

added as cosponsors of S. Res. 116, a resolution condemning the Assad regime for its continued use of chemical weapons against the Syrian people.

S. RES. 118

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 118, a resolution condemning hate crime and any other form of racism, religious or ethnic bias, discrimination, incitement to violence, or animus targeting a minority in the United States.

#### STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. DAINES (for himself and Mrs. MCCASKILL):

S. 886. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish an Acquisition Review Board in the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, the Department of Homeland Security, DHS, is tasked with keeping Americans safe in the homeland. To carry out this mission, DHS spends over \$7 billion on acquisition programs annually. DHS and its agencies are held to a high standard for keeping our Nation safe. We also must hold it to a high standard of fiscal responsibility. DHS must be good stewards of taxpayer resources.

DHS's acquisition process has long faced problems resulting in waste, delays, and under delivery of performance objectives. Since the inception of DHS, the Government Accountability Office, GAO, has highlighted challenges and offered recommendations to improve the acquisition process. There has been progress; however, there continues to be room for improvement. According to a GAO report released today, DHS's acquisition process remains a high-risk issue, susceptible to cost overruns and schedules delays. These issues reduce buying power and force security employees to wait for new capabilities. This is not fair to those on the front lines tasked with keeping us safe and it is not fair to the American taxpayers.

I spent 28 years in the private sector. I know when tough business decisions need to be made, you convene a board that brings with it a breadth of experience and a deep understanding of strategic objectives and goals.

That is why I am introducing the OHS Acquisition Review Board Act of 2017. This legislation will create a review board within the Department to strengthen accountability and uniformity across all agencies and the entire acquisition process, ensure long term strategic objectives are met, and ensure the use of industry-proven best practices.

I thank Senator MCCASKILL for being an original cosponsor of this bill and Representatives THOMAS GARRETT and MICHAEL MCCAUL for leading introduction of companion legislation in the

House of Representatives. I ask my Senate colleagues to join us in support of this important legislation.

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

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

S. 886

*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 "DHS Acquisition Review Board Act of 2017".

#### SEC. 2. ACQUISITION REVIEW BOARD.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle D of title VIII of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 391 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

##### "SEC. 836. ACQUISITION REVIEW BOARD.

"(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

"(1) ACQUISITION.—The term 'acquisition' has the meaning given the term in section 131 of title 41, United States Code.

"(2) ACQUISITION DECISION AUTHORITY.—The term 'acquisition decision authority' means the authority, held by the Secretary acting through the Deputy Secretary or Under Secretary for Management to—

"(A) ensure compliance with Federal law, the Federal Acquisition Regulation, and Department acquisition management directives;

"(B) review (including approving, pausing, modifying, or cancelling) an acquisition program through the life cycle of the program;

"(C) ensure that acquisition program managers have the resources necessary to successfully execute an approved acquisition program;

"(D) ensure good acquisition program management of cost, schedule, risk, and system performance of the acquisition program at issue, including assessing acquisition program baseline breaches and directing any corrective action for such breaches; and

"(E) ensure that acquisition program managers, on an ongoing basis, monitor cost, schedule, and performance against established baselines and use tools to assess risks to an acquisition program at all phases of the life cycle of such program to avoid and mitigate acquisition program baseline breaches.

"(3) ACQUISITION DECISION EVENT.—The term 'acquisition decision event', with respect to an acquisition program, means a predetermined point within each of the acquisition phases at which the acquisition decision authority determines whether the acquisition program shall proceed to the next acquisition phase.

"(4) ACQUISITION DECISION MEMORANDUM.—The term 'acquisition decision memorandum', with respect to an acquisition, means the official acquisition decision event record that includes a documented record of decisions, exit criteria, and assigned actions for the acquisition, as determined by the person exercising acquisition decision authority for the acquisition.

"(5) ACQUISITION PROGRAM.—The term 'acquisition program' means the process by which the Department acquires, with any appropriated amounts, by contract for purchase or lease, property or services (including construction) that support the missions and goals of the Department.

"(6) ACQUISITION PROGRAM BASELINE.—The term 'acquisition program baseline', with respect to an acquisition program, means a summary of the cost, schedule, and performance parameters, expressed in standard,

measurable, quantitative terms, which must be met in order to accomplish the goals of such program.

"(7) BEST PRACTICES.—The term 'best practices', with respect to acquisition, means a knowledge-based approach to capability development that includes—

"(A) identifying and validating needs;

"(B) assessing alternatives to select the most appropriate solution;

"(C) clearly establishing well-defined requirements;

"(D) developing realistic cost assessments and schedules;

"(E) securing stable funding that matches resources to requirements;

"(F) demonstrating technology, design, and manufacturing maturity;

"(G) using milestones and exit criteria or specific accomplishments that demonstrate progress;

"(H) adopting and executing standardized processes with known success across programs;

"(I) establishing an adequate workforce that is qualified and sufficient to perform necessary functions; and

"(J) integrating the capabilities described in subparagraphs (A) through (I) into the mission and business operations of the Department.

"(8) BOARD.—The term 'Board' means the Acquisition Review Board required to be established under subsection (b).

"(9) MAJOR ACQUISITION PROGRAM.—The term 'major acquisition program' means a Department acquisition program that is estimated by the Secretary to require an eventual total expenditure of not less than \$300,000,000 (based on fiscal year 2017 constant dollars) over the life cycle cost of the acquisition program.

"(b) ESTABLISHMENT OF BOARD.—The Secretary shall establish an Acquisition Review Board to—

"(1) strengthen accountability and uniformity within the Department acquisition review process;

"(2) review major acquisition programs; and

"(3) review the use of best practices.

"(c) COMPOSITION.—

"(1) CHAIRPERSON.—The Under Secretary for Management shall serve as chairperson of the Board.

"(2) OTHER MEMBERS.—The Secretary shall ensure participation by other relevant Department officials, including not fewer than 2 component heads or their designees, as permanent members of the Board.

"(d) MEETINGS.—

"(1) REGULAR MEETINGS.—The Board shall meet regularly for purposes of ensuring all acquisitions processes proceed in a timely fashion to achieve mission readiness.

"(2) OTHER MEETINGS.—The Board shall convene—

"(A) at the discretion of the Secretary; and

"(B) at any time—

"(i) a major acquisition program—

"(I) requires authorization to proceed from one acquisition decision event to another throughout the acquisition life cycle;

"(II) is in breach of the approved requirements of the major acquisition program; or

"(III) requires additional review, as determined by the Under Secretary for Management; or

"(ii) a non-major acquisition program requires review, as determined by the Under Secretary for Management.

"(e) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The responsibilities of the Board are as follows:

"(1) Determine whether a proposed acquisition has met the requirements of key phases of the acquisition life cycle framework and is able to proceed to the next phase and eventual full production and deployment.

“(2) Oversee whether the business strategy, resources, management, and accountability of a proposed acquisition is executable and is aligned to strategic initiatives.

“(3) Support the person with acquisition decision authority for an acquisition in determining the appropriate direction for the acquisition at key acquisition decision events.

“(4) Conduct systematic reviews of acquisitions to ensure that the acquisitions are progressing in compliance with the approved documents for their current acquisition phases.

“(5) Review the acquisition documents of each major acquisition program, including the acquisition program baseline and documentation reflecting consideration of trade-offs among cost, schedule, and performance objectives, to ensure the reliability of underlying data.

“(6) Ensure that practices are adopted and implemented to require consideration of trade-offs among cost, schedule, and performance objectives as part of the process for developing requirements for major acquisition programs prior to the initiation of the second acquisition decision event, including, at a minimum, the following practices:

“(A) Department officials responsible for acquisition, budget, and cost estimating functions are provided with the appropriate opportunity to develop estimates and raise cost and schedule matters before performance objectives are established for capabilities when feasible.

“(B) Full consideration is given to possible trade-offs among cost, schedule, and performance objectives for each alternative.

“(f) ACQUISITION PROGRAM BASELINE REPORT REQUIREMENT.—If the person exercising acquisition decision authority over a major acquisition program approves the major acquisition program to proceed into the planning phase before the major acquisition program has a Department-approved acquisition program baseline—

“(1) the Under Secretary for Management shall create and approve an acquisition program baseline report regarding such approval; and

“(2) the Secretary shall—

“(A) not later than 7 days after the date on which the acquisition decision memorandum is signed, notify in writing the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate of the decision; and

“(B) not later than 60 days after the date on which the acquisition decision memorandum is signed, submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a report stating the rationale for such decision and a plan of action to require an acquisition program baseline for such program.

“(g) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this section and every year thereafter through fiscal year 2022, the Under Secretary for Management shall provide information to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate on the activities of the Board for the prior fiscal year that includes information relating to the following:

“(1) For each meeting of the Board, any acquisition decision memoranda.

“(2) Results of the systematic reviews conducted under subsection (e)(4).

“(3) Results of acquisition document reviews required under subsection (e)(5).

“(4) Activities to ensure that practices are adopted and implemented throughout the Department under subsection (e)(6).”

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 101 et seq.) is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 835 the following:

“Sec. 836. Acquisition Review Board.”.

By Mr. DAINES (for himself and Mrs. MCCASKILL):

S. 887. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to require a multiyear acquisition strategy for the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, the Department of Homeland Security, DHS, is tasked with keeping Americans safe in the homeland. To carry out this mission, DHS spends over \$7 billion on acquisition programs annually. DHS and its agencies are held to a high standard for keeping our Nation safe. We also must hold it to a high standard of fiscal responsibility. DHS must be good stewards of taxpayer resources.

DHS's acquisition process has long faced problems resulting in waste, delays, and under delivery of performance objectives. Since the inception of DHS, the Government Accountability Office, GAO, has highlighted challenges and offered recommendations to improve the acquisition process. There has been progress; however, there continues to be room for improvement. According to a GAO report released today, DHS's acquisition process remains a high-risk issue, susceptible to cost overruns and schedule delays. These issues reduce buying power and force security employees to wait for new capabilities. This is not fair to those on the frontlines tasked with keeping us safe, and it is not fair to the American taxpayers.

That is why I am introducing the DHS Multiyear Acquisition Strategy Act of 2017. This legislation will require DHS to develop a multiyear acquisition plan to guide the overall direction of the Department's acquisitions, across all agencies, and include it annually in the Department's budget request to Congress. It will create a Departmentwide prioritized list of investment, to ensure limited resources are being directed to the highest valued use.

This legislation will increase communication internal to DHS, as well as with industry and with academia, to help identify current capability gaps and future technological needs. It also includes private sector principles, such as developing incentives for program managers to exceed project cost, schedule, and capabilities goals. I have seen these principles work during my 28-year private sector career, and it is long past due that we apply them to government. We must move away from the “spend it or lose it” mentality of government budgeting.

I thank Senator CLAIRE MCCASKILL for being an original cosponsor of this

bill and Representatives BRIAN FITZPATRICK and MICHAEL MCCAUL for leading introduction of companion legislation in the House of Representatives. I ask my Senate colleagues to join us in support of this important legislation.

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

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

S. 887

*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 “DHS Multiyear Acquisition Strategy Act of 2017”.

#### SEC. 2. MULTIYEAR ACQUISITION STRATEGY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle D of title VIII of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 391 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

##### “SEC. 836. MULTIYEAR ACQUISITION STRATEGY.

“(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

“(1) ACQUISITION.—The term ‘acquisition’ has the meaning given the term in section 131 of title 41, United States Code.

“(2) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—The term ‘appropriate committees of Congress’ has the meaning given the term in section 226(a).

“(3) BEST PRACTICES.—The term ‘best practices’, with respect to acquisition, means—

“(A) a knowledge-based approach to capability development that includes identifying and validating needs;

“(B) assessing alternatives to select the most appropriate solution;

“(C) clearly establishing well-defined requirements;

“(D) developing realistic cost assessments and schedules;

“(E) securing stable funding that matches resources to requirements;

“(F) demonstrating technology, design, and manufacturing maturity;

“(G) using milestones and exit criteria or specific accomplishments that demonstrate progress;

“(H) adopting and executing standardized processes with known success across programs;

“(I) establishing an adequate workforce that is qualified and sufficient to perform necessary functions; and

“(J) integrating the capabilities described in subparagraphs (A) through (I) into the mission and business operations of the Department.

“(4) COMPONENT ACQUISITION EXECUTIVE.—The term ‘Component Acquisition Executive’ means the senior acquisition official within a component who is designated in writing by the Under Secretary for Management, in consultation with the component head, with authority and responsibility for leading a process and staff to provide acquisition and program management oversight, policy, and guidance to ensure that statutory, regulatory, and higher level policy requirements are fulfilled, including compliance with Federal law, the Federal Acquisition Regulation, and Department acquisition management directives established by the Under Secretary for Management.

“(5) MAJOR ACQUISITION PROGRAM.—The term ‘major acquisition program’ means an acquisition program of the Department that is estimated by the Secretary to require an eventual total expenditure of not less than \$300,000,000 (based on fiscal year 2017 constant dollars) over the life cycle cost of the program.

“(b) MULTIYEAR ACQUISITION STRATEGY REQUIRED.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress and the Comptroller General of the United States a multiyear acquisition strategy to—

“(A) guide the overall direction of the acquisitions of the Department while allowing flexibility to deal with ever-changing threats and risks; and

“(B) help industry better understand, plan, and align resources to meet the future acquisition needs of the Department.

“(2) UPDATES.—The strategy required under paragraph (1) shall be updated and included in each Future Years Homeland Security Program required under section 874.

“(3) FORM.—The Secretary shall—

“(A) submit the strategy required under paragraph (1) in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex for any sensitive or classified information if necessary; and

“(B) publish the strategy required under paragraph (1) in an unclassified format that is publicly available.

“(c) CONSULTATION.—In developing the strategy required under subsection (b), the Secretary shall, as the Secretary determines appropriate, consult with headquarters, components, employees in the field, and individuals from industry and the academic community.

“(d) CONTENTS OF STRATEGY.—The strategy required under subsection (b) shall include the following:

“(1) PRIORITIZED LIST.—A systematic and integrated prioritized list developed by the Under Secretary for Management in coordination with all of the Component Acquisition Executives of major acquisition programs that Department and component acquisition investments seek to address, including the expected security and economic benefit of the program or system that is the subject of acquisition and an analysis of how the security and economic benefit derived from the program or system will be measured.

“(2) INVENTORY.—A plan to develop a reliable Department-wide inventory of investments and real property assets to help the Department—

“(A) plan, budget, schedule, and acquire upgrades of the systems and equipment of the Department; and

“(B) plan for the acquisition and management of future systems and equipment.

“(3) FUNDING GAPS.—A plan to address funding gaps between funding requirements for major acquisition programs and known available resources, including, to the maximum extent practicable, ways of leveraging best practices to identify and eliminate overpayment for items to—

“(A) prevent wasteful purchasing;

“(B) achieve the greatest level of efficiency and cost savings by rationalizing purchases;

“(C) align pricing for similar items; and

“(D) utilize purchase timing and economies of scale.

“(4) IDENTIFICATION OF CAPABILITIES.—An identification of test, evaluation, modeling, and simulation capabilities that will be required to—

“(A) support the acquisition of technologies to meet the needs of the strategy;

“(B) leverage to the greatest extent possible emerging technological trends and research and development trends within the public and private sectors; and

“(C) identify ways to ensure that appropriate technology is acquired and integrated into the operating doctrine of the Department to improve mission performance.

“(5) FOCUS ON FLEXIBLE SOLUTIONS.—An assessment of ways the Department can im-

prove the ability of the Department to test and acquire innovative solutions to allow needed incentives and protections for appropriate risk-taking in order to meet the acquisition needs of the Department with resiliency, agility, and responsiveness to assure homeland security and facilitate trade.

“(6) FOCUS ON INCENTIVES TO SAVE TAXPAYER DOLLARS.—An assessment of ways the Department can develop incentives for program managers and senior acquisition officials of the Department to—

“(A) prevent cost overruns;

“(B) avoid schedule delays; and

“(C) achieve cost savings in major acquisition programs.

“(7) FOCUS ON ADDRESSING DELAYS AND BID PROTESTS.—An assessment of ways the Department can improve the acquisition process to minimize cost overruns in—

“(A) requirements development;

“(B) procurement announcements;

“(C) requests for proposals;

“(D) evaluations of proposals;

“(E) protests of decisions and awards; and

“(F) the use of best practices.

“(8) FOCUS ON IMPROVING OUTREACH.—An identification and assessment of ways to increase opportunities for communication and collaboration with industry, small and disadvantaged businesses, intra-government entities, university centers of excellence, accredited certification and standards development organizations, and national laboratories to ensure that the Department understands the market for technologies, products, and innovation that is available to meet the mission needs of the Department and to inform the requirements-setting process of the Department before engaging in an acquisition, including—

“(A) methods designed especially to engage small and disadvantaged businesses, a cost-benefit analysis of the tradeoffs that small and disadvantaged businesses provide, information relating to barriers to entry for small and disadvantaged businesses, and information relating to unique requirements for small and disadvantaged businesses; and

“(B) within the Department Vendor Communication Plan and Market Research Guide, instructions for interaction by acquisition program managers with those entities to—

“(i) prevent misinterpretation of acquisition regulations; and

“(ii) permit, within legal and ethical boundaries, interacting with those entities with transparency.

“(9) COMPETITION.—A plan regarding competition under subsection (e).

“(10) ACQUISITION WORKFORCE.—A plan regarding the Department acquisition workforce under subsection (f).

“(e) COMPETITION PLAN.—The strategy required under subsection (b) shall include a plan to address actions to ensure competition, or the option of competition, for major acquisition programs, which may include assessments of the following measures in appropriate cases if the measures are cost effective:

“(1) Competitive prototyping.

“(2) Dual-sourcing.

“(3) Unbundling of contracts.

“(4) Funding of next generation prototype systems or subsystems.

“(5) Use of modular, open architectures to enable competition for upgrades.

“(6) Acquisition of complete technical data packages.

“(7) Periodic competitions for subsystem upgrades.

“(8) Licensing of additional suppliers, including small businesses.

“(9) Periodic system or program reviews to address long-term competitive effects of program decisions.

“(f) ACQUISITION WORKFORCE PLAN.—

“(1) ACQUISITION WORKFORCE.—The strategy required under subsection (b) shall include a plan to address Department acquisition workforce accountability and talent management that—

“(A) identifies the acquisition workforce needs of each component performing acquisition functions; and

“(B) develops options for filling those needs with qualified individuals, including a cost-benefit analysis of contracting for acquisition assistance.

“(2) ADDITIONAL MATTERS COVERED.—The acquisition workforce plan under this subsection shall address ways to—

“(A) improve the recruitment, hiring, training, and retention of Department acquisition workforce personnel, including contracting officers' representatives, in order to retain highly qualified individuals who have experience in the acquisition life cycle, complex procurements, and management of large programs;

“(B) empower program managers to have the authority to manage their programs in an accountable and transparent manner as such managers work with the acquisition workforce;

“(C) prevent duplication within Department acquisition workforce training and certification requirements through leveraging existing training within the Federal Government, academic community, or private industry;

“(D) achieve integration and consistency with Government-wide training and accreditation standards, acquisition training tools, and training facilities;

“(E) designate the acquisition positions that will be necessary to support the acquisition requirements of the Department, including in the fields of—

“(i) program management;

“(ii) systems engineering;

“(iii) procurement, including contracting;

“(iv) test and evaluation;

“(v) life cycle logistics;

“(vi) cost estimating and program financial management; and

“(vii) additional disciplines appropriate to the mission needs of the Department;

“(F) strengthen the performance of contracting officers' representatives (as defined in subpart 1.602-2 and subpart 2.101 of the Federal Acquisition Regulation), including by—

“(i) assessing the extent to which those representatives are certified and receive training that is appropriate;

“(ii) assessing what training is most effective with respect to the type and complexity of assignment; and

“(iii) implementing actions to improve training based on those assessments; and

“(G) identify ways to increase training for relevant investigators and auditors of the Department to examine fraud in major acquisition programs, including identifying opportunities to leverage existing Federal Government and private sector resources in coordination with the Inspector General of the Department.”.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (Public Law 107-296; 116 Stat. 2135) is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 835 the following:

“Sec. 836. Multiyear acquisition strategy.”.

#### SEC. 3. GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE REVIEW OF MULTIYEAR ACQUISITION STRATEGY.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

(1) the terms “acquisition”, “best practices”, and “major acquisition program” have the meanings given those terms in section 836 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as added by section 2 of this Act; and

(2) the term "Department" means the Department of Homeland Security.

(b) REVIEW.—Not later than 180 days after the date on which the Secretary of Homeland Security submits the first multiyear acquisition strategy required under section 836 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as added by section 2 of this Act, after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a review of the strategy and analyze the viability of the effectiveness of the strategy in—

(1) complying with the requirements of such section 836;

(2) establishing clear connections between Department objectives and acquisition priorities;

(3) demonstrating that Department acquisition policy reflects program management best practices and standards;

(4) ensuring competition or the option of competition for major acquisition programs;

(5) considering potential cost savings through using existing technologies when developing acquisition program requirements;

(6) preventing duplication within Department acquisition workforce training requirements through leveraging already-existing training within the Federal Government, academic community, or private industry; and

(7) providing incentives for acquisition program managers to reduce acquisition and procurement costs through the use of best practices and disciplined program management.

(c) REPORT.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives a report on the review conducted under subsection (b), which shall be submitted in unclassified form but may include a classified annex.

## SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

### SENATE RESOLUTION 119—REQUIRING AUTHORIZING COMMITTEES TO HOLD ANNUAL HEARINGS ON GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE INVESTIGATIVE REPORTS ON THE IDENTIFICATION, CONSOLIDATION, AND ELIMINATION OF DUPLICATIVE GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS

Mr. GARDNER (for himself and Mr. PETERS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:

S. RES. 119

*Resolved,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This resolution may be cited as the "Congressional Oversight to Start Taxpayer Savings Resolution" or the "COST Savings Resolution".

#### SEC. 2. REQUIRING COMMITTEE HEARINGS ON GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE REPORTS.

(a) DUPLICATION REPORTS.—Not later than 90 days after the date on which the Comptroller General of the United States transmits each annual report to Congress identifying programs, agencies, offices, and initiatives with duplicative goals and activities within the Government under section 21 of the Joint Resolution entitled "Joint Resolu-

tion increasing the statutory limit on the public debt" (Public Law 111-139; 31 U.S.C. 712 note), each standing committee of the Senate (except the Committee on Appropriations) with jurisdiction over any such program, agency, office, or initiative covered by that report shall conduct hearings on the recommendations for consolidation and elimination of such program, agency, office, or initiative.

(b) HIGH RISK LIST.—Not later than 90 days after the date on which the Comptroller General of the United States publishes a High Risk List, or any successor thereto, each standing committee of the Senate (except the Committee on Appropriations) with jurisdiction over any agency or program area on the High Risk List shall conduct hearings on the vulnerabilities to fraud, waste, abuse, and mismanagement, or need for transformation, of the agency or program area.

(c) JOINT HEARINGS.—For any program, agency, office, initiative, or program area over which more than 1 standing committee of the Senate (except the Committee on Appropriations) has jurisdiction, to the extent determined beneficial and appropriate by the Chairmen of the committees, the committees may hold joint hearings under subsection (a) or (b).

### SENATE RESOLUTION 120—DESIGNATING APRIL 20, 2017, AS "NATIONAL ALTERNATIVE FUEL VEHICLE DAY"

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

S. RES. 120

Whereas the United States should reduce dependence on foreign oil and enhance energy security by creating a transportation sector that is less dependent on oil;

Whereas the United States should improve the air quality of the country by reducing emissions from the millions of motor vehicles that operate in the United States;

Whereas the United States should foster national expertise and technological advancement in the development of cleaner, more energy-efficient alternative fuel vehicles and advanced technology vehicles;

Whereas a robust domestic industry for alternative fuels, alternative fuel vehicles, and advanced technology vehicles will create jobs and increase the competitiveness of the United States in the international community;

Whereas the people of the United States need more options for clean and energy-efficient transportation;

Whereas the mainstream adoption of alternative fuel vehicles and advanced technology vehicles will produce benefits at the local, national, and international levels;

Whereas consumers and businesses require a better understanding of the benefits of alternative fuel vehicles and advanced technology vehicles;

Whereas numerous audiences, such as first responders, require comprehensive training to become fully prepared for any precautionary measures for working with alternative fuel vehicles and advanced technology vehicles; and

Whereas the Federal Government can lead the way toward a cleaner and more efficient transportation sector by choosing alternative fuel vehicles and advanced technology vehicles for the fleets of the Federal Government: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates April 20, 2017, as "National Alternative Fuel Vehicle Day";

(2) proclaims National Alternative Fuel Vehicle Day as a day to promote programs and activities that will lead to the greater use of cleaner, more efficient transportation that uses new sources of energy; and

(3) urges the people of the United States—

(A) to increase the personal and commercial use of cleaner and energy-efficient alternative fuel vehicles and advanced technology vehicles;

(B) to promote public sector adoption of cleaner and energy-efficient alternative fuel vehicles and advanced technology vehicles; and

(C) to encourage the adoption of Federal policies to reduce the dependence of the United States on foreign oil through the advancement and adoption of alternative, advanced, and emerging vehicle and fuel technologies.

### SENATE RESOLUTION 121—DESIGNATING APRIL 11, 2017, AS THE "NATIONAL BIRTHDAY OF THE U.S. NAVY SUBMARINE FORCE"

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

S. RES. 121

Whereas, for 117 years, the broad strategic and tactical advantages created by the submarine force of the Navy (referred to in this preamble as the "Submarine Force") have enhanced the national security of the United States through undersea missions;

Whereas, over the course of the last 11 decades, the submarines of the Navy have advanced through 4 generations;

Whereas the Navy first acquired a commissioned submarine, the USS Holland (SS-1), on April 11, 1900;

Whereas the first generation submarines of the Navy rapidly evolved from small, limited-capability submersibles to a dominant force in naval warfare;

Whereas the second generation submarines of the Navy, defined by the heroes of World War II, made a decisive difference in a war in which control of the sea was crucial;

Whereas the third generation submarines of the Navy, defined by the Cold War and the use of nuclear power, helped prevent a nuclear world war and secured the interests of the United States;

Whereas the modern, fourth generation submarines of the Navy use long-range sensors and weapons to stay ahead of global threats and preserve freedom of navigation in the global maritime environment;

Whereas, in 2017, the Submarine Force consists of 52 attack, 14 ballistic missile, and 4 guided missile submarines that enable the Navy to win wars, prevent conflicts, and defeat threats posed by terrorists;

Whereas, throughout the history of the Submarine Force, the 1 constant has been the tremendous character, courage, and dedication of the men and women who maintain, equip, and train and fight in the submarines of the Navy; and

Whereas April 11, 2017, marks the 117th birthday of the Submarine Force and is an appropriate date to designate as the "National Birthday of the U.S. Navy Submarine Force": Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates April 11, 2017, as the "National Birthday of the U.S. Navy Submarine Force"; and

(2) acknowledges the critical role that the men and women of the submarine force of the Navy fulfill in defending the United States.