents for the Joint Interagency Combined Space Operations Center, and to conduct quarterly update briefings.

Section 606. Advances in life sciences and biotechnology

The congressional intelligence committees recognize the rapid advancements in the life sciences and biotechnology and firmly believes that biology in the twenty-first century will transform the world as physics did in the twentieth century. The potential risks associated with these advancements are less clear. The posture of the IC to follow and predict this rapidly changing landscape is a matter of concern recognizing the global diffusion and dual-use nature of life sciences and biotechnology along with the dispersed responsibility of the life sciences related issues across several National Intelligence Officer portfolios.

Section 606 requires the DNI to brief the congressional intelligence committees and the congressional defense committees on a proposed plan and actions to monitor advances in life sciences and biotechnology to be carried out by the DNI. The Director's plan should include, first, a description of the IC's approach to leverage the organic life science and biotechnology expertise both within and outside the Intelligence Community; second, an assessment of the current life sciences and biotechnology portfolio, the risks of genetic editing technologies, and the implications of these advances on future biodefense requirements; and, third, an analysis of organizational requirements and responsibilities to include potentially creating new positions. Section 606 further requires the DNI to submit a written report and provide a briefing to the congressional intelligence committees and the congressional defense committees on the role of the IC in the event of a biological attack, including a technical capabilities assessment to address potential unknown pathogens.

Section 607. Reports on declassification proposals

Section 607 requires the DNI to provide the congressional intelligence committees with a report and briefing on the IC's progress in producing four feasibility studies undertaken in the course of the IC's fundamental classification guidance review, as required under Executive Order 13526. Section 607 further requires the Director to provide the congressional intelligence committees with a briefing, interim report, and final report on the final feasibility studies produced by elements of the IC and an implementation plan for each initiative.

Section 608. Improvement in government classification and declassification

Section 608 assesses government classification and declassification in a digital era by requiring the DNI to review the system by which the Government classifies and declassifies national security information to improve the protection of such information, enable information sharing with allies and partners, and support appropriate declassification. Section 608 requires the DNI to submit a report with its findings and recommendations to the congressional intelligence committees. Section 608 further requires the DNI to provide an annual written notification to the congressional intelligence committees on the creation, validation, or substantial modification (to include termination) of existing and proposed controlled access programs, and the compartments and subcompartments within each. This certification shall include the rationale for each controlled access program, compartment, or subcompartment and how each controlled access program is being protected.

Section 609. Report on implementation of research and development recommendations

Section 609 requires the DNI to conduct and provide to the congressional intelligence committees a current assessment of the IC's implementation of the recommendations issued in 2013 by the National Commission for the Review of the Research and Development (R&D) Programs of the IC.

Section 610. Report on Intelligence Community Research and Development Corps

Section 610 requires the DNI to develop and brief the congressional intelligence committees on a plan, with milestones and benchmarks, to implement a R&D Reserve Corps, as recommended in 2013 by the bipartisan National Commission for the Review of the R&D Programs of the IC, including any funding and potential changes to existing authorities that may be needed to allow for the Corps' implementation.

Section 611. Report on information relating to academic programs, scholarships, fellowships, and internships sponsored, administered, or used by the intelligence community

Section 611 requires the DNI to submit to congressional intelligence committees a report on information that the IC collects on certain academic programs, scholarships, and internships sponsored, administered, or used by the IC.

Section 612. Report on intelligence community employees detailed to National Security Council

Section 612 requires the DNI to submit to the congressional intelligence committees a classified written report listing, by year, the number of employees of an element of the IC who have been detailed to the National Security Council during each of the previous ten years.

Section 613. Intelligence community reporting to Congress on foreign fighter flows

Section 613 directs DNI to submit to the congressional intelligence committees a report on foreign fighter flows to and from terrorist safe havens abroad.

Section 614. Report on cybersecurity threats to seaports of the United States and maritime shipping

Section 614 directs the Under Secretary of Homeland Security for Intelligence and Analysis (I&A) to submit to the congressional intelligence committees a report on the cybersecurity threats to seaports of the United States and maritime shipping.

Section 615. Report on reprisals against contractors of the intelligence community

Section 615 directs the IC IG to submit to the congressional intelligence committees a report on known or claimed reprisals made against employees of contractors of elements of the IC during the preceding three-year period. Section 615 further requires the report to include an evaluation of the usefulness of establishing a prohibition on reprisals as a means of encouraging IC contractors to make protected disclosures, and any recommendations the IC IG deems appropriate.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak about Senate Amendment to H.R. 244, ''Making Consolidated Appropriations for Fiscal Year 2017.''

The legislation before us is an imperfect vehicle for appropriations for FY 2017, but this Omnibus Appropriations package contains new funding for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2017 for federal agencies under the eleven remaining Appropriations subcommittees.

The Omnibus Budget Agreement appropriates $1.070 trillion in base discretionary budget authority, allocating $551 billion for defense and $519 billion for nondefense in line with the Budget Control Act's statutory discretionary spending caps, as well as $93.5 billion in additional funding designated for Overseas Contingency Operations(OCO).

Mr. Speaker, this budget agreement is far from perfect, but it is a positive step since it ensures that funding for appropriated entitlements will continue at a rate maintaining program levels under current law and prevents congressional Republicans from shutting down the government again and manufacturing a crisis that only harms our economy, destroys jobs, and weakens our middle class.

The government shutdown of 2013, which was manufactured by the Republican majority lasted 16 days and cost taxpayers $24 billion.

The enormous harm and disruption of the lives of federal employees and the people they serve, however, was irreparable.

As I stated, Mr. Speaker, this Omnibus Budget Agreement is a product of goodwill and realism, and averts a shutdown of government operations and the disruption a shutdown causes to the lives of millions of Americans who depend upon federal programs to do their jobs, educate their kids, care for their parents, and contribute to their communities.

Our constituents look to the Congress and the President to make responsible choices and decisions to keep the nation safe, the economy prosperous, and to make necessary and prudent investments in education, healthcare and research, transportation and infrastructure, economic development, science, the arts and humanities, and the environment.

This is, after all, just another way of saying that the American people expect their leaders in Washington be guided by the Constitution's Preamble and pursue policies and provide the resources that will:

''establish justice, ensure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty.''

The funding priorities that have been floated by the Trump Administration fail this essential test of leadership because they are irresponsible, impracticable, unrealistic, and, in many

respects, insensitive or indifferent to the deleterious impact they will have on the lives of real people living in the real world.

They do not command majority support in the Congress or of the public and have been rejected in this budget.

Instead, in a stinging defeat for the Trump, the Omnibus Budget Agreement does not fund the immoral and unwise border wall or create a cruel new deportation force.

Also eliminated are more than 160 Republican poison pill riders, ranging from undermining a woman's right to reproductive health to dismantling Dodd-Frank's vital Wall Street consumer protections.

Mr. Speaker, I am also pleased that we succeeded in securing Democratic policy priorities and funding increases for critical nondefense items.

This will save lives and create jobs.

Mr. Speaker, let me identify some of the important policy and funding priorities included in this budget agreement:

Fully funds community development block grants and low income housing programs in urban and rural communities.

$2 billion for Medical Research: the budget rejects President Trump's dangerous plans to steal billions from lifesaving medical research;

$221 million overall for Community Oriented Policing (COPS) and $137 million for the COPS hiring program;

$1 billion for Coal Miners' Health: Democrats secured funding to deliver permanent health benefits for the thousands of coal miners and their families who stood to lose their health benefits this month;

$600 million to combat and respond to the Opioid Epidemic;

Provides level funding for the Environmental Protection Agency despite Republicans' hopes to gut it;

Year-Round Pell Grants: Democrats insisted on, and won an increase of $105 in the maximum Pell Grant award and succeeded in restoring access to year-round Pell Grants which will make a huge difference in the lives of hard-working students;

Science Funding: the omnibus budget increases funding for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, the Department of Energy Office of Science and ARPA-E, all initiatives President Trump wanted cut;

Puerto Rico's Medicaid: the omnibus budget includes vital funds to stabilize Puerto Rico's underfunded Medicaid program, which threatened so many of our fellow Americans in Puerto Rico;

$1 billion for Emergency Famine Relief to alleviate famine resulting from war, drought and displacement in Africa and the Middle East, saving countless lives around the world;

Mr. Speaker, I support the omnibus budget agreement before us because it achieves the following goals and objectives that I laid out last week:

''To establish justice'' and ''To promote the general welfare'':

1. Funding for the U.S. Department of Justice Civil Rights Division and the Department of Education Office of Civil Rights so that they have funds needed to enforce laws protecting civil rights, voting rights, and prosecuting hate crimes.

2. Fully funds community development block grants and low income housing programs in urban and rural communities.

3. Fully funds the Legal Services Corporation so that working and low-income persons who lack an army of lobbyists to represent them in Washington will at least have the assistance of counsel to defend their legal rights in courts of law.

4. Fully funds programs providing food assistance to housebound seniors, such as Meals on Wheels.

5. Fully funds programs that provide students from low and moderate-income families access to affordable access to higher education and provides students with special needs the support needed to receive the free appropriate public education (FAPE) in the least restrictive environment (LRE) guaranteed by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA Act).

6. Funds before and after school programs and other student enrichment programs that help students succeed.

7. Fully funds programs that make federal housing safer through energy efficient healing and cooling systems.

8. Preserves tax credit programs that help revitalize low income communities.

9. Fully funds the Environmental Protection Agency and Department of Energy programs developing the next generation of clean energy and transportation technologies.

''Provide for the common defense'':

1. Provides robust funding for the Department of State and USAID to advance national security interests in places like Iraq and Afghanistan and to end violent conflicts in trouble spots which could threaten the security interests of the United States.

2. Provides adequate funding for United Nations peacekeeping missions throughout the world and distribution of food aid to people in developing and famine stricken countries, such as South Sudan, Somalia, Yemen, and Nigeria.

''To ensure domestic tranquility'':

1. Fully funds cost-sharing reduction subsidies, or CSRs, to compensate insurers for reducing deductibles and out-of-pocket maximums for low-income customers on the Affordable Care Act exchanges.

2. Protects the adequacy, solvency, and integrity of the Medicare and Medicaid programs, which provide health sustaining support for 70 million Americans.

3. Fully funds the National Institutes of Health research programs so that patient access to lifesaving treatments is not delayed.

4. Does not convert funding for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention into block grants which would hindering the nation's ability to respond swiftly and effectively to public health crises like Ebola, Zika, and HIV/AIDS.

Mr. Speaker, working together the House and Senate has reached an agreement on an appropriate budget framework that invests in the American people, preserves our national security, and keeps faith with the values that have served our nation well and made the United States the leading nation on earth.

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Senate amendments to H.R. 244, the FY2017 omnibus spending bill. This is not a perfect bill, but many priorities that are important to my constituents in Oregon and people around the country are funded and protected, and it prevents a government shutdown.

In March, President Trump released a budget proposal that, if enacted, would be devastating to Oregonians, Americans, and people worldwide. Thankfully, this omnibus bill largely bypasses the President's misguided funding recommendations, and instead focuses on making sure our federal dollars are being spent to help hardworking families get ahead, support vulnerable populations at home and abroad, and help grow the economy

This bill funds the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities, and allows Legal Aid work to continue through Legal Services Corporation. There is a strong commitment to securing our infrastructure through robust funding of TIGER transportation grants and environmental cleanup projects, and there is funding for Flint, Michigan to continue upgrading its drinking water infrastructure. Importantly, the bill does not waste any taxpayer dollars to build a border wall between the United States and Mexico, and it does not include harmful policy riders to defund Planned Parenthood, unwind the consumer protections of Dodd-Frank, or withhold federal funds from cities and states that decline to enforce federal immigration law that is outside their jurisdiction.

In Oregon, I hear from families of all backgrounds who are struggling to maintain their economic security. This bill provides funding for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program, and increases funding for housing programs such as Choice Neighborhoods, Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS, and Housing for the Elderly. The bill secures funding for Special Supplemental Nutrition for Women, Infants, and Children and provides robust funding for Meals on Wheels and summer Electronic Benefits Transfer, to address food insecurity among some of our most vulnerable Americans—children and seniors.

The bill also recognizes the devastating toll of the opioid epidemic in our communities by providing a $650 million increase over 2016 funding to help address this crisis. That funding, coupled with a $2 billion increase to the National Institutes of Health, will help fulfill the commitment Congress has made to partner with our states and communities to address this and other health crises facing our country.

As a member of the Science Committee, I am committed to funding basic science research, mitigating the effects of climate change, and supporting healthy oceans and estuaries. I am glad the bill includes increases for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, which provides weather forecasting, oceanic and atmospheric research, ocean and coastal services, and fisheries management to the communities I represent.

As a member of the Education and the Workforce Committee, I am committed to making sure that all students can receive a quality education, from pre-K through college. The bill before us will provide supports for students, including reinstating year-round Pell grants, increasing Head Start funding by $85 million, and increasing Title I, IDEA, TRIO, and Gear Up funding over FY2016 enacted levels. I am disappointed, however, that Congress has raided the Pell Grant reserve fund to pay for other programs. I am also concerned that this bill significantly underfunds the Student Support Academic Enrichment Grants created in

the bipartisan Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The ESSA provided $1.6 billion for these grants to enable school districts to provide locally-tailored programming and supportive services for students who need them most, including school-based mental health programs, drug and violence prevention programs, and well-rounded learning opportunities such as arts, music, and civics education. This bill only provides a fraction of the amount necessary to fully fund this grant program, and I will continue to advocate for full funding as we consider the FY2018 spending bills.

I am also disappointed that the bill reauthorizes the Scholarships for Opportunity and Results (SOAR) program that funds vouchers for private schools in Washington, DC, despite the program's negative outcomes for students. In fact, a study released just last week from the Department of Education showed that students who received SOAR vouchers had lower math scores than before their enrollment in the program.

Finally, I do not support yet another increase in defense spending, especially when the President has failed to outline a clear strategy for how he intends to use our powerful military around the world. With cuts to programs that protect the environment, provide consumer protections, and provide access to women's health services, it is shortsighted to further increase our defense spending without a plan in place from the President on how he will keep our country safe.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank our leaders in the House for working together on this bipartisan legislation that protects many of our most vulnerable communities and restores confidence in our economy by preventing a government shutdown. It is not a perfect bill, but one that I will support. I look forward to continuing to work with my colleagues on bipartisan agreements that will keep our communities safe, support public education, protect our natural resources, and create good jobs in our 21st century economy.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time for debate has expired.

Pursuant to House Resolution 305, the previous question is ordered.

The question is on the motion by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN).

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, this 15-minute vote on adopting the motion will be followed by 5-minute votes on:

Suspending the rules and passing H.R. 244, if ordered, and

Agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal, if ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 309, nays 118, not voting 4, as follows:

[Roll No. 249]

YEAS—309

Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Allen
Amodei
Bacon
Barletta
Barr
Bass
Beatty
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (MI)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bost
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Brooks (IN)
Brown (MD)
Brownley (CA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Burgess
Bustos
Butterfield
Byrne
Calvert
Capuano
Carbajal
Carson (IN)
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Castor (FL)
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coffman
Cohen
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Comer
Comstock
Conaway
Connolly
Conyers
Cook
Cooper
Costa
Costello (PA)
Courtney
Cramer
Crawford
Crist
Crowley
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Curbelo (FL)
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
Davis, Rodney
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Demings
Denham
Dent
DeSaulnier
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Donovan
Doyle, Michael F.
Dunn
Engel
Eshoo
Esty (CT)
Evans
Faso
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flores
Foster
Frankel (FL)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gabbard
Garamendi
Gonzalez (TX)
Gottheimer
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Guthrie
Hanabusa
Harper
Hartzler
Hastings
Heck
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Higgins (LA)
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes
Hoyer
Huffman
Huizenga
Hurd
Issa
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Jeffries
Jenkins (KS)
Jenkins (WV)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Joyce (OH)
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kihuen
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
King (NY)
Kinzinger
Knight
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
LaMalfa
Lance
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lujan Grisham, M.
Luján, Ben Ray
Lynch
MacArthur
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Marino
Mast
Matsui
McCarthy
McCaul
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
McSally
Meehan
Meeks
Meng
Mitchell
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Moore
Moulton
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (PA)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Nolan
Norcross
Nunes
O'Halleran
O'Rourke
Palazzo
Pallone
Panetta
Pascrell
Paulsen
Payne
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters
Pingree
Pocan
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Reed
Reichert
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Richmond
Roby
Rogers (KY)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney, Thomas J.
Ros-Lehtinen
Rosen
Ross
Roybal-Allard
Royce (CA)
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rutherford
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Serrano
Sessions
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sinema
Sires
Slaughter
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Soto
Speier
Stefanik
Stivers
Suozzi
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Titus
Tonko
Trott
Tsongas
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Veasey
Vela´zquez
Visclosky
Walberg
Walden
Walorski
Walters, Mimi
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters, Maxine
Watson Coleman
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Womack
Woodall
Yarmuth
Yoder
Young (AK)
Young (IA)
Zeldin

NAYS—118

Abraham
Amash
Arrington
Babin
Banks (IN)
Barragán
Barton
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Blum
Brat
Bridenstine
Brooks (AL)
Buck
Budd
Cárdenas
Castro (TX)
Chabot
Cheney
Correa
Davidson
DeSantis
DesJarlais
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Ellison
Emmer
Espaillat
Estes (KS)
Farenthold
Ferguson
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gallego
Garrett
Gibbs
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Graves (LA)
Griffith
Grijalva
Grothman
Gutiérrez
Harris
Hice, Jody B.
Holding
Hollingsworth
Hudson
Hultgren
Hunter
Johnson (LA)
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
Kelly (MS)
King (IA)
Kustoff (TN)
Labrador
LaHood
Lamborn
Latta
Lewis (MN)
Lieu, Ted
Long
Loudermilk
Love
Marchant
Marshall
Massie
McClintock
Meadows
Messer
Mullin
Noem
Olson
Palmer
Pearce
Perry
Peterson
Poe (TX)
Posey
Ratcliffe
Renacci
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rooney, Francis
Roskam
Rothfus
Rouzer
Rush
Russell
Sanford
Schweikert
Sensenbrenner
Smith (MO)
Smith (TX)
Stewart
Tipton
Torres
Vargas
Vela
Wagner
Walker
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams
Wittman
Yoho

NOT VOTING—4

Chaffetz
Newhouse
Pittenger
Poliquin

□ 1619

Messrs. WITTMAN, KING of Iowa, FRANKS of Arizona, and BROOKS of Alabama changed their vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

Messrs. JENKINS of West Virginia, CLEAVER, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Messrs. RYAN of Ohio and RICHMOND changed their vote from ''nay'' to ''yea.''

So the motion to concur was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. PITTENGER. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted ''yea'' on rollcall No. 249.

MOMENT OF SILENCE IN MEMORY OF MATTHEW MCCLANAHAN

The SPEAKER. The Chair asks that the House now observe a moment of silence in memory of Matthew McClanahan, a pipefitter for the Architect of the Capitol who died in a tragic accident on the Capitol Grounds on April 18.

ROBERT T. STAFFORD DISASTER RELIEF AND EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE ACT AMENDMENT

The SPEAKER. Without objection, 5-minute voting will continue.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER. The unfinished business is the question on suspending the rules and passing the bill (H.R. 1678) to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act concerning the statute of limitations for actions to recover disaster or emergency assistance payments, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BARLETTA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The SPEAKER. This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 423, noes 0, not voting 7, as follows:

[Roll No. 250]

AYES—423

Abraham
Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Allen
Amash
Amodei
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Banks (IN)
Barletta
Barr
Barragán
Barton
Bass
Beatty
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (MI)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Blum
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bost
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Brat
Bridenstine
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Brown (MD)
Brownley (CA)
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burgess
Bustos
Byrne
Calvert
Capuano
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson (IN)
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chabot
Cheney
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coffman
Cohen
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Comer
Comstock
Conaway
Connolly
Conyers
Cook
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Costello (PA)
Courtney
Cramer
Crawford
Crist
Crowley
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Curbelo (FL)
Davidson
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
Davis, Rodney
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Demings
Denham
Dent
DeSantis
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Donovan
Doyle, Michael F.
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Dunn
Ellison
Emmer
Engel
Eshoo
Espaillat
Estes (KS)
Esty (CT)
Evans
Farenthold
Faso
Ferguson
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flores
Fortenberry
Foster
Foxx
Frankel (FL)
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gabbard
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garrett
Gibbs
Gohmert
Gonzalez (TX)
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gottheimer
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffith
Grothman
Guthrie
Gutiérrez
Hanabusa
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings
Heck
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Hice, Jody B.
Higgins (LA)
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes
Holding
Hollingsworth
Hoyer
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurd
Issa
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Jeffries
Jenkins (KS)
Jenkins (WV)
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kihuen
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kinzinger
Knight
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
Kustoff (TN)
Labrador
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (MN)
Lieu, Ted
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren
Long
Loudermilk
Love
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lujan Grisham, M.
Luján, Ben Ray
Lynch
MacArthur
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Marchant
Marino
Marshall
Massie
Mast
Matsui
McCarthy
McCaul
McClintock
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
McSally
Meadows
Meehan
Meeks
Meng
Messer
Mitchell
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Moore
Moulton
Mullin
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (PA)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Noem
Nolan
Norcross
Nunes
O'Halleran
O'Rourke
Olson
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pascrell
Paulsen
Payne
Pearce
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters
Peterson
Pingree
Pittenger
Pocan
Poe (TX)
Polis
Posey
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Ratcliffe
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Richmond
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney, Francis
Rooney, Thomas J.
Ros-Lehtinen
Rosen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Rouzer
Roybal-Allard
Royce (CA)
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Russell
Rutherford
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez
Sanford
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sinema
Sires
Slaughter
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Soto
Speier
Stefanik
Stewart
Stivers
Suozzi
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Titus
Tonko
Torres
Trott
Tsongas
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walker
Walorski
Walters, Mimi
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters, Maxine
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Yarmuth
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IA)
Zeldin

NOT VOTING—7

Butterfield
Chaffetz
Diaz-Balart
Grijalva
Newhouse
Poliquin
Smith (TX)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. COLLINS of Georgia) (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1628

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

(Mr. HOYER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise for the purpose of inquiring of the majority leader the schedule for tomorrow, and I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCARTHY).

Mr. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow the House will vote on H.R. 1644, our North Korean sanctions bill. I do believe it is important that the House speak with one voice against the recent actions of the Kim regime.

Next, as I said in our colloquy on Friday, additional legislative items are possible. As soon as any items are added to our schedule, I will be sure to notify Members. However, Members should be prepared to be here and voting tomorrow.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I would hope the majority leader might give us some idea. Obviously, everybody in this town and around the country believes the possible legislation that might come forward is a version of, revision of, the American Health Care Act that has been pending for some time not necessarily on the House floor, but in this House.

Can the gentleman tell me whether or not Members ought to prepare for a debate on that bill tomorrow? And if so, does the gentleman know whether there will be a CBO score on the bill that might be brought to the floor, and thirdly, the timing for tomorrow so that Members might plan on what the schedule would be?

I yield to my friend.

Mr. MCCARTHY. I thank my friend for yielding. I appreciate his questions.

As has been reported in the press, we have made significant progress on our healthcare bill. When we are ready to bring the bill to the floor, I will make an announcement and relay scheduling information to all Members.

Mr. HOYER. I asked a question, though, you did not address. If, in fact, the healthcare bill were brought to the floor tomorrow, would it have a score from the Congressional Budget Office?

I yield to my friend.

Mr. McCARTHY. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

As the gentleman clearly knows, there is a CBO score out there right now on the bill. As the gentleman knows, we are making progress; and as soon as we designate that, yes, we will move the bill, and I will notify the gentleman.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I presume, therefore, Members ought to be prepared for that bill to come forward, and what we hear, we don't know, is in a revised form.

Mr. Speaker, we hope, if it comes forward in a revised form, that it is accompanied with a Congressional Budget Office score so that Members on both sides of the aisle might know the ramifications of the changes in the bill.

Unless the gentleman wants to say anything further, I will yield back, but I hope that we can get as much notice and information as possible, Mr. Leader.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, 5-minute voting will continue.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal, which the Chair will put de novo.

The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. McCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 236, noes 178, not voting 16, as follows:

[Roll No. 251]

AYES—236

Abraham
Aderholt
Allen
Amodei
Arrington
Bacon
Banks (IN)
Barletta
Barr
Barton
Beatty
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Brady (TX)
Brat
Bridenstine
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Brown (MD)
Buchanan
Budd
Bustos
Byrne
Calvert
Carson (IN)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Castro (TX)
Chabot
Cheney
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Cole
Collins (NY)
Comstock
Cook
Cooper
Correa
Courtney
Cramer
Crawford
Crist
Cuellar
Cummings
Davidson
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
DeLauro
DelBene
Demings
Dent
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Deutch
Dingell
Donovan
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Dunn
Ellison
Engel
Eshoo
Espaillat
Estes (KS)
Esty (CT)
Evans
Ferguson
Fleischmann
Fortenberry
Foster
Frankel (FL)
Frelinghuysen
Gabbard
Gallego
Gonzalez (TX)
Goodlatte
Gottheimer
Gowdy
Granger
Green, Al
Griffith
Grothman
Guthrie
Hanabusa
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Heck
Hensarling
Higgins (LA)
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes
Hollingsworth
Huffman
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Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
Kustoff (TN)
Labrador
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Latta
Lawrence
Lewis (MN)
Lipinski
Long
Loudermilk
Love
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lujan Grisham, M.
Luján, Ben Ray
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Marino
Marshall
Massie
McCarthy
McCaul
McClintock
McCollum
McHenry
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
Meadows
Meng
Mooney (WV)
Moore
Moulton
Mullin
Murphy (FL)
Nadler
Napolitano
Noem
Nunes
O'Rourke
Palazzo
Palmer
Pascrell
Perlmutter
Pingree
Pittenger
Pocan
Polis
Posey
Quigley
Reichert
Rice (SC)
Richmond
Roby
Rogers (KY)
Rooney, Thomas J.
Rosen
Ross
Rothfus
Royce (CA)
Ruppersberger
Russell
Scalise
Schiff
Schneider
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sinema
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Soto
Stefanik
Stewart
Suozzi
Takano
Taylor
Thornberry
Tiberi
Titus
Tonko
Trott
Wagner
Walden
Walker
Walters, Mimi
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters, Maxine
Webster (FL)
Welch
Westerman
Williams
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yarmuth
Yoho
Young (IA)
Zeldin

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Adams
Aguilar
Amash
Babin
Barragán
Bass
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (MI)
Blackburn
Blum
Bost
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady (PA)
Brownley (CA)
Buck
Bucshon
Burgess
Capuano
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carter (GA)
Castor (FL)
Clyburn
Coffman
Cohen
Collins (GA)
Comer
Conaway
Connolly
Conyers
Costa
Costello (PA)
Crowley
Culberson
Curbelo (FL)
Davis, Rodney
DeFazio
Denham
DeSantis
Doyle, Michael F.
Duffy
Farenthold
Faso
Fitzpatrick
Flores
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Fudge
Gaetz
Gallagher
Garamendi
Garrett
Gibbs
Gosar
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Gene
Gutiérrez
Hastings
Herrera Beutler
Hice, Jody B.
Hoyer
Hudson
Huizenga
Hunter
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Jenkins (KS)
Jenkins (WV)
Johnson (OH)
Jones
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Khanna
Kihuen
Kilmer
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LaHood
Lance
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
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Lee
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lieu, Ted
LoBiondo
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Marchant
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Meeks
Mitchell
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Payne
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Price (NC)
Ratcliffe
Reed
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Rice (NY)
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Rogers (AL)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Rouzer
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Rush
Rutherford
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez
Sanford
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schrader
Sewell (AL)
Sires
Slaughter
Speier
Stivers
Swalwell (CA)
Tenney
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Tipton
Torres
Tsongas
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walberg
Walorski
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Wenstrup
Woodall
Yoder
Young (AK)

NOT VOTING—16

Butterfield
Chaffetz
DeGette
Delaney
Diaz-Balart
Doggett
Emmer
Gohmert
Grijalva
Holding
Messer
Newhouse
Olson
Poliquin
Raskin
Rooney, Francis

□ 1641

Mr. STIVERS changed his vote from ''aye'' to ''no.''

So the Journal was approved.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

PROVIDING FOR A CORRECTION IN THE ENROLLMENT OF H.R. 244

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I send to the desk a concurrent resolution and ask unanimous consent for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MITCHELL). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 53

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That in the enrollment of the bill H.R. 244, the Clerk of the House of Representatives shall make the following corrections:

(1) Amend the long title so as to read: ''Making appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2017, and for other purposes''.

(2) Strike the first section 1 immediately following the enacting clause and all that follows through ''Sec. 4. Display of Award''.

(3) In the table of contents for the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2017, strike **''Division N—Honoring Investments in Recruiting and Employing American Military Veterans Act of 2017''** and insert the following:

DIVISION N—INTELLIGENCE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017

DIVISION O—HONORING INVESTMENTS IN RECRUITING AND EMPLOYING AMERICAN MILITARY VETERANS ACT OF 2017

(4) Insert immediately before ''It is unlawful for any employer to publicly display a HIRE Vets Medallion Award'' the following:

"DIVISION O—HONORING INVESTMENTS IN RECRUITING AND EMPLOYING AMERICAN MILITARY VETERANS ACT OF 2017

"SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

''This division may be cited as the 'Honoring Investments in Recruiting and Employing American Military Veterans Act of 2017' or the 'HIRE Vets Act'.

"SEC. 2. HIRE VETS MEDALLION AWARD PROGRAM.

''(a) PROGRAM ESTABLISHED.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Labor shall establish, by rule, a HIRE Vets Medallion Program to solicit voluntary information from employers for purposes of recognizing, by means of an award to be designated a 'HIRE Vets Medallion Award', verified efforts by such employers—

''(1) to recruit, employ, and retain veterans; and

''(2) to provide community and charitable services supporting the veteran community.

''(b) APPLICATION PROCESS.—Beginning in the calendar year following the calendar year in which the Secretary establishes the program, the Secretary shall annually—

''(1) solicit and accept voluntary applications from employers in order to consider whether those employers should receive a HIRE Vets Medallion Award;

''(2) review applications received in each calendar year; and

''(3) notify such recipients of their awards; and

''(4) at a time to coincide with the annual commemoration of Veterans Day—

''(A) announce the names of such recipients;

''(B) recognize such recipients through publication in the Federal Register; and

''(C) issue to each such recipient—

''(i) a HIRE Vets Medallion Award of the level determined under section 3; and

''(ii) a certificate stating that such employer is entitled to display such HIRE Vets Medallion Award.

''(c) TIMING.—

''(1) SOLICITATION PERIOD.—The Secretary shall solicit applications not later than January 31st of each calendar year for the Awards to be awarded in November of that calendar year.

''(2) END OF ACCEPTANCE PERIOD.—The Secretary shall stop accepting applications not earlier than April 30th of each calendar year for the Awards to be awarded in November of that calendar year.

''(3) REVIEW PERIOD.—The Secretary shall finish reviewing applications not later than August 31st of each calendar year for the Awards to be awarded in November of that calendar year.

''(4) SELECTION OF RECIPIENTS.—The Secretary shall select the employers to receive HIRE Vets Medallion Awards not later than September 30th of each calendar year for the Awards to be awarded in November of that calendar year.

''(5) NOTICE TO RECIPIENTS.—The Secretary shall notify employers who will receive HIRE Vets Medallion Awards not later than October 11th of each calendar year for the Awards to be awarded in November of that calendar year.

''(d) LIMITATION.—An employer who receives a HIRE Vets Medallion Award for one calendar year is not eligible to receive a HIRE Vets Medallion Award for the subsequent calendar year.

"SEC. 3. SELECTION OF RECIPIENTS.

''(a) APPLICATION REVIEW PROCESS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall review all applications received in a calendar year to determine whether an employer should receive a HIRE Vets Medallion Award, and, if so, of what level.

''(2) APPLICATION CONTENTS.—The Secretary shall require that all applications provide information on the programs and other efforts of applicant employers during the calendar year prior to that in which the medallion is to be awarded, including the categories and activities governing the level of award for which the applicant is eligible under subsection (b).

''(3) VERIFICATION.—The Secretary shall verify all information provided in the applications, to the extent that such information is relevant in determining whether or not an employer should receive a HIRE Vets Medallion Award or in determining the appropriate level of HIRE Vets Medallion Award for that employer to receive, including by requiring the chief executive officer or the chief human relations officer of the employer to attest under penalty of perjury that the employer has met the criteria described in subsection (b) for a particular level of Award.

''(b) AWARDS.—

''(1) LARGE EMPLOYERS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish 2 levels of HIRE Vets Medallion Awards to be awarded to employers employing 500 or more employees, to be designated the 'Gold HIRE Vets Medallion Award' and the 'Platinum HIRE Vets Medallion Award'.

''(B) GOLD HIRE VETS MEDALLION AWARD.—No employer shall be eligible to receive a Gold HIRE Vets Medallion Award in a given calendar year unless—

''(i) veterans constitute not less than 7 percent of all employees hired by such employer during the prior calendar year;

''(ii) such employer has retained not less than 75 percent of the veteran employees hired during the calendar year preceding the preceding calendar year for a period of at least 12 months from the date on which the employees were hired;

''(iii) such employer has established an employee veteran organization or resource group to assist new veteran employees with integration, including coaching and mentoring; and

''(iv) such employer has established programs to enhance the leadership skills of veteran employees during their employment.

''(C) PLATINUM HIRE VETS MEDALLION AWARD.—No employer shall be eligible to receive a Platinum HIRE Vets Medallion Award in a given calendar year unless—

''(i) the employer meets all the requirements for eligibility for a Gold HIRE Vets Medallion Award under subparagraph (B);

''(ii) veterans constitute not less than 10 percent of all employees hired by such employer during the prior calendar year;

''(iii) such employer has retained not less than 85 percent of the veteran employees hired during the calendar year preceding the preceding calendar year for a period of at least 12 months from the date on which the employees were hired;

''(iv) such employer employs dedicated human resources professionals to support hiring and retention of veteran employees, including efforts focused on veteran hiring and training;

''(v) such employer provides each of its employees serving on active duty in the United States National Guard or Reserve with compensation sufficient, in combination with the employee's active duty pay, to achieve a combined level of income commensurate with the employee's salary prior to undertaking active duty; and

''(vi) such employer has a tuition assistance program to support veteran employees' attendance in postsecondary education during the term of their employment.

''(D) EXEMPTION FOR SMALLER EMPLOYERS.—An employer shall be deemed to meet the requirements of subparagraph (C)(iv) if such employer—

''(i) employs 5,000 or fewer employees; and

''(ii) employs at least one human resources professional whose regular work duties include those described under subparagraph (C)(iv).

''(E) ADDITIONAL CRITERIA.—The Secretary may provide, by rule, additional criteria with which to determine qualifications for receipt of each level of HIRE Vets Medallion Award.

''(2) SMALL- AND MEDIUM-SIZED EMPLOYERS.—The Secretary shall establish similar awards in order to recognize achievements in supporting veterans by—

''(A) employers with 50 or fewer employees; and

''(B) employers with more than 50 but fewer than 500 employees.

''(c) DESIGN BY SECRETARY.—The Secretary shall establish the shape, form, and design of each HIRE Vets Medallion Award, except that the Award shall be in the form of a certificate and shall state the year for which it was awarded.

"SEC. 4. DISPLAY OF AWARD.".

(5) In section 5(b) of division O, strike ''Act'' and insert ''division''.

(6) In section 6 of division O, strike ''Act'' and insert ''division''.

(7) In section 8 of division O, strike ''Act'' and insert ''division''.

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

HOUR OF MEETING ON TOMORROW

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. tomorrow.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

□ 1645

PAKISTAN

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, for years, Pakistan has provided support for America's enemies with American blood on their hands. Pakistan has supported the Taliban providing them safe haven, cash, and weapons. It is no coincidence that the leader of the Taliban was living in Pakistan when a United States air strike took him out last year.

Pakistan harbored the number one enemy of the world, Obama bin Laden, until our SEALs brought him to justice. Pakistan's intelligence services has been dubbed the veritable arm of the terrorist group Haqqani Network. They have even cut off supply routes for our troops in Afghanistan.

The Ambassador to Afghanistan has said that Pakistan supports terrorist groups in Afghanistan, but still Pakistan is considered a major non-NATO ally of the U.S. This status means that they get priority for significant benefits in the areas of foreign aid and defense cooperation. I am introducing a bill that removes Pakistan from this list of trusted allies.

Pakistan is playing both sides. It is time to call it like it is. Pakistan should not be counted as a major non-NATO ally of the United States.

And that is just the way it is.

HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF GENERAL AMEDEO ''ARMIE'' MEROLLA

(Mr. LANGEVIN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and memory of General Amedeo ''Armie'' Merolla—a dedicated patriot, a passionate legal mind, a community leader in Rhode Island, and someone whom I was proud to call a dear friend.

Armie's distinguished military career spanned 36 years, during which time he served in the United States Marine Corps and the Rhode Island National Guard. He served as assistant adjutant general for the State and retired as the first brigadier general of Italian heritage in the history of the Rhode Island National Guard.

As an accomplished attorney for more than 60 years, he provided legal counsel and advice to several public officials—myself included—and maintained a very successful private practice.

As a tireless community leader, he served as chairman of the Warwick School Committee and held leadership positions in local branches of charities and children's organizations. Above all, he prioritized his family, whom he loved dearly and to whom he devoted his life's work.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to remember Armie on the floor today, just as it was to consider him a trusted friend and adviser. Mr. Speaker, he made a difference, and he will be greatly missed.

ARE WE LOSING OUR DEMOCRACY?

(Mr. SMITH of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, are we losing our democracy?

CNN has censored and refused to air an ad by Trump for President, claiming that it is inaccurate. Of course, that is their opinion and they are entitled to it. What they are not entitled to do is violate the Constitution's protection of free speech.

Where are all the editorial boards of the media who rightly advocate for free speech? Why are most silent?

To censor a political ad because CNN disagrees with it is to threaten our democratic form of government.

2017 CONTINUED APPROPRIATIONS

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to support the continued appropriations for 2017 and to say: Say it isn't so.

When the Trump budget was presented—the skinny budget—$600 billion was cut out of NIH, which would impact a major research in diseases that impact Americans. Thank goodness that we worked for a $2 billion increase for the NIH in this appropriations bill.

And, equally so, how important it is that we can announce in Houston that the Houston Housing Authority will be able to reissue vouchers for homeless families because $654 million-plus was put in the section 8 vouchers, $40 million-plus was put in for veterans who are homeless, and $10 million was put in for the disabled.

In addition, we added to the Cops on the Beat program and, as well, provided additional dollars to enhance the Civil Rights Division some $897.5 million.

The budget or the appropriations should be a road map for serving Americans, not a nickel-and-dime approach to undermine. I am glad the resistance remains strong, and that is why we have a budget or an appropriation that listens to the people and the healthcare subsidies are being paid for, so that people can have that health insurance.

ANTIQUITIES ACT

(Mr. LAMALFA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, this week in the Natural Resources Committee, we conducted an important hearing and review on the Antiquities Act. This is the process for which these days the President unilaterally can declare national monuments, thereby placing acres that are deemed to be preserved into a monument, which then cannot be touched by human hands as it is interpreted and enforced these days.

Under President Obama, twice as many acres were placed into that type of monument status as all other Presidents combined over the history of the country.

Now, what this means is that you can't have access for forestry, fire protection, and other things you need to do for human activity. Even access for hunting and fishing is oftentimes limited. What we need is to have a process where Congress can have approval of the Antiquities Act if one of these proposals comes into place. We need to have that so that the people will have access to their lands so they can be managed if need be.

The size of the monument, yes, we have areas we need to declare and protect. But the size of the monument is very important as well because it doesn't need to be always hundreds of thousands, even millions, of acres. Indeed, under the act, the idea is that it would be under the smallest possible size to preserve the object.

NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS WEEK

(Mr. PAYNE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize this week as National Small Business Week and to applaud the vast contributions of small-business owners and entrepreneurs across my district—the 10th Congressional District of New Jersey.

National Small Business Week is the perfect opportunity to recognize the importance of small businesses, entrepreneurs, and the diversity of businessowners.

In New Jersey, small businesses employ nearly 2 million people and make up 99.6 percent of all businesses in the State. Over the last decade, women-owned businesses have increased by 45 percent and generated over $1.6 trillion in revenue. Minority-owned businesses have produced over $1.3 trillion and created 7 million jobs.

Small businesses are truly the backbone of our Nation and economy. As Members of Congress, we must do our part to support all efforts to open the doors of opportunity for small business growth. Their success is our success.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF JOSEPH STONE

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, as co-chair of the Congressional Ukraine Caucus, I rise to commemorate the precious life of Joseph Stone of Tucson, Arizona. The 36-year-old American was serving his part of an official international peace team monitoring the border conflict between Ukrainian Government troops and Russian-backed separatists who invaded Ukraine.

Mr. Stone was working with a German and a Czech peace monitor when an explosion—likely a mine—damaged their vehicle in Pryshyb, Ukraine. The two other monitors are hospitalized in

stable condition. Stone is the first Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe monitor killed in that very important mission.

Stone's career in foreign assistance missions brought him to Afghanistan and Liberia before Ukraine. Before entering the aid community, Stone worked at American Medical Response in southern Arizona for 9 years, starting out as an EMT and rising to the level of paramedic. He graduated from Pima Community College. He is survived by his mother, two brothers, a longtime companion, and 13-year-old daughter.

Since its establishment in 2014, the OSCE has played a vital role in monitoring the Minsk agreements designed to bring peace to eastern Ukraine after Russia's brutal invasion of a sovereign neighbor. This fateful tragedy makes clear the absolute brutality of Vladimir Putin's threats to liberty and democracy in Ukraine.

It also instructs us about the unrecognized selfless heroes among us who define the meaning and cost of liberty. May our recognition of his selfless sacrifice bring comfort to those bearing this great loss, and may he be remembered always in the protracted struggle for a free Ukraine.

THE OMNIBUS BILL

(Mr. ESPAILLAT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that we found a solution to keep the government open through October and that this deal does not include funding for President Trump's border wall, nor does it eliminate money for sanctuary cities. These are several issues that I am proud to champion in addition to programs such as the NIH, Child Care and Development Block Grants, Pell grants, nutrition programs for seniors, Planned Parenthood, affordable housing, and Head Start.

However, the devil is in the details, and after further reviewing this total package, I cannot, in good conscience, support it. This bill will increase funding for homeland security and is essentially $1.2 billion of President Trump's original proposed $3 billion request for border security and interior enforcement. We fully know that any funding for homeland security and border security will be used to increase raids and detentions, essentially funding the President's mass deportation agenda.

In addition, this omnibus bill does not provide a long-term solution to Puerto Rico's economic crisis, leaving Puerto Rico's Medicaid funding with only one-third of the funding it needs.

Finally, the bill comes at the same time that Trump and House Republicans continue to push to eliminate ACA. The devil is in the detail, and that, too, will be a nightmare in hell for many of us.

CHANGES TO AMERICAN HEALTH CARE ACT DO NOT REMEDY BILL'S SHORTCOMINGS

(Mr. CARTWRIGHT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise because evidently, in the House of Representatives, we will be taking up the possible passage of a revised but, as yet, unseen American Health Care Act.

I rise to urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to vote against this. The CBO has not scored it, so we don't know how much it will cost. We don't know how many Americans will be thrown off their health care.

I want to quote Dr. Andrew Gurman, who is the president of the American Medical Association, who said this today:

''Not only would the AHCA eliminate health insurance coverage for millions of Americans, the legislation would, in many cases, eliminate the ban against charging those with underlying medical conditions vastly more for their coverage.''

This is a bad bill that has gotten worse with time. We haven't seen it. It hasn't been scored for money or how many patients will be thrown off their health care. It will hurt patients, it will hurt medical providers, it will hurt hospitals, and it will hurt this country.

I urge my colleagues to vote ''no'' on this bill.

THE AMERICAN HEALTH CARE ACT

(Mr. RASKIN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I also rise in opposition to this suddenly undead GOP plan to strip millions of Americans of their health insurance and Medicaid coverage and dramatically increase our monthly premiums. Just when you thought we had actually slain the zombie, the repeal-and-replace plan comes back again with no hearings, no witnesses, no budget score, and no policy coherence. It is like the bloody hand emerging from the grave in ''Carrie,'' even as the credits are rolling and the people in the audience have already left for their cars.

Mr. Speaker, let's return this so-called American Health Care Act to its own preexisting legislative condition: dead on arrival.

What makes anyone think it improves the appeal of this plan to strip preexisting coverage from the American people?

The fact that you have a preexisting condition is why you need medical attention. It is not the reason to deny it to someone.

In the last round, I heard colleagues complain that, under the current system, healthy citizens have to pay for other citizens when they get sick. Yes, my friends, that is what insurance is. Any Member who believes that the currently healthy should not help insure the currently sick must believe no one in his or her family will ever get sick. That is magical thinking. But in America, as Bruce Springsteen says: We take care of our own.

MATH AND FACTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2017, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SCHWEIKERT) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Arizona?

There was no objection.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Speaker, we have a whole hour here, and we may actually use the whole hour. This is an opportunity to actually walk through three areas that I care an awful lot about.

One, I actually want to walk through something called math, and math in regards to health care. Some of this is actually to deal with—and I don't want to be mean, because I am going to try to do this in as nonpartisan a way as possible, but some of the things that we have just heard moments ago that lack just sort of basic roots in math and facts.

□ 1700

Let me move this easel back just a little bit so we can get this. We are going to do a little bit of show-and-tell here to sort of help.

First off, a conceptual problem, since, I believe, it is 1986, we in the United States have had statutes that say, if a sick person walks into a hospital and they have cancer, they are bleeding, they are going to get health services.

This is a really important concept for us all to get our heads around. There is no such thing as not receiving care in this country. It may not be the care you want at the place you want, but it is the law. It has been the law for 30 years.

If we are going to be brutally honest, much of the debate and discussion we are having here, whether it be the ACA or prior to the ACA where it was uncompensated care, where it was disproportionate share within our hospitals, or our reform legislation, it is not whether someone gets coverage or doesn't get coverage; it is who and how it is paid for and where is it paid for.

Remember, these costs are already in the system. Does it go as a loss on a hospital balance sheet? Does it get pushed over to other populations within an insurance pool? That is the math we are actually working on.

A couple of moments ago, you had a handful of Members come up and talk about preexisting conditions. If you hear someone use the term ''preexisting conditions,'' they basically are years out of date. There functionally is no such thing anymore. There is guaranteed issuance of insurance.

We are going to go through this in more depth.

Someone like myself, I am a severe asthmatic. I walk around with an inhaler in my pocket. I can grab any insurance today and I get guaranteed issue.

Whether it be in the current ACA—ObamaCare, as many know it—there are variations in what we refer to as community rating. There are age levels. If you are a smoker, you get a different pricing.

Some of those same mechanics we are doing in our reform bill. We are going to walk through why the way we are doing it we think actually will ultimately lower prices. We are trying to get that efficiency of the young and healthy to participate in the insurance pool, because they are not participating today.

We are going to keep this board close by because this is important for everyone to understand conceptually. I know the chart is hard to see, but 5 percent of the population is 50 percent of the healthcare cost.

Think about this. Of our brothers and sisters who have chronic conditions, they are 50 percent of the healthcare costs, even though they are only 5 percent of the population. That is why we did the risk-sharing model that is being attached to our legislation. We are going to walk more through that.

If you start to think about this curve—for those who want to do some math—it looks like a hockey stick. The healthiest 50 percent only use 3 percent of healthcare dollars. So 50 percent of the population only use 3 percent of the healthcare dollars. Then it comes along and explodes up like a hockey stick. The top part of this hockey stick, this 3 percent of the population up here, whether it be because they are hemophiliacs or uncontrolled diabetics or have other types of great difficulties, that population is 50 percent of the entire cost.

What happened in the current ACA is, let's face it, the model did not work. You remember the whole discussion: keep your doctor; $2,500 savings; fewer visits to emergency rooms, which, actually, emergency room visits have skyrocketed or gone up substantially.

Their model did not work, and mathematically it is imploding. We are going to go through some data, particularly from my home State of Arizona, on how much trouble we are in.

One of the reasons it has not worked is less than half the population of those buying in that individual market are buying. Particularly, if you look at our healthy 20-year-olds, our 30-year-olds, that 50 percent of the population that only uses 3 percent of health care, they are not participating in the insurance pool.

Well, how do you spread risk when you have millions and millions and millions and millions of Americans who are choosing not to purchase because it is too darned expensive or, because the contribution before you receive health care is so expensive and the number of waivers, it is just cheaper to pay the penalty?

So what happens when you are trying to do the math and you have your brothers and sisters here in this body on the other side who either make up facts or just say, ''Well, just keep it as it is''? I am going to make the argument that the cruelty of that is just stunning.

We are going to start to walk through a little bit more of these so we can actually help folks sort of understand this is the underlying math, this is why we must have a substantial change.

Let's go back prerecession, just before the recession. Let's go back here to 2007. We had about 14.6 percent of our population going uninsured. That is unacceptable. Today after having spent almost—as some data says, as much as $1 trillion, but we will stick with a half trillion because that I can absolutely document—$500 billion of subsidies, losses, if you actually add up the losses insurance companies have had, if you add up the copays individuals had, if you actually add up the money that has been spent through the bureaucracies, we have dropped, say, a half-trillion dollars, today we are at 10.9 percent.

If you are on the left, this is the grand success of ObamaCare. The grand success of the ACA is that you have gone from 14.6 percent of the population is uninsured, and today it is 10.9? Where is some of the intellectual credibility around this place to at least tell the truth of the math?

If you start to divide up how much we have spent—and we were just doing this on the back of a napkin a little while ago. If you add up the population that has now gained insurance through the exchanges that did not have insurance or access to insurance before, some of the math comes to around only 6 million people.

If you divide that by a half-trillion dollars, that is $84,000 per life for 3 years of coverage. We could have bought them their health insurance and a really nice car. You understand how absurd the current model is.

I am not questioning the good intentions of wanting to help our brothers and sisters have access to health coverage. Great. Now let's make the math actually work.

This chart is really important. This is actually not coming from me. This one, I think, is from Gallup. Most of the other data we are going to get is going to come from Kaiser or the Congressional Budget Office.

I want you to understand I am going to be Arizona-centric because that is my home State. I am blessed to represent the Phoenix-Scottsdale area. But let's take a look at my little State down here. We are going to burn through these fairly quickly.

I have about 6.7 million residents in Arizona. Okay. There are 6.7 million residents in Arizona. This is from Kaiser.

Let's switch to the next board. Of that 6.7 million residents in Arizona, my citizens, how many buy their health care on that individual market? That is what we are talking about.

When you keep hearing the grandiose ''the world is coming to an end,'' how many of my brothers and sisters buy on the individual market? About 278,000 people. That is a lot of people. But if you divide it by our population, it is 4 percent of my population. In my congressional district, it is somewhere around 2 percent of my population.

The elegance of actually being honest about that piece of math is that it helps you understand we can fix this. This is the individual purchasing market.

Let's take one step backwards.

The majority of Americans receive our health care from our employers. Then we come over here: Medicare, VA, Indian Health Service, TRICARE, a number of these things. What we are talking about in the ACA and our replacement is that sliver of our population that is in the individual market and how to reform Medicaid. That is all.

But often when something is complicated, it comes ripe for political hyperbolic language, acting like the world is on fire, instead of being honest and making the math work so we can serve our brothers and sisters with the health coverage we want.

Remember, we have just come back here to Arizona. Only 4 percent of my population is in the individual market. In my congressional district, it is only 2 percent of the population.

Now, you need to understand that when you hear many of us get behind these microphones and we talk about the system, the current ACA—ObamaCare, as it is known; but I think that is unfair, so let's just call it the ACA—is imploding. For my State, it is. We are going to show you how few choices happen in my State. This is only between 2016 and 2017.

Do you see this blue right here? If you were in that county, if you were in that individual market, you would have three or more choices.

Do remember that, when this law went into effect, we were promised dozen of choices. Should we hold the left to their own promises? It hasn't happened.

What is happening now, if you take a look all over the country, when you see this chart, county after county after county now has one choice. I want you to see what has happened in my home State.

First off, statewide in my State, if you were buying the mean exchange plan, that Silver plan, statewide, last year, a 116 percent price hike. That is if you are in Maricopa County and you are buying the mean Silver plan.

Maricopa County is the fourth most populated county in the United States, so it is not just a little outlier. It is the fourth most populated county. It is 64 percent of my State's population in one county.

If there were ever an example of a county that should have had health care efficiency and pricing, it is Maricopa County. It is a large population. If you were in that mean Silver plan, you had a 145 percent price hike last year.

How can I see people get behind these microphones and act like this system is working? Do you understand the crushing you are doing to people in my State, hardworking people who just want to say: I am the neighborhood plumber; I would like to buy health care?

Either the deductibles have gotten so huge or the underlying price has gone up so high, we are actually seeing something fascinating in the uninsured curve. The uninsured population has now moved into our hardworking middle class because of the number of them that work for themselves that can no longer afford to participate.

We will just say it was one of the unintended consequences of the current ACA. But it is one of those occasions we all see the data, and yet how many people get behind these microphones and tell the truth about how many people we are crushing from these deductibles to the current pricing?

You saw the previous chart. We have gone from 14.6 percent of our population uninsured before the ACA to, now, 10.9 percent. We dropped about a half-trillion dollars. That is $500 billion. That is not counting Medicaid expansion. That is just the numbers over here.

We have had testimony in the Ways and Means Committee that we believe only about 6 million Americans were newly insured, newly covered for that half-trillion dollars. Look, it is great they have coverage, but the math doesn't make sense. We could have done this so much more elegantly.

So let's actually take a look at Arizona. This is 2014. If you go before that, it was even bigger, but take a look at my county. See all those little squares? Those were health insurance providers that were available to you in 2014.

If you go a couple years before that, we had counties that had 15, 18 different possible insurance choices, companies who would provide; today, 2017, you see one little blue square.

We are being told that we are going to have entire counties in my State—and Arizona is unique in that we have only 15 counties in the entire State. We are going to have entire counties with no insurance provider to that individual market. This is a system that is working?

Take a look at my State. This is one of the reasons we have been working so hard, why we did the risk-sharing model. This is reality. This is Arizona. This is my home. My folks have had these massive, triple-digit price hikes. Now they have a single choice, and they are being told next year they may have no choice. This is the reality we are at.

□ 1715

So let's actually talk about solutions. How do you deal with this? How do you actually help our brothers and sisters be able to afford insurance? How do you encourage providers to come in and actually participate in providing coverage to that individual market so there are options, there is competition, there is choice?

If you actually think about what drives that price, so why the explosion in price? Well, the current ACA, because of the way it has these three tiers within, we will call it, the community rating—that is where you take all the people in your community who are participating in this insurance population, and say: You don't all get the same price. There are certain adjustments, and some of the adjustments were for age.

So the ACA, ObamaCare, the current law, had three adjustments plus adjustments for smoking and a couple other externalities, and it made the concentration of cost and risk so expensive that—remember our 50 percent of the population who only use 3 percent of health care—they have chosen not to buy, which, in some ways, is a perfectly economically logical reaction to the current cost, to a world where it is so expensive it is cheaper to pay the penalty, so we have to find a way to drive down that cost for that population so they participate.

When you were in school and you would hear the story in your economics class of there are occasions where by lowering the price you make more profit because you sell more units? The concept is pretty much the same here in insurance. If we can lower the price for our healthy population, more participate; we spread the risk over a larger, healthier population; we lower the price for that 5 percent of our brothers and sisters who are in that chronic category; plus we are going to overlay a couple other things to help mitigate that cost to get the price efficiency for everyone. It is important.

I know some of these slides are a little hard to get our heads around, but we have put together something called an invisible risk pool. If you are that American who has bought, who is participating in this individual market but has a chronic condition, you never do a traditional risk pool today because what we learned from the data over the last 30, 40 years of risk pools, there have been a couple successes, but most risk pools, hey, the cost goes up, you hit that sort of threshold, and you dump that person, saying: Hey, you are now the risk pool's problem, or you are the State's problem.

We wanted a continuity of care. We wanted the sick person to receive services where the medical provider, the insurer, and the patient themselves all have skin in the game. They all have a need to participate, to manage, whether it be the individual's diabetes or some other ailments. That is the beauty of sort of this risk-sharing model, that for the population that is our sickest brothers and sisters, as their cost graduates up, there will be participation from this risk-sharing pool.

Why is this absolutely fair? Remember how we talked about how most Americans receive their health care in the employer market? Well, your employer gets a fairly substantial tax deduction for providing that health care. They get to take it off their taxes. Well, we don't do that for when you are in that individual market. When you are in that individual market, for you to be able to take it off your taxes, so we have tried to come up with this methodology to make it fair, so we have come up with this tax credit. But we want you to have the money to help purchase your policy in the beginning, so there is this whole term, sort of this made-up new language that says a prefundable tax credit so you can buy your health insurance in that individual market. So that is on the front end. On the back end, to make sure the premiums, what we call premium efficiency, have stayed low and affordable, we are actually doing this risk sharing up here to help mitigate that spiking of cost so we can lower the prices for everyone so we maximize participation.

There is some elegance in the math, and I think actually there is a great love for our brothers and sisters who have preexisting conditions up here because it is an invisible risk pool. They never know whether their cost is being subsidized by this pool, nor should they. We made a societal decision 30 years ago that someone walks into an emergency room, someone walks into a hospital with a condition, they get services, so the cost is already in the population.

What we have been debating now for years is how do we pay, how do we

move the chairs around? But if we are going to get efficiency in lowering premiums for everyone, remember, we need our healthy population over here to participate in this, and then there is a couple other things we are going to talk about.

So functionally what we have done with the risk sharing, it actually accomplishes a couple really great things. One is the obvious part, if you are the insurer, and let's say you are the actuary at the insurer, and you are doing your math, you actually know what your risk exposure is on each life. Why that is important is you don't have to build what is often referred to as a shock absorber in your rates, saying: Dear heaven, what happens if tomorrow I get a handful of folks with a very difficult chronic condition that blows the cost off the charts? I have to build cushion into my rates.

Well, with the risk-sharing model, they no longer have to have the rates padded for that externality that might happen. It becomes this multiplier effect where if I don't have to put that in the rates, I have lower costs over here. If I have lower costs over here, the model says I get a lot more participation in the health care pool, and everyone benefits. That is what we are trying here.

So what do you actually do, if the argument I am making, whether it be the ACA, whether it be our replacement, in many ways what we are discussing is how to pay for the health care that is already in our society. Remember, as we have been talking, there is no such thing, if you are going to be completely honest, as a preexisting condition denying you coverage. There are some cost stratas, but that is in the current ObamaCare ACA, just as in our replacement, but some of that is by age or if you smoke or other things.

How do you actually lower costs? Some of that comes in the next piece of legislation because, as you all know, in the bill we are trying to move now, we have to deal with the rules of we have no one on the left in the Senate who is going to work with us. We are on our own. So we have to find a way to do this with 52 votes in the Senate. We don't have eight Democrats who are going to work with us. That means we have to do it through reconciliation. Probably those of you who are interested in this stuff, you have read how reconciliation limits the things we can put into a piece of legislation. If you would like us to have more things, go find us eight votes on the Democratic side in the U.S. Senate.

So what do you do to lower costs? We all know information. How many of you can grab your supercomputer you carry in your pocket right now, log into the hospital surgery center—your doctor—and immediately hit a button and say, Hey, the retina detachment, the cataract, the kidney problems I have, here is my cost for the services, here is my cost for the procedure?

We need information. That is going to come, I believe, later this year.

The next thing is, with that information, you create competition. That is incredibly important. Competition in health care comes as much from the price as it does the quality. We have done some great things in collecting quality data. With quality data and price information, we are hoping there becomes now this incentive to actually compare and move around. But what is the next revolution? I am going to make you the argument—and this is one of the elegant things I believe that is also now happening on the Medicaid side of our piece of legislation, and that is to allow creativity at our State levels.

Arizona may have one of the most creative Medicaid systems, we call it AHCCCS in Arizona. We buy functionally capitated HMO policies for our indigent population. But every time we want to make a change, every time we want to try something new to service our brothers and sisters in Arizona, we have to march over to the Federal Government and get a waiver. We have to get permission from the Federal Government. Well, here is my question to you: Does a poor person—as a matter of fact, anyone, if you are in the individual market, if you are on Medicare, Medicaid, do you have the right to talk to your primary care physician on this? Of course you do. Do you have the right to wear the sensor on your body that helps you manage your high blood pressure? How about this contact lens that is going to be out probably next year that will actually sit in your eye and manage your blood glucose? No more punching a hole in your finger and doing a blood test to check for your blood sugars, your blood glucose. It will be constant, talking to your phone, talking to your pump. If that keeps some of our brothers and sisters with diabetes from crashing, it is great for all of us. It is great for society. It is great for them. It is great for healthcare costs.

There is a revolution coming technologywise. One of the things I found fascinating is they actually have a little thing now where you can put your fingers on it and it does a full EKG. There is disruptive technology that is now available and is rolling out. How many of us now wear a Fitbit that helps you manage parts of your health care? This right here is about to bring a revolution in health care.

A simple example, just a thought experiment for anyone who actually cares about these things: In Arizona, the majority of babies are born in our Medicaid system. Even my little girl who we adopted a year and a half ago, I believe she was born in my State's Medicaid system. Most perfect little girl ever.

We know we have a problem in this country and in Arizona, a substantial number of the moms don't show up for their prenatal visits. When we have surveyed them, we get information back that says: It is hard waiting for the bus. It is hot out. Dial-a-Ride makes me wait. Why wouldn't you allow that poor person to hit a button on their phone and have ridesharing pick them up? There are solutions. If we could get our brothers and sisters on the right and the left here to actually talk to each other about solutions, but instead right now health care is such a potent political issue, I can show you article after article after article where the facts that are being disseminated to the American public are completely wrong. We heard some of that just minutes ago behind these microphones where the facts are absolutely made up. It is just incredibly cruel.

Let me explain the cruelty. A couple weeks ago, we were doing just coffees with residents. A group of my constituents who are on the left brought a woman, and she has tears running down her face. She is standing in front of me wanting to know why we are about to take the health care away from her husband who is across the street in the hospital. How cruel does the left have to be to lie, to say something like that to someone because none of that was true. Our bill, their bill, that just can't happen in the language that if you are already in the hospital, if you have a preexisting condition, these things are covered, whether it be from the right or the left's language. But to manipulate someone who is already suffering like that, what sort of cruelty is in someone's soul to get a political advantage to manipulate a wonderful woman who is already suffering with the difficulties of her husband in the hospital?

I beg of you, whether you be on the right or the left, actually read the amendments, actually read the language, understand what reality is, understand we live in a society now where all preexisting conditions have coverage. We already live under a law that has age brackets, if you smoke, variances, but very small variances. Even in the latest amendments, the discussion is, if your State wanted to do a statewide prenatal program, or my State where we have a disproportionate share of our population with diabetes, particularly with my Native-American population, if my State wanted to get everyone together, whether it be Indian Health Service, the VA, private insurers, our Medicare, Medicaid system wanted to try to put together a statewide program to reach out to our brothers and sisters with diabetes, that would be—if the actuaries and the math works—maybe wonderful. That would be an occasion where my State would reach over to the HHS Director

and say: Can we have a waiver? We no longer need to have this type of coverage mandated in these individual policies because we are going to do it at the statewide level. I beg of you, think creatively.

How do we cover our brothers and sisters? How do we deal with the reality that a huge number of our population right now is choosing not to buy because of price or have been able to receive waivers substantially because of price?

□ 1730

And if we succeed here at driving the price down by our actuarial efficiency, the risk sharing up here, and spreading out, a couple of years from now, we are going to be standing behind these microphones and saying math won out over hyperbolic rhetoric.

So can we talk about a couple of other things that are really, really important?

I am blessed to be on the Ways and Means Committee. So why is tax reform so incredibly important to all of us?

Understand, those of you who want to see Medicare, those of you who want to see Social Security stay solvent, do you understand what is happening with economic growth and the pressures right now and what is going on?

So this little pie chart up here is functioning 9 years from now. You have got to understand, in 9 years, only 22 percent of the spending will be what we call discretionary, stuff I really get to vote on, stuff that is not in the formula. Eleven percent will be nondefense. Everything you sort of think of as government—the Park Service, FDA, Education—those things where moneys come to the Federal Government that go to these things is only going to be 11 percent of our spending. Another 11 percent will be defense. Everything else is either Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, interest on the debt, or some of the other unearned entitlement programs.

This is substantial because we are graying. You all heard of baby boomers. But the reality of it is, in less than 9 years, every dime of Federal revenues—and we are going to be taking in $1 trillion more. We are going to go from $4 trillion to $5 trillion of revenue. Every dime of Federal revenue will be consumed by what we call mandatory spending, entitlements. Military and every other part of government is going to exist on borrowed money.

So if you are someone who really likes education, if you are someone who really thinks drug research is important, if you are someone who thinks NASA is important, if you are someone who thinks the parks are important, you should care about this.

The reality of it is the math curve, even with a substantial growth in the economy, we are going to have to look at entitlement reform. And I know that sets people off because they are fearful, but it is a lot better than hiding from it.

The thing that makes it less painful is a growing economy. Tax reform, we know, is the single greatest engine, the single greatest lever we have here as Members of Congress to get the economy growing. Fixing the healthcare issue will go a long way to help. Dealing with regulatory, dealing with immigration, dealing with embracing technology into our society and government can all be very powerful for economic growth, because our future does not have to be one buried in debt.

But without a revolution in the way we think around here and a willingness to do tough things—and tax reform is going to be hard, but without it, you are basically sentencing my little 18-month-old girl to a future buried in debt, buried in slow growth.

For those of you who may be my age, who are hoping to receive Medicare and Social Security, you are putting those programs at financial risk, and it doesn't need to happen. We can fix this, but you have got to move it away from the hyperbolic politics and actually start to be willing to own a calculator and start looking at the math.

Why this is so important, right here on this chart, is start to understand, as you get down here—remember, 2027 is functioning 9 years from now, and, actually, only 8 budget years from now. One more time, every dime is consumed by Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, interest on the debt, and the other handful of mandatory, what we call, entitlements. This is your future. It happens in less than a decade. It is here.

Please, big, bold, dynamic tax reform is the first thing we can do this year, and then we are going to have to continue to move on to technology and everything else to sort of do whatever is necessary to get this economy growing.

This one is a little more difficult, but we wanted to actually hold it up just so that there is an understanding of how fast we move from right now. Today, in 2017, about 7 percent of our total spending is interest. In a couple of decades, we start getting up to where it is 20 percent, a quarter of all of our spending.

And this chart, think of this. In 9 years, interest is 19 percent of the budget. Okay. In 9 years, Medicare is 22 percent of our budget, of all of our spending; Social Security is 29. Just add that up. Think of that. Interest, Medicare, Social Security, the three of those start to consume the majority of this institution's spending.

And then you add in what we call mandatory spending, other entitlements, and you start to see, in 9 years, it consumes every dollar of tax revenues. That is really, really important to understand why we need to have this two-phase approach.

Right now we do everything that we can to maximize economic growth and opportunity. And when we talk about economic growth, this isn't just for the top line, big corporations. We need that economic growth of those people that pay the FICA tax. Our brothers and sisters that pay Social Security, our brothers and sisters that pay the unemployment tax, our brothers and sisters that pay into Medicare, we need their jobs to pay more. We need more of them. We need them to have more options in the workplace.

So this is a tax design of how you maximize economic growth not just for big corporations, but for everyone. That concept of: Remember when we were all in school, that sort of velocity of economic opportunity, that mobility? We have been stagnant for a decade. We must, must, must bring it back.

And why these numbers become so difficult—and this chart is a little hard to understand at first. These are the predictions of what economic growth was going to be this year, to understand how much trouble we are really in.

In 2013, the brilliant—excuse me. Yes, let's just make fun of them. The economists around this town were saying: Hey, it is 2013; but by the time you hit 2017, all this stimulus, all this spending, all this debt, you are going to get a 4 percent GDP growth.

You all saw what we had last quarter. What was it, 0.7?

Now, honestly, first quarters the last couple of years have had a distortion, I think, in the seasonally adjusted numbers. But do you think we are going to hit 4 percent GDP this year? Because that is actually what a lot of the budgets were projected on.

So sometimes we will be here in a debate with my brothers and sisters on the left, and they are holding up these charts saying: Well, it is 2013; we are going to be just fine over the next 10 years. And you get into those next 10 years, and you start to realize we are going to be lucky to hit 2 percent.

So much of what we have shared with the American people in the previous decade, the numbers were blatantly wrong, and not to the good side, to a much more difficult side. So when we start to look at this chart—and, once again, 2026 isn't that long from now—you start to realize we are going to be approaching $30 trillion of debt. Why this becomes incredibly important, once again, for all my Keynesian economists out there who think we should just go more into debt, spend and we will get stimulus, now we have built up so much debt that the ratcheting effect you get if you start to raise interest rates and half your debt needs to be refinanced within a 5-year period—they call it a weighted daily

average—all of a sudden any new revenues you may be getting from that Keynesian stimulus are being consumed by interest.

Every day we wait to deal with this we lose options on how we can protect Medicare, on how we can protect Social Security, and on how we can protect our economic future. The sooner we do what is necessary in tax reform and all the other reforms and stop some of the crazy squabbling—I am sorry the left lost; well, actually, I am not, but I am sorry it hurt their feelings so much—and maybe come to the table and prove to the American people you actually care about them in a fashion where you are being honest with the math, hold up a calculator and demonstrate that we actually are going to do what is right.

Back to the last part. We are going to do this slide over again because this is really important. Remember, we said part of this is just math.

The economic growth. The part of our society that uses 50 percent of the healthcare dollars is 5 percent of our population. It is all fixable.

So there are two themes here on the first parts of this. In health care, the expense, the cost is already in the system. Whether it be our reform, whether it be the ACA, whether it be before the ACA, the total cost is already there.

What we have been working on are two things. How do you move the cost around so that we can actually lower the cost for that 50 percent that only uses 3 percent so they will actually participate in the insurance market, lowering everyone's rate, instead of what is happening today where they just don't participate?

Remember, you saw the slide. 10.9 percent of the population is not buying health insurance today. They don't have coverage. They are uninsured. Some of that is because of the cost; some of that is because of the waivers. The only way you get them in is that thing we call premium efficiency. We have got to drive down that cost. But if we do that, I am actually pretty optimistic good things are going to happen.

Now, I want to actually take you to something that there really are bipartisan solutions. I am going to make you this argument that technology is the great optionality around this, it is the great unifying thing. I am going to walk you through something, and later I want you to tell me whether this is Republican, Democratic, right, or left. I am going to make the argument it is data.

I live in Maricopa County, the fourth most populous county in the United States. It is what we call a nonattainment county. It means certain types of pollutants are in excess, and on occasion it spikes up. In the past, we would get a phone call from EPA saying: Hey, one of our monitors shut off. We think we are going to shut down your building permits.

Well, remember how we were just talking about we live in a society where we must have economic growth if we are going to be able to finance and pay for our promises? So I came to you and said there is a much more elegant way to keep the air clean and actually have economic growth: reward those who are following the rules and catch those who are breaking the rules when it comes to polluting our air quality. And it is data.

So right now, here is how we regulate.

You want to open a business. Let's say you want to do a powder coating business in Phoenix. You have to go out and get a bunch of permits from the county, from the State DEQ. You also submit to the EPA. Depending on the types of volatile organics and other things you are using, you may have to file reports every quarter. You have to do a major audit every year.

Does filling up file cabinets full of paper make the air quality cleaner in your community? Seriously, because this is our regulatory model. We basically have a 1938 regulatory model where we make people fill out lots and lots of pieces of paper. We send them in. We hire lawyers and auditors, and we hire consultants to help us fill out this paper, and we shove it in file cabinets down at the air quality regulator or environmental quality regulator. Do full file cabinets make the air quality cleaner in your community?

It is an absurd model when we are all walking around with supercomputers in our pocket. There is now technology coming on the market where you, through Bluetooth, through an actual plug-in, you can actually be walking around with your own air quality monitoring system.

Well, think about my community. If I could have a couple thousand people driving around, traveling around, walking around, hiking around my community getting air quality samples every 5 minutes, at the end of the week I have a couple hundred thousand data points. You put it up on a GIS map, and you catch those who are sinning.

Think about it. It basically is a combination of crowdsourcing citizen science. And the tradeoff is don't make that company fill out lots and lots of pieces of paper or that organization over here fill out lots and lots of pieces of paper and fill up a file cabinet, because if I have enough monitors and sensors moving around the community, if they screw up, you catch them instantly.

It is not like today's world where a couple of years later maybe an auditor catches them; you go to the file cabinet and use the file cabinet as a tool to sue them, but yet you have had 2 years of pollutants in your air. Let's catch the bad guys immediately and leave the good guys alone.

We can do that by this sort of crowdsource data model, the idea that the entire community gets to participate in the collecting of the data. You get to look on the GIS map. The air quality regulator gets to look and say: Hey, we have a hot point over here. Let's go find out what it is. Hey, we found some clowns painting cars in the back of a lot.

Are those clowns out there getting air quality permits to do it? The folks down the street that are using the filters and are in the booth, if they are following the rules, they get left alone, but you catch the ones that have been escaping. It is a use of crowdsource data. We actually have a whole video of this on our website.

We now have introduced a piece of legislation that is over at Energy and Commerce. This should be a bipartisan piece of legislation because that Republican or Democrat—it uses data to let you know what is happening in the air quality in your community. It uses data to catch bad actors, and it uses data to let you know you can leave good actors alone so they can grow their businesses, so they can pay people more, so there are more job opportunities, instead of spending the money filling up file cabinets and hiring consultants. It is an elegant solution.

□ 1745

Is that Republican or Democrat? I will make the argument it is data. There are solutions that both sides around here can use.

So the next time you have someone getting behind these microphones and saying, well, we are deregulating this—no. It is time for a revolution in the way we think.

We are all walking around with these. With the new sensors, you can manage your health care, you can test your water, you can test your soil, you can check the ambient sound, but you can also do the air quality in your community.

I am going to make you an argument there are actually solutions moving around here, and if I can get beyond the hyperbolic rhetoric, maybe we can start to move some of these solutions forward.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

PROGRESSIVE CAUCUS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FRANCIS ROONEY of Florida). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2017, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. POCAN) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. POCAN. Mr. Speaker, I am here on behalf of the Progressive Caucus, which is the largest values-based caucus within the Democratic Party—74 members strong—who are helping to lead the legislative arm of the resistance in this country.

We, every year, put forth a Progressive Caucus budget, which is really a statement of the values of the Progressive Caucus and the values of the American people. This year, this week, we released our budget. But before I talk about it, let me just take a step back.

One of the things that people have asked us to do, asked so many of our Progressive Caucus members in this Congress to do, is to really fight and to lead the resistance here in Washington, D.C. And we are fighting many of the bad ideas that get proposed, from the idea of having a wall on the Mexican border to the terrible tax plan that is going to cost tens of millions of people access to health care, to a tax plan that is going to lower rates for the wealthiest in the country and leave the working class and those aspiring to be in the working class without any benefits.

The cuts that the Trump administration has proposed in their budget, there is just so many bad things, day after day, sometimes hour after hour, in Washington, D.C., that happens. And it is the Congressional Progressive Caucus that is largely leading many of those fights, saying no to the bad ideas. But it is not enough to just say no. We also have to have a positive, progressive alternative so that the American people can see there is a true alternative.

You don't have to just go by the policies of this administration. You don't have to go down the path that really leaves so many people out so that the top 1 or 2 percent can continue to benefit. And that is exactly what the Congressional Progressive Caucus is doing.

So when we put forth a Congressional Progressive Caucus budget, it is a comprehensive budget that lays out the values of the American people from everything from education, to infrastructure, to health care, to our Nation's security. It is a document that we use throughout the year to put forth positive, progressive ideas to show that there is an alternative. You don't have to follow the ideas that have come forth from the Republican majority in this House and the President.

Let me just start by talking about the Republican budget, the budget that Donald Trump has proposed in his skinny budget he released a while ago. He will be producing a more in-depth budget, but he laid out the fundamental foundation of what his budget is going to look like. That budget is a budget that has no additional revenue. It has $54 billion of additional spending for the military, and because it has no additional revenue, it has cuts to almost every other program that we see, and these are deep cuts—20, 30 percent cuts—to all sorts of agencies.

So let me share a little bit about what that budget looks like, and then I will offer the contrast of what the Congressional Progressive Caucus has put forward and why it means so much to have that budget in place.

First of all, that $54 billion increase means you are going to have to have a lot of cuts to a lot of other areas in the budget, and let me just point a few of those out. One that means a lot to my district, and I represent the people of south central Wisconsin, but it means a lot to everyone across the country, is funding for the National Institutes of Health, NIH.

That is the area where that funding goes to researchers across the country who are finding cures for diseases so that we can live longer, and better, and have healthier lives, and it is essential funding. That is so important that, in the last Congress, one of the few things we got done in a bipartisan way is, we did additional funding for the National Institutes of Health.

Just today, in the Omnibus bill to get us through funding through September 30 of this year, we upped funding in a bipartisan way for the National Institutes of Health, because we, in a bipartisan way, value the work they do. In President Trump's budget, there is a $6 billion cut—almost 20 percent of that budget—that would happen, threatening all sorts of research across the country.

For the Department of Education, there is a 13 percent cut, but that is not just a 13 percent cut. That cut would be even deeper if you didn't count the hundreds of millions of dollars put into taxpayer funds going into private schools. It would be more like an 18 or 19 percent cut, but it is huge cuts.

Just in higher education alone, Pell grants—something that I was fortunate enough to have—I grew up in a lower middle class family, and I was fortunate enough to get loans, and work through college, and get some Pell grants to help me so I could attend college. There is a $4 billion cut just in that line item. So clearly, there is not the attention to education from the K–12 level or higher education in that budget.

Programs like Head Start and others are devastated in the pre-K level. So there are a lot of problems with President Trump's budget for education. When you get to transportation, there is a 13 percent cut—$2.4 billion—everything from Amtrak, to dollars going to other rail programs and transit programs, investment programs that help people in rural areas, TIGER grants for highway projects, and more.

In energy, we see the nonnuclear weapon portion of the energy budget, a cut by 18 percent below the current level, and that contains programs like LIHEAP that helps provide assistance to low-income seniors in winter. Now, maybe a low-income senior in winter in Arizona isn't experiencing the same thing they are in Wisconsin, or Michigan, or Pennsylvania, or New York, or a lot of our States, but it gets cold. And sometimes those heating bills can really sock a senior who is on a limited income. That money is just vital to them being able to live in their homes.

It completely cuts the Community Development Block Grant program. That is things like housing programs, Meals on Wheels. I had the good fortune of going around my district and delivering Meals on Wheels about a year ago to constituents one day.

It is not just that you are providing a nourishing meal to seniors who often can't get out of their homes, who this is the only place they may get that nourishing meal, but it is also a check-in to make sure that they are all right. Some are still living by themselves, and often you don't know if you don't have that visit to be able to check in. It would cut programs like that completely from getting any Federal funds.

At the Environmental Protection Agency, environmental programs, 50 programs would be eliminated, and 31.4 percent of their budget would be gutted for all sorts of things that protect our clean air and clean water—programs like the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative or the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Initiative. So many areas would be cut through that funding, and that just doesn't make any sense.

This is a time that we have the Flint, Michigans of the world, and we are finding that more and more communities with aging infrastructure of their waterways are having lead in their water and other contaminants. This is not the time to be cutting a program that watches out for this by 31 percent; and on, and on.

There are so many cuts that affect real people. So while maybe it is good for the defense contractors to get $54 billion because, trust me, that money is not going to be shared with the people who actually protect our country.

I was talking to another Member of Congress recently whose son is in the military making $22,000 a year. I can guarantee you that $54 billion is not going to be targeted to truly improve what that person is doing, what they are getting paid as they fight for our country to protect our country, but it is going to go to a bunch of new weapons systems and other things that allow the money that, again, is going to go to that top 1 and 2 percent in this Nation.

So let me offer what that contrasts. Instead of putting 54 billion new dollars into defense and cutting all of those programs I talked about by huge amounts—20, 30 percent, our State Department, 28 percent, go down the list, huge cuts—we actually invest in this country, and we invest in multiple levels.

The People's Budget: A Roadmap for the Resistance—that is what we call it—does a whole lot of different things.

Let me just highlight some of what we put forward this week, along with 60 organizations, major organizations that are endorsing the efforts that we put forward.

First of all, we have a $2 trillion investment in our Nation's infrastructure; $2 trillion that is going into programs to modernize our roads and bridges; modernize our water and sewer systems, our ports and waterways; investing in our transit systems; investing in our K–12 school reconstruction; investing in high-speed broadband infrastructure that we need so desperately in our rural parts of the country; investing in the VA hospitals and extended-care facilities; and investing in the actual workers who are going to do these projects.

This alone is a $2 trillion investment, and, throughout this budget, it is estimated, by the Economic Policy Institute, would create 2.4 million new jobs in this country, good family supporting wages, while we are reinvesting in our Nation's bridges, and roads, and schools, and broadband, and other infrastructure. That is a key part of what we have put out there, and it is what is needed in this country.

We have to invest in our country, and this budget does just that. We also look at taxes in a very different way, and we rewrite the rules in a system that often seems rigged against the middle class and those aspiring to be in the middle class.

We close loopholes for big corporations that send jobs overseas. We stop CEOs from receiving millions in tax-free bonuses, and we tackle income and equality by having fair tax rates—fair for those who are working, and sharing a little more for those who are the wealthiest in this country. We level the playing field for the working families across this country.

In this budget, we also have a new initiative to invest $1 trillion into childcare, childcare for everyone who needs it, pre-K education in this country. There is no question, we know more people are working more and working more jobs, but you can't if you don't have someone to watch your children when you are doing that.

Having this in place will allow us to make sure that those crucial years in education that really develop you for often the rest of your educational experience—K–12 and higher education—we have a plan to truly invest in every single person so that no one is paying more than 10 percent of their income for childcare.

It is not just that. We are funding K–12 schools. We are funding that infrastructure for our schools. We are making sure that people who live in rural areas have broadband so they can do the homework that you do in a modern America.

At the higher education level, we have several innovative ideas offered in our budget, from refinancing of student loans to the lowest current available rate so that you are not paying some of these high 6.6 percent interest rates that don't even make sense in today's economy, to providing for debt-free college; to make sure that if you actually work and you want to do a workstudy job, you should be able to leave a 4-year public institution debt free, and leave with a degree, compared to the $30,000 plus on average that people are leaving with now. We also tackle some of the ideas about free tuition in public institutions. So we have got some real ideas from pre-K, to K–12, to higher education.

We also make sure that we are addressing the costs of prescription drugs because that is one of the drivers as we have this debate around health care.

One of the reasons we have seen the spikes we have had is because, quite honestly, a lot of prescription drug companies have charged prices that are quite unreasonable, by any reasonable person's standards. There is no reason why the same drug you pay for in Canada or Ireland is substantially cheaper than it is in the United States.

We have measures to make sure that we can reduce the price of prescription drugs here in this country and that people don't have to make a decision between paying for their medicine or their groceries.

We also are looking at health care in another way. First of all, the Affordable Care Act, as I think now many people across this country understand and now support the concept—while they may not have supported ObamaCare, they love the Affordable Care Act. Same thing, folks.

What we are finding is, there are things we need to do to improve it. And while we look at some of those, one of those is allowing States to look at going to a single-payer system, and we provide the pathway to do that, to reduce costs and increase coverage so that even more people can have that.

We also expand access to mental health care—this is Mental Health Awareness Month in this country, and we are making sure we are doing that—and treatment for opioid addiction.

We also have a humane and comprehensive immigration reform proposal. We are not talking about building walls at a time we should be talking about building bridges. Instead, we are having sensible plans that provide for full implementation of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, the DACA program.

We preserve funding for sanctuary cities, and we prohibit any funding whatsoever to go to President Trump's wall.

□ 1800

Those are just a few of the things that we have in this budget. When you contrast those deep cuts to programs that help middle class families and those aspiring to be in the middle class across the country, when you contrast it with the proactive positive alternatives we have in this budget, I think people will see that there truly is a significant difference and why we don't have to settle for something that is out there that is not going to take care of the working families in this country.

You know, a lot of people across the country talk to our Members of Congress. We see these huge attendances right now at townhalls, and every Member should be out having those townhalls. And what we are hearing from people is that they are not happy with the proposals offered by the Trump administration and by the Republicans in Congress, the healthcare proposal that they put forward that we could be voting on as early as tomorrow—the second attempt at this.

I will tell you, I have learned something very interesting. When someone doesn't want to put their name on something, in this place especially, it is usually not very good. I have found people really like to put their name on things in this town.

It's funny that the Trump administration was calling their healthcare bill RyanCare, Congress is calling it TrumpCare, people back home call it I Don't Care.

In the end, what we are finding is this is a bill that is going to cut access to 24 million people, give tax breaks of $600 billion-plus to the wealthiest in this country, the top 1 and 2 percent, to insurance companies, to Big Pharma, and other big entities. That is often what it seems like it is really about.

It is going to increase fivefold. People will be paying five times as much—older Americans—for their health care, and it cuts Medicaid to so many people who need it in this country.

Don't forget, Medicaid is not just for people who are poor and trying to get health care and trying to get work; it is also people with disabilities, it is seniors in nursing homes.

It is, quite honestly, incomprehensible that the Republicans think it is all right to cut those programs. That is their tax plan. But here is the best part: they are making it now even worse. The words we are hearing and that they are bragging about are amendments to make it so that, State by State, they can turn down things like coverage for preexisting conditions and turn down other essential health benefits, things like prescription drug care, maternal care, emergency room visits.

That is what health care is all about. If you gut everything out of health care, all you have is a shell of what you can call health care but doesn't actually provide any of the benefits.

They are doing this to bring in the Tea Party, the most conservative element of their caucus that fundamentally doesn't believe in the functioning

of government. They are going to basically do that, make sure government doesn't have any say in what health care is. You will have no guarantees.

I guarantee with what they are doing—this is according to the official nonpartisan estimates by the CBO, the Congressional Budget Office, not our estimates—at least 24 million people will lose care under the old proposal. Take the new proposal, and if you start adding the States being able to make those decisions, more and more people will lose access to their health care.

We will see what happens, whether or not they can get this done. I think they are having a difficult time. When we had a little conversation on the floor about it today, we noticed they didn't quite have answers about when the bill will come up. We will see what does happen with that.

But when you contrast that sort of a healthcare proposal with the fundamentals that we have in the Progressive Caucus budget, you see a stark difference. We take and expand upon the progress of the Affordable Care Act that has allowed tens of millions of people to have access.

When you look at the proposals that we put forward, there was an Economic Policy Institute article and a Washington Post article today that I will include in the RECORD.

[From Economic Policy Institute, May 2, 2017]

THE PEOPLE'S BUDGET, NOT TRUMP'S BUDGET, WILL HELP WORKING AMERICANS

(By Mark Pocan)

After President Trump's first 100 days in office, it's clear that his promises to help the working class were little more than a campaign ploy. His dismantling of Obama-era regulations like the Fair Pay and Safe Workplaces rule and deregulation of the financial industry reveal what he really cares about—lining the pockets of America's ultra-rich.

Nothing demonstrates his disdain for working people more than his budget proposal. In it, he cuts 31 percent of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)'s budget, which ensures people across the country have clean air and water, and 21 percent from Department of Labor programs that provide job training to seniors and disadvantaged youth. Instead of helping working people, Trump's budget imposes a hiring freeze on crucial federal agencies and calls for many more staff to be laid off from public sector jobs—the largest reduction in the federal workforce since World War II.

The FY 2018 People's Budget: A Roadmap for the Resistance by the Congressional Progressive Caucus stands in stark contrast to Trump's budget. The People's Budget is a plan to actually help working Americans who have felt left behind by an economy rigged against them. Our budget is a roadmap for the resistance, investing in the progressive priorities and kitchen table issues that matter to real people: infrastructure to create jobs and ensure public safety; education to help our kids reach their full potential; and sustainable energy to protect our precious environment. Progressives in Congress fully want to make investments in our future generations and protect programs that improve the lives of people every day. We believe our budget should strengthen Social Security and Medicare and invest in job growth through infrastructure, education, and research and development, while responsibly reducing our deficits and cutting wasteful spending and redundant programs where they exist.

As a business owner from Wisconsin and a long-time union member, I understand what it means to take the economic high road. It means ensuring that working people get a fair shake at economic opportunities, that the wealthy pay their fair share of taxes, and that we all do better, when we all do better. I urge President Trump and Republicans in Congress to seriously consider the proposals in the People's Budget so that we can create a fairer economy.

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[From the Washington Post]

THIS NEW BUDGET POINTS THE WAY FORWARD FOR DEMOCRATS

(By James Downie)

Out of power in Washington and around the country, Democrats are struggling with how to move forward as a party. Already the jockeying for the 2020 nomination has begun. What policies the party chooses to champion will be essential to how long or short the path will be to recovery. On Tuesday, the Congressional Progressive Caucus—led by Reps. Raúl M. Grijalva (D–Ariz.) and Keith Ellison (D–Minn.)—released its annual ''People's Budget'' for 2018. The CPC has produced a budget for years, but with the party at a crossroads, this edition may be the most important ever. Democrats should recognize its ideas as an inspiration for the party going forward.

The People's Budget starts by acknowledging a problem that most leaders acknowledge but few have addressed: the country's crumbling infrastructure. It provides $2 trillion over 10 years to repair bridges and tunnels, revitalize mass transit, replace contaminated water systems, rebuild public schools and more. Furthermore, weak wage growth and other indicators demonstrate that the economy remains short of where it was before the Great Recession, and infrastructure investment can provide badly needed jobs that will help propel the economy to new heights. The Economic Policy Institute projects that the People's Budget would add 2.4 million jobs and increase GDP by 2 percent in the near term.

The CPC's plan also addresses other crucial domestic issues. While Republicans struggle to reconcile repealing Obamacare with keeping health care affordable, the CPC puts forward actual ideas to bring the cost of health care down: The People's Budget introduces a public option—which would lower premiums—and ends the ridiculous prohibition on Medicare negotiating drug prices. The document also recognizes the dangers of climate change, puffing a price on carbon and eliminating tax breaks for the fossil fuel industry. And it funds universal pre-kindergarten and strengthens antitrust enforcement, fighting back against the oligopolies in health care, cable and other industries that are hurting Americans' pocketbooks.

Finally, the People's Budget invests in communities that need critical help. It ends funding cuts to programs such as Head Start and needs-based nutrition programs—cuts which disproportionately hurt women and people of color. It invests millions to help veterans find housing, jobs and health care. And it commits money toward fighting homelessness and funding affordable housing.

With all this spending, people may wonder what happens to the national debt, but the People's Budget reduces the debt as a percentage of GDP. In addition to the savings and the carbon pricing mentioned above, the budget raises trillions while making the tax system more fair. In addition to closing numerous loopholes for businesses and high earners, there are three major changes: restoring Clinton-era tax rates for income above $250,000 and higher rates for income over $1 million, going after companies that defer tax by sending income overseas, and reintroducing a financial transaction tax (which the United States had from 1914 to 1966). All told, these three reforms raise nearly $5 trillion over 10 years.

The People's Budget has no chance of becoming law in a GOP-controlled government. But this budget is a marker for Democrats aspiring to lead the party forward. The party is increasingly seen as out of touch, even by its own supporters. The People's Budget by contrast is built around sound policies that are also politically popular. It reflects Americans' long-standing desires for fixing the country's infrastructure, strengthening entitlements, lowering the cost of health care and making the wealthiest pay their fair share. These ideas, if adopted, could be the foundation of a rebuilt and resurgent party, and by embracing the goals of the People's Budget, Democrats can reorient toward the future.

Mr. POCAN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to read a little bit from The Washington Post.

''This new budget points the way forward for Democrats.''

And what this specifically is addressing is the Progressive Caucus budget. It is looking at it and saying:

''Democrats should recognize its ideas as an inspiration for the party going forward.

''The People's Budget starts by acknowledging a problem that most leaders acknowledge but few have addressed: the country's crumbling infrastructure. It provides $2 trillion over 10 years to repair bridges and tunnels, revitalize mass transit, replace contaminated water systems, rebuild public schools and more.''

And that is what we talked about. Those are the very provisions that we put forward in that $2 trillion investment in our infrastructure.

Mr. Speaker, I will go back to reading this.

''The Economic Policy Institute projects that the People's Budget would add 2.4 million jobs and increase GDP by 2 percent in the near term.''

That is 2.4 million people with a good family-supporting job while we are rebuilding our Nation's infrastructure and increasing our Nation's gross domestic product.

What does that mean?

I have been a small-business owner for 29 years. It is the rising tide that lifts all boats. The more people that have money in their pockets that can spend it, puts money right back into the economy.

If we make sure that more people are working and more people have a family-supporting wage that they can buy a sofa, they can take their family out

to dinner or to a movie, that creates more economic activity, and that creates even more jobs. That is exactly what we need in this country.

That is, again, the Economic Policy Institute projecting what our budget would do.

Mr. Speaker, let me go back to the document.

''While Republicans struggle to reconcile repealing ObamaCare with keeping health care affordable, the CPC puts forward actual ideas to bring the cost of health care down: The People's Budget introduces a public option—which would lower premiums—and ends the ridiculous prohibition on Medicare negotiating drug prices.''

Can you believe that?

We don't use our purchasing power right now to negotiate for cheaper prices for prescription drugs. There is a reason why we pay sometimes 8 more, 20 times more, than other countries for the exact same drug. It is because we are not allowed to use that purchasing power in a way that will help create that economic savings.

Mr. Speaker, I will go back to the document.

''The document also recognizes the dangers of climate change, putting a price on carbon and eliminating tax breaks for the fossil fuel industry.''

Think about it. We still subsidize gas and oil, which is one of the most profitable businesses on the planet, and we are subsidizing them with tax subsidies. We get rid of those tax subsidies.

Mr. Speaker, I will go back to the document.

''And it funds universal pre-kindergarten and strengthens antitrust enforcement, fighting back against the oligopolies in health care, cable and other industries that are hurting Americans' pocketbooks.''

These are the things that we have in our Progressive Caucus budget to make sure that real families, as you are sitting at your kitchen table trying to decide if you can afford to pay your mortgage, send your kids to college, take a family vacation this year, maybe have that one luxury of a camper or a snowmobile, only if you live up north, or a boat. Those are the things that I grew up with. I grew up in Kenosha, Wisconsin, like I said, in a lower middle class family. That was the existence of most everyone I knew. We are trying to make sure that that can be the existence again for every single person.

While wages have been largely flat, the economy has come back. We have just recently had a little bit of a bump in the last year or so of the Obama Presidency. We need to do more for those families.

Mr. Speaker, let me go back to this document.

''With all this spending, people may wonder what happens to the national debt. But the People's Budget reduces the debt as a percentage of GDP. In addition to the savings and the carbon pricing mentioned above, the budget raises trillions while making the tax system more fair.''

This budget actually reduces overall debt by $4 trillion between now and 2027. You don't see that out of almost any other budget proposed. Yet our budget, while investing in America and investing in Americans, we also help to turn back that crushing debt that this country has so often had and that we need to address.

Mr. Speaker, let me just finish with reading a little more of this document.

''The People's Budget, by contrast, is built around sound policies that are also politically popular. It reflects Americans' longstanding desires for fixing the country's infrastructure, strengthening entitlements, lowering the cost of health care, and making the wealthiest pay their fair share. These ideas, if adopted, could be the foundation of a rebuilt and resurgent party, and by embracing the goals of the People's Budget, the Democrats can reorient toward the future.''

Now, that is, again, an opinion out of The Washington Post today about the budget we released yesterday.

I encourage people to go to the Progressive Caucus website to learn more about this budget, to look at the work that the Economic Policy Institute has done in working the numbers of this budget, and see what the contrast can be.

You don't have to settle for second or third best. We don't just have to make sure the top 1 and 2 percent have even more, and we hope that some of that trickles down on the other 98 percent of us.

Instead, we can have a budget that invests in infrastructure and creates good jobs, that invests in our public education system from pre-K to higher education. We can have a budget that expands our healthcare opportunities so that even more people can have affordable health care and helps lower the cost of prescription drugs.

We can have a budget that does these things, and we have put that forward in the People's Budget, which is the product of the Progressive Caucus here in Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the time to be on the floor of Congress to present this on behalf, again, of the 74 Members of the Progressive Caucus, the largest value-based caucus within the Democratic Party. We are proud to present this budget. This should be coming to the floor as we debate all budgets in the coming months. But we are proud to put ours out first. Let's set the standard. Let's see how we can see what the Republicans in this House will put forward, and we will see what details the President puts forward.

I can guarantee no one will have more in place for the middle class in this country and those aspiring to be in the middle class than the People's Budget that is put forward by the Congressional Progressive Caucus.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 6 o'clock and 12 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 2215

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. WOODALL) at 10 o'clock and 15 minutes p.m.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2192, PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE ACT AMENDMENT, AND PROVIDING FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1628, AMERICAN HEALTH CARE ACT OF 2017

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 115–109) on the resolution (H. Res. 308) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2192) to amend the Public Health Service Act to eliminate the non-application of certain State waiver provisions to Members of Congress and congressional staff, and providing for further consideration of the bill (H.R. 1628) to provide for reconciliation pursuant to title II of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2017, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

PUBLICATION OF BUDGETARY MATERIAL

ALLOCATION FOR THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS PURSUANT TO S. CON. RES. 3, THE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017

Mrs. BLACK. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to section 4001(b)(1) of the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2017 (S. Con. Res. 3, 115th Congress), I hereby submit for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the 302(a) allocation to the Appropriations Committee of the House consistent with that concurrent resolution. Allocations for authorizing committees were previously filed on March 24, 2017.

Section 4001(b) of S. Con. Res. 3 authorized the House Committee on the Budget to file 302(a) allocations consistent with the budgetary levels established in S. Con. Res. 3. This filing authority was necessary because there was no joint statement of managers accompanying S. Con. Res. 3. Under section 301(e)(2)(F) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the allocations are to be included in the report accompanying the concurrent resolution on the budget.

This allocation is enforced by section 302(f) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, which prohibits the consideration of appropriations measures that would cause the applicable allocation of new budget authority to be exceeded for the budget year, fiscal year 2017.

This allocation applies to bills, joint resolutions, and amendments thereto or conference reports thereon, considered by the House subsequent to this filing.

A corresponding table is attached. If there are any questions on this allocation for fiscal year 2017, please contact Brad Watson or Jim Bates.

ALLOCATION OF SPENDING AUTHORITY TO HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

[In millions of dollars]

	2017
Base Discretionary Action:	
BA	1,069,599
OT	1,171,865
Current Law Mandatory:	
BA	1,017,272
OT	1,005,175

PUBLICATION OF BUDGETARY MATERIAL

ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGGREGATES AND ALLOCATIONS OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2017 BUDGET RESOLUTION

Mrs. BLACK. Mr. Speaker, I hereby submit for printing in the Congressional Record revisions to the budget allocations and aggregates of the Fiscal Year 2017 Concurrent Resolution on the Budget, S. Con. Res. 3.

These revisions are designated for the House Amendment to the Senate Amendment to H.R. 244, the Consolidated Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2017. The revisions designated are made pursuant to section 314 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

These revisions represent an adjustment for purposes of budget enforcement. These revised allocations and aggregates are to be considered as the aggregates and allocations included in the budget resolution, pursuant to S. Con. Res. 3, as adjusted. Pursuant to section 314 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, these revisions to the allocations and aggregates shall apply only while the House Amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 244 is under consideration or upon its enactment. Corresponding tables are attached.

TABLE 1—REVISION TO ON-BUDGET AGGREGATES

[Budget aggregates—(On-budget amounts, in millions of dollars)]

	Fiscal year	
	2017	2017–2026
Current Aggregates:		
Budget Authority	3,308,000	[1]
Outlays	3,264,662	[1]
Revenues	2,682,088	32,351,660
Adjustment for House Amendment to Senate Amendment to H.R. 244:		
Budget Authority	19,983	[1]
Outlays	2,985	[1]
Revenues	0	0
Revised Aggregates:		
Budget Authority	3,327,983	[1]
Outlays	3,267,647	[1]
Revenues	2,682,088	32,351,660

[1] Not applicable because annual appropriations acts for fiscal years 2019–2026 will not be considered until future sessions of Congress.

TABLE 2—REVISION TO ALLOCATION OF SPENDING AUTHORITY TO HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

(In millions of dollars)

	2017
Current Allocation:	
BA	1,069,599
OT	1,171,865
Global War on Terrorism Adjustment:	
BA	103,717
OT	45,832
Program Integrity Adjustment:	
BA	1,960
OT	1,635
Disaster Relief Adjustment:	
BA	8,129
OT	371
Revised Allocation:	
BA	1,183,405
OT	1,219,703

SENATE BILL REFERRED

A Bill of the Senate of the following title was taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 141. An act to improve understanding and forecasting of space weather events, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology; in addition, to the Committee on Armed Services; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs; and to the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 16 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, May 4, 2017, at 9 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

1250. A letter from the Director, Defense Security Cooperation Agency, Department of Defense, transmitting the Army's proposed Letter of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Kenya, Transmittal No. 17-07, pursuant to Sec. 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

1251. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting the Office's final rule — Access to Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) for Employees of Certain Indian Tribal Employers received May 2, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

1252. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting the Office's final rule — Medical Qualification Determinations received May 2, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

1253. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting the Office's final rule — Prevailing Rate Systems; Definition of Kent County, Michigan, and Cameron County, Texas, to Nonappropriated Fund Federal Wage System Wage Areas (RIN: 3206-AN40) received May 2, 2017, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 308. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2192) to amend the Public Health Service Act to eliminate the non-application of certain State waiver provisions to Members of Congress and congressional staff, and providing for further consideration of the bill (H.R. 1628) to provide for reconciliation pursuant to title II of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2017 (Rept. 115–109). Referred to the House Calendar.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. CÁRDENAS (for himself, Mr. FARENTHOLD, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. GUTIÉRREZ, Mr. COHEN, Mr. FOSTER, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Ms. LEE, and Mr. KILMER):

H.R. 2303. A bill to establish a task force to share best practices on computer programming and coding for elementary schools and secondary schools, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. CÁRDENAS (for himself, Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Ms. DELBENE, Ms. SLAUGHTER, and Mr. KILMER):

H.R. 2304. A bill to establish a grant program to promote the development of career education programs in computer science in secondary and postsecondary education; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. CÁRDENAS (for himself, Mr. POLIS, Mr. KILMER, and Ms. ESTY of Connecticut):

H.R. 2305. A bill to direct the Secretary of Education to award grants to State educational agencies to develop comprehensive plans to strengthen elementary and secondary computer science education, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. DEFAZIO (for himself, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. NORTON, Mr. POCAN, Mr. SARBANES, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. MCGOVERN, and Mr. RASKIN):

H.R. 2306. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to impose a tax on certain trading transactions; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ (for herself and Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana):

H.R. 2307. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to protect coverage for screening mammography, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, and Veterans' Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. RYAN of Ohio (for himself, Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana, Mr. TAKANO, and Mr. STIVERS):

H.R. 2308. A bill to amend the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 to support maker education and makerspaces; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi (for himself and Mrs. LOWEY):

H.R. 2309. A bill to enhance the security operations of the Transportation Security Administration and stability of the transportation security workforce by applying the personnel system of title 5 of the U.S. Code to employees of the Transportation Security Administration who provide screening of all passengers and property, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania (for himself, Mr. PETERSON, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. JENKINS of Kansas, Mr. RENACCI, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mrs. WALORSKI, Mr. BISHOP of Michigan, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Mr. POSEY, Mr. HULTGREN, Mr. TIPTON, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. ROTHFUS, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. PALAZZO, Mr. FLORES, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. YODER, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. JONES, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. BLUM, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, Mr. BOST, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. BRAT, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. PALMER, Mr. BABIN, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. LOUDERMILK, Mr. ROSKAM, Mr. BARLETTA, and Mr. SMITH of Missouri):

H.R. 2310. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make members of health care sharing ministries eligible to establish health savings accounts; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. O'ROURKE (for himself, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. HURD, Mr. KILMER, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. MASSIE, Ms. PINGREE, Ms. TITUS, Mr. YOUNG of Iowa, Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania, and Mr. LOEBSACK):

H.R. 2311. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a pilot program to provide veterans the option of using an alternative appeals process to more quickly determine claims for disability compensation; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. O'ROURKE (for himself, Mr. COFFMAN, Mr. SARBANES, and Mr. MCGOVERN):

H.R. 2312. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for covered agreements and contracts between the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and eligible academic affiliates for the mutually beneficial coordination, use, or exchange of health-care resources, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. MCNERNEY (for himself, Mr. EVANS, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. CLARKE of New York, and Mr. RYAN of Ohio):

H.R. 2313. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to encourage hiring unemployed individuals; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. GALLEGO:

H.R. 2314. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to prohibit certain acts of nepotism, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. LYNCH (for himself, Mr. HUNTER, Mrs. DAVIS of California, and Mr. MAST):

H.R. 2315. A bill to posthumously award the Congressional Gold Medal to each of Glen Doherty, Tyrone Woods, J. Christopher Stevens, and Sean Smith in recognition of their contributions to the Nation; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania (for himself and Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas):

H.R. 2316. A bill to amend the Mineral Leasing Act and the Energy Policy Act of 1992 to repeal provisions relating only to the Allegheny National Forest; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. COURTNEY (for himself, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. BORDALLO, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. COFFMAN, Mr. COLE, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. DELANEY, Ms. DELAURO, Ms. DELBENE, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. HIMES, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. POCAN, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. SIRES, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. TONKO, Mrs. WALORSKI, Mr. YARMUTH, Ms. ESTY of Connecticut, Mr. COOPER, Mr. RUSH, Mr. EVANS, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. DONOVAN, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mrs. BEATTY, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. MCEACHIN, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. CORREA, and Mrs. DAVIS of California):

H.R. 2317. A bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the United States Coast Guard; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. SHEA-PORTER (for herself, Mr. BROWN of Maryland, Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. HANABUSA, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Mr. JONES, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. CARBAJAL, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Ms. SPEIER, and Ms. DELAURO):

H.R. 2318. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make employers of spouses of military personnel eligible for the work opportunity credit; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. ROTHFUS (for himself, Ms. MOORE, and Mr. STIVERS):

H.R. 2319. A bill to protect the investment choices of investors in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. LARSEN of Washington (for himself, Mr. COOK, Mr. COLE, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mrs. TORRES, Mr. DENHAM, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. JONES, Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. AGUILAR, Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia, and Mr. POLIS):

H.R. 2320. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to place certain lands in Skagit and San Juan Counties, Washington, into trust for the Samish Indian Nation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. NEWHOUSE (for himself, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. THOMAS J. ROONEY of Florida, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. PANETTA, and Mrs. BUSTOS):

H.R. 2321. A bill to amend the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 to extend and expand the Market Access Program and the Foreign Market Development Program; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. WALBERG (for himself, Mr. RUIZ, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. PITTENGER, and Mr. JONES):

H.R. 2322. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to educate certain staff of the Department of Veterans Affairs and to inform veterans about the Injured and Amputee Veterans Bill of Rights, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. JUDY CHU of California (for herself, Mr. SCHIFF, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. CÁRDENAS, and Ms. SÁNCHEZ):

H.R. 2323. A bill to establish the San Gabriel National Recreation Area as a unit of the National Park System in the State of California, to modify the boundaries of the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument in the State of California to include additional National Forest System land, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. CICILLINE:

H.R. 2324. A bill to amend title 39, United States Code, to provide that post offices shall comply with public accommodation standards under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. CONYERS (for himself, Mr. KILDEE, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. VEASEY, Mr. COHEN, Ms. LEE, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. NORTON, Ms. LOFGREN, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Mr. NADLER, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. CUMMINGS, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. JEFFRIES, and Ms. BASS):

H.R. 2325. A bill to require the Attorney General to ensure that State-appointed emergency financial managers do not violate Constitutional protections and that they ensure public health and safety, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. DELANEY (for himself, Mr. FASO, Mr. CURBELO of Florida, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. PETERS, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. SUOZZI, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, and Mr. SCHNEIDER):

H.R. 2326. A bill to accelerate reductions in climate pollution in order to leave a better planet for future generations, and to create a bipartisan commission to develop economically viable policies to achieve science-based emissions reduction targets; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. DESANTIS (for himself, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. BYRNE, Mr. DONOVAN, Mr. HENSARLING, Ms. NORTON, Mr. HURD, Mr. JONES, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. NORCROSS, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. POLIS, Mr. THOMAS J. ROONEY of Florida, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. SABLAN, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. SESSIONS, Ms. SINEMA, Ms. STEFANIK, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. ZELDIN, Mr. COHEN, Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. KNIGHT, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. GALLEGO, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. BARTON, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. CURBELO of Florida, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. POCAN, Mr. ROYCE of California, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. POE of Texas, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mr. O'ROURKE, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. TROTT, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Ms. TITUS, Mr. BRAT, Mrs. COMSTOCK, and Mr. WALKER):

H.R. 2327. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to make grants to eligible organizations to provide service dogs to veterans with severe post-traumatic stress disorder, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. FUDGE (for herself, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. CONYERS, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. RUSH):

H.R. 2328. A bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to establish a low-income sewer and water assistance pilot program; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. HIGGINS of New York:

H.R. 2329. A bill to direct the Secretary of Transportation to establish a transformational infrastructure competitive grant program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. HUFFMAN (for himself and Ms. SPEIER):

H.R. 2330. A bill to make funds available for fisheries resource disaster assistance for the 2016 Yurok Tribe Klamath River Chinook salmon fishery disaster, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Appropriations.

By Ms. KELLY of Illinois (for herself and Mr. PALLONE):

H.R. 2331. A bill to require a new or updated Federal website that is intended for use by the public to be mobile friendly, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. KIND (for himself and Mr. SENSENBRENNER):

H.R. 2332. A bill to reform the Federal Crop Insurance Act and reduce Federal spending on crop insurance; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. KNIGHT (for himself, Mr. CURBELO of Florida, and Ms. JUDY CHU of California):

H.R. 2333. A bill to amend the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 to increase the amount of leverage made available to small business investment companies; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. LANCE (for himself, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. COLLINS of New York, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Ms. SPEIER, and Mr. SARBANES):

H.R. 2334. A bill to amend the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 to exempt from sequestration certain user fees of the Food and Drug Administration; to the Committee on the Budget.

By Mr. LANCE (for himself and Mr. QUIGLEY):

H.R. 2335. A bill to direct the Director of the Government Publishing Office to provide members of the public with Internet access to Congressional Research Service reports, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. LOEBSACK (for himself and Mr. TONKO):

H.R. 2336. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize a primary and behavioral health care integration grant program; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. LOEBSACK (for himself, Mr. TONKO, Mr. ENGEL, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, and Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico):

H.R. 2337. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to provide for a State Medicaid option to enhance administrative matching funds to support statewide behavioral health access program activities for children under 21 years of age, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico:

H.R. 2338. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to prohibit 501(c)(4) entities from participating in, or intervening in (including the publishing or distributing of statements), any political campaign; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. MARCHANT:

H.R. 2339. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify S corporation shareholder and preferred stock rules with respect to banks; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS (for herself, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. DUFFY, Mr. NOLAN, Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER, and Mr. KILMER):

H.R. 2340. A bill to extend the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000; to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. ROSKAM (for himself and Mr. KIND):

H.R. 2341. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to clarify the retirement income account rules relating to church-controlled organizations; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. SCHNEIDER:

H.R. 2342. A bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, and the Public Health Service Act to require employees to be provided with information about the availability of special enrollment periods to obtain marketplace coverage and Medicare coverage upon termination or separation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, and Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SERRANO:

H.R. 2343. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow taxpayers to designate income tax overpayments as contributions to the United States Library Trust Fund; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. SPEIER (for herself and Mr. HUFFMAN):

H.R. 2344. A bill to make funds available for fisheries resource disaster assistance for the 2015-16 Dungeness crab and rock crab fisheries disaster, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Appropriations.

By Mr. STEWART (for himself, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, and Mr. BISHOP of Utah):

H.R. 2345. A bill to require the Federal Communications Commission to study the feasibility of designating a simple, easy-to-remember dialing code to be used for a national suicide prevention and mental health crisis hotline system; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. THOMPSON of California (for himself and Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN):

H.R. 2346. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to protect the well-being of soldiers and their families, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. TORRES (for herself and Mrs. NAPOLITANO):

H.R. 2347. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Treasury to establish a regional infrastructure accelerator program to facilitate investments in and the financing of certain infrastructure projects, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mrs. TORRES:

H.R. 2348. A bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to issue American Infrastructure Opportunity Bonds when the real rate equals zero percent or less and deposit the proceeds from such bonds into the Highway Trust Fund, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. TURNER:

H.R. 2349. A bill to require the Secretary of Transportation to modify a regulation regarding the involuntary deplaning or denial of boarding a flight of any passenger on an oversold flight to accommodate a member of the air carrier's flight crew or staff; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN:

H. Con. Res. 53. Concurrent resolution providing for a correction in the enrollment of H.R. 244; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. ROE of Tennessee (for himself, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. ROKITA, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. LEWIS of Minnesota, Mr. BYRNE, and Mr. RASKIN):

H. Res. 307. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives relating to protecting freedom of speech, thought, and expression at institutions of higher education; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CARSON of Indiana:

H. Res. 309. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of National Poppy Day; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT (for himself, Mr. DELANEY, Mr. GALLEGO, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. NORTON, Ms. SPEIER, and Mr. YARMUTH):

H. Res. 310. A resolution expressing support for the designation of May as ''National Bladder Cancer Awareness Month''; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. CASTRO of Texas (for himself and Mrs. WAGNER):

H. Res. 311. A resolution recognizing that for 50 years the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) has worked toward stability, prosperity, and peace in Southeast Asia; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. GRAVES of Missouri (for himself, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. EMMER, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. BOST, and Mr. MCGOVERN):

H. Res. 312. A resolution recognizing the roles and contributions of America's teachers to building and enhancing the Nation's civic, cultural, and economic well-being; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. THOMAS J. ROONEY of Florida:

H. Res. 313. A resolution amending the Rules of the House of Representatives to exclude certain provisions relating to water resources development projects of the Corps of Engineers or the Bureau of Reclamation from the definition of congressional earmark, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. CÁRDENAS:

H.R. 2303.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 1.

All legislative powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

By Mr. CÁRDENAS:

H.R. 2304.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 1.

All legislative powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

By Mr. CÁRDENAS:

H.R. 2305.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 1.

All legislative powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

By Mr. DEFAZIO:

H.R. 2306.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 (relating to the power to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying out the powers vested in Congress)

By Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ:

H.R. 2307.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. RYAN of Ohio:

H.R. 2308.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8: To Make Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi:

H.R. 2309.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The United States Constitution Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18, that Congress shall have the power to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper.

By Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 2310.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. O'ROURKE:

H.R. 2311.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18:

To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. O'ROURKE:

H.R. 2312.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18:

To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. MCNERNEY:

H.R. 2313.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. GALLEGO:

H.R. 2314.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. LYNCH:

H.R. 2315.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 2316.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution which gives Congress the power ''to regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several states, and within the Indian Tribes.''

By Mr. COURTNEY:

H.R. 2317.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Ms. SHEA-PORTER:

H.R. 2318.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution.

By Mr. ROTHFUS:

H.R. 2319.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3

By Mr. LARSEN of Washington:

H.R. 2320.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

As described in Article 1, Section 1 ''all legislative powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress.''

By Mr. NEWHOUSE:

H.R. 2321.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. WALBERG:

H.R. 2322.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 12 of Section 8 of Article 1 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. JUDY CHU of California:

H.R. 2323.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8—''The Congress shall have Power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay Debts and provide for the common Defense and general welfare of the United States.''

By Mr. CICILLINE:

H.R. 2324.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8.

By Mr. CONYERS:

H.R. 2325.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1 and Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18.

By Mr. DELANEY:

H.R. 2326.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. DESANTIS:

H.R. 2327.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1: The Congress shall have the Power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defense and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States. And Article I, Section 8, Clause 18: The Congress shall have Power To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for

carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Ms. FUDGE:

H.R. 2328.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, section 8, clause 3, the Commerce Clause.

By Mr. HIGGINS of New York:

H.R. 2329.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 18

By Mr. HUFFMAN:

H.R. 2330.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article 1, section 9, clause 7, which states ''No Money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in Consequence of Appropriations made by Law; and a regular Statement and Account of the Receipts and Expenditures of all public Money shall be published from time to time. of the United States Constitution''.

By Ms. KELLY of Illinois:

H.R. 2331.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1 ''to provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States.''

Provided that low income individuals without access to computers primarily access the internet through their smartphones, this bill would improve their welfare by ensuring that those without computers have convenient online access to their government.

By Mr. KIND:

H.R. 2332.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8.

By Mr. KNIGHT:

H.R. 2333.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8 Clause 3

''To regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian Tribes.''

By Mr. LANCE:

H.R. 2334.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1, of the United States Constitution, which states that Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises, to pay the debts and provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States.

By Mr. LANCE:

H.R. 2335.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Sec. 8 Clause 18: Congress shall have power . . . to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying in execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by this Constitution in the government of the United States, or in any other department or officer thereof

By Mr. LOEBSACK:

H.R. 2336.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the Constitution.

By Mr. LOEBSACK:

H.R. 2337.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause I of the Constitution which grants Congress the power to provide for the general Welfare of the United States.

By Ms. MICHELLE LUJÁN GRISHAM of New Mexico:

H.R. 2338.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. MARCHANT:

H.R. 2339.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

U.S. Constitution Art. I Sec. 8 cl. 1, under the ''Power To lay and collect Taxes'';

Amd. 16, under the ''power to lay and collect taxes on incomes, from whatever source derived, without apportionment among the several States, and without regard to any census or enumeration''; and

Art. I Sec. 8 cl. 18, under the power ''To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.''

By Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS:

H.R. 2340.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2

The Congress shall have Power to dispose of and make all needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory or other Property belonging to the United States; and nothing in this Constitution shall be so construed as to Prejudice any Claims of the United States, or any particular State.

By Mr. ROSKAM:

H.R. 2341.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to Article I, Section 8, which states ''The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes,'' and Article I, Section 7, which states ''All Bills for raising Revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives.''

By Mr. SCHNEIDER:

H.R. 2342.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article One

By Mr. SERRANO:

H.R. 2343.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and exercises, to pay the debts and provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States; but all duties, imposts and exercises shall be uniform throughout the United States

By Ms. SPEIER:

H.R. 2344.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. STEWART:

H.R. 2345.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Sec 8

By Mr. THOMPSON of California:

H.R. 2346.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 4

By Mrs. TORRES:

H.R. 2347.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1: Section 8: Clause 18: To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mrs. TORRES:

H.R. 2348.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1: Section 8: Clause 18: To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. TURNER:

H.R. 2349.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 36: Mr. MEADOWS and Mr. PETERSON.
H.R. 37: Ms. FOXX.
H.R. 93: Mr. O'ROURKE.
H.R. 102: Mr. O'ROURKE.
H.R. 113: Mr. MOULTON.
H.R. 147: Ms. FOXX.
H.R. 169: Mr. SCHIFF.
H.R. 173: Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, and Mr. STIVERS.
H.R. 203: Mr. LEVIN.
H.R. 242: Mr. BLUMENAUER and Mr. VISCLOSKY.
H.R. 256: Mr. PALAZZO, Mr. POLIQUIN, and Mr. OLSON.
H.R. 299: Mr. ENGEL, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. BACON, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. CROWLEY, and Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana.
H.R. 305: Mr. VEASEY.
H.R. 314: Mr. KELLY of Mississippi and Mr. FRANCIS ROONEY of Florida.
H.R. 338: Mr. RYAN of Ohio.
H.R. 350: Mr. ROSS and Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia.
H.R. 367: Mr. ESTES of Kansas.
H.R. 448: Mrs. NAPOLITANO and Mr. TED LIEU of California.
H.R. 519: Mr. POLIS and Ms. CHENEY.
H.R. 544: Ms. BARRAGÁN and Mr. RUSH.
H.R. 548: Mr. MARCHANT and Mr. BILIRAKIS.
H.R. 550: Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia.
H.R. 592: Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mr. THOMPSON of California, and Mrs. DINGELL.
H.R. 619: Mr. BUCSHON and Mr. GIBBS.
H.R. 630: Mr. RASKIN.
H.R. 669: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY and Mr. JONES.
H.R. 721: Mr. ROE of Tennessee.
H.R. 747: Mr. MARCHANT.
H.R. 750: Mr. KENNEDY.
H.R. 807: Mr. BEYER, Mr. DOGGETT, and Mr. AGUILAR.
H.R. 820: Mr. WALORSKI and Mr. POLIQUIN.
H.R. 828: Mr. THOMAS J. ROONEY of Florida.
H.R. 848: Mr. THORNBERRY, Mr. PALAZZO, Mr. REICHERT, Mrs. NOEM, and Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER.
H.R. 852: Mr. KHANNA.

H.R. 874: Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico.
H.R. 919: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 964: Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York and Mr. HIGGINS of New York.
H.R. 1002: Mr. HUFFMAN.
H.R. 1017: Mr. MITCHELL, Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. RENACCI, and Ms. TITUS.
H.R. 1057: Ms. ESTY of Connecticut and Mr. SHUSTER.
H.R. 1065: Ms. ESTY of Connecticut and Mr. GALLAGHER.
H.R. 1092: Mr. PETERS and Ms. SLAUGHTER.
H.R. 1098: Mr. HARPER, Mr. MCGOVERN, and Ms. PINGREE.
H.R. 1099: Ms. ESTY of Connecticut and Mr. NOLAN.
H.R. 1112: Mr. BUDD.
H.R. 1156: Mr. BILIRAKIS.
H.R. 1222: Mr. SESSIONS.
H.R. 1231: Mr. LIPINSKI.
H.R. 1235: Mr. NADLER, Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California, Ms. FRANKEL of Florida, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. SUOZZI, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. KILMER, Mr. HECK, Mr. POLIS, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. NORCROSS, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. AGUILAR, Mr. CRIST, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. LEVIN, Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico, Mrs. MURPHY of Florida, Mr. RUIZ, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mrs. TORRES, Mr. VEASEY, Mr. VISCLOSKY, Ms. ESHOO, and Mr. DOGGETT.
H.R. 1251: Mr. NORCROSS.
H.R. 1267: Mr. LOEBSACK.
H.R. 1277: Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina.
H.R. 1303: Mrs. COMSTOCK.
H.R. 1334: Mr. LAMALFA and Mr. WILSON of South Carolina.
H.R. 1358: Mr. SCHIFF.
H.R. 1399: Mr. JORDAN.
H.R. 1405: Ms. BARRAGÁN and Mr. O'ROURKE.
H.R. 1409: Mr. GUTIÉRREZ, Mr. LANGEVIN, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. BACON, and Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN.
H.R. 1421: Mr. RYAN of Ohio and Ms. MOORE.
H.R. 1448: Mr. POLIS.
H.R. 1454: Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana.
H.R. 1456: Mr. FORTENBERRY.
H.R. 1473: Ms. LOFGREN and Ms. BARRAGAN.
H.R. 1498: Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia and Mr. KHANNA.
H.R. 1531: Ms. SLAUGHTER.
H.R. 1532: Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia and Mr. DENHAM.
H.R. 1555: Mr. DESAULNIER.
H.R. 1560: Ms. DELAURO, Mr. SESSIONS, and Mrs. NOEM.
H.R. 1566: Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts.
H.R. 1578: Ms. WILSON of Florida and Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.
H.R. 1584: Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 1624: Mr. CURBELO of Florida.
H.R. 1625: Mr. KINZINGER, Mr. MARINO, Ms. BASS, Mrs. TORRES, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina, and Mr. WILSON of South Carolina.
H.R. 1626: Mr. DUNN, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, Mr. LATTA, and Mr. FORTENBERRY.
H.R. 1632: Mr. SMITH of Missouri and Mr. POSEY.
H.R. 1639: Mr. QUIGLEY.
H.R. 1661: Mrs. NOEM and Mr. WELCH.
H.R. 1676: Mr. LAWSON of Florida.
H.R. 1677: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.
H.R. 1698: Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN, Ms. ESTY of Connecticut, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, and Mr. O'ROURKE.
H.R. 1727: Ms. LOFGREN.
H.R. 1741: Mrs. NOEM.
H.R. 1777: Mr. ELLISON, Mr. ROKITA, Mr. BISHOP of Michigan, Mr. SCHRADER, and Mr. KELLY of Mississippi.
H.R. 1783: Mr. BIGGS.
H.R. 1794: Mr. SMUCKER and Mr. POLIS.
H.R. 1802: Mr. HIMES.
H.R. 1825: Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Ms. MOORE, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, and Mr. TAKANO.
H.R. 1838: Mr. MARCHANT.
H.R. 1844: Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico.
H.R. 1861: Mr. LOBIONDO.
H.R. 1881: Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mr. MEADOWS, and Ms. FOXX.
H.R. 1904: Mr. CARSON of Indiana.
H.R. 1953: Ms. MOORE and Ms. DELAURO.
H.R. 1960: Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire.
H.R. 1997: Mr. MEEHAN.
H.R. 1999: Mr. COLE.
H.R. 2023: Mr. HARRIS and Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina.
H.R. 2029: Mr. SMITH of Texas.
H.R. 2070: Mr. SMITH of Washington.
H.R. 2084: Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. O'ROURKE, Mr. DOGGETT, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. CROWLEY, Ms. LEE, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. WELCH, Ms. FRANKEL of Florida, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Ms. DEGETTE, and Ms. BROWNLEY of California.
H.R. 2124: Mr. QUIGLEY.
H.R. 2168: Ms. TENNEY.
H.R. 2174: Mr. COFFMAN, Mr. BARR, and Mr. SMUCKER.
H.R. 2192: Mrs. COMSTOCK, Mr. YOUNG of Iowa, and Mr. NUNES.
H.R. 2200: Mr. CICILLINE and Mr. SHERMAN.
H.R. 2211: Ms. VELÁZQUEZ.
H.R. 2227: Mr. MCCARTHY, Mr. HOYER, Mrs. DEMINGS, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. FARENTHOLD, Mr. ISSA, and Mr. RUPPERSBERGER.
H.R. 2234: Ms. MCCOLLUM and Mrs. TORRES.
H.R. 2243: Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. ALLEN, and Mr. LAMBORN.
H.R. 2248: Mr. CRIST.
H.R. 2266: Ms. CASTOR of Florida.
H.R. 2272: Mr. SARBANES, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Ms. JAYAPAL.
H. Con. Res. 8: Mr. LEWIS of Minnesota.
H. Con. Res. 10: Mr. FORTENBERRY.
H. Con. Res. 27: Mr. THOMPSON of California.
H. Con. Res. 41: Ms. GABBARD.
H. Con. Res. 47: Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. SOTO, Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. NADLER, and Mr. KIHUEN.
H. Con. Res. 49: Mr. DESAULNIER.
H. Res. 28: Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois.
H. Res. 69: Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania.
H. Res. 118: Mr. DESAULNIER.
H. Res. 188: Mr. BISHOP of Michigan.
H. Res. 199: Mr. DEUTCH.
H. Res. 219: Mr. KIND and Mr. SUOZZI.
H. Res. 239: Mr. CAPUANO and Ms. NORTON.
H. Res. 255: Mr. CAPUANO and Mr. KNIGHT.
H. Res. 259: Mr. COOK, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. CHAFFETZ, Mr. STEWART, and Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia.
H. Res. 265: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia and Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts.
H. Res. 279: Mr. OLSON and Mr. POE of Texas.
H. Res. 284: Mr. SCOTT of Virginia and Ms. SHEA-PORTER.
H. Res. 294: Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mrs. TORRES, and Mr. MCNERNEY.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CELEBRATING THE RETIREMENT OF RICHARD J. NAPLES

HON. JOSH GOTTHEIMER

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Mr. GOTTHEIMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the retirement of Richard J. Naples, Executive Vice President and Chief Regulatory Officer of BD (Becton, Dickinson and Company). Rick has been a key leader to the BD family of more than 40,000 associates in 50 countries. Since 2006, he has worked tirelessly at BD, and over the last 30 years, has helped bring innovative, lifesaving technologies to patients and families. Rick truly embodied BD's commitment to advance the world of health.

Rick's work hasn't gone unnoticed. He and his team have led more than three hundred successful FDA regulatory submissions, and driven countless industry-wide initiatives to ensure more timely patient access to safe and innovative technologies. Rick currently serves on the Board of the Medical Device Innovation Consortium (MDIC), the first public-private partnership with FDA to advance regulatory science to speed time to market for new medical technology. For several years, he chaired the AdvaMed Diagnostics Task Force and has been recognized as one of the top regulatory professionals in the industry.

Congratulations on this significant milestone, I wish Rick and his wife, Leslie, and their family, the very best in both his retirement and future adventures.

IN RECOGNITION OF GILLES LARAMEE

HON. ANN M. KUSTER

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, today I stand in recognition of Gilles P. Laramee, a Marine Corps veteran and a committed advocate for New Hampshire's veterans community, who sadly passed away unexpectedly on February 18th at the age of 85.

First and foremost, Mr. Laramee of Berlin, NH, was proud to have served his country as a United States Marine during the Korean War. In his later years, he was a selfless volunteer and a mentor to many Granite State veterans over his years of service on the North Country Veterans Committee.

Mr. Laramee was a member of the Good Shepard Parish, the Marine Corp League, and the White Mountain Post 2520 VFW. His volunteerism included working with veterans at Androscoggin Valley Hospital, the New Hampshire Department of Corrections in Berlin, and the Federal Bureau of Prisons Corrections facility in Berlin. He was truly dedicated to serving brothers and sisters in the veterans community through some of their darkest times.

More than anything, Mr. Laramee loved his work as regional director for Toys-for-Tots. He took such pride in gathering and distributing toys to children and families in need. His dedication to this charity was so profound that he became know as ''Father Christmas'' to many North Country families.

Mr. Laramee is survived by his wife Lillian, his daughters Diane and Rachel, their husbands and children. He will also be missed by the many veterans whose lives he touched.

While Taps has played for this hero, we are left to say ''Semper Fi'' dear and loyal friend.

HONORING HENRY L. ''HANK'' LACAYO

HON. JULIA BROWNLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to offer my sympathy and condolences to Leah Lacayo and the entire Lacayo family on the passing of my friend and ally, Henry L. ''Hank'' Lacayo.

Hank dedicated his life to bettering our community and country. Born in 1931 in Los Angeles, Hank grew up in the depths of the Great Depression, fighting through a time of great economic uncertainty and racial injustice. When World War II broke out, Hank was absolutely determined to serve his country. He tried to join the military at the age of 16, but was turned away. He finally was able to join the U.S. Army Air Corps after his high school graduation.

Following his military service, Hank began his career in 1953 at North American Aviation and became involved with United Auto Workers of America (UAW) Local 887. Nine years later, he was elected President of the UAW Local, a position in which he represented the interests of over 30,000 workers and their families. Through his steadfast leadership, Hank was appointed National Director of the Political and Legislative Department of the UAW. While working in this capacity, Hank served as an advisor under Democratic Presidential Administrations from John F. Kennedy to Bill Clinton. In 1986, Hank retired from the UAW and subsequently formed H. L. & Associates, a consulting firm that enabled him to continue to be involved in labor relations issues, as well as other government, seniors, and international issues.

After his retirement, Hank continued to give back to his community by serving as President of the Congress of California Seniors, where he dedicated his time to advocating for a better quality of life for others. Hank also worked hard in the community to help prepare the next generation of leaders, public servants, and community activists.

Founded in 2010 at California State University Channel Islands, the Henry L. ''Hank'' Lacayo Institute for Workforce & Community Studies facilitates student internships, scholarly research, and the dissemination of policy information and recommendations. In the program, students learn the essential skill sets to change lives and positively impact communities.

Hank spent his lifetime working for Ventura County and for our nation. His hard work and dedication—which has ranged from serving in the Army Air Corp, to actively fighting for working families and California's seniors, and passing down his knowledge and experience to students who will continue his influential work—has helped to create a better America.

Last year, the United Way of Ventura County recognized Hank for his lifetime achievements. However, it is tremendously difficult to encapsulate everything that Hank did for his community and his country in only a few words. Hank was so much greater and bigger than the words that have often been used to describe him.

He will be remembered for his wise counsel, sincere kindness, and unwavering commitment to service to others. Hank will truly be missed, but his legacy will continue to live on in the hearts of the many individuals that he touched, including my own, throughout his extraordinary and remarkable life.

HONORING ROTACARE

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the RotaCare Bay Area San Rafael Clinic's 20th Anniversary of caring for, and protecting, the people of Marin County.

The RotaCare clinics of the Bay Area are important contributors to their communities' health. Starting with one clinic on the former Agnews State Hospital site, there are now twelve clinics located throughout the Bay Area in Concord, Daly City, Gilroy, Half Moon Bay, Monterey, Pittsburg, Richmond, San Jose, San Leandro, San Rafael, and Santa Cruz.

Their mission, ''to provide free medical care in the Bay Area for those who have the greatest need and the least access,'' has been a guiding tenet to the many volunteers and philanthropic donors who support the program. RotaCare assists anyone in need and is known for their attempts to alleviate costly and time consuming emergency room visits for the uninsured.

My district's own San Rafael clinic was founded in 1997 by Mike Osborne, Sharron

Newton, Gus Catechi and Peter Pattengill, members of the Rotary Club of Marin Sunrise. The Rotary District theme that year was homelessness, which sparked the idea of starting a free clinic in San Rafael. At first, the clinic was held once a week at Ritter House in San Rafael, but as the clinic grew it was a forced to find a larger space. In 2003, the clinic moved to Kaiser Permanente's Downtown San Rafael Office and expanded their hours to twice a week to accommodate the growing need of free, quality health care that still continues today.

Mr. Speaker, the RotaCare clinics' commitment to providing accessible, free health care to those who would otherwise go without care keeps our community thriving with healthy, active people. It is therefore fitting to honor and thank RotaCare Bay Area's San Rafael clinic for 20 years of success in adhering to the mission of providing health care to those who are most in need and to offer best wishes on many more years of important work.

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF FORT HAMILTON HIGH SCHOOL'S MARCHING BAND

HON. DANIEL M. DONOVAN, JR.

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Mr. DONOVAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Fort Hamilton High School Marching Band on their 25th Anniversary.

Founded during the 1990 to 1991 school year, the Fort Hamilton High School Marching Band has been a mainstay for students, staff, and parents alike. During its inaugural year, the Marching Band was busy purchasing instruments, uniforms, and sheet music. Under the guidance of Laurence Laurenzano, the Assistant Principal of Music at the time, 75 students participated in their first competition at Festival Disney in Disney World and Universal Studios.

For the past 15 years, Thomas P. Oberle, the Assistant Principal for Performing Arts, has led the Fort Hamilton High School Marching Band. Under his leadership, students have performed in Canada, Atlanta, Williamsburg, and Boston. Furthermore, they have also marched in the Labor Day, St. Patrick's Day, Norwegian Day, Veterans Memorial Day, and Greek Independence Day parades. Not to be outdone, the Marching Band has also performed at the Gridiron Gala for the National Football League and United Way.

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate the Fort Hamilton High School Marching Band on their 25th Anniversary. Their success is proof of their commitment, energy, and greatness.

WINNING THE FIGHT AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING: THE FREDERICK DOUGLASS TRAFFICKING VICTIMS PREVENTION AND PROTECTION ACT OF 2017

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, the subcommittee I chair held a hearing on accelerating the fight against human trafficking with particular focus on the new Frederick Douglass Trafficking Victims Prevention and Protection Act of 2017—the comprehensive, bipartisan legislation that my friend and colleague Karen Bass and I introduced last Thursday joined by Chairman Royce, Representatives Jackson Lee, Brooks, Frankel, Wagner, Cardenas, Poe, and Costello.

In the fight to end modern day slavery, and as the author of the landmark Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, the new bill honors the extraordinary legacy of one of the greatest Americans who ever lived.

Born a slave in 1818—we look forward to celebrating the 200th anniversary of his birth next year—Frederick Douglass escaped slavery when he was 20 and dedicated his entire life to abolishing slavery and, after emancipation, to ending Jim Crow laws while struggling for full equality for African American citizens. A gifted orator, author, editor, statesman (and Republican), he died in 1895.

The Frederick Douglass Trafficking Victims Prevention and Protection Reauthorization Act authorizes $130 million over 4 years to prevent human trafficking, protect victims, and beef up prosecution at home and abroad. Among other things, I note that this bill encourages more hotels at home and abroad to put policies and trainings in place so that the hotels are less likely to be used by human traffickers to exploit children. To the extent practicable, the U.S. Government will direct U.S. Government travelers using taxpayer money to use hotels that have taken affirmative steps to end trafficking within their walls.

The new bill seeks to restore the credibility of the Trafficking in Persons Report, produced annually by the Department of State, to hold countries accountable for progress, or the lack thereof, in the fight against human trafficking. Talk is cheap—we insist on sustainable action.

This report scrutinizes more than 190 countries—with the credible threat of serious sanction for egregious violators branded Tier 3—to improve their trafficking laws and actions.

But in several notable cases, particularly in 2015, countries that should have been held accountable by the last administration with Tier 3 designations were given a pass—countries such as Malaysia, Cuba, China, Oman, Uzbekistan, and others. The new bill tries to ensure that countries complicit in trafficking are held accountable. No politics. Ever. And it will remove from current law the presumption that countries failing to quantify convictions and identify victims somehow deserve passing grades.

IJM's Policy Director Tim Gehring underscored that concern in his testimony today stating, ''The politicization of the tier rankings, against the advice of the anti-trafficking experts at TIP Office is to the detriment of the annual report, the U.S. Government's leadership on combatting this human rights abuse, and, ultimately, to the people exploited in the countries which receive an undeserved higher ranking.''

Last year alone, I chaired two hearings on this: ''Accountability Over Politics: Scrutinizing the Trafficking in Persons Report'' in July and earlier in March, ''Get it Right This Time: A Victims-Centered Trafficking in Persons Report.''

I was profoundly disappointed that the Obama Administration chose to politicize tier rankings rather than speak the truth to power. If the Trump Administration follows that dangerous precedent I will be no less a critic.

The Frederick Douglass Act will limit the amount of time a country can stay on the warning, Tier 2 Watch List, inspiring countries to take action against trafficking today, not in four years when their warnings are up.

The Act will also ensure that countries still using child soldiers, such as Afghanistan, where boys are on the front lines fighting the Taliban by day and being used as sex slaves at night, stop this obscene practice before being allowed to partner with the U.S. military—something Green Beret Sergeant First Class Charles Martland tried to do at great personal cost.

The Act will also ensure that waivers for countries using child soldiers are not abused. In 2016, only three of 10 countries designated as using child soldiers were not allowed to access funds, and these were the countries we did not fund anyway. The Act will ensure that the waiver is used only in cases where the President can ensure steps are being taken to address the recruitment and use of child soldiers.

In addition, the Act will help keep goods made by child trafficking victims out of the United States by ensuring continued funding for and enhancing the specificity of Department of Labor reports on slave-made goods.

Provisions in the Act will prevent the abuse of domestic servants in embassies and diplomatic homes in the United States. Diplomats and their families in the U.S. are getting off scot-free after trafficking domestic servants in their homes—we are going to change that. Trafficking is illegal here, no matter who you are.

The Act encourages accountability for U.S. Government funds going abroad to help trafficking victims, and strengthens implementation of U.S. laws and regulations to prevent government purchases from putting money in the hands of traffickers.

We welcomed several of the top anti-human trafficking organizations who have endorsed the legislation, including ATEST, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, which submitted testimony for the record, and Frederick Douglass Family Initiatives, whose work educating children about the threat of trafficking has inspired this legislation.

HONORING THE DISABLED VETERANS MEMORIAL IN UNION, MISSOURI

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Disabled Veterans Memorial in Union, Missouri. The memorial is located in Veterans Memorial Park which broke ground in 2013 to provide nearly 44 acres of multi-use facilities for the Union community. This dedication of this beautiful memorial is taking place on Sunday, May 7, 2017. May 7th also marks a historic day when, in 1945, Nazi Germany unconditionally surrendered to the allies at Reims, France, ending World War II in the European theater. I can think of no better day to reflect on the sacrifices that our men and women in uniform make every day. This day of dedication will feature numerous members of the Union community and local veterans including: pastors, legion honor guard, and local high school bands.

This memorial has been 20 years in the making and would not be a reality without the dedication of stakeholders throughout Missouri. The memorial has been funded through private donations from individuals and groups within the community. With the cost for this memorial totaling around $240,000, this major undertaking clearly demonstrates the commitment of these citizens to bringing honor and distinction to the Disabled Veterans of Missouri and the United States. The memorial not only honors the Disabled Veterans that served so proudly, but also honors Prisoners of War and those who are Missing in Action. Additionally, this memorial is endorsed by the National Paralyzed Veterans of America and the Franklin County Disabled Veterans of America.

I ask you to join me in recognizing the Disabled Veterans Memorial in Union, Missouri. This memorial will show the gratitude we feel as a nation for those who have worn the uniform and sacrificed so much for this great nation.

HONORING AUDREY NIXON

HON. BRADLEY SCOTT SCHNEIDER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember a dedicated public servant and dear friend, Audrey Nixon, who passed away at the age of 81.

Since 1982, Audrey tirelessly served the communities of Waukegan, North Chicago, Park City, and Gurnee with distinction and grace as a member of the Lake County Board.

She was known and universally admired as the matriarch of the Lake County Board—not just for her tenure, which was longer than any other member—but for her ability to bridge the divides of partisan politics and bring out the best in her colleagues, working together for the residents of Lake County.

Audrey was a fierce advocate for her constituents, determinedly promoting diversity, inclusion, and opportunity.

She was the long-time chair of the Law and Judicial Committee, where she exercised her passion and commitment to civil justice for all.

She was an energetic supporter of YouthBuild, which has helped countless young adults complete their education, get needed counseling, and learn critical job skills to put them on the path to success.

Thanks to Audrey, future generations to come will continue to enjoy the beauty and serenity of Greenbelt Forest Preserve.

Audrey is survived by her three children and twenty grandchildren.

She will be fondly remembered and sorely missed by her many friends, her congregation at Christian Valley Missionary Baptist Church in North Chicago, and the myriad constituents whose lives she touched through her decades of service to Lake County.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE SERVICE OF COMMANDER DONALD ''HOPPY'' HANSON

HON. DAVID A. TROTT

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Mr. TROTT. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise in recognition of the service of Commander Donald ''Hoppy'' Hanson of Novi, Michigan and in celebration of his 93rd birthday.

Serving in World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War, Commander Hanson served his country valiantly, defending our nation's fundamental principles of freedom and democracy around the world.

He has been an unwavering defender of liberty, and it is thanks to him that we have the privilege to live in the greatest country in the world.

Commander Hanson represents the best of our great country. He's a strong believer in the traditions built by Americans before him, but he never lost sight of the future of our nation.

As a Livonia school teacher for 20 years, he nurtured the promise of every generation to come, enriching the minds of the next generation, the future of a nation he fought so courageously to preserve.

Today, I echo an eternally grateful nation in thanking Commander Hanson for his devout service and in celebration of his 93rd birthday.

HONORING RANDI KLABER

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, those who give their time and effort in service to their community have the ability to make a truly positive, lasting impact. For the Westchester Jewish Center, no one has made a greater impact than Randi Klaber, who this year is being honored at the organization's 66th Annual Spring Gala.

Randi Klaber joined Westchester Jewish Center in 1992 and is a longtime WJC Trustee and a past WJC Officer. As a two time Sisterhood President she helped revitalize this essential organization for the women in the community. Randi is involved in committees as varied as Musical Enrichment, Gala planning and the interior design of the building. She has been involved in several search committees and helps care for seniors in our community.

Randi is an Interior Designer and freelance graphic designer by trade. She's an oil painter and member of the Mamaroneck Artists' Guild. She brings her artistry skills to WJC as well. She has designed advertising materials and logos and a painting that hangs in the memorial chapel.

Randi has been instrumental in building WJC into a revered and vibrant center of our Jewish lives. Randi has played an important role in the lives of 500 member families who call WJC their second home.

There is no doubt that the entire Westchester Jewish Center community is better off thanks to the work and efforts of Randi. On this special occasion, I want to personally congratulate her on receiving this well-deserved recognition and thank her for all she has done in the community.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF WOMEN GIVING BACK

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to use this time to recognize the 10th Anniversary of Women Giving Back, a local nonprofit organization in Virginia's 10th District dedicated to helping women and children less fortunate. Women Giving Back focuses on providing homeless women and children in crisis with appropriate clothing to boost their confidence and self-esteem as they attempt to enter the workforce or fit in at school. On the second Saturday of each month, the Women Giving Back store, in Sterling, Virginia, opens its doors to hundreds of homeless women and children, allowing them to shop from its donated collection completely free of charge.

Women Giving Back was founded in 2007 as a program of HomeAid NoVA, a non-profit that, since 2001, has completed over 100 projects, building and renovating housing and shelter facilities across Northern Virginia. In 2015, Women Giving Back established their own non-profit, separating from HomeAid NoVA, however the two organizations still work together, helping thousands receive both clothing and shelter each year.

Since its inception, Women Giving Back has distributed over 500,000 items to more than 23,000 women and 15,300 children from over 100 shelters across Northern Virginia. Today, potential shoppers work with case managers at Women Giving Back to determine their eligibility and schedule times to shop, and once they are approved, qualified shoppers can obtain up to 50 clothing items per month. To support this large-scale monthly program, throughout the year staff and volunteers sort clothing, coordinate clothing drives, conduct

community outreach, and fundraise. The arduous process, which the staff and volunteers undertake to serve the shoppers, is a true testament to the generosity, hard work, and dedication of the volunteers and staff at Women Giving Back.

One annual fundraiser that has garnered a great deal of popularity and community involvement is the Cinco De Mayo event, which helps the organization sustain its store program throughout the year. It is entertaining, forward thinking, community events, like the Cinco De Mayo event, that have helped the organization thrive and maintain its strong presence in our community for the past 10 years.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me in recognizing the 10th Anniversary of Women Giving Back and in thanking them for their commitment and service to our community. The efforts and contributions from the staff, volunteers, corporate sponsors, and our community are truly exemplary, and I wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF LARRY HARRIS RECEIVING THE LIBERTY BELL AWARD

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Larry Harris for receiving the Cabarrus County Bar Association Liberty Bell Award.

A native of North Carolina's 8th District, Larry grew up in Kannapolis, where he attended Winecoff High School and served as the senior class president before pursuing a history degree at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He then enlisted in the US Marine Corps from 1961–1963 where he received outstanding marks as a Rifleman. After finishing his service, Larry attended Wake Forest Law School, graduating in 1965 before going on to practice law for 51 years in Cabarrus County.

During his more than five decades in the legal field, Mr. Harris served in nearly every leadership role imaginable. He served as President of the Cabarrus County Bar Association, and was active with the NC Bar Association, NC Academy of Trial Lawyers and the Juvenile Court. Larry also ran for Congress in 1978 and served as the Chairman of the Cabarrus County Republican Party. In addition to all of these activities, Larry found time to serve his community through numerous local civic organizations, serving as the Vice President of the Kannapolis Jaycees and President of the Winecoff Lions Club. He's also been an active Shriner and Mason for decades.

The Liberty Bell Award is presented by the Cabarrus County Bar Association to an individual who educates people on and upholds the laws that support American freedom. Throughout his lifetime of involvement in Cabarrus County, Larry has helped many people maintain their confidence in our judicial system by being a constant resource for anyone in need.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in congratulating Larry Harris as the Cabarrus County Bar Association Liberty Bell Award recipient and wish him well as he continues to serve our community.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF COACH DONALD THOMPSON

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Coach Donald Thompson, the legendary coach of the Pahokee High School Football Team, who sadly passed away on April 10, 2017 at the age of 76. Coach Thompson was born in Harrisburg, Arkansas on Valentine's Day in 1941. He spent his formative years in Pahokee, Florida, where he made friends in classrooms and on the football field, many of whom remained close throughout his life.

Coach Thompson went to college and played nose tackle for the Citadel Bulldogs in Charleston, South Carolina. In his junior year, his team won the Tangerine Bowl. He was then transferred to the University of Arkansas at Monticello, where he played football for the Boll Weevils and graduated with a degree in education.

After college, Coach Thompson began his career, first in coaching and teaching, then as a regional sales manager for weightlifting companies, before he was offered the head coaching position at Pahokee High School. He coached the Blue Devils from 1984 to 1992, co-founded the famous Muck Bowl, an annual game that draws fans from throughout the Glades area and beyond. Coach Thompson guided his team to the first of many state championships in 1989. For these and many other exemplary accomplishments, on and off the gridiron, he was inducted into the Palm Beach County Sports Hall of Fame in 2008.

Even after he retired from coaching, and despite deteriorating health, he continued to volunteer with the team, cleaning uniforms, fixing helmets and praying with players during practices and games. He loved being a part of the Pahokee High School Football Team and athletic program.

Although he was highly regarded as a football coach, his true passions were his faith, family and friends. His true calling was to be an example to his family and everyone he encountered, especially his fellow congregants at the First United Church of Pahokee, his football players and the children of Pahokee. In ''Coach T,'' many found a man who would happily be the father figure they wanted and needed. His calming voice, caring demeanor and strength of character endeared him to everyone.

Coach Thompson also loved sailing, spending countless hours on the waters of South Florida sailing his beloved Lake Okeechobee with his loving wife of 52 years, Alice, and his family. Coach Donald Thompson was truly one of a kind—a fine sportsman, a real gentleman and a credit to mankind. I was fortunate to know him and call him my friend. He will be dearly missed.

IN RECOGNITION OF MRS. HARRISON'S 3RD GRADE CLASS

HON. DAVID A. TROTT

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Mr. TROTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the bright young artists in Mrs. Harrison's 3rd grade class at Plymouth Christian Academy in Canton, Michigan.

I know that artists get their start long before high school and college, learning to expand their imagination and foster their creativity in classrooms just like Mrs. Harrison's.

In an effort to highlight young artists from across Michigan's 11th Congressional District, this year, I announced the 1st Annual ''Color my Capitol'' Program.

Brimming with talent, Mrs. Harrison's students were eager to showcase their amazing artistic skills and take part in this one-of-a-kind program.

Let me tell you, Mr. Speaker, Mrs. Harrison's 3rd graders did not disappoint. Their creations are unique, innovative, and imaginative. Their colorful artwork embodies our country's bright and promising future with these sharp young minds leading the way.

It is my utmost honor to have their artwork displayed in my Congressional district office in Troy, Michigan for everyone who visits to enjoy. Each and every time I walk into my office, I am reminded of their talent.

Congratulations to Mrs. Harrison and the young artists she has the pleasure of teaching.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF HAMILTON COUNTY PARKS

HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Hamilton County Parks and Recreation Department on the occasion of their 50th Anniversary. For the last half century, the Hamilton County Parks and Recreation Department has enriched our community. Their greatly successful mission to provide high-quality parks and facilities, to be a leader in natural resource education and services, and as an excellent resource for our community and its citizens has made Hamilton County one of the best places to live in Indiana and in the United States. Thank you to the Staff and the Hamilton County Commissioners who have served with distinction and have carried out the mission of the Hamilton County Parks and Recreation Department. The people of Indiana's Fifth Congressional District are forever grateful for the contributions to our Hoosier community, and it is my distinct privilege to honor the Hamilton County Parks and Recreation Department today.

Founded in 1967, Hamilton County Parks and Recreation Department ordinance was established on March 11, 1967. The ordinance was filed May 1, 1967 in the office of Auditor

John Randall. The inaugural board of directors were appointed for a two-year term beginning in 1968. Board meetings were held at the Commissioner's Court in The Hamilton County Court House, located in Noblesville. The founding Board members included: Henry Burgher as President, Jerry Barr as Secretary, Floyd Overdorf as a Member, and Paul Wheeler as a Member. Thanks to the foresight of the inaugural Board members, for the last 50 years we have had an excellent park system that has enriched the lives of our residents here in Hamilton County and all those who have visited.

The Hamilton County Parks and Recreation Department created its first park in 1970 after acquiring Potter's Bridge in Noblesville. Today the Parks Department oversees eleven parks: Bray Family Homestead Park, Cool Creek Park and Nature Center, Coxhall Gardens, Geist Park, Lafayette Trace Park, Morse Park & Beach, Potter's Bridge Park, River Road Park, Riverwood Canoe Landing, Rookery Preserve, and Strawtown Koteewi Park. Each park has a unique experience to offer, and has brought fun and joy to the citizens and families of Hamilton County and to all those who visit. Nature trails, bird watching, water sports, natural history, archery, and many other great activities make our Parks in Hamilton County world class. In addition to the thousands of acres of land to oversee, the Parks Department also offers workshops, school programs, and facilities.

On behalf of the citizens of Indiana's Fifth Congressional District, I would like to congratulate the Hamilton County Parks and Recreation Department on the celebration of its 50th Anniversary. I am proud that our Hoosier state is home to an exemplary department such as this one. I wish the Hamilton County Parks and Recreation Department all the best as it embarks on its next 50 years of excellence in Indiana.

IN RECOGNITION OF JOHN A. OBEE FOR HIS DISTINGUISHED LEGAL CAREER ON THE DAY OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize John A. Obee, an attorney who has effectively served the State of Michigan for nearly 40 years, on the day of his retirement. Mr. Obee has had a distinguished career utilizing his legal expertise on behalf of his clients and during his time in public service with the State of Michigan.

After graduating from Wayne State University Law School in 1978, Mr. Obee began his legal career as a judicial law clerk with Justice Blair Moody, Jr. of the Michigan Supreme Court. He then served as an Assistant United States Attorney with the U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District until 1982, after which he entered private practice. Mr. Obee's work has focused primarily on real estate litigation, including serving as an arbitrator for construction and labor matters. In addition, Mr. Obee has worked extensively on fair housing issues in Michigan and has served as a Hearing Referee for the Michigan Department on Civil Rights. He also has utilized his legal experience as an Adjunct Law Professor at Michigan State University and the University of Detroit Law School, where he taught classes on housing discrimination law.

Mr. Obee has had an outstanding career as a lawyer and advocate for fair housing. He has received numerous accolades for his tireless advocacy on behalf of his clients, including the Fair Housing Center of Metropolitan Detroit's Fair Housing Leadership Award for his work on fair housing litigation. Additionally, Mr. Obee has served on numerous labor panels, including the Federal Mediation on Conciliation Service and the Michigan Employment Relations Commission. Mr. Obee's membership on these panels, as well as his extensive contributions to trade publications and scholarly journals, underscore his legal expertise as well as his dedication to his clients.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring John A. Obee for his exceptional career as an attorney. Mr. Obee has had an outstanding legal career in public service and working in private practice.

HIGH SCHOOL HEROES RESCUE MAN FROM SUBMERGED CAR

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge two brave and honorable Carlyle High School seniors from my district, Tyler Guthrie and Tucker Johnson. The two students showed compassion and great character when they saved a man's life after his car flipped over into water on Saturday, April 22, 2017.

The victim was pulling off of Old US 50 into the Hatchery Park, trying to adjust his Bluetooth set when he received a phone call. Suddenly the man lost control of his Lexus, which flipped over onto its roof in the water. Luckily, driving behind the gentleman's car were Tyler and Tucker, and they immediately sprang into action.

The two young men could hear the man's cries for help as they inspected the scene. Johnson quickly called 911, while Guthrie smashed in the rear window with a rock he had picked up. Johnson then assisted the man out of his overturned sinking car shortly before an ambulance arrived on the scene.

I ask that we all join in honoring these two good Samaritans and use their selfless act as a reminder that we are all here to help one another.

I stand today to salute Tyler Guthrie and Tucker Johnson for their contributions to this great society and to wish them the very best in all of their future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF MS. KORPELA'S 3RD GRADE CLASS

HON. DAVID A. TROTT

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Mr. TROTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the bright young artists in Ms. Korpela's 3rd grade class at Nijo-Iro Japanese Immersion Elementary in Livonia, Michigan.

I know that artists get their start long before high school and college, learning to expand their imagination and foster their creativity in classrooms just like Ms. Korpela's.

In an effort to highlight young artists from across Michigan's 11th Congressional District, this year, I announced the lst Annual "Color my Capitol" Program.

Brimming with talent, Ms. Korpela's students were eager to showcase their amazing artistic skills and take part in this one-of-a-kind program.

Let me tell you, Mr. Speaker, Ms. Korpela's 3rd graders did not disappoint. Their creations are unique, innovative, and imaginative. Their colorful artwork embodies our country's bright and promising future with these sharp young minds leading the way.

It is my utmost honor to have their artwork displayed in my Congressional district office in Troy, Michigan for everyone who visits to enjoy. Each and every time I walk into my office, I am reminded of their talent.

Congratulations to Ms. Korpela and the young artists she has the pleasure of teaching.

JERUSALEM DAY

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on May 14, 1948, the democratic State of Israel was founded.

This week, 69 years later, we celebrate a vibrant, Jewish state located in the biblical homeland

In tribute to Israel's 69th birthday, I rise today to honor the Jewish people and their long-standing struggle to build and expand their country.

Many of the Jews who lived in Israel in 1948 were survivors of the Second World War and the Holocaust, which pushed international opinion for the need for a homeland for the Jewish people where they could be free from persecution and free to build a better life.

Since that fateful day in Tel Aviv, Israel and its people have worked tirelessly to build a thriving democracy that is economically prosperous and at peace with neighboring nations.

Today, 69 years later, after many difficulties and hardships, a strong, resolute Israel has a population over 8 million.

The first nation to recognize Israel's independence, I am proud to say, was the United States, when Democratic President Harry Truman welcomed Israel into the community of nations just hours after its declaration.

The bonds between our two great nations, bound together by common interests and shared values, have only grown with time.

Through Democratic and Republican Administrations, we have continued to stand by our ally in the Middle East.

As most people know, I have been a longtime supporter of Israel and continue to advocate on their behalf.

Mr. Speaker, I hope on this joyous celebration that we reflect on the need to redouble our efforts to bring peace to the region and continue to tangibly support our friend and ally in its request for peace.

HONORING PATSY CLINE

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, there are those whose lives shine so brightly and give us hope regardless of life circumstances and tragedies we may endure. Patsy Cline, who was also known as the First Lady of Country Music, was one of those inspiring and uplifting souls. She moved us all by her incredible voice and meaningful lyrics such as Crazy and Walking after Midnight that would continue to be cherished by generations to follow.

Patsy was a true treasure whose memory will forever be remembered by her fans and Tennesseans alike. Patsy Cline was inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame, and was the first female soloist chosen for the honor. Her short yet remarkable music and television career paved a way for women to pursue their passion in the entertainment industry. The true strength she exemplified came from the genuine love in her heart to serve and entertain her family, friends, and fans. She lived a life worth living.

INTRODUCTION OF THE EMERGENCY FINANCIAL MANAGER REFORM ACT OF 2017

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, the Emergency Financial Manager Reform Act of 2017 is intended to ensure that state-appointed emergency financial managers for municipalities in fiscal distress do not violate Constitutional protections, ensure public health and safety, and are accountable stewards of taxpayer funds. The bill responds to problems presented when unaccountable emergency financial managers usurp local elected officials and unilaterally make decisions that jeopardize public health and safety.

The bill accomplishes these objectives by authorizing the U.S. Attorney General to withhold ten percent of the funds that would otherwise be allocated to a state under the Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grant Program (Byrne-JAG), which provides funding to states for law enforcement purposes, if the U.S. Attorney General determines that the state appointed an emergency financial manager who fails to meet any of the criteria as specified in the bill. These criteria, for example, include a requirement that the appropriate state official submit a certification to the U.S. Attorney General stating that the appointment of an emergency financial manager has neither the purpose nor the effect of denying or abridging the right to vote on account of race or color. Another condition specifies that the emergency financial manager receive prior approval from the governor of the state and the appropriate local elected officials before making decisions affecting public health or safety. A further condition protects the rights of employees under collective bargaining agreements from being impaired in violation of the U.S. Constitution.

SECTION-BY-SECTION EXPLANATION OF THE BILL

Section 1. Short Title. Section 1 sets forth the short title of the bill as the Emergency Financial Manager Reform Act of 2017.

Section 2. Findings. Section 2 of the bill sets forth a series of congressional findings explaining why this legislation is necessary.

Section 3. Safeguards Regarding State Appointment of an Emergency Financial Manager. Subsection (a) of section 3 authorizes the U.S. Attorney General to withhold ten percent of funds that would otherwise be allocated to a state under the Byrne-JAG grant program for the following fiscal year if the state has appointed an emergency financial manager and any of the following criteria are not met:

(1) The emergency financial manager is appointed and the chief legal officer or other appropriate state official has not prior thereto submitted a certification to the U.S. Attorney General that such appointment has neither the purpose nor the effect of denying or abridging the right to vote on account of race or color and the U.S. Attorney General has not interposed an objection within 60 days following the submission of such certification.

(2) The emergency financial manager is authorized to make decisions affecting public health or safety of the residents of a local government unit without receiving prior approval from the governor of the state and the appropriate local elected officials.

(3) The emergency financial manager fails to have adequate oversight to ensure against conflicts of interest, mismanagement, and abuse of discretion by the emergency financial manager. The bill, in section 4, defines adequate oversight to mean that a monthly, publically-available report accounting for all financial activities of the emergency financial manager, including possible conflicts of interest, mismanagement, and abuses of discretion. This report must be reviewed and approved by the governor. In addition, adequate oversight means that there must be an independent, state-approved, and publically-available annual audit of the emergency financial manager's duty-related activities.

(4) The emergency financial manager is authorized to reject, modify, or terminate an existing collective bargaining agreement without mutual consent of all parties to such agreement.

(5) The emergency financial manager is authorized to reject, modify, or terminate an existing contract without mutual consent of all parties to such contract or such rejection, modification, or termination is approved by an federal bankruptcy court.

Subsection (b) provides that the amount of funding not allocated under subsection (a) is to be reallocated to other states that are not subject to any reduction under subsection (a).

Section 4. Definitions. Section 4 defines various terms used in the bill.

IN RECOGNITION OF MS. SPENCER'S 3RD GRADE CLASS

HON. DAVID A. TROTT

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Mr. TROTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the bright young artists in Ms. Spencer's 3rd grade class at Auburn Elementary in Auburn Hills, Michigan.

I know that artists get their start long before high school and college, learning to expand their imagination and foster their creativity in classrooms just like Ms. Spencer's.

In an effort to highlight young artists from across Michigan's 11th Congressional District, this year, I announced the 1st Annual ''Color my Capitol'' Program.

Brimming with talent, Ms. Spencer's students were eager to showcase their amazing artistic skills and take part in this one-of-a-kind program.

Let me tell you, Mr. Speaker, Ms. Spencer's 3rd graders did not disappoint. Their creations are unique, innovative, and imaginative. Their colorful artwork embodies our country's bright and promising future with these sharp young minds leading the way.

It is my utmost honor to have their artwork displayed in my Congressional district office in Troy, Michigan for everyone who visits to enjoy. Each and every time I walk into my office, I am reminded of their talent.

Congratulations to Ms. Spencer and the young artists she has the pleasure of teaching.

IN TRIBUTE TO SHEILA DIANNE COCHRAN

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sheila Dianne Cochran, Milwaukee Area Labor Council, AFL–CIO Secretary-Treasurer and Chief Operating Officer. She began service at the Council in March of 2009 and officially retired on March 31, 2017.

Ms. Cochran ran the largest Central Labor Council in Wisconsin. The Milwaukee Area Labor Council has about 110 affiliate Labor Unions and represents approximately 25,000 members. The council has two divisions; the Council and Field Mobilization Department. Sheila was responsible for supervising six staff, running the day-to-day operation with oversight of all records and managing the financial operation that included a budget of approximately $600,000 dollars. Further, under separate authority, the Milwaukee Area Labor Council houses The Labor Community @ Work a nonprofit, 501c3 charity organization that helps those in need. Some of the services

provided under the auspices of The Labor Community @ Work include: operate food drives for Pathfinders, collect toiletries for the Health and Hygiene Drive for the Homeless, construction of ''little libraries'', cooks for the St. Ben's Community Meal grill out BBQ dinner, and provides funds for Laborfest and Wisconsin Election Protection. Sheila Cochran sits on the non-profit board The Labor Community @ Work as an at large member.

Sheila was hired at Delphi/Delco/E&S in 1979; she began her work in the labor movement while employed there in 1989, when she was elected as Recording Secretary of UAW, Local 438. In 1999, she was elected to the then Milwaukee County Labor Council. The Milwaukee Area Labor Council was formed in 2008 when it merged the Milwaukee, Ozaukee and Washington County Labor Councils.

Sheila has served on numerous boards, commissions, and councils over the years including: The Fair Lending Coalition, WTRP/BIG STEP Board; Member Milwaukee Area Technical College Board of Directors, National Board of the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists, Chair of Wisconsin Election Protection, and Elected Member United Way Board of Greater Milwaukee. In fact, she holds the position of the longest-serving member of the area United Way Board of Greater Milwaukee.

I am grateful to have had the opportunity to know and work with Sheila for over 25 years. She has provided invaluable counsel and advice over the years. I am so pleased to be able to join with friends and colleagues at her retirement dinner celebration on May 19, 2017, where she has asked that all the proceeds from the dinner are to be donated to The Labor Community @ Work. I wish her much success as she transitions into a different phase of her life. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Sheila and I am proud to call her friend. The citizens of the Fourth Congressional District and the State of Wisconsin are privileged to have someone of her ability and dedicated service working on their behalf for so many years. I am honored for these reasons to pay tribute to Sheila Cochran.

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE RATIFICATION OF THE TWENTY-SEVENTH AMENDMENT

HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, May 5th marks the 25th Anniversary of the ratification of the Twenty-Seventh Amendment to the Constitution of the United States. The Twenty-Seventh Amendment guarantees that the Members of Congress may not adjust their current salaries, and that any changes in pay will not take effect until the next session of Congress. James Madison originally proposed this amendment in 1789. However, it would take 202 years for this amendment to be ratified by the states. Gregory Watson, a constituent of the 21st District of Texas, helped restart the push for ratification in 1982. Mr. Watson's involvement helped to ratify the amendment on May 5, 1992. This anniversary marks an important day for the nation and for Mr. Watson. His efforts exemplify superb civic duty and should inspire other to become active in our government. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing May 5th as the Anniversary of the ratification of the 27th Amendment and Gregory Watson for the important role he played in its ratification.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday May 2, 2017, I was unable to vote on roll call No. 244: Final Passage of H.R. 1180 ''Working Families Flexibility Act of 2017.'' Had I been present, I would have voted ''yes.''

IN HONOR OF THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GREAT FALLS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the 75th Anniversary of the Great Falls Volunteer Fire Department in Great Falls, Virginia. Established in 1942 and originally named the Forestville Volunteer Fire Department, the Department formed as an auxiliary to the McLean Fire Department to enhance Virginia's domestic readiness during World War II. The original membership of 29 volunteer firefighters has doubled, and the department now includes paid ranks, operational members, and administrative members, and today is a fixture of the Great Falls community.

Through exemplary leadership, community support, and working in coordination with the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department, the Great Falls Volunteer Fire Department has experienced immense growth since its inception in 1942. Originally, the Department only had a small barn, a single 1942 Chevrolet truck with a 500 gallon tank, and 29 volunteer members. But over the years the department expanded, and in 1961 the department moved to its current location to accommodate the additional firefighters and the overnight staff. After recent renovations, the department reopened their current station in 2011, and this state of the art facility is certified as a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold building for its use of green technologies, making it the first of its kind among Fairfax County Government Buildings. The once one-truck department now has five emergency vehicles and was the first Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Station to have four-wheel drive ambulances. And today there are 22 career firefighters on duty 24/7, and 40 volunteer members, serving in both operational and administrative roles.

In addition to their efforts to keep our community safe, the Great Falls Volunteer Fire Department provides support at community events all over Fairfax County, including parades, festivals, and fundraisers, and throughout the years, the Great Falls community and its leaders have offered continuous assistance to the Department.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding the Great Falls Volunteer Fire Department for their years of selfless service and heroism and to again congratulate them on this historic milestone. I would like to personally express my gratitude to the men and women who selflessly put themselves in dangerous positions on behalf of their neighbors, friends, and community, and I wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF MRS. STEVENSON'S 3RD GRADE CLASS

HON. DAVID A. TROTT

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Mr. TROTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the bright young artists in Mrs. Stevenson's 3rd grade class at Deerfield Elementary in Novi, Michigan.

I know that artists get their start long before high school and college, learning to expand their imagination and foster their creativity in classrooms just like Mrs. Stevenson's.

In an effort to highlight young artists from across Michigan's 11th Congressional District, this year, I announced the 1st Annual ''Color my Capitol'' Program.

Brimming with talent, Mrs. Stevenson's students were eager to showcase their amazing artistic skills and take part in this one-of-a-kind program.

Let me tell you, Mr. Speaker, Mrs. Stevenson's 3rd graders did not disappoint. Their creations are unique, innovative, and imaginative. Their colorful artwork embodies our country's bright and promising future with these sharp young minds leading the way.

It is my utmost honor to have their artwork displayed in my Congressional district office in Troy, Michigan for everyone who visits to enjoy. Each and every time I walk into my office, I am reminded of their talent.

Congratulations to Mrs. Stevenson and the young artists she has the pleasure of teaching.

HONORING SEAN MACKIN

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a businessman, a humanitarian, an advocate for Irish American Causes, but most importantly, a dear friend. I have known Sean Mackin for many years and I cherish the friendship he and I have forged over that time. I am honored to be able to recognize his many accomplishments.

Born in Belfast, County Antrim, Sean joined the Irish republican movement at age 11. He

was arrested and imprisoned several times by British security forces, starting at age 12, but was never found guilty. In 1978, Amnesty International cited Sean's cause as one of the five most serious cases of torture in Northern Ireland. Following his release from prison, he met and married Philomena Devine, and the two immigrated to New York in 1983. Shortly after relocating, Sean was detained at the behest of the British government. As a Member of Congress, I heard about Sean's case, and knew that if he were to be deported his life would be at grave risk. I decided to get involved on Sean's behalf, and we soon became fast friends. After our prolonged and hard fought legal battle, the Mackin family won a landmark decision. His wife and daughter became the first Irish women to be granted political asylum in the United States, and Sean's deportation order was denied as he would go on to become an American citizen. He has been very involved in the Irish peace process and has worked with elected officials in Washington D.C. promoting peace and justice in Northern Ireland.

Sean is also a cofounder and chairman of the New York Irish Center known for its outstanding services to the senior Irish generation and suicide prevention assistance for the Irish community. In 2014, Sean was honored by the Irish Lobby for Immigration Reform for his work on behalf of undocumented Irish.

Of course, Sean's true love is his family. He and Philomena have three children, Jenifer, Sean Og and Ciaran, and four grandchildren, Gavin, Tyan, Ella and Pierce. They all live in Eastchester, NY.

This year, Sean will serve as Grand Marshal for the EIASC's 13th Annual Eastchester St. Patrick's Day Parade. I cannot think of a more fitting Grand Marshal. Congratulations to my friend Sean Mackin on receiving this wonderful honor.

HONORING THE LIFE OF AMEDEO ''ARMIE'' MEROLLA

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and memory of General Amedeo ''Armie'' Merolla—a dedicated patriot, a passionate legal mind, a community leader in Rhode Island, and someone who I was proud to call a dear friend.

Armie Merolla was a man of service in every aspect of his life. He spent much of his time giving back to his community, serving his state and his country with distinction.

Armie's time in uniform began when he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps while still a student at Brown University. After graduating in 1951, he enlisted in the Rhode Island Army National Guard (RIARNG) and received a direct commission as a First Lieutenant in the Judge Advocate General Corps. His long and distinguished military career included posts in the Military Police, JAG, Field Artillery, and Military Intelligence, during which he earned numerous decorations, such as the Legion of Merit, the Meritorious Service Medal, and the Rhode Island Cross for Valor. Among his commissions with RIARNG, he served as State Inspector General, State Staff Judge Advocate, Brigadier General, and Assistant Adjutant General and Deputy Commanding General—Army. In his retirement, he was appointed as Commander of the Rhode Island State Defense Force and attained the honorary rank of Major General in the Rhode Island Militia.

As an attorney, Armie experienced great success and took on many roles after receiving his J.D. from Harvard Law School in 1954. At the time of his passing, he was a senior managing partner at Merolla, Accetturo & Lough, where he practiced alongside two of his children, Katherine and Steven. He served as Judge Advocate General and Assistant Providence City Solicitor, and contributed his legal expertise to the Rhode Island Secretary of State, the Rhode Island Public Buildings Authority, and the Director of the Rhode Island Department of Administration. The Rhode Island Supreme Court appointed him to the Alternate Dispute Resolution Task Force, the Rules of Evidence Committee, the Committee for Admission to the Bar, and the Committee on Clerkships. Armie also held leadership positions in several legal associations, including the Rhode Island Trial Lawyers Association.

In his community, Armie demonstrated an even deeper commitment to others. He was a Chairman of the Warwick School Committee, Chairman of the Warwick Bicentennial Committee, President of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Warwick, trustee of his church, president of the alumni association of his class at Brown, Commodore and Perpetual Member of the East Greenwich Yacht Club, and Co-Founder of Warwick Figure Skaters. He also held leadership positions in local chapters of the United Way, the Knights of Columbus, the Catholic Charities Fund, and John F. Kennedy's 1960 presidential campaign.

Armie devoted himself to a large and loving family, and is survived by his wife, Norma, his brother, John, his four children, Katherine, Julie, Sandra, and Steven, nine grandchildren, four nieces, one nephew, and seven grandnieces and grandnephews.

It is an honor to remember Armie on the Floor today, just as it was to consider him a trusted friend and advisor. He made a difference, and he will truly be missed.

REMEMBERING STAFF SERGEANT CHRISTOPHER W. SWANSON

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about a very special event taking place next week in my district.

Maryland's Fifth District lost a number of brave and extraordinary military personnel since 2001 in Iraq and Afghanistan or in support of our operations there. One of them was U.S. Army Staff Sergeant Christopher W. Swanson of Rose Haven, in Anne Arundel County, who fell in action on July 22, 2006, in Iraq's Anbar Province. Staff Sergeant Swanson gave his life to save his fellow soldiers when insurgents ambushed their patrol. He had been serving there with the 2nd Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 1st Armored Division.

On Friday, May 12, family, friends, neighbors, and state and local officials will gather in Edgewater, Maryland, to rededicate the South River Bridge in Staff Sergeant Swanson's memory, a moving tribute to a young man from our area who lived by the highest ideals of our country and made the ultimate sacrifice under our nation's flag. His parents, Kelly and Gary Swanson, and his brother Kenny and his family, will be on hand to witness the renaming of the four-lane bridge, which connects southern Anne Arundel County with the state capital of Annapolis across the South River—a major thoroughfare serving commuters and commerce in the area. While so many in Rose Haven and its surrounding communities have known for years about what Staff Sergeant Swanson did for our country, now thousands of Marylanders will pass by the sign each day bearing his name and noting his extraordinary service and sacrifice. I hope they will take a moment each time to remember him and all those who were killed in action wearing our nation's uniform.

Staff Sergeant Swanson was proud of his roots in Southern Maryland. He graduated from Southern High School in 1999, where he had been captain of its soccer team, and enlisted that summer in the U.S. Army. It just made sense to him to serve, particularly given that both of his parents worked in law enforcement. Throughout his youth, he had often volunteered with the First Baptist Church in Upper Marlboro to go on service missions to Florida, Ohio, and West Virginia to help communities in need. At school, he gave his time to help out in the administrative office, and his teachers and peers alike saw him as a natural leader. It surprised no one at all that Staff Sergeant Swanson was on his third tour of duty in Iraq when, after being injured by an improvised explosive device, he insisted on going back into combat with his fellow soldiers instead of taking medical leave. As soon as his wound was stitched and he was given permission, he was right back with his unit, on the front lines.

It was less than two weeks later that Staff Sergeant Swanson was killed in action. He had served with distinction in Kosovo as an Army paratrooper and was later among those who participated in the initial stages of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Now, he rests among heroes in Arlington National Cemetery. His parents and brother launched a service organization in his memory, the SSG Christopher W. Swanson Support Charity for Veterans and their Families, which, among other projects, funds scholarships for the children of local fallen, wounded, or active duty soldiers to attend summer camp.

I hope my colleagues will join me in remembering Staff Sergeant Christopher W. Swanson, in thanking his Gold Star family for their sacrifice and charity work in tribute to him, and in paying tribute to all those from Maryland and across the country who gave their lives in service to our nation.

IN RECOGNITION OF MRS. CHAMPE'S 3RD GRADE CLASS

HON. DAVID A. TROTT

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Mr. TROTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the bright young artists in Mrs. Champe's 3rd grade class at Deerfield Elementary in Novi, Michigan.

I know that artists get their start long before high school and college, learning to expand their imagination and foster their creativity in classrooms just like Mrs. Champe's.

In an effort to highlight young artists from across Michigan's 11th Congressional District, this year, I announced the 1st Annual ''Color my Capitol'' Program.

Brimming with talent, Mrs. Champe's students were eager to showcase their amazing artistic skills and take part in this one-of-a-kind program.

Let me tell you, Mr. Speaker, Mrs. Champe's 3rd graders did not disappoint. Their creations are unique, innovative, and imaginative. Their colorful artwork embodies our country's bright and promising future with these sharp young minds leading the way.

It is my utmost honor to have their artwork displayed in my Congressional district office in Troy, Michigan for everyone who visits to enjoy. Each and every time I walk into my office, I am reminded of their talent.

Congratulations to Mrs. Champe and the young artists she has the pleasure of teaching.

IN HONOR OF THE RETIREMENT OF AUBURN UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT DR. JAY GOGUE

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention to recognize the retirement of Auburn University's 18th President, Dr. Jay Gogue.

Jay was raised in Waycross, Georgia, and earned bachelor's and master's degrees in horticulture from Auburn University before earning a doctorate in that field from Michigan State University.

In July 2007, Dr. Gogue returned to Auburn University to serve as the 18th president and has worked tirelessly to improve the academic strength of Auburn's student body.

Under his leadership, Auburn is implementing a strategic plan focused on enhancing student success, supporting faculty excellence, strengthening public engagement and promoting research, scholarship and creative work.

During his time as president, he has stayed connected with the students in the classroom and even teaches a graduate course in higher education administration where students learn university governance, leadership, budgeting and more. He enthusiastically worked in partnership with local and state officials to recruit new industry to the state of Alabama, creating jobs and economic opportunity.

In 2013, Dr. Gogue was selected for the Michigan State University Distinguished Alumni Award. In 2012, he was inducted into the Alabama Academy of Honor, a group of 100 Alabamians ''chosen for accomplishment or service greatly benefiting or reflecting great credit on the State.'' He also held a 2012 appointment to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's academic advisory council.

Other memberships include Phi Kappa Phi and Golden Key honor societies, Sigma Xi scientific research society and the National Society of Scabbard and Blade, the honorary military society for all branches of service.

Dr. Gogue began his career at the U.S. Department of the Interior, where he worked for 12 years. Prior to returning to Auburn, he held a number of academic and administrative positions, starting at Texas A&M University as an assistant professor teaching and conducting research in plant science. Dr. Gogue later served as vice president for research and vice president/vice provost for agriculture and natural resources at Clemson University and as provost at Utah State University. He was selected as president of New Mexico State University in 2000. In 2003, he was named president of the University of Houston and chancellor of the University of Houston System.

Jay and his wife, Susie, met in the 8th grade and married while they were both undergraduates at Auburn. They have three children, one grandchild and two dogs. They are remaining in the Auburn community and he will continue teaching a course in higher education leadership.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in wishing my friends, Jay and Susie, best wishes on retirement. I thank him for his hard work and commitment to Auburn University.

TRIBUTE TO MANUEL TROY CORONADO

HON. JOAQUIN CASTRO

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor the patriotic service of Manuel Troy Coronado, who recently retired from a distinguished career in the Army National Guard.

Troy was born in San Antonio, Texas in 1962. The son of a career military officer, he attended elementary school in Germany and Panama, and graduated from Robert E. Lee High School in San Antonio in 1980. He attended the University of Maryland in Munich, Germany and later graduated from Midwestern State University in Wichita Falls, Texas.

In 1986, Troy enlisted in the U.S. Army and shortly after gained acceptance into the Army's Officer Candidate School. He attended the Armor Officer Basic Course in Fort Knox, Kentucky and served a tour in Germany before taking time to pursue a civilian career, including jobs as a teacher and guidance counselor for troubled teens.

Drawn back to military service, Troy eventually reenlisted in the Army. Through his work, he lived in several places in the United States, including Arlington, Virginia; Houston, Texas; and Fort Benning, Georgia. Troy was deployed to Afghanistan in 2006 to serve as an embedded team trainer. Ultimately, Troy rose to the rank of Branch Chief in the National Guard Bureau's SOUTHCOM Joint Staff.

Troy's loving wife, Lisa, and their three daughters, Raquel, Jaqueline, and Mindy, have provided him with a great deal of support throughout his various deployments and assignments.

I join my fellow Texans and all Americans in thanking Troy for his years of admirable, selfless service to our nation.

RECOGNIZING JUDITH WILCOX

HON. MARK POCAN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Mr. POCAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Judith Wilcox, an extraordinary woman and great friend who dedicated her career to helping others. Her compassion, advocacy, knowledge, and dedication were on full display throughout her extensive public and community service. Judy was a role model and mentor to so many of us in the Dane County community. She improved numerous lives in Dane County through her work, which focused on expanding and providing housing opportunities and the services needed to make those arrangements a success.

Judy was an expert on affordable housing and serving the needs of the homeless community, as well as an outspoken champion for mental-health and housing for persons with severe mental health needs. She was the first woman elected to the Stoughton City Council and sat on numerous boards, including the Henry Vilas Zoo Commission and Journey Mental Health Center. Judy's community awards and accolades included the YWCA Women of Distinction and the Sterling Rose Award for her work on housing for persons living with HIV and AIDS and the Arcand Social Justice Award for her pioneering work in affordable housing over more than three decades.

I was fortunate enough to serve alongside Judy on the Dane County Board, where she represented parts of Madison's Isthmus for 12 years. She spoke forcefully and eloquently on these issues, when she chaired the Dane County Housing Authority, the Stoughton Housing Authority and the Dane County Human Services Board. Judy also helped people with disabilities and then people struggling to find housing all over Wisconsin in her positions in state government. From her Peace Corps service in Gambia to her passion as a chef, she was truly a servant leader. Yet she was also as good-humored, cheerful and quick-witted as she was generous—Judy never failed to make everyone around her laugh, smile, and know they had a friend.

She passed away after a brief illness last December at age 76 and we will gather to celebrate her life, legacy, and friendship this month. I am certain there will be no shortage

of stories about her warmth, her laugh and her fiery belief in fighting for those who have few advocates and no voice.

Today, Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize the life and service of Judy Wilcox, a colleague, a champion for justice and equality, a mentor, and a true friend.

IN RECOGNITION OF MRS. DUTKIEWICZ'S 3RD GRADE CLASS

HON. DAVID A. TROTT

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Mr. TROTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the bright young artists in Mrs. Dutkiewicz's 3rd grade class at Deerfield Elementary in Novi, Michigan.

I know that artists get their start long before high school and college, learning to expand their imagination and foster their creativity in classrooms just like Mrs. Dutkiewicz's.

In an effort to highlight young artists from across Michigan's 11th Congressional District, this year, I announced the 1st Annual ''Color my Capitol'' Program.

Brimming with talent, Mrs. Dutkiewicz's students were eager to showcase their amazing artistic skills and take part in this one-of-a-kind program.

Let me tell you, Mr. Speaker, Mrs. Dutkiewicz's 3rd graders did not disappoint. Their creations are unique, innovative, and imaginative. Their colorful artwork embodies our country's bright and promising future with these sharp young minds leading the way.

It is my utmost honor to have their artwork displayed in my Congressional district office in Troy, Michigan for everyone who visits to enjoy. Each and every time I walk into my office, I am reminded of their talent.

Congratulations to Mrs. Dutkiewicz and the young artists she has the pleasure of teaching.

HONORING SAUL RAMOS

HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate Saul Ramos from my hometown of Worcester, Massachusetts, who was recently named the 2017 National Education Association Education Support Professional, or ESP, of the year. This honor is awarded annually to the ESP who best demonstrates leadership in his or her classroom, school, and community.

Saul began his career in 1999 as a personal aide to a visually impaired kindergarten student. To allow this student to work on classroom materials alongside his peers, Saul taught himself to read and write in braille so he could transcribe these materials for his student. Saul continued to help this student for 12 years—supporting and encouraging him until he graduated from high school. In his current capacity as an ESP at Burncoat High School, Saul has taken it upon himself to integrate braille into the curriculum not only to help students with visual impairments, but also to allow other students to develop a stronger understanding of alternative learning methods.

Raised in both Puerto Rico and Worcester, Saul founded and now serves as the artistic director of a nonprofit called Arte Latino of New England to encourage Latinos in our community, especially those in their youth, to embrace their cultural heritage through art. Just one of his many creative initiatives aimed at helping Latino students to build confidence and embrace their roots, Saul wrote and produced a bilingual adaptation of ''Romeo and Juliet.''

Beyond the classroom, Saul is an incredible activist for teachers and students. He is the vice president of his local teachers union and is an active member on four committees of the Massachusetts Teachers Association, which recognized Saul as last year's most valuable educator in the state. Saul fights tirelessly for the rights of teachers and students. Nationally, Saul is a member of the National Education Association's Paraeducator Institute Working Group, the Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Committee, and is the Northeast regional director of the Hispanic Caucus.

Our public schools promise to provide equal educational opportunities for all students, no matter their race, religion, or ability. This promise relies on dedicated, compassionate ESPs like Saul Ramos. On behalf of the teachers and students of Worcester, Massachusetts, and those all across the country, I thank Saul Ramos for his commitment to this noble profession.

H.R. 1695, REGISTER OF COPYRIGHTS SELECTION AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak in opposition to the Register of Copyrights Selection and Accountability Act (H.R. 1695).

The Library of Congress has long been a repository for books, music, movies, photographs and other original works of art. In 1897, Congress recognized the need to protect these original works and the creators behind them, establishing the United States Copyright Office. The Copyright Office is housed within the Library and operates independently. It is led by the Register of Copyrights, a position that is appointed by the Librarian.

H.R. 1695 takes the appointment of the Register of Copyrights away from the Librarian of Congress, and instead makes it a political appointment by the President and confirmed by the Senate. This change would politicize the Library of Congress, the Librarian of Congress and the Register of Copyrights, and that is something I do not support.

Copyright industries are crucial to our economy, responsible for more than $1 trillion in GDP and employing more than 5 million people. If Congress wants to make meaningful improvements to the Copyright Office, we should address its technological limitations and need for modernization, and ensure it has the funding and resources needed to do that.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in opposing the Register of Copyrights Selection and Accountability Act (H.R. 1695).

150TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. JOSEPH'S HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the outstanding achievements of the St. Joseph's Healthcare System as they celebrated their 150th Anniversary on Monday, May 1, 2017.

On September 8, 1867, the sisters of Charity of St. Elizabeth opened the 12 bed St. Joseph's Hospital in a small wooden house on Church Street, in Paterson, New Jersey. After caring for 102 patients that year, the start of St. Joseph's Healthcare became known and appreciated.

Today we like to thank those Sisters and Dr. John Quinn for working together to create the start of St. Joseph's. Without them, and the hard workers that have followed in their footsteps, St. Joseph's would not be where it is today. I would like to look back to 1882, when St. Joseph's was only 15 years old, and the first surgery was performed. The saving of lives is something that not only me, but everyone in the 9th Congressional District is thankful for. Performing surgeries is something that a very select amount of people can do, and it is a job that I will forever be thankful for, especially when it is saving the lives of people.

The work of St. Joseph's never fails to have me amazed. The lives they help, and the lives they save is some of the most astonishing work, but it does not stop there. In 1895, St. Joseph's opened up their School of Nursing. They had their first graduating class of nine nurses in 1904, and have been training and preparing nurses ever since. St. Joseph's works hard every day to help these upcoming nurses be the best healthcare providers that they can possibly be. St. Joseph's is continuing to grow every single day, and thankfully they only grew for the better.

As technology advances, St. Joseph's has been able to advance their abilities as well. From one time being a little house on Church Street, I have watched St. Joseph's grow, and improve. After relocating and then expanding their equipment, staff, and resources, the St. Joseph's hospital has expanded to other towns like Wayne, New Jersey and are still growing and improving every day. Besides having a top of the line Children's hospital, they also have an Ambulatory Surgery Center in Paterson and one of the best emergency rooms in a hospital.

I have the great honor of representing the hard working people of St. Joseph's in Congress. This is a place where people work hard to support their family and their community, a place where the history is long and storied.

The job of a United States Congressman involves much that is rewarding, yet nothing compares to recognizing and commemorating 150 years of St. Joseph's Healthcare System.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues to celebrate 150 years of service, dedication, and excellence from the people of St. Joseph's Healthcare System.

IN RECOGNITION OF MRS. RAY'S 3RD GRADE CLASS

HON. DAVID A. TROTT

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Mr. TROTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the bright young artists in Mrs. Ray's 3rd grade class at Plymouth Christian Academy in Canton, Michigan.

I know that artists get their start long before high school and college, learning to expand their imagination and foster their creativity in classrooms just like Mrs. Ray's.

In an effort to highlight young artists from across Michigan's 11th Congressional District, this year, I announced the 1st Annual ''Color my Capitol'' Program.

Brimming with talent, Mrs. Ray's students were eager to showcase their amazing artistic skills and take part in this one-of-a-kind program.

Let me tell you, Mr. Speaker, Mrs. Ray's 3rd graders did not disappoint. Their creations are unique, innovative, and imaginative. Their colorful artwork embodies our country's bright and promising future with these sharp young minds leading the way.

It is my utmost honor to have their artwork displayed in my Congressional district office in Troy, Michigan for everyone who visits to enjoy. Each and every time I walk into my office, I am reminded of their talent.

Congratulations to Mrs. Ray and the young artists she has the pleasure of teaching.

IN TRIBUTE TO LORNA M. SHAWANO

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lorna M. Shawano who was Tribal Secretary for the Forest County Potawatomi Community for 26 years.

Ms. Shawano was involved in securing the approvals of the gaming compacts from the State of Wisconsin. The gaming compacts fostered the growth of the Forest County Potawatomi from operating a modest bingo hall to a nationally recognized entertainment center. During Ms. Shawano's tenure, the Potawatomi successfully developed a casino and hotel in Milwaukee. Today, Potawatomi Hotel & Casino welcomes more than 6 million guests annually and has 2,700 team members and eighty-five percent of those employees reside in Milwaukee County. It opened in 1991 as Potawatomi Bingo with a 2,500 seat bingo hall and approximately 300 team members. She is especially proud of their inclusive hiring practices. In fact, over half of the team members working at Potawatomi Hotel & Casino are minority.

Under her tenure as Secretary, the Forest County Potawatomi experienced tremendous economic growth and increased sovereignty. Ms. Shawano was involved with successful efforts to stop a proposed sulfide mine that would have polluted the Tribe's air, water and land; she also played a part in the 15 year successful efforts by the Tribe to obtain the sovereign right to protect the air over its reservation which involved multiple levels of government. Lorna also served on the Crandon Indian Education and Mining Impact Boards.

Ms. Shawano's work as Tribal Secretary with the rest of the Executive Council, and the Tribe as a whole, has made the Forest County Potawatomi Community into the strong, successful, and respected tribe that it is today. While Lorna will no longer serve as Tribal Secretary, the leadership she has shown over the years will allow the Forest County Potawatomi Tribe to continue to move forward.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Lorna Shawano, along with her 3 children and of 8 grandchildren. She has lived on the Stone Lake Reservation for nearly 45 years. I am proud to call her friend. The citizens of the Fourth Congressional District and the State of Wisconsin are privileged to have someone of her ability and dedicated service working so diligently for so many years. I am honored for these reasons to pay tribute to Lorna M. Shawano, for serving as Forest County Potawatomi Tribal Secretary for 26 years.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ''CULTIVATING REVITALIZATION BY EXPANDING AMERICAN AGRICULTURAL TRADE AND EXPORTS (CREAATE) ACT''

HON. DAN NEWHOUSE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce my legislation, the Cultivating Revitalization by Expanding American Agricultural Trade and Exports Act, or simply the ''CREAATE Act.'' For decades, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) export promotion programs have helped American farmers create, expand, and maintain access to foreign markets.

The goal of the CREAATE Act is simple—to reassert the importance of the Market Access Program (MAP) and Foreign Market Development Program (FMD) to America's agricultural producers and our economy as a whole. These important programs provide the U.S. agricultural community with the tools needed to retain its edge in an increasingly competitive global economy.

MAP and FMD are two of the most impactful USDA export promotion programs, and statutory funding each program has been static since the 2002 Farm Bill. However, those funds have been practically eroded in recent years by inflation, administrative costs, and sequestration. Meanwhile, America's competitors have ramped up their own export promotion programs, creating additional competition in the international marketplace. For example, the European Union spends more for the promotion of wine ($255.36 million in 2017 alone) than the U.S. spends on the promotion of all commodities through both the MAP and FMD programs. If this trend continues, American producers will be severely disadvantaged in the global marketplace.

Throughout their history, these successful public/private partnerships have cultivated hundreds of billions of dollars in exports, and created millions of American jobs, both in the agriculture sector and in support industries. Without these programs, it is very likely that the United States would not be the net agricultural exporter that we are today.

FIRST CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF NEW YORK OUR COMMUNITY SALUTES HONOREE LIST

HON. LEE M. ZELDIN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Mr. ZELDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay a special tribute to 42 exemplary young men and women from the First Congressional District of New York who have chosen to serve our country in various branches of the Armed Forces of the United States. These courageous individuals will be dedicating at least their immediate future to the security and welfare of their fellow citizens. I admire their strong sense of patriotism and desire to protect our values and make certain we remain the great nation we are today.

Each of the following students has my deepest appreciation for their service to this country and I ask my colleagues to join me in personally recognizing:

US Army, Liam Clifton, Bellport High School; US Army, Alejandro Freire, William Floyd High School; US Army, Marcus Glenn, Longwood High School; US Army, Francisco Hernandez, Bellport High School; US Army, Brandon Lech, Bellport High School; US Army, Bailey Meyer, Eastport South Manor High School; US Army, Robert Napadano, William Floyd High School; US Army, Julio Robles, Longwood High School; US Army, Bryan Staker, Longwood High School; US Army, Nicholas Vallejos, Bellport High School; US Army, Jenna Vaughn, Bellport High School; US Army, Aaron Vogel, Eastport South Manor High School; US Army, James Welsh, Patchogue-Medford High School.

US Marines, Chris Ballas, William Floyd High School; US Marines, Thomas Callaghan, Longwood High School; US Marines, Tyler Cerce, Longwood High School; US Marines, Shane Hobel, William Floyd High School; US Marines, Freddy Kaucky, William Floyd High School; US Marines, Matt Lovett, William Floyd High School; US Marines, Bryan Lucero, Patchogue-Medford High School; US Marines, Brandon Maher, Patchogue-Medford High School; US Marines, Kevin Mardjani, Center Moriches High School; US Marines, Joselino Molina, Center Moriches High School; US Marines, Shaun Muller, Patchogue-Medford High School; US

Marines, Andrew Passaro, William Floyd High School; US Marines, Gerardo Perez, Longwood High School; US Marines, Steven Rice, William Floyd High School; US Marines, Vinny Roxburgh, William Floyd High School; US Marines, Joseph Slawinski, Center Moriches High School; US Marines, Gareth Walsh, Center Moriches High School; US Marines, Carlie Wegley, William Floyd High School.

US Navy, Samantha Braband, Patchogue-Medford High School; US Navy, Tyler Classic, Longwood High School; US Navy, Matthew Fields, Patchogue-Medford High School; US Navy, Noah Giron, Bellport High School; US Navy, Saniya Joyner, William Floyd High School; US Navy, Quincy Morgenstond, William Floyd High School; US Navy, Darrion Negron, Bellport High School; US Navy, Matthew Pfisterer, Bellport High School; US Navy, Gabriel Schrage, Center Moriches High School.

US Air Force, Isaiah Tavarez, Longwood High School.

Air National Guard, Mike Insogna, Eastport South Manor High School.

These enlistees will be recognized on May 18, 2017 during the third annual ''Our Community Salutes Brookhaven Town Enlistee Ceremony'' at Sunset Harbor in Patchogue, NY.

Mr. Speaker, we should be extremely grateful as both a people and nation to each and every one of these individuals. Their call to duty cannot be underscored or admired enough and it is my distinct honor and privilege to represent them and their families in the First Congressional District of New York. I wish them the best of luck in their respective branches and in all of their future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF MRS. BARES'S 3RD GRADE CLASS

HON. DAVID A. TROTT

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Mr. TROTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the bright young artists in Mrs. Bares's 3rd grade class at Houghton Elementary in White Lake, Michigan.

I know that artists get their start long before high school and college, learning to expand their imagination and foster their creativity in classrooms just like Mrs. Bares's.

In an effort to highlight young artists from across Michigan's 11th Congressional District, this year, I announced the 1st Annual ''Color my Capitol'' Program.

Brimming with talent, Mrs. Bares's students were eager to showcase their amazing artistic skills and take part in this one-of-a-kind program.

Let me tell you, Mr. Speaker, Mrs. Bares's 3rd graders did not disappoint. Their creations are unique, innovative, and imaginative. Their colorful artwork embodies our country's bright and promising future with these sharp young minds leading the way.

It is my utmost honor to have their artwork displayed in my Congressional district office in Troy, Michigan for everyone who visits to enjoy. Each and every time I walk into my office, I am reminded of their talent.

Congratulations to Mrs. Bares and the young artists she has the pleasure of teaching.

IN RECOGNITION OF CAPTAIN PATRICK LYNN PATTY AS THE ROBERT JACKSON EURY MEMORIAL AWARD RECIPIENT

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Kannapolis Police Captain Patrick Lynn Patty for receiving the Robert Jackson Eury Memorial Award.

A native of North Carolina, Captain Patty has served with the Kannapolis Police Department in North Carolina's 8th Congressional District since 1994. Throughout his career, Captain Patty has served as a Patrol Officer, Field Trainer, Patrol Sergeant, Patrol Lieutenant, Field Operation Bureau Captain and now commands the Support Services Bureau. Captain Patty's outstanding leadership and commitment in these roles for the Kannapolis Police Department made him stand out in our community. Additionally, Captain Patty put his life on the line for our nation, serving four years as an Airborne Infantry Officer in the 82nd Airborne Division of the US Army.

This award is presented in memory of Robert Jackson Eury, a man who lost his life in line of duty while serving as a Carbarrus County law enforcement officer. This award keeps Mr. Eury's legacy alive through officers who share his same admirable and commendable spirit in Cabarrus County. Based on his career of service, I would say Captain Patty fits the mold of esteemed law enforcement officers in our community set by Robert Eury.

There is no doubt in my mind that Captain Patty will continue his outstanding leadership and maintain his unwavering values while protecting the people of Cabarrus County. I am excited to see what the future holds for such a dedicated officer.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in congratulating Captain Patrick Patty as the Robert Jackson Eury Memorial Award recipient and wish him well as he continues to make a positive difference in the lives of others.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE HONORABLE FRANK WOLF

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege for me to use this time to honor my former boss and mentor, the Honorable Frank Wolf, who has dedicated much of his life to public service as he represented the people of Virginia's 10th Congressional District for 34 years.

Congressman Frank Wolf was at the forefront of many important issues for over three decades. He was a leader in bringing metro rail to Dulles and worked in a bipartisan manner on numerous transportation initiatives. He also assumed a leading role in addressing the mounting problem of gang violence in Northern Virginia and helped secure funding for the Northern Virginia Regional Gang Task Force. And while he clearly played a crucial and prominent role in a variety of issues affecting the Commonwealth of Virginia, arguably, his most signature achievements have stemmed from his leadership on humanitarian issues abroad.

He has been a tireless and zealous crusader for oppressed religious minorities and was the conscience of the Congress on human rights and religious liberty. As co-chair of the bipartisan House Human Rights Caucus, Congressman Wolf made it his mission to be the voice of the voiceless and shed light upon the plight of millions of people persecuted because of their religion. Since departing from Congress, Mr. Wolf has continued to carry the torch of religious freedom, with his passionate advocacy, as he leads the 21st Century Wilberforce Initiative to create a world where religious freedom is recognized by nations across the globe as a fundamental human right.

Congressman Wolf's efforts to raise awareness for the voiceless also extended to the innocent victims of human trafficking. In Congress, he worked with local elected officials and law enforcement agencies in the Commonwealth in spearheading initiatives to eradicate human trafficking. He also took steps to educate the public about this largely unknown problem and increase community involvement in aiding the victims of these horrific crimes. In recognition of these valiant strides, he was selected as the 2014 Lifetime Pathbreaker Award recipient.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring the legacy of Congressman Wolf, as we recognize his many contributions. We cannot thank him enough for services he provided to the Commonwealth of Virginia and to our country. I look forward to his continued contributions in promoting religious freedom and I wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

HONORING ADINA & LAWRENCE GARBUZ

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor two people who have left an indelible mark on the New Rochelle community, Adina and Lawrence Garbuz. This year, Young Israel of New Rochelle are honoring Adina and Lawrence for all they have done on behalf of the community, and you cannot find two individuals more deserving of the honor.

Whether to YINR, SAR or most importantly their family, Adina and Lawrence demonstrate by example what it means to help others. They moved to New Rochelle in 2002 and immediately became involved in the YINR community. In addition to currently serving on the YINR Executive Board as Treasurer, Adina has held multiple positions in all areas of our shul. Adina has served as Women's League President and Treasurer after being involved in the New Mother's committee as well as more than once spearheading the mishloach

manot project. Her sound advice and perspective made her a perfect choice for the Board, and Executive Board.

Lawrence has also found his own way to connect to YINR, forging a strong friendship and learning partnership with Rabbi Fink as well as attending for many years daf yomi. He also assisted the Men's Club, helped organize the very successful Saturday night ping pong tournaments and for many years distributed mishloach manot in Brooklyn. He is also often called upon to handle sensitive matters for our members who are need of his professional expertise.

In addition to Adina and Lawrence's commitment to YINR, they are supporters of their alma mater Cardozo Law School, the Bronx Jewish Community Council, and the Joint Distribution Committee. But their strongest commitment is to their four children Ella, Liav, Jonah and Eva whom they raise with their strong values of giving to others and to one's community.

Adina and Lawrence have shown a tireless dedication to both YINR and the neighborhood. On this special occasion, I want to take the opportunity to thank them for that tireless effort, and congratulate them on receiving this most distinguished honor.

IN RECOGNITION OF MRS. GEYER'S 3RD GRADE CLASS

HON. DAVID A. TROTT

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Mr. TROTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the bright young artists in Mrs. Geyer's 3rd grade class at All Saints Catholic School in Canton, Michigan.

I know that artists get their start long before high school and college, learning to expand their imagination and foster their creativity in classrooms just like Mrs. Geyer's.

In an effort to highlight young artists from across Michigan's 11th Congressional District, this year, I announced the 1st Annual ''Color my Capitol'' Program.

Brimming with talent, Mrs. Geyer's students were eager to showcase their amazing artistic skills and take part in this one-of-a-kind program.

Let me tell you, Mr. Speaker, Mrs. Geyer's 3rd graders did not disappoint. Their creations are unique, innovative, and imaginative. Their colorful artwork embodies our country's bright and promising future with these sharp young minds leading the way.

It is my utmost honor to have their artwork displayed in my Congressional district office in Troy, Michigan for everyone who visits to enjoy. Each and every time I walk into my office, I am reminded of their talent.

Congratulations to Mrs. Geyer and the young artists she has the pleasure of teaching.

WILL THE HONG KONG MODEL SURVIVE (AN ASSESSMENT 20 YEARS AFTER THE HANDOVER)

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, earlier today, I made the following remarks at the hearing held by the Congressional-Executive Commission on China which I co-chair with Senator MARCO RUBIO regarding human rights in Hong Kong:

Two and half years ago, tens of thousands of Hong Kong's residents peacefully gathered in the streets, yellow umbrellas in hand, seeking electoral reform and greater democracy.

Joshua Wong was at the forefront of that movement—along with Nathan Law and Alex Chow and so many young student leaders. The Umbrella Movement was not only composed of students, but included veterans of the democracy movement in Hong Kong, including Martin Lee.

It is good to see Joshua and Martin here today, bringing together the generations of advocates committed to Hong Kong's freedom and autonomy.

Joshua Wong and all those associated with the Umbrella Movement have become important symbols of Hong Kong's vitality and its freedoms. They are now part of Hong Kong's unique brand and any effort to detain, censor, or intimidate them damages that brand.

Over the past two years, Senator RUBIO and I, along with other members of the China Commission, have introduced the Hong Kong Human Rights and Democracy Act and we have worked in Congress to maintain the State Department's annual report on Hong Kong.

We have issued statements of concern about the political prosecutions of Joshua and other Umbrella Movement leaders; the unprecedented interventions by the Chinese government in Hong Kong's courts and political affairs, and the abductions Hong Kong booksellers and other citizens.

We have also discussed the erosion of Hong Kong's autonomy and freedoms with both U.S. and Chinese officials.

I want to commend Senator RUBIO for his leadership on human rights issues and on Hong Kong. We have worked together closely and I am honored to work with him on the China Commission. Senator RUBIO is a true champion of the globe's oppressed and persecuted.

As long as I have the privilege of serving as a Chair of the China Commission, I promise to continue shining a light on Hong Kong. Maintaining Hong Kong's autonomy is a critical U.S. interest. The U.S. also has a clear interest in Beijing abiding by its international agreements—in Hong Kong and elsewhere.

The democratic aspirations of the people of Hong Kong cannot be indefinitely suppressed. I promise to stand with Hong Kong and call attention to violations of basic human rights as long as I serve in Congress.

Though Beijing's increasingly rough oversight of Hong Kong may not be as brutal as that pursued on the Mainland, it is no less pernicious. The ultimate goal is eroding Hong Kong's guaranteed freedoms and the rule law and intimidating those who try to defend them.

This year will be the 20th anniversary of the handover of Hong Kong. Unfortunately it seems the territory's autonomy looks increasingly fragile.

We are coming up on another anniversary as well, the 25th anniversary of the Hong Kong Policy Act.

At this juncture we should be examining both the health of the ''one country, two systems'' model and examining the very assumptions that underlie U.S.-Hong Kong relations. What can be done differently, what new priorities should be set?

The Hong Kong Policy Act of 1992 was based on the assumption that freedom, the rule of law, and autonomy promised to Hong Kong would be protected and respected.

It was also based on the assumption that time was on the side of freedom—that trade and investment would eventually bring political liberalization and human rights to Mainland China.

As Chairman RUBIO and I have been saying for some time, one can no longer base U.S. policy on the ''fantasy'' that China's future will be more democratic and more open.

Mainland China has become more repressive, not less. Prosperity has turned a poor authoritarian country into a rich authoritarian country with predictable results for China's rights defenders, ethnic and religious groups, labor and democracy advocates, foreign businesses and Hong Kong's autonomy.

Some will argue that the best course of action would be to retreat into a hard realism, recognize China's interests and spheres of influence and protect U.S. interests. We could ignore what is happening in Hong Kong and shift responsibility to the British or some undefined international body.

I disagree.

We don't need a new realism to govern our China policy. Instead, we need a new idealism—a renewed commitment to democratic ideals, to human rights, and the rule of law in ways that compete directly with the Chinese model in Asia and Africa and elsewhere.

Chinese leaders need to know that the United States stands for freedom of expression, the freedom of religion, Internet freedom, the rule of law, universal suffrage, and an end to torture as critical interests, necessary for bilateral relations, and linked to the expansion of mutual prosperity and integrated security.

The U.S. should also push back hard against the erosion of freedom and autonomy in Hong Kong.

It is in everyone's interest that Hong Kong remain a free and prosperous bridge between China and the West, but the city's unique vitality and prosperity are rooted in its guaranteed freedoms. If Hong Kong is to become just another Mainland Chinese city, we will have to reassess whether Hong Kong warrants special status under U.S. law.

The arc of history does not bend toward justice without concerted action from all freedom-loving peoples. If the U.S. and the international community does not defend the rights and freedoms of Hong Kong's citizens now, there is little hope that freedom can take root in China's future.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, May 4, 2017 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MAY 8

2:30 p.m.
Committee on the Judiciary
Subcommittee on Crime and Terrorism
To hold hearings to examine Russian interference in the 2016 United States election.
SD–226

MAY 9

9:30 a.m.
Committee on Armed Services
To hold hearings to examine United States Cyber Command; with the possibility of a closed session in SVC–217, following the open session.
SD–G50

10 a.m.
Committee on Finance
To hold hearings to examine the Children's Health Insurance Program, focusing on the path forward.
SD–215

2:30 p.m.
Committee on Armed Services
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of David L. Norquist, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary (Comptroller), Robert Daigle, of Virginia, to be Director of Cost Assessment and Program Evaluation, and Elaine McCusker, of Virginia, to be a Principal Deputy Under Secretary, all of the Department of Defense.
SD–G50
Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Subcommittee on Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine Infrastructure, Safety and Security
To hold hearings to examine maritime transportation, focusing on opportunities and challenges for the Maritime Administration and Federal Maritime Commission.
SR–253
Committee on Environment and Public Works
Subcommittee on Transportation and Infrastructure
To hold hearings to examine water resources, focusing on the role of the public and private sectors.
SD–406

MAY 10

10 a.m.
Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
Subcommittee on National Security and International Trade and Finance
To hold hearings to examine secondary sanctions against Chinese institutions, focusing on assessing their utility for constraining North Korea.
SD–538
Committee on Environment and Public Works
To hold hearings to examine state views on the need to modernize the Endangered Species Act.
SD–406
Committee on Foreign Relations
Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere, Transnational Crime, Civilian Security, Democracy, Human Rights, and Global Women's Issues
To hold hearings to examine emerging external influences in the Western Hemisphere.
SD–419
Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
Business meeting to consider S. 934, to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to revise and extend the user-fee programs for prescription drugs, medical devices, generic drugs, and biosimilar biological products, and an original bill entitled, ''Recognize, Assist, Include, Support, and Engage (RAISE) Family Caregivers Act''.
SD–G50
Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
To hold hearings to examine cyber threats facing America, focusing on an overview of the cybersecurity threat landscape.
SD–342
Committee on the Judiciary
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Steven Andrew Engel, of the District of Columbia, and Makan Delrahim, of California, both to be an Assistant Attorney General, and Noel J. Francisco, of the District of Columbia, to be Solicitor General of the United States, all of the Department of Justice.
SD–226

10:30 a.m.
Committee on the Budget
To hold hearings to examine growth policies for the new Administration.
SD–608

2:30 p.m.
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
Subcommittee on Water and Power
To hold hearings to examine S. 440, to establish a procedure for the conveyance of certain Federal property around the Dickinson Reservoir in the State of North Dakota, S. 677, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to coordinate Federal and State permitting processes related to the construction of new surface water storage projects on lands under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture and to designate the Bureau of Reclamation as the lead agency for permit processing, S. 685, to authorize the Dry-Redwater Regional Water Authority System and the Musselshell-Judith Rural Water System in the States of Montana and North Dakota, S. 930, to require the Administrator of the Western Area Power Administration to establish a pilot project to provide increased transparency for customers, S. 1012, to provide for drought preparedness measures in the State of New Mexico, S. 1029, to amend the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 to exempt certain small hydroelectric power projects that are applying for relicensing under the Federal Power Act from the licensing requirements of that Act, and S. 1030, to require the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to submit to Congress a report on certain hydropower projects.
SD–366
Committee on Indian Affairs
To hold hearings to examine S. 772, to amend the PROTECT Act to make Indian tribes eligible for AMBER Alert grants, and S. 825, to provide for the conveyance of certain property to the Southeast Alaska Regional Health Consortium located in Sitka, Alaska.
SD–628
Committee on the Judiciary
Subcommittee on Crime and Terrorism
To hold hearings to examine law enforcement access to data stored across borders, focusing on facilitating cooperation and protecting rights.
SD–226
Committee on Veterans' Affairs
To hold hearings to examine the Veterans Choice Program and the future of care in the community.
SR–418
Special Committee on Aging
To hold hearings to examine aging with community, focusing on building connections that last a lifetime.
SD–562

3 p.m.
Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship
To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Althea Coetzee, of Virginia, to be Deputy Administrator of the Small Business Administration.
SR–428A

MAY 17

2:30 p.m.
Committee on Indian Affairs
To hold hearings to examine the Government Accountability Office's high risk list for Indian programs.
SD–628