

S. 2051

At the request of Mr. BENNET, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2051, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to modernize the physician self-referral prohibitions to promote care coordination in the merit-based incentive payment system and to facilitate physician practice participation in alternative payment models under the Medicare program, and for other purposes.

S. 2169

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2169, a bill to establish a new higher education data system to allow for more accurate, complete, and secure data on student retention, graduation, and earnings outcomes, at all levels of postsecondary enrollment, and for other purposes.

S. 2252

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2252, a bill to amend the Animal Health Protection Act to support State and Tribal efforts to develop and implement management strategies to address chronic wasting disease among deer, elk, and moose populations, to support research regarding the causes of chronic wasting disease and methods to control the further spread of the disease, and for other purposes.

S. 2432

At the request of Mr. DONNELLY, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2432, a bill to amend the charter of the Future Farmers of America, and for other purposes.

S. 2568

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2568, a bill to amend section 5000A of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide an additional religious exemption from the individual health coverage mandate, and for other purposes.

S. 2572

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2572, a bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to address and take action to prevent bullying and harassment of students.

S. 2745

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2745, a bill to establish a grant program to provide assistance to prevent and repair damage to structures due to pyrrhotite.

S. 2823

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cospon-

sor of S. 2823, a bill to modernize copyright law, and for other purposes.

S. 2852

At the request of Mr. BURR, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2852, a bill to reauthorize certain programs under the Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Reauthorization Act.

S. 2918

At the request of Ms. HARRIS, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2918, a bill to amend the Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 1993 to protect civil rights and otherwise prevent meaningful harm to third parties, and for other purposes.

S. 2940

At the request of Mr. SCOTT, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2940, a bill to provide for the consideration of a definition of anti-Semitism for the enforcement of Federal anti-discrimination laws concerning education programs or activities.

S. 2957

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2957, a bill to amend the Horse Protection Act to designate additional unlawful acts under the Act, strengthen penalties for violations of the Act, improve Department of Agriculture enforcement of the Act, and for other purposes.

S. 2971

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2971, a bill to amend the Animal Welfare Act to prohibit animal fighting in the United States territories.

S. 3020

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. DONNELLY) were added as cosponsors of S. 3020, a bill to establish in the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor of the Department of State a Special Envoy for the Human Rights of LGBTI Peoples, and for other purposes.

S. 3163

At the request of Mr. BURR, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) and the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) were added as cosponsors of S. 3163, a bill to amend the Intercountry Adoption Act of 2000 to require the Secretary of State to report on intercountry adoptions from countries which have significantly reduced adoption rates involving immigration to the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 3194

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3194, a bill to amend the Patient Protection and Affordable Care

Act to cap prescription drug cost-sharing, and for other purposes.

S. 3298

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. GARDNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3298, a bill to extend the authority of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, Inc., to establish a visitor center for the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

S. 3369

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the names of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) were added as cosponsors of S. 3369, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act, the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require that group and individual health insurance coverage and group health plans provide coverage for treatment of a congenital anomaly or birth defect.

S. 3440

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) and the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) were added as cosponsors of S. 3440, a bill to require the Bureau of Economic Analysis of the Department of Commerce to provide estimates relating to the distribution of aggregate economic growth across specific percentile groups of income.

S. 3449

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3449, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain tax credits related to electric cars, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 220

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 220, a resolution expressing solidarity with Falun Gong practitioners who have lost lives, freedoms, and rights for adhering to their beliefs and practices and condemning the practice of non-consenting organ harvesting, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 610

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 610, a resolution urging the release of information regarding the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks upon the United States.

S. RES. 626

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 626, a resolution designating September 2018 as "National Voting Rights Month".

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Ms. HASSAN):

S. 3464. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to authorize the Secretary of Homeland Security to establish a continuous diagnostics and mitigation program at the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

Mr. CORNYN. 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. 3464

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 “Advancing Cybersecurity Diagnostics and Mitigation Act”.

SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF CONTINUOUS DIAGNOSTICS AND MITIGATION PROGRAM IN DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 230 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 151) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(g) CONTINUOUS DIAGNOSTICS AND MITIGATION.—

“(1) PROGRAM.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall deploy, operate, and maintain a continuous diagnostics and mitigation program. Under such program, the Secretary shall—

“(i) develop and provide the capability to collect, analyze, and visualize information relating to security data and cybersecurity risks;

“(ii) make program capabilities available for use, with or without reimbursement;

“(iii) employ shared services, collective purchasing, blanket purchase agreements, and any other economic or procurement models the Secretary determines appropriate to maximize the costs savings associated with implementing an information system;

“(iv) assist entities in setting information security priorities and managing cybersecurity risks; and

“(v) develop policies and procedures for reporting systemic cybersecurity risks and potential incidents based upon data collected under such program.

“(B) REGULAR IMPROVEMENT.—The Secretary shall regularly deploy new technologies and modify existing technologies to the continuous diagnostics and mitigation program required under subparagraph (A), as appropriate, to improve the program.

“(2) ACTIVITIES.—In carrying out the continuous diagnostics and mitigation program under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall ensure, to the extent practicable, that—

“(A) timely, actionable, and relevant cybersecurity risk information, assessments, and analysis are provided in real time;

“(B) share the analysis and products developed under such program;

“(C) all information, assessments, analyses, and raw data under such program is made available to the national cybersecurity and communications integration center of the Department; and

“(D) provide regular reports on cybersecurity risks.”.

(b) CONTINUOUS DIAGNOSTICS AND MITIGATION STRATEGY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall develop a comprehensive continuous

diagnostics and mitigation strategy to carry out the continuous diagnostics and mitigation program required under subsection (g) of section 230 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 151), as added by subsection (a).

(2) SCOPE.—The strategy required under paragraph (1) shall include the following:

(A) A description of the continuous diagnostics and mitigation program, including efforts by the Secretary of Homeland Security to assist with the deployment of program tools, capabilities, and services, from the inception of the program referred to in paragraph (1) to the date of the enactment of this Act.

(B) A description of the coordination required to deploy, install, and maintain the tools, capabilities, and services that the Secretary of Homeland Security determines to be necessary to satisfy the requirements of such program.

(C) A description of any obstacles facing the deployment, installation, and maintenance of tools, capabilities, and services under such program.

(D) Recommendations and guidelines to help maintain and continuously upgrade tools, capabilities, and services provided under such program.

(E) Recommendations for using the data collected by such program for creating a common framework for data analytics, visualization of enterprise-wide risks, and real-time reporting.

(F) Recommendations for future efforts and activities, including for the rollout of new tools, capabilities and services, proposed timelines for delivery, and whether to continue the use of phased rollout plans, related to securing networks, devices, data, and information technology assets through the use of such program.

(3) FORM.—The strategy required under subparagraph (A) shall be submitted in an unclassified form, but may contain a classified annex.

(c) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the development of the strategy required under subsection (b), the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives a report on cybersecurity risk posture based on the data collected through the continuous diagnostics and mitigation program under subsection (g) of section 230 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 151), as added by subsection (a).

By Mr. JONES (for himself, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. WARREN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. BENNET, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. HARRIS, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. SMITH, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. UDALL, Mr. COONS, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. TESTER, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 3467. A bill to permanently reauthorize mandatory funding programs for historically Black colleges and universities and other minority-serving institutions; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. JONES. Mr. President, I rise today to talk about an issue that, quite frankly, I do not think gets enough attention on the floor of the Senate or on

the floor of the House of Representatives, and that is the state of historically Black colleges and universities, or, as they are commonly known, HBCUs.

Alabama is home to 14 of these institutions, the most of any State in the country. With all due respect to my colleagues, we don't just have the most HBCUs. I believe we have the best.

Tuskegee University is the only HBCU with a college of veterinary medicine. The school produces over 75 percent of African-American veterinarians in the world. It has also just hired its first female university president, Dr. Lily McNair.

Alabama A&M University is the only 1890 land grant university offering four Ph.D. programs. It is also the leading producer of African Americans with Ph.Ds in physics.

Oakwood University is the Nation's fifth highest producer of undergraduate African-American applicants to our country's medical schools.

Alabama State University, whose president, my friend Dr. Quinton Ross, has joined us in the Gallery today, is home to the National Center for the Study of Civil Rights and African-American Culture. ASU is currently doing preservation work on some never-before-seen documents, such as court pleadings, bond documents, and other official papers that are connected to the Montgomery bus boycott.

Lawson State Community College was also named a Champion of Change in 2011 by then-President Barack Obama.

There are over 100 accredited HBCUs today across the country, both public and private. They are in 19 States, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. They enroll approximately 300,000 students—80 percent of whom are African American and 70 percent of whom are from low-income families.

While HBCUs only make up 3 percent of the country's colleges and universities today, they produce nearly 20 percent of all African-American graduates. Among HBCU graduates, there are countless trailblazing Americans who have, quite literally, changed the course of our Nation's history: Dr. Martin Luther King, Thurgood Marshall, Marian Wright Edelman, Langston Hughes, Katherine Johnson, amongst so many others.

According to the National Science Foundation, between 2002 and 2011, the top eight institutions at which African-American Ph.Ds in science and engineering earned their bachelor's degrees were all HBCUs. HBCUs annually generate \$14.8 billion in economic impact and add more than 134,000 jobs for local and regional economies, and 2014 Alabama HBCU graduates can expect total earnings of \$130 billion over their lifetimes.

I could go on and on with these remarkable statistics for these remarkable colleges and universities. For all of these incredible achievements, though—for every achievement I have

just named—HBCUs in Alabama and across the country are working against the strong headwinds of serious financial struggles.

The Government Accountability Office recently investigated the capital finance needs of HBCUs at the request of my colleagues Senator PATTY MURRAY and Senator CASEY, also of Congressman BOBBY SCOTT and Congressman G.K. BUTTERFIELD. The report estimates that 46 percent of all HBCU buildings are in need of replacement or repair. This is due to deferred maintenance, the evolution of higher education and technology, and the fact that many of these buildings are State or federally registered historic places. For example, Tuskegee University is designated as a National Historic Site by Congress. That is a remarkable figure—46 percent—of all buildings in need of repair or replacement. It is one that, I hope, all of my colleagues will agree is wholly unacceptable.

This is not a surprise, though, for those who understand the challenges these institutions have long faced. HBCUs lack a plethora of revenue sources. Public HBCUs rely heavily on State and Federal grants, appropriations, and bonds. Private HBCUs have to rely on private or alumni giving and tuition and fees. On top of that, the GAO found that an HBCU's average endowment is half the size of a similarly sized non-HBCU. That is half the size not of all non-HBCUs but half the size of similarly situated non-HBCUs.

None of the 90 institutions of higher education in this country with endowments greater than \$1 billion is an HBCU. This results in an endless cycle for these schools that have contributed so greatly to our country and the talented students they serve. With their limited revenue resources and the discrimination they face in the bond market, it is difficult to maintain campus buildings that attract higher enrollment. Lower enrollment just leads to even less tuition and fewer fees that are collected by each institution. Thus, the cycle continues.

I didn't just come to talk about the problems our HBCUs face without offering some type of solution. I introduce today the Strengthening Minority-Serving Institutions Act, which will permanently extend and increase Federal funds to all minority-serving institutions. These Federal funds are currently set to expire after fiscal year 2019.

My bill goes beyond just supporting HBCUs and is inclusive of other minority-serving schools, like those that primarily admit Asian Americans, Pacific Islanders, Alaska Natives and Native Hawaiians, Native Americans, and Hispanic Americans, among others. With this legislation, we will increase mandatory funding from \$255 million to \$300 million for each of these institutions. They will be able to put that money to good use for infrastructure improvements, technology upgrades, and other critical needs that have gone unfulfilled.

While I had hoped we could make this a bipartisan effort, I haven't yet heard back from any of my Republican colleagues. My Republican colleagues represent a fair share of these institutions, and I hope we will still gain some support from across the aisle and move this bill through the Senate.

This bill will not solve all of the challenges HBCUs face—all of the challenges they are working so hard to overcome. Yet I submit it is a step in the right direction. More importantly, it is the right thing to do for these schools that are part of the very foundation of our higher education system in Alabama and across the country.

By Mr. ISAKSON (for himself and Mr. TESTER):

S. 3479. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend certain expiring provisions of law administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; considered and passed.

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the “Department of Veterans Affairs Expiring Authorities Act of 2018”.

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

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
Sec. 2. References to title 38, United States Code.

TITLE I—EXTENSIONS OF AUTHORITY

Subtitle A—Health Care Matters

- Sec. 101. Extension of authority for collection of copayments for hospital care and nursing home care.
Sec. 102. Extension of requirement to provide nursing home care to certain veterans with service-connected disabilities.
Sec. 103. Removal of authorization of appropriations to provide assistance and support services for caregivers.
Sec. 104. Making permanent authority for recovery from third parties of cost of care and services furnished to veterans with health-plan contracts for non-service-connected disability.
Sec. 105. Extension of authority for transfer of real property.
Sec. 106. Extension of authority for pilot program on assistance for child care for certain veterans receiving health care.
Sec. 107. Extension of authority to make grants to veterans service organizations for transportation of highly rural veterans.
Sec. 108. Extension of authority for pilot program on counseling in retreat settings for women veterans newly separated from service.
Sec. 109. Extension of temporary expansion of payments and allowances for beneficiary travel in connection with veterans receiving care from vet centers.

Subtitle B—Benefits Matters

- Sec. 121. Making permanent authority for temporary expansion of eligibility for specially adapted housing assistance for certain veterans with disabilities causing difficulty ambulating.

- Sec. 122. Extension of authority for specially adapted housing assistive technology grant program.
Sec. 123. Making permanent authority to guarantee payment of principal and interest on certificates or other securities.
Sec. 124. Making permanent authority for calculating net value of real property at time of foreclosure.
Sec. 125. Extension of authority relating to vendee loans.
Sec. 126. Making permanent authority to provide rehabilitation and vocational benefits to members of the Armed Forces with severe injuries or illnesses.
Sec. 127. Extension of authority to enter into agreement with the National Academy of Sciences regarding associations between diseases and exposure to dioxin and other chemical compounds in herbicides.

Subtitle C—Homeless Veterans Matters

- Sec. 141. Extension of authority for homeless veterans reintegration programs.
Sec. 142. Extension of authority for homeless women veterans and homeless veterans with children reintegration program.
Sec. 143. Extension of authority for referral and counseling services for veterans at risk of homelessness transitioning from certain institutions.
Sec. 144. Extension of authority for treatment and rehabilitation services for seriously mentally ill and homeless veterans.
Sec. 145. Extension of authority for financial assistance for supportive services for very low-income veteran families in permanent housing.
Sec. 146. Extension of authority for grant program for homeless veterans with special needs.
Sec. 147. Extension of authority for the Advisory Committee on Homeless Veterans.

Subtitle D—Other Matters

- Sec. 161. Extension of authority for transportation of individuals to and from Department of Veterans Affairs facilities.
Sec. 162. Extension of authority for operation of the Department of Veterans Affairs regional office in Manila, the Republic of the Philippines.
Sec. 163. Extension of authority for monthly assistance allowances under the Office of National Veterans Sports Programs and Special Events.
Sec. 164. Extension of requirement to provide reports to Congress regarding equitable relief in the case of administrative error.
Sec. 165. Extension of authorization of appropriations for adaptive sports programs for disabled veterans and members of the armed forces.
Sec. 166. Extension of authority for Advisory Committee on Minority Veterans.

TITLE II—IMPROVEMENT OF HEALTH CARE FROM DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

- Sec. 201. Treatment of modifications of contracts under Veterans Community Care program.

- Sec. 202. Modification of provision requiring recognition and acceptance, on an interim basis, of credentials and qualifications of health care providers under community care program.
- Sec. 203. Expansion of coverage of Veterans Care Agreements.
- Sec. 204. Modification of authority for deduction of overpayments for health care.
- Sec. 205. Modification of eligibility of former members of the Armed Forces for mental and behavioral health care from the Department of Veterans Affairs.
- Sec. 206. Access of health care providers of the Department of Veterans Affairs to drug monitoring programs that do not participate in the national network.
- Sec. 207. Elimination of report on activities and proposals involving contracting for performance by contractor personnel of work previously performed by Department employees.
- Sec. 208. Additional report on increased availability of opioid receptor antagonists.
- Sec. 209. Expansion of health care assessment to include all territories of the United States and the assessment of extended care services.
- Sec. 210. Authorization of major medical facility project at Department of Veterans Affairs West Los Angeles Medical Center.
- Sec. 211. Technical amendments to VA MIS-SION Act of 2018 and amendments made by that Act.

TITLE III—OTHER MATTERS

- Sec. 301. Approval of courses of education provided by public institutions of higher education for purposes of training and rehabilitation for veterans with service-connected disabilities conditional on in-State tuition rate for veterans.
- Sec. 302. Corrective action for certain Department of Veterans Affairs employees for conflicts of interest with educational institutions operated for profit.
- Sec. 303. Modification of compliance requirements for particular leases relating to Department of Veterans Affairs West Los Angeles Campus.

SEC. 2. REFERENCES TO TITLE 38, UNITED STATES CODE.

Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever in this Act an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms of an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other provision, the reference shall be considered to be made to a section or other provision of title 38, United States Code.

TITLE I—EXTENSIONS OF AUTHORITY

Subtitle A—Health Care Matters

SEC. 101. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY FOR COLLECTION OF COPAYMENTS FOR HOSPITAL CARE AND NURSING HOME CARE.

Section 1710(f)(2)(B) is amended by striking “September 30, 2019” and inserting “September 30, 2020”.

SEC. 102. EXTENSION OF REQUIREMENT TO PROVIDE NURSING HOME CARE TO CERTAIN VETERANS WITH SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABILITIES.

Section 1710A(d) is amended by striking “September 30, 2019” and inserting “September 30, 2020”.

SEC. 103. REMOVAL OF AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT SERVICES FOR CAREGIVERS.

Section 1720G is amended by striking subsection (e).

SEC. 104. MAKING PERMANENT AUTHORITY FOR RECOVERY FROM THIRD PARTIES OF COST OF CARE AND SERVICES FURNISHED TO VETERANS WITH HEALTH-PLAN CONTRACTS FOR NON-SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABILITY.

Section 1729(a)(2)(E) is amended, in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking “before September 30, 2019.”

SEC. 105. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY FOR TRANSFER OF REAL PROPERTY.

Section 8118(a)(5) is amended by striking “December 31, 2018” and inserting “September 30, 2020”.

SEC. 106. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY FOR PILOT PROGRAM ON ASSISTANCE FOR CHILD CARE FOR CERTAIN VETERANS RECEIVING HEALTH CARE.

(a) EXTENSION.—Subsection (e) of section 205 of the Caregivers and Veterans Omnibus Health Services Act of 2010 (Public Law 111-163; 124 Stat. 1144; 38 U.S.C. 1710 note) is amended by striking “September 30, 2019” and inserting “September 30, 2020”.

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Subsection (h) of such section is amended by striking “and 2019” and inserting “2019, and 2020”.

SEC. 107. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY TO MAKE GRANTS TO VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS FOR TRANSPORTATION OF HIGHLY RURAL VETERANS.

Section 307(d) of the Caregivers and Veterans Omnibus Health Services Act of 2010 (Public Law 111-163; 124 Stat. 1154; 38 U.S.C. 1710 note) is amended by striking “2019” and inserting “2020”.

SEC. 108. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY FOR PILOT PROGRAM ON COUNSELING IN RETREAT SETTINGS FOR WOMEN VETERANS NEWLY SEPARATED FROM SERVICE.

(a) EXTENSION.—Subsection (d) of section 203 of the Caregivers and Veterans Omnibus Health Services Act of 2010 (Public Law 111-163; 124 Stat. 1143; 38 U.S.C. 1712A note) is amended by striking “September 30, 2019” and inserting “September 30, 2020”.

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Subsection (f) of such section is amended by striking “and 2019” and inserting “2019, and 2020”.

SEC. 109. EXTENSION OF TEMPORARY EXPANSION OF PAYMENTS AND ALLOWANCES FOR BENEFICIARY TRAVEL IN CONNECTION WITH VETERANS RECEIVING CARE FROM VET CENTERS.

Section 104(a) of the Honoring America's Veterans and Caring for Camp Lejeune Families Act of 2012 (Public Law 112-154; 126 Stat. 1169), as amended by section 109(a) of the Department of Veterans Affairs Expiring Authorities Act of 2017 (Public Law 115-62; 131 Stat. 1162), is amended by striking “September 30, 2018” and inserting “September 30, 2019”.

Subtitle B—Benefits Matters

SEC. 121. MAKING PERMANENT AUTHORITY FOR TEMPORARY EXPANSION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING ASSISTANCE FOR CERTAIN VETERANS WITH DISABILITIES CAUSING DIFFICULTY AMBULATING.

Section 2101(a)(4) is amended by striking “(A) Except” and all that follows through “(B) In each of fiscal years 2014 through 2018, the Secretary” and inserting “In any fiscal year, the Secretary”.

SEC. 122. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY FOR SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOUSING ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY GRANT PROGRAM.

Section 2108(g) is amended by striking “September 30, 2018” and inserting “September 30, 2020”.

SEC. 123. MAKING PERMANENT AUTHORITY TO GUARANTEE PAYMENT OF PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST ON CERTIFICATES OR OTHER SECURITIES.

Section 3720(h) is amended—

- (1) by striking paragraph (2); and
- (2) by striking “(1)”.

SEC. 124. MAKING PERMANENT AUTHORITY FOR CALCULATING NET VALUE OF REAL PROPERTY AT TIME OF FORECLOSURE.

Section 3732(c) is amended by striking paragraph (11).

SEC. 125. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY RELATING TO VENDEE LOANS.

Section 3733(a)(7) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “September 30, 2018” and inserting “September 30, 2019”; and

(2) in subparagraph (C), by striking “September 30, 2018,” and inserting “September 30, 2019.”

SEC. 126. MAKING PERMANENT AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE REHABILITATION AND VOCATIONAL BENEFITS TO MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES WITH SEVERE INJURIES OR ILLNESSES.

Section 1631(b) of the Wounded Warrior Act (title XVI of Public Law 110-181; 10 U.S.C. 1071 note) is amended—

- (1) by striking paragraph (2); and
- (2) by striking “(1) IN GENERAL.—”.

SEC. 127. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENT WITH THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES REGARDING ASSOCIATIONS BETWEEN DISEASES AND EXPOSURE TO DIOXIN AND OTHER CHEMICAL COMPOUNDS IN HERBICIDES.

Section 3(i) of the Agent Orange Act of 1991 (Public Law 102-4; 38 U.S.C. 1116 note) is amended by striking “September 30, 2018” and inserting “September 30, 2020”.

Subtitle C—Homeless Veterans Matters

SEC. 141. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY FOR HOMELESS VETERANS REINTEGRATION PROGRAMS.

Section 2021(e)(1)(F) is amended by striking “2018” and inserting “2020”.

SEC. 142. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY FOR HOMELESS WOMEN VETERANS AND HOMELESS VETERANS WITH CHILDREN REINTEGRATION PROGRAM.

Section 2021A(f)(1) is amended by striking “2018” and inserting “2020”.

SEC. 143. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY FOR REFERRAL AND COUNSELING SERVICES FOR VETERANS AT RISK OF HOMELESSNESS TRANSITIONING FROM CERTAIN INSTITUTIONS.

Section 2023(d) is amended by striking “September 30, 2018” and inserting “September 30, 2020”.

SEC. 144. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY FOR TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION SERVICES FOR SERIOUSLY MENTALLY ILL AND HOMELESS VETERANS.

(a) GENERAL TREATMENT.—Section 2031(b) is amended by striking “September 30, 2019” and inserting “September 30, 2020”.

(b) ADDITIONAL SERVICES AT CERTAIN LOCATIONS.—Section 2033(d) is amended by striking “September 30, 2019” and inserting “September 30, 2020”.

SEC. 145. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR SUPPORTIVE SERVICES FOR VERY LOW-INCOME VETERAN FAMILIES IN PERMANENT HOUSING.

Section 2044(e)(1) is amended by striking subparagraph (F) and inserting the following:

“(F) \$340,000,000 for fiscal year 2018.

“(G) \$380,000,000 for fiscal year 2019.”.

SEC. 146. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY FOR GRANT PROGRAM FOR HOMELESS VETERANS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS.

Section 2061(d)(1) is amended by striking “2019” and inserting “2020”.

SEC. 147. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY FOR THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON HOMELESS VETERANS.

Section 2066(d) is amended by striking “September 30, 2018” and inserting “September 30, 2022”.

Subtitle D—Other Matters

SEC. 161. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY FOR TRANSPORTATION OF INDIVIDUALS TO AND FROM DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS FACILITIES.

Section 111A(a)(2) is amended by striking “September 30, 2019” and inserting “September 30, 2020”.

SEC. 162. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY FOR OPERATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS REGIONAL OFFICE IN MANILA, THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES.

Section 315(b) is amended by striking “September 30, 2018” and inserting “September 30, 2019”.

SEC. 163. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY FOR MONTHLY ASSISTANCE ALLOWANCES UNDER THE OFFICE OF NATIONAL VETERANS SPORTS PROGRAMS AND SPECIAL EVENTS.

Section 322(d)(4) is amended by striking “2019” and inserting “2020”.

SEC. 164. EXTENSION OF REQUIREMENT TO PROVIDE REPORTS TO CONGRESS REGARDING EQUITABLE RELIEF IN THE CASE OF ADMINISTRATIVE ERROR.

Section 503(c) is amended by striking “December 31, 2018” and inserting “December 31, 2020”.

SEC. 165. EXTENSION OF AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR ADAPTIVE SPORTS PROGRAMS FOR DISABLED VETERANS AND MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES.

Section 521A is amended—

(1) in subsection (g)(1), by striking “2019” and inserting “2020”; and

(2) in subsection (l), by striking “2019” and inserting “2020”.

SEC. 166. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY FOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON MINORITY VETERANS.

(a) EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY.—Subsection (e) of section 544 is amended by striking “September 30, 2018” and inserting “September 30, 2022”.

(b) MODIFICATION OF REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—Subsection (c)(1) of such section is amended, in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “each year” and inserting “every other year”.

TITLE II—IMPROVEMENT OF HEALTH CARE FROM DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

SEC. 201. TREATMENT OF MODIFICATIONS OF CONTRACTS UNDER VETERANS COMMUNITY CARE PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1703(h)(1) is amended—

(1) by striking “The Secretary shall” and inserting “(A) The Secretary shall”; and

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

“(B) For purposes of subparagraph (A), the requirement to enter into consolidated, competitively bid contracts shall not restrict the authority of the Secretary under other provisions of law when modifying such a contract after entering into the contract.”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall take effect on the effective date specified in section 101(b) of the John S. McCain III, Daniel K. Akaka, and Samuel R. Johnson VA Maintaining In-

ternal Systems and Strengthening Integrated Outside Networks Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-182).

SEC. 202. MODIFICATION OF PROVISION REQUIRING RECOGNITION AND ACCEPTANCE, ON AN INTERIM BASIS, OF CREDENTIALS AND QUALIFICATIONS OF HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS UNDER COMMUNITY CARE PROGRAM.

Section 1703(h)(5)(A) is amended by striking “the date of the enactment” and inserting “the effective date specified in section 101(b)”.

SEC. 203. EXPANSION OF COVERAGE OF VETERANS CARE AGREEMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1703A is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(1) COVERED INDIVIDUAL DEFINED.—In this section, the term ‘covered individual’ means any individual eligible for hospital care, medical services, or extended care services under this title or any other law administered by the Secretary.”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 1703A is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(1)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “veteran” each place it appears and inserting “covered individual”; and

(B) in subparagraph (C)—

(i) by striking “veteran” and inserting “covered individual”; and

(ii) by striking “veteran’s” and inserting “covered individual’s”;

(2) in subsection (e)(2)(B), by striking “veteran” each place it appears and inserting “covered individual”; and

(3) in subsection (f)(2)—

(A) in subparagraph (C), by striking “veterans” and inserting “covered individuals”; and

(B) in subparagraph (D), by striking “veteran” and inserting “covered individual”; and

(4) in subsection (g), by striking “to veterans” and inserting “to covered individuals”; and

(5) in subsection (j)—

(A) by striking “any veteran” and inserting “any covered individual”; and

(B) by striking “to veterans” each place it appears and inserting “to covered individuals”.

SEC. 204. MODIFICATION OF AUTHORITY FOR DEDUCTION OF OVERPAYMENTS FOR HEALTH CARE.

Section 1703D(e)(1) is amended—

(1) by striking “shall” and inserting “may”; and

(2) by inserting before the period at the end the following: “and may use any other means authorized by another provision of law to correct or recover overpayments”.

SEC. 205. MODIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY OF FORMER MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES FOR MENTAL AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

Section 1720I(b)(3) is amended by striking “is not otherwise eligible to enroll” and inserting “is not enrolled”.

SEC. 206. ACCESS OF HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS TO DRUG MONITORING PROGRAMS THAT DO NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE NATIONAL NETWORK.

Section 1730B is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by inserting “, or any individual State or regional prescription drug monitoring program,” after “programs”; and

(B) in paragraph (2)(A), by striking “such network” and inserting “the national network of State-based prescription monitoring programs, or, if providing care in a State that does not participate in such national network, an individual State or regional prescription drug monitoring program.”; and

(C) in paragraph (3), by inserting “, or any individual State or regional prescription drug monitoring program,” after “programs; and

(2) in subsection (c)(2) by inserting “, or any individual State or regional prescription drug monitoring program,” after “programs”.

SEC. 207. ELIMINATION OF REPORT ON ACTIVITIES AND PROPOSALS INVOLVING CONTRACTING FOR PERFORMANCE BY CONTRACTOR PERSONNEL OF WORK PREVIOUSLY PERFORMED BY DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES.

Section 8110 is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (c); and

(2) by redesignating subsections (d), (e), and (f) as subsections (c), (d), and (e), respectively.

SEC. 208. ADDITIONAL REPORT ON INCREASED AVAILABILITY OF OPIOID RECEPTOR ANTAGONISTS.

Section 911(e)(2) of the Jason Simcakoski Memorial and Promise Act (Public Law 114-198; 38 U.S.C. 1701 note) is amended by inserting “and not later than one year after the date of the enactment of the Department of Veterans Affairs Expiring Authorities Act of 2018” before “the Secretary shall”.

SEC. 209. EXPANSION OF HEALTH CARE ASSESSMENT TO INCLUDE ALL TERRITORIES OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE ASSESSMENT OF EXTENDED CARE SERVICES.

Section 213 of the John S. McCain III, Daniel K. Akaka, and Samuel R. Johnson VA Maintaining Internal Systems and Strengthening Integrated Outside Networks Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-182) is amended—

(1) in the section header, by striking “PACIFIC TERRITORIES” and inserting “TERRITORIES OF THE UNITED STATES”; and

(2) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking “180 days” and inserting “270 days”; and

(B) by striking “Pacific territories” and inserting “territories of the United States”; and

(3) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “Pacific territories” and inserting “territories of the United States”; and

(ii) by adding at the end the following: “(E) Extended care.”; and

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) by striking “community-based outpatient clinic” and inserting “medical facility”; and

(ii) by striking “Pacific territory” and inserting “territory of the United States”; and

(4) in subsection (c)—

(A) by striking “Pacific territories” and inserting “territories of the United States”; and

(B) by striking “and”; and

(C) by inserting before the period at the end the following: “, Puerto Rico, and the United States Virgin Islands”.

SEC. 210. AUTHORIZATION OF MAJOR MEDICAL FACILITY PROJECT AT DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS WEST LOS ANGELES MEDICAL CENTER.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs may carry out the major medical facility project described in subsection (b) in fiscal year 2019, in an amount not to exceed \$35,000,000.

(b) MAJOR MEDICAL FACILITY PROJECT.—The major medical facility project described in this subsection is the construction of a new regional food services facility building on the campus of the medical center of the Department of Veterans Affairs in West Los Angeles, California, to replace the seismically deficient Building 300, Regional Food Service Facility, which is located on the north campus of the medical center as of the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 211. TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS TO VA MISSION ACT OF 2018 AND AMENDMENTS MADE BY THAT ACT.

(a) TITLE 38.—

(1) ANNUAL REPORT ON PERFORMANCE AWARDS AND BONUSES.—Section 726(c)(3) is amended by striking “, United States Code”.

(2) VETERANS CARE AGREEMENTS.—Section 1703A(h)(4) is amended by striking “, United States Code”.

(3) ACCESS STANDARDS.—Section 1703B(i) is amended—

(A) by striking “(1) The term” and inserting “In this section:”

“(1) The term”;

(B) in paragraph (1), by moving subparagraphs (A) and (B) two ems to the right;

(C) by moving paragraph (2) two ems to the right; and

(D) in paragraph (2), by striking “refers to” and inserting “means”.

(4) STANDARDS FOR QUALITY.—Section 1703C(c) is amended—

(A) by striking “(c)(1) The term” and inserting “(c) DEFINITIONS.— In this section:”

“(1) The term”;

(B) in paragraph (1), by moving subparagraphs (A) and (B) two ems to the right;

(C) by moving paragraph (2) two ems to the right; and

(D) in paragraph (2), by striking “refers to” and inserting “means”.

(5) PROMPT PAYMENT STANDARD.—Section 1703D(g)(3) is amended by striking “of this Act, as amended by the Caring for Our Veterans Act of 2018,” and inserting “of this title”.

(6) REMEDIATION OF MEDICAL SERVICE LINES.—Section 1706A is amended—

(A) in subsection (a), in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by inserting “of this title” after “section 1703(e)(1)”;

(B) in subsection (d)(1), by striking “paragraph (1)” and inserting “subsection (a)”.

(7) WALK-IN CARE.—Section 1725A is amended—

(A) in subsection (c), by striking “or other agreement” and inserting “agreement, or other arrangement”;

(B) in subsection (f)(4), by striking “Section 8153(c)” and inserting “Sections 8153(c) and 1703A(j)”.

(8) AUTHORITY TO RECOVER THE COST OF SERVICES FURNISHED FOR NON-SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABILITIES.—Section 1729(a)(2)(D) is amended by striking the period at the end and inserting “; or”.

(9) AGREEMENTS WITH STATE HOMES.—Section 1745(a)(4)(B)(ii)(III) is amended by striking “subchapter V of chapter 17 of this title” and inserting “this subchapter”.

(10) TRANSPLANT PROCEDURES WITH LIVE DONORS AND RELATED SERVICES.—Section 1788(c) is amended by striking “this chapter” and inserting “this title”.

(11) QUADRENNIAL VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION REVIEW.—Section 7330C is amended—

(A) in subsection (a)—

(i) in paragraph (1), by striking “Secretary of Veterans Affairs” and inserting “Secretary”;

(ii) in paragraph (2)—

(I) in subparagraph (B), by striking “Department of Veterans Affairs” and inserting “Department”;

(II) in subparagraph (C), by striking “of title 38, as added by section 102” and inserting “of this title”;

(III) in subparagraph (H)(i), by striking “Department of Veterans Affairs” and inserting “Department”;

(iii) in paragraph (4)—

(I) in subparagraph (A)(iii), by inserting “of this title” after “section 1703C”;

(II) in subparagraph (B), by inserting “of this title” after “section 1703(b)”;

(B) in subsection (b)(2)(I), by inserting “of this title” after “section 1706A”;

(C) in subsection (c)—

(i) in paragraph (1), by striking “such high performing” and inserting “a high-performing”;

(ii) in paragraph (3), by inserting “such” before “a high-performing”.

(12) DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS SPECIALTY EDUCATION LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM.—Section 7693(a)(1) is amended by striking “is hired” and inserting “will be eligible for appointment”.

(b) VA MISSION ACT.—

(1) TRAINING PROGRAM FOR ADMINISTRATION OF NON-DEPARTMENT HEALTH CARE.—Section 122(a)(2) of the John S. McCain III, Daniel K. Akaka, and Samuel R. Johnson VA Maintaining Internal Systems and Strengthening Integrated Outside Networks Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-182) is amended by striking “such title” and inserting “title 38, United States Code”.

(2) PROCESSES FOR SAFE OPIOID PRESCRIBING PRACTICES BY NON-DEPARTMENT PROVIDERS.—Section 131 of the John S. McCain III, Daniel K. Akaka, and Samuel R. Johnson VA Maintaining Internal Systems and Strengthening Integrated Outside Networks Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-182) is amended—

(A) in subsection (c)(1)—

(i) by inserting “of title 38, United States Code,” after “section 1703(a)(2)(A)”;

(ii) by striking “of this title” each place it appears and inserting “of this Act”;

(iii) by inserting “of such title” after “section 1703A(e)(2)(F)”;

(B) in subsection (d), by striking “covered veterans” each place it appears and inserting “veterans”.

(3) PLANS FOR SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 141 of the John S. McCain III, Daniel K. Akaka, and Samuel R. Johnson VA Maintaining Internal Systems and Strengthening Integrated Outside Networks Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-182) is amended by striking “Whenever the Secretary” and inserting “Whenever the Secretary of Veterans Affairs”.

(4) TELEMEDICINE REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—Section 151(c)(1) of the John S. McCain III, Daniel K. Akaka, and Samuel R. Johnson VA Maintaining Internal Systems and Strengthening Integrated Outside Networks Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-182) is amended by striking “section 1730B” and inserting “section 1730C”.

(5) EXPANSION OF FAMILY CAREGIVER PROGRAM.—Section 161(a)(1)(B) of the John S. McCain III, Daniel K. Akaka, and Samuel R. Johnson VA Maintaining Internal Systems and Strengthening Integrated Outside Networks Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-182) is amended by striking “such title” and inserting “title 38, United States Code”.

(6) SPECIALTY EDUCATION LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM.—Section 303 of the John S. McCain III, Daniel K. Akaka, and Samuel R. Johnson VA Maintaining Internal Systems and Strengthening Integrated Outside Networks Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-182) is amended—

(A) in subsection (d), by inserting “of Veterans Affairs” after “Department”;

(B) in subsection (e), in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “established” and inserting “under subchapter VIII of chapter 76 of title 38, United States Code, as enacted”.

(7) VETERANS HEALING VETERANS MEDICAL ACCESS AND SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM.—Section 304 of the John S. McCain III, Daniel K. Akaka, and Samuel R. Johnson VA Maintaining Internal Systems and Strengthening Integrated Outside Networks Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-182) is amended—

(A) in subsection (a), by striking “covered medical schools” and inserting “covered medical school”;

(B) in subsection (b)—

(i) in paragraph (2), by striking “entitled to” and inserting “concurrently receiving”;

(ii) in paragraph (3), by striking “2019” and inserting “2020”;

(iii) in paragraph (6), by striking “subsection (e)” and inserting “subsection (d)”;

(C) in subsection (c)—

(i) in paragraph (1), by striking “2019” and inserting “2020”;

(ii) in paragraph (3), by striking “2019” and inserting “2020”;

(D) in subsection (e), by striking “2019” and inserting “2020”;

(E) in subsection (f), by striking “December 31, 2020” and inserting “December 31, 2021”.

(8) DEVELOPMENT OF CRITERIA FOR DESIGNATION OF CERTAIN MEDICAL FACILITIES AS UNDERSERVED FACILITIES AND PLAN TO ADDRESS PROBLEM OF UNDERSERVED FACILITIES.—Section 401 of the John S. McCain III, Daniel K. Akaka, and Samuel R. Johnson VA Maintaining Internal Systems and Strengthening Integrated Outside Networks Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-182) is amended—

(A) in subsection (b)(5), by adding “or the applicable access standards developed under section 1703B of title 38, United States Code” after “the wait-time goals of the Department”;

(B) in subsection (d)(2)(A), by striking “section 407” and inserting “section 402”.

(9) PILOT PROGRAM ON GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION AND RESIDENCY.—Section 403(b)(4) of the John S. McCain III, Daniel K. Akaka, and Samuel R. Johnson VA Maintaining Internal Systems and Strengthening Integrated Outside Networks Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-182) is amended by inserting “under” after “an agreement”.

(10) DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS MEDICAL SCRIBE PILOT PROGRAM.—Section 507 of the John S. McCain III, Daniel K. Akaka, and Samuel R. Johnson VA Maintaining Internal Systems and Strengthening Integrated Outside Networks Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-182) is amended—

(A) in subsection (b)(3), by striking “as determine” and inserting “as determined”;

(B) in subsection (c)(2)(C), by striking “speciality” and inserting “specialty”.

TITLE III—OTHER MATTERS

SEC. 301. APPROVAL OF COURSES OF EDUCATION PROVIDED BY PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR PURPOSES OF TRAINING AND REHABILITATION FOR VETERANS WITH SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABILITIES CONDITIONAL ON IN-STATE TUITION RATE FOR VETERANS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3679(c) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking “chapter 30 or 33” and inserting “chapter 30, 31, or 33”;

(2) in paragraph (2), by adding at the end the following new subparagraph: “(C) An individual who is entitled to rehabilitation under section 3102(a) of this title.”;

(3) in paragraph (3), by striking “paragraph (2)(A) or (2)(B)” and inserting “paragraph (2)(A), (2)(B), or (2)(C)”;

(4) in paragraph (6), by striking “chapters 30 and 33” and inserting “chapters 30, 31, and 33”.

(b) APPLICABILITY.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to courses of education provided during a quarter, semester, or term, as applicable, that begins after March 1, 2019.

SEC. 302. CORRECTIVE ACTION FOR CERTAIN DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS EMPLOYEES FOR CONFLICTS OF INTEREST WITH EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS OPERATED FOR PROFIT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3683 of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (a) and inserting the following:

“(a) DEPARTMENT OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES.—(1) An officer or employee of the Department shall receive corrective action or disciplinary action if such officer or employee—

“(A) has, while serving as such an officer or employee, owned any interest in, or received any wage, salary, dividend, profit, or gift from, any educational institution operated for profit; or

“(B) has, while serving as a covered officer or employee of the Department, received any service from any educational institution operated for profit.

“(2) In this subsection, the term ‘covered officer or employee of the Department’ means an officer or employee of the Department who—

“(A) works on the administration of benefits under chapter 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, or 36 of this title; or

“(B) has a potential conflict of interest involving an educational institution operated for profit, as determined by the Secretary.”;

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) by striking “If the Secretary” and inserting the following:

“(b) STATE APPROVING AGENCY EMPLOYEES.—If the Secretary”;

(B) by striking “wages, salary, dividends, profits, gratuities, or services” and inserting “wage, salary, dividend, profit, or gift”;

(C) by striking “in which an eligible person or veteran was pursuing a program of education or course under this chapter or chapter 34 or 35 of this title”;

(D) by striking “terminate the employment of” and inserting “provide corrective action or disciplinary action with respect to”;

(E) by striking “while such person is an officer or employee of the State approving agency, or State department of veterans’ affairs or State department of education” and inserting “until the completion of such corrective action or disciplinary action”;

(3) in subsection (c)—

(A) by striking “A State approving agency” and inserting the following:

“(c) DISAPPROVAL OF COURSES.—A State approving agency”;

(B) by striking “of Veterans Affairs”;

(C) by striking “wages, salary, dividends, profits, gratuities, or services” and inserting “wage, salary, dividend, profit, or gift”;

(4) in subsection (d)—

(A) by striking “The Secretary may” and inserting the following:

“(d) WAIVER AUTHORITY.—(1) The Secretary may”;

(B) by striking “of Veterans Affairs”;

(C) by striking “, after reasonable notice and public hearings,”;

(D) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(2) The Secretary shall provide public notice of any waiver granted under this subsection by not later than 30 days after the date on which such waiver is granted.”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act and shall apply with respect to conflicts of interest that occur on or after that date.

SEC. 303. MODIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICULAR LEASES RELATING TO DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS WEST LOS ANGELES CAMPUS.

Section 2(h)(1) of the West Los Angeles Leasing Act of 2016 (Public Law 114-226) is amended by striking “any lease or land-sharing agreement at the Campus” and inserting “any new lease or land-sharing agreement at the Campus that is not in compliance with such laws”.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 631—RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INDIAN CIVIL RIGHTS ACT AND VOTING RIGHTS FOR AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE COMMUNITIES ACROSS THE COUNTRY

Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. UDALL) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 631

Whereas American Indians and Alaska Natives have historically been denied the right to vote;

Whereas, after serving in World War II and returning home, many American Indian veterans were not able to vote;

Whereas, on July 15, 1946, in *Harrison v. Laveen*, Chief Justice Levi S. Udall of the Arizona Supreme Court ruled that Maricopa County, Arizona, must allow Mohave-Apache Indians to register to vote, overruling decades of precedent in which the State of Arizona prohibited American Indians from voting;

Whereas, in holding that American Indians were entitled to the franchise, Chief Justice Udall noted that, “[i]n a democracy suffrage is the most basic civil right, since its exercise is the chief means whereby other rights may be safeguarded. To deny the right to vote, where one is legally entitled to do so, is to do violence to the principles of freedom and equality.”;

Whereas, in New Mexico in 1948, Miguel Trujillo, a Marine Corps veteran and Isleta Pueblo tribal member, was turned away from registering to vote because he was living on a reservation;

Whereas, in 1948, the United States District Court for the District of New Mexico struck down limitations in the State Constitution of New Mexico that prevented those who lived on reservations from voting;

Whereas, prior to 1968, American Indians were not provided the same protections as other citizens under the United States Constitution;

Whereas, in 1968, Congress passed the Indian Civil Rights Act “to ensure that the American Indian is afforded the broad constitutional rights secured to other Americans”;

Whereas Alaska was the last state to enfranchise American Indian voters in 1970;

Whereas, even though American Indians and Alaska Natives currently have the lawful right to vote across the United States, they continue to face barriers and obstacles to voting;

Whereas some American Indians and Alaska Natives in Alaska, Arizona, Nevada, Minnesota, South Dakota, and other states may have to travel 50 to 400 miles to vote;

Whereas the Native American vote continues to play a significant role in local, State, and national elections;

Whereas, in states such as Alaska, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and South Dakota, American Indians and Alaska Natives comprise 10 percent or more of the voting-age population;

Whereas American Indians and Alaska Natives serve in the United States military at a higher per capita rate than any other ethnic group; and

Whereas American Indians and Alaska Natives are an important part of the history of the United States, and vibrant contributors to the social and political fabric of the United States; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) honors the 50th anniversary of title II of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (25 U.S.C. 1301 et seq.; commonly known as the “Indian Civil Rights Act of 1968”); and

(2) recognizes the important contributions of Native Americans to expanding voting rights for all citizens of the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 632—DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 2018 AS “NATIONAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT MONTH”

Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. HATCH, Ms. BALDWIN, and Mr. ENZI) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 632

Whereas investment in the education, training, and career advancement of the workforce in the United States, known as “workforce development”, is crucial to the ability of the United States to compete in the global economy;

Whereas collaboration among Governors, local governments, State and local education, workforce, and human services agencies, community colleges, local businesses, employment service providers, community-based organizations, and workforce development boards provides for long-term, sustainable, and successful workforce development across traditional sectors and emerging industries;

Whereas middle-skill jobs, which require more than a high school diploma but not a 4-year degree, comprise 53 percent of the labor market, but only 43 percent of workers in the United States are trained at that level, creating a discrepancy that may limit growth in changing industries such as health care, manufacturing, and information technology;

Whereas, in 2014, Congress reauthorized the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3101 et seq.) with overwhelming bipartisan support in recognition of the need to strengthen the focus of the United States on the skills necessary to fill jobs in local and regional industries;

Whereas the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3101 et seq.) supports employment, training, and support services for individuals with barriers to employment, including—

- (1) individuals who are low-income;
- (2) individuals who are out of work;
- (3) individuals displaced by outsourcing;
- (4) individuals looking to learn new skills;

and

(5) individuals with disabilities;

Whereas the more than 550 workforce development boards and 2,500 American Job Centers are a driving force behind growing regional economies by providing training, resources, and assistance to workers who aim to compete in the 21st century economy;

Whereas ongoing State and local implementation of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3101 et seq.) provides unprecedented opportunities to develop the skills of workers in the United States through access to effective workforce education and training, including the development and delivery of proven strategies such as sector partnerships, career pathways, integrated education and training, work-based learning models, and paid internships;

Whereas, in 2016, programs authorized under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3101 et seq.)—

- (1) served more than 7,000,000 young people and adults;
- (2) exceeded employment targets across all programs; and