

overseas should not be subject to this cruel treatment.

Nobody should be turned away for refusing to wear a mask, but the real purpose of the mask mandate is for unelected bureaucrats to control our behavior, which is unacceptable and something that I will not tolerate.

Moreover, a potential mask mandate based on vaccination status would create a division among servicemembers. There has been a lot of discussion on enacting police policies that create cohesion among members of the Armed Forces and stigmatizing some servicemembers by forcing them to wear masks that would create a group of second-class citizens. This would, ultimately, create division among enlisted members.

The American people are sick of COVID-19 hysteria by unelected bureaucrats and will not comply with any more unscientific edicts.

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

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman from Minnesota is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I appreciate what the gentleman from Montana said about protecting medical facilities, but I am going to read the amendment: “At the end of the bill, before the short title, insert the following: Section,” and the section will be numbered, “None of the funds made available by this act may be used to enforce any COVID-19 mask mandate.” It says “any.”

So, at a DOD facility or at a hospital or something like that, they would not be able to enforce a mask mandate if they felt one was necessary in a certain section of a hospital or clinic.

To the amendment in general, if this was enacted, the Department, as I pointed out, would be limited in what they could do, but they couldn’t even purchase any masks in case of a COVID surge. The CDC and the World Health Organization have recommended using a mask as a tool to protect people, especially the vulnerable, in cases of a COVID-19 surge.

Here is why an option is necessary in the military, and I mentioned this earlier, Mr. Chair. I, once again, ask you and my colleagues to consider life in a submarine—the close quarters, the lack of privacy. Think what would happen if there is a COVID outbreak in a submarine. It would have the potential of impacting the ability of that submarine to stay on station or deploy, putting our national security at risk.

If enacted, this amendment would take away a safety tool for the commander, a tool that they have in their toolbox.

One person tests positive for COVID on a submarine. They are all breathing the same air. They are in tight quarters. They are all going to have to put a mask on so they can complete their mission.

Our commanders deserve our trust. They deserve our respect that they are going to act in the best interest of their crew so they can execute their mission.

I don’t want to take any tools away from people in that circumstance, and this amendment would do exactly that.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to oppose this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ROSENDALE. Mr. Chair, I am glad that the gentlewoman from Minnesota brought up the bill, the actual bill. “None of the funds made available by this act may be used to enforce any COVID-19 mask mandates.”

Again, let me reiterate: Highly contagious diseases or folks that are immune deficient have nothing to do with the COVID-19 mandate.

Here is the other thing. If someone is concerned or chooses to virtue signal by wearing a mask, they are free to do so. They are absolutely free to do so. If they have an immune deficiency and want to wear a mask, they are free to do so, but do not impose the mandates on us freedom-loving individuals who don’t want to walk around covering our faces up just to let someone else feel a little better about things.

We have problems right now with recruitment. The numbers are down as much as 35 percent. We are missing goals dramatically. Approving arbitrary mandates that don’t help the military mission to be the most effective fighting force on Earth is not the way that we are going to get those numbers up.

Mr. Chair, this is a good amendment. It is going to help us with recruiting efforts. It is going to help us make sure that our team works together better, and I ask everyone in here to support it.

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

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Montana (Mr. ROSENDALE).

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Chair, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. TIFANY) having assumed the chair, Mr. DUARTE, Acting Chair of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4365) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes, had come to no resolution thereon.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to re-

vise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 4367, and that I may include tabular material on the same.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 723 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 4367.

The Chair appoints the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. FULCHER) to preside over the Committee of the Whole.

□ 1459

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 4367) making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes, with Mr. FULCHER in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered read the first time.

General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed 1 hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees.

The gentleman from Ohio (Mr. JOYCE) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CUELLAR) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio.

□ 1500

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio. Mr. Chair, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chair, I begin by thanking the chairwoman of the full committee, Ms. GRANGER, for her leadership and her tireless efforts to bring these appropriation bills to the floor.

I also thank the ranking member of the subcommittee, my good friend, Mr. CUELLAR, who has worked with us in good faith on the bill despite some disagreements on policy.

Lastly, I have enjoyed my time sitting next to the ranking member of the full committee, the gentlewoman from Connecticut, not once, but twice in the last few days.

The bill before us today provides \$62.8 billion for the Department of Homeland Security, an increase of \$2.1 billion above the fiscal year 2023 level.

In addition, the bill also includes \$20.3 billion for disaster response and recovery activities, including to support communities after the devastating wildfires in Maui and Hurricane Idalia.

One of the most pressing challenges this country faces is a border security crisis that has raged under the Biden administration. Two million migrants illegally crossed the border in each of

the last 2 years, and we are on track for that same amount this year. Just yesterday alone, there were 11,000 migrant encounters. Let me repeat that—nearly 11,000 migrant encounters in 1 day.

Regardless of your definition of border security, it is clear that the policies of this administration are not working. The reason is obvious. The White House is sending a message to cartels and migrants that the border is open, and there will be no consequences if you cross illegally.

This bill forces the Biden administration to do what it has not and will not do on its own—act to address the border security crisis. The funding and policy provisions included in this bill are in lockstep with the provisions of H.R. 2, which together will put us on a path to securing the border.

Unlike recent Homeland Security appropriations bills and the President's request, this bill returns to a tried-and-true border security approach by investing in methods to both secure the border and deter those who have no legitimate basis for entry.

This bill includes \$2.1 billion for physical barriers with explicit conditions that the funds be put on contract quickly. The chief of the Border Patrol and other border security professionals have confirmed time and time again that walls work.

The bill also provides nearly \$500 million to hire more Border Patrol agents to reach an end strength of 22,000 agents. The bill increases funding levels for border security technology, so our agents and officers have the latest, most effective equipment to detect and deter illegal activity.

Stopping fentanyl and other narcotics that have been ravaging our communities is a priority for all of us, so this bill provides \$305 million for nonintrusive inspection equipment at our Nation's ports of entry. Detention is a deterrent to those who seek to abuse our immigration system and falsely claim asylum.

As a result, the bill provides funding for 41,500 detention beds, which is 16,500 more than this administration requested, to ensure that ICE has adequate capacity to detain those with final removal orders or who pose a risk to public safety, as well as migrants who illegally cross our borders.

To counter the growing strength of Chinese influence in the Indo-Pacific, the bill provides an additional \$335 million to the Coast Guard for fast-response cutters. Also, to increase our presence in the Arctic, the bill provides funds for the Coast Guard to acquire a commercially available icebreaker to extend U.S. sovereignty and counter China and Russian expansion into the polar regions.

Simply put, the bill before us today ensures that the men and women of the Department of Homeland Security, who work tirelessly on our behalf, have the resources and the tools that they need to protect this great Nation.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Chair, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

First of all, I thank Chairwoman KAY GRANGER and Ranking Member DELAUR for working together as much as possible. I certainly would thank our chairman, DAVID JOYCE. I know we have some disagreements, but at the end of this process, we are going to be working together making sure that the Homeland Security bill passes in a bipartisan way.

Democrats and Republicans had a deal when we passed the debt bill some months ago. Now our colleagues, the House Republicans, are backing away from this deal and yielding to some extreme demands that will not help border security.

Now the House remains in chaos as the Republicans have been infighting and that will all but guarantee a government shutdown at the hands of the far right in just a few days. Instead of working on a bipartisan continuing resolution that will keep the government open, one that will pass both Chambers and be signed into law, we are here talking about bills that are not going to go very far in the Senate.

Again, I want to make sure that people understand that we want to work together. We want to make this a bipartisan bill to get it done.

As the ranking member of Appropriations Homeland Security Subcommittee and as a Member that actually lives on the border, I am very concerned about ensuring that the border is secure and that the Department has the resources it needs to do that successfully. Instead of that, what are we doing? If we have a shutdown, we are going to have over 226 folks, employees from the Department of Homeland Security, that are going to continue to work for a period of time and not get paid, and, again, that is not the way to create morale for our Border Patrol and other agents that we have down there at the border.

I strongly support the hiring of additional agents, but, if there is a shutdown, what is going to happen is that this will prevent us from onboarding the anticipated 150 additional agents in October. It would also stop the recruitment and vetting efforts that impact CBP ability to onboard additional agents later on. We cannot have a shutdown, and we have got to make sure that we work together to prevent the shutdown itself.

Now, if you look at the bill itself, the proposed bill, let's look at a couple of things. Yes, we did have some bipartisan investments and oversight requirements that we worked together on, but there are certain funding decisions and policy riders that I cannot support at this moment.

We have to understand the border. Some of my colleagues don't understand the border, and they call it a war zone. If my colleagues look at the

criminal records or the criminal figures that we have, whether it is murder, rape, assault, the border is actually safer than so many other parts of the country. In fact, Washington, D.C., is about two or three times more dangerous, if you want to look at those figures, than the border community.

Now, when it comes to migration issues, yes, we do have a problem, and we do need to address it, but I think we need to stop playing defense on the 1-yard line, which is the U.S.-Mexico border.

What we need to do is extend the perimeter where we can work with partners like Mexico, Central America, South America to make sure that we provide that perimeter and stop folks before they come over to our border itself. This bill has some very outdated strategies, and one of them I know doesn't work, and I will call that the 14th century solution to a 21st century problem, which is the border wall. We are spending \$2.1 billion, or we intend to spend \$2.1 billion on a wall that really doesn't stop. If I can show you some of the figures, I will explain why.

If you look at the border wall, you will see that the fence is in many parts of the border itself, but if you see the heat maps where people are coming into the border, it is usually where the border fence is at.

If I can show south Texas as an example, you will see that, in south Texas, you have a fence, and if you see the heat map, we have a fence here, we have a fence here, we have a fence here, we have a fence there, we have a fence there, and so on, but the activity is where the fence is at.

Let me explain why. If you look at the fence, we have a river. The middle of the river is actually the U.S. boundary with Mexico. We don't have a fence there. If you look at the riverbanks, we don't have a fence there also because it is going to get washed away.

What we do is we actually put a fence about a quarter of a mile or sometimes even a half a mile away, and what happens, you see the fence here, the one in the red itself, and then you see the river over here. Instead of having a fence over here, it is actually put a quarter mile or a mile away. Therefore, what happens when you have this situation?

Well, first of all, if you are asking for asylum, like most people are asking, you are going to see people that will touch the riverbank. They walked half a mile or a quarter of a mile to the fence over here and asked for asylum, so does the fence stop them? No, it doesn't.

If you asked all those landowners, they will say, you are ceding away thousands and thousands of acres of good farming land, good ranching land, because you put the fence here and the river is over here.

Again, if you want to stop drugs, I know we added some money for technology, but we have got to have the money at the ports of entry where 90 to

94 percent of the meth, the fentanyl, the cocaine are coming in, instead of through this particular area.

Again, this bill also has no funding for USCIS that would help reduce the backlog of the migration, so the people that have been waiting for a while, we are not putting any resources in for the USCIS. We have got to make sure that we help the folks who are trying to come in the legal way.

We do lose a lot of opportunities. We can do a lot more to add money to counter the fentanyl, the opioids. Again, most drugs will come in through the ports of entry, and that is where we need to put the focus.

Finally, also, we should have an updated border security improvement plan.

Again, I certainly want to work with my good friend, Mr. JOYCE. We are going to be together later on in the process. I know we have got some disagreements, but we will get there.

With that, I hope that we have a good bipartisan bill at the end of the process.

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

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio. Mr. Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Iowa (Mrs. HINSON), a distinguished member of our Appropriations Committee.

Mrs. HINSON. Mr. Chair, I rise in support of the fiscal year 2024 Homeland Security Appropriations bill that will help to secure our border.

Since President Biden took office, there have been over 6 million illegal immigrant encounters at our southern border, and because of President Biden's open-border policies, we have seen countless illegal immigrants, including known people on the terror watch list, violent gang members and sex offenders released into the homeland. With this bill, we are finally doing what President Biden won't. We are securing our border.

My colleagues and I have been to the border, something the President hasn't bothered to do. We have spoken with law enforcement on the front lines. These brave men and women told us directly that this administration has undercut them at every turn and that they needed more resources to deter illegal immigration rather than incentivize it.

While their pleas seem to have fallen on deaf ears at the White House, we here as House Republicans have heard them loud and clear. In this bill, we deliver for them and for every State that, as a result of these policies, has become a border State.

We are restoring border security technology funding to its highest level. We are funding the 22,000 Border Patrol agents that CBP requested, and we are finally restarting border wall construction instead of letting those materials that taxpayers paid for rust away on the side of the road.

We are fully funding ICE detention capacity as a deterrent, and we are providing funding to deport illegal immigrants. Our southern border is a lawless free-for-all under the Biden admin-

istration, undermining the safety and security of Iowans and every American.

This bill delivers on our promise to secure the border and keep America safe, so let's shut down our border, and let's keep our government open and move this bill forward.

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Chair, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New York (Mr. JEFFRIES), the distinguished Democratic leader.

Mr. JEFFRIES. Mr. Chair, I thank my good friend, the distinguished gentleman from the great State of Texas and the all-American city of Laredo for yielding and for his continued leadership.

I also have great respect for the distinguished gentleman from Ohio, the chair of the subcommittee, and of course the top Democrat on the Appropriations Committee from Connecticut.

At the beginning of this Congress, House Democrats made it clear that we are willing, ready, and able to find common ground with the other side of the aisle, our Republican colleagues, whenever and wherever possible, to make progress for everyday Americans, to build a healthy economy, to address cost-of-living issues that consume the American people that we were sent to Washington to work on, that President Biden has made progress on with House and Senate Democrats, but of course, there is still more work to be done.

From the beginning of this Congress, House Democrats have made clear we are ready, willing, and able to find common ground with the other side of the aisle, to make progress for the American people, but we have also made it clear that we are going to fight extremism whenever necessary. We are headed toward an extreme MAGA Republican government shutdown in just a few days.

Now, we can avoid it, because there is a bipartisan bill that is working its way through the Senate right now that will continue to fund the government in a way that makes sense for the American people, that would provide funding at the fiscal year 2023 levels for 6 weeks beginning on October 1st, to give us time for the appropriations process to run its course, to find an agreement to fund the government in a bipartisan way.

It is a continuing resolution right now pending before the Senate, strongly bipartisan, that doesn't contain any of the extreme policy poison-pill riders that House Republicans have been trying to jam down the throats of the American people but have no part in any bipartisan agreement, particularly when we are faced with a possible government shutdown that will hurt the American people.

It is a continuing resolution that also meets the needs of everyday Americans by providing robust funding for Americans who have been adversely impacted by extreme weather events all across America in blue States and in red States, because extreme weather events aren't partisan in nature, and we should be there for the people of Florida and California and Hawaii and

Vermont and the Northeast and the Midwest and the Deep South, those everyday Americans who have been impacted by extreme weather events.

That is what the bipartisan continuing resolution pending in the Senate will do, and it will allow the Ukrainian people to continue their brave, valiant, and courageous effort to push back against illegal Russian brutal, violent aggression.

We have a bipartisan continuing resolution working its way through the Senate that meets the needs of the American people. It has input from those of us in this Chamber and that will pass if it reaches the floor of this Chamber and would avoid an extreme MAGA Republican shutdown.

Just yesterday, a bipartisan group in the Senate voted, I believe, 77–19 to advance this bipartisan continuing resolution. It will reach the floor of the House in a few days.

The question is: What will the House Republican majority do? There are only two paths forward: Allow that bipartisan continuing resolution that meets the needs of the American people to receive an up or down vote, and it will pass and we will avoid a shutdown, or refuse to allow that bill to receive an up or down vote and stick the American people with an extreme MAGA Republican government shutdown that will hurt children, hurt families, hurt seniors, hurt veterans, hurt everyday Americans, and hurt the economy.

If we find ourselves dealing with an extreme MAGA Republican shutdown, what will it all be for? Well, this week is very revealing, because we are considering bills, including the one that is before us right now, that have zero chance of becoming law—zero chance—and they are filled with extreme policy poison pills relating to things like cutting Social Security; criminalizing abortion care; slashing public school funding; taking food out of the mouths of women, infants, and children; hurting the ability of veterans and seniors to make ends meet.

That is why the government will shut down, because extreme MAGA Republicans have determined that it needs to try to jam rightwing ideology down the throats of the American people, and, if we don't pay that ransom note, you want to shut the government down.

We know this playbook because we have seen it over and over again. We saw it in the 1990s under Newt Gingrich when the House Republican majority at the time shut the government down twice, demanding that we slash and burn Medicaid. Well, that government shutdown ended with an unconditional surrender, because the American people were unwilling to pay that ransom note to slash and burn Medicaid.

The same thing happened in 2013 when the Tea Party forced a reluctant John Boehner to shut the government down for 14 days. What was the extreme ransom note demand at the

time? That President Obama should repeal the Affordable Care Act, his signature legislative accomplishment. It ended the same way, an unconditional surrender, because the American people were unwilling to pay the extreme ransom note.

Then, again, in 2018 into 2019, another government shutdown, longest in American history, 35 days. What was the extreme ransom note demand at the time? That the American taxpayer be forced to pay billions and billions of dollars to fund a medieval, ineffective border wall that Donald Trump wanted to make happen. That government shutdown ended exactly the same way after 35 days—unconditional surrender, because the American people were unwilling to pay that extreme ransom note.

Why are we going through this exercise again when we know it is going to end the same way? Because the American people are not willing to pay a ransom note that will allow my extreme Republican colleagues to criminalize abortion care or to cut Social Security or to slash public school funding or to take food out of the mouths of women or infants or children. That is not a ransom note that will ever be paid.

You have a bipartisan vehicle coming out of the Senate that will be before the House in a few days, and there is only one responsible course of action. House Democrats are prepared to support that bipartisan agreement so we can avoid a government shutdown that will hurt the American people, and the only question is: Will our Republican colleagues join us?

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio. Mr. Chair, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. COLLINS).

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Chair, as a Member of Congress, our job description up here is really short: Just take care of your constituency and just have oversight of the Federal Government, and we do that through things called appropriations and hearings. Appropriations are what we are working on right now.

Well, I want to tell you: The past 9 months, I have been out here crossing this country attending field hearings. I have also been speaking with and listening to members of our industries about the overreach and the out-of-control government agencies that we have up here, and that is why I rise today.

I rise today to speak about an important issue that, sadly, this bill is going to fail to address. You see, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's boat speed limiter proposed rule, which, by the way, NOAA is an unauthorized Federal agency, never authorized by Congress, but NOAA's rule limits the speed now of all boats 35 feet and longer to 10 knots, and this is up and down almost the entire eastern seaboard.

Now, they are doing this by claiming that this rule is necessary to save the North Atlantic whale, which, by what I

have been able to find, they have been able to maintain roughly the same population since the 1980s, so I just wanted to go over a few quick facts.

Now, approximately 15 of these whales have been killed by boats in the last 18 years. Now, there are approximately 63,000 registered boats in this 35- to 65-foot length. That is a one in a million—in a million—chances that you are going to hit one of these whales. If you do, you are going to come out on the short end of the stick, and they are going to know it.

This is what is going to happen. This is going to have an \$84 billion economic impact just on the East Coast. Also on the East Coast, 340,000 jobs will be impacted. This rule is not just going to cripple the boating and sport fishing industry. It is going to crush it, and it is also going to crush and kill the communities that support them.

Now, I offered an amendment to prohibit the Coast Guard from enforcing this rule, because I think our Coast Guard has a whole lot more important things to be out there doing, but, sadly, my amendment was not made in order.

Therefore, Mr. Chair, I stand today and I urge my colleagues to fight for language that is going to prevent the Coast Guard from enforcing this misguided rule during our conference committee.

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio. Mr. Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Chair, I yield 4 minutes to the gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. DELAURO), the distinguished ranking member of the Committee on Appropriations.

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Chair, the Homeland Security Appropriations bill before us weakens our national security, defunds border security, harms the Homeland Security workforce, and leaves Americans vulnerable to escalating disasters. That we are debating this bill on September 27, 3 days before the end of the fiscal year, when House Republicans have provided no path forward to keep our government open is irresponsible.

The House majority has exhibited their own inability and unwillingness to govern by ensuring this bill cannot become law without other partisan legislation moving first, but it cannot become law. Rather than voting to keep our government open and ensuring border protection officers and immigration officials get paid, Republicans are pursuing a path explicitly designed to shut down the Federal Government. A shutdown will have consequences for every American family and on the border and border communities.

Mr. Chair, Democrats do not support an open border, but let me be unequivocal. There is a crisis on our southern border. Our border communities are struggling with the influx of immigration. The status quo cannot be maintained. That much, we agree on.

Where the majority and minority differ is how we address this issue. We must continue to invest in our pro-

cessing facilities and in transportation and medical care. We need to have an effective process of determining who is eligible to enter the country and who is not.

We must continue to invest in newer technology and in our immigration and border security officials and invest in immigration judges, but we must also think bigger, broader, bolder. We cannot hope to resolve this issue if we only begin addressing it right at the border.

We must invest in our partnerships with Latin-American countries and fund the expansion of safe mobility offices. Our Republican colleagues refuse to negotiate with Democrats on these issues. We were kept on the sidelines, and, thus, this bill does not make the sound investments that would actually reduce the burden on our border facilities and our communities.

This bill misses important opportunities to address the dire opioid crisis that we face as a Nation. It provides insufficient funding for our ports of entry where the vast majority of these drugs enter our country.

We should be focusing resources where we agree they are needed most, like combating fentanyl crossing the border, helping our border communities, advancing our cybersecurity posture, protecting Americans from violent extremism and foreign adversaries.

I am also deeply concerned about the conditions that greet migrants and asylum seekers, people who leave their homes out of desperation and necessity. We have a responsibility to ensure the safety of these migrants, especially children, and to provide resources so that those who are entitled to stay under our immigration laws can do so.

□ 1530

Please understand, by law the United States is required to take in unaccompanied children from neighboring countries, screen them, house them, and provide safe placement.

This bill leaves Americans vulnerable to the growing number and increasing severity of natural disasters, exposes Americans to foreign threats with inadequate cyber and infrastructure security investments, and does not fully fund the Transportation Security Administration personnel.

House Republicans claim to care about oversight, but this bill proposes several cuts to programs throughout the Department of Homeland Security which are critical to the oversight of our immigration facilities.

This bill also eliminates discretionary funding for refugee processing. It shifts the burden of those costs to an already backlogged and overwhelmed system.

The CHAIR. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Chair, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Connecticut.

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Chair, we all know the enactment of appropriations

will require bipartisan agreement on sound investments, not reckless cuts and partisan policy riders.

Let us focus. Let us focus on opening the government and keeping it open. There is a bipartisan bill in the Senate that we are now debating—77–19—that is overwhelmingly bipartisan. It will come here. Let's put that bill up. Get bipartisan support on this floor. Bring these harmful consequences to the American people to a close.

Don't close the government down.

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio. Mr. Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MEUSER).

Mr. MEUSER. Mr. Chair, I thank Chairman JOYCE, my good friend and colleague from Ohio, very much.

Mr. Chair, I do rise in support of the Homeland appropriations bill. We all know that our country, our citizens, are in dire need of stronger Homeland Security.

We know that we have an unmitigated disaster at our borders. Three years ago, Mr. Chair, we also all know that our borders were, in fact, secure. Today, almost 10,000 illegals in despair are crossing our border—not including the so-called got-aways.

Human trafficking and deadly drugs are killing Americans, primarily our young people, by the tens of thousands.

This bill adds to our Customs and Border Patrol, Mr. Chair, and provides for border barriers which work and for fentanyl detection. This bill strengthens our asylum laws and forces Secretary Mayorkas to do his job. This bill also, Mr. Chair, ceases the ability for HHS through the DHS funding to send ghost flights into my district in the middle of the night. That can't happen anymore under this bill.

This bill also provides for our Coast Guard and eliminates over \$500 million in go-green initiatives that have absolutely nothing to do with Homeland Security.

This bill is a vote for our Nation's Homeland Security. A "no" vote is a vote for the status quo.

Mr. Chair, by the way, if we want to keep our government open, we have a plan. We have a plan to keep our government open, and it includes border security and reasonable fiscal sanity with some moderate spending reductions within our discretionary spending.

We, unfortunately, have a handful of Republicans on our side not supporting it, but every single Democrat does not support securing our border and moderate reductions to our outrageous spending that is taking place.

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Chair, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. TRONE), a member of the Appropriations Committee.

Mr. TRONE. Mr. Chair, I thank the gentleman from Texas for yielding. Here we are, 3 days from a government shutdown voting again on extreme Republican-led bills that do nothing to prevent it. The ink wasn't even dry on the bipartisan debt ceiling bill deal be-

fore Republican leadership reneged on their word, reneged on their promise.

Instead, the bills we are considering this week include disastrous funding cuts and culture war priorities—priorities that apparently play well in fundraising emails but fail to address our Nation's problems like the opioid crisis.

This Department of Homeland Security appropriations bill would dedicate \$2 billion in taxpayer money to build a border wall—a 6th century solution to a 21st century problem, especially considering 90 percent of fentanyl comes to the border at legal points of entry driven by American citizens.

As a member of this subcommittee, I find this unbelievable.

Across the board, the Republicans' funding bill undercuts our ability to take care of America today and build a brighter future for our children and grandchildren.

It is about time the Republicans put the needs of the majority over the loud few and pass a government funding bill that meets America's needs.

Campaign season is over.

The CHAIR. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Chair, I yield an additional 15 seconds to the gentleman from Maryland.

Mr. TRONE. Campaign season is over. It is time to govern. I urge my colleagues to reject this hyperpartisan bill and pass the bipartisan Senate bill.

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio. Mr. Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Chair, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. RAMIREZ).

Mrs. RAMIREZ. Mr. Chair, as the proud daughter of immigrants, the wife of a Dreamer, the Representative of a district proud of its immigrants and how they contribute to our economy, I am disgusted with the Republicans' relentless persecution and scapegoating of immigrants.

While we should be looking for ways forward to keep providing essential services for our districts, Republicans want to play games with lives and livelihoods because of their inability to lead.

They are repeating false claims that the border is open and conditioning government funding on dangerous and irresponsible requests that will neither make the border more secure nor protect our security.

There is a dissonance between this party of fiscal responsibility that is driving us to a shutdown while immigrants—supposedly our economic downfall—are contributing more than \$20.4 billion in taxes just in Illinois.

With 11 million more immigrants ready to boost our economy through needed pathways to work, it is time to leave the political theater behind. People are tired of it. Let's recognize the positive fiscal contributions of immigrants to our Nation and do the work our constituents sent us here to do.

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio. Mr. Chair, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GROTHMAN).

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Chair, I want to comment a little bit on the last speech from the other side. They said the vast majority of fentanyl coming across the border to this country comes from designated points of entry. You hear that said, but I think what they should say is the vast majority of fentanyl that we catch comes across from designated points of entry.

There are—depending on the month—30- or 40,000 people who are got-aways who come across between designated points of entry. We never catch them because they are called got-ways, and nobody is monitoring places that are not designated points of entry.

Clearly, if you want to sneak fentanyl across the border you would do it between designated points of entry, and it would not show up on any statistics because we don't catch those people.

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Chair, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE).

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Chair, I thank the gentleman for yielding. I said that I would come to the floor and each time I would say that I do not want a government shutdown. I don't want the American people to suffer, and I want the government to be able to function.

As an almost 20-year member of the authorizing committee of Homeland Security, I am stunned at the lack of concern that my friends on the other side of the aisle would have on the government shutdown on Homeland Security.

These are extensive government employees, many of them represented by the American Federation of Government Employees. TSOs, of course, would continue to work in the Transportation Security Administration, but so many would be working without compensation.

If we are concerned about the border, I don't know why the Southwest Border Initiative is out, why money for USCIS is eliminated, why opportunities for shelter services are eliminated, particularly when we realize that throngs of people are coming here that aren't having the ability to apply for asylum.

The CHAIR. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Chair, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentlewoman from Texas.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Chair, the answer to this, of course, is to give ourselves more time to address the question of serving the American people.

I rise, as the leader did, to support the bipartisan Senate continuing resolution, which maintains current funding, takes care of communities impacted by natural disasters, and provides funding to Ukraine and contains no poison pills.

If we are serious about doing the job of keeping this government open, supporting the hardworking American workers, then we will support the Senate continuing resolution. We will do it

tomorrow or the next day and save this Nation.

Do not shut down.

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio. Mr. Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Chair, I am prepared to close, and we have no further speakers.

Mr. Chair and to my good colleague, Mr. JOYCE, we are apart right now. I know we are going to get together, but I do want to remind some of our colleagues that we had an opportunity under the current bill that we have right now. We added in the last couple years \$2.4 billion. That is a 15 percent increase for border patrol agents, pay increases, add more Border Patrol agents, ICE, CBP, the other folks in.

We had the moneys to do that, but at the end of the day—and I will just take one example—we gave money to Homeland, a 15 percent increase, yet there are only two Members—when we all voted—on the Republican side that actually supported the appropriations bill, Homeland. So if we care so much about Homeland, why did we vote “no” on the final appropriations bill?

I know some of us are going to vote “no,” and I am voting “no” on this one, but on the final one, I will support the final appropriations bill.

The other thing is as the Democratic leader, Mr. JEFFRIES, said, we have 3 days to work this out, and by passing this bill to the Senate it is not going to get there. I would just like to remind Members that we ought to be working on preventing the shutdown.

If you look at the shutdowns that we have had since the 1990s, in 1995 it was a Republican House that had a 5-day shutdown. That was November 13, 1995. On December 15, 1995, there was another Republican-led House with 21 days of a shutdown. Then on September 30, 2013, again, for 16 days it was a Republican-led House that allowed the shutdown. Then on January 19, 2018, another Republican-led House shutdown lasted for 2 days. Then on December 21, 2018, there was another Republican-led House shutdown for 34 days.

So, again, I hope that on Saturday or on Sunday at 12:01 there is not another Republican-led shutdown. We are asking you please give us input. Let’s sit down. Let’s talk about it. I have a lot of respect for Mr. JOYCE and his staff. I know we can do this together. We will be voting “no” on this, but I know at the end of this process we will be voting together on this on a “yes” bill.

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

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio. Mr. Chair, I thought we were here to talk about the Homeland Security appropriations bill, and I look forward to having further discussion and reviewing these amendments.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIR. All time for general debate has expired.

Pursuant to the rule, the bill shall be considered for amendment under the 5-

minute rule. The bill shall be considered as read.

H.R. 4367

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the following sums are appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes, namely:

TITLE I

DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT, INTELLIGENCE, SITUATIONAL AWARENESS, AND OVERSIGHT

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY AND EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT

OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Secretary and for executive management for operations and support, \$279,606,000; of which \$5,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That \$5,000,000 shall be withheld from obligation until the Secretary submits, to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, responses to all questions for the record for each hearing on the fiscal year 2025 budget submission for the Department of Homeland Security held by such Committees prior to July 1: *Provided further*, That \$25,000,000 shall be withheld from obligation until the Secretary submits the reports required by subsection (g) of section 1092 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (6 U.S.C. 223) and subsection (b) of section 386 of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1368).

MANAGEMENT DIRECTORATE

OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

For necessary expenses of the Management Directorate for operations and support, \$1,695,326,000: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$2,000 shall be for official reception and representation expenses.

PROCUREMENT, CONSTRUCTION, AND IMPROVEMENTS

For necessary expenses of the Management Directorate for procurement, construction, and improvements, \$127,758,000, to remain available until September 30, 2026.

FEDERAL PROTECTIVE SERVICE

The revenues and collections of security fees credited to this account shall be available until expended for necessary expenses related to the protection of federally owned and leased buildings and for the operations of the Federal Protective Service.

INTELLIGENCE, ANALYSIS, AND SITUATIONAL AWARENESS

OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

For necessary expenses of the Office of Intelligence and Analysis and the Office of Homeland Security Situational Awareness for operations and support, \$348,736,000, of which \$105,701,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$3,825 shall be for official reception and representation expenses and not to exceed \$2,000,000 is available for facility needs associated with secure space at fusion centers, including improvements to buildings.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General for operations and support, \$228,371,000: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$300,000 may be used for certain confidential operational expenses, including the payment of informants, to be expended at the direction of the Inspector General.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

SEC. 101. (a) The Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit a report not later than October 15, 2024, to the Inspector General of the Department of Homeland Security listing all grants and contracts awarded by any means other than full and open competition during fiscal years 2023 or 2024.

(b) The Inspector General shall review the report required by subsection (a) to assess departmental compliance with applicable laws and regulations and report the results of that review to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate not later than February 15, 2025.

SEC. 102. Not later than 30 days after the last day of each month, the Chief Financial Officer of the Department of Homeland Security shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a monthly budget and staffing report that includes total obligations of the Department for that month and for the fiscal year at the appropriation and program, project, and activity levels, by the source year of the appropriation.

SEC. 103. (a) The Secretary of Homeland Security, in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury, shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate of any proposed transfers of funds available under section 9705(g)(4)(B) of title 31, United States Code, from the Department of the Treasury Forfeiture Fund to any agency within the Department of Homeland Security.

(b) None of the funds identified for such a transfer may be obligated until the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate are notified of the proposed transfer.

SEC. 104. All official costs associated with the use of Government aircraft by Department of Homeland Security personnel to support official travel of the Secretary and the Deputy Secretary shall be paid from amounts made available for the Office of the Secretary.

SEC. 105. (a) The Under Secretary for Management shall brief the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate not later than 45 days after the end of each fiscal quarter on all Level 1 and Level 2 acquisition programs on the Master Acquisition Oversight list between Acquisition Decision Event and Full Operational Capability, including programs that have been removed from such list during the preceding quarter.

(b) For each such program, the briefing described in subsection (a) shall include—

(1) a description of the purpose of the program, including the capabilities being acquired and the component(s) sponsoring the acquisition;

(2) the total number of units, as appropriate, to be acquired annually until procurement is complete under the current acquisition program baseline;

(3) the Acquisition Review Board status, including—

(A) the current acquisition phase by increment, as applicable;

(B) the date of the most recent review; and

(C) whether the program has been paused or is in breach status;

(4) a comparison between the initial Department-approved acquisition program baseline cost, schedule, and performance thresholds and objectives and the program's current such thresholds and objectives, if applicable;

(5) the lifecycle cost estimate, adjusted for comparison to the Future Years Homeland Security Program, including—

(A) the confidence level for the estimate;

(B) the fiscal years included in the estimate;

(C) a breakout of the estimate for the prior five years, the current year, and the budget year;

(D) a breakout of the estimate by appropriation account or other funding source; and

(E) a description of and rationale for any changes to the estimate as compared to the previously approved baseline, as applicable, and during the prior fiscal year;

(6) a summary of the findings of any independent verification and validation of the items to be acquired or an explanation for why no such verification and validation has been performed;

(7) a table displaying the obligation of all program funds by prior fiscal year, the estimated obligation of funds for the current fiscal year, and an estimate for the planned carryover of funds into the subsequent fiscal year;

(8) a listing of prime contractors and major subcontractors; and

(9) narrative descriptions of risks to cost, schedule, or performance that could result in a program breach if not successfully mitigated.

(c) The Under Secretary for Management shall submit each approved Acquisition Decision Memorandum for programs described in this section to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate not later than five business days after the date of approval of such memorandum by the Under Secretary for Management or the designee of the Under Secretary.

SEC. 106. (a) None of the funds made available to the Department of Homeland Security in this Act or prior appropriations Acts may be obligated for any new pilot or demonstration unless the component or office carrying out such pilot or demonstration has documented the information described in subsection (c).

(b) Prior to the obligation of any such funds made available for "Operations and Support" for a new pilot or demonstration, the Under Secretary for Management shall provide a report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate on the information described in subsection (c).

(c) The information required under subsections (a) and (b) for a pilot or demonstration shall include the following—

(1) documented objectives that are well-defined and measurable;

(2) an assessment methodology that details—

(A) the type and source of assessment data;

(B) the methods for, and frequency of, collecting such data; and

(C) how such data will be analyzed; and

(3) an implementation plan, including milestones, cost estimates, and implementation schedules, including a projected end date.

(d) Not later than 90 days after the date of completion of a pilot or demonstration described in subsection (e) the Under Secretary for Management shall provide a report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate detailing lessons learned, actual costs, any planned expansion or continuation of the pilot or demonstration, and any planned transition of such pilot or demonstration into an enduring program or operation.

(e) For the purposes of this section, a pilot or demonstration program is a study, demonstration, experimental program, or trial that—

(1) is a small-scale, short-term experiment conducted in order to evaluate feasibility, duration, costs, or adverse events, and im-

prove upon the design of an effort prior to implementation of a larger scale effort; and

(2) uses more than 10 full-time equivalents or obligates, or proposes to obligate, \$5,000,000 or more, but does not include congressionally directed programs or enhancements and does not include programs that were in operation as of December 29, 2022.

(f) For the purposes of this section, a pilot or demonstration does not include any testing, evaluation, or initial deployment phase executed under a procurement contract for the acquisition of information technology services or systems, or any pilot or demonstration carried out by a non-federal recipient under any financial assistance agreement funded by the Department.

TITLE II

SECURITY, ENFORCEMENT, AND INVESTIGATIONS

U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

For necessary expenses of U.S. Customs and Border Protection for operations and support, including the transportation of unaccompanied alien minors; the provision of air and marine support to Federal, State, local, and international agencies in the enforcement or administration of laws enforced by the Department of Homeland Security; at the discretion of the Secretary of Homeland Security, the provision of such support to Federal, State, and local agencies in other law enforcement and emergency humanitarian efforts; the purchase and lease of up to 7,500 (6,500 for replacement only) police-type vehicles; the purchase, maintenance, or operation of marine vessels, aircraft, and unmanned aerial systems; and contracting with individuals for personal services abroad; \$16,241,678,000; of which \$3,274,000 shall be derived from the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund for administrative expenses related to the collection of the Harbor Maintenance Fee pursuant to section 9505(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (26 U.S.C. 9505(c)(3)) and notwithstanding section 1511(e)(1) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 551(e)(1)); of which \$700,000,000 shall be available until September 30, 2025; and of which such sums as become available in the Customs User Fee Account, except sums subject to section 13031(f)(3) of the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 (19 U.S.C. 58c(f)(3)), shall be derived from that account: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$34,425 shall be for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$150,000 shall be available for payment for rental space in connection with preclearance operations: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$2,000,000 shall be for awards of compensation to informants, to be accounted for solely under the certificate of the Secretary of Homeland Security.

PROCUREMENT, CONSTRUCTION, AND IMPROVEMENTS

For necessary expenses of U.S. Customs and Border Protection for procurement, construction, and improvements, including procurement of physical barriers, marine vessels, aircraft, and unmanned aerial systems, \$2,965,653,000, of which \$741,885,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2026; and of which \$2,223,768,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2028.

U.S. IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT

OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

For necessary expenses of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement for operations and support, including the purchase and lease of up to 3,790 (2,350 for replacement only) police-type vehicles; overseas vetted

units, including stipends for members of such units; and maintenance, minor construction, and minor leasehold improvements at owned and leased facilities; \$9,758,297,000; of which not less than \$6,000,000 shall remain available until expended for efforts to enforce laws against forced child labor; of which \$46,696,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2025; of which not less than \$2,000,000 is for paid apprenticeships for participants in the Human Exploitation Rescue Operative Child-Rescue Corps; of which not less than \$15,000,000 shall be available for investigation of intellectual property rights violations, including operation of the National Intellectual Property Rights Coordination Center; and of which not less than \$5,310,547,000 shall be for enforcement, detention, and removal operations, including transportation of unaccompanied alien minors: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$11,475 shall be for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$10,000,000 shall be available until expended for conducting special operations under section 3131 of the Customs Enforcement Act of 1986 (19 U.S.C. 2081): *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$2,000,000 shall be for awards of compensation to informants, to be accounted for solely under the certificate of the Secretary of Homeland Security: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$11,216,000 shall be available to fund or reimburse other Federal agencies for the costs associated with the care, maintenance, and repatriation of smuggled aliens unlawfully present in the United States: *Provided further*, That not less than \$2,000,000 shall be for entering into new agreements for the delegation of law enforcement authority authorized under section 287(g) of the Immigration and Nationality Act: *Provided further*, That funding made available under this heading shall maintain a level of not less than 41,500 detention beds through September 30, 2024.

PROCUREMENT, CONSTRUCTION, AND IMPROVEMENTS

For necessary expenses of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement for procurement, construction, and improvements, \$50,520,000, of which \$35,420,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2026, and of which \$15,100,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2028.

TRANSPORTATION SECURITY ADMINISTRATION OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

For necessary expenses of the Transportation Security Administration for operations and support, \$10,118,131,000, of which \$600,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$7,650 shall be for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That security service fees authorized under section 44940 of title 49, United States Code, shall be credited to this appropriation as offsetting collections and shall be available only for aviation security: *Provided further*, That the sum appropriated under this heading from the general fund shall be reduced on a dollar-for-dollar basis as such offsetting collections are received during fiscal year 2024 so as to result in a final fiscal year appropriation from the general fund estimated at not more than \$7,498,131,000.

PROCUREMENT, CONSTRUCTION, AND IMPROVEMENTS

For necessary expenses of the Transportation Security Administration for procurement, construction, and improvements, \$130,340,000, to remain available until September 30, 2026.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

For necessary expenses of the Transportation Security Administration for research

and development, \$33,532,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025.

**COAST GUARD
OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT**

For necessary expenses of the Coast Guard for operations and support including the Coast Guard Reserve; purchase or lease of not to exceed 25 passenger motor vehicles, which shall be for replacement only; purchase or lease of small boats for contingent and emergent requirements (at a unit cost of not more than \$700,000) and repairs and service-life replacements, not to exceed a total of \$31,000,000; purchase, lease, or improvements of boats necessary for overseas deployments and activities; payments pursuant to section 156 of Public Law 97-377 (42 U.S.C. 402 note; 96 Stat. 1920); and recreation and welfare; \$10,222,488,000, of which \$530,000,000 shall be for defense-related activities; of which \$24,500,000 shall be derived from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund to carry out the purposes of section 1012(a)(5) of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2712(a)(5)); of which \$20,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2026; of which \$24,717,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2028, for environmental compliance and restoration; and of which \$100,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2025, which shall only be available for vessel depot level maintenance: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$23,000 shall be for official reception and representation expenses.

**PROCUREMENT, CONSTRUCTION, AND
IMPROVEMENTS**

For necessary expenses of the Coast Guard for procurement, construction, and improvements, including aids to navigation, shore facilities (including facilities at Department of Defense installations used by the Coast Guard), and vessels and aircraft, including equipment related thereto, \$1,981,194,000, to remain available until September 30, 2028; of which \$20,000,000 shall be derived from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund to carry out the purposes of section 1012(a)(5) of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2712(a)(5)).

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

For necessary expenses of the Coast Guard for research and development; and for maintenance, rehabilitation, lease, and operation of facilities and equipment; \$7,476,000, to remain available until September 30, 2026, of which \$500,000 shall be derived from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund to carry out the purposes of section 1012(a)(5) of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2712(a)(5)): *Provided*, That there may be credited to and used for the purposes of this appropriation funds received from State and local governments, other public authorities, private sources, and foreign countries for expenses incurred for research, development, testing, and evaluation.

RETIRED PAY

For retired pay, including the payment of obligations otherwise chargeable to lapsed appropriations for this purpose, payments under the Retired Serviceman's Family Protection and Survivor Benefits Plans, payment for career status bonuses, payment of continuation pay under section 356 of title 37, United States Code, concurrent receipts, combat-related special compensation, and payments for medical care of retired personnel and their dependents under chapter 55 of title 10, United States Code, \$1,147,244,000, to remain available until expended.

**UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE
OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT**

For necessary expenses of the United States Secret Service for operations and support, including purchase of not to exceed 652 vehicles for police-type use; hire of passenger

motor vehicles; purchase of motorcycles made in the United States; hire of aircraft; rental of buildings in the District of Columbia; fencing, lighting, guard booths, and other facilities on private or other property not in Government ownership or control, as may be necessary to perform protective functions; conduct of and participation in firearms matches; presentation of awards; conduct of behavioral research in support of protective intelligence and operations; payment in advance for commercial accommodations as may be necessary to perform protective functions; and payment, without regard to section 5702 of title 5, United States Code, of subsistence expenses of employees who are on protective missions, whether at or away from their duty stations; \$2,949,463,000; of which \$114,599,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2025, and of which \$6,000,000 shall be for a grant for activities related to investigations of missing and exploited children; and of which up to \$30,000,000 may be for calendar year 2023 premium pay in excess of the annual equivalent of the limitation on the rate of pay contained in section 5547(a) of title 5, United States Code, pursuant to section 2 of the Overtime Pay for Protective Services Act of 2016 (5 U.S.C. 5547 note), as last amended by Public Law 116-269: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$19,125 shall be for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$100,000 shall be to provide technical assistance and equipment to foreign law enforcement organizations in criminal investigations within the jurisdiction of the United States Secret Service.

**PROCUREMENT, CONSTRUCTION, AND
IMPROVEMENTS**

For necessary expenses of the United States Secret Service for procurement, construction, and improvements, \$61,098,000, to remain available until September 30, 2026.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

For necessary expenses of the United States Secret Service for research and development, \$4,217,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

SEC. 201. Section 201 of the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2018 (division F of Public Law 115-141), related to overtime compensation limitations, shall apply with respect to funds made available in this Act in the same manner as such section applied to funds made available in that Act, except that "fiscal year 2024" shall be substituted for "fiscal year 2018".

SEC. 202. Funding made available under the headings "U.S. Customs and Border Protection—Operations and Support" and "U.S. Customs and Border Protection—Procurement, Construction, and Improvements" shall be available for customs expenses when necessary to maintain operations and prevent adverse personnel actions in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands, in addition to funding provided by sections 740 and 1406 of title 48, United States Code.

SEC. 203. As authorized by section 601(b) of the United States-Colombia Trade Promotion Agreement Implementation Act (Public Law 112-42), fees collected from passengers arriving from Canada, Mexico, or an adjacent island pursuant to section 13031(a)(5) of the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 (19 U.S.C. 58c(a)(5)) shall be available until expended.

SEC. 204. (a) For an additional amount for "U.S. Customs and Border Protection—Operations and Support", \$31,000,000, to remain available until expended, to be reduced by amounts collected and credited to this appropriation in fiscal year 2024 from amounts authorized to be collected by section 286(i) of

the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1356(i)), section 10412 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 8311), and section 817 of the Trade Facilitation and Trade Enforcement Act of 2015 (Public Law 114-125), or other such authorizing language.

(b) To the extent that amounts realized from such collections exceed \$31,000,000, those amounts in excess of \$31,000,000 shall be credited to this appropriation, to remain available until expended.

SEC. 205. None of the funds made available in this Act for U.S. Customs and Border Protection may be used to prevent an individual not in the business of importing a prescription drug (within the meaning of section 801(g) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act) from importing a prescription drug from Canada that complies with the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act: *Provided*, That this section shall apply only to individuals transporting on their person a personal-use quantity of the prescription drug, not to exceed a 90-day supply: *Provided further*, That the prescription drug may not be—

(1) a controlled substance, as defined in section 102 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 802); or

(2) a biological product, as defined in section 351 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 262).

SEC. 206. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds provided in this or any other Act shall be used to approve a waiver of the navigation and vessel-inspection laws pursuant to section 501(b) of title 46, United States Code, for the transportation of crude oil distributed from and to the Strategic Petroleum Reserve until the Secretary of Homeland Security, after consultation with the Secretaries of the Departments of Energy and Transportation and representatives from the United States flag maritime industry, takes adequate measures to ensure the use of United States flag vessels.

(b) The Secretary shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate within 2 business days of any request for waivers of navigation and vessel-inspection laws pursuant to section 501(b) of title 46, United States Code, with respect to such transportation, and the disposition of such requests.

SEC. 207. (a) Beginning on the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall not—

(1) establish, collect, or otherwise impose any new border crossing fee on individuals crossing the Southern border or the Northern border at a land port of entry; or

(2) conduct any study relating to the imposition of a border crossing fee.

(b) In this section, the term "border crossing fee" means a fee that every pedestrian, cyclist, and driver and passenger of a private motor vehicle is required to pay for the privilege of crossing the Southern border or the Northern border at a land port of entry.

SEC. 208. (a) Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection shall submit an expenditure plan for any amounts made available for "U.S. Customs and Border Protection—Procurement, Construction, and Improvements" in this Act and prior Acts to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

(b) No such amounts provided in this Act may be obligated prior to the submission of such plan.

SEC. 209. Section 211 of the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2021 (division F of Public Law 116-260), prohibiting the use of funds for the construction of fencing in certain areas, shall apply with respect to funds made available in this Act in the same manner as such section applied to funds made available in that Act.

SEC. 210. (a) Funds made available in this Act may be used to alter operations within the National Targeting Center of U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

(b) None of the funds provided by this Act, provided by previous appropriations Acts that remain available for obligation or expenditure in fiscal year 2024, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury of the United States derived by the collection of fees available to the components funded by this Act, may be used to reduce anticipated or planned vetting operations at existing locations unless specifically authorized by a statute enacted after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 211. (a) Of the total amount made available under “U.S. Customs and Border Protection—Procurement, Construction, and Improvements”, \$2,965,653,000 shall be available only as follows:

- (1) \$2,104,000,000 for the acquisition and deployment of physical barriers;
- (2) \$276,000,000 for the acquisition and deployment of border security technologies;
- (3) \$305,400,000 for trade and travel assets and infrastructure;
- (4) \$119,768,000 for facility construction and improvements;
- (5) \$123,232,000 for integrated operations assets and infrastructure; and
- (6) \$37,253,000 for mission support and infrastructure.

(b) None of the funds allocated for pedestrian physical barriers may be made available for any purpose other than the construction of steel bollard pedestrian barrier built at least 18 to 30 feet in effective height and augmented with anti-climb and anti-dig features.

(c) None of the funds allocated for pedestrian physical barriers may be made available for any purpose other than construction of pedestrian barriers consistent with the description in subsection (b) at locations identified in the Border Security Improvement Plan submitted to Congress on August 1, 2020.

(d) The Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection may reprioritize the construction of physical barriers outlined in the Border Security Improvement Plan and, with prior approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, add additional miles of pedestrian physical barriers where no such barriers exist, prioritized by operational requirements developed in coordination with U.S. Border Patrol leadership.

(e) The Secretary of Homeland Security shall begin to obligate amounts for physical barrier construction no later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

(f) For purposes of this section, the term “effective height” refers to the height above the level of the adjacent terrain features.

SEC. 212. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be obligated, expended, or transferred to another Federal agency, board, or commission to be used to dismantle, demolish, remove, or damage existing United States-Mexico physical barriers at any location where such barriers have been constructed as of the date of enactment of this Act unless such barrier is simultaneously being repaired or replaced.

SEC. 213. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be made available to utilize the U.S. Customs and Border Protection CBP One Application,

or any successor application, to facilitate the parole of any alien into the United States.

SEC. 214. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be made available to reduce participation in or substantively diminish the delegation of law enforcement authority authorized under section 287(g) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, except as provided in section 215 of this Act.

SEC. 215. None of the funds provided under the heading “U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement—Operations and Support” may be used to continue a delegation of law enforcement authority authorized under section 287(g) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1357(g)) if the Department of Homeland Security Inspector General determines that the terms of the agreement governing the delegation of authority have been materially violated.

SEC. 216. (a) None of the funds provided under the heading “U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement—Operations and Support” may be used to continue any contract for the provision of detention services if the two most recent overall performance evaluations received by the contracted facility are less than “adequate” or the equivalent median score in any subsequent performance evaluation system.

(b) The performance evaluations referenced in subsection (a) shall be conducted by the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Office of Professional Responsibility.

SEC. 217. Without regard to the limitation as to time and condition of section 503(d) of this Act, the Secretary may reprogram within and transfer funds to “U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement—Operations and Support” as necessary to ensure the detention of aliens prioritized for removal.

SEC. 218. The reports required to be submitted under section 216 of the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2021 (division F of Public Law 116-260) shall continue to be submitted semimonthly and each matter required to be included in such reports by such section 216 shall apply in the same manner and to the same extent during the period described in such section 216.

SEC. 219. The terms and conditions of section 217 of the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2020 (division D of Public Law 116-93) shall apply to this Act.

SEC. 220. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be made available to implement, administer, or otherwise carry out the activities and policies described in the memorandum issued by the Secretary of Homeland Security on September 30, 2021, entitled “Guidelines for the Enforcement of Civil Immigration Law” or described in the memorandum issued by Kerry Doyle, Immigration and Customs Enforcement Principal Legal Advisor on April 3, 2022, entitled “Guidance to OPLA Attorneys Regarding the Enforcement of Civil Immigration Laws and the Exercise of Prosecutorial Discretion” or any successor or similar memorandum or policy.

SEC. 221. (a) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be made available to transport aliens unlawfully present in, paroled into, or inadmissible to the United States into the interior of the United States for purposes other than enforcement of the immigration laws (as such term is defined in section 101 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101)).

(b) The limitation under subsection (a) shall not apply with respect to amounts made available to transport unaccompanied alien children (as such term is defined in section 462 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 279)).

SEC. 222. (a) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act for

“U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement” may be used to pay for or facilitate an abortion, except where the life of the mother would be endangered if the fetus would be carried to term, or in the case of rape or incest.

(b) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act for “U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement” may be used to require any person to perform, or facilitate in any way the performance of, any abortion.

SEC. 223. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be made available to administer hormone therapy medication or perform or facilitate any surgery for any person in custody of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement for the purpose of gender-affirming care.

SEC. 224. The Secretary of Homeland Security shall allocate amounts appropriated or otherwise made available under the heading “U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement—Operations and Support” by this Act in order to—

(1) prioritize detention by using such amounts to ensure that the average daily population of detainees is maintained at the full capacity funded by this Act throughout the fiscal year; and

(2) ensure that every alien on the non-detained docket is enrolled into the Alternatives to Detention Program with mandatory GPS monitoring throughout the duration of all applicable immigration proceedings (including any appeals) and until removal, if ordered removed.

SEC. 225. Members of the United States House of Representatives and the United States Senate, including the leadership; the heads of Federal agencies and commissions, including the Secretary, Deputy Secretary, Under Secretaries, and Assistant Secretaries of the Department of Homeland Security; the United States Attorney General, Deputy Attorney General, Assistant Attorneys General, and the United States Attorneys; and senior members of the Executive Office of the President, including the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, shall not be exempt from Federal passenger and baggage screening.

SEC. 226. Notwithstanding section 44923 of title 49, United States Code, for fiscal year 2024, any funds in the Aviation Security Capital Fund established by section 44923(h) of title 49, United States Code, may be used for the procurement and installation of explosives detection systems or for the issuance of other transaction agreements for the purpose of funding projects described in section 44923(a) of such title.

SEC. 227. Not later than 45 days after the submission of the President’s budget proposal, the Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations and Homeland Security in the House of Representatives and the Committees on Appropriations and Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a single report that fulfills the following requirements:

(1) a Capital Investment Plan, both constrained and unconstrained, that includes a plan for continuous and sustained capital investment in new, and the replacement of aged, transportation security equipment;

(2) the 5-year technology investment plan as required by section 1611 of title XVI of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as amended by section 3 of the Transportation Security Acquisition Reform Act (Public Law 113-245); and

(3) the Advanced Integrated Passenger Screening Technologies report as required by the Senate Report accompanying the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2019 (Senate Report 115-283).

SEC. 228. None of the funds made available under the heading “Transportation Security Administration—Operations and Support” may be made available for the purpose of implementation of any structural pay reform that would alter the pay structure in place as of October 1, 2022, for any employee that is not a Transportation Security Officer.

SEC. 229. (a) None of the funds made available by this Act under the heading “Coast Guard—Operations and Support” shall be for expenses incurred for recreational vessels under section 12114 of title 46, United States Code, except to the extent fees are collected from owners of yachts and credited to the appropriation made available by this Act under the heading “Coast Guard—Operations and Support”. (b) To the extent such fees are insufficient to pay expenses of recreational vessel documentation under such section 12114, and there is a backlog of recreational vessel applications, personnel performing non-recreational vessel documentation functions under subchapter II of chapter 121 of title 46, United States Code, may perform documentation under section 12114.

SEC. 230. Without regard to the limitation as to time and condition of section 503(d) of this Act, after June 30, in accordance with the notification requirement described in subsection (b) of such section, up to the following amounts may be reprogrammed within “Coast Guard—Operations and Support”—

- (1) \$10,000,000 to or from the “Military Personnel” funding category; and
- (2) \$10,000,000 between the “Field Operations” funding subcategories.

SEC. 231. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Commandant of the Coast Guard shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a future-years capital investment plan as described in the second proviso under the heading “Coast Guard—Acquisition, Construction, and Improvements” in the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2015 (Public Law 114-4), which shall be subject to the requirements in the third and fourth provisos under such heading.

SEC. 232. None of the funds in this Act shall be used to reduce the Coast Guard’s legacy Operations Systems Center mission or its government-employed or contract staff levels.

SEC. 233. None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be used to conduct, or to implement the results of, a competition under Office of Management and Budget Circular A-76 for activities performed with respect to the Coast Guard National Vessel Documentation Center.

SEC. 234. Funds made available in this Act may be used to alter operations within the Civil Engineering Program of the Coast Guard nationwide, including civil engineering units, facilities design and construction centers, maintenance and logistics commands, and the Coast Guard Academy, except that none of the funds provided in this Act may be used to reduce operations within any civil engineering unit unless specifically authorized by a statute enacted after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 235. Amounts deposited into the Coast Guard Housing Fund in fiscal year 2024 shall be available until expended to carry out the purposes of section 2946 of title 14, United States Code, and shall be in addition to funds otherwise available for such purposes.

SEC. 236. (a) Notwithstanding section 2110 of title 46, United States Code, none of the funds made available in this Act shall be used to charge a fee for an inspection of a towing vessel, as defined in 46 CFR 136.110, that utilizes the Towing Safety Management System option for a Certificate of Inspection

issued under subchapter M of title 46, Code of Federal Regulations.

(b) Subsection (a) shall not apply after the date the Commandant of the Coast Guard makes a determination under section 815(a) of the Frank LoBiondo Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-282) and, as necessary based on such determination, carries out the requirements of section 815(b) of such Act.

SEC. 237. The United States Secret Service is authorized to obligate funds in anticipation of reimbursements from executive agencies, as defined in section 105 of title 5, United States Code, for personnel receiving training sponsored by the James J. Rowley Training Center, except that total obligations at the end of the fiscal year shall not exceed total budgetary resources available under the heading “United States Secret Service—Operations and Support” at the end of the fiscal year.

SEC. 238. (a) None of the funds made available to the United States Secret Service by this Act or by previous appropriations Acts may be made available for the protection of the head of a Federal agency other than the Secretary of Homeland Security.

(b) The Director of the United States Secret Service may enter into agreements to provide such protection on a fully reimbursable basis.

SEC. 239. For purposes of section 503(a)(3) of this Act, up to \$15,000,000 may be reprogrammed within “United States Secret Service—Operations and Support”.

SEC. 240. Funding made available in this Act for “United States Secret Service—Operations and Support” is available for travel of United States Secret Service employees on protective missions without regard to the limitations on such expenditures in this or any other Act if the Director of the United States Secret Service or a designee notifies the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate 10 or more days in advance, or as early as practicable, prior to such expenditures.

SEC. 241. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be made available to implement, administer, or otherwise carry out the policies described in the directive issued by the Acting Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection on January 10, 2023, entitled “Emergency Driving and Vehicular Pursuits”, or any successor or similar directive or policy.

SEC. 242. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be made available to admit an alien into the United States based on a Department of Homeland Security Form I-20 (Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status) issued by a college, university, or other institution of higher education that is not accredited by a nationally recognized accrediting agency or association recognized by the Secretary of Education pursuant to part H of title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1099a et seq.).

SEC. 243. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be made available to parole into the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, for the purpose of temporary visit for business or pleasure without a visa, an alien who is a national of the People’s Republic of China.

SEC. 244. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act or previous appropriations Acts under the heading “Coast Guard—Procurement, Construction, and Improvements” that remain available for obligation in fiscal year 2024 within the Waterways Commerce Cutter Program may be used to enter into or carry out a procurement contract with any entity deemed not eligible for an award from a size standpoint by the Small Business Administration.

TITLE III

PROTECTION, PREPAREDNESS,

RESPONSE, AND RECOVERY

CYBERSECURITY AND INFRASTRUCTURE

SECURITY AGENCY

OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

For necessary expenses of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency for operations and support, \$2,370,963,000, of which \$24,424,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$3,825 shall be for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That \$5,000,000 shall be withheld from obligation until the reports and briefings directed under this heading in the explanatory statement accompanying Public Law 117-103 have been submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

PROCUREMENT, CONSTRUCTION, AND IMPROVEMENTS

For necessary expenses of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency for procurement, construction, and improvements, \$553,537,000, to remain available until September 30, 2026.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

For necessary expenses of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency for research and development, \$1,791,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025.

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

For necessary expenses of the Federal Emergency Management Agency for operations and support, \$1,521,248,000: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$2,250 shall be for official reception and representation expenses.

PROCUREMENT, CONSTRUCTION, AND IMPROVEMENTS

For necessary expenses of the Federal Emergency Management Agency for procurement, construction, and improvements, \$119,137,000, of which \$81,637,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2026, and of which \$37,500,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2028.

FEDERAL ASSISTANCE

For activities of the Federal Emergency Management Agency for Federal assistance through grants, contracts, cooperative agreements, and other activities, \$3,742,460,342, which shall be allocated as follows:

(1) \$530,000,000 for the State Homeland Security Grant Program under section 2004 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 605), of which \$100,000,000 shall be for Operation Stonegarden and \$15,000,000 shall be for Tribal Homeland Security Grants under section 2005 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 606): *Provided*, That notwithstanding subsection (c)(4) of such section 2004, for fiscal year 2024, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico shall make available to local and tribal governments amounts provided to the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico under this paragraph in accordance with subsection (c)(1) of such section 2004.

(2) \$615,000,000 for the Urban Area Security Initiative under section 2003 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 604).

(3) \$315,000,000 for the Nonprofit Security Grant Program under section 2009 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 609a), of which \$157,500,000 is for eligible recipients located in high-risk urban areas that receive funding under section 2003 of such Act and \$157,500,000 is for eligible recipients that are located outside such areas: *Provided*, That eligible recipients are those described in section 2009(b) of such Act (6 U.S.C. 609a(b)) or are an otherwise eligible

recipient at risk of a terrorist or other extremist attack.

(4) \$105,000,000 for Public Transportation Security Assistance, Railroad Security Assistance, and Over-the-Road Bus Security Assistance under sections 1406, 1513, and 1532 of the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007 (6 U.S.C. 1135, 1163, and 1182), of which \$10,000,000 shall be for Amtrak security and \$2,000,000 shall be for Over-the-Road Bus Security: *Provided*, That such public transportation security assistance shall be provided directly to public transportation agencies.

(5) \$100,000,000 for Port Security Grants in accordance with section 70107 of title 46, United States Code.

(6) \$720,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, of which \$360,000,000 shall be for Assistance to Firefighter Grants and \$360,000,000 shall be for Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response Grants under sections 33 and 34 respectively of the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 (15 U.S.C. 2229 and 2229a).

(7) \$355,000,000 for emergency management performance grants under the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4001 et seq.), the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121), the Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act of 1977 (42 U.S.C. 7701), section 762 of title 6, United States Code, and Reorganization Plan No. 3 of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.).

(8) \$312,750,000 for necessary expenses for Flood Hazard Mapping and Risk Analysis, in addition to and to supplement any other sums appropriated under the National Flood Insurance Fund, and such additional sums as may be provided by States or other political subdivisions for cost-shared mapping activities under section 1360(f)(2) of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4101(f)(2)), to remain available until expended.

(9) \$12,000,000 for Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grants.

(10) \$130,000,000 for the emergency food and shelter program under title III of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11331), to remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That not to exceed 3.5 percent shall be for total administrative costs.

(11) \$40,000,000 for the Next Generation Warning System.

(12) \$181,223,342 for Community Project Funding grants, which shall be for the purposes, and the amounts, specified in the table entitled “Homeland Security—Community Project Funding” in the report accompanying this Act, of which—

(A) \$65,627,263, in addition to amounts otherwise made available for such purpose, is for emergency operations center grants under section 614 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5196c); and

(B) \$115,596,079, in addition to amounts otherwise made available for such purpose, is for pre-disaster mitigation grants under section 203 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5133(e), notwithstanding subsections (f), (g), and (l) of that section (42 U.S.C. 5133(f), (g), (l)).

(13) \$326,487,000 to sustain current operations for training, exercises, technical assistance, and other programs.

DISASTER RELIEF FUND

For necessary expenses in carrying out the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.), \$20,406,341,000, to remain available until expended, of which \$20,261,000,000 shall be for major disasters declared pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emer-

gency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.) and is designated by the Congress as being for disaster relief pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(D) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE FUND

For activities under the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4001 et seq.), the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (42 U.S.C. 4001 et seq.), the Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012 (Public Law 112-141, 126 Stat. 916), and the Homeowner Flood Insurance Affordability Act of 2014 (Public Law 113-89; 128 Stat. 1020), \$239,983,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, which shall be derived from offsetting amounts collected under section 1308(d) of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4015(d)); of which \$18,917,000 shall be available for mission support associated with flood management; and of which \$221,066,000 shall be available for flood plain management and flood mapping: *Provided*, That any additional fees collected pursuant to section 1308(d) of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4015(d)) shall be credited as offsetting collections to this account, to be available for flood plain management and flood mapping: *Provided further*, That in fiscal year 2024, no funds shall be available from the National Flood Insurance Fund under section 1310 of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4017) in excess of—

(1) \$230,504,000 for operating expenses and salaries and expenses associated with flood insurance operations;

(2) \$1,300,000,000 for commissions and taxes of agents;

(3) such sums as are necessary for interest on Treasury borrowings; and

(4) \$175,000,000, which shall remain available until expended, for flood mitigation actions and for flood mitigation assistance under section 1366 of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4104c), notwithstanding sections 1366(e) and 1310(a)(7) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 4104c(e), 4017): *Provided further*, That the amounts collected under section 102 of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (42 U.S.C. 4012a) and section 1366(e) of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4104c(e)), shall be deposited in the National Flood Insurance Fund to supplement other amounts specified as available for section 1366 of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, notwithstanding section 102(f)(8), section 1366(e) of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, and paragraphs

(1) through (3) of section 1367(b) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 4012a(f)(8), 4104c(e), 4104d(b)(1)-(3)): *Provided further*, That total administrative costs shall not exceed 4 percent of the total appropriation: *Provided further*, That up to \$5,000,000 is available to carry out section 24 of the Homeowner Flood Insurance Affordability Act of 2014 (42 U.S.C. 4033).

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

SEC. 301. (a) The Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (or the Director’s designee) shall provide the briefings to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate described under the heading “Quarterly Budget and Staffing Briefings” in the explanatory statement for division F of Public Law 117-103 described in section 4 in the matter preceding division A of such Public Law—

(1) with respect to the first quarter of fiscal year 2024, not later than the later of 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act or January 30, 2024; and

(2) with respect to each subsequent fiscal quarter in fiscal year 2024, not later than 21 days after the end of each such quarter.

(b) In the event that any such briefing required during this fiscal year under sub-

section (a) is not provided, the amount made available in title III to the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency under the heading “Operations and Support” shall be reduced by \$50,000 for each day of non-compliance with subsection (a), and the amount made available under such heading and specified in the detailed funding table in the report accompanying this Act for Mission Support shall be correspondingly reduced by an equivalent amount.

SEC. 302. (a) Notwithstanding section 2008(a)(12) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 609(a)(12)) or any other provision of law, not more than 5 percent of the amount of a grant made available in paragraphs (1) through (5) under “Federal Emergency Management Agency—Federal Assistance”, may be used by the recipient for expenses directly related to administration of the grant.

(b) The authority provided in subsection (a) shall also apply to a state recipient for the administration of a grant under such paragraph (3).

SEC. 303. Applications for grants under the heading “Federal Emergency Management Agency—Federal Assistance”, for paragraphs (1) through (5), shall be made available to eligible applicants not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, eligible applicants shall submit applications not later than 80 days after the grant announcement, and the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency shall act within 65 days after the receipt of an application.

SEC. 304. (a) Under the heading “Federal Emergency Management Agency—Federal Assistance”, for grants under paragraphs (1) through (5) and (9), the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency shall brief the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate 5 full business days in advance of announcing publicly the intention of making an award.

(b) If any such public announcement is made before 5 full business days have elapsed following such briefing, \$1,000,000 of amounts appropriated by this Act for “Federal Emergency Management Agency—Operations and Support” shall be rescinded.

SEC. 305. Under the heading “Federal Emergency Management Agency—Federal Assistance”, for grants under paragraphs (1) and (2), the installation of communications towers is not considered construction of a building or other physical facility.

SEC. 306. The reporting requirements in paragraphs (1) and (2) under the heading “Federal Emergency Management Agency—Disaster Relief Fund” in the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2015 (Public Law 114-4), related to reporting on the Disaster Relief Fund, shall be applied in fiscal year 2024 with respect to budget year 2025 and current fiscal year 2024, respectively—

(1) in paragraph (1) by substituting “fiscal year 2025” for “fiscal year 2016”; and

(2) in paragraph (2) by inserting “business” after “fifth”.

SEC. 307. In making grants under the heading “Federal Emergency Management Agency—Federal Assistance”, for Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response grants, the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency may grant waivers from the requirements in subsections (a)(1)(A), (a)(1)(B), (a)(1)(E), (c)(1), (c)(2), and (c)(4) of section 34 of the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 (15 U.S.C. 2229a).

SEC. 308. (a) The aggregate charges assessed during fiscal year 2024, as authorized in title III of the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development,

and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1999 (42 U.S.C. 5196e), shall not be less than 100 percent of the amounts anticipated by the Department of Homeland Security to be necessary for its Radiological Emergency Preparedness Program for the next fiscal year.

(b) The methodology for assessment and collection of fees shall be fair and equitable and shall reflect costs of providing such services, including administrative costs of collecting such fees.

(c) Such fees shall be deposited in a Radiological Emergency Preparedness Program account as offsetting collections and will become available for authorized purposes on October 1, 2024, and remain available until expended.

SEC. 309. In making grants under the heading “Federal Emergency Management Agency—Federal Assistance”, for Assistance to Firefighter Grants, the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency may waive subsection (k) of section 33 of the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 (15 U.S.C. 2229).

TITLE IV

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TRAINING, AND SERVICES

U.S. CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION SERVICES OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

For necessary expenses of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services for operations and support of the E-Verify Program, \$111,865,000: *Provided*, That such amounts shall be in addition to any other amounts made available for such purposes, and shall not be construed to require any reduction of any fee described in section 286(m) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1356(m)).

FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING CENTERS

OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

For necessary expenses of the Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers for operations and support, including the purchase of not to exceed 117 vehicles for police-type use and hire of passenger motor vehicles, and services as authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, \$361,398,000, of which \$66,665,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$7,180 shall be for official reception and representation expenses.

PROCUREMENT, CONSTRUCTION, AND IMPROVEMENTS

For necessary expenses of the Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers for procurement, construction, and improvements, \$20,100,000, to remain available until September 30, 2028, for acquisition of necessary additional real property and facilities, construction and ongoing maintenance, facility improvements and related expenses of the Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY DIRECTORATE OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

For necessary expenses of the Science and Technology Directorate for operations and support, including the purchase or lease of not to exceed 5 vehicles, \$333,632,000, of which \$206,548,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$10,000 shall be for official reception and representation expenses.

PROCUREMENT, CONSTRUCTION, AND IMPROVEMENTS

For necessary expenses of the Science and Technology Directorate for procurement, construction, and improvements, \$58,466,000, to remain available until September 30, 2028.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

For necessary expenses of the Science and Technology Directorate for research and de-

velopment, \$444,545,000, to remain available until September 30, 2026.

COUNTERING WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION OFFICE

OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

For necessary expenses of the Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Office for operations and support, \$164,315,000, of which \$69,364,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$2,250 shall be for official reception and representation expenses.

PROCUREMENT, CONSTRUCTION, AND IMPROVEMENTS

For necessary expenses of the Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Office for procurement, construction, and improvements, \$42,338,000, to remain available until September 30, 2026.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

For necessary expenses of the Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Office for research and development, \$64,201,000, to remain available until September 30, 2026.

FEDERAL ASSISTANCE

For necessary expenses of the Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Office for Federal assistance through grants, contracts, cooperative agreements, and other activities, \$142,885,000, to remain available until September 30, 2026.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

SEC. 401. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds otherwise made available to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services may be used to acquire, operate, equip, and dispose of up to 5 vehicles, for replacement only, for areas where the Administrator of General Services does not provide vehicles for lease.

(b) The Director of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services may authorize employees who are assigned to those areas to use such vehicles to travel between the employees’ residences and places of employment.

SEC. 402. None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be used to process or approve a competition under Office of Management and Budget Circular A-76 for services provided by employees (including employees serving on a temporary or term basis) of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services of the Department of Homeland Security who are known as Immigration Information Officers, Immigration Service Analysts, Contact Representatives, Investigative Assistants, or Immigration Services Officers.

SEC. 403. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any Federal funds made available to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services may be used for the collection and use of biometrics taken at a U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Application Support Center that is overseen virtually by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services personnel using appropriate technology.

SEC. 404. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be made available to implement, administer, or enforce the rule entitled “Procedures or Credible Fear Screening and Consideration of Asylum, Withholding of Removal, and CAT Protection Claims by Asylum Officers” (87 Fed. Reg. 18078).

SEC. 405. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be made available to issue any employment authorization document or similar document to any alien whose application for asylum in the United States has been denied, or who is convicted of a Federal or State crime while his or her application for asylum in the United States is pending.

SEC. 406. (a) Section 214(g)(9)(A) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.

1184(g)(9)(A)) is amended to read as follows: “(A) Subject to subparagraphs (B) and (C), an alien shall be considered a returning worker and shall not again be counted toward the numerical limitation of paragraph (1)(B) during fiscal year 2024 if such alien has already been counted toward such numerical limitation during any of the 3 preceding fiscal years.”

(b) The amendment made by this section shall apply on and after October 1, 2023.

SEC. 407. In fiscal year 2024, nonimmigrants shall be admitted to the United States under section 101(a)(15)(H)(ii)(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(H)(ii)(a)) to perform agricultural labor or services, without regard to whether such labor is, or services are, of a temporary or seasonal nature.

SEC. 408. Notwithstanding section 286(n) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1356(n)), the Director of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services may use not more than \$5,000 of the amounts deposited in the Immigration Examinations Fee Account for official reception and representation expenses in fiscal year 2024.

SEC. 409. The Director of the Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers is authorized to distribute funds to Federal law enforcement agencies for expenses incurred participating in training accreditation.

SEC. 410. The Federal Law Enforcement Training Accreditation Board, including representatives from the Federal law enforcement community and non-Federal accreditation experts involved in law enforcement training, shall lead the Federal law enforcement training accreditation process to continue the implementation of measuring and assessing the quality and effectiveness of Federal law enforcement training programs, facilities, and instructors.

SEC. 411. (a) The Director of the Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers may accept transfers to its “Procurement, Construction, and Improvements” account from Government agencies requesting the construction of special use facilities, as authorized by the Economy Act (31 U.S.C. 1535(b)).

(b) The Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers shall maintain administrative control and ownership upon completion of such facilities.

SEC. 412. The functions of the Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers instructor staff shall be classified as inherently governmental for purposes of the Federal Activities Inventory Reform Act of 1998 (31 U.S.C. 501 note).

TITLE V

GENERAL PROVISIONS

(INCLUDING REVISIONS OF FUNDS)

SEC. 501. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year unless expressly so provided herein.

SEC. 502. Subject to the requirements of section 503 of this Act, the unexpended balances of prior appropriations provided for activities in this Act may be transferred to appropriation accounts for such activities established pursuant to this Act, may be merged with funds in the applicable established accounts, and thereafter may be accounted for as one fund for the same time period as originally enacted.

SEC. 503. (a) None of the funds provided by this Act, provided by previous appropriations Acts to the components in or transferred to the Department of Homeland Security that remain available for obligation or expenditure in fiscal year 2024, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury of the United States derived by the collection of fees available to the components funded by this Act, shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a reprogramming of funds that—

(1) creates or eliminates a program, project, or activity, or increases funds for any program, project, or activity for which funds have been denied or restricted by the Congress;

(2) contracts out any function or activity presently performed by Federal employees or any new function or activity proposed to be performed by Federal employees in the President's budget proposal for fiscal year 2024 for the Department of Homeland Security;

(3) augments funding for existing programs, projects, or activities in excess of \$5,000,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less;

(4) reduces funding for any program, project, or activity, or numbers of personnel, by 10 percent or more; or

(5) results from any general savings from a reduction in personnel that would result in a change in funding levels for programs, projects, or activities as approved by the Congress.

(b) Subsection (a) shall not apply if the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate are notified at least 15 days in advance of such reprogramming.

(c) Up to 5 percent of any appropriation made available for the current fiscal year for the Department of Homeland Security by this Act or provided by previous appropriations Acts may be transferred between such appropriations if the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate are notified at least 30 days in advance of such transfer, but no such appropriation, except as otherwise specifically provided, shall be increased by more than 10 percent by such transfer.

(d) Notwithstanding subsections (a), (b), and (c), no funds shall be reprogrammed within or transferred between appropriations based upon an initial notification provided after June 30, except in extraordinary circumstances that imminently threaten the safety of human life or the protection of property.

(e) The notification thresholds and procedures set forth in subsections (a), (b), (c), and (d) shall apply to any use of deobligated balances of funds provided in previous Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Acts that remain available for obligation in the current year.

(f) Notwithstanding subsection (c), the Secretary of Homeland Security may transfer to the fund established by 8 U.S.C. 1101 note, up to \$20,000,000 from appropriations available to the Department of Homeland Security: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate at least 5 days in advance of such transfer.

SEC. 504. (a) Section 504 of the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2017 (division F of Public Law 115-31), related to the operations of a working capital fund, shall apply with respect to funds made available in this Act in the same manner as such section applied to funds made available in that Act.

(b) Funds from such working capital fund may be obligated and expended in anticipation of reimbursements from components of the Department of Homeland Security.

SEC. 505. (a) Except as otherwise specifically provided by law, not to exceed 50 percent of unobligated balances remaining available at the end of fiscal year 2024, as recorded in the financial records at the time of a reprogramming notification, but not later than June 30, 2025, from appropriations for "Operations and Support" for fiscal year 2024 in this Act shall remain available through September 30, 2025, in the account and for the purposes for which the appropriations were provided.

(b) Prior to the obligation of such funds, a notification shall be submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate in accordance with section 503 of this Act.

SEC. 506. (a) Funds made available by this Act for intelligence activities are deemed to be specifically authorized by the Congress for purposes of section 504 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 414) during fiscal year 2024 until the enactment of an Act authorizing intelligence activities for fiscal year 2024.

(b) Amounts described in subsection (a) made available for "Intelligence, Analysis, and Situational Awareness—Operations and Support" that exceed the amounts in such authorization for such account shall be transferred to and merged with amounts made available under the heading "Management Directorate—Operations and Support".

(c) Prior to the obligation of any funds transferred under subsection (b), the Management Directorate shall brief the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate on a plan for the use of such funds.

SEC. 507. (a) The Secretary of Homeland Security, or the designee of the Secretary, shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate at least 3 full business days in advance of—

(1) making or awarding a grant allocation or grant in excess of \$1,000,000;

(2) making or awarding a contract, other transaction agreement, or task or delivery order on a multiple award contract, or to issue a letter of intent totaling in excess of \$4,000,000;

(3) awarding a task or delivery order requiring an obligation of funds in an amount greater than \$10,000,000 from multi-year funds;

(4) making a sole-source grant award; or

(5) announcing publicly the intention to make or award items under paragraph (1), (2), (3), or (4), including a contract covered by the Federal Acquisition Regulation.

(b) If the Secretary of Homeland Security determines that compliance with this section would pose a substantial risk to human life, health, or safety, an award may be made without notification, and the Secretary shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate not later than 5 full business days after such an award is made or letter issued.

(c) A notification under this section—

(1) may not involve funds that are not available for obligation; and

(2) shall include the amount of the award; the fiscal year for which the funds for the award were appropriated; the type of contract; and the account from which the funds are being drawn.

SEC. 508. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no agency shall purchase, construct, or lease any additional facilities, except within or contiguous to existing locations, to be used for the purpose of conducting Federal law enforcement training without advance notification to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, except that the Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers is authorized to obtain the temporary use of additional facilities by lease, contract, or other agreement for training that cannot be accommodated in existing Centers' facilities.

SEC. 509. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used for expenses for any construction, repair, alteration, or acquisition project for which a prospectus otherwise required under chapter 33 of title 40, United States Code, has not been approved, except that necessary funds may be expended for each project for

required expenses for the development of a proposed prospectus.

SEC. 510. Sections 522 and 530 of the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2008 (division E of Public Law 110-161; 121 Stat. 2073 and 2074) shall apply with respect to funds made available in this Act in the same manner as such sections applied to funds made available in that Act.

SEC. 511. (a) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used in contravention of the applicable provisions of the Buy American Act.

(b) For purposes of subsection (a), the term "Buy American Act" means chapter 83 of title 41, United States Code.

SEC. 512. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to amend the oath of allegiance required by section 337 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1448).

SEC. 513. None of the funds provided or otherwise made available in this Act shall be available to carry out section 872 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 452) unless explicitly authorized by the Congress.

SEC. 514. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used for planning, testing, piloting, or developing a national identification card.

SEC. 515. Any official that is required by this Act to report or to certify to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate may not delegate such authority to perform that act unless specifically authorized herein.

SEC. 516. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used for first-class travel by the employees of agencies funded by this Act in contravention of sections 301-10.122 through 301-10.124 of title 41, Code of Federal Regulations.

SEC. 517. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to employ workers described in section 274A(h)(3) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1324a(h)(3)).

SEC. 518. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to pay award or incentive fees for contractor performance that has been judged to be below satisfactory performance or performance that does not meet the basic requirements of a contract.

SEC. 519. (a) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to maintain or establish a computer network unless such network blocks the viewing, downloading, and exchanging of pornography.

(b) Nothing in subsection (a) shall limit the use of funds necessary for any Federal, State, tribal, territorial, or local law enforcement agency or any other entity carrying out criminal investigations, prosecution, or adjudication activities.

SEC. 520. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used by a Federal law enforcement officer to facilitate the transfer of an operable firearm to an individual if the Federal law enforcement officer knows or suspects that the individual is an agent of a drug cartel unless law enforcement personnel of the United States continuously monitor or control the firearm at all times.

SEC. 521. (a) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to pay for the travel to or attendance of more than 50 employees of a single component of the Department of Homeland Security, who are stationed in the United States, at a single international conference unless the Secretary of Homeland Security, or a designee, determines that such attendance is in the national interest and notifies the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate within at least 10 days of that determination and the basis for that determination.

(b) For purposes of this section the term “international conference” shall mean a conference occurring outside of the United States attended by representatives of the United States Government and of foreign governments, international organizations, or nongovernmental organizations.

(c) The total cost to the Department of Homeland Security of any such conference shall not exceed \$500,000.

(d) Employees who attend a conference virtually without travel away from their permanent duty station within the United States shall not be counted for purposes of this section, and the prohibition contained in this section shall not apply to payments for the costs of attendance for such employees.

SEC. 522. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to reimburse any Federal department or agency for its participation in a National Special Security Event.

SEC. 523. (a) None of the funds made available to the Department of Homeland Security by this or any other Act may be obligated for the implementation of any structural pay reform or the introduction of any new position classification that will affect more than 100 full-time positions or costs more than \$5,000,000 in a single year before the end of the 30-day period beginning on the date on which the Secretary of Homeland Security submits to Congress a notification that includes—

(1) the number of full-time positions affected by such change;

(2) funding required for such change for the current fiscal year and through the Future Years Homeland Security Program;

(3) justification for such change; and

(4) for a structural pay reform, an analysis of compensation alternatives to such change that were considered by the Department.

(b) Subsection (a) shall not apply to such change if—

(1) it was proposed in the President’s budget proposal for the fiscal year funded by this Act; and

(2) funds for such change have not been explicitly denied or restricted in this Act.

SEC. 524. (a) Any agency receiving funds made available in this Act shall, subject to subsections (b) and (c), post on the public website of that agency any report required to be submitted by the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate in this Act, upon the determination by the head of the agency that it shall serve the national interest.

(b) Subsection (a) shall not apply to a report if—

(1) the public posting of the report compromises homeland or national security; or

(2) the report contains proprietary information.

(c) The head of the agency posting such report shall do so only after such report has been made available to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate for not less than 45 days except as otherwise specified in law.

SEC. 525. (a) Funding provided in this Act for “Operations and Support” may be used for minor procurement, construction, and improvements.

(b) For purposes of subsection (a), “minor” refers to end items with a unit cost of \$250,000 or less for personal property, and \$2,000,000 or less for real property.

SEC. 526. The authority provided by section 532 of the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2018 (Public Law 115–141) regarding primary and secondary schooling of dependents shall continue in effect during fiscal year 2024.

SEC. 527. (a) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available to the Department of Homeland Security by this Act may

be used to prevent any of the following persons from entering, for the purpose of conducting oversight, any facility operated by or for the Department of Homeland Security used to detain or otherwise house aliens, or to make any temporary modification at any such facility that in any way alters what is observed by a visiting Member of Congress or such designated employee, compared to what would be observed in the absence of such modification:

(1) A Member of Congress.

(2) An employee of the United States House of Representatives or the United States Senate designated by such a Member for the purposes of this section.

(b) Nothing in this section may be construed to require a Member of Congress to provide prior notice of the intent to enter a facility described in subsection (a) for the purpose of conducting oversight.

(c) With respect to individuals described in subsection (a)(2), the Department of Homeland Security may require that a request be made at least 24 hours in advance of an intent to enter a facility described in subsection (a).

SEC. 528. (a) For an additional amount for “Federal Emergency Management Agency—Federal Assistance”, \$3,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, exclusively for providing reimbursement of extraordinary law enforcement or other emergency personnel costs for protection activities directly and demonstrably associated with any residence of the President that is designated or identified to be secured by the United States Secret Service.

(b) Subsections (b) through (f) of section 534 of the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2018 (Public Law 115–141), shall be applied with respect to amounts made available by subsection (a) of this section by substituting “October 1, 2024” for “October 1, 2018” and “October 1, 2023” for “October 1, 2017”.

SEC. 529. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), none of the funds made available in this Act may be used to place restraints on a woman in the custody of the Department of Homeland Security (including during transport, in a detention facility, or at an outside medical facility) who is pregnant or in post-delivery recuperation.

(b) Subsection (a) shall not apply with respect to a pregnant woman if—

(1) an appropriate official of the Department of Homeland Security makes an individualized determination that the woman—

(A) is a serious flight risk, and such risk cannot be prevented by other means; or

(B) poses an immediate and serious threat to harm herself or others that cannot be prevented by other means; or

(2) a medical professional responsible for the care of the pregnant woman determines that the use of therapeutic restraints is appropriate for the medical safety of the woman.

(c) If a pregnant woman is restrained pursuant to subsection (b), only the safest and least restrictive restraints, as determined by the appropriate medical professional treating the woman, may be used. In no case may restraints be used on a woman who is in active labor or delivery, and in no case may a pregnant woman be restrained in a face-down position with four-point restraints, on her back, or in a restraint belt that constricts the area of the pregnancy. A pregnant woman who is immobilized by restraints shall be positioned, to the maximum extent feasible, on her left side.

SEC. 530. (a) None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to destroy any document, recording, or other record pertaining to any—

(1) death of,

(2) potential sexual assault or abuse perpetrated against, or

(3) allegation of abuse, criminal activity, or disruption committed by an individual held in the custody of the Department of Homeland Security.

(b) The records referred to in subsection (a) shall be made available, in accordance with applicable laws and regulations, and Federal rules governing disclosure in litigation, to an individual who has been charged with a crime, been placed into segregation, or otherwise punished as a result of an allegation described in paragraph (3), upon the request of such individual.

SEC. 531. Section 519 of division F of Public Law 114–113, regarding a prohibition on funding for any position designated as a Principal Federal Official, shall apply with respect to any Federal funds in the same manner as such section applied to funds made available in that Act.

SEC. 532. (a) Not later than 10 days after the date on which the budget of the President for a fiscal year is submitted to Congress pursuant to section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code, the Under Secretary for Management of Homeland Security shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a report on the unfunded priorities, for the Department of Homeland Security and separately for each departmental component, for which discretionary funding would be classified as budget function 050.

(b) Each report under this section shall specify, for each such unfunded priority—

(1) a summary description, including the objectives to be achieved if such priority is funded (whether in whole or in part);

(2) the description, including the objectives to be achieved if such priority is funded (whether in whole or in part);

(3) account information, including the following (as applicable):

(A) appropriation account; and

(B) program, project, or activity name; and

(4) the additional number of full-time or part-time positions to be funded as part of such priority.

(c) In this section, the term “unfunded priority”, in the case of a fiscal year, means a requirement that—

(1) is not funded in the budget referred to in subsection (a);

(2) is necessary to fulfill a requirement associated with an operational or contingency plan for the Department; and

(3) would have been recommended for funding through the budget referred to in subsection (a) if—

(A) additional resources had been available for the budget to fund the requirement;

(B) the requirement has emerged since the budget was formulated; or

(C) the requirement is necessary to sustain prior-year investments.

SEC. 533. (a) Not later than 10 days after a determination is made by the President to evaluate and initiate protection under any authority for a former or retired Government official or employee, or for an individual who, during the duration of the directed protection, will become a former or retired Government official or employee (referred to in this section as a “covered individual”), the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit a notification to congressional leadership and the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, the Committees on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives and the Senate, the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate, and the Committee on Oversight and Reform of the House of Representatives (referred to in this

section as the “appropriate congressional committees”).

(b) Such notification may be submitted in classified form, if necessary, and in consultation with the Director of National Intelligence or the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, as appropriate, and shall include the threat assessment, scope of the protection, and the anticipated cost and duration of such protection.

(c) Not later than 15 days before extending, or 30 days before terminating, protection for a covered individual, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit a notification regarding the extension or termination and any change to the threat assessment to the congressional leadership and the appropriate congressional committees.

(d) Not later than 45 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and quarterly thereafter, the Secretary shall submit a report to the congressional leadership and the appropriate congressional committees, which may be submitted in classified form, if necessary, detailing each covered individual, and the scope and associated cost of protection.

SEC. 534. (a) None of the funds provided to the Department of Homeland Security in this or any prior Act may be used by an agency to submit an initial project proposal to the Technology Modernization Fund (as authorized by section 1078 of subtitle G of title X of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018 (Public Law 115-91)) unless, concurrent with the submission of an initial project proposal to the Technology Modernization Board, the head of the agency—

(1) notifies the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate of the proposed submission of the project proposal;

(2) submits to the Committees on Appropriations a copy of the project proposal; and

(3) provides a detailed analysis of how the proposed project funding would supplement or supplant funding requested as part of the Department’s most recent budget submission.

(b) None of the funds provided to the Department of Homeland Security by the Technology Modernization Fund shall be available for obligation until 15 days after a report on such funds has been transmitted to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

(c) The report described in subsection (b) shall include—

(1) the full project proposal submitted to and approved by the Fund’s Technology Modernization Board;

(2) the finalized interagency agreement between the Department and the Fund including the project’s deliverables and repayment terms, as applicable;

(3) a detailed analysis of how the project will supplement or supplant existing funding available to the Department for similar activities;

(4) a plan for how the Department will repay the Fund, including specific planned funding sources, as applicable; and

(5) other information as determined by the Secretary.

SEC. 535. Within 60 days of any budget submission for the Department of Homeland Security for fiscal year 2025 that assumes revenues or proposes a reduction from the previous year based on user fees proposals that have not been enacted into law prior to the submission of the budget, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall provide the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate specific reductions in proposed discretionary budget authority commensurate with the revenues assumed in such proposals in the event that they are not enacted prior to October 1, 2024.

SEC. 536. None of the funds made available by this Act may be obligated or expended to implement the Arms Trade Treaty until the Senate approves a resolution of ratification for the Treaty.

SEC. 537. No Federal funds made available to the Department of Homeland Security may be used to enter into a procurement contract, memorandum of understanding, or cooperative agreement with, or make a grant to, or provide a loan or guarantee to, any entity identified under section 1260H of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (Public Law 116-283) or any subsidiary of such entity.

SEC. 538. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available in this or any other Act may be used to transfer, release, or assist in the transfer or release to or within the United States, its territories, or possessions Khalid Sheikh Mohammed or any other detainee who—

(1) is not a United States citizen or a member of the Armed Forces of the United States; and

(2) is or was held on or after June 24, 2009, at the United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, by the Department of Defense.

SEC. 539. (a) The Secretary of Homeland Security (in this section referred to as the “Secretary”) shall, on a bimonthly basis beginning immediately after the date of enactment of this Act, develop estimates of the number of migrants anticipated to arrive at the southwest border of the United States.

(b) The Secretary shall ensure that, at a minimum, the estimates developed pursuant to subsection (a)—

(1) cover the current fiscal year and the following fiscal year;

(2) include a breakout by demographics, to include single adults, family units, and unaccompanied children;

(3) undergo an independent validation and verification review;

(4) are used to inform policy planning and budgeting processes within the Department of Homeland Security; and

(5) are included in the budget materials submitted to Congress in support of the President’s annual budget request pursuant to section 1105 of title 31, United States Code, for each fiscal year beginning after the date of enactment of this Act and, for such budget materials shall include—

(A) the most recent bimonthly estimates developed pursuant to subsection (a);

(B) a description and quantification of the estimates used to justify funding requests for Department programs related to border security, immigration enforcement, and immigration services;

(C) a description and quantification of the anticipated workload and requirements resulting from such estimates; and

(D) a confirmation as to whether the budget requests for impacted agencies were developed using the same estimates.

(c) The Secretary shall share the bimonthly estimates developed pursuant to subsection (a) with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Attorney General, the Secretary of State, and the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

SEC. 540. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be made available to establish or support the activities of:

(1) a Disinformation Governance Board at the Department of Homeland Security, or any other entity carrying out similar activities relating to mis-, dis-, or mal-information in a similar manner or to a similar extent to such a Board; or

(2) any entity responsible, directly or indirectly, under color of countering mis-, dis-,

or mal-information or otherwise, for instructing, influencing, directing, or recommending that private companies censor, prohibit, or obstruct lawful and constitutionally protected speech of United States persons on social media platforms, including by—

(A) terminating speakers’ accounts;

(B) temporarily suspending accounts;

(C) imposing warnings or strikes against accounts to stop future speech;

(D) “shadowbanning” speakers;

(E) demonetizing content or speakers;

(F) adjusting algorithms to suppress or de-emphasize speakers or messages;

(G) deboosting speakers or content;

(H) promoting or demoting content;

(I) placing warning labels or explanatory notes on content;

(J) suppressing content in other users’ feeds;

(K) promoting negative comments on disfavored content;

(L) requiring additional click-through(s) to access content; or

(M) any other such methods.

SEC. 541. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be made available to require an employee of the Department of Homeland Security to receive a vaccination against COVID-19.

SEC. 542. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be made available to administer, implement, or enforce the rules entitled “Amended Order Implementing Presidential Proclamation on Advancing the Safe Resumption of Global Travel During the COVID-19 Pandemic” (87 Fed. Reg. 20405 et seq.) or “Notification of Temporary Travel Restrictions Applicable to Land Ports of Entry and Ferries Service Between the United States and Mexico” (87 Fed. Reg. 24041) (or any successor rules).

SEC. 543. (a) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be made available to:

(1) classify or facilitate the classification of any communications by a United States person as mis-, dis-, or mal-information; or

(2) partner with or fund nonprofit or other organizations that in any way instruct, influence, direct, or recommend that private companies in any way censor, prohibit, or obstruct lawful and constitutionally protected speech of United States persons on social media platforms, including by—

(A) terminating speakers’ accounts;

(B) temporarily suspending accounts;

(C) imposing warnings or strikes against accounts to stop future speech;

(D) “shadowbanning” speakers;

(E) demonetizing content or speakers;

(F) adjusting algorithms to suppress or de-emphasize speakers or messages;

(G) deboosting speakers or content;

(H) promoting or demoting content;

(I) placing warning labels or explanatory notes on content;

(J) suppressing content in other users’ feeds;

(K) promoting negative comments on disfavored content;

(L) requiring additional click-through(s) to access content; or

(M) any other such methods.

(b) Any officer or employee of the Federal Government whose salary is funded by this Act and who conducts any activity described in subsections (a)(1) or (a)(2) shall be removed from the Federal service.

SEC. 544. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be made available to implement, administer, or enforce the rule related to “Circumvention of Lawful Pathways” (88 Fed. Reg. 11704).

SEC. 545. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be made available to implement, administer, apply, enforce, or carry out the Equity Action Plan of the Department of Homeland

Security, or Executive Order 13985 of January 20, 2021 (86 Fed. Reg. 7009, relating to advancing racial equity and support for underserved communities through the federal government), Executive Order 14035 of June 25, 2021 (86 Fed. Reg. 34593, relating to diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility in the federal workforce), Executive Order 14091 of February 16, 2023 (88 Fed. Reg. 10825 relating to further advancing racial equity and support for underserved communities through the federal government) or any program, project, or activity that promotes or advances Critical Race Theory or any concept associated with Critical Race Theory.

SEC. 546. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act under the heading “Office of the Secretary and Executive Management—Operations and Support” may be made available for the purpose of paying counsel outside the Federal Government—

(1) before the date on which all funds provided in section 211(a)(1) of this Act are obligated; and

(2) to prepare for or defend against impeachment.

SEC. 547. (a) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be made available to be used to purchase, maintain, or continue to operate any Unmanned Aircraft Systems that are manufactured in the People’s Republic of China or a country identified as a foreign adversary in the Annual Threat Assessment of the U.S. Intelligence Community or by an entity domiciled in the People’s Republic of China or a country identified as a foreign adversary in the most recent Annual Threat Assessment of the U.S. Intelligence Community.

(b) Nothing in subsection (a) shall limit the use of funds for counterintelligence, research and development, test and evaluation, or counter Unmanned Aircraft System mitigation efforts, including the activities of the Coast Guard authorized by section 8414 of Public Law 116-283 (14 U.S.C. 1156 note).

SEC. 548. (a) Section 538 of the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2022 (division F of Public Law 117-103) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b), by striking “may” and inserting “shall”; and

(2) by striking subsection (d) and inserting the following:

“(d) Amounts in the Fund may not be obligated until after the date on which the Act making full-year appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the applicable fiscal year is enacted into law, subject to subsection (e).

“(e) The Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate shall be notified at least 15 days in advance of the planned use of funds.”

(b) The amendments made by this section shall apply to amounts transferred under such section 538 on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 549. (a) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act or any other Act shall be used to execute an inspection of any detention facility that is in a contractual agreement with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement for the provision of detention services within six months of a previous inspection of such facility.

(b) Subsection (a) shall not apply with respect to inspections executed by the Office of Inspector General.

SEC. 550. (a) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act or any other Act shall be used to execute an inspection of any detention facility that is in a contractual agreement with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement for the provision of detention services, except solely for compliance with the terms, conditions, and

standards found within the National Detention Standards 2019 for U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

(b) Subsection (a) shall take effect for detention facilities operating under existing contracts, as of the date of enactment of this Act, not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 551. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act shall be used to admit an alien, who is a national of the Republic of Chile, under section 217 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1187), until the Secretary of Homeland Security verifies that the Republic of Chile provides access to appropriate criminal databases and the Department of Homeland Security screens Chilean nationals against such criminal databases.

SEC. 552. (a) In general.—Notwithstanding section 7 of title 1, United States Code, section 1738C of title 28, United States Code, or any other provision of law, none of the funds provided by this Act, or previous appropriations Acts, shall be used in whole or in part to take any discriminatory action against a person, wholly or partially, on the basis that such person speaks, or acts, in accordance with a sincerely held religious belief, or moral conviction, that marriage is, or should be recognized as, a union of one man and one woman.

(b) Discriminatory action defined.—As used in subsection (a), a discriminatory action means any action taken by the Federal Government to—

(1) alter in any way the Federal tax treatment of, or cause any tax, penalty, or payment to be assessed against, or deny, delay, or revoke an exemption from taxation under section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 of, any person referred to in subsection (a);

(2) disallow a deduction for Federal tax purposes of any charitable contribution made to or by such person;

(3) withhold, reduce the amount or funding for, exclude, terminate, or otherwise make unavailable or deny, any Federal grant, contract, subcontract, cooperative agreement, guarantee, loan, scholarship, license, certification, accreditation, employment, or other similar position or status from or to such person;

(4) withhold, reduce, exclude, terminate, or otherwise make unavailable or deny, any entitlement or benefit under a Federal benefit program, including admission to, equal treatment in, or eligibility for a degree from an educational program, from or to such person; or

(5) withhold, reduce, exclude, terminate, or otherwise make unavailable or deny access or an entitlement to Federal property, facilities, educational institutions, speech fora (including traditional, limited, and non-public fora), or charitable fundraising campaigns from or to such person.

(c) Accreditation; Licensure; Certification.—The Federal Government shall consider accredited, licensed, or certified for purposes of Federal law any person that would be accredited, licensed, or certified, respectively, for such purposes but for a determination against such person wholly or partially on the basis that the person speaks, or acts, in accordance with a sincerely held religious belief or moral conviction described in subsection (a).

(RESCSSIONS OF FUNDS)

SEC. 553. Of the funds appropriated to the Department of Homeland Security, the following funds are hereby rescinded from the following accounts and programs in the specified amounts: *Provided*, That no amounts may be rescinded from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency

requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985:

(1) \$800,000 from unobligated balances available in the “Office of the Secretary and Executive Management—Operations and Support” account (70 23/24 0100).

(2) \$4,100,000 from the unobligated balances available in the “Management Directorate—Office of the Chief Information Officer and Operations” account (70 X 0113).

(3) \$1,473,000 from the unobligated balances available in the “U.S. Customs and Border Protection—Procurement, Construction, and Improvements” account (70 X 0532).

(4) \$1,842,000 from the unobligated balances available in the “U.S. Customs and Border Protection—Border Security Fencing, Infrastructure, and Technology” account (70 X 0533).

(5) \$452,000 from the unobligated balances available in the “U.S. Customs and Border Protection—Air and Marine Interdiction, Operations, Maintenance, and Procurement” account (70 X 0544).

(6) \$1,159,000,000 from the unobligated balances available under the heading “U.S. Customs and Border Protection—Procurement, Construction, and Improvements” of the amounts provided by Public Law 116-93 for the construction of barrier system along the southwest border.

(7) \$945,000,000 from the unobligated balances available under the heading “U.S. Customs and Border Protection—Procurement, Construction, and Improvements” of the amounts provided by Public Law 116-260 for the construction of barrier system along the southwest border.

(8) \$8,000,000 from the unobligated balances available in the “U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement—Operations and Support” account (70 23/24 0540).

(9) \$2,092,841 from the unobligated balances available in the “U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement—Operations and Support” account (70 X 0540).

(10) \$10,439 from the unobligated balances available in the “U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement—Automation Modernization” account (70 X 0543).

(11) \$154,515,000 from the unobligated balances available under the heading “Transportation Security Administration—Operations and Support” of the amounts provided by Public Law 117-328.

(12) \$22,600,000 from the unobligated balances available in the “Coast Guard—Acquisition, Construction, and Improvements” account (70 X 0613).

(13) \$3,500,000 from the unobligated balances available in the “Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency—Procurement, Construction, and Improvements” account (70 23/27 0412).

(14) \$2,000,000 from the unobligated balances available in the “Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency—Research and Development” account (70 23/24 0805).

(15) \$5,821,000 from the unobligated balances available in the “Federal Emergency Management Agency—National Predisaster Mitigation Fund” account (70 X 0716).

(16) \$800,000 from the unobligated balances available in the “Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers—Procurement, Construction, and Improvements” account (70 20/24 0510).

(17) \$900,000 from the unobligated balances available in the “Science and Technology Directorate—Operations and Support” account (70 X 0800).

(18) \$388,522 from the unobligated balances available in the “Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Office—Research and Development” account (70 22/24 0860).

(19) \$11,478 from the unobligated balances available in the “Countering Weapons of

Mass Destruction Office—Research and Development” account (70 X 0860).

SEC. 554. Of the unobligated balances of amounts made available under section 70001 of Public Law 117-169, \$312,000,000 are hereby rescinded.

SEC. 555. Of the unobligated balances of amounts made available in the Department of Homeland Security Nonrecurring Expenses Fund (70 X 1914), \$3,800,000 are hereby rescinded.

SPENDING REDUCTION ACCOUNT

SEC. 556. The amount by which the applicable allocation of new budget authority made by the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives under section 302(b) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 exceeds the amount of proposed new budget authority is \$0.

This division may be cited as the “Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2024”.

The CHAIR. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived.

No amendment to the bill shall be in order except those printed in Part B of House Report 118-216, amendments en bloc described in section 6 of House Resolution 723, and pro forma amendments described in section 13 of that resolution.

Each amendment printed in the report shall be considered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, may be withdrawn by the proponent at any time before action thereon, shall not be subject to amendment except as provided by section 13 of House Resolution 723, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question.

It shall be in order at any time for the chair of the Committee on Appropriations or her designee to offer amendments en bloc consisting of amendments printed in the report not earlier disposed of. Amendments en bloc shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their designees, shall not be subject to amendment, except as provided by section 13 of House Resolution 723, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question.

During consideration of the bill for amendment, the Chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees may offer up to 10 pro forma amendments each at any point for the purpose of debate.

AMENDMENTS EN BLOC OFFERED BY MR. JOYCE OF OHIO

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio. Mr. Chair, pursuant to House Resolution 723, I offer amendments en bloc.

The CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendments en bloc.

Amendments en bloc consisting of amendment Nos. 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 20, 21, 22, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35,

36, and 37 printed in part B of House Report 118-216, offered by Mr. JOYCE of Ohio:

AMENDMENT NO. 1 OFFERED BY MRS. BOEBERT OF COLORADO

Page 3, line 16, after the first dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$3,000,000)”.

Page 13, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$3,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 3 OFFERED BY MR. BUCHANAN OF FLORIDA

Page 3, line 16, after the first dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$3,000,000)”.

Page 56, line 1, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$3,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 4 OFFERED BY MR. BUCHANAN OF FLORIDA

Page 3, line 16, after the first dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$2,000,000)”.

Page 21, line 8, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$2,000,000)”.

Page 21, line 10, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$2,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 5 OFFERED BY MR. BUCHANAN OF FLORIDA

Page 3, line 16, after the first dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$3,000,000)”.

Page 13, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$3,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 7 OFFERED BY MS. LOIS FRANKEL OF FLORIDA

Page 3, line 16, after the first dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$1,000,000) (increased by \$1,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 9 OFFERED BY MRS. WAGNER OF MISSOURI

Page 3, line 16, after the first dollar amount, insert “(decreased by \$27,500,000)”.

Page 15, line 9, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$24,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 12 OFFERED BY MRS. KIM OF CALIFORNIA

Page 4, line 9, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$5,000,000)”.

Page 42, line 7, after the first dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$5,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 14 OFFERED BY MR. GOTTHEIMER OF NEW JERSEY

Page 13, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$1,000,000) (increased by \$1,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 15 OFFERED BY MR. GROTHMAN OF WISCONSIN

Page 13, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$1,000,000) (increased by \$1,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 16 OFFERED BY MR. PENCE OF INDIANA

Page 13, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$1,000,000) (increased by \$1,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 17 OFFERED BY MRS. WAGNER OF MISSOURI

Page 13, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$1) (reduced by \$1)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 18 OFFERED BY MRS. TRAHAN OF MASSACHUSETTS

Page 13, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$10,000,000) (increased by \$10,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 20 OFFERED BY MR. VASQUEZ OF NEW MEXICO

Page 14, line 20, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$10,000,000) (increased by \$10,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 21 OFFERED BY MR. MOLINARO OF NEW YORK

Page 18, line 12, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$1,000,000) (increased by \$1,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 22 OFFERED BY MS. HOULAHAN OF PENNSYLVANIA

Page 27, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$1,000,000) (increased by \$1,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 30 OFFERED BY MR. MENENDEZ OF NEW JERSEY

Page 41, line 9, insert after the first dollar amount the following: “(reduced by \$1,000,000, increased by \$1,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 31 OFFERED BY MR. GOTTHEIMER OF NEW JERSEY

Page 42, line 7, after the first dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$1,000,000) (increased by \$1,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 32 OFFERED BY MR. MOLINARO OF NEW YORK

Page 42, line 7, after the first dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$10,000,000) (increased by \$10,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 33 OFFERED BY MR. TONY GONZALES OF TEXAS

Page 42, line 20, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$10,000,000)”.

Page 42, line 21, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$10,000,000)”.

Page 42, line 24, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$10,000,000)”.

Page 56, line 1, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$10,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 34 OFFERED BY MR. PASCRELL OF NEW JERSEY

Page 42, line 20, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$20,000,000)”.

Page 44, line 13, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$20,000,000)”.

Page 44, line 14, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$10,000,000)”.

Page 44, line 16, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$10,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 35 OFFERED BY MR. PASCRELL OF NEW JERSEY

Page 42, line 20, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$20,000,000)”.

Page 43, line 13, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$20,000,000)”.

Page 43, line 16, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$10,000,000)”.

Page 43, line 18, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$10,000,000)”.

Page 56, line 1, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$20,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 36 OFFERED BY MR. ROSE OF TENNESSEE

Page 44, line 6, strike “\$2,000,000” and insert “\$5,000,000”.

AMENDMENT NO. 37 OFFERED BY MR. BUCHANAN OF FLORIDA

Page 46, line 24, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$10,000,000) (increased by \$10,000,000)”.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 723, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. JOYCE) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CUELLAR) each will control 10 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio.

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio. Mr. Chair, this bipartisan en bloc amendment before you is comprised of 23 amendments offered by my colleagues on both sides of the aisle.

This en bloc contains proposals that would strengthen the underlying bill, and I want to highlight just a few.

The en bloc will provide additional funding to bolster investigations for exploited children with Secret Service and Homeland Security Investigations.

It will increase the nonintrusive inspection equipment at CBP ports of entry to improve detection of fentanyl and other opioids that plague communities across our country.

It would also increase funding for FEMA grant programs, for firefighters and other first responders, and for physical security for nonprofit organizations at risk of terrorist attack.

Lastly, I want to highlight a proposal that would strengthen our National Urban Search and Rescue Response System.

I was on the ground in Maui last month and learned firsthand the critical role these teams play in saving lives and protecting communities in the immediate aftermath of a disaster.

The base bill includes a modest increase for this program, but I strongly support the proposal to further increase funds for this force-multiplying Federal asset.

Again, I thank my colleagues for their participation in this process, and I urge Members to support this bipartisan en bloc.

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

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Chair, I support this en bloc amendment. It contains a series of bipartisan amendments in support of the Members' priorities on both sides. This is the way we ought to do it—bipartisan. Certainly, I have no objection, and I encourage adoption of this amendment because it supports shared priorities, including counter fentanyl detention, Border Patrol checkpoints and ports of entry, investigations for missing and exploited children, and more technology for the frontline officers and agents.

Mr. Chair, I support this en bloc, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio. Mr. Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. WAGNER).

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Chair, I thank the chairman for yielding, and I thank the ranking member for his support of this amendment also.

Mr. Chair, I rise today in support of my amendment, which has been included in the bipartisan en bloc for the Department of Homeland Security appropriations bill.

Last year, there were over 32 million reports of online child sexual abuse material previously referred to as "child pornography."

That is an 89 percent increase since 2019 and equals over 87,000 reports per day of images and videos of children being raped and sexually exploited spreading across the internet.

Homeland Security Investigations, or HSI, is on the front lines fighting to locate and rescue these vulnerable children and apprehend their abusers.

My amendment would ensure that HSI receives the fully offset \$24 million that they requested to investigate these unconscionable crimes.

Mr. Chair, Congress must do more to reverse this horrific trend, and I urge my colleagues to support this amendment.

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), the distinguished ranking member of the Financial Services and General Government Subcommittee.

(Mr. HOYER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Chair, the chairman has indicated he supports this en bloc amendment, and I support that, as well. I do not support the bill.

I want to speak on the bill, and I rise today to speak against the majority's inability or unwillingness to govern—take your pick.

Republicans have had 9 months to pass all their spending bills. They passed one. Now they are struggling to pass the rest 96 hours before the government shuts down.

It is the theater of the absurd. They did not merely sit on their hands, they actively slowed down this process with manufactured debt-limit crises, an illegitimate impeachment inquiry, and the meaningless messaging bills that will never become law.

Wasting our time with these pointless proposals is not just inept, irresponsible, and idiotic, it is dangerous. It is costly. It is unwarranted.

This bill is supposed to be about Homeland Security. We can have a legitimate debate about that.

Instead, however, this bill, this entire process makes our Nation less secure and for what? A laundry list of far-right poison pills that prevent Congress from addressing the challenges at hand.

How much time is spent on these pointless, negative, and unacceptable provisions of these bills, other than what these bills actually are supposed to do?

Do we want to pad the ego of some extreme rightwing Members or pay the border agents and servicemembers who protect America?

Do we indulge in petulant tantrums or uphold our oath of office?

Do we want to help the partisan fringe secure a segment on Newsmax or keep our government functioning for the people?

A shutdown isn't a cudgel to score political points. It is a consequence of failed governance that should be avoided at all costs.

Republicans, the majority of whom do not want this path to be followed, should say no.

The CHAIR. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Chair, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentleman from Maryland.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Chair, I believe the majority of the Republicans don't want to go down this path, but I say to the majority of Republicans: Shut them up. Let's work in a bipartisan manner. We will have an overwhelming vote as we did with the debt limit. Over 300 of us voted to do the rational, necessary thing. We could do that again. How sad that we are not doing it.

Republicans ought to have learned by now after shutting down the Federal Government for 81 days since 1995, costing the American people billions of dollars and the confidence of the American people and our allies abroad. I fear they are about to add to that shameful tally.

The CHAIR. The time of the gentleman has again expired.

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Chair, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentleman from Maryland.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Chair, I urge Republicans to work with us to pass a clean continuing resolution just as MITCH MCCONNELL and 26 Republicans did yesterday.

Now, they haven't gotten it to us yet. There is one Republican holding it up.

Stop holding America hostage. Start holding your members accountable.

Govern as if Americans are depending upon us because they are.

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio. Mr. Chair, I believe we are on the bipartisan en bloc amendment.

To that point, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. WAGNER) for an encore performance on another amendment.

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Chair, I rise in support of my amendment to direct Customs and Border Protection to eliminate the serious delay in the Trusted Traveler Program application processing time, known as Global Entry.

I have heard from so many frustrated constituents who have paid for Global Entry, a \$100 up front processing fee that is not cheap only to wait months in some cases for CBP to approve them for an interview. Those who succeed in getting to that point are finding that there simply are no interview slots available.

Today, Global Entry processing time averages 11 months. This is utterly unacceptable.

My amendment will direct CBP to do its job and get the situation and backlog under control.

I urge my colleagues to support this amendment.

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. LOIS FRANKEL).

Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Chair, I rise today in support of my bipartisan amendment supporting the Department of Homeland Security implementation of the Women, Peace, and Security Act, which was passed in 2017.

Relevant to our debate today, that bill recognizes that women bear the brunt of harm during disasters, and importantly, they can play an essential role in responding and preventing them.

Whether it is a hurricane, a flood, a fire, a refugee seeking asylum, evidence shows that women are more often vulnerable during disasters and crises that the Department responds to, and sadly, there is more gender-based violence and often more responsibility for care put on women to provide for their families.

Our amendment ensures that gender perspectives are included in DHS' responses to crises to ensure that the needs of women and their families are met, they have the resources they need to recover, and ensure that DHS is taking steps to prevent these outcomes in the first place.

It also recognizes the impact of women's participation. The amendment supports efforts to increase the number of women in law enforcement, senior DHS leadership, including staffing, programming, research, and department-wide training.

When women are at the table where decisions are made and on the ground to prevent and respond to disasters, outcomes are better for women and for their communities.

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio. Mr. Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Chair, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ).

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Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Chair, I rise today to advocate for the Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards program, often referred to as CFATS, and in support of my amendment included in the en bloc to improve training for the facility inspectors who advance this critical work.

Since 2007, CFATS has helped thousands of sensitive chemical facilities strengthen their security posture and reduce onsite risks.

I am particularly invested in the CFATS program because there are four facilities covered by the program in New Jersey's Eighth Congressional District, which is also home to what homeland security experts call the 2 most dangerous miles in America.

For my constituents, it is vitally important to ensure that these facilities, their workers, and surrounding communities are adequately protected.

Two months ago, this Chamber passed a reauthorization of the CFATS program to prevent its lapse at the end of July. Unfortunately, our colleagues in the Senate have not advanced this critical national security priority, and the CFATS program has lapsed.

We are no longer able to inspect the more than 3,000 high-risk chemical facilities covered by this program, enforce security measures at those facilities, or vet individuals who are seeking to access dangerous chemicals.

It is also critical that the CFATS program is fully funded. My amendment supports robust CFATS funding, particularly for improved and regular training of facility inspectors.

This amendment builds on my earlier work on the Committee on Homeland Security to update the CFATS program and improve training for facility inspectors.

Our facility inspectors deserve our full support so that they can do their best work to keep us safe. I will continue to fight for this funding as we move forward in the appropriations process.

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

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio. Mr. Chair, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GROTHMAN).

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Chair, first of all, one comment on the people who are more likely to be victims of violence in a natural disaster. Just doing a quick Google search, I noticed that 80 percent of the murder victims in this country are men. Maybe the men are getting killed when the weather is good. I don't know.

In any event, as chairman of the Subcommittee on National Security, the Border, and Foreign Affairs, I have had the opportunity to go down to the border several times. It amazes me what a good job dogs do at detecting drugs coming across our southern border. They are not only able to detect drugs. They also detect explosives, money, and even human beings being trafficked or smuggled.

We wonder, if canine units are so effective, why not expand their use along the southern border? To find the answer to this question, my amendment in this en bloc would express the need for a study on the expanded use of canine units along the southern border.

Mr. Chair, I would appreciate it if that amendment was included.

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Chair, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ), the distinguished ranking member of the Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Chair, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I rise to express grave concern that the majority has included in the Homeland Security appropriations bill a cut to the Nonprofit Security Grant Program. In the face of the grave and significant threats against nonprofit organizations across this country, rising threats toward religious and other nonprofit institutions, these cuts will likely have a profound impact on the safety of our community across the country and in Florida and our community in particular.

We strive to foster an open and safe environment in our communities and our houses of worship, in line with the core value of welcoming the stranger.

According to the Department of Homeland Security, the FBI, and the CTC, faith-based institutions are more susceptible to attacks by violent extremists due to their symbolism, perceived lack of security, and accessible locations.

We are going in the wrong direction in this bill, and the amendment to increase the amount of funding provided for nonprofit security grants is critical. At a time of increased vulnerability to threats of hate-motivated violence by domestic extremists, the House should be significantly increasing funding for religious institutions and at-risk nonprofit organizations,

not cutting them and putting more people at risk. Shame on us if we don't increase the bottom-line number for nonprofit security grants.

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Chair, this is a bipartisan amendment. I support it, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio. Mr. Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. DESJARLAIS). The question is on the amendments en bloc offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. JOYCE).

The en bloc amendments were agreed to.

The Acting CHAIR. The Chair understands that amendment No. 2 will not be offered.

The Chair understands that amendment No. 6 will not be offered.

AMENDMENT NO. 8 OFFERED BY MR. SANTOS

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 8 printed in part B of House Report 118-216.

Mr. SANTOS. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk as the designee of Mr. NEHLS of Texas.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

Page 3, line 16, after the first dollar amount, insert "(decreased by \$39,860,000)".

Page 15, line 9, after the first dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$34,860,000)".

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 723, the gentleman from New York (Mr. SANTOS) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

Mr. SANTOS. Mr. Chair, my amendment would reestablish the Victims of Immigration Crime Engagement Office, also known as the VOICE office, within the Department of Homeland Security.

In 2017, President Donald J. Trump, the greatest President of my lifetime, established the VOICE office. Its mission was to provide support for the victims and family members of crimes committed by illegal aliens, also known as angel families, and to hold criminal illegal aliens accountable for these heinous actions.

American citizens should never have to pay the consequences of Biden's open border policies. Sadly, angel families are becoming far too common.

Just a couple of weeks ago, a criminal illegal alien murdered yet another American citizen in the State of Texas. The family of this American would have had access to the critical services that the VOICE office offered, but by the stroke of a pen, the Biden administration converted the VOICE office in 2021 to instead help criminal illegal aliens.

Let me repeat that, Mr. Chair. An office intended to help families who had fallen victim to criminal illegal aliens, individuals who should have never been here in the first place, is now helping those very same criminals.

Secretary Mayorkas himself said: "All people, regardless of their immigration status, should be able to access victim services without fear," at U.S. tax dollar expense.

What part of America First do Democrats not understand, Mr. Chair?

When the VOICE office was fully operational, it assisted thousands of angel families, connected them to crucial services, and worked to hold criminal illegal aliens accountable for their heinous actions.

It is a shame that the VOICE office must exist, but until the Biden border crisis and full-scale release of criminal aliens are stopped, angel families need this support.

To my Democrat colleagues, mark my words: If you haven't already, you or someone you know will reap the consequences of an open border, and you will wish you had the support offered by the VOICE office.

Mr. Chair, I hope my colleagues across the aisle will start to put America first.

Mr. Chair, I urge adoption of my amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Chair, I claim the time in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Texas is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Chair, I oppose this amendment.

There are already avenues for victims of crime to engage with both the Department of Homeland Security's Victims Engagement and Services Line or the Department of Justice's Office of Victims of Crime. The Department of Homeland Security has protection for victims, and the Department of Justice also has the Office of Victims of Crime.

This office would be duplicative of those efforts and would be a waste of taxpayer dollars. We are doing that already. Frankly, when you say this, you are basically taking the position that crime only occurs when you have a migrant.

The stats do not support this conclusion. In fact, the Department of Justice released a study in 2020 and found that undocumented immigrants had substantially lower crime rates than native-born citizens and legal immigrants across the range of felony offenses.

I don't care where the attack came from. I want to support the victims. I want to support the victims, and that is what the Department of Justice's Office of Victims of Crime does. Let's support that office and provide it more funding.

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

Mr. SANTOS. Mr. Chair, as my colleague said, we already have the service, and it is supported. The problem that I find is taking this office and converting it into a mechanism to support the same people we were supposed to give refuge to our victims from.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleague to come clean, come to the table, and tell the American people why he opposes

funding another office to help victims on a very targeted basis instead of funding the office to actually go help the people who are causing harm and the purpose of why the office was established.

Mr. Chair, I find it troubling that we can't simply put America first when it comes down to discussing it with the other side of the aisle. It is a sad day for America, and it is very unfortunate that my colleagues on the other side of the aisle don't see the necessity to protect angel families.

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

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Chair, I oppose this amendment. Again, the Department of Justice Office of Victims of Crime supports everybody. They don't ask you where the crime came in. They will support you. This office would be duplicative of those efforts and would be a waste of taxpayer dollars. Let the Victims Engagement and Services Line office and the Office of Victims of Crime do their job. Let's make sure that they get the support.

Mr. Chair, I oppose this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. SANTOS).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 10 OFFERED BY MR. MCCORMICK

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 10 printed in part B of House Report 118-216.

Mr. MCCORMICK. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 3, line 24, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$10,000,000)".

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 723, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. MCCORMICK) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia.

Mr. MCCORMICK. Mr. Chair, I rise to offer amendment No. 10 to H.R. 4367, the Homeland Security appropriations bill for fiscal year 2024.

Amendment No. 10 will increase the amount of funds withheld from the Office of the Secretary of DHS if it does not submit the "State of the Border" report and the report on detention facilities by the designated time required by law.

Agencies have a strong and problematic tendency to ignore or loosely follow congressionally mandated reports. This amendment would put pressure on DHS to provide these reports in a timely manner.

With the ongoing crisis at the U.S.-Mexico border, it is vital that Congress receives accurate and up-to-date information from the agencies.

A cornerstone of any Nation is its boundaries. A border defines where one government ends and another begins. It

denotes the separation between two distinct peoples, cultures, and languages. Without a border, we have no nation, no sovereignty.

In the first half of September alone—that is only 2 weeks—U.S. border authorities had more than 142,000 encounters at the U.S.-Mexico border. Fentanyl seizures at the border increased 164 percent from 2020 to 2022. This year, there have been over 21,000 pounds of fentanyl confiscated. We have had over 110,000 overdose deaths just this last year.

As an ER doctor who treated overdoses every shift last year, and somebody who could not revive four of my patients from an overdose, I take this very personally.

This isn't the only public health consequence of an open border. Whether it is tuberculosis, measles, COVID, which many of the members from the opposing party seem to be so concerned about, there is no way to ensure that those who are crossing the border do not bring these diseases into our country. This doesn't even address the chronic problems such as congestive heart failure, emphysema, kidney failure, cancer, which these patients will come to the ER for and you will wait behind them in order to pay their bills.

The Biden administration has ignored the rule of law and refused to secure our border. Not only will President Biden not do what is necessary to stop the flow of migrants and drugs but encourages problems by using humanitarian parole as a loophole to bring in up to 30,000 migrants each month from Central and South America.

Many of those individuals crossing the border are coming to make a better life for themselves. However, too many of them have ties to terrorist organizations and dangerous criminal cartels.

Worst yet, the Biden administration has lost count of 85,000 children. Our open border is giving the child exploitation industry a huge boost.

We must secure the southern border. This is not just a bipartisan problem and not just a bicameral problem. It is an American problem.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to support amendment No. 10 for better accountability of DHS to provide Congress with the information needed to make the right decisions for America.

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

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Chair, I claim the time in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Texas is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to this amendment.

I understand what my colleague is talking about. We do want to make sure that we address border issues, but we have to make sure that we address it in the right way.

I will talk about the report. In fact, I will be happy to tell you that I also get frustrated sometimes when we don't get the reports, and I will be happy to work with you and with the chairman to get you that report.

I will tell you that in the bill already, there is a \$25 million hold for this report. If you add another \$10 million, does that make the pain more painful?

Keep in mind that this account doesn't just fund bureaucracy. It also funds suicide prevention efforts and other health security measures. It funds child welfare professionals for tender-age kids in DHS custody. It funds the Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties also.

I also get frustrated when we don't get the report. If you add another \$30 million, another \$40 million, will that get you there?

You mentioned the border. Keep in mind that we are concerned, and I want to make sure that we control our border. If you want to stop drugs, as one of our colleagues said, most drugs will come in through ports of entry, but we are not putting the emphasis on ports of entry.

We need to do a lot more, more canines, more technology. If you want to look at the people who are illegally here, I remind everybody that the number one violator for visa overstays, which have been millions over the years, has been Canada. I don't hear any of you talking about putting a wall between the U.S. and Canada. I say that because, again, we have to be smart on how we address it.

I invite you down to the border. I love when people come in and spend a few hours. I live there, and I will tell you, I will take the biggest cities in your State—I would say if you take Atlanta and, on the border, I take Laredo, murder, rape, and assault, we have lower crime rates than the city, per 100,000. If you look at the national crime rate for murders, the border crime rate is lower.

We have to look at crime as one issue and then look at migration. I am with you. I hate open borders. I want to make sure that we work together, but we have to do this in a bipartisan way.

I feel their frustration. There are some reports I wish we could get faster. I will work with them and the chairman to get this report to them.

Mr. Chair, for those reasons, I oppose this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MCCORMICK. Mr. Chair, I understand that he would get us the report. I want a timely report, an accurate report, and I want it as we agreed.

The one thing we have noticed is that agencies react very well when we take away their money when they don't do what they are supposed to do.

We cannot make the right decisions and the right arguments in front of the American public unless we have complete and accurate information.

This is just another tool to encourage the agency to do what they are already obligated to do for us anyway. That should be a bipartisan appeal to do the right thing and to be punished if they do the wrong thing.

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

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. MCCORMICK).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 11 OFFERED BY MR. ARRINGTON

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 11 printed in part B of House Report 118-216.

Mr. ARRINGTON. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 4, line 9, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$10,000,000) (increased by \$10,000,000)”.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 723, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARRINGTON) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. ARRINGTON. Mr. Chair, I rise to offer an amendment to this appropriations for Homeland Security where we would include H. Res. 50, which affirms every sovereign State's right to self-defense.

In the face of this unprecedented and unmitigated humanitarian and security crisis, States do not have to be a passive victim of a failed Federal Government.

The Federal Government has failed because our Commander in Chief has failed to do his first and most important job, provide for the common defense. He has also failed to uphold the laws of the land. In fact, title 8 of the U.S. Code says that no other citizen can induce people to break the law, says that you can't harbor people who have broken the law. In fact, it goes on to say that if you are doing that, you are aiding and abetting lawbreaking.

I believe this administration has aided and abetted what I believe is an invasion by drug cartels pushing their poison into our country, my State, and our communities, killing our family and friends at hundreds per day. It is the leading cause of death in this country.

We have a President and a Homeland Security Secretary with the audacity to say that this border is under operational control of the Department of Homeland Security of these great United States.

Baloney. Nobody believes it.

I just got back from Eagle Pass. The chaos and lawlessness have never burned hotter. The people of those border towns have never felt more abandoned.

It is shameful that a country as great as the United States of America would surrender control of our border to paramilitary terrorist cartels.

Here is the good news. Here is the saving grace for Texas and every State in this country. They have the constitutional power of self-defense, and it is explicit and crystal clear in the Constitution.

The Federal Government didn't create the States. The sovereign States

created the Federal Government. They made darn sure that in a situation like this, when the Federal Government failed in its obligation to repel an invasion, they would maintain the authority to defend their border and their citizens from this chaos and the criminal elements that are just deluging our great Lone Star State.

Article IV, Section 4, is the obligation of the Federal Government to repel an invasion for each and every State. Article I, Section 10, is clear: If there is an actual invasion or there is imminent danger such that will not permit delay.

Now, I want my Democrat colleagues to explain to me why the current conditions at the southern border, on account of this administration's failures, is not imminent danger to the citizens of Texas such that will not permit delay.

I stand with Governor Abbott and State leaders all along the southern border and everywhere in this country. Stand up, fill the gap, enforce the laws, deport, detain, secure the border, and for God's sake, protect the citizens of Texas and all the good people of this country and restore law and order.

We welcome the immigrant who wants a better life. We welcome the immigrant who wants a better future for their family, but we will only welcome those who respect our laws, our sovereignty, and the safety of the American people.

That is where I stand, Mr. Chair, and I can do no other, say no other. I am going to stand on that until we get a change up here in Washington or we have all resources deployed to do the job the Federal Government just apparently will not do on account, I believe, of a President who would rather placate and appease a fringe group in his party than prioritize the safety of the American people.

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

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Chair, I claim the time in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Texas is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Chair, I rise respectfully in opposition to this amendment.

The U.S. Constitution grants the Federal Government the sole authority to control immigration and secure the national borders.

I would say that if we would do this in partnership, working with the State and local government, like we do with the program that we started called Stonegarden where we provide funding, that would be the way to do it. Unfortunately, there are some States that want to go solo on doing certain things.

Let me give you an explanation. When the Governor from the State of Texas put out the buoys, those buoys were less than a quarter of a mile for a river that is 1,200 miles. Less than a quarter of a mile for a river that is 1,200 miles long is like putting a postage stamp in the middle of a football

field to stop a running back from crossing the 1-yard line.

The second thing is, when the Governor has talked about stopping every truck like he is doing, what he is doing is—he said he is inspecting every truck. I used to do the budget for the DPS. The only thing they can do is check license plates, driver's licenses, or the brakes and windshield wipers. They can't even open the trucks.

What they are doing is, in Eagle Pass, in El Paso, and other places, they are stopping millions and hundreds of millions of dollars of trade itself. Again, we want to work with the States, but you just can't go solo on this.

Again, when you say lawlessness at the border, I would say in the State of Texas, if you look at the most dangerous cities that we have, none of them are on the border. I am not going to name any of my Texas cities, but they are the big urban areas, per 100,000, where murder, rape, and assault are a lot higher than at the border. Again, the border is safe when we talk about crime.

On the issue of migration, I am with you. We need to have repercussions, but we need to put money outside the 1-yard line and put it on the 20-yard line and work with other countries.

In fact, when you look at 2015, when President Obama had the numbers go down, it was because Mexico was stopping people. In 2019, when President Trump was taking credit for stopping the numbers and having the lowest crossings, do you know why? Because we got Mexico to do its job on the southern border.

Again, we can either play defense on the 1-yard line or we can play defense on the 20-yard line, and we have to look at this and how we address it.

If you want to talk about crime, look at the big urban cities. Do we want to make sure we secure the border? I am with you. We have to have repercussions. We have to make sure that we play defense outside the 1-yard line, but we can't have a State go solo.

They want to work with us? My brother was a DPS officer for 27 years. I want to make sure that they work with us hand in hand, and Stonegarden does that where we provide money to the cities, counties, and States.

We are on the same page. We are just looking at this in a very different way.

My good friend from my State of Texas, I am with him. I just oppose this particular amendment.

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

□ 1630

Mr. ARRINGTON. Mr. Chair, may I inquire as to how much time is remaining.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Texas has 15 seconds remaining.

Mr. ARRINGTON. Mr. Chair, I love HENRY CUELLAR, and I couldn't disagree more. More is said than done in this town. Ain't nothing getting done on the border.

Texas, do your job. The Constitution is behind you, and so am I. God bless, and go, West Texas.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARRINGTON).

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio. Mr. Chair, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. DESJARLAIS) having assumed the chair, Mr. MURPHY, Acting Chair of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4367), making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes, had come to no resolution thereon.

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 723 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 4368.

Will the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MURPHY) kindly resume the chair.

□ 1630

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 4368), with Mr. MURPHY (Acting Chair) in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Acting CHAIR. When the Committee of the Whole rose on the legislative day of Tuesday, September 26, 2023, a request for a recorded vote on amendment no. 102 printed in part F of House Report 118-216 offered by the gentleman from Montana (Mr. ROSENDALE) had been postponed.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, proceedings will now resume on those amendments printed in part F of House Report 118-216 on which further proceedings were postponed, in the following order:

Amendment No. 76 by Mrs. SPARTZ of Indiana.

Amendment No. 79 by Mrs. BOEBERT of Colorado.

Amendment No. 83 by Ms. HAGEMAN of Wyoming.

Amendment No. 85 by Mr. GOOD of Virginia.

Amendment No. 89 by Mrs. BOEBERT of Colorado.

Amendment No. 90 by Mr. GOOD of Virginia.

Amendment No. 91 by Mr. GOOD of Virginia.

Amendment No. 92 by Mr. GOOD of Virginia.

Amendment No. 93 by Mr. GOOD of Virginia.

Amendment No. 94 by Mr. GOOD of Virginia.

Amendment No. 95 by Mr. GOOD of Virginia.

Amendment No. 99 by Mr. STAUBER of Minnesota.

Amendment No. 101 by Mrs. MILLER of Illinois.

Amendment No. 102 by Mr. ROSENDALE of Montana.

The Chair will reduce to 2 minutes the minimum time for any electronic vote after the first vote in this series.

AMENDMENT NO. 76 OFFERED BY MRS. SPARTZ

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on amendment No. 76, printed in part F of House Report 118-216, offered by the gentlewoman from Indiana (Mrs. SPARTZ), on which further proceedings were postponed, and on which the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 49, noes 377, not voting 13, as follows:

[Roll No. 417]

AYES—49

Beyer	Gaetz	Norton
Biggs	Garcia (IL)	Ocasio-Cortez
Blumenauer	Good (VA)	Ogles
Boebert	Gosar	Omar
Bowman	Greene (GA)	Perry
Burchett	Hageman	Pressley
Burgess	Harris	Raskin
Clyde	Harshbarger	Rosendale
Collins	Huffman	Roy
Crane	Johnson (GA)	Santos
DeLauro	Kamala-Dove	Schweikert
DeSaulnier	Larson (CT)	Spartz
Doggett	Lee (PA)	Tlaib
Donalds	Lieu	Van Drew
Evans	Massie	Williams (TX)
Foxx	McClintock	
Frost	Mooney	

NOES—377

Adams	Boyle (PA)	Clark (MA)
Aderholt	Brecheen	Clarke (NY)
Aguilar	Brown	Cline
Alford	Brownley	Cloud
Allen	Buchanan	Clyburn
Allred	Buck	Cohen
Amodei	Bucshon	Comer
Armstrong	Budzinski	Connolly
Arrington	Burlison	Cortez
Auchincloss	Calvert	Correa
Babin	Cammack	Costa
Bacon	Caraveo	Courtney
Baird	Carbajal	Craig
Balderson	Cárdenas	Crawford
Balint	Carey	Crenshaw
Banks	Carl	Crockett
Barr	Carson	Crow
Barragán	Carter (GA)	Cuellar
Bean (FL)	Carter (LA)	Curtis
Beatty	Casar	D'Esposito
Bentz	Case	Davids (KS)
Bera	Casten	Davidson
Bergman	Castor (FL)	Davis (IL)
Bishop (GA)	Castro (TX)	Davis (NC)
Bishop (NC)	Chavez-DeRemer	De La Cruz
Blunt Rochester	Cherilus-	Dean (PA)
Bonamici	McCormick	DeGette
	Chu	DelBene
	Ciscomani	Deluzio