

Nation for Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Greece, Hungary, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Spain and the United Kingdom

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment\* \$21.8 million.

Other \$ 0.9 million.

Total \$22.7 million.

Funding Source: National Funds

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase: Foreign Military Sales (FMS) case N4-D-YAB, was below congressional notification threshold at \$1.87 million (\$1.78 million in MDE) and included forty (40) GBU-39/B Small Diameter Bombs, Increment I. NATO Support and Procurement Agency as Lead Nation has requested the case be amended to include the below listed, additional MDE and non-MDE items and services. This amendment will push the current case above the MDE notification threshold and thus requires notification of the entire case.

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

Two hundred seventy-nine (279) GBU-39/B Small Diameter Bombs, Increment I.

Two hundred four

(204) FMU-152 Fuze.

Two hundred four (204) MK-82 500LB General Purpose Bombs.

Fifty (50) BLU-109 2000LB Hard Target Penetrator Bombs.

Non-MDE:

Also included are smoke signal cartridges; engineering and technical support and assistance; and other related elements of logistical and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Air Force (N4-D-YAB).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: None.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None known at this time.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: June 22, 2022.

\* As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

NATO Support and Procurement Agency (NSPA)—Precision Guided Munitions

NATO Support and Procurement Agency as Lead Nation has requested the possible sale of two hundred thirty-nine (239) GBU-39/B Small Diameter Bombs, Increment I; two hundred four (204) FMU-152 fuzes; two hundred four (204) MK-82 500LB General Purpose Bombs; and fifty (50) BLU-109 2000LB Hard Target Penetrator Bombs, that will be added to a previously implemented case. The original FMS case, valued at \$1.87 million, included forty (40) GBU-39/B Small Diameter Bombs, Increment I. Therefore, this notification is for a total of two hundred seventy-nine (279) GBU-39/B Small Diameter Bombs, Increment I; two hundred four (204) FMU-152 fuzes; two hundred four (204) MK-82 500LB General Purpose Bombs; and fifty (50) BLU-109 2000LB Hard Target Penetrator Bombs. Also included are smoke signal cartridges; engineering and technical support and assistance; and other related elements of logistical and program support. The total estimated cost is \$22.7 million.

This proposed sale supports the foreign policy and national security of the United States by increasing the flexibility of Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Greece, Hungary, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Spain, and the United Kingdom, twelve NATO nations and one NATO enhanced opportunity partner nation, to contribute to overseas contingency operations. This sale increases the quantity

of precision-guided munitions within NATO and allows for their pre-coordinated transfer in support of national and NATO requirements.

The proposed sale will improve NATO's capability to meet current and future ground threats with precision. NATO will use the enhanced capability as a deterrent to regional threats, and to increase interoperability within contingency operations. Many of the purchasing nations already have precision-guided munitions in their inventories and will all have no difficulty absorbing these munitions into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The principal contractors for production are the Boeing Corporation, St Louis, MO; and Raytheon Missile Systems, Tucson, AZ. The principal contractor for integration is unknown and will be determined during contract negotiations. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will not require the assignment of any additional U.S. Government or contractor representatives to NATO.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 22-17

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology

1. The GBU-39 Small Diameter Bomb Increment 1 (SDB-1) is a 250 pound GPS-aided inertial navigation system, small autonomous, day or night, adverse weather, conventional, air-to-ground precision glide weapon able to strike fixed and stationary relocatable non-hardened targets from standoff ranges. It is intended to provide aircraft with an ability to carry a high number of bombs. Aircraft are able to carry four SDBs in place of one 2,000 pound bomb.

2. The Joint Programmable Fuze (JPF) FMU-152 is a multi-delay, multi-arm and proximity sensor compatible with general purpose blast, frag and hardened-target penetrator weapons. The JPF settings are cockpit selectable in flight when used with numerous precision-guided weapons.

3. MK-82 General Purpose (GP) bomb is a 500 pound, free-fall, unguided, low-drag weapon used for attacking soft and intermediate protected targets.

4. The BLU-109 is a 2,000 pound hard target penetrator warhead designed to penetrate hardened structures before detonating.

5. The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is SECRET.

6. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the specific hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures that might reduce weapon system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

7. A determination has been made that NATO Support and Procurement Agency (NSPA) and the participating countries can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

8. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to NSPA, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Greece, Hun-

gary, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Spain, and the United Kingdom.

WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, I rise today to discuss and express my support for the Columbia River Federal Power System. The federal dams on the Columbia River System are a boon to the Pacific Northwest and stands as an example to other hydropower projects across the country and the world. Its capacity to generate always-on, base-load carbon-free power is vital not just to the Northwest, but relied upon by our friends in surrounding regions as well. The dams also bring substantial benefits for flood control, local recreation, irrigation, navigation, wildlife conservation, and industry. Even Idaho, my landlocked home State, is able to have a working seaport because of the navigation benefits provided by these dams, sending Idaho's products all around the world in an efficient, cost-effective, and low-carbon manner. As additional challenges have risen, scientists and managers at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers have adapted to ensure the dams are still beneficial to humans and our natural environment.

In the Water Resources Development Act before the Senate today, there is a seemingly innocuous but rather consequential and far-reaching study directed at aquatic habitat restoration in the Columbia River Basin. Other studies in this section are small enough to be measured in acres or at largest, a portion of a state. The Columbia River Basin spans nearly 260,000 square miles and reaches into seven States. This is not a small, localized review but instead an authorization for a comprehensive study on anything relating to aquatic restoration in one of the largest basins in the country.

This may sound benign to my colleagues who are not from the Northwest, but this issue is not a new or small one. I have been discussing the Columbia River System and salmon recovery since my early days in the Idaho Legislature. Improving salmon and steelhead populations in the Northwest is an important goal and one I have long supported. What I cannot, however, support are the constant efforts to remove the benefits provided by our hydropower system under the guise of salmon recovery. The fact of the matter is we have studied this river and these dams ad nauseam. Most recently, we completed the Columbia River System Operations review, which specifically considered whether dam breaching was necessary for fish recovery and determined the opposite. It is pointless and irresponsible to spend further taxpayer dollars considering dam breaching.

This brings me back to the study in title II. I appreciate very much the chairman and ranking member working with me to place appropriate

sideboards to ensure this study will not consider any recommendations that would result in the removal or reduction of the federally authorized purposes of the system or any measures that would result in a reduction in services provided by those purposes. While I still believe that this study is far too large and untargeted to result in timely recommendations for anadromous fish recovery—and as such, wastes funding better used in the region than on yet another river study—with this important limitation, I am pleased to be able to support the overall WRDA bill and the many important priorities it encompasses for our water infrastructure. Should this study be signed into law, I expect and will pay careful mind that it meets the specific congressional intent of preserving our hydropower system and the many benefits it provides. I look forward to continue working with my colleagues to identify solutions to salmon recovery that do not inhibit the clean energy, flood control, navigation, agricultural, and recreation benefits of our Federal power system.

#### UNITED STATES INNOVATION AND COMPETITION ACT OF 2021

Mr. WARNOCK. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the following letters be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the Record, as follows:

APRIL 27, 2022.

Hon. RAPHAEL WARNOCK,  
U.S. Senate,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR WARNOCK: As a business organization focused on a vibrant economy, the Metro Atlanta Chamber encourages you to support the INFORM Consumers Act as part of the bipartisan U.S. Innovation and Competition Act of 2021. This will ensure legitimate businesses and consumers in Georgia and across the country are better protected.

The Metro Atlanta Chamber represents businesses, colleges and universities, and nonprofits across the 29-county region that makes up the nation's ninth largest market. As a more than 160-year-old organization, we strive to ensure that Georgia maintains its status as the number one state to do business.

In recent years, Georgia shoppers have been provided access to a vast network of affordable on line products and convenient, fast delivery. Georgia retailers are proud of the supply chain that has allowed for this, especially when our economy was upended due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Families could depend on Georgia retailers that were essential in keeping our state open for business and our communities safe. However, the rapid growth of online shopping has provided new opportunities for criminals and fraudsters—with many of the latter located in China—to peddle cheap counterfeits and stolen products designed to undercut American manufacturers and local retailers.

The INFORM Consumers Act will help stop unsafe counterfeit products such as N95 masks, toys, and automobile parts from being sold in significant quantities, which are putting Georgia consumers at risk. Today, illegitimate imports cost domestic

retailers at least \$54.1 billion in sales. We can only expect this number to grow as Russia scraps trademark protections amid the ongoing conflict in Eastern Europe and joins China as one of the most egregious intellectual property offenders.

Meanwhile, sophisticated rings of criminals are brazenly stealing merchandise off the shelves of retail store shelves and selling these items online using fake screennames and bogus business accounts. In addition to putting retail workers and customers in harm's way, these thieves pose a serious economic threat. Research suggests that retail theft has cost retailers across the nation \$68.9 billion in losses. Congress must address these growing problems before additional consumers or legitimate American businesses pay the price. The common-sense measures of the INFORM Consumers Act, introduced by Senators Dick Durbin (D-IL) and Bill Cassidy (R-LA) in the Senate, and Representatives Jan Schakowsky (D-IL) and Gus Bilirakis (R-FL) in the House will make it harder for criminal networks and con artists from around the globe to use the anonymity of online marketplaces to dupe consumers with counterfeit and stolen products.

INFORM would require online marketplaces to verify high-volume sellers on their platforms and provides consumers with a method to contact sellers if they suspect they have been ripped off and sold a fake, broken, or dangerous item. This bill would not in any way inhibit the small businesses in Georgia that conduct legitimate commerce on marketplaces every day, and it protects the personal information of small sellers. That's why it has united consumer groups, manufacturers, retailers, and marketplaces who want to protect American consumers from stolen, fake, and dangerous products.

This simple, bipartisan measure will bring transparency and accountability to third-party sellers online and make it harder for criminals and counterfeiters to harm local businesses and consumers. On behalf of Georgia retailers—and especially for our employees and customers—we strongly urge you to support the INFORM Consumers Act and include it as part of the U.S. Innovation and Competition Act of 2021.

Sincerely,  
KATIE KIRKPATRICK, P.E.,  
President and Chief Executive Officer.

APRIL 27, 2022.  
Hon. Senator RAPHAEL WARNOCK,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR WARNOCK: In recent years, Georgia shoppers have been provided access to a vast network of affordable online products and convenient, fast delivery. Georgia retailers are proud of the supply chain that has allowed for this, especially when our economy was upended due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Families could depend on the many retailers that were essential in keeping our state open for business and our communities safe.

However, the rapid growth of online shopping has provided new opportunities for criminals and fraudsters—with many of the latter located in China—to peddle cheap counterfeits and stolen products designed to undercut American manufacturers and local retailers. Congress has the ability to act to ensure legitimate businesses and consumers in Georgia and across the country are better protected, we urge you to include the INFORM Consumers Act as part of the bipartisan U.S. Innovation and Competition Act of 2021.

The INFORM Consumers Act will help stop unsafe counterfeit products such as N95 masks, toys, and automobile parts from being sold in significant quantities, which

are putting Georgia consumers at risk. Today, illegitimate imports cost domestic retailers at least \$54.1 billion in sales. We can only expect this number to grow as Russia scraps trademark protections amid the ongoing conflict in Eastern Europe and joins China as one of the most egregious intellectual property offenders.

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Sincerely,  
CHRIS CLARK,  
President and CEO,  
Georgia Chamber of Commerce.

LAGRANGE TROUP COUNTY  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,  
LaGrange, GA, June 16, 2022.

Hon. RAPHAEL WARNOCK,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR WARNOCK: On behalf of the LaGrange Troup County Chamber of Commerce, I am pleased to provide support for increased funding for domestic semiconductor production. Our membership includes several industrial partners in Troup County who have been negatively impacted and repeatedly shutdown due to chip shortages. Our Chamber appreciates your efforts to provide U.S. manufacturers access to these important components now and in the future.

The LaGrange Troup County Chamber of Commerce was established in 1911 to support and enhance the businesses and business climate of Troup County. Through our mission of championing our member businesses and serving as a catalyst for advancing the region's economic success, we work diligently on their behalf.