

mathematics (STEM) fundamental research and related education;

Whereas an excellent STEM higher-education system is critical to the development of a robust and inclusive U.S. STEM workforce and to U.S. global science and engineering preeminence;

Whereas Congress and President Harry S. Truman created the National Science Foundation (NSF), an independent Federal agency, 62 years ago specifically to advance scientific discovery and innovation through the Nation's basic research and STEM education infrastructure;

Whereas fundamental research supported by NSF across all scientific disciplines have resulted in many significant contributions to Americans' health and security, as well as to technological innovation and U.S. economic prosperity;

Whereas advances in knowledge are made possible by researchers who focus on the fundamental properties of nature, and who mentor and educate the next generation of scientists and engineers;

Whereas 60 years ago, NSF purposefully created the Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP) as an instrument to prepare the Nation's reservoir of science and engineering talent;

Whereas the GRFP, the country's oldest graduate fellowship program, supports outstanding graduate students pursuing masters and doctoral degrees in research at accredited U.S. institutions;

Whereas the GRFP has contributed to the development of outstanding U.S. scholars, entrepreneurs, teachers, mentors, and inventors who continue to support and promote the Nation's science and engineering enterprise and the next generation of scientists and engineers;

Whereas this flagship program helps maintain high-quality and highly skilled graduates who enter the Nation's STEM workforce prepared to innovate and collaborate in the global scientific arena;

Whereas NSF has funded more than 46,500 competitive graduate research fellows with selection criteria based on the intellectual merit of their research and its potential broader impacts for society;

Whereas of the more than 200 NSF-supported Nobel laureates, 40 were selected as graduate research fellows, and more than 440 graduate research fellows have become members of the National Academy of Sciences;

Whereas graduate research fellows have an exceptionally high rate of doctorate completion;

Whereas since 2001, graduate research fellows have filed more than 1,000 patents while working toward their graduate degrees, thus contributing directly to scientific advancement and discovery;

Whereas since 2007, 1145 graduate research fellows were selected from Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research jurisdictions; and

Whereas NSF's GRFP continues to be an essential component of the Nation's discovery and innovation ecosystem, and is instrumental in STEM workforce development: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commemorates the 60th anniversary of the Graduate Research Fellowship Program of the National Science Foundation; and

(2) continues to recognize U.S. STEM graduate education as central to U.S. workforce competitiveness and our country's international leadership and economic prosperity.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 3310. Mr. CARDIN (for Mr. KERRY (for himself, Mr. LUGAR, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr.

INHOFE, and Mr. DEMINT)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 3331, to provide for universal intercountry adoption accreditation standards, and for other purposes.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 3310. Mr. CARDIN (for Mr. KERRY (for himself, Mr. LUGAR, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. INHOFE, and Mr. DEMINT)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 3331, to provide for universal intercountry adoption accreditation standards, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Inter-country Adoption Universal Accreditation Act of 2012".

SEC. 2. UNIVERSAL ACCREDITATION REQUIREMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The provisions of title II and section 404 of the Intercountry Adoption Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 14901 et seq.), and related implementing regulations, shall apply to any person offering or providing adoption services in connection with a child described in section 101(b)(1)(F) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(b)(1)(F)), to the same extent as they apply to the offering or provision of adoption services in connection with a Convention adoption. The Secretary of State, the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Attorney General (with respect to section 404(b) of the Intercountry Adoption Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 14944)), and the accrediting entities shall have the duties, responsibilities, and authorities under title II and title IV of the Intercountry Adoption Act of 2000 and related implementing regulations with respect to a person offering or providing such adoption services, irrespective of whether such services are offered or provided in connection with a Convention adoption.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The provisions of this section shall take effect 18 months after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(c) TRANSITION RULE.—This Act shall not apply to a person offering or providing adoption services as described in subsection (a) in the case of a prospective adoption in which—

(1) an application for advance processing of an orphan petition or petition to classify an orphan as an immediate relative for a child is filed before the date that is 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act; or

(2) the prospective adoptive parents of a child have initiated the adoption process with the filing of an appropriate application in a foreign country sufficient such that the Secretary of State is satisfied before the date that is 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 3. AVAILABILITY OF COLLECTED FEES FOR ACCREDITING ENTITIES.

(a) Section 403 of the Intercountry Adoption Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 14943) is amended by striking subsection (c).

(b) REPORT REQUIREMENT.—Section 202(b) of the Intercountry Adoption act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 14922(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(5) REPORT ON USE OF FEDERAL FUNDING.—Not later than 90 days after an accrediting entity receives Federal funding authorized by section 403, the entity shall submit a report to the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives that describes—

"(A) the amount of such funding the entity received; and

"(B) how such funding was, or will be, used by the entity."

SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act, the terms "accrediting entity", "adoption service", "Convention adoption", and "person" have the meanings given those terms in section 3 of the Intercountry Adoption Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 14902).

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR AND PENSIONS

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on December 5, 2012.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON AFRICAN AFFAIRS

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on December 5, 2012, at 9 a.m., to hold a African Affairs subcommittee hearing entitled, "Assessing Developments in Mali: Restoring Democracy and Reclaiming the North."

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

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the following members of Senator BAUCUS's staff be granted floor privileges during the consideration of H.R. 6156: Lisa Pearlman, Rebecca Nolan, Heather Sykes, Owen Haacke, and Dan West.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that a detailee to the Committee on Banking, Housing, Urban Affairs, Catherine Topping, be granted the privileges of the floor for the remainder of this session.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. WICKER. Mr. President, on behalf of the Senator from Maryland, Mr. CARDIN, I ask unanimous consent that floor privileges be granted to Kyle Parker, a staff member on the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe—also known as the Helsinki Commission, which Senator CARDIN co-chairs—during Senate consideration of H.R. 6156.

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

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Steven Garrett, Christopher Hanna, Shawn Novak, Lauren Felice, and Richard Chovanec of the Finance Committee be granted the privilege of the floor for the duration of Senate consideration of H.R. 6156 and for the remainder of this session of Congress.

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

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that an intern from

Senator MERKLEY's office, Phillip Hah, be granted privileges of the floor for the remainder of the day.

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

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013

On Tuesday, November 4, 2012, the Senate passed S. 3254, as follows:
S. 3254

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013".

SEC. 2. ORGANIZATION OF ACT INTO DIVISIONS; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) DIVISIONS.—This Act is organized into seven divisions as follows:

(1) Division A—Department of Defense Authorizations.

(2) Division B—Military Construction Authorizations.

(3) Division C—Department of Energy National Security Authorizations and Other Authorizations.

(4) Division D—Funding Tables.

(5) Division E—Housing Assistance for Veterans.

(6) Division F—Stolen Valor Act.

(7) Division G—Miscellaneous.

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

Sec. 1. Short title.

Sec. 2. Organization of Act into divisions; table of contents.

Sec. 3. Congressional defense committees.

Sec. 4. Scoring of budgetary effects.

DIVISION A—DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AUTHORIZATIONS

TITLE I—PROCUREMENT

Subtitle A—Authorization of Appropriations

Sec. 101. Authorization of appropriations.

Subtitle B—Army Programs

Sec. 111. Multiyear procurement authority for Army CH-47F helicopters.

Subtitle C—Navy Programs

Sec. 121. Refueling and complex overhaul of the U.S.S. Abraham Lincoln.

Sec. 122. Ford class aircraft carriers.

Sec. 123. Limitation on availability of amounts for second Ford class aircraft carrier.

Sec. 124. Multiyear procurement authority for Virginia class submarine program.

Sec. 125. Multiyear procurement authority for Arleigh Burke class destroyers and associated systems.

Sec. 126. Authority for relocation of certain AEGIS weapon system assets between and within the DDG-51 class destroyer and AEGIS Ashore programs in order to meet mission requirements.

Sec. 127. Designation of mission modules of the Littoral Combat Ship as a major defense acquisition program.

Sec. 128. Transfer of certain fiscal year 2012 Procurement of Ammunition, Navy and Marine Corps funds.

Sec. 129. Transfer of certain fiscal year 2012 Procurement, Marine Corps funds for procurement of weapons and combat vehicles.

Sec. 130. Sense of Congress on Marine Corps amphibious lift and presence requirements.

Sec. 131. Sense of Senate on Department of Navy fiscal year 2014 budget request for tactical aviation aircraft.

Sec. 132. SPIDERNet/Spectral Warrior Hardware.

Subtitle D—Air Force Programs

Sec. 141. Reduction in number of aircraft required to be maintained in strategic airlift aircraft inventory.

Sec. 142. Treatment of certain programs for the F-22A Raptor aircraft as major defense acquisition programs.

Sec. 143. Avionics systems for C-130 aircraft.

Sec. 144. Procurement of space-based infrared system satellites.

Sec. 145. Transfer of certain fiscal year 2011 and 2012 funds for Aircraft Procurement for the Air Force.

Subtitle E—Joint and Multiservice Matters

Sec. 151. Multiyear procurement authority for V-22 joint aircraft program.

Sec. 152. Limitation on availability of funds for full-rate production of Handheld, Manpack, and Small Form/Fit radios under the Joint Tactical Radio System program.

Sec. 153. Shallow Water Combat Submersible program.

Sec. 154. AC-130 aircraft electro-optical and infrared sensors.

TITLE II—RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST, AND EVALUATION

Subtitle A—Authorization of Appropriations

Sec. 201. Authorization of appropriations.

Subtitle B—Program Requirements, Restrictions, and Limitations

Sec. 211. Next Generation Foundry for the Defense Microelectronics Activity.

Sec. 212. Advanced rotorcraft initiative.

Sec. 213. Transfer of certain fiscal year 2012 Navy research, development, test, and evaluation funds.

Sec. 214. Authority for Department of Defense laboratories to enter into education partnerships with educational institutions in United States territories and possessions.

Sec. 215. Transfer of certain fiscal year 2012 Air Force research, development, test, and evaluation funds.

Sec. 216. Relocation of C-band radar from Antigua to H.E. Holt Station in Western Australia to enhance space situational awareness capabilities.

Sec. 217. Detailed Digital Radio Frequency Modulation Countermeasures Studies and Simulations.

Subtitle C—Missile Defense Matters

Sec. 231. Homeland ballistic missile defense.

Sec. 232. Regional ballistic missile defense.

Sec. 233. Missile defense cooperation with Russia.

Sec. 234. Next generation Exo-atmospheric Kill Vehicle.

Sec. 235. Modernization of the Patriot air and missile defense system.

Sec. 236. Medium Extended Air Defense System.

Sec. 237. Availability of funds for Iron Dome short-range rocket defense program.

Sec. 238. Readiness and flexibility of intercontinental ballistic missile force.

Sec. 239. Sense of Congress on the submittal to Congress of the homeland defense hedging policy and strategy report of the Secretary of Defense.

Subtitle D—Reports

Sec. 251. Mission Packages for the Littoral Combat Ship.

Sec. 252. Comptroller General of the United States annual reports on the acquisition program for the Amphibious Combat Vehicle.

Sec. 253. Conditional requirement for report on amphibious assault vehicles for the Marine Corps.

Subtitle E—Other Matters

Sec. 271. Transfer of administration of Ocean Research and Resources Advisory Panel from Department of the Navy to National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Sec. 272. Sense of Senate on increasing the cost-effectiveness of training exercises for members of the Armed Forces.

TITLE III—OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

Subtitle A—Authorization of Appropriations

Sec. 301. Operation and maintenance funding.

Subtitle B—Energy and Environmental Provisions

Sec. 311. Department of Defense guidance on environmental exposures at military installations.

Sec. 312. Funding of agreements under the Sikes Act.

Sec. 313. Report on property disposals and additional authorities to assist local communities around closed military installations.

Subtitle C—Logistics and Sustainment

Sec. 321. Repeal of certain provisions relating to depot-level maintenance.

Sec. 322. Expansion and reauthorization of multi-trades demonstration project.

Sec. 323. Rating chains for system program managers.

Subtitle D—Reports

Sec. 331. Annual report on Department of Defense long-term corrosion strategy.

Sec. 332. Modified deadline for Comptroller General review of annual report on prepositioned materiel and equipment.

Subtitle E—Other Matters

Sec. 341. Savings to be achieved in civilian workforce and contractor employee workforce of the Department of Defense.

Sec. 342. NATO Special Operations Headquarters.

Sec. 343. Repeal of redundant authority to ensure interoperability of law enforcement and emergency responder training.

Sec. 344. Sense of the Congress on Navy Fleet requirements.

TITLE IV—MILITARY PERSONNEL AUTHORIZATIONS

Subtitle A—Active Forces

Sec. 401. End strengths for active forces.

Sec. 402. Additional Marine Corps personnel for the Marine Corps Security Guard Program.

Subtitle B—Reserve Forces

Sec. 411. End strengths for Selected Reserve.

Sec. 412. End strengths for Reserves on active duty in support of the Reserves.

Sec. 413. End strengths for military technicians (dual status).

Sec. 414. Fiscal year 2013 limitation on number of non-dual status technicians.