

National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association, the National Federation of Federal Employees, the National Treasury Employees Union, the Professional Managers Association, the Senior Executives Association, among many other organizations.

Federal employees are a great asset for our Nation. We must work to ensure their well-being and protection in difficult times such as these.

Mr. Speaker, I again thank the chairwoman, who is the original cosponsor of this legislation, as well as my colleagues, especially Mr. COMER and Mr. HICE, for making this a strong bipartisan effort.

Mr. Speaker, I particularly salute Chai's widow, Christina, for her continued efforts in honoring her late husband's memory.

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

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, it is important that Federal agencies plan and prepare for future infectious disease outbreaks and do so in a transparent manner.

This bill is much improved and now also focuses on maintaining Federal agency services to the American people through a potential future public health emergency. Federal agencies exist to serve the American people. This is true during national public health emergencies, also.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of H.R. 8466, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (CAROLYN B. MALONEY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 8466, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the yeas have it.

Mr. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

END HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS ACT OF 2022

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 3470) to provide for the implementation of certain trafficking in contracting provisions, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 3470

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 “End Human Trafficking in Government Contracts Act of 2022”.

SEC. 2. IMPLEMENTATION OF TRAFFICKING IN CONTRACTING PROVISIONS.

(a) REQUIREMENT TO REFER VIOLATIONS TO AGENCY SUSPENSION AND DEBARMENT OFFICIAL.—Section 1704(c)(1) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013 (Public Law 112-239; 22 U.S.C. 7104b(c)(1)) is amended—

(1) by inserting “refer the matter to the agency suspension and debarment official and” before “consider taking one of the following actions”; and

(2) by striking subparagraph (G).

(b) REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION OF TRAFFICKING IN CONTRACTING PROVISIONS.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall submit to Congress a report on implementation of title XVII of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013 (Public Law 112-239; 126 Stat. 2092).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) and the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. COMER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous material on S. 3470.

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

There was no objection.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 3470, the End Human Trafficking in Government Contracts Act.

S. 3470 was introduced by Senator LANKFORD from Oklahoma and has passed the Senate by unanimous consent. The bill would require the head of an agency to make a referral for debarment of a Federal contractor in response to Inspector General verification that the company has engaged in any form of human trafficking, including labor and sex trafficking.

Under current law, the referral is merely an action that the agency head may consider. Putting stronger penalties on contractors creates stronger incentives for them to be vigilant about eliminating human trafficking from their business. This bill helps to ensure that we use the U.S. Government's enormous purchasing power to combat human trafficking.

Under this bill, the Office of Management and Budget would also submit a report to Congress on Federal Government actions to end trafficking in Federal contracts. Human trafficking is nothing short of modern-day slavery. It

is estimated that human trafficking is a \$150 billion global industry. It must be a priority to ensure that the U.S. is not contributing one dollar to perpetuate human trafficking through Federal contracts.

Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting this straightforward legislation to further enforce zero tolerance for human trafficking in Federal contracts.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, the End Human Trafficking in Government Contracts Act ensures that Federal agencies are not paying for or participating in human trafficking or human sex trafficking through grants or contracts. This is a particular concern for overseas contracts in which some unscrupulous companies may take advantage of vulnerable third-country workers.

Congress has acted before to address this problem. Unfortunately, both the Government Accountability Office and the Department of Defense Inspector General have found that trafficking by contractors and grantees continues. This bill moves to send a clear message: Trafficking will not be tolerated.

Under current law, agencies are already required to refer allegations of human or sex trafficking to the Inspector General for investigation. If found to be true, that agency has a number of options to deal with the situation, but this bill requires all substantiated cases be reported to the agency's suspension and debarment official.

In the contracting world, this is serious business. After due process, a contractor could be prohibited from receiving future government contracts or other government benefits. This bill ensures all current or would-be grantees or contractors take all measures necessary to stop human or sex trafficking.

Finally, the bill directs the Office of Management and Budget to report on enforcement of the laws so we in Congress could conduct the necessary oversight.

I thank Senators JAMES LANKFORD and JONI ERNST for sending this important bill to the House for final passage in Congress today.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill and for the President to sign S. 3470 into law.

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

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers on this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, let me be clear. Not a single dime of taxpayer money should ever flow to anyone engaged in human or sex trafficking activities. This bill is an important step toward ensuring responsible stewardship of taxpayer money.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, combating sex trafficking by any means, in this case with using the power of our contracting system, is truly a bipartisan effort in this committee.

Mr. Speaker, I support and urge passage of this bill, S. 3470.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 3470.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

□ 1515

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE TRAINING FOR THE ACQUISITION WORKFORCE ACT

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 2551), to require the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to establish or otherwise provide an artificial intelligence training program for the acquisition workforce, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 2551

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 “Artificial Intelligence Training for the Acquisition Workforce Act” or the “AI Training Act”.

SEC. 2. ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE TRAINING PROGRAMS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) AI.—The term “AI” has the meaning given the term “artificial intelligence” in section 238(g) of the John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019 (10 U.S.C. 2358 note).

(2) AI TRAINING PROGRAM.—The term “AI training program” means the training program established under subsection (b)(1).

(3) COVERED WORKFORCE.—The term “covered workforce” means—

(A) employees of an executive agency who are responsible for—

(i) program management;

(ii) the planning, research, development, engineering, testing, and evaluation of systems, including quality control and assurance;

(iii) procurement and contracting;

(iv) logistics; or

(v) cost estimating; and

(B) other personnel of an executive agency designated by the head of the executive agency to participate in the AI training program.

(4) DIRECTOR.—The term “Director” means the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

(5) EXECUTIVE AGENCY.—The term “executive agency”—

(A) has the meaning given the term in section 133 of title 41, United States Code; and

(B) does not include—

(i) the Department of Defense or a component of the Department of Defense; or

(ii) the National Nuclear Security Administration or a component of the National Nuclear Security Administration.

(b) REQUIREMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, and not less frequently than annually thereafter, the Director, in coordination with the Administrator of General Services and any other person determined relevant by the Director, shall develop and implement or otherwise provide an AI training program for the covered workforce.

(2) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the AI training program shall be to ensure that the covered workforce has knowledge of the capabilities and risks associated with AI.

(3) TOPICS.—The AI training program shall include information relating to—

(A) the science underlying AI, including how AI works;

(B) introductory concepts relating to the technological features of artificial intelligence systems;

(C) the ways in which AI can benefit the Federal Government;

(D) the risks posed by AI, including discrimination and risks to privacy;

(E) ways to mitigate the risks described in subparagraph (D), including efforts to create and identify AI that is reliable, safe, and trustworthy; and

(F) future trends in AI, including trends for homeland and national security and innovation.

(4) UPDATES.—Not less frequently than once every 2 years, the Director shall update the AI training program to—

(A) incorporate new information relating to AI; and

(B) ensure that the AI training program continues to satisfy the requirements under paragraph (3).

(5) FORMAT.—The Director is encouraged to develop and implement or otherwise include under the AI training program interactive learning with—

(A) technologists;

(B) scholars; and

(C) other experts from the private, public, and nonprofit sectors.

(6) METRICS.—The Director shall ensure the existence of a means by which to—

(A) understand and measure the participation of the covered workforce; and

(B) receive and consider feedback from participants in the AI training program to improve the AI training program.

(7) SUNSET.—Effective 10 years after the date of enactment of this Act, this section shall have no force or effect.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) and the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. COMER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 2551, the Artificial Intelligence Training for the Acquisition Workforce Act, sponsored by Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee Chairman PETERS and Ranking

Member PORTMAN. I am proud to have introduced the House companion to this bill with Ranking Member COMER.

The AI Training Act would require the Office of Management and Budget, in coordination with the General Services Administration, to develop and implement an AI training program for Federal workers whose jobs involve this technology, including acquisition and program management employees.

The program would educate employees on the science underlying AI, introductory concepts, potential benefits of the technology, and future trends. Importantly, the program would also cover the risks posed by AI, including discrimination and risks to privacy, and would teach Federal workers how to mitigate these risks.

To ensure that the AI technology procured and employed by the U.S. Government is reliable, safe, and trustworthy, it is critical that Federal workers involved in procurement and management of this technology are well-trained.

AI tools have become essential in the global race to solve societal challenges, protect national security, and remain economically competitive. At the same time, the algorithms that drive AI systems present new challenges to oversight and accountability efforts. So we need proactive approaches to ensure transparency and governance that preserves privacy and civil liberties and protects the public interest.

The training program would be updated at least every 2 years, ensuring it keeps up with the rapid evolution of this field.

I thank Ranking Member COMER for joining me in advancing this legislation to require specialized Federal workforce training in AI that will help ensure the responsible acquisition and use of this technology that will have long-term benefits to the Government.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support S. 2551, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, artificial intelligence, or AI, is a term that applies to a wide variety of technologies. AI plays a role in applications to simplify our everyday lives by performing complex tasks.

Navigation apps, online banking apps, spam filters, and even asking Siri or Alexa who won the Presidents Cup in North Carolina this weekend all employ various types of AI technology. The Federal Government also uses AI to improve government services and efficiency.

While there are multiple executive orders and initiatives promoting the use of AI across the government, to date there has not been a collective effort to train Federal workers who identify, buy, and manage artificial intelligence capabilities.

The National Security Commission on Artificial Intelligence, established in the fiscal year 2019 NDAA, has called for the Federal workforce to be better trained on artificial intelligence.